

VII. NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

A. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

These territories do not form a geographical, administrative, or economic unit. The present population is descended from European settlers, African slaves, and East Indian farm hands. The great majority are Negroes. The colonies are poor in natural resources and heavily dependent on a few export crops or commodities.

1. *British possessions*

Jamaica.—The 1944 constitution provides for universal suffrage, a bicameral legislature with an appointed upper house and an elected lower house. The major party is the People's National Party, led by Chief Minister Norman Manley, who advocates moderate socialism and self-government. The main opposition, the Labor Party, led by Alexander Bustamante, is more conservative. The Communist People's Freedom Party has few followers.

Trinidad and Tobago constitute one administrative unit. The government consists of a legislative council with 24 elected members, 5 nominated, and 2 ex officio, and an executive council of 7 elected members, the Governor, the Chief Minister, and 2 ex officio. A ministerial system of government, with the Chief Minister elected by the Legislative Council, was established in 1958. The largest party, the People's National Movement, led by Dr. Eric Williams, is democratic-socialist, antinationalist, and interracial. It is opposed by the People's Democratic Party, mainly an East Indian group. There are other small left- and right-wing parties.

Barbados.—Barbados has a bicameral legislature consisting of an appointed council and an assembly. Executive authority is vested in a governor, an executive council, and an executive committee. In 1951 universal suffrage was introduced, and further constitutional advances are now under consideration. The strongest political group is the middle-of-the-road Barbados Labor Party, which controls 15 out of 24 congressional seats. The socialistic Democratic Labor Party and the Progressive Conservative Party represent the left- and right-wing opposition, respectively.

The *Leeward Islands* (12 in number) were associated in a federation in 1871, with each unit retaining its legislative institutions. The federation was abolished in 1956 to allow the individual islands to join the proposed West Indies Federation, but they are still under one governor. Suffrage was introduced in 1951. The Labor Party won a complete victory in 1956.

The *Windward Islands* (five in number) have one governor, but each colony has its own local institutions. Constitutions introduced in 1951 provided for adult suffrage and an elected majority in the legislative council. Parties are organized for elections and then disbanded.