

territories themselves. In 1938, a West India Royal Commission reported favorably on the idea of federation, but positive action was held up by World War II.

In September of 1947, a conference was held at Montego Bay, at which all the island delegates accepted the federation principle. In the London Conference of 1953, a general plan for a constitution was drawn up. In a second London conference in 1956, the parties agreed on a Federal Constitution, which provided for a Crown Governor to be assisted by a council of state, an elected house of representatives, and an appointed senate. Lord Hailes, the first Governor General, took office on January 3, 1958, and on March 25, Federal elections were held in which the Federal Labor Party won a large majority. On April 22, the Parliament held its first session at Port Spain, Trinidad, the provisional capital, where Sir Grantley Adams of Barbados was elected Prime Minister.

The Federal Labor Party, which draws its support from the urban, clerical, and artisan classes, advocates moderate socialism and internal self-government. The opposition Democratic Labor Party, led by Alexander Bustamante of Jamaica and Albert Gomes of Trinidad, is more conservative.

The federation consists of Barbados, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, and the Windward Islands, and has a combined population of more than 3 million. British Guiana and British Honduras have not joined. The former favors the federation only on condition of first receiving dominion status, while the latter is outrightly opposed to joining.

5. The situation in British Guiana

Political trouble began after the elections of 1953 were won by the Communist-inclined People's Progressive Party, led by Dr. Cheddi Jagan and his American-born wife, Janet. Jagan, an East Indian dentist educated in the United States, draws the bulk of his support from the sugar workers. In October of 1953, the British Government, fearful of a Communist coup, suspended the Constitution, gave the Governor emergency powers, and sent armed forces to support the local police.

In February 1955, the PPP split when L. F. Burnham, a Georgetown lawyer of African descent, withdrew his support on the ground that Jagan was following the Communists too closely. Burnham, however, also hates the sugar interests. A recent British study¹ suggested that British Guiana's troubles spring largely from the apathy, graft, and profiteering of the business classes. Jagan, who exploits these abuses, is still the undisputed popular leader. This was confirmed in the August 1957 elections, in which his faction of the PPP won a clear victory. A modus vivendi has since been reached between the Governor and Jagan. The latter accepted the post of Minister of Trade and Industry, and his wife became Minister of Labor.

B. ATTITUDES OF LATIN AMERICA

In general, the opinion in Latin America is strongly anti-colonialist, among the most vociferous countries being Guatemala and Argentina. The American Republics in their attitude toward the non-self-govern-

¹ Royal Institute of International Affairs, "The British Caribbean," Oxford, 1957.