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THURSDAY - MAY 17TH, 2018

75 CENTS

BPL To Be Right-sized

• OVER 200 WORKERS TO BE TERMINATED

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Since threatening a "dark and hot summer" for its tens of thousands of consumers, the line staff and managerial unions of Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) have signed an agreement of Voluntary Separation. This became necessary as the Board of BPL has decided to terminate some 233 employees in an effort to right-size the electrical company.

Minister of Public Works, Desmond Bannister, revealed in the House of

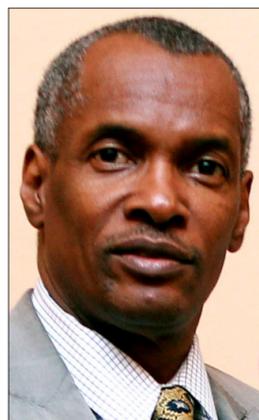
Assembly yesterday that the unions along with BPL's executives came to some form of agreement.

"I'd like to advise that both of the unions at BPL, Bahamas Electrical Utility Managerial Union (BEUMU) and the Bahamas Electrical Workers Union (BEWU) signed an agreement with BPL to facilitate voluntary separations of the corporation," Mr. Bannister said.

During his contribution to the Electricity Amendment Bill yesterday, Mr. Bannister said that the agreement made would allow the employees, particularly union members the opportunity to take part in the voluntary initiative.

"As I indicated, I want to thank those union presidents and union members, union officers who saw the importance of this to give their members the opportunity to be able to select to leave the corporation on very, very favorable terms, and we will speak about those terms at some stage.

"This is an entirely voluntary initiative nobody is going to be forced to leave BPL but members and staff at BPL are going to have the opportunity to leave and we have to be able to fund that," Mr. Bannister said.



▶ Minister of Public Works, Desmond Bannister (Journal file photo)



▶ BEWU President, Paul Maynard (Journal file photo)

■ See TO BE RIGHT-SIZED / page 2...

A BILLION SOULS NETWORK COMES TO THE BAHAMAS

BY TIA THOMPSON
Journal Staff Writer

According to Pentecostal pastor, Dr. James Davis, more than 90 percent of all religious ministers worldwide have no formal education. Further, tens of thousands drop out of ministry each year. It is this very reason that gave birth to the Billion Souls Network, which after 15 years is making its way to the Bahamas.

The network, designed for bishops, pastors, apostles, ministries and lay leaders is preparing a three-day launch hub here. The hub is done online through a global hub, which grew out of the global church learning center. With a desire to see more Pastors and local churches playing their role to reach a billion or more souls for Christ, a decision was made to introduce in as many countries as possible to "Launch Hubs."

According to Guyanese pastor Ejaz Nabie, North America is no longer the center of Christianity. It is predicted that by 2035 Africa will become the first Christian continent. Former Christian council president Reverend Patrick Paul says the end goal of the Billion Soul Network is to reach the 2.5 million people around the world that have never heard the gospel.

■ See A BILLION SOULS / page 2...

MISS REGENCY BAHAMAS COURTESY CALL



▶ Miss Regency Bahamas and committee members paid a courtesy call on Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling (centre) at Government House on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

Bill To Allow Borrowing by BPL

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) is seeking to do a number of things which in effect will be "fairly costly," according to Minister of Public Works, Desmond Bannister. During his contribution to the Electricity Amendment (BPL) Bill, in the House of Assembly yesterday, the Minister said "the current BPL legislation, while it provides that BEC is to be a body corporate, it provides for the transfer of certain functions from BEC to BPL," Mr. Bannister said.

According to Mr. Bannister, BPL needs to adjust the language in its statutes in order to receive much needed funding and to borrow within its limits.

■ See BORROWING BY BPL on PAGE 3...

House Passes Entities Reporting Bill

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

The government and opposition yesterday put differences aside and spoke with one voice on a critical piece of legislation for the financial services industry.

The two sides both agreed to support the passing of a Multi-National Entities Reporting Bill to satisfy another requirement of the European Union's Code of Conduct Group - the same group behind the country's blacklisting this past March. Fulfilling those require-

ments would assure the group of The Bahamas' commitment to compliance.

According to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, K. Peter Turnquest, the government's action plan includes the Bill.

"If a multi-national enterprise is incorporated in The Bahamas, it has an obligation, if it meets the consolidated threshold of all its operations, of \$850 million dollars a year to report to the competent authority its activities which will be laid out," Turnquest said.

"Again you can surmise,

this is an effort to ensure that taxes that are legitimately earned in their states, in a taxing jurisdiction are captured, that operations are not centered in The Bahamas for the sole purpose of avoiding or limiting taxation," he added.

The entity requires a country by country report and as with any law, there are penalties. For instance, knowingly providing inaccurate information would lead to a \$5,000 penalty.

■ See HOUSE PASSES / page 2...

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House Passes Entities Reporting Bill

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The Finance Minister stressed the importance of The Bahamas demonstrating

that it is a legitimate International Financial Centre that is transparent and adheres to best practices.

"The Bahamas can no

longer afford to follow the developments in the developed economy or to follow the actions of our competitors in the region.

"If we are truly going to be able to maintain our standing, to be competitive and to gain new business, we are going to have to be pacesetters, and we're going to have to lead the way."

"There's no doubt that there's risk; there's always risk in being the leaders in any industry, but the truth of the matter is that standing still and hoping that closing our eyes, hoping that the world will go by and not notice us is not an option," Turnquest said.

Shadow Finance Minister, I. Chester Cooper, reaffirmed the opposition's bipartisan approach to financial services, as long as there is extensive consultation.

"Firstly, I'm committed to bi-partisan stands on financial services matter, so long as there is extensive industry consultation and there's nothing that stands out as obviously reckless.

"Being satisfied that there was such meaningful consultation, I will support the Bill," Cooper said.

"With this in mind, I call on the government to outline, what commitments were made to the European Union in response to the

recent blacklisting.

"I call on the Minister to lay on the table the list of EU demands and its Implementation and Action Plan," he added.

"Whilst I support the bill, whilst I support our efforts to co-exist in a global environment where the rules are inherently unfair; as a country we must collaborate with our counterpart small country international financial centers to not only gauge and benchmark our responses but to negotiate as a block where it's appropriate to do so.

"We must also up-staff our technical presence in

embassies and consulates abroad so that they can more effectively make diplomatic interventions on our behalf."

The Bahamas was blacklisted in March, a decision the government maintains was unwarranted, considering its level of engagement with the EU's Code of Conduct Group.

After intense verbal, written, as well as in person communication, there was the recommendation to remove The Bahamas from that list during the group's next formal meeting on May 27, 2018, and the government is hopeful this will happen.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PUBLIC TREASURY DEPARTMENT

The Treasurer of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas is conducting a new vendor verification exercise to prepare for an upgrade to its digital payment processing system on **June 15**. This will affect all individuals and businesses providing goods and services to the Government.

It is very important for all vendors to participate in this verification exercise so they do not experience any discontinuation of payments. Failure to participate in the vendor verification process will result in the discontinuation of payments.

Vendors must **submit or confirm banking information and email contact information** with the Public Treasury. This must be done by completing a Vendor Verification Form, available online (Go to www.bahamas.gov.bs, go to Forms top left click on vendor verification form and download).

For the past three years, the Public Treasury has been transitioning away from the use of cheque payments and other manual processes. This year, the Treasury plans to eliminate cheque payments all together. Payments will be made by direct deposit. And as of **July 1, all notifications of payments will be sent by email**. This will allow vendors to receive immediate notification when payments are sent to their accounts.

Vendor Verification Process

1. Download Vendor Verification Form
2. Complete Form and Email to controlssection@bahamas.gov.bs
3. Or Fax to 397-5098

Vendor verification forms can also be obtained at the Treasury Department in New Providence, Grand Bahama and Abaco or by request via email controlssection@bahamas.gov.bs, and hand delivered at the Public Treasury, East & North Streets (opposite the Police Head-quarters, East Street)

Vendor Verification Information Required

- a) Banking Details
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For further details, please contact the Public Treasury Department at the following telephone numbers: 242-356-4219, 242-302-0534 or 242-302-0545 242-302-0525.

TREASURER, COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

BPL TO BE RIGHT-SIZED

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Earlier this month BEWU President, Paul Maynard, said he was optimistic that unions and BPL would work out their issues in sit down with Bahamas Power and Light executives.

It is understood that the employees will be given in most instances two years' salary and other benefits.

A BILLION SOULS NETWORK COMES TO THE BAHAMAS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

National Overseer of the Church of God, Bishop Moses Johnson stressed that the initiative is not about the money. He says, "it is not about money. For once the church is not about money, this is about souls. We are not trying to make a million dollars, so don't get that billion confused with money... this organization is about winning souls for the kingdom of heaven..."

Churches that have joined the movement calls themselves a 'billion soul church'; a bible-believing, Christ-centered, spirit-filled, kingdom-minded, mission-sending church,

characterized with prayer.

The billion soul network is composed of pastors from more than 150 nations, from every chief stream of Christianity.

The three-day event takes place at Grace Community Church. Speakers will include, Rev. Patrick Paul, Dr. James Davis, Pastor Lyall Bethel, Bishop Delton Fernander, Bishop Johnson, Pastor Ejaz Nabie and Rev John Smith of Guyana. There is a registration fee of \$100 including breakfast, lunch and all course material.

The billion souls network is the brainchild of Pentecostal pastor, Dr. James Davis and Presbyterian Pastor Bill Bright.



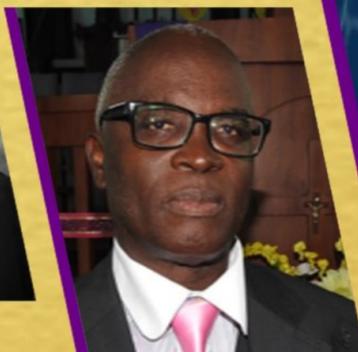
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► Tourism and Aviation Minister Dionisio D'Auguilar (centre) and Bahamian Aviation officials who met with U.S. officials.

BAHAMAS AND U.S RESUME AIR TRAFFIC MEETING

The Governments of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and the United States of America have resumed negotiations over the last two days in Nassau regarding the management of the sovereign airspace of The Bahamas.

Since 1952, a portion of the air traffic through the sovereign airspace of The Bahamas has been managed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of the United States.

Air traffic within sixty nautical miles of the Lynden Pindling International Airport and up to 12,000 feet has been managed by Bahamian air traffic controllers.

The purpose of the bilateral talks is to formalize the current arrangement with an agreement that would detail the conditions under which the FAA would continue to manage that portion of the sovereign airspace of The Bahamas presently under its control.

The agreement would detail the services that the FAA would continue to provide to

ensure the safe and efficient management of aircraft that move through Bahamian airspace.

In order to invest in technological improvements in the management of air traffic within Bahamian airspace, the Government of The Bahamas has also decided to collect charges from airlines flying within the airspace, as is common practice throughout the world.

Such charges are provided for in the Chicago Convention, and will be implemented in consultation with airspace users.

Any fees collected will be used to pay for the provision of air navigation services, as well as to strengthen and upgrade the air navigation system throughout The Bahamas.

The Government of The Bahamas and the Government of the United States of America have always enjoyed excellent relations and it is expected, therefore, that these bilateral negotiations will progress in a friendly and cordial manner and will result in an agreement beneficial to both parties.

Bill To Allow Borrowing by BPL

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"In order to be able to secure the funding that BEC needs now, the lenders are requiring them to have certain specific language in their statute; language which ensures among the functions that they have, would be the power to borrow, for example, and at the appropriate time.

"We will be seeking to lay a resolution which will permit them to borrow certain funding up to the current limits that they have, not above the current limits that the government is guaranteed, but up to the current limits.

"And that is going to be for a number of purposes and I think that all members here would want to support," Mr. Bannister said.

Mr. Bannister revealed that an Automatic Meter Reading will be the first thing that would be funded, which he says is needed to assist thousands of Bahamians to have access to electricity in their homes.

"The first one is the AMR, we had, at last count several thousand Bahamians, and I see this in Carmichael, which is a fairly affluent community who have not had electricity in their homes for some time. Some of them have not had electricity in their home for years.

This Automatic Meter Reading is going to permit people to prepay on their meters. So you're going to be able to say I'm going to pay for my meter, I'm going to put a couple dollars here and I'm going to be able to have power here in my home and I am going to be able to monitor that. I am going to be able to monitor that from my cell-phone.

"It's going to give Bahamians in many of our communities that did not

have power on, to be able to have power on and BPL is going to offer some concessions to be able to ensure that Bahamians who would have had their powers disconnected for some reason, are going to be able to benefit from this opportunity," Mr. Bannister said.

"It is something that each one of us, every member of this parliament who represents constituents, are face with our constituents. I believe these are measures, non-partisan that we want to do for all Bahamians," he said.

Mr. Bannister however, specified who would benefit from the AMR, as he said that he did not want Bahamians to take advantage of the system.

"People have had their power off for some time and we want to find a way so that they can get back on without having to break the bank, and I want to be careful how I say that to ensure that other people do not seek to take advantage of this who can afford to do better.

"But it is going to be an opportunity for people all over this country, particularly people in our heritage communities to have their power on to monitor their power on a regular basis via their phones and on the internet," Mr. Bannister said.

The amendment to the bill specifically amends section 8 (2) of the act and explicitly indicates that BEC will have certain functions which allows them in the future to be able to borrow money.

Mr. Bannister said that over the past two years the price of oil has increased from \$40 a barrel to up to \$68-\$71 a barrel, which causes real concerns for Bahamians on these are issues and what BPL has to face with providing power cost.



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Phone Records Introduced In Smith's Trial

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The trial of former Progressive Liberal Party Senator Frank Smith contin-

ued yesterday with new evidence being introduced and exhibited of telephone records of the former Public Hospitals Authority Chairman.

The telephone records were introduced in the extortion and bribery trial, but not before several delays as the prosecution had to wait for the documents and its witness to arrive at court.

Calling its second witness, former BTC Manager of Internal Investigations and Fraud and Internal Auditor, Marlon Gary Smith took the stand as prosecutor Anthony Delaney introduced a CD

and Call Logs, that the Smith, a 34 year employee of BTC was asked to produce back in July 2017.

The request of the documents, according to Mr. Smith were made while he was an employee at the phone company on July 20, 2017. The former BTC employee, now an Internal Auditor at Bank of The Bahamas, testified that as a manager at BTC, he was responsible for internal investigations and liaised between the phone company and the Royal Bahamas Police Force in terms of communications that the

police or the courts would need.

Mr. Smith said that it was in this capacity that the request was made, and he provided call records in the form of Call Log and CD in July 2017, upon a request from Sergeant 1492 Dale Strachan and Superintendent Huel Johnson.

Mr. Smith was able to identify the records because of his signature that appeared on both the CD and Call Log. However, Smith did reveal that neither officer had signed when they received the records.

Mr. Smith said that pro-

viding such records was standard procedure, and further explained to the court the layout of the records and what each column meant.

During cross examination, by defense attorney Damian Gomez, it was revealed that between November 2016 and January 2017 no phone calls were made between the two parties.

Frank Smith, is on trial facing 15 charges of bribery and extortion as he is alleged to have solicited \$65,000 in bribes from Mrs. Hanna between April 2016 to April.

The trial continues today at 10 am.

RBPF MANPOWER AUDIT RELEASED

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

The Royal Bahamas Police Force Man Power Audit 2018 revealed that the police force is being widely viewed as incompetent when it comes to organizational movement of people for vacant promotional practices.

The RBPF's Manpower Audit 2018 also found that there is a lack of transparency and accountability that led to several junior officers exiting the system.

It was also noted that there are 12 different ranks within the RBPF and only junior officers are required to demonstrate proficiencies with respect to promotional competencies.

The audit revealed that during the last promotional exercise, officers stated that they were only interviewed for one minute or less than the interview process never focused on their competencies or job performances.

Interviewees during the Promotional Board interview segment shared their opinions which indicated that the whole process was "laughable, unprofessional and a disgrace to the Police Force."

"I do not feel that my interview was fair because I didn't have the opportunity to represent myself to the members of the Promotion Board who did not know me," a Constable said.

"When I got into the interview, I was asked if my shoes were clean and then an interviewer made a joke, after which I was told that the interview was finished," a Corporal shared.

A Sergeant said: "There was no reference made to my job performance. In fact, I was asked how my mother was doing and then I was dismissed."

"We were brought into the interview room in groups of four and all asked how we were doing and the interview ended," an Inspector noted.

"They all know me, so I know I was straight. No questions needed to be asked," an Assistant Superintendent said jokingly.

Therefore, the audit revealed that the obvious conclusion after reviewing the comments would suggest that some officers may or may not have been promoted justly or unjustly due to the lack of any systematic proof that they were the most qualified candidates.

The purpose of the audit was to explore and determine the strength of the RBPF, the required manpower resources necessary to complete core policing functions, current policy on vacant promotional practices, structural organizational changes necessary for effective policing and what is necessary to assist in systemically determining any relationship between crime and the number of deployed police officers.

BENTLEY UNIVERSITY OF WALTHAM



► Executives of Bentley University of Waltham, Massachusetts (near Boston) paid a courtesy call on Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, Governor General (pictured seated centre), at Government House on Monday, May 14, 2018. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

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PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME AND TRANSCRIPT BEFORE: April 20th, 2018

HUMAN RESOURCES

Re: Apprentice Program

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careers@fidelitybahamas.com

The Rough Cut

By Felix F. Bethel

“...white-man-framed...”

Life can be beautiful! When I grew up young and green and ignorant in the long ago years, I would think to myself that one fine day, I would grow up and out of all that young-green-and-ignorant stuff.

Interestingly enough – then – am at long last going ever-deeper into a morass of events that took place all around me in those long ago years when I grew up young and green and ignorant.

One such story recently gleaned from history’s deepest of archived memories speaks to how power worked back then.

The story I reference reminds me of what it means and some of what it all entails when pure-poor black women claim that they had been assaulted by this or that rich white-white man---!

And thus, it went that:-- Despite the evidence given by both women, and the strong case put forward by Prosecutor Kendal Isaacs, the defence strategy of an ingenious extortion plot against the Colonial Secretary prevailed in the end.

By 1962, Kenneth Walmsley’s career was on a downward spiral. He found himself on trial for the sexual assault of his Jamaican maid and her friend. Wamsley (48) was accused of sexually assaulting Jamaican Ivy Monica Nicholas (21) and her friend Avenel Sewell (24).

Kendal Isaacs prosecuted for the Crown and Eugene Dupuch represented the accused, Kenneth Walmsley.

The defence counsel alleged in Nassau, Bahamas yesterday that a Jamaican servant girl was attempting to “frame” the Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas, Mr. Kenneth Maurice Walmsley with charges of indecent assault.

Afterward, Kenneth Maurice Walmsley resumed his duties as Colonial Secretary as if nothing had ever happened. The fate of the maid and her friend are unknown.

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Kendal Isaacs prosecuted for the Crown and Eugene Dupuch represented the accused, Kenneth Walmsley.

The defence counsel alleged in Nassau, Bahamas yesterday that a Jamaican servant girl was attempting to “frame” the Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas, Mr. Kenneth Maurice Walmsley with charges of indecent assault.

Mr. Eugene Dupuch asked the girl, Ivy Monica Nicholas (21): “Did you do it in the hope you would be bought off — in the hope he (Walmsley) would pay your dressmaking course and your passage to England?”

Miss Nicholas said in cross-examination that she wished to take a course and visit her sister in England. She denied that she had tried to frame the colonial secretary. During cross-examination, she agreed that she had lost an illegitimate child.

Walmsley (48) is accused of indecently assaulting Miss Nicholas three times. He is also charged with assaulting and indecently assaulting Miss Avenel Sewell (24) a friend of Miss Nicholas, in two incidents. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

His wife spent all day in court. The solicitor general, Mr Kendall Isaacs, prosecuting, said that the assaulted place while Mrs Walmsley was in England. On the first occasion, Walmsley held onto Miss Sewell “in a familiar way”.

On another occasion, he was alleged to have entered the maid’s quarters at about 11 p.m. and to have indecently assaulted Miss Sewell.

Walmsley’s defence lawyer, Eugene Dupuch, argued that the two Jamaican women had concocted a devious plot against the Colonial Secretary. Dupuch even used the word “ingenious”.

It was argued by the defence that Walmsley was only an innocent victim, who had never taken advantage of the maid when his wife was away in England or laid a hand on her friend in the middle of the night.

The case against the former Acting Governor and Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas, collapsed by Friday 21 December, when the judge dismissed the case.

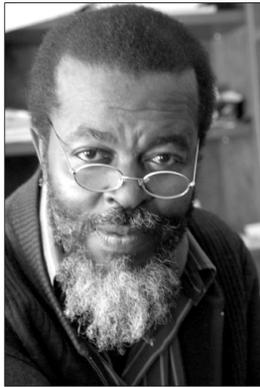
Dismissing the charges, Mr. Charles Barnwell, the magistrate, said: “As regards the complainants Nicholas and Sewell, who were the chief prosecution witnesses and on whose evidence the whole case turns, I find myself far from satisfied on the weight of the evidence as a whole that these two witnesses were telling the truth.”

Miss Sewell had alleged in her evidence that Walmsley played scrabble with her and Miss Nicholas — with the loser to sleep with him. She said that she lost, but did not sleep with Walmsley.

Walmsley told the Court: “I am positive this is a complete frame-up to destroy me.”

His counsel, Mr Eugene Dupuch said that Walmsley had been “the victim of an ingenious and diabolical plot.”

Colonial Secretaries were appointed under recommendation by the British Parliament, with the formal requirements of the assent of the Crown. Colonial Secretaries were one posi-



tion under the top job of Governor. The Bahamas had several Colonial Secretaries who filled the position of Acting Governor when necessary.

Colonial Secretary, Kenneth Walmsley had a spotless career in the Bahamas, up until 1962. Between the end of the tenure of Lord Ranfurly (1956) and the beginning of Sir Arthur Raynor’s April 1957), tenure as Governor of the Bahamas, Kenneth Walmsley, as the top colonial representative, was appointed Acting Governor.

In September 1958, Colonial Secretary, the Honourable Kenneth Walmsley, was Acting Governor when Sir Raynor was off the island.

Afterward, Kenneth Maurice Walmsley resumed his duties as Colonial Secretary as if nothing had ever happened. The fate of the maid and her friend are unknown.

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The defence counsel alleged in Nassau, Bahamas yesterday that a Jamaican servant girl was attempting to “frame” the Colonial Secretary of the Bahamas, Mr. Kenneth Maurice Walmsley with charges of indecent assault.

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EDITORIAL

OF MEMORY & IDENTITY

As we all still hope and pray for the sooncoming of better days and a better deal for the Bahamian people, we are ever prayerful for the success of initiatives such as the Over-The-Hill rejuvenation initiative.

As regards, the forbears of earlier settlers in these communities, we remember that:-- very many of these British-freed-on-the-high-seas-Africans were [as we have learned sick. Beaten. Starving. Some of them, especially the young, had very serious eye infections. Some would never see again. Many were covered in weeping sores and suffered from atrophy of the limbs from lack of movement. They wanted for water, food, freedom and home.

Down in the dark hole of the ship they probably could hear the battle going on above when the British seized their floating prison. And when the door to the hold finally opened, as streams of bright sunlight beamed in, undoubtedly they rejoiced and cried out “ran wa lowo” “help us.”

As one thousand and forty three of them, finally stood for the first time on Bahamian shores, undoubtedly they were told that this new, unfamiliar island would be their new home... forever.

They were told that none of them would see Africa ever again. The journey would be impossible. Then the group were probably marched over the hill towards Grant’s Town, and left to fend for themselves.

They had to make their own shelters. Build their own huts. Find their own food. Learn the new language, the new rules, the new religion and pledge new allegiances to the British king.

As the first generation of Yorubas and Egbars passed away, and a new generation were born in Grant’s Town, the memory of the terrible journey through the Middle Passage faded.

They were no longer African, but now British subjects.

They were no longer Muslim, or whatever their native religion may have been. They were now Christian.

The old language soon faded also. English was now spoken. Demanded even.

Their names changed as well.

Every tradition of Africa was slowly being forgotten. Except for one. The tradition of remembrance had not been forgotten.

Some 46 years later, on May 4th, 1884, as they probably had in years past, the Yorubas and the Egbars remembered the day of their ancestors landing in the new world, and a desperately difficult beginning to their new life, in the Bahamas. They remembered it in a Christian church, pledging allegiance to the new English monarch, Queen Victoria. God Save the Queen.

By 1884, the Grant’s Town Friendly Societies were firmly established. The Yoruba Friendly Society, the Egbar Friendly Society, and the Congo Friendly Society were mostly burial societies. Friendly societies were encouraged as a way of forcing a measure of financial independence of the various African tribes. While the Bahamas may have taken a few thousand liberated Africans, there was simply no way that the Assembly at that time, and was prepared to underwrite all of their financial needs. This is why Grant’s Town sat mired in the most extreme poverty the new British-Bahamians had ever known. In Africa, there was space. In Grant’s Town, they were forced to live in a swamp area. There was no real space for the agricultural Africans to farm. The land was dry and hard. There was no wild meat to hunt. They were forced to take to the sea for food.

Monies collected by the Societies were mostly used as burial funds, and if possible, a little was given to widows and orphans.

And thus today, we are obliged to reflect on how it now arises that another son of Over-The-Hill, the Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis has taken on – as almost sacred mission – an effort aimed at rejuvenating Over-The-Hill.

We glory in this renewed spirit of renewal, redemption and above all, this special sense suggestive of the conclusion that – at long last—another true son of the soil is embarked on his own deep and great contribution to heritage and to history in evident recognition of the fact that memory is ground and backdrop to identity and to its cognate, self-identification.

THE BAHAMAS
Sun, Sand, Sea and
The Bahama Journal
NO BETTER READING

Clippings include: "Four Bodies Claimed", "Brush Fire Scorches Acres of Land", "22ND MURDER VICTIM IDENTIFIED", "GO TANKLESS", "Debris Hinders Business For Ferry Operators".