



# Message from the People's Campaign Leaders



*For the Cause that Lacks Assistance  
For the Wrong that needs Resistance  
For the Future in the Distance  
And the Good that we can do*

*(Motto of the Times and Advocate, Bermuda's first Black Newspaper 1871)*

*When the centuries behind me like a fruitful land reposed;  
When I cling to all the present for the promise that it closed:  
When I dipt into the future far as human eye could see;  
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be.  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Locksley Hall*

As the year draws to a close, and we look back at the record of the People's Campaign, while there is still much work to be done, we think that the people of Bermuda who have supported the People's Campaign can look back with a degree of pride in the accomplishments of this fledgling movement. Victor Hugo once said, "nothing is as great as an idea whose time has come," and it is clear that for Bermuda a People's movement, unconstrained by the

political posturing, brinkmanship, and jousting that attempts to pass for legislative politics, is an idea whose time has come. The People's Campaign has replaced political expedience with the People's business and in these past months have demonstrated that the people can and must be heard by those who are en-trusted to serve them. The People's Campaign has demonstrated that elected representatives can no longer take the support of the people

for granted and that they can and must be held accountable for what they do in the people's name irrespective of political party.

The People's Campaign has helped to transform the national debate through the presentation to the Government and the Opposition of the People's Manifesto, which outlined the expectations of the people around the goals of Equality, Jobs, and Justice. These

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## President's New Year's Message

As I look back over the past few years of the recession and what we have been able to achieve collectively as an organization, I have to conclude that things certainly could have been a lot worse for the Union Membership. However, because of the collective will of the union membership we were able to avoid certain situations that would have negatively affected the Union and the community. One example that I bring to your attention is the situation that took place at Fairmont Hamilton Princess with the Bar Porters' redundancy and the final outcome of that situation.

As we begin a New Year which may

not be much different for some of us than the last few years, we must always be prepared to protect the rights of organized Labour. I would like to encourage ALL our union members to have a responsible attitude in the work place by maintaining a good work ethic at all times. There also needs to be accountability across the board for managers and employers on the things that they are each responsible for. If this is not happening then all I ask of each party that they do what is expected of them by following the CBA.

The Bermuda Industrial Union will no doubt have our share of challenges



in 2015 and we will address them as we have always done in a collective manner. In unity lies our greatest strength, United we Stand and Divided we Fall.

I wish all of our members and social partners, a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

# Lord, Open Our Eyes

By John Holdipp III

Now that we have crossed the threshold of a new year, is it possible for Bermudians to see the destruction being carried out against them with the assistance of the media. Yes even this house of communication has quietly engaged in a system to silence critics of the OBA government simply by not rolling out their viewpoints. Amongst the electronic coverage they constantly allow the government representatives to be seen and heard, while most others including the opposition are sound bites that are read by the reporters or presenters.

Have you ever wondered why some persons including yours truly have faded into yesterday's history consider that which I have just highlighted. Actually as can be seen I have written this on the second day of the year, let us see if it is even published.

Allow me in the moment I have to voice my concern with the destructive management that is being fused together against the born Bermudians by the PRC,s and the OBA Government. When the tenant has more rights and control of the landlord's property, the landlord becomes a non-entity.

This module is being implemented throughout Bermuda on a number of fronts. The municipalities are about to be taken out of the control of the residents and people of Bermuda and given to the larger group known as the tenants (ratepayers). This was orchestrated by Senator Fahy.

Bermuda's entrance gatekeepers – The Immigration Department are being stood down from their responsibility and the incoming International Business will be allowed to import any persons they choose to work in Bermuda long enough to apply for status without any restrictions or controls to

protect the rights of born Bermudians. In particular their future voting rights and the ability of employment of our children and yet born Bermudians. Note – The PRC,s and their children will outnumber born Bermudians in a rapid fashion. This was orchestrated by Senator Fahy.

The Canadian Government is about to be given the entranceway to Bermuda without the correct method of RFP's being utilized to confirm fairness. Their reward will be to enjoy at least three decades of wealth, while the island continues to struggle paying its debt. If we the people cannot stand and fend off this financial debacle, than I have to trust the United Kingdom to step in, since we are still a colony. They are responsible to protect us from enemies outside or inside these islands. This was orchestrated by Finance Minister Bob Richards.

Casinos are now a part of our tourism commodity. In 2012 a group of investors consumed \$ 2.4 billion dollars in a hotel-casino venture on the mainland of New Jersey. The experience they enjoyed was twice standing before bankruptcy benches, then finally giving up the ghost and walking away from a failed venture. All of this happened within a two year period. They closed those doors in October 2014. This concept has been driven by Tourism Minister Shawn Crockwell.

These are the reasons I recognize the OBA government cannot and should not be allowed to live out their five year term. They must be removed as soon as possible, for the sake of our future generations. Again I say, if the people don't have intestinal fortitude to stand for themselves, it is the responsibility of the United Kingdom government to step in.

## THE WORKERS VOICE

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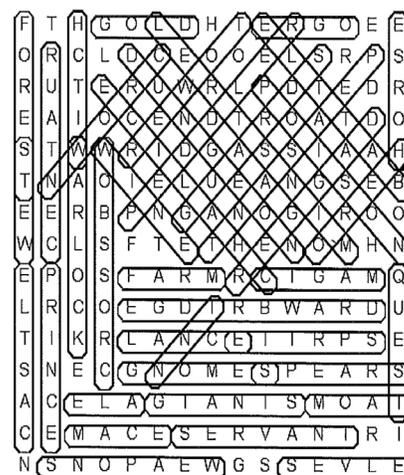
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## PUZZLE SOLUTION

### Fantasy World 1

This is the solution to the puzzle located [here](#).



- |            |        |          |         |
|------------|--------|----------|---------|
| ALE        | ELVES  | LANCE    | QUEST   |
| BATTLE     | FARM   | MACE     | SERVANT |
| CASTLE     | FOREST | MAGIC    | SPEARS  |
| CENTAUR    | GIANTS | MINSTREL | SPRITE  |
| CHALICE    | GNOMES | MOAT     | STEW    |
| CROSSBOW   | GOLD   | OGRE     | TOWER   |
| CROWN      | GUARDS | PEASANT  | WARLOCK |
| DAGGER     | HERO   | PEDDLER  | WEAPONS |
| DRAWBRIDGE | HORSE  | POISON   | WINE    |
| DUNGEON    | INN    | PRINCE   | WITCH   |

The hidden message is: THE LORD OF THE RINGS

# Why Not A Bermudian Director of Public Prosecutions?

In my opinion, something is seriously wrong in Bermuda, when Cindy Clarke, a Bermudian with an impeccable record of public service is denied a Government post, yet, Robert Watson, a Canadian with a questionable background is granted a top Government post.

Recently, Robert Watson, former CEO of SaskPower was appointed to head Bermuda's Regulatory Authority (RA), in spite of the fact that he resigned from his post at SaskPower without severance after it was found that the corporation had not done enough to ensure public safety after several "smart meters installed in people's homes in Saskatchewan caught fire. It is interesting that in less than three months after Watson handed in his resignation, he was hired by the Bermuda government. Yet, Cindy Clarke, who is now the Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions first applied for the position of Director in 2013, and it is understood that she was the only candidate at that time. We now understand that Mr. Rory Field, a non-Bermudian has been reappointed to the position for another two years.

What I don't understand is how a Canadian, who was forced to resign from his position, could be hired within three months in a top position in Bermuda, yet a Bermudian who is eminently qualified and has a clean record, is not appointed to

the position that she has applied for.

Bermudians should remember that a panel, which was headed by the Deputy Governor, recommended that Ms. Clarke be appointed to the position after a "transitional period", which I understand to mean a probationary period where she would be given the necessary training required for the position as Director of Public Prosecutions. However, I do believe that not much training would be required by Ms. Clarke as she has been the Deputy Director for a number of years now.

However, in spite of the recommendation of the panel, Governor Fergusson has stated that "in light of certain subsequent developments, it became untenable for the appointment to proceed". Checking the dictionary, I see two definitions for "untenable" – (1) not able to be defended; and (2) not able to be occupied. Is Mr. Fergusson therefore saying that there is no defense for Ms. Clarke with regards to her taking up the position; or is he saying that she is not able to occupy the position of Director of Public Prosecutions. What the Governor has not told us, is why the position has become untenable for Ms. Clarke and I do believe that Bermudians deserve an answer.

I agree with the President and General Secretary of the BPSU, Brothers Jason Hayward and Ed



ball the decision of the Governor should also raise concerns with Bermuda's legal fraternity stating that "no matter how many years a lawyer has been called to the bar, their continued legal training and winning of legal cases, he or she will not be appointed as the Director of Public Prosecutions".

Brothers Hayward and Ball have called on the OBA and the PLP to work together to make the necessary constitutional amendments to end this injustice. Premier Dunkley is on record as being "disappointed that a suitably qualified Bermudian has not been appointed as the Director of Public Prosecutions. The Shadow Attorney General, MP Michael Scott said that "the appointment of Rory Field is a slap in the face to not just the qualified, capable Bermudians who have been overlooked, but to everyone who believes that Bermudians should come first in jobs and opportunities in our own country". Therefore it should not be a problem

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# PLP Concerned About Labour Force Survey

Shadow Minister of Finance, David Burt, has voiced his concern about the latest unemployment figures recently released by Finance Minister, Bob Richards. According to MP Burt, the figures show record unemployment in Bermuda.

“Before I get to the meat of the report, let me address the lateness of this report. During the UBP and OBA time in Opposition, we heard a constant refrain of the need to be timely with statistics. Please note we are receiving this report in January, 2015,” stated MP Burt. “This survey has the same methodology of the survey done in 2012, under the PLP, and that survey was released in October. There is no excuse for the delay and the OBA needs to give a better explanation than the Minister of Finance required additional validation of the statistics. The Minister of Finance cannot be that out of touch to not know that we have a Jobs Crisis here in Bermuda. The people in the Department of Statistics are professionals, and I don’t think they



need their work double checked because the numbers don’t match the OBA’s story of recovery.”

MP Burt said that unlike the Minister of Finance, “Bermudians did not need to hear the latest statistics to know that Bermuda is in a Jobs Crisis as each of us have or know someone that has been unemployed for some time, recently lost their job, is living in fear of being made redundant, has had wages slashed, hours reduced, or been forced to leave Bermuda for better opportunities elsewhere”.

“Bermudians didn’t need to be told that under the OBA, Bermuda now has higher unemployment than we have ever heard before, because we are living it,” contended MP Burch.

MP Burt noted that there are over 3,000 Bermudians out of work. He said that these are Bermudians who want to be productive, who want to provide for their families and that as the Jobs Crisis continues to drag on they are losing hope.

“While threats of layoffs and unemployment hang over countless Bermudians, almost every working Bermudian is frustrated at their inability to keep up with the skyrocketing costs of basic necessities”, said the Shadow Minister.

MP Burt shared the following statistics with the media:

- There were 511 less people working in 2014 than in 2013; a figure that pours cold water on the OBA’s continued talk of recovery.

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## “Still a Lot of Work to do on Race in Bermuda”: MP Jamahl Simmons

“As much as we would like to think that we live in a post-racial Bermuda, the statistics revealed by the Finance Minister show that when it comes to jobs there is still a lot of work to do on race in Bermuda,” stated MP Jamahl Simmons at a recent press conference.

According to the MP for Constituency 33, black Bermudians make up over 70% of the 3,000 Bermudians who are unemployed which is three times the rate of white unemployment.

“These numbers don’t take into account the number of people who have simply given up looking for work or who have moved to other countries,” said MP Simmons. “While we can rationalize this and make excuses, it is evident that in Bermuda’s Jobs Crisis, it is the black community that needs serious help in



getting back to work”.

Mr. Simmons said that the Finance Minister speculated that the bulk of these unemployed were based in construction and the service industry. He contended that whether this is true or not is open for debate, but almost two years ago, the PLP was pushing for an

Infrastructure Development Strategy that would have not only repaired and restored our island’s crumbling infrastructure but would have provided relief to construction companies and construction workers.

“Almost 2 years ago the PLP was pushing for the implementation of Job-Corps – a programme that would have provided education and training to vulnerable young people to help them establish a career. This would have been an exceptional vocational and academic training opportunity for our unemployed, added Mr. Simmons. “No political Party has a monopoly on good ideas and in the midst of this Jobs Crisis, the OBA must humble themselves, face reality, be open minded and willing to work on approaches that benefit everyone.”

# The Rapprochement Between the United States and Cuba and its Impact on Bermuda

It's probably never been spoken, but a return to normal relations between the United States and Cuba is not an event that would have been looked upon as a reality that Bermuda and the Caribbean generally would consider a good thing. Not in terms of political freedoms, the event of free elections being held in Cuba, would be allowed to exist and contest an election. No, what I am talking about is the return of an open market where trade between the United States and Cuba would be given full flow, including American tourism which would have a major impact on tourist industries, not only in the Caribbean, but also on Bermuda which considers tourism to be a major part of their economy.

In the case of Bermuda, what is often overlooked is that Bermuda's tourism industry really took off when American tourism dried up in Cuba in the wake of the Cuban revolution. For a long time Cuba was an American playground, not only for the American criminal underground, principally the Mafia, which ran the lucrative casino gambling operations on the island, but also for the ordinary American tourist who used to flock to Cuba to enjoy that tropical exotic tourist destination. The Cuban tourism Mecca was in existence long before tourism was fully developed in the Caribbean and even before Bermuda's own tourism product was fully developed, which as I stated fully benefited from the loss of Cuba as a major tourism destination for the American tourist.

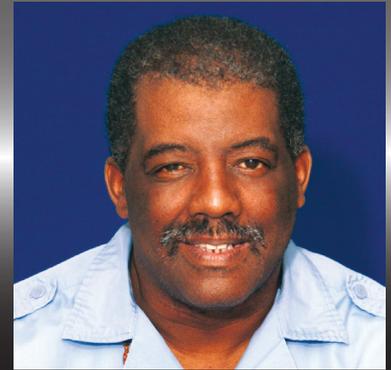
Even though at this juncture there is no mention that Cuba is going to open up for unrestricted American tourism, the relaxation of the use of American credit and debit cards in Cuba could easily have one asking the ques-

tion is the advent of the arrival of the American tourist that far behind? There is one more factor that could have a major impact on Bermuda. There has long been a push to attract outside investment in the building of new hotels in Bermuda and some deals are on the table. At least the promise of such deals becoming a reality for hotel development in Bermuda has been announced by the OBA government. That was one of accomplishments being touted by the OBA Premier Dunkley as one of his government's promises being kept. But as Chinese leader, Mao Zedong once stated "Promises are like pie crusts, made to be broken". Something the people of Bermuda are very aware of when it comes to this OBA government. I mention hotel development because potential investors will now cast their eyes on the Cuban potential and even on the question of cruise ship visits which plays a large in part in tourism for Caribbean islands and Bermuda. There is bound to be an impact.

No doubt, the Bermuda Tourism Authority put in place by this government to revive Bermuda's tourism did not factor in Cuba a major competitor. When Cuba does return as a destination of the American tourist dollars will prove to be a formidable competitor for that dollar. Bermuda and the Caribbean will have its work cut out for them - Cuba as the largest island in the Caribbean would offer significant tourist attractions and competition, not to mention the fact that Cuba is only 90 miles from mainland America.

There is one more impact to a rapprochement between Cuba and America and that is in the realm of politics and race. Ever since the Cuban revolution and the breaking off

## THE OTHER ALTERNATIVE



BY ALVIN WILLIAMS

of relations between these two nations, the United States has been the host to Cuban exiles who were in opposition to the revolution. In that 50 year period this community has grown into a significant political entity with important political influences in both political parties in America with elected members of the Congress and the Senate. The exiled Cuban community has already expressed great opposition to any form of rapprochement. Polls suggest though that the majority in that community, mostly among the generations who were not born in Cuba, would be in agreement for some easing of relations between Cuba and the United States.

Then there is the question of race. Cuba was once a colony of Spain and for a long time was dominated by a European Spanish minority. The European Spanish were minority because like all the former European colonies in the so-called new world, slavery existed which saw millions of Africans brought over to work the sugar and tobacco fields as free labour.

Today Cuba, just like Brazil has a majority non-white population made up of African and mixed-race peoples. With the revolution in Cuba, race played less of an important role, although the political leadership still shows the

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## ITF joins Global Day of Action for the Right to Strike on 18 February 2015

At the International Labour Organisation, the conflict on the right to strike and the crisis of ILO's supervisory mechanism persists and this is of great concern to ITF and its affiliates. All too often, the right to strike is denied or limited for transport workers, due to broad definitions of essential or minimum services and limitations to collective bargaining or the right to organize, while some governments commit outright violations of human and fundamental workers' rights.

Unions around the world have made use of the supervisory mechanisms of the ILO to fight such violations, protect workers and build a stronger union movement. In March 2015, the ILO Governing Body has to take a decision on the resolution of this conflict that has had a chilling effect on the ILO supervisory mechanism since 2012. If no agreement can be reached, ITF



supports the referral to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion on the matter, as foreseen in the ILO Constitution.

This conflict cannot stay within the walls of the International Labour Organisation and concerns all workers. Without the right to strike, trade unions and workers have no means to fight for their rights. In the aftermath of the first World War, the ILO was created to ensure social justice would prevail and its mission is as relevant as ever.

There is also a direct link between the conflict at the ILO and the ongoing free trade negotiations that give preference to the interests of multinational companies. Labour clauses that refer to ILO standards are no guarantee for the respect of workers' rights if the ILO's authority continues to be undermined. Austerity policies and structural adjustment programmes also aim to destroy collective bargaining mechanisms and agreements. The crisis of the ILO must be seen in this context. At the ITUC's General Council, a resolution was adopted that calls for a Global Day of Action on 18th February (resolution attached).

ITF therefore calls on all its affiliates to participate in the Global Day of Action, in cooperation with the ITUC and other global unions to defend and promote the right to strike.



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# 34th Annual EMT Church Service at Heritage Worship Center

By Sis. Ronaldine Burgess



EMT's: Bro. Walter Brangman (Chief EMT), Bro. Raymond Tucker, Sis. Rickeisha Burgess, Sis. Veronica Desilva, Sis. Shirlene Furbert, Bro. Wesley Wilson and Bro. Michael White.

The EMT's 34th Annual Church Service acknowledging the work done by our Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) was held on January 11th 2015 at the Heritage Worship Center.

This year's service was quite humorous, which was probably good for those involved in such serious and sometimes grim work. The EMT's perform a job that at times can test their mental health and given the carnage that has happened on our roads over the last year with 15 road fatalities and two already for the year 2015. A service of this type is more than fitting to say thank-you and we are here to lift you up. The Guest Speaker, Rev. Lorne Bean asked the question 'who helps the helper'.

The worship leaders once again were Bro. Glen Woods, a former EMT and Bro. Wesley Wilson. The service was very upbeat with heartfelt thanks to the

EMT's for all that they do every day.

The congregation observed a moment of silence for all those who had worked as EMT's and had passed away. Chief EMT Bro. Walter Brangman led the congregation in the opening prayer; he was to be followed by Bro. Raymond Tucker with the scripture who was delayed as he had to go out on a call.

The congregation was entertained by Ms. Rickeisha Binns and a surprise rendition by Pastor Eugene Joell, former EMT. The daughter of Mrs. Alice Liburd-Robinson read a poem that Mrs. Liburd-Robinson had specifically written for the EMT's.

Rev. Lorne Bean, who is the pastor of Richard Allen AME was the guest speaker and he spoke from the gospel according to Luke, who was a physician. Rev. Bean spoke of the Good Samaritan and he related the chapter to what took

place earlier during the week where a responder went over an embankment on south shore road. Instead of people helping they took out their Smartphones and took pictures to post on social media; why would they not help a responder whose job is to help others.

The congregation then moved outside where Bishop Lloyd Duncan blessed the ambulance; the congregation then move back inside for some refreshments.

The Bermuda Industrial Union salutes our EMT's and all those who work in the emergency services.

Attending the service on behalf of the Bermuda Industrial Union was Bro. Chris Furbert, Sis. Molly Burgess, Bro. Glen Simmons, Sis. Ronnie Burgess, Sis. Yvette Saunders, and Sis. Shirlene Simons, President of the Hospital Division.

# The BELCO Strike

February 2, 1965, is a red-letter day in the annals of the BIU. It marked the climax of one of the Union's most celebrated disputes, when the police, and hundreds of workers clashed in what is known as the BELCO Riot. Basically, it was a recognition dispute between the BIU and the Bermuda Electric Light Company (BELCO).

The company then and now, owned and operated the one and only power plant providing electricity to the whole Island. Among its directors and shareholders were some of Bermuda's most powerful and influential white men, including Sir Harry Butterfield, Sir John Cox, Sir Henry (Jack) Tucker, and Sir Bayard Dill. They along with BELCO's general manager, Llewelyn Vorley, were the company's representatives in negotiations. The BIU was represented by Dr. Barbara Ball, General Secretary; Eugene Blakeney, Assistant General Secretary; Robert Johnston, President; Ottie Simmons, Union Organiser; and a delegation made up of electrical workers.

The principle issue in the dispute was union recognition for 87 outside-plant employees who had recently organized into the Union. They comprised linemen, garage mechanics, drivers, labourers, maintenance personnel and others. BELCO's total staff contingency was 231, including clerical and administrative staff. An application for union recognition was made in writing. BELCO returned a negative response. Intervention by Government's Labour Relations Officer (LRO) Harold Chudleigh failed to alter the company's negative stance.

Following an intensive public relations campaign in the media initiated by the Union, the company offered to hold a ballot provided that all of its 231 employees, including supervisors, participated with the stipulation that the Union had to get sixty percent 'yes votes' in its favour before the company would

grant recognition.

That proposal drew a resounding 'NO' from the Union, for three main reasons: First, it flew in the face of the democratic process, in that recognition votes were ordinarily determined by a simple majority. Second, the company practiced unacceptable racial policies. For instance, its locker rooms, toilets and wash-up rooms were assigned on race, and signs were posted to ensure that no one made any mistakes. In other words, there were 'Black toilets, and white toilets'. Third, it was reckoned highly unlikely that the inside plant comprising mainly white-collar employees, who were white by race, would vote in favour of or would join the Union. By contrast, the outside plant were all Black people, except one Portuguese. He was John Mello who was the Division President.



Many meetings were holed, and after mediation by the Labour Relations Officer, the talks broke down, opening the way for strike action against BELCO.

President Robert Johnston recalled, that what brought the dispute to ahead, was the decision of BELCO's board chairman and chief negotiator, Sir John Cox, to take a trip to England, and during this absence none of the other team members would assemble without him.

January 13, 1965 the Union's Electrical Division held a secret ballot for strike action.

The result was fifty-five in favour and two against. The next day the Union received a report from employees of the Bermuda telephone Company, who

though not unionized, declared their sympathy for the Union, and that they would, if necessary, take strike action in support of the Electrical Division.

Throughout the month of January 1965 other divisions came out in sympathy for the Electrical Division. As mutual resolution to the dispute between the Union and company was not forthcoming, the Union had no alternative but to strengthen its presence on the picket lines and confront Front Street with all of the force the could be mustered. Two important meetings were called, the first on January 28, attended by about 300 persons, and another on Saturday, January 31, when Devonshire Recreation Club was filled to overflowing with more than 450 members. Official votes were taken by the Construction, Health and Bus Operators Divisions to go on one-day token strikes, to take effect from twelve midnight, that Sunday.

Monday, February 1, the day following the Sunday meeting, the Serpentine Road plant and Head office was surrounded, as hundreds of additional sympathizers joined the picket line. The spirits of the BELCO picketers soared by that support of their fraternal brothers and sisters. An atmosphere of curiosity and excitement was created through live coverage of happenings by the radio stations. Those reports incited other works to down tools in wildcat strikes.

The next day was February 2, 1965. Union officials sensed an increase in tension at the picket line. They had consolidated their energies at the Serpentine Road premises, where the number of picketers had increased to an estimated 400-plus. Singing on the day was not as loud. The picketers were more serious and very apprehensive. The police were in greater numbers also, amongst whom were ranking officers. All three entrances to the company, eastern, western and northern, were picketed. The

# Lest We Forget – 50th Anniversary BelCo Strike

lines were longer, slower and moving at a very timely pace, causing arriving office staff to wait interminably.

Eventually pandemonium broke out on the picket line and as result several police officers and union members were injured. BIU President, Robert Johnston and seven other BIU members were taken to Police Headquarters at Prospect. Johnston and others later appeared in Magistrates Court charged with unlawful assembly, besetting premises and obstruction.

On Friday, February 19, 1965, an agreement was reached and signed between the two parties, and the Electrical Workers returned to work on Monday, February 22. In this instance the BIU suffered a moral defeat, but in the long term, it was overwhelmingly victorious. It gained widespread public respect for its fortitude and determination to stand up to the Front Street monopolists.

February 2, 1965 BELCO Dispute Honour Roll:

Robert Johnston, President, BIU  
 Dr. Barbara B. Ball, Gen. Secretary, BIU  
 Eugene Blakeney, Negotiator, BIU  
 Oattie A. Simmons, Negotiator  
 John Mello, President, BELCO Div.  
 John Stovell, Vice President, Belco Div.  
 Kenneth Bean, Committee Member  
 Ernest "Dick" Drew, Committee Member  
 Harry Smith, Committee Member  
 Morris Peniston, Committee Member  
 Sparrow Trott, Committee Member  
 Ronald "Eight balls" Trott, Committee member  
 Stanford Bradshaw, Committee Member  
 Bridge Webbe, Committee Member  
 Jackie durham, Committee Member  
 Reid Simmons Negotiator, BIU  
 Kenneth Pual, Jailed  
 Kerwin Ratteray, Jailed  
 Vivian Ming, Jailed  
 George DeSilva, Jailed  
 Gary E. Caisey, Fined



February 2nd 2015 will mark fifty years since the BELCO Strike; to mark such an auspicious occasion which began a very pivotal moment for labour relations in Bermuda; the Ways & Means Committee of the BIU will be having a night of reflection. The Ways & Means Committee have formed a committee headed up by the former president of the Bermuda Industrial Union, Bro. Ottiewell who was the Chief Organizer of the BIU in 1965; to put on a night of reflection to honour the 50th

Anniversary of the BELCO Strike.

The event will take place on Monday, February 2nd 2015 at the Bermuda Industrial Union at 5:30 p.m. The Committee is inviting anyone that took part in the strike or anyone that was a witness to the strike to come out on February 2nd 2015 as well as members of the public. This will be a night for attendees to participate; there will be a panel discussion and all are welcomed to attend.

*Editor's Note: The above is taken in part from "The History of the Bermuda Industrial Union" by Ira Philip.*

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*The event will take place on Monday, February 2nd 2015 at the Bermuda Industrial Union at 5:30 p.m. The Committee is inviting anyone that took part in the strike or anyone that was a witness to the strike to come out on February 2nd 2015 as well as members of the public. This will be a night for attendees to participate; there will be a panel discussion and all are welcomed to attend.*



# Open Letter to the OBA from the Bermuda Union of Teachers: Do For Education What You Are doing for the America's Cup

This letter both affirms good works coming out of the One Bermuda Alliance and summons to action better work that must be done. It is designed to be as intense as it is firm. In talking to several retired educators, principals, teachers, parents, students, school counselors, school reps and former students of our public school system, at least 83% of them were impressed with the news that America's Cup was on its way to Bermuda. This news flooded the nation while December was fading and January was fast approaching.

As we step boldly into 2015, we rejoice over past achievements and aspire to higher ground. In this sense, the Bermuda Union of Teachers recognizes the deep commitment, lavish enthusiasm and winsome leadership that this Government has shown to ensure that this high-level event will come to our shores. Without a doubt, The Bermuda Union of Teachers applauds the potential benefits that are likely to redound to the good people of Bermuda. These include: the injection of new dollars into the economy; creation of new jobs and; the expansion of Bermuda's brand as the offshore and tourism capital of the world.

Already, we feel the energy emanating from this announcement. We support Minister Gibbons' initiative in asking the entire island to pull together to make this event a rousing success. The Honourable Minister has spared no en-

ergy to let the nation know that he has our best interest at heart. He treats this event as a vital investment in Bermuda's future, and has supported it with heavy financial backing to the tune of millions of taxpayers' dollars.

Although we are encouraged by this show of dedication to our island's future, we believe that a similar investment in education is even more justifiable. Therefore, we call on the One Bermuda Alliance to show at least the same level of passion, dedication and fervor to the public school system. The same diligence that is being given to ensure that the America's Cup is a success should, and needs to be placed on investing in our teachers, investing more in our school infrastructure, investing in students' learning, and investing time and resources in educational support materials. It is simply not enough to change ministers or to assign a single minister to the Ministry of Education. The government needs to more clearly articulate a vision of the public school system backed by heavy human and financial resources so that the public school system becomes the best brand in Bermuda. We can get it right in 2015!

The benefits of this parallel investment are many: students will be better prepared to achieve high personal and civil goals and; schools will attract the finest and best minds to produce and equip a critically thinking generation.

There are ripple effects. This investment will stimulate the economy and ensure the stability of Bermuda's workforce. It will ensure our Nation's peace and security! Expectations could be more fully enjoyed when our children engage in nation building initiatives steeped in our values of caring, excellence, mutual respect and social responsibility.

We call on the OBA to show the same guts and gusto for education as it has been showing for the America's Cup. The BUT stands willing and ready to support even if a fraction of the courage that this government is investing in this project. There is still time to defend, invest and give generously to education! If the public school system is given the sparkling priority it deserves, it WILL yield many dividends! Education is the foundation for building a great nation through the creation of an honorable people. We cannot afford for the Ministry of Education to continue to be a revolving door! The BUT challenges the OBA to get its' priorities straight. When it does, the BUT will continue to put forth every ounce of effort and willpower to make Bermuda world renowned for its public education system.

Happy New Year!

Shannon James  
President,  
The Bermuda Union of Teachers

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# BPSU Concerned About DPP's Appointment

Bermuda Public Services Union President and General Secretary, Brother Jason Hayward and Brother Ed Ball recently made joint statement to the media regarding the recent appointment of Rory Field to the position of Director of Public Prosecutions and not Bermudian, Cindy Clarke who was promised the position some years back. Ms. Clarke is present the Assistant to Mr. Field.

The BPSU statement reads as follows: "The Bermuda Public Services Union (BPSU) expresses its concern with the reappointment of Mr. Rory Field as Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) by Governor George Fergusson. After having made continual admonitions of his commitment to find and/or create a process to prepare a qualified Bermudian for

the position, the Governor has reneged on his commitment and this certainly brings into question if there was any intent by the Governor to appoint a Bermudian to the post.

The decision should also raise concerns with Bermuda's legal fraternity that no matter how many years a lawyer has been called to the bar, their continued legal training and the winning of legal cases, that unless the candidate arbitrarily gains favour with the Governor of the day, he or she will not be appointed as DPP. The Governor is sending the message that Bermudians are "simply not good enough".

The stark reality of not promoting a Bermudian lawyer as the new DPP, as hard as it is to accept, raises the question

on whether the Foreign and Commonwealth Office through its appointment of Governors for Bermuda, fully understands the sensitivity of qualified Bermudians not attaining key posts within Bermuda's Public Service.

To say that we greet this reappointment with some disappointment is a gross understatement, especially in light of the fact that various Governors have expressed a desire of fining a qualified Bermudian as DPP since 2007.

Perhaps it is time for the One Bermuda Alliance (OBA) Government and the Progressive Labour Party (PLP) to work together to make the constitutional amendments necessary to end this injustice."

## BIU Education Department to Host Study Circle Workshops 2015

Brother Collin Simmons, BIU Education Officer, will once again facilitate Study Circle Workshops for interested BIU members in 2015.

The principle objective of the Study Circle Workshop(s) is to prepare the Union members interested in studying the World of Work and Industrial Relations, Trade Unionism and Parliamentary Procedures. Union members interested are invited to attend the working sessions highlighted in this schedule of topics.

The workshops are designed to prepare members for leadership roles in the trade union movement and assist in their overall development so that they can participate in Bermuda's social environment. The meetings are open forum style sessions where the presenter and the members actively exchange their understanding of the subject matter. Union Divisional Officers, Shop Stewards, Committee Members and rank and File members are invited to attend. All sessions are conducted at BIU Headquarters on Monday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

### Schedule of Workshops – Study Circle Format

DATE	TOPICS
January (2 sessions)	Introduction – Trade Unionism "A Philosophy and Vital Way of Life" ABCs of Trade Unionism (History) Summary
February (2 sessions)	Trade union Administration and Procedures Role of Union Officers/Shop Stewards/Code of Conduct
March/April (2 sessions)	Honouring the Dead and Injured Workers (Working Safe) Safety and Health in the Workplace
May (1 session)	Role of Industrial Relations Collective Bargaining/Grievance Resolutions
June (2 sessions)	Understanding Collective Agreements Interpreting Articles in the CBA In-House Workshop Target Group – New Officers/Shop Stewards/New Members
September (2 sessions)	Understanding the Collective Agreement Negotiations – Role Play – Role of the Social Partners

## BIU RAFFLE DRAW WINNERS 2014

THEATRE TICKETS	05200	NICOLE
THEATRE TICKETS	09454	RARA
THEATRE TICKETS	08551	MICHELLE FURBERT
THEATRE TICKETS	02801	MAXINE
THEATRE TICKETS	13802	NO NAME
THEATRE TICKETS	06893	ZALIKAH M
GAS VOUCHER BIU	04558	SIL
GAS VOUCHER BIU	10938	NOEL S.W. HODGSON
GAS VOUCHER BIU	06277	RICHARD HAZEL
GAS VOUCHER BIU	00830	HOLES
GAS VOUCHER BIU	13405	JAMES BEAN
GAS VOUCHER BIU	07054	SHAWNGY
MARKETPLACE VOUCHER	12447	BLACK WARRIOR
MARKETPLACE VOUCHER	05760	NO NAME
MARKET PLACE VOUCHER	05944	FOOTE
MARKET PLACE VOUCHER	06705	SHERENA DICKINSON
SUPERMARKET VOUCHER	06006	S. BROWN
SUPERMARKET VOUCHER	09320	RONNIE SANCHEZ
SUPERMARKET VOUCHER	11822	KELLY TWEED
SUPERMARKET VOUCHER	07098	NO NAME
SUPERMARKET VOUCHER	01844	P. HOLDER
\$200.00 BELCO VOUCHER	06196	GLADYS
CABLEVISION VOUCHER	12392	WADE
IPAD A.F. SMITH'S	06503	ROHAN HINDS
BTC MYSTERY PRIZE	08104	RHONDA PAUL
GOLF FOR 4 BELMONT HILLS	06979	KARI BURGESS-SAMUELS
DINNER FOR 2 COCO REEFS	11832	KEEBA
DINNER FOR 2 COCO REEFS	11758	SHAWN THOMPSON
DINNER FOR 2 CAMBRIDGE	08356	E. SAUNDERS
2 NIGHT STAY ELBOW BEACH	07397	AKEEM ALBOUY
2 NIGHT STAY ROSEDON	02335	T. WRIGHT
2 NIGHT STAY TUCKER'S POINT	00901	W. BURROWS
\$500 TRAVEL VOUCHER	13425	JAMES BEAN
\$500 TRAVEL VOUCHER	11858	H. A. DYER
\$500 TRAVEL VOUCHER	12082	NO NAME
\$1000 TRAVEL VOUCHER	10810	SHARON P
46" LED TV	00720	KATINA VILLATOR
150cc SUPER 8 CYCLE BML	04516	WENDELL WILSON
150cc SUPER 8 CYCLE BML	09679	COLLEEN

**\*ALL PRIZES TO BE CLAIMED BY JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2015**

# A New Collective Agreement Signed



Goodard Catering and the Bermuda Industrial Union recently signed a new Collective Agreement. Shown (from left to right) are Sister Karon Robinson (negotiator), Brother George Scott, BIU Chief Organiser, Mr. Kenneth Chase, Goddard's General Manager, Brother Chris Furbert, BIU President and Sister Molly Burgess, BIU General Secretary.

## Ocean View Golf Course

**BIU members can now play 9 or 18 holes of golf for \$50.00 at the Ocean View Course until March 31, 2015.**

**Passes can be picked up at BIU Headquarters only!!**



## Message from the People's Campaign Leaders

continued from page 1

guiding principles have become the watchwords in political debate, and the benchmark in much of the subsequent public debate, this is testament to the impact of the People's Campaign.

The People's Campaign, along with our Union and civic partners, have led the way in terms of providing visionary, reasoned and mature leadership in an environment that is often marred by petty shortsighted partisan politics. On



May 1st, along with Our Union partners we led a historic 3000 plus people march which culminated with the presentation of the People's Manifesto to the Premier

as the representative of the Government and the Opposition Leader. The people's Campaign has led the way in calling for "Real," "shared sacrifice." Banking reform and greater regulatory control particularly as it relates to lending practices and seniors, a more equitable tax system- the call for people being taxed on all income and assets, equal and just treatment for Bermudian workers, access to education, jobs and health care.



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# Why Not A Bermudian Director of Public Prosecutions?

continued from page 3

for the OBA and PLP to collaborate and insist that a Bermudian be appointed to the position. Certainly His Excellency would not refuse the request by the two political parties in the interest of Bermuda.

While most Bermudians were please when Dr. Ian Kawaley was appointed as Chief Justice, it appears that as long as Bermuda remains a colony (Overseas Territory) and certain appointments must be

made by Her Majesty's representative in Bermuda, there are certain positions that will never be filled by Bermudians. I think in particular of the Commanding Officer of the Bermuda Regiment. Certainly if Bermuda were an independent nation like most of the islands to the south of us, I believe that all positions within the government would be filled by Bermudians, including Education Commission which I

understand will once again be filled by another non-Bermudian in spite of the fiasco surrounding Dr. Edmond Healey, the last Education Commissioner.

In my opinion there are more university/college educated Bermudians than ever before in the history of Bermuda, yet it appears that it is as difficult today as it was fifty years ago for Bermudians to take their rightful place in the Bermuda job market.

# PLP Concerned About Labour Force Survey

continued from page 4

· The figures show that there were 3,486 people recorded as unemployed, the highest number of people unemployed ever recorded!

· The figures show that under the OBA, Bermuda is experiencing record unemployment as the unemployment rate of 9% is higher than the 8% recorded in 2012.

· Wages are down 3% as costs continue to rise.

· The black unemployment rate is triple that of the white unemployment rate.

“Bob Richards and the OBA may dismiss unemployed Bermudians as mere statistics, and can call a black unemployment rate three times higher than the white unemployment rate, and I quote,

“of note” - but we, in the PLP, believe that our people are Bermuda's greatest resource and that a Bermuda that works for a select few while leaving everyone else behind, is unacceptable” continued MP Burt. “Two years in to the OBA's term – it is clear that Bermuda's Jobs Crisis is getting worse under the OBA. The backwards thinking of the OBA that we can give tax breaks to business and the benefits will trickle down to everyday Bermudians is an idea from the past that has failed and will continue to take our country in the wrong direction.

Th Shadow Minister said that the OBA likes to talk about incorporations, but incorporations are not what Bermuda needs, Jobs are what Bermuda needs. Bermuda needs a Jobs Plan – and it is

clear the OBA do not have one!

“We believe diversifying our economy should be a priority. We believe that rebuilding our economy with a long term plan for economic growth must be a priority,” concluded Shadow Minister Burt. “We believe that comprehensive reform is needed to reduce the economic advantages of hiring non-Bermudian workers over Bermudian labour. The deeper meaning of these numbers is that our economy needs a wholesale overhaul. These numbers prove that the people of Bermuda require the PLP to lead the way in diversifying this economy. We must do everything we can to encourage more of our children to choose careers that provide employment that is recession proof.”

# The Rapprochement Between the United States and Cuba and its Impact on Bermuda

continued from page 5

dominance of the European Spanish colonial minority that first colonized Cuba. But the Cuban exile community in America, where most who fled the Cuban revolution is made up largely of the white Spanish speakers. There were some black Cubans who often make up the boat people who brave the water between America and Cuba to arrive in

the United States.

If some time in the future Cuba is again in the good graces of America and the Cuban exile community gets over it and accept that things have changed, what will be their impact on race relations in a Cuba where the black and mix-race population form the majority? Unlike the former Western and

Eastern German which finally united bringing an end to the cold war, they were all Germans with no racial divide. How will black and white Cubans view each other in this changed situation? That question can only be answered in the future. But as the song goes, “The times they are changing”.

## Fantasy World 1

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining 17 letters spell the name of a popular fantasy book series.

F T H G O L D H T E R G O E E  
 O R C L D C E O O E L S R P S  
 R U T E R U W R L P D T E D R  
 E A I O C E N D T R O A T D O  
 S T W W R I D G A S S I A A H  
 T N A O I E L U E A N G S E B  
 E E R B P N G A N O G I R O O  
 W C L S F T E T H E N O M H N  
 E P O S F A R M R C I G A M Q  
 L R C O E G D I R B W A R D U  
 T I K R L A N C E T I R P S E  
 S N E C G N O M E S P E A R S  
 A C E L A G I A N T S M O A T  
 C E M A C E S E R V A N T R I  
 N S N O P A E W G S S E V L E

ALE	ELVES	LANCE	QUEST
BATTLE	FARM	MACE	SERVANT
CASTLE	FOREST	MAGIC	SPEARS
CENTAUR	GIANTS	MINSTREL	SPRITE
CHALICE	GNOMES	MOAT	STEW
CROSSBOW	GOLD	OGRE	TOWER
CROWN	GUARDS	PEASANT	WARLOCK
DAGGER	HERO	PEDDLER	WEAPONS
DRAWBRIDGE	HORSE	POISON	WINE
DUNGEON	INN	PRINCE	WITCH