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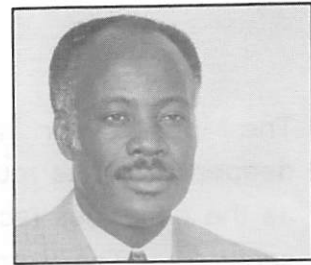
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PSOJ ANNUAL REPORT AUGUST 1997 - JULY 1998

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CLIFTON CAMERON

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The year ended November 1998 has indeed been an eventful one.

History was made on the political front. We saw the holding of general elections in December 1997 and parish council elections in September 1998. Both were won convincingly by the incumbent People's National Party, the first time that a political party was securing a third consecutive term in office. The general elections also saw the application of some of the electoral reforms that the PSOJ had advocated. Two constituencies had elections voided in a number of polling divisions. One particular constituency actually changed hands twice, before the eventual winner was declared after a re-election was held in four polling divisions.

Despite the introduction of an electronic enumeration system, the preparation of the voters' list was flawed and many of the usual irregularities were in evidence on election day itself. It is clear that further reform of the electoral process is necessary. In the

coming year, we will continue to focus on this most important issue.

During the year, the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce (JCC) resigned from the PSOJ over what appeared to be differences concerning the representational structure of the organisation, which the JCC felt did not allow sufficient room for their views on economic policy. There have been numerous meetings between officers of both organisations with a view to having the JCC re-join the PSOJ. We believe that many of the differences are more apparent than real and that they can be resolved, given the overriding importance of a united private sector at this time. The talks are continuing.

The Jamaica Manufacturers Association (JMA) has also been involved in discussions to establish a common position on the major issues of economic policy and on itself re-joining the PSOJ, from which it had withdrawn in 1995.

The past year has seen a deepening of the recession as well as the difficulties facing the private sector. The problems which emerged in the financial sector in 1996 and came to a head in 1997 have continued. More institutions have had to call on FINSAC for help and the total amount of money which has been committed to this organisation, is now approaching J\$100 billion. This is a huge burden, which the taxpayers of the country will have to bear.

The past year has also seen a continuation of the business failures and redundancies that began in 1997, leading to increasing social pressure, particularly on the poor. These pressures have been reflected in escalating incidents of social unrest.

All of this makes it urgent that the country's economic policy be directed towards growth, which has been our consistent position. We have, over the past year, lobbied the government on these issues, preferring private consultations to public confrontation.

However, on October 21, 1998, in the face of growing crisis in the economy, our Presidents' Council and the presidents of the JCC and the JMA, joined in a public statement, released at a press

conference, calling for a shift in the government's economic policy mix. The presidents called on the government to convene discussions with a broad cross-section of interest groups, including the unions, the Opposition, and the leadership of the other major political party, with a view to arriving at a national consensus on the policies that will take the country onto a path of strong and sustainable growth.

In response, the Prime Minister invited the private sector to make a presentation to a Cabinet Retreat that took place on the weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 1998. A small group attended the retreat and outlined our position on the economy for the Cabinet. In subsequent meetings with us, the government has indicated that they are committed to dialogue with the social partners on the policy issues that are of concern to the private sector. It is our hope that further dialogue will bring our positions closer together.

The private sector associations are committed to working for economic policies that will lead to growth, improved efficiency, productivity and competitiveness as well as the reduction of poverty. We are united in our determination to continue this effort and we urge you to support us in this vitally important task. □

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

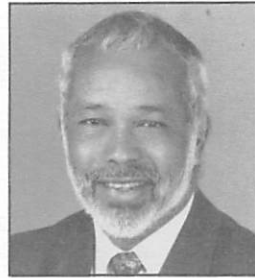
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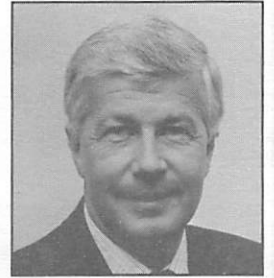
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William McConnell, C.D.  
Vice President



Anthony Barnes  
Vice President



Richard Coe  
Vice President



Richard Byles  
Hon. Secretary



Peter Melhado  
Hon. Treasurer



Peter Moses  
President, JBA



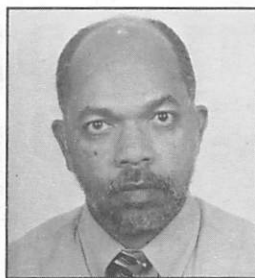
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Vice President, JEA



Dr. Neville Ying  
President, JEF



James Samuels  
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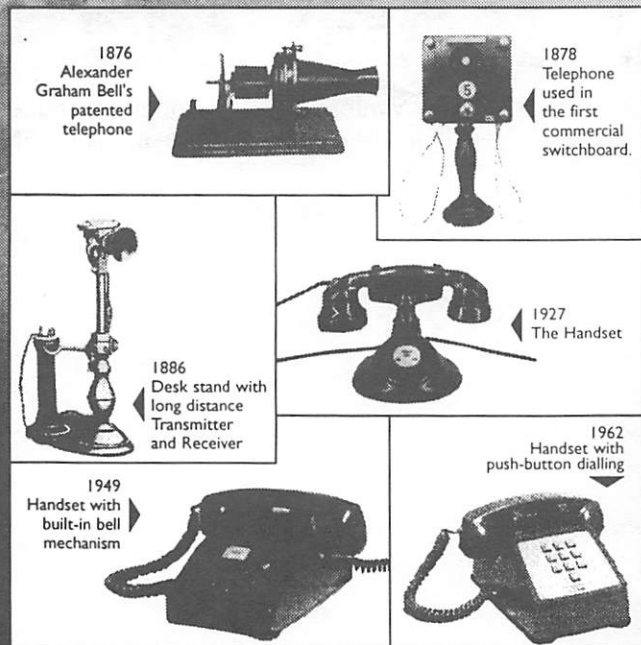
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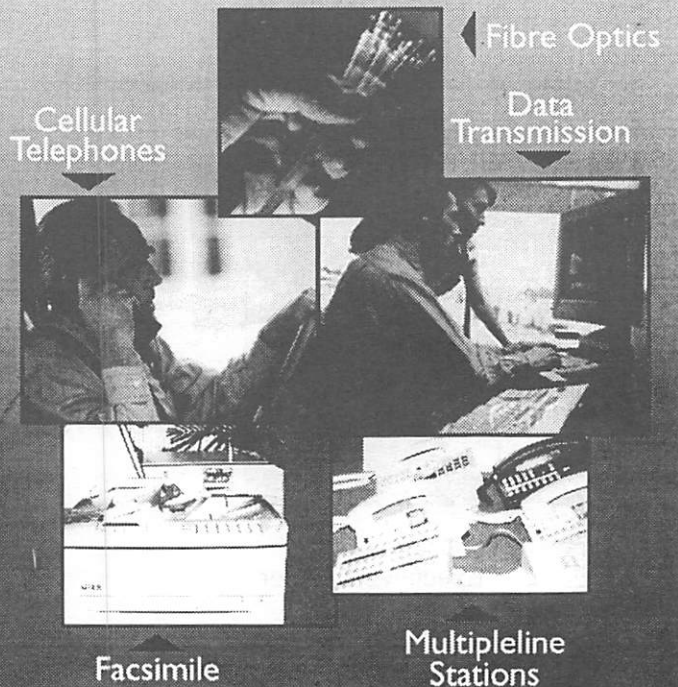
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## **WORLD ECONOMY REVIEW**

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The economic climate throughout 1997 had been strongly influenced by the financial crisis in South East Asia. This had resulted in contractions in many developing economies, a fall in commodity prices e.g. oil, and a fall in inflation.

The three (3) economies most affected by the financial crisis of South East Asia are Thailand, Indonesia, and South Korea where the drying up of private foreign financing, together with the large currency depreciation and declines in asset prices that have occurred, are causing sharp contractions of domestic demand, which will be only partially counter-balanced by increased net exports. Malaysia, the Phillipines, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan have also been affected to varying degrees.

Contagion and spill-over effects have altered the outlook for other emerging market countries, primarily as a result of reduced availability of foreign financing, increased interest spreads on foreign borrowing and lower stock market prices. Among the advanced economies, growth prospects appear sustained for North America and Eastern Europe,

whereas Japan, however, has suffered significantly due to the difficulties of many of its Asian trading partners, and as a result of a major crisis in its banking sector.

### **World Trade and Trade Developments**

World Trade volume increased by 9.4% in 1997 (2.8% more than the growth rate in 1996) and is projected to increase by 6.4% in 1998, (3.1% less than the growth rate in 1995). The important trade and financial links with the crisis economies, losses of competitiveness and lower commodity prices all impact on the projected decline in the world trade volume projection for 1998 following a strong growth in 1997.

The major highlights of the World Trade Organisation included improved offers on the liberalization of the basic telecommunications and financial services sub-sectors, the ruling by the appellant body on the European Union (EU) preferential trade agreement with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states, the downturn in output from Asia, and the protest by Japan and the European Union against the

U.S. Helms-Burton law, which penalizes foreign companies investing in Cuba.

Leaders of 34 Western Hemisphere countries agreed to the formation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) by 2005, during the Summit of the Americas held in Miami in December 1994. This was in response to the effect of NAFTA on trade in the region. At the Caribbean/USA Summit in May 1997 Caribbean leaders signed the Bridgetown Declaration, recomitting themselves to the negotiations towards the formulation of the FTAA as they endeavoured to increase the potential benefits from increased market access.

## Oil

Beginning in March 1997, stocks of crude petroleum and petroleum products were built up to levels considerably higher than in comparable months in 1996, although still below levels of earlier years. Given strong consumption demand, however, this stock accumulation was insufficient to preclude a 13.5% price increase over the period June 1997 to October 1997 - mostly occurring at the end of September and early October, when fears were greatest that increasing political tensions

relating to developments in the Middle East might lead to some supply disruption. From October 1997 to late March 1998, petroleum prices fell by more than 25%. The IMF's indicator price for crude petroleum fell from US\$20 per barrel to about US\$14 per barrel. Most recently, prices have fallen as low as US\$12 per barrel.

## Inflation

The Asian crisis was expected to reduce global inflation pressures by weakening demand and activity in many countries. Slower growth in Asia has been an important factor behind the sharp drop, since early 1997, in world prices for many primary commodities for which these countries account for a significant share of global demand. Also, the large depreciation of a number of Asian currencies can be expected to reduce the US dollar prices of those products for which these countries are important world suppliers.

At the end of 1997, the average inflation among the major industrial countries stood at just over 2.1%, down from just under 2.5% in 1996, with projected inflation for 1998 set at 1.7% (See Table 1.1).



Table 1.1

<b>SUMMARY OF INFLATION</b>			
	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>GDP DEFLATORS</b>			
<b>Advanced Economies</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>
United States	2.3	2.0	1.6
European Union	2.4	1.8	1.7
Japan	-0.5	0.6	--
Other advanced economies	2.8	2.6	3.8
<b>Consumer Prices</b>			
<b>Advanced Economies</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>
United States	2.9	2.3	2.0
European Union	2.5	1.9	2.0
Japan	0.1	1.7	0.9
Other advanced economies	3.2	2.7	4.3
<b>Developing Countries</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>Regional Groups</b>			
Africa	26.2	10.5	7.5
Asia	6.7	3.9	8.0
Middle East and Europe	24.5	22.6	26.6
Western Hemisphere	22.3	13.1	9.1
<b>Analytical Groups</b>			
<b>By source of export earnings</b>			
Fuel	30.6	14.9	14.4
Non-fuel	11.9	7.8	9.8
<b>By external financing source</b>			
Net Creditor countries	2.1	1.2	1.4
Net debtor countries	14.1	8.7	10.5
Official financing	15.9	9.3	7.1
Private financing	15.2	9.2	9.0
Diversified financing	10.5	7.2	15.9

Source: International Monetary Fund "World Economic Outlook - May 1998"

## World Economic Outlook

The impact of the Asian crisis was the main factor contributing to the projected slowing of growth in the world economy from 4.1% in 1997 to about a projected 3.1% in 1998 - (See Table 1.2).

Growth prospects for the major industrial countries, with the important exception of Japan, is expected to be modest. Exports to Asia are likely to fall sharply but the declines in bond yields in most industrial countries since mid-1997,

reflecting reduced expectations of inflation and of monetary tightening, as well as a portfolio shift away from emerging market investments, are likely to have an offsetting and stimulating effect on growth.

In developing countries, economic growth is expected to slow from about 5 ¾% in 1997 to about 4% in 1998, a rate considerably below the 6% average of the 1990's. This is primarily a result of the expected policy decisions involved in reducing the fiscal imbalances that are present.

**Table 1.2**

<b>Overview of the World Economic Outlook Projections. 1996-1998</b>			
<b>(Annual percentage change unless otherwise noted)</b>			
	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>
<b>WORLD OUTPUT</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Industrial Countries	2.5	2.8	2.3
U.S.A.	2.8	3.8	2.9
Japan	3.9	0.9	
Germany	1.4	2.2	2.5
Italy	0.7	1.5	2.3
U.K.	2.2	3.3	2.3
Canada	1.2	3.8	3.2
<b>EUROPEAN UNION</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>DEVELOPING COUNTRIES</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Africa	5.5	3.2	4.6
Asia	8.3	6.7	4.4
Middle East and Europe	4.9	4.4	3.3
Western Hemisphere	3.5	5.0	3.4

Table 1.2 (cont'd)	1996	1997	1998
<b>WORLD TRADE VOLUME IMPORTS</b>	6.6	9.4	6.4
Industrial Countries	6.4	8.6	6.8
Developing Countries	9.3	12.1	5.2
<b>EXPORTS</b>			
Industrial Countries	5.9	9.8	6.2
Developing Countries	8.7	10.8	7.4
<b>COMMODITY PRICE</b>			
<b>Oil <sup>1</sup></b>			
(IN SDRS)	24.3	-0.9	-22.8
In U.S. dollars a barrel	18.9	-6.0	-23.9
<b>Non-fuel <sup>2</sup></b>			
In SDRs	3.1	1.6	-6.0
In US Dollars	-1.3	-3.7	-7.4
<b>CONSUMER PRICES</b>			
Industrial Countries	2.4	2.1	2.1
Developing Countries	13.7	8.5	10.2
Countries in Transition	41.4	27.8	13.8
<b>SIX MONTH LIBOR (IN PERCENT) <sup>3</sup></b>			
On U.S. Dollar Deposits	5.6	5.9	6.1
On Japanese Yen Deposits	0.7	0.7	0.7
On Deutsche Mark Deposits	3.3	3.4	3.9

Source: International Monetary Fund "World Economic Outlook - May 1998"

**Note:**

<sup>1</sup>Simple average of spot prices of U.K. Brent, Dubai, and West Texas Intermediate crude oil. The average price of oil in U.S. dollars a barrel was \$19.18 in 1997; the assumed price is \$14.59 in 1998 and \$15.94 in 1999.

<sup>2</sup>Average, based on world commodity export weights.

<sup>3</sup>London interbank offered rate. □

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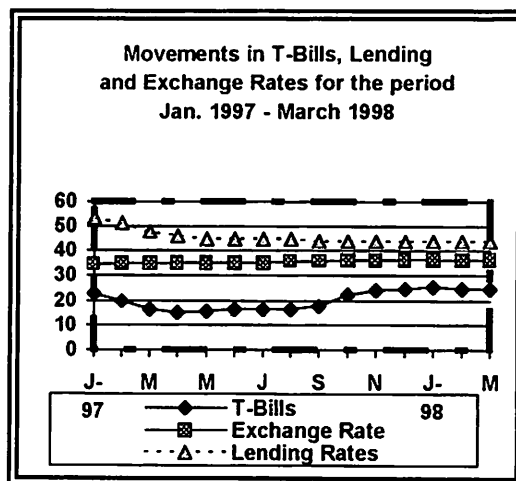
## THE JAMAICAN ECONOMY

The economic programme for 1997/98 was guided by the main policy objective that influenced the design of the 1996/97 programme, that of the attainment of macro-economic stability. Government's policies were therefore predicated upon the following parameters:

- i. lowering money supply growth to 12 percent per annum or 1 percent monthly
- ii. exchange rate stability
- iii. lowering inflation to single digits (8 percent to 9 percent) over the fiscal year
- iv. GDP growth of between 2 percent and 3 percent
- v. maintaining reserves to cover three to four months of imports
- vi. reducing the fiscal deficit to 2.0% of GDP
- vii. interest rates consistent with the stability and convertibility of the Jamaican dollar.

For the first half of the year, policies were to a large extent consistent with the economic objectives. Monetary policies remained tight through the strict monitoring of base money, in order to maintain inflationary objectives. The reduced inflation lead to a lowering of domestic interest rates, and this

contributed to a shift in portfolio holdings from local fixed income assets to foreign currency.



Economic imbalances began emerging in the second half of the year with the higher than projected fiscal deficit in September 1997 due, largely to the cost of servicing the domestic debt, higher than projected wages and salaries, and lower than projected tax revenues. This was also coupled with the widening of the external current account deficit due largely to increases in consumer import demand as well as reduced export competitiveness as a result of the appreciation in the real exchange rate. This therefore led to a worsening in the balance of payments position which by the end of the year, resulted in a US\$152.00 million decline in the stock of Net

International Reserves, compared with an improvement of US\$271.2 million in 1996. This reduction in net reserves brought the stock of NIR to US\$540.5 million at the end of December 1997, a 22% decline relative to 1996 levels.

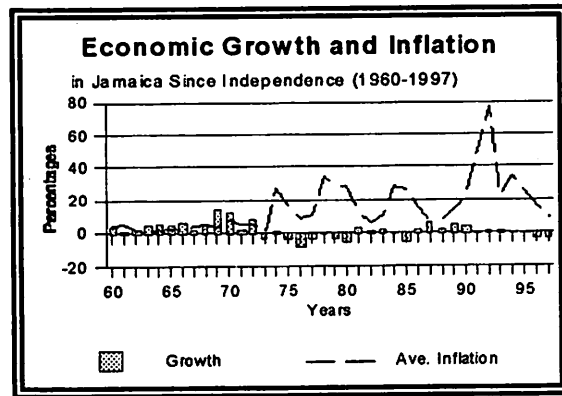
Preliminary GDP indicators show that real economic output fell in 1997 by an estimated 2.4% compared to a 1.7% decline in 1996. This occurred largely as a result of:

- a. the fall-out and re-structuring of the financial sector.
- b. the decline in out-put of the productive sectors namely in manufacturing, agriculture and construction; and
- c. the continuation of government's high interest rate policy.

Government's tight monetary policy persisted in 1997 which saw broad money (M2) increasing by 13.4% in 1997 compared with 14.5% reported for 1996.

The management of base money, however, was the main method by which the inflation target was achieved. Base Money increased by 17.4% in 1997 compared to 22.3% in 1996.

This contributed to a slowing of inflation to 9.2% as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the year, compared to 15.8% for 1996. The inflation outcome was assisted by the 4% real appreciation in the exchange rate which averaged J\$35.58 to the US\$, compared to J\$37.02 for 1996.



As a result of the real appreciation in the exchange rate export competitiveness fell, and this coupled with the drought experienced during the middle of the year, lead to a decline in exports of non-traditional food, sugar, banana and a number of other agricultural commodities. Consequently, the balance of trade worsened to US\$971.7 million from US\$775.7 million in the similar period of 1996.

The general down-turn in the productive sectors of the economy along with the tensions in the financial markets led to a worsening of the Balance of Payments (BOP)

position. However, independent of the domestic economic development, improved demand conditions for alumina lead to strong growth in both output and income from this commodity.

The crisis in the financial sector continued with the government taking a number of measures to ameliorate the situation. The Financial Sector Adjustment Company (FINSAC) was formed by Government on January 29, 1997 to administer the restructuring of the sector. FINSAC took over Eagle Financial Enterprises in March 1997 and went on to acquire shares in four (4) other commercial banks and five (5) insurance companies in exchange for financial support, conditional on the restructuring of these entities. In addition, a commercial bank, a merchant bank and four (4) building societies were closed.

The power of intervention of the monetary authorities and the Ministry of Finance and Planning was enhanced by way of adjustments to the regulatory framework of the Banking, Financial Institutions, Building Societies and Industrial and Prudential Societies Acts. In order to protect depositors, a bill for the Deposit Insurance

Protection Act was submitted for consideration in April 1997.

The tourism, mining, and quarrying sectors were all estimated to have shown moderate growth. Output from alumina production reached a historic high, totalling 3.4 million tonnes as a spin-off from the increased international prices offered for alumina.

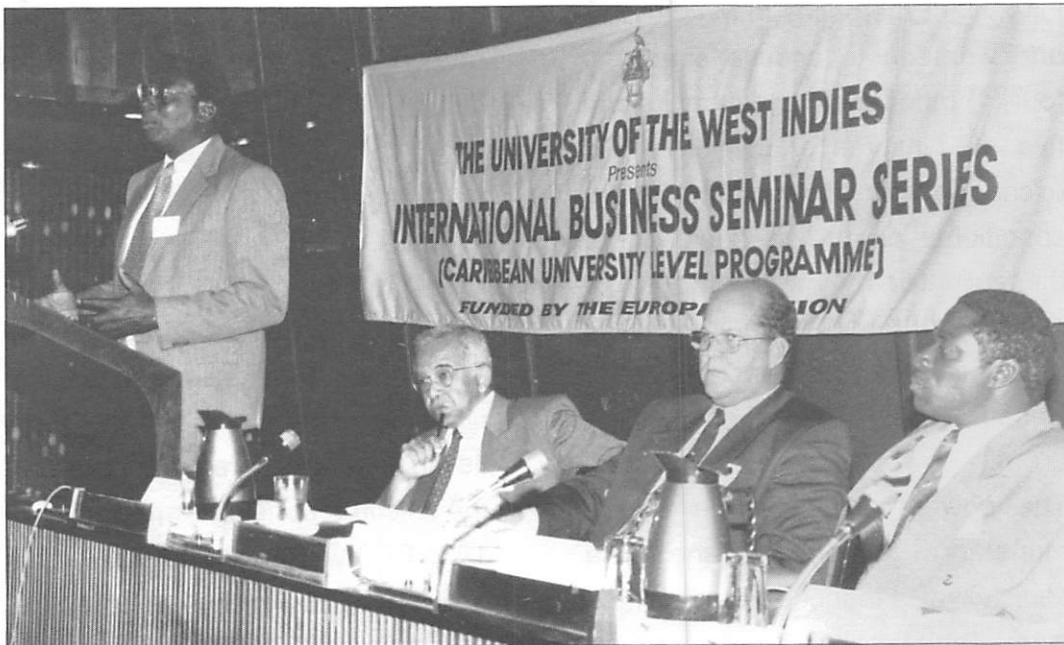
On the other hand, the manufacturing and agriculture sectors' output showed continuing decline for the year. The services sector, which accounts for the largest portion of GDP, experienced a decline in 1997 with the financial sector still continuing to experience major setbacks.

The performance of government finances was also affected. Central Government's balances for the first nine (9) months of the 1997/98 fiscal year deteriorated, relative to the corresponding period of 1996/97, by J\$4.3 billion, to reach a deficit of J\$20.5 billion at the end of December 1997. This was as a result of the fall-off in revenue growth relative to that of expenditure. This marked the second successive year of such decline, following five years of sustained surpluses on the fiscal account. For the full 1997/98 fiscal

year, the fiscal deficit was \$21 billion or approximately 9.7% of GDP. Contributing heavily to this deficit was the large, non-discretionary obligation imposed by servicing the domestic debt, the stock of which totalled J\$104.4 billion by December 1997. The fiscal imbalance, which continues to persist into early 1998, is a major concern that has to be treated with much urgency if we earnestly intend to turn around the economy. Government has to slash expenditure since the growth rate in

revenue inflows has been declining below the budgeted amount.

The outlook for 1998 seems, to a large extent, a mirror of the scenario of 1997 unless far reaching policy decisions are taken to effect growth and not just lower inflation. The latter is a necessary but not sufficient condition for sustainable growth. □



Dr. Trevor Farrell of the Department of Economics, UWI (St. Augustine Campus) speaking at the joint UWI/PSOJ International Seminar on "New Global Trading Arrangements, Opportunities and Challenges". This was held in November 1997 at the Jamaica Conference Centre. From left are: Dr. Don Robotham (Pro Vice Chancellor, UWI), Mr. Larry Watson (General Manager - Export Division, Wray and Nephew), and Professor Alvin Wint (Professor of International Business, UWI).



## THE NATION

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The past year has been a very eventful one, but unfortunately there was not much to cheer about as the government's economic policies continued to take a heavy toll on the economy in general and the private sector in particular. Indeed, the high point of the period was the qualification of the national football team for the 1998 World Cup finals in France. This feat was a tremendous source of pride for Jamaicans both at home and abroad. Although the team was eliminated in the first round, we won our first match in the finals by beating Japan and gave quite a good account of ourselves, all things considered.

General elections were held in December 1997 and these saw the ruling PNP returned to power (with a majority of 50 seats to 10 for the JLP) for a third consecutive term in office. The new electoral system did not perform anything close to expectations as the elections were called before the electronic fingerprinting and registration exercise could be properly completed. Even now, some 8 months after the December polls and a few weeks before the parish council elections are due to be held, less than half of the fingerprints

have been cross-matched to eliminate duplicate registrations. Both the present course and the future direction of electoral reform remain a major bone of contention between the political parties, even though the JLP may now contest the parish council elections instead of boycotting them in protest against what they perceive as the lack of progress in implementing the electoral reforms.

1997 was another year of economic decline and output contracted by 2.4%. For the first 8 months of 1998, all the indicators are pointing towards a further fall in output this year. The effects of the economic difficulties are having a profound impact at the firm level and companies in all sectors of the economy struggling to cope with a very hostile business climate. A considerable number of firms, of all sizes in the productive sectors, have gotten into financial difficulties and have either lost substantial sums of money, gone into receivership or gone out of business. While firms in the manufacturing sector have been worst affected, some in the distributive, agriculture and tourism sectors have not escaped unscathed. Employment has also been affected as 25,000 jobs were

lost in the productive sector in 1997. Although there were some employment gains in other sectors, private sector employment as a whole fell by 13,500 in 1997 to its lowest level in 3 years. Even own account workers (the self employed) fell by 12,700 last year, at a time when a large number of workers were losing their jobs and were thought to be going into self employment. In contrast, public sector employment grew by 9,800 or 11% in 1997.

The past year has seen the virtually complete demise of the local commercial banking sector as FINSAC has been required to rescue or take over all the locally owned institutions with the exception of Trafalgar Commercial Bank, the smallest of the banks operating in Jamaica. The cost of the exercise thus far is about J\$83 billion and this does not include the roughly J\$16 billion worth of interest which falls due this year. There are still 2 commercial banks which have not yet been fully restructured, so that we can expect the cost of the FINSAC interventions to rise further. Despite the colossal sum of money that has been committed so far, the crisis in the financial sector and the repercussions from it, are far from over. The large stock of bad loans will have to be liquidated or

rehabilitated before the troubled institutions can again become truly viable and, unfortunately, the problem is continuing to grow as the government keeps its high interest rate policy in place. Furthermore, liquidating these loans in the very soft economic conditions which are prevailing at present, will be a very difficult task, even if assets are put up for sale at very steep discounts.

The recovery of the financial sector and indeed of the wider economy is being stymied by the government's refusal to radically change its present policy mix and adopt a more growth oriented set of policies. Continuing on the present path is raising the cost of the financial sector rescue operations and increasing the economic and social dislocation which the country will suffer in the interim. A growing number of business failures, rising unemployment, falling local production and a growing public debt burden are some of what the country has to look forward to, while we continue on this path. By issuing illiquid FINSAC paper to the troubled financial institutions, the government has deferred the cost of the bailout for a few years. However, very soon, some of these costs will have to be acknowledged by the fiscal budget. Without significant growth in the economy,

the government's budget, which is already running a huge deficit, will simply not be able to cope with this additional burden and the government will be faced with a choice between defaulting on its debt or printing money to meet its obligations. Neither scenario will bring particularly pleasant results.

The government has stated repeatedly that they have no intention of changing the direction of their economic policies, but as time goes by, the contradictions inherent

in these policies will sooner or later force changes in the policy mix and the policy outcomes. The constantly deteriorating social conditions will also be a strong agent for change. However, the challenge for the business community will be to make the adjustments in their firms which will allow their companies to survive in a contracting economy in what will be an increasingly hostile social and economic climate. □



JLP spokesman Mr. Audley Shaw was the Guest Speaker at the PSOJ's Membership Luncheon in November 1997 at the Terra Nova Hotel.

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At Courts you can always expect our staff to be courteous and knowledgeable, whether you're browsing, buying, arranging delivery, seeking after sales service, or just phoning with an enquiry.

Our staff is being continually trained to ensure that first and foremost, they can choose the right product to match your needs. And they will be able to explain exactly why the product is right for you, whether it's the price, special features or other information.

If you find this is not the case, please let me know and we will do whatever is necessary to quickly correct the situation, even if this means exchanging the product in exceptional circumstances.

### LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE

Once you've found something you'd like to buy at Courts, you want to feel confident you're paying the lowest possible net cash or credit price for the best quality product guaranteed by our buyers. Our cash and hire purchase credit prices are the lowest anywhere - we guarantee you that. We're so confident because our Price Check Team makes sure our prices are always the best around. (We check on a daily basis just to make sure).

If you can find the identical item readily available elsewhere, at a lower price, tell us, and if this is so, we'll not only match the price we'll go lower still.

Courts also guarantee that even 7 days after making a purchase at Courts, if you find the identical product, freely available locally and in perfect condition at a lower price, we will happily refund the difference and give you a free gift. This offer applies to all products.

### EASY & INSTANT CREDIT

If you wish to shop at Courts on credit, we'll need to spend a little time asking you for information about your income. Of course this is confidential.

Provided you bring the paperwork (a payslip or proof of regular income, a utility bill and ID), we'll guarantee you credit in half an hour or an hour at the most in peak times.

Our Hire Purchase agreement is written in plain and simple English, so that you can easily understand your rights and obligations.

### GUARANTEED CREDIT

Even if you would not normally qualify for credit, we have a scheme which allows you to make six equal instalments over six months and then automatically get credit for up to 3 times the total instalments paid. That's Courts Guaranteed Credit Plus.

## YOUR HELP GUIDE

### START WITH YOUR STORE

Our management and staff are trained to help you. Should any problems arise, we will happily sort them out to your complete satisfaction.

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

At our larger stores we have Service Managers who will give you special attention. At all stores our staff and management are trained to make instant decisions to give you the very best service.

### TECHNICAL SERVICE

We have over 40 Contract Technicians throughout Jamaica, ready to respond to your request at any of our stores islandwide.

### PAYMENT PROTECTION PLAN

Courts insure your hire purchase item against fire, flood, death, or if you are permanently incapacitated by illness or injury. Providing your account is not in arrears the remaining payments are covered. Terms and conditions apply, check your store manager for details.

### AVAILABILITY GUARANTEE

When we advertise or promote a product at a price, we always do so in good faith and you can be sure that we will stock this item in sufficient quantities to satisfy anticipated demand. (The only exception would be when we promote "limited stock"). If we have sold out due to unanticipated demand we undertake to get further stock at the same price if at all possible, or give you a complete refund if the manufacturer cannot supply, and a free gift for the inconvenience.

### MAXIMUM GUARANTEES & PARTS

All our furniture carries information on the product which exceeds Bureau of Standards requirements. We also offer the most extensive appliance guarantees available in Jamaica. Most items at Courts carry the maximum warranty for labour and parts. So if anything goes wrong, just get in touch with us or bring the product back to Courts and we'll sort it out for you. Ask to see our warranty document, available at all stores. Warranty terms are also written on each invoice.

### FREE & FAST DELIVERY

We will deliver your purchase within 48 hours after your cash purchase, or your credit has been approved (provided it is a stock item), or as agreed with you.

If we are unable to deliver within the agreed time, we will contact you to explain and to inform you of the new delivery date. When this is the case, you'll get a gift with our compliments, delivered with your purchase.

### REPAIR, LOAN OR REPLACEMENT

If anything should go wrong with your purchase during the guarantee period and the product is faulty, we'll repair it as speedily as possible. If the repair cannot be done on site and you will be without your product for a long period, we'll loan you a replacement. In most cases you should not be without your purchase for more than 7 days.

For a small fee, we also offer repair and parts service beyond the guarantee period.

### TOTAL SERVICE PACKAGE

We are continually striving to improve our service to you, our valued customer. From time to time, we will be able to tell you about improved and better ways of serving you through the press and electronic media.

### CREDIT ENQUIRIES

The larger stores have dedicated a credit approval department, and every store has an Office Manager who can answer any questions on credit.

### DELIVERY ENQUIRIES

If you require any information about delivery, just call your local Store Manager.

### CONSUMER CHARTER HOTLINE

If you are not satisfied with the assistance you get at your local Courts store then call me toll free at

# 1-888-CHARTER

(1-888-242-7837)

## THE ORGANISATION

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At its meeting in December 1997, the PSOJ Council elected the members of the Executive Committee for the administrative year 1997/1998. Clifton Cameron was unanimously returned as President, as were Vice Presidents William McConnell, C.D., Anthony Barnes and Elon Beckford. Mr. Richard Byles replaced Mrs. Marlene Sutherland as Honorary Secretary and Mr. Henry Fullerton was re-elected to serve as Honorary Treasurer.

The following Associations continued to have representation on the Executive Committee:

<b>Mr. Peter Moses</b>	<b>- President, JBA</b>
<b>Mr. Howard Hamilton</b>	<b>- President, JCC</b>
<b>Mrs. Rita Hilton</b>	<b>- President, JEA</b>
<b>Mr. Carl Roberts</b>	<b>- President, JEF</b>
<b>Mr. James Samuels</b>	<b>- President, JHTA</b>
<b>Mr. Albert Gray</b>	<b>- President, SBAJ</b>
<b>Mr. Robert Henriques</b>	<b>- President, SMCJ</b>

During the year, however, there were a number of changes to the Executive Committee. Messrs. Elon Beckford and Henry Fullerton resigned from the positions of Vice President and Honorary Treasurer

respectively. As a result of this, Messrs. Richard Coe and Peter Melhado accepted the President's invitation to carry out the functions of the two vacant positions for the remainder of the year i.e. until the elections to be held at the Council Meeting in December 1998.

In addition, the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce resigned from the PSOJ and this vacancy has not yet been filled. Regarding the other Associations on the Executive Committee, there were changes in the Presidency: Mr. Patrick Smith (V.P. and representing Karl James - JEA) replaced Mrs. Rita Hilton, Dr. Neville Ying replaced Mr. Carl Roberts (JEF) and Mr. Robert Wynter replaced Mr. Albert Gray (SBAJ).

The 1997/98 saw the members of the Executive Committee being very active as they carried out their pledge to be the voice of the Organisation and the wider private sector on issues of national interest and critical to our country's development. □

## THE COMMITTEES

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### Economic Policy:

Mr. Peter Melhado (Chairman)	-	Manufacturers Merchant Bank
Mr. Peter Morris	-	Jamaica Producers Group Ltd.
Mr. Theodore Golding	-	NCB Group Ltd.
Mr. Richard Powell	-	Wray & Nephew Group Ltd.
Mr. Vivian Brown	-	ICWI Group Ltd.
Mr. Richard Byles	-	Pan Jamaican Investment Trust Ltd.
Mr. Colin Steele	-	Mechala Group Ja. Ltd.
Mr. Anthony Barnes	-	Grace, Kennedy & Co. Ltd.
Prof. Alvin Wint	-	Dept. of Management Studies, UWI
Dr. Sang Kim	-	Dept. of Economics, UWI
Mr. Karl James	-	Jamaica Exporters' Association
Mr. James Samuels	-	Terra Nova Hotel
Mr. Kevin Hendrickson	-	Jamaica Hotel & Tourist Assn.
Mr. David Wan	-	Jamaica Bankers' Association
Mr. Robert Wynter	-	Small Businesses' Assn. of Jamaica
Mr. Noel DaCosta	-	Jamaica Employers' Federation
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ
Mr. Adolph Palmer	-	PSOJ
Mr. Roy Collister	-	

### Electoral Reform:

Miss Sonia Jones	-	Attorney-at-Law
Mr. Phillip Gore	-	Gore Developments Ltd.
Mr. Neville James	-	Island Broadcasting Services Ltd.
Mr. Joseph A. Matalon	-	Jamaica Developers Association
Mr. Patrick Brissett	-	Small Businesses' Assn. of Ja.
Mrs. Gloria Moodie	-	Jamaica Hotel & Tourist Assn.
Miss Megan Deane	-	Jamaica Exporters' Assn.
Mr. Tony Ray	-	Jamaica Employers' Federation
Mr. David Wan	-	Jamaica Bankers' Association
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ

### Environment:

Dr. Barry Wade (Chairman)	-	Environmental Solutions Ltd.
Dr. David Smith (Dpty. Chairman)	-	JCDT
Mr. Earl Barrett	-	Caribbean Cement Company
Mrs. Carolyn Hayle	-	UWICED
Mrs. Rita Hilton	-	Marketing Development Ltd.
Mrs. Eleanor Jones	-	Environmental Solutions Ltd.
Mr. Albert Francis	-	Alframec Ltd.
Mr. Richard Gayle	-	Alcan Jamaica Company
Mr. Franklin McDonald	-	NRCA
Miss Marcia Ormsby	-	PSOJ

**Investment:**

Mr. William McConnell, CD (C'man)	-	Wray & Nephew Group Ltd.
Mr. Clifton Cameron	-	Manufacturers' Merchant Bank
Mr. Peter Moses	-	Jamaica Bankers' Association
Mr. Richard Powell	-	Wray & Nephew Group Ltd.
Mr. Peter Melhado	-	Manufacturers Merchant Bank
Mr. Mark Golding	-	Dehring, Bunting & Golding
Mr. Sameer Younis	-	Jamaica Manufacturers Assn.
Mr. Karl James	-	Jamaica Exporters' Assn.
Dr. Neville Ying	-	Jamaica Employers' Federation
Mr. James Samuels	-	Jamaica Hotel & Tourist Assn.
Mr. Robert Wynter	-	Small Businesses' Assn. of Ja.
Mr. Howard Hamilton	-	Jamaica Chamber of Commerce
Prof. Alvin Wint	-	Dept. of Management Studies, UWI
Mr. Peter Morris	-	The Jamaica Producers Group Ltd.
Mrs. Marlene Sutherland	-	Carreras Group Ltd.
Mr. Wayne Sutherland	-	Jamaica Exporters' Association
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ

**Membership**

Mr. Bruce Rickards (Chairman)		
Mr. John Burrowes	-	Businessman
Mr. Peter Melhado	-	Manufacturers' Merchant Bank
Mr. Pat Martin	-	Caribbean Cement Company
Mrs. Dotsie Gordon	-	DOT Personnel Services Ltd.
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ
Mrs. Carol Salmon	-	PSOJ
Miss Marcia Ormsby	-	PSOJ
Mrs. Ann Marie Hendriks	-	PSOJ

**National Crime Prevention Fund**

Mr. Lester Spaulding (Chairman)	-	Radio Jamaica Ltd.
Mr. Mike Hirst (Depty. Chairman)	-	McCann Erickson (Ja.) Ltd.
Mrs. Jennifer Cheesman	-	Caribbean Examination Council
Maj. Gen. Robert Neish	-	MONEX Limited
Mr. Neville James	-	KLAS FM
Dept. Supt. James Forbes	-	Police Community Relations
Mr. Leon Mitchell	-	CVM TV
Mrs. Prudence Gentles	-	Crime Stop
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ
Mrs. Carol Salmon	-	PSOJ
Mr. Delroy Lindsay		

### Standing Committee on National Security:

Maj. Gen. Robert Neish (Chairman)	-	MONEX Limited
Mr. Francis Forbes	-	Commissioner of Police
Cmdr. Maj. George Benson	-	Jamaica Fire & Emergency Servs.
Mr. Julian Templer	-	National Safety Ltd.
Dpty. Supt. James Forbes	-	Police Community Relations Officer
Mrs. Elaine Baker	-	Ministry of National Security
Mr. Mike Hirst	-	McCann Erickson (Ja.) Ltd.
Rear Admiral Peter Brady	-	Jamaica Defence Force
Mr. Lester Spaulding	-	Radio Jamaica Ltd.
Mrs. Prudence Gentles	-	Crime Stop
Mr. Lazarus Bucknor	-	BAP Company Limited
Mr. David Allen	-	Commissioner of Police Office
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ
Mr. Paul Hire-Miller	-	

### Trade Policy:

Mr. Anthony Barnes (Chairman)	-	Grace Kennedy & Company Ltd.
Amb. Peter C.V. King (Chairman)	-	Peter King & Associates
Mr. Clifton Cameron	-	Manufacturers' Merchant Bank
Rt. Hon. Hugh L. Shearer	-	BITU
Ms. Lisa McGregor	-	The Jamaica Producers Group Ltd.
Sir Alister McIntyre	-	Vice Chancellor, UWI
Amb. Ellen Bogle	-	Min. of Foreign Affairs & Trade
Prof. Alvint Wint	-	Dept. of Management Studies, UWI
Mr. Clifford Hall	-	Min. of Invest., Industry & Commerce
Mr. Ransford Smith	-	Min. of Invest., Industry & Commerce
Ms. Vivia Betton	-	Min. of Foreign Affairs & Trade
Mr. Peter Moses	-	Citibank N.A.
Mr. David Wan	-	Jamaica Bankers' Association
Mr. Craig Lawrence	-	Min. of Foreign Affairs & Trade
Mr. Patrick Smith	-	Jamaica Biscuit Co. Ltd.
Mrs. Ann-Marie Feanny	-	Livingston Alexander & Levy
Amb. Richard Pierce	-	Jamaica House
Mr. Anthony Gomes	-	Metropolitan Mgmt. Transport Ltd.
Mrs. Pauline Gray	-	Jamaica Exporters' Association
Mr. Charles Ross	-	PSOJ



## THE SECRETARIAT

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**FRONT ROW:** (From left) Paula Baugh (JaMAC Coordinator), Carol Salmon (Acting Director of Finance and Membership), Donna Palmer (Office Attendant) and Evert Evans-Coombs (Executive Assistant to the Executive Director).

**SECOND ROW:** (From left) Margaret Nash (Communications Assistant), Devon Nicholson (Messenger), Adolph Palmer (Research Economist) and Charles Ross (Executive Director).

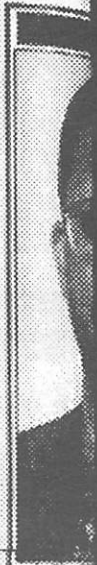
**THIRD ROW:** (From left) Ann Marie Hendriks (Accountant and Membership Coordinator), Marcia Ormsby (Communications/Administration Officer) and Noveletta Samuels (Receptionist).

**MISSING FROM PHOTO:** Diana Housen (Network Administrator) and Cecil Lindo (Caretaker).



EDITORIAL  
culture When

transport



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After 164 years of unmatched reportage in our editorial, sports, local, international and entertainment columns, it really comes as no surprise that we're considered much more than the leading newspaper!

# The Gleaner

ESTABLISHED 1834

Thursday, April 10, 1986  
**Cleaner**  
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The Good

SPORTS  
CYCLO  
JAPANESE  
SPORTS

## **ADMINISTRATION**

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The year under review saw a number of changes in the Secretariat staff, which is already operating with well below the desired complement.

In July 1997 the Director of Finance and Membership, Mr. Hugh Perrin, left the Organisation to pursue his political career. He was replaced by Mrs. Carol Salmon who has been acting in that position since then.

In June 1998 our Senior Research Economist, Mrs. Cynthia Hutchinson, migrated. She was followed shortly after by Research Economist, Mr. George Gayle, who had been awarded a scholarship to Pittsburgh University to pursue his Ph.D.

The Research Economist position has since been filled by Mr. Adolph Palmer. The compliment of staff is now fourteen (14).

The Secretariat is in need of an increase in the existing staff, particular in the Economic Research Department.

### **Human Resource Development/Training**

The Organisation, to the extent of its limited resources, continues to expose members of staff to job survival skills and competence.

### **Staff Benefit**

Members of staff continue to enjoy the usual benefits offered to permanent members of staff - pension, group life and health, etc.

### **Building Environment**

The efforts to give the building a 'face-lift' continue, despite the fact that the achievements have been slow. On a more positive note, we are pleased to report that Berger Paints donated a few gallons of paint which was used to paint the outside fences. This has given the fences a well deserved lift.

A number of areas are still in need of urgent attention, namely:

- replacement of two (2) old air conditioning units

- replacement of electrical breaker
- painting of interior and exterior of building
- replacement of worn carpets
- replacement of some office chairs
- replacement of termite eaten parquet tiles in the boardrooms
- replacement of electrical roof fixtures
- replacement for the Compaq computer which is not Y2k compatible
- replacement of the front door
- repairs to the counter tops in the male and female bathrooms.

Preventative maintenance work at the Secretariat continues, to the limited extent that funds will permit.

The 24-hour electronic monitoring security system provided by Ranger Alarms is still in place. This is supported by one-man security on special occasions when meetings are held outside of regular office hours.

The service wires/cables from the Jamaica Public Service street pole to the stanchion on the buildings are sagging terribly and for this to be tensioned, a utility pole has to be planted alongside the building. The service wire will be fitted to this pole to facilitate the tensioning.

The grounds could benefit from a little extra attention e.g. removal of weeds from lawn, pruning of older trees and re-planting of hedging and shrubbery. Again, because of limited funds any of these major assignments would require sponsorship or special funding. Pest control services continue to be provided as the need arises.

There are still two (2) areas of wooden floors that have not been carpeted, but we hope that these can be done when the other areas with worn carpets are being carpeted.

The need exists for additional storage space at the Secretariat - both for storing inactive files as well as to expand the library. A small container could be secured and refurbished for the storage of the inactive files. The room which was originally used as a computer main station could be used to provide the space needed to expand the library.

There is the need to do some repairs in the bathrooms - tiles are now falling from the walls, the fixtures are getting "shakey", including the toilets, wash-hand basins, partitions and counter tops. We however, continue to maintain the existing fixtures as best as possible. The efforts to construct a

rest room are continuing despite the long delay in getting off the ground.

Repairing a leak in one area of the roof is proving problematic as this area is surrounded by one of the air conditioning units and its supporting gadgets.

The kitchen floors need to be stripped and tiled and new chairs and tables provided for dining. The alternative is to have the existing chairs and tables refurbished. The microwave donated for use in the kitchen developed a problem and was replaced by the suppliers. Again, we express our gratitude for the much needed appliance. The replacement has been working well. The existing 4-burner stove in the kitchen is still functioning, although not at full capacity.

The new pump installed for the water tank has been functioning during the time of need when there is a water lock-off.

### **RJR Share-Holding**

PSOJ currently holds a total of 1,467,066 units of these shares at a purchase price of \$0.053 per share. At the time of reporting, the value of the shares was One Million One Hundred and Seventy Three Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-

Two Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$1,173,652.80).

### **Meetings and Seminars**

The Secretariat continues the coordination of Seminars, Dinners and other events on a regular basis, along with the meetings of Council, Executive, Chairman's Club, Officers, Presidents' Council, Annual Retreat, Annual General Meeting and other special meetings. The regular meetings are held as per the established schedule, i.e. mainly monthly. The other events/ meetings are held as necessary.

### **Computerization**

There is still the need for a multi-media computer to serve the immediate needs of the Organisation.

### **Telephone**

The facilities which are currently provided via the Switchboard (main equipment) are unable to adequately serve the needs of the Organisation especially in the area of access to the new technology of Voice-Mail and Station Message Detail Recorder (SMDR)/Star Talk Flash. The direct lines at individual staff members' desks and those connected to the computers provide excellent service for fax, e-mail and

regular direct telephone communication. It is absolutely necessary to change the current Switchboard. Despite the continuous maintenance and adjustments to the main equipment, it will not be able to provide adequate service for much longer. Cable and Wireless Jamaica Limited expanded the service cable to the building, providing added cable which can now facilitate twice the number of existing lines to the building.

### **Recreation**

Members of staff benefitted from a "*nature trip*" to Navy Island in Port Antonio on Saturday, May 2, 1998. Despite the rain, it provided another excellent avenue for staff interaction away from the office.

The staff welfare activities have improved this year. A few inhouse "*afterwork*" sessions have taken place, where members of staff played games and other fun activities.

### **G. Arthur Brown Scholarship Fund**

This fund which is very undercapitalised is not receiving much attention at this time. For the past 2-3 years no awards have been made. The new Trustees have not met for some time now

and therefore the plans to re-capitalise the fund are currently on hold.

### **Membership**

This committee was inactive for a significant part of the year under review, but it has now been revived.

Since December 1997 a few new members have been added to the committee which has been meeting under a new Chairman.

Consideration is still being given to the expansion of the committee and revision of its focus. It has set out to solicit new members, identify problems affecting membership growth, and find possible solutions. Also, it continues to seek to retain and gain new members while at the same time improving the PSOJ's public image.

During the year, a number of resignations were received. These came as a result of the contraction in the economy and the general reduction in business activities. Among the resignations received was that of the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce in May 1998.

Structures and systems are being put in place to have most, if not all, of those members who have

resigned, rejoin the organisation as soon as their situation improves.

Approximately nine (9) new members in the individuals and companies categories, joined the Organisation during the year. A tally of the current membership at July 31, 1998, reflects 102 individuals, 27 associations, and 202 companies. It should be noted however, that a number of these are inactive members.

An important innovation of this committee is an orientation exercise for new members and the format is now being finalized. Consideration is being given to having a survey done to determine the members' overall impression of the Organisation, as well as to get some ideas for unifying the private sector.

The existing membership application form has been revised.

Attendance at the quarterly luncheons has not been very encouraging in terms of numbers but the interaction and participation is still at an acceptable level.

The committee continues to assist with the planning of the various members' events, eg. The Hall of Fame dinner held in March 1998, the Annual Economic Seminar held

in May 1998, and the quarterly membership luncheons held on November 20, 1997, February 19, 1998, and July 16, 1998. Arrangements are now being made to host a luncheon in Central Jamaica in September 1998.

## **Hall of Fame**

On March 31, 1998, the PSOJ inducted the Honourable R. Danny Williams, OJ, into the Private Sector Hall of Fame. The dinner commemorating this induction was addressed by Sir Brian Smith, then Chairman of Cable and Wireless PLC, the parent company of Cable and Wireless Jamaica. The function received wide private sector support and was an enjoyable and successful event.

## **Finance**

Subscription income forms a significant portion of our income. We have collected 92% of our budgeted target with respect to subscription and 83% of the other income activities.

We will continue to pursue our collection efforts to have the outstandings on the other income activities collected.

There is no real increase in percentage terms for the proposed

subscription budget for the new financial year. However, the more profound situation is that at least 20% of the subscription previously budgeted for will not materialise because of economic/financial fall-outs and the resignations of members.

Therefore, a re-doubling of efforts to attract new members, as well as other measures to retain membership will have to be adopted to pull in enough new subscription income to cover the shortfall.

### **Communications**

General staff meetings are being held at frequent intervals and the mechanism for improving internal communications continues to be revised with a view to improving same.

Facsimile, and to a lesser extent, internet and e-mail are some of the popular methods used by the Secretariat to communicate with the membership and the wider business community. We continue to explore

other creative ways to improve on the existing flow of information and interaction.

### **General**

The joint secretariat of the Jamaica Bankers Association and the Association of Licensed Financial Institutions, as well as the secretariat for Jamaica U-Drive Association are still housed at the PSOJ Secretariat. This arrangement continues to provide mutual benefits for all parties.

Mr. Clifton Cameron continues his second term as President of the Organisation after taking office in December 1996. Earlier in the year (March 98), Messrs Elon Beckford and Henry Fullerton resigned from their respective positions as Vice President and Honorary Treasurer of the PSOJ. They have been succeeded respectively by Messrs Richard Coe and Peter Melhado. □



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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THE PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANISATION OF JAMAICA

Financial Statements

31 July 1998

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

Index  
31 July 1998

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*Price Waterhouse*



16 November 1998

To the Members of  
Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

**Auditors' Report**

We have audited the financial statements set out on pages 1 to 11. These financial statements are the responsibility of the directors and management. The directors and management are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, follow applicable accounting principles and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and the company will continue in business. The directors and management are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, for safeguarding the assets of the group and the company, and for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with standards on auditing generally accepted in Jamaica. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary to provide us with reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by directors and management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, proper accounting records have been kept and the financial statements, which are in agreement therewith, give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the company at 31 July 1998 and of the results of operations and cash flows of the group and the company for the year then ended and have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and comply with the provisions of the Companies Act.

*Price Waterhouse*

Chartered Accountants

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Group Profit and Loss Account Year ended 31 July 1998

	Note	1998 \$'000	1997 \$'000
<b>Gross Operating Revenue</b>	3	16,184	15,688
<b>Loss before Taxation</b>	4	( 3,266)	( 3,624)
<b>Taxation</b>	5	-	-
<b>Net Loss</b>		( 3,266)	( 3,624)
Dealt with in the financial statements of:			
The company		( 3,229)	( 3,579)
The subsidiary		( 37)	( 45)
(Accumulated deficit)/retained earnings at beginning of year		( 154)	3,470
		( 3,420)	( 154)
<b>Appropriation</b>			
Transfer from capital reserve	10	555	-
<b>ACCUMULATED DEFICIT</b>		( 2,865)	( 154)
Reflected in the financial statements of:			
The company		( 3,514)	( 841)
The subsidiary		649	687

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Group Balance Sheet 31 July 1998

	Note	1998 \$'000	1997 \$'000
<b>NET ASSETS EMPLOYED</b>			
Fixed Assets	6	3,265	3,815
Discount on Issue of Debentures	7	56	63
Premium on Redemption of Debentures	8	71	80
Investments	9	12,097	8,544
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables		788	3,465
Taxation recoverable		100	100
Bank and deposit		45	45
Cash		866	258
		1,799	3,868
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables and accruals		5,062	2,340
Subscriptions received in advance		1,307	1,759
		6,369	4,099
<b>Net Current Liabilities</b>			
		( 4,570)	( 231)
		10,919	12,271
<b>FINANCED BY</b>			
Capital Reserves	10	4,531	5,086
Accumulated Deficit		( 2,865)	( 154)
		1,666	4,932
Special Project Funds	11	8,465	6,551
Long Term Liabilities	12	788	788
On behalf of the Board			
.....			
Clifton Cameron	President		
.....			
Peter Melhado	Honorary Treasurer		
		10,919	12,271

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Statement of Group Cash Flows Year ended 31 July 1998

	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>CASH RESOURCES WERE PROVIDED BY/(USED IN):</b>		
<b>Operations</b>		
Net loss	( 3,266)	( 3,624)
Items not affecting cash resources:		
Depreciation	563	635
Amortisation of discount on issue of debentures	7	7
Amortisation of premium on redemption of debentures	9	9
Loss on sale of investments	555	-
(Gain)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	( 209)	7
	<u>( 2,341)</u>	<u>( 2,966)</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital components:		
Receivables	2,677	( 833)
Taxation	-	( 7)
Payables and accruals	2,722	1,374
Subscriptions received in advance	( 452)	950
	<u>4,947</u>	<u>1,484</u>
Cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>2,606</u>	<u>( 1,482)</u>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Purchase of Investments	(10,743)	( 2,997)
Proceeds from sale of investments	6,635	-
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets	274	4
Additions to fixed assets	( 78)	( 63)
Cash used in investing activities	<u>( 3,912)</u>	<u>( 3,056)</u>
<b>Financing Activity</b>		
Special project funds	1,914	141
Cash provided by financing activity	<u>1,914</u>	<u>141</u>
Increase/(decrease) in cash balances	608	( 4,397)
Cash balances at beginning of year	303	4,700
<b>CASH BALANCES AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>911</u>	<u>303</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Bank deposits	45	45
Cash	866	258
	<u>911</u>	<u>303</u>

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Company Balance Sheet 31 July 1998

	Note	1998 \$'000	1997 \$'000
<b>NET ASSETS EMPLOYED</b>			
Fixed Assets	6	955	1,425
Investments	9	12,097	8,544
Investment in Subsidiary		65	65
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables		788	3,465
Taxation recoverable		86	86
Bank deposits		45	45
Cash		859	251
		1,778	3,847
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables and accruals		4,575	2,175
Subscriptions received in advance		1,307	1,759
Due to subsidiary		914	534
		6,796	4,468
<b>Net Current (Liabilities)</b>		( 5,018)	( 621)
		8,099	9,413
<b>FINANCED BY</b>			
Capital Reserves	10	3,148	3,703
Accumulated Deficit		( 3,514)	( 841)
		( 366)	2,862
Special Project Funds	11	8,465	6,551
On behalf of the Board			
..... Clifton Cameron	President		
..... Peter Melhado	Honorary Treasurer		
		8,099	9,413

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

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### 1. Identification

The company is incorporated in Jamaica as a company limited by guarantee and not having share capital. The liability of each member, in the event of a winding up, is limited to \$2. At 31 July 1997 the company had 394 members (1996 - 374).

The principal activity of the company is to promote, propagate and encourage the principles of private enterprise in Jamaica. The principal activity of the subsidiary is the rental of property.

These financial statements are presented in Jamaican dollars.

### 2. Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### (b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the company and its wholly-owned Jamaican subsidiary, Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (Holdings) Limited, made up to 31 July 1998.

#### (c) Depreciation

Fixed assets, except for freehold land on which no depreciation is provided, are depreciated on a straight line basis at annual rates estimated to write off the assets over their expected useful lives. The depreciation rates are as follows:

Freehold buildings	2½ %
Furniture and equipment	10%
Motor vehicles	20%

#### (d) Special Projects Funds

Certain designated income is credited directly to Special Project Funds. Approved project expenses are charged against these funds.

#### (e) Capital donations

Fixed assets which are donated are valued at cost at the time of supply and credited to capital reserves.

#### (f) Foreign currencies

Foreign currency balances at the balance sheet date are translated at the rates of exchange ruling on that date. Transactions in foreign currencies are converted at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of those transactions. Gains and losses arising from fluctuations in exchange rates are included in the profit and loss account.

#### (g) Revenue recognition

Income from membership subscription is recognised on the accruals basis and other income on the cash basis. A provision is made against members' subscriptions in arrears in excess of one year.



# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

### 3. Gross Operating Revenue

This represents income from membership subscriptions, advertising, seminars and other fund-raising activities.

### 4. Loss before Taxation

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
Depreciation	563	635
Auditors' remuneration	580	592
Overdraft interest	35	290
Provision for doubtful debts - Subscriptions and contributions	1,656	2,333
Amortisation of discount on issue of debentures	7	7
Amortisation of premium on redemption of debentures	9	9
Interest income	( 795)	(1,460)
Investment income	( 49)	( 30)

### 5. Taxation

(a) Taxation is based on the group's results, excluding membership subscriptions, adjusted for taxation purposes and comprises:

	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
Income tax at 33 1/3%	-	-

(b) Subject to agreement with the Commissioner of Income Tax, losses of the group available for offset against future taxable profits amount to approximately \$2,491,000 (1997 - \$1,001,000) and may be carried forward indefinitely.

## Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

#### 6. Fixed Assets

	The Group				
	Freehold Land	Freehold Building	Furniture & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At Cost -					
At 1 August 1997	389	2,624	2,304	1,680	6,997
Additions	-	-	-	78	78
Disposals	-	-	( 50)	( 477)	( 527)
At 31 July 1998	389	2,624	2,254	1,281	6,548
Depreciation -					
At 1 August 1997	-	639	1,390	1,153	3,182
Charge for the year	-	66	224	273	563
Relieved on disposals	-	-	( 50)	( 412)	( 462)
At 31 July 1998	-	705	1,564	1,014	3,283
Net Book Value -					
At 31 July 1998	389	1,919	690	267	3,265
At 31 July 1997	389	1,985	914	527	3,815

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 31 July 1998

#### 6. Fixed Assets (Continued)

	The Company		
	Furniture & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At Cost -			
At 1 August 1997	2,129	1,680	3,809
Additions	-	78	78
Disposals	( 25)	( 477)	( 502)
At 31 July 1998	2,104	1,281	3,385
Depreciation -			
At 1 August 1997	1,231	1,153	2,384
Charge for the year	210	273	483
Relieved on disposals	( 25)	( 412)	( 437)
At 31 July 1998	1,416	1,014	2,430
Net Book Value -			
At 31 July 1998	688	267	955
At 31 July 1997	898	527	1,425

## Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

#### 7. Discount on Issue of Debentures

This represents the discount on the issue of the first mortgage debenture stock, being amortised on a straight line basis at 5% per annum (Note 12 (a)).

#### 8. Premium on Redemption of Debentures

This represents the premium on redemption of the second mortgage debenture stock, being amortised on a straight line basis at 5% per annum (Note 12 (b)).

#### 9. Investments

	The Group & The Company	
	1998 \$'000	1997 \$'000
<b>National Crime Prevention Fund Investments</b>		
Investments held under repurchase agreements -		
Government of Jamaica Treasury Bills	-	5,932
Government of Jamaica Local Registered Stock	3,620	-
Government of Jamaica Investment Debenture	3,000	-
	<u>6,620</u>	<u>5,932</u>
<b>Other Investments</b>		
Investments held under repurchase agreements -		
Government of Jamaica Treasury Bills	-	1,054
Government of Jamaica Local Registered Stock	3,799	-
Government of Jamaica Investment Debenture	1,321	-
Quoted stocks at cost (Market value: \$1,213,000; 1997 - \$4,287,000)	357	1,558
	<u>5,477</u>	<u>2,612</u>
	<u>12,097</u>	<u>8,544</u>

# Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

### 10. Capital Reserves

	The Group		The Company	
	1998	1997	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At beginning of year	5,086	5,086	3,703	3,703
Movement during the year -				
Loss on sale of investments	( 555)	-	( 555)	-
Balance at end of year	<u>4,531</u>	<u>5,086</u>	<u>3,148</u>	<u>3,703</u>
Comprising:				
Capital grants	1,614	1,614	231	231
Gain on sale of investment	3,917	3,472	2,917	3,472
	<u>4,531</u>	<u>5,086</u>	<u>3,148</u>	<u>3,703</u>

Capital grants comprise the value of assets at the time they were donated to the group, adjusted for subsequent losses or gains on disposals.

### 11. Special Project Funds

	The Group & The Company	
	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
USAID – Health Sector Initiative Project	1,351	125
G. Arthur Brown Scholarship Fund	274	274
Christmas Eve Explosion Fund	1	1
Peace Fund	1	1
Farm Fund	1	1
National Crime Prevention Fund	6,620	5,932
Muirton Boy's Home Fund	2	2
Legislative Action Fund	215	215
	<u>8,465</u>	<u>6,551</u>

The Special Project Funds can only be utilised in accordance with the directions from the various funds and are represented by investments and deposits.

## Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 1998

#### 12. Long Term Liabilities

	The Group	
	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
1% First mortgage debenture stock (1987/2008)	344	344
1% Second mortgage debenture stock (1990/2009)	444	444
	<u>788</u>	<u>788</u>

- (a) The first mortgage debenture stock is secured by a first charge on the freehold property and a floating charge on all other assets and uncalled capital of the subsidiary. The debenture, which is redeemable in 2008 at par, was issued at \$58.08 for each \$100 face value (Note 7).
- (b) The second mortgage debenture stock is secured in the same manner as described in (i) above. The debenture, which was issued at par, is redeemable in 2009 at a premium of \$48 for each \$100 face value (Note 8).

#### 13. Pension Scheme

The company operates a contributory pension scheme for all employees who have satisfied certain minimum service requirements. The scheme, which is a defined contribution plan, is administered by a life insurance company.

The contributions of the company and the group for the year amounted to \$115,000 (1997 - \$112,000).

#### 14. Contingent Liability

The company has guaranteed the interest payments and the redemption of the debenture stocks issued by the subsidiary.



16 November 1998

To the Directors of  
Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

### **Auditors' Report**

The supplementary information set out on page 12, taken from the accounting records of the company, has been subjected to the tests and other auditing procedures applied in our examination of the company's financial statements for the year ended 31 July 1998.

In our opinion this information, although not necessary for a fair presentation of the company's state of affairs, results of operations or cash flows is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

*Price Waterhouse*

Chartered Accountants

## Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Limited

### Company Detailed Profit and Loss Account Year ended 31 July 1998

	1998	1997
	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Income</b>		
Management fees	400	400
Subscriptions & contributions	8,885	9,185
Investment	49	30
Interest	795	1,460
Other	5,889	5,013
	<u>16,018</u>	<u>16,088</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Audit fee -		
Current year	380	380
Prior year	10	40
Bank interest	35	290
Depreciation	483	552
General expenses	477	918
General Consumption Tax	90	235
Insurance	323	291
Lease expense	218	231
(Gain)/loss on disposal	( 209)	7
Loss on investment	555	-
Meetings and luncheon	1,054	1,481
Motor vehicle expense	549	39
Professional services	162	56
Provision for doubtful debts	1,656	2,402
Publications	1,528	1,089
Rent	731	731
Repairs and maintenance	370	449
Staff welfare	49	10
Staff costs	8,848	8,705
Stationery	186	285
Travelling and entertainment	623	570
Utilities	902	812
Seminar	227	94
	<u>19,247</u>	<u>19,667</u>
<b>Loss before Taxation</b>	<u>( 3,229)</u>	<u>( 3,579)</u>



## **FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP**

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The financial year just ended was a difficult one for the Organisation. The budget anticipated a deficit of 5k dollars but despite our best efforts, the unaudited result came out at a deficit of 685k dollars.

The main revenue areas of our operations which continue to be of concern are:

1. Subscription
2. Viewpoint, and
3. Publications

There was a shortfall of 1.407M dollars, below our budgeted revenue of 10.030M dollars for all three (3) items. We may need to look at a more aggressive marketing approach to increase sales for our products.

### **Results Of Operations**

*Revenue/Expenditure  
Year Ended July 31, 1998*

	<u>1997/98 Budget</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>	<u>Actual 1997/98</u>
Revenue	12,984	(118)	13,102
Expense	12,989	798	13,787
Surplus	(5)	(680)	(685)
Endowment Income (included in Revenue)	540	(3)	537

### **Membership**

	<u>July 98</u>	<u>July 97</u>	<u>Increase/ Decrease</u>
Individual	102	111	( 9)
Company	202	237	( 35)
Association	27	26	1
	----	----	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>331</u></b>	<b><u>374</u></b>	<b><u>( 43)</u></b>

The decrease of forty-three (43) members represents those who resigned over the two year period 1996/97 and 1997/98.

# PSOJ & (HOLDINGS) LTD. BALANCE SHEET

1998 - 1999 BUDGET BALANCE SHEET \$000			
	1998-1999	Actual 1997-1998	Audited 1996-1997
<b>NET ASSETS EMPLOYED</b>			
Fixed Assets	3,483	3,283	3,815
Discount on Issue of Debentures	63	63	63
Premium on Redemption of Debenture	80	80	80
Investments	7,343	7,343	8,544
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Receivables	3,000	3,019	3,465
Bank Deposits	2,527	2,408	45
Cash	496	1,037	258
Taxation Recoverable	100	100	100
	6,123	6,564	3,868
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables and Accruals	4,279	4,441	2,340
Deferred Income	1,300	1,307	1,759
Bank Overdraft	0	0	0
	5,579	5,748	4,099
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
	544	816	(231)
	11,513	11,585	12,271
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
Capital Reserves	5,086	5,086	5,086
Accumulated Surplus	(840)	(154)	(154)
Current Profit	(72)	(686)	0
Special Projects Funds	6,551	6,551	6,551
Long Term Liabilities	788	788	788
	11,513	11,585	12,271

## PSOJ EXPENSE BUDGET

### THE PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANISATION OF JAMAICA EXPENDITURE BUDGET 1998-1999 (\$'000)

	TOTAL	Aug '98	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec '98	Jan '99	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul '99
Staffing	8,500	708	708	708	708	708	708	708	708	708	708	710	710
Travelling & Entertainment	600	25	25	25	175	25	25	175	25	25	25	25	25
Stationery	210	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18
Repairs/Maintenance	475	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	145	30
Utilities	800	66	66	66	66	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67
Audit Fee	380	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Insurance	266	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Motor Vehicle	84	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Bank Charges	60	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Meetings	120	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Training	50			50									
Office & General	280	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	24	24	24	24
Postage	50	4	4	4	6	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Professional Services	100	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Lease Photocopier	171	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Motor Vehicle - Interest	240	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Property Tax	35									35			
Depreciation	550	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	50	50
Amortization of Debenture	16												16
Bad Debt	0												
GCT	0												
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,987</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>1,018</b>
Surplus/Deficit Before Endowment Income	(572)	2,004	919	290	3	707	(323)	(349)	(671)	(411)	(777)	(1,019)	(945)
Income from Investment now transferred to Endowment Fund	500	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	45	45	45	45
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS</b>	<b>(72)</b>	<b>2044</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>(283)</b>	<b>(509)</b>	<b>(631)</b>	<b>(366)</b>	<b>(732)</b>	<b>(974)</b>	<b>(900)</b>

## PSOJ REVENUE BUDGET

REVENUE BUDGET 1998 - 1999  
\$'000

	TOTAL	AUG '98	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC '88	JAN '99	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL '99
Subscription	600	3000	1500	1000	1000	1000	550	550					
Publication	540		25			315			25	150		25	
Monthly Economic Report	360	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Viewpoint	500		80	80	80		80	80	100				
Luncheon/Hall of Fame	500		30		30	350		30	130		20		
Seminar	740		240	200						300			
Miscellaneous	180	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Dividends	0												
Consultancy	325							100		100	125		
Rental Income	330	27	27	28	28	27	27	27	27	28	28	28	28
Investment Income	250		40	55	40	40	25	20	15	15	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12415</b>	<b>3072</b>	<b>1887</b>	<b>1408</b>	<b>1223</b>	<b>1777</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>73</b>

## PSOJ CASH FLOW BUDGET

CASH FLOW BUDGET  
1998-1999 (\$'000)

	Aug '98	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec '98	Jan '99	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul '99	TOTAL
<b>INFLOW</b>													
Subscription	3,000	2,000	1,400	1,400	70	60	70	300	300				8,600
Other Income	72	447	353	183	737	152	282	327	623	218	98	73	3,565
Investment Income		40	55	40	40	25	20	15	15				250
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,072</b>	<b>2,487</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>12,415</b>
<b>OUTFLOW</b>													
Accounts Payable	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	280	260	260	260	3,300
Operating Expense	792	792	842	942	792	772	923	735	771	718	838	739	9,656
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>1,072</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>1,051</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>12,956</b>
<b>NET FLOW</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,415</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>(225)</b>	<b>(815)</b>	<b>(831)</b>	<b>(373)</b>	<b>(113)</b>	<b>(760)</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>(926)</b>	<b>(541)</b>
Opening Cash Balance	1,000	3,000	4,415	5,101	5,502	5,277	4,462	3,631	3,258	3,145	2,385	1,385	1,000
Closing Cash Balance	3,000	4,415	5,101	5,502	5,277	4,462	3,631	3,258	3,145	2,385	1,385	459	459
Add Endowment Income	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	45	45	45	45	500
Closing Cash Balance	3,040	4,495	5,221	5,662	5,477	4,702	3,911	3,578	3,510	2,795	1,840	959	959

# PSOJ CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

REVENUE	BUDGET 1988/89	BUDGET Increase/ Decrease	ACTUAL 1997/98 (Unaudited)	BUDGET 1997/98
Subscription	8,600	765	7,835	8,500
Publications (Net)	540	89	451	850
Monthly Economic Bulletin	360	88	272	240
Viewpoint (Net)	500	163	337	938
Luncheon/Meal of Fame (Net)	590	(16)	606	450
Seminar (Net)	740	5	735	740
Dividend	0	(253)	253	0
Rental	330	281	49	350
Investment - Income	250	(105)	355	320
Consultancy	325	(9)	331	325
Management Fees	0	(485)	485	0
Miscellaneous	180	180	0	110
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,415.00</b>	<b>\$706.00</b>	<b>\$11,709.00</b>	<b>\$12,823.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Staffing	8,500	(355)	8,855	8,898
Traveling & Entertainment	600	(26)	626	570
Stationery	210	4	208	240
Repairs and Maintenance	475	39	436	300
Utilities	800	(26)	828	780
Audit Fees	380	0	380	380
Insurance	266	(19)	285	250
Motor Vehicles	84	(497)	581	50
Bank Charges	60	26	34	60
Meetings	120	(31)	151	120
Training	50	1	49	20
Office & General Expenses	280	14	268	270
Postage	50	18	32	40
Professional Services	100	(63)	163	50
Lease of Photocopier	171	(48)	219	220
M/Vehicle Interest	240	240	0	0
Property Tax	35	35	0	35
Depreciation	550	(2)	552	540
Amortization of Debenture	16	16	0	16
Bad Debt	0	0	0	0
GCT	0	(90)	90	98
Membership Dues	0	(34)	34	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,987.00</b>	<b>(\$600.00)</b>	<b>\$13,787.00</b>	<b>\$12,937.00</b>
Operational Surplus/Deficit	(572)	1,506	(2,078)	(114)
Gain/Loss on Sale of Assets	0	0	(1,421)	0
Surplus/Deficit	(572)	1,506	(657)	(114)
Income from Investments	500	(37)	537	855
Gain on disposal of Shares	0	565	(565)	2,155
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>(72)</b>	<b>2,034</b>	<b>(685)</b>	<b>2,896</b>

## PSOJ & (HOLDINGS) LTD. SCHEDULE OF FIXED ASSETS

AT COST	Land	Freehold Building	Furniture/ Fixtures	Motor Vehicle	Total
July 31, 1997	389	2,624	2,304	1679	6,996
Additions	0	0	0	79	79
Disposal	0	0	50	395	445
July 31, 1998	389	2,624	2254	1363	6,630
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
July 31, 1997	0	639	1,390	1152	3,181
Change for the Year	0	66	225	254	545
Relief on Depreciation	0	0	50	386	436
July 31, 1998	0	705	1565	1020	3,290
<b>NET BOOK VALUES</b>					
July 31, 1997	389	1,986	894	537	3,806
July 31, 1998	389	1,919	689	342	3,339

# MECHALA IS... OPPORTUNITY

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## THE PSOJ IN ACTION

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Mrs. Carmen Cameron, wife of PSOJ President, Clifton Cameron (left) presented a gift to Past President Delroy Lindsay at a farewell Dinner held in his honour in October 1997 at Le Meridien Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.



The Jamaica Federation of Women received a donation of a photocopier from the PSOJ/CIBC in January 1998. Here the PSOJ's Executive Director, Charles Ross (right), explains some of the features of the machine to (from left) the JFW's Treasurer Hyacinth McPherson and President Carole Diaz.



Dr. Barry Wade, Chairman of Environmental Solutions Ltd., (right) seemed happy to receive his official PSOJ Membership Certificate from the Organisation's President, Clifton Cameron. Occasion was the PSOJ's Membership Luncheon in February 1998 at the Wyndham Kingston Hotel.



The Hon. R. Danny Williams, O.J. (left) receiving his Citation from PSOJ President Clifton Cameron signifying his induction into the PSOJ's Private Sector Hall of Fame. The presentation took place in March 1998 at Le Meridien Jamaica Pegasus Hotel at a special Banquet organised to pay tribute to this outstanding private sector leader.



# COMMUNICATIONS

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## Introduction

The 1997-1998 administrative year was a hectic period for the Communications Division as it focussed on and took on the challenges of keeping members informed and involved in the activities of the PSOJ. The wider Jamaican society was also kept informed about the Organisation.

## Television Programme

The PSOJ's television programme PSOJ VIEWPOINT had a limited run, i.e. six programmes, on CVM TV. It was not possible to broadcast a full series (13 programmes) due, primarily, to a lack of sponsorship for the remaining seven (7) programmes. Thus the six programmes were recorded and aired between June and November 1997.

A decision was later taken to start a new series of PSOJ VIEWPOINT. However, this did not materialize as there was no positive response to the Secretariat's requests for sponsorship. If sponsors had come forward, the second series of the programme would have been aired

on Super Supreme Television (SSTV).

Conscious of the need to disseminate the PSOJ's message and views and also to educate, inform and have dialogue with the wider Jamaican society, the Division worked with the Executive Director in exploring the possibility of a radio programme. After much discussion with the PSOJ's Executive Committee, and some of the radio stations, it was decided that the Organisation would have a programme every Thursday from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. on KLAS FM. The first programme is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 20.

In addition, there were initial discussions with KLAS FM re a "Town Meeting" programme to be aired monthly in various locations islandwide. The first of these programmes is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 30 in Portmore.

## Private Sector Focus

The column, in the Sunday Gleaner, was not fully utilized during this administrative year because of a lack of articles. In fact, only 27



articles were submitted, with 25 being published. The Division continued to appeal to the Secretariat staff and to PSOJ members to utilize this important channel for sharing their thoughts/opinions/concerns on important issues. The idea of a Writer's Club was introduced in March 1998, via the Enterprise Newsletter, in an effort to encourage and increase the contribution of articles from PSOJ members.

### **Enterprise**

The four (4) issues of the Organisation's newsletter "PSOJ ENTERPRISE" were published and distributed as scheduled. The Division would again like to invite PSOJ members to contribute, by way of articles and suggestions, to this publication.

### **Other Publications**

i) Annual Report of the Executive Committee 1997

This important record of the operations and activities of the Secretariat for the 1996-97 administrative year, was compiled, published and subsequently distributed at the Organisation's Annual General Meeting. This was held on

November 27 at the then Wyndham Kingston Hotel.

ii) 1998 Diary

The 1998 Diary sales did not do as well as was expected. A total of 128 leather-covered diaries, 198 simulated leather-covered diaries and 366 fillers were sold. In addition, complimentary copies were given to some church organisations.

iii) 1997 Annual Report on the Jamaican Economy

600 copies of the Organisation's report on Jamaica's economic performance in 1997 were printed in May and distributed at the PSOJ's Annual Seminar on the Jamaican Economy which was held on May 20. In addition, this publication was distributed to PSOJ members, libraries islandwide and to schools which offer Economics to their students.

### **Messages/Reports**

During this period under review the Division disseminated nine (9) messages and prepared ten (10) reports for the PSOJ's President. These reports were presented at the 1997 Annual General Meeting, Membership Luncheons and Council Meetings.

## **Press/Photo Releases/ Statements/PressAdvisories**

The Division kept the nation informed of the activities and views of the PSOJ by disseminating eight (8) press releases, nine (9) sets of captioned photographs and eight (8) press advisories to media houses islandwide.

## **Miscellaneous Information**

In keeping with the objective of sharing information, the Organisation's members received, through this Division, information on several issues and activities including:

- i) local and overseas training programmes and educational opportunities,
- ii) business opportunities,
- iii) trade shows and expositions,
- iv) seminars, conferences, workshops,
- v) visits of overseas delegations to Jamaica and
- vi) Jamaican missions to various countries.

## **Special Meetings/Events**

An important aspect of the Division's responsibilities is the coordination of the Organisation's functions. During this year under review, the Division organised the following:

- i) Membership Luncheons (August 1997, November 1997, February 1998 and July 1998);
- ii) Past President's Dinner (October 1997);
- iii) PSOJ/UWI Conference on Global Trade (November 1997);
- iv) Private Sector Hall of Fame Dinner (March 1998);
- v) Annual Seminar on the Jamaican Economy (May 1998);
- vi) Visit of Israeli Commercial Attache (April 1998) - this was cancelled approximately two weeks prior to the scheduled start of the visit.

## **Upcoming Seminars**

The Division began preliminary discussions/planning of the following two events which the Secretariat considered to be important to the business community:

- i) Strategic Planning Workshop:

Based on the success of and feedback from the Organisation's Annual Seminar on the Jamaican Economy (May 1998), the Division prepared and dispatched a questionnaire to the general membership re their view on the necessity of having a Strategic Planning Workshop.

The objective of this event would be to assist the business sector in effectively planning in order to ensure their survival in the existing difficult business environment and for the next 2-3 years. Following on the responses received, this workshop has been tentatively set for September.

ii. PSOJ/WTO Seminar:

As a follow-up to discussions held at the PSOJ/UWI Conference on New Global Trading Arrangements (November 1997), the Division, on behalf of the Secretariat, has commenced working on a joint PSOJ/World Trade Organisation two-day seminar which is scheduled for October 14-15. The Division will continue to spearhead all the arrangements, working with both the WTO as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

**Environment Committee**

Chairman: Dr. Barry Wade

Deputy Chairman - Dr. David Smith  
(Appointed in January 1997)

Focus

Early in the year under review, the Chairman met with the PSOJ's

President and Executive Director to discuss the role of the Committee. Based on the discussions, it was decided that the Environment Committee would focus primarily on developing draft position papers, in the first instance, on

- i) the infrastructural work being carried out on the North Coast and its impact on tourism and
- ii) the water quality on the North Coast.

During the year, the Committee met with Mr. James Samuels, President of the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association (JHTA) and discussed environmental issues affecting the tourist industry. The Committee, on the request of the JHTA President, prepared a paper on "Environmental Quality on Jamaica's North Coast" which was to be discussed at a subsequent JHTA Council meeting.

Energy Farm

This project was terminated during the year under review due to a number of problems at the site. The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) was advised accordingly and consequently requested the PSOJ to return any equipment purchased with EFJ funds as well as any unused funds which had already been disbursed. The Secretariat is currently preparing a Financial Statement for

the EFJ. Attempts are still being made to identify a new location for this worthwhile project.

#### Environmental Documentary

The Committee embarked on a drive to raise funds to cover the cost of producing the Organisation's second environmental documentary which would focus on deforestation. Not much success was achieved, thus the Committee will have to increase its fundraising efforts in the coming year.

#### Outreach Programme

The Committee successfully submitted an application to the Canadian Green Fund for a grant to underwrite the production costs of 200 environmental packages: a copy of the PSOJ's first documentary "Source of Life" and 2 copies of the Shipping Association of Jamaica's "Save Our Seas" booklet. The objectives of this project were i) to create a greater awareness of the importance of water to the environment and ii) to raise funds for the production of the second documentary. Letters and pledge forms were sent to PSOJ members requesting them to support this effort by purchasing packages for the schools, associations and community groups with which they are linked. To date,

the Committee has received pledges for 74 packages. The marketing of this activity will continue into the new administrative year.

#### Miscellaneous

Members of the Committee represented the PSOJ at a number of workshops, meetings and on Committees including:

- Sustainable Development Council of Jamaica
- Regional Consultation on Sustainable Development Council
- ENACT
- Canadian Green Fund Committee
- Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) Meetings

In addition, in response to the former USA Ambassador's statement on the water quality of Jamaica's coastal waters, the Committee prepared, and submitted to the Executive Director, a possible response to be used by the President or himself, should they be asked by the media for a comment.

#### Meeting Dates

The Committee continued to meet on the fourth Monday of each month at the Offices of the PSOJ. □

## HEALTH SECTOR INITIATIVES PROJECT (HSIP)

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The Health Sector Initiatives Project (HSIP) which came to an abrupt end in July 1996, owed a final payment of approximately half a million dollars to KPMG Peat Marwick. This was for a market survey which was done and which remained unpaid at the close of the project due to internal problems encountered at USAID.

Several meetings were held with officials at USAID in a bid to settle the outstanding claim. Finally, in July 1998, the cheque was received from USAID and KPMG Peat Marwick was paid. A final accounting to USAID will be done. □



Professor C.Y. Thomas, George Beckford Professor in Caribbean Economy (centre), gave the Opening Address at the PSOJ's Seminar on the Economy which was held in May 1998 at Le Meridien Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. Seen here in discussion with Prof. Thomas prior to the start of the seminar are (from left) the PSOJ's President Clifton Cameron and Executive Director Charles Ross.

# ECONOMIC RESEARCH

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The period between August 1997 and July 1998 saw the activities in the Economic Research and Business Development Department centred around the following areas:

## Research Activities

The following papers were researched and composed:

- i. Transition to Growth Paper: Focussed on Macro-economic strategies to get the Jamaican Economy growing in order to achieve significant increases in per capita incomes and improvement in living standards.
- ii. An article entitled 'Globalization and its effects on taxation' appearing in the IMF Survey was edited for use in the Private Sector Focus Column.
- iii. Dollarization of the Jamaican Economy: This was used as an article for the Private Sector Focus Column in the Sunday Gleaner.
- iv. Trade Policy Paper for Jamaica: The department participated in the discussions which lead to the preparation of this paper.

- v. Investment Response in Jamaica 1990-97 - ECLAC/U.W.I. Consulting Project.

The following were undertaken:

- Three (3) interviewers were contracted to carry out interviews with company executives and ensure the return of completed questionnaires.
- Twenty-nine (29) completed questionnaires were returned to the office for analysis.
- Mr. George Gayle of the Department conducted three (3) out of town interviews with Bauxite companies.
- Meetings were held with Dr. Damien King of UWI to review the project.
- A Consultant from ECLAC held a two-day briefing session to guide the final activities of the project.
- The first draft of the project was submitted to Dr. King in July for his perusal.

## Other Activities

These included the preparation of briefs or data profiles on the following topics:

- a. Update of the economic sections of the PSOJ Diary for 1998.
- b. The Enterprise which is a PSOJ quarterly publication carries an economic section. This was updated quarterly and articles on economic issues were also submitted.
- c. Chapters for the PSOJ's Executive Committee Annual Report 1996/97 were also written.
- d. Written replies were done to various requests coming into the department. These related to, among other things, requesting names and addresses of prospective import/export companies, access to information and results of surveys carried out, etc.
- e. Faxes were sent to PSOJ members in relation to the following issues.
  - The 'sensitive list' of items re trade negotiations being undertaken via CARICOM. Responses were sent to JAMPRO and copied to the PSOJ.
  - Soliciting donations to sponsor children to the Science and Technology Seminar held in October.
- f. A student from UWI was assigned to the Department during the Summer Holiday and assisted in preparing background information for the ECLAC programme.
- g. A review of the study of Youth Unemployment is being done.
- h. A speech was prepared on 'Jamaica's competitive trade advantages' for Mr. Howard Hamilton.
- i. Updating of the Department's data series on interest rates and the internal debt.
- j. Avenues continue to be explored to increase the revenue earnings capacity of the PSOJ via the following:
  - The private sector's response re the benefits they derive from Government's procurements emanating from various trade agreements.
  - Communicating information on a Cuban Line of Credit.
  - Requesting reports on incidences of barriers to trade experience - to be sent to the Caribbean Council for Trade Development.
  - Introducing the Danish Export Catalog.

- i. Increasing the number of subscribers to the Monthly Economic Bulletin.
  - ii. Putting on Business/Economic focussed seminars and workshops.
- k. The PSOJ's Monthly Confidential Economic Bulletin continues to be published. This Bulletin seeks to keep subscribers abreast of events in the macro-economy as well as monitor and forecast activities and trend of macroeconomic variables as they relate to Jamaica. There are currently 85 subscribers.

### **Meetings and Seminars**

Throughout the year, the PSOJ has been requested to participate actively in a number of committees. Members of the PSOJ Secretariat Staff in the Economic Division participated in the following Committee Meetings and Seminars:

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Monthly Trade Policy Coordinating Committee.

Topics discussed included: Negotiating Trade Agreements with CARICOM, Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Colombia; issues relating to the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) as the

agreements are being formulated; external trade negotiations and policies governing these; developments re NAFTA/CBI parity; LOME negotiations and ACP relationships as well as EU/ACP future relationships.

2. The "Annual Seminar On The Jamaican Economy In 1997 And The 1998/99 Budget Review" was held on May 21, 1998. The Seminar took the form of a full day of activities and was sponsored by Citibank N.A., Grace Kennedy Travel Limited, Island Victoria Bank, Jamaica Money Market Brokers, Jamaica National Building Society, National Commercial Bank Jamaica Limited, and Sigma Investment Management Services.

There were over one hundred (100) participants at the seminar and they participated quite actively in the discussions of issues raised. The presentations included - Overview of the 1998 Fiscal Budget and its implications by Charles Ross; Review of the Jamaican Economy in 1997 and outlook for 1998 by George Gayle; Evolution of the Jamaican Economy over the



next three years by Dr. Wesley Hughes; Achieving sustained economic growth by Dr. Damien King; Three-Year Transition to Growth by Professor Wolfgang Grassl. There was a panel discussion on "Our Economic Future - Recession or Depression?"

The Economic Report for 1997 was compiled in the Department and typeset in-house. This report provided timely, current and historical information on the Jamaican Economy.

3. The Manpower Planning Committee Meetings held at PIOJ.
4. The monthly meetings of the PSOJ's Economic Policy Committee. Mr. Elon Beckford, Chairman of this Committee, resigned in March 1998. The newly appointed Chairman, Mr. Peter Melhado, joined the committee in July 1998. While six (6) persons no longer serve the committee, nine (9) others joined the committee. Some of the topics focussed on included:

*The Country Strategy for Growth; Fiscal Policy - the Role of Government; the Exchange Rate; the Mexico meltdown lessons for*

*Jamaica; monthly reviews of macro-economic variables and the Labour market. Their present focus is to review and update the PSOJ's document entitled "A Policy Framework for Economic Development - A progress report".*

Efforts were still made to engage the services of Professor Steve Hanke to inform on the dollarization of the Jamaican Economy. These were unsuccessful.

5. Members of the Department attended the JEA sponsored Seminar on NAFTA & Trade related issues as well as the PIOJ/UNICEF Seminar on Youth, Women & Families in Jamaica.
6. Seminars/workshops were held which related to:
  - i. Trade in services as it relates to CARICOM region in the context of WTO rules and the future FTAA.
  - ii. The issues of 'freedom and the Jamaican society as it coincided with the celebration of August 1 as Emancipation Day'.

7. Members of the Department attended a USIS discussion featuring US Trade Representative, Ms Susan Cronin. Discussions centred around WTO issues, and included the Caribbean Banana issue, US/Caribbean Trade relations and the FTAA.

8. 'Youth Unemployment' - An ILO/PIOJ sponsored Seminar. A presentation from the PSOJ was made on the main subject.

9. 'New global trading arrangements, opportunities and challenges' - a UWI/PSOJ/EU sponsored Seminar which representatives of the Department attended as well as assisted in the preparatory and administrative aspects at the Seminar.

10. A member of the department attended meetings/seminars as follows:

- i. A Satellite Transmission on organised crime at the USIS office.
- ii. World Bank/UNDP sponsored Seminar. The PSOJ's President brought greetings and the Executive Director presented private sector sponsored awards

for selected projects under the poverty alleviation programme.

- iii. CARICOM/Jamaica prospects for trade development in light of the spate of regional trade agreements.
- iv. The regular monthly meeting of UNDP - Sustainable Development Network Programme Committee.

### **Library**

There is still the need for professional help to organise the library in a systematic and structured way. Computerizing the library would help greatly in having easy access information and location of information in the library.

### **Miscellaneous**

1. The following staff resignations took place during the year:
  - i. Mrs. Cynthia Hutchinson in June 1998, and
  - ii. Mr. George Gayle in July 1998.
2. The Division throughout the year, in continuance of disseminating the philosophy of free enterprise to the Jamaican society, prepared selected articles which were published in the print media. Numerous interviews were granted to

members of the local and international media, trade and promotional persons and organisations, bilateral and multilateral institutions as well as to researchers and students.

3. Mr. Adolph Palmer joined the Department in June 1998. □



Professor Wolfgang Grassl of UWI's Mona Institute of Business (left) was the Guest Speaker at PSOJ's Membership Luncheon in August 1997, at the Wyndham Kingston Hotel. He is seen here, prior to the start of the Luncheon, with (from 2<sup>nd</sup> left) PSOJ Executive Director, Charles Ross, President Clifton Cameron and Grace, Kennedy and Company Limited's Chairman Raf Diaz.

# **NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION FUND**

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## **Administration**

During the year under review the business of the National Crime Prevention Fund continued to be directed by the Board of Directors under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.A. Lester Spaulding.

The Board is comprised of the following members:

- J.A. Lester Spaulding, Chairman
- Michael Hirst, Deputy Chairman
- Jennifer Cheesman, Secretary
- Delroy Lindsay
- Charles Ross, Executive Director, PSOJ
- Neville James, KLAS FM
- Leon Mitchell, CVM Television
- A. James Forbes, Deputy Superintendent of Police
- Major General Robert Neish, Chairman, Standing Committee on National Security

The Coordinator, Prudence Gentles, answers directly to the Board of Directors and her responsibilities include:

- \* Day to day administration of all the Fund's business.
- \* Research into, writing, and production of the monthly Crime of the Month programme and news

releases, as well as production of corporate advertising and public relations.

- \* Preparation and management of the Fund's budget.
- \* Soliciting support at all levels from major media and related bodies, the private sector, the police and the public.

## **Funding**

All costs to the programme, including administrative, advertising and payments for rewards continued to be covered by:

1. Media and related bodies contributing on an ongoing and regular basis, free time and space, design and production facilities for advertisements, posters, stickers, etc.
2. Interest of One Million Seven Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand and Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$1,729,057) accruing to the capital fund donated by private sector bodies. This fund presently

stands at Six Million Five Hundred and Fifty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$6,558,000).

3. The police, who provide free office space and personnel to man the telephone hotlines.
4. The PSOJ Secretariat, which provides a Recording Secretary at the Monthly Board Meetings and accounting services free of cost.

### Accounts

The Balance Sheet dated July 31, 1998 shows a net book worth of Six Million Eight Hundred and Seventy-Four Thousand Three Hundred and Five Dollars (\$6,874,305) and an operating surplus of Ninety-One Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty-Three Dollars (\$91,523) after defraying costs during the year totaling One Million Seven Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$1,729,057).

The Annual General Meeting due to be held in November 1997, was postponed because of the lack of Audited Accounts for the period 1996/97. There is a disagreement over an amount of Five Hundred and Sixty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety Dollars (\$565,890) that appears in the Draft Audited Accounts as a "Provision for Bad Debt". No satisfactory explanation has been given for this provision. This

matter was raised prior to the last PSOJ Annual General Meeting and still remains unresolved to date.

### Fundraising

National Fuels and Lubricants Limited entered into a Cause Marketing Campaign with 'Crime Stop'. This campaign lasted for six months and a total of Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$900,000) was raised, of which Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) have already been received.

The Fund received a donation from The Bank of Nova Scotia (Jamaica) Limited of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) during the year under review.

### Media Advertisements

1. The following "Crime of the Month" advertisements were produced during the year under review:
  - ◆ eleven (11) television programmes
  - ◆ ten (10) newspaper advertisements, and
  - ◆ eleven (11) radio commercials.
2. 'Stop the Guns and Drugs for our Brothers and Sisters'

continued to run in the media as the Corporate advertisement.

These 'Crime of the Month' and Corporate Advertisements were produced, broadcast/ published free of cost by the following media houses and related companies in more than 4000 spots including prime time spots.

Super Supreme Television  
CVM Television  
Fame FM Radio  
Super Supreme Radio  
KLAS FM 89 Radio  
IRIE FM Radio  
Radio II  
Power 106 FM Radio  
Love FM Radio  
Hot 102 FM Radio  
The Gleaner Company  
The Star  
Security Alert Newspaper  
The Jamaica Observer  
The Jamaica Herald  
McCann Erickson (Ja.) Ltd.  
Vidquip Limited

These placements would have cost the Fund in excess of Fourteen Million Dollars (\$14M) had we been required to pay for them.

### **Board of Directors Meetings**

Eleven (11) monthly Board of Directors Meetings were held during the year under review. However, as already stated, no Annual General Meeting was held during the year.

### **Reports and Statistics**

Eleven (11) monthly Coordinator Reports along with Monthly Statistics were submitted to the Board of Directors for review. Four (4) quarterly reports were submitted and tabled at the PSOJ Council Meetings, and four (4) sets of monthly statistics were sent to the heads of each Media House to keep them up to date on the successes of the programme. Additionally, five (5) Press Releases were sent out during the year under review.

### **Public Response**

During the year under review 707 calls were received by "Crime Stop".

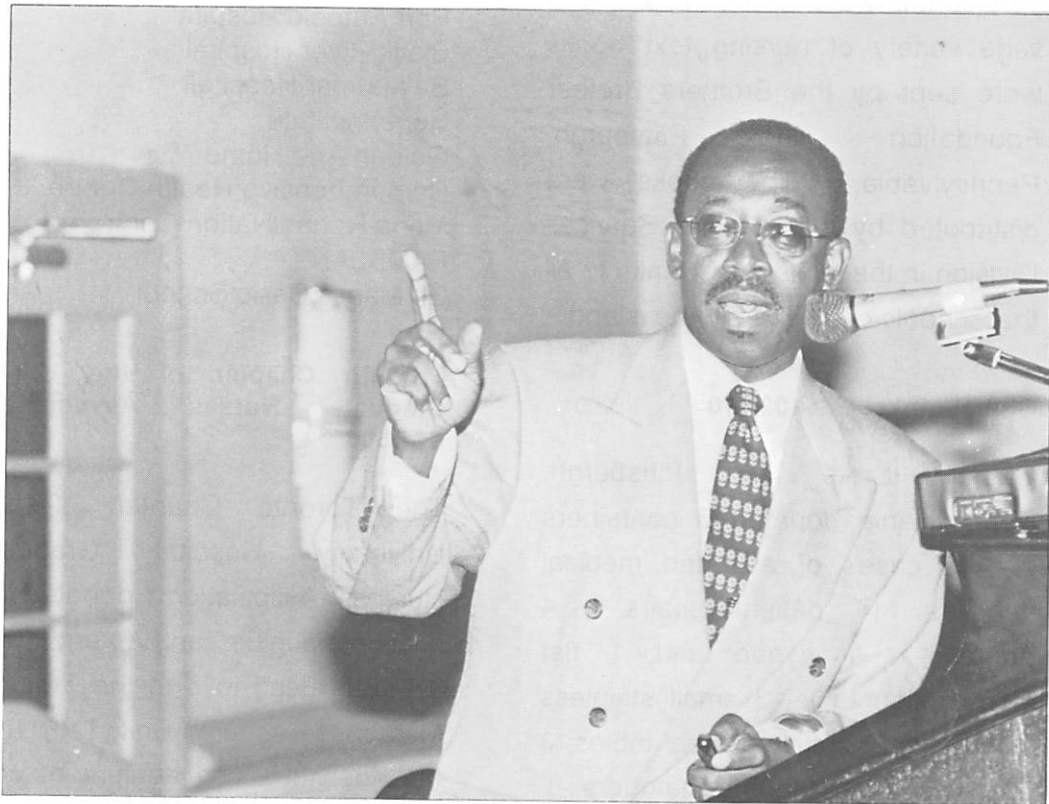
Police investigations into calls during the period resulted in 86 arrests being made which include 19 for murder, 30 for breaches of the Dangerous Drugs Act and 17 for illegal possession of a firearm. Two (2) murders featured as a "Crime of the Month" were solved with two (2) persons being arrested and charged for the murder of Dr. Oswald White and Miss Ann Adams.

Among the stolen/illegal property recovered or seized were 34 firearms, 222 rounds of ammunition, 10 stolen motor vehicles, 2,928.23 kilograms of ganja, 552 ganja sticks, 0.32 hectares of ganja, 1.575 kilograms of cocaine, 232 pieces of crack, 14.4 litres of hash oil, 4,163.5 litres of partially processed hash oil, 2,081.75 litres of alcohol, 416.35 litres of petroleum jelly, 4 sticks of gelignite and a quantity of sound system equipment. It should be noted that of the 34 firearms seized, 5 were submachine guns, 11 were semi

automatic pistols and 8 were fully operational homemade firearms.

### Reward Payout

The Fund paid out a total of Three Hundred and Twenty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$328,700) in rewards during the 1997/98 period under review. □



Dr. Wesley Hughes, Director General of the Planning Institute of Jamaica shared his views at the PSOJ's successful Seminar on the Economy which was held in May 1998 at the Le Meridien Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

# **JaMAC (JAMAICA MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME)**

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During the period August 1, 1997 to July 31, 1998 the Committee coordinated overseas donations for the Ministry of Health valued at US\$455,363.

## **Overseas Donations**

**Brothers Brother Foundation:  
US\$352,253**

Two containers of 17,896 copies of a wide variety of nursing text books were sent by the Brothers Brother Foundation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The books were distributed by the Nursing Services Division in the Ministry of Health to all the Schools of Nursing in the island.

**Global Links: US\$103,110**

Global Links in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania donated 3 containers of 238 cases of assorted medical supplies, 14 patient chairs, 4 gurneys, 1 gynae and 1 flat examination table, 3 small stainless steel carts, 2 stainless steel tables, 3 stainless steel laundry hampers, 2 adult scales, 1 hill Rom Cart, 94 manual hospital beds, 55 over bed tables and 142 mattresses. The cost of shipping the 3 containers to

Jamaica was paid by PAHO in Washington D.C.

The items were sent to the following institutions:

Ministry of Health Storage Facility

Cornwall Regional Hospital  
Kingston Public Hospital  
Victoria Jubilee Hospital  
Spanish Town New Maternity Hospital  
Port Antonio Hospital  
Black River Hospital  
Sav-la-mar Hospital  
Hope Institute  
Golden Age Home  
Comprehensive Health Centre  
Mona Rehabilitation Centre  
FAMPLAN  
St. Mary's Basic School

**Toronto Chapter of the U. H. Graduate Nurses Association:  
C\$1,500**

The Toronto Chapter of the University Hospital Graduate Nurses Association donated a suction machine, an IV stand, and a box of used toys to the Tropical Metabolic Research Unit (TMRU) at the hospital. The equipment was purchased locally.



## Eye Surgery

JaMAC in association with the Ministry of Health and the Lions Club of Mandeville, co-ordinated the 5th visit of the Canadian Surgical Eye Expeditions (CANSEE) team of eye specialists to the Mandeville General Hospital on November 16 and 17, 1997.

Over the two-day period the team of 2 ophthalmologists and 1 nurse worked with Dr. Marlene Smith-Day, Consultant Ophthalmologist and nursing staff of the eye clinic and the operating room at the Mandeville General Hospital. They completed 51 procedures: 49 cataract extraction with the implantation of intra ocular lens and 2 secondary implantation of intra ocular lens. CANSEE had come prepared to do 70 cases but unfortunately the unexpected public holiday created transportation difficulties for 19 persons from the deep rural areas.

## Dental Programmes

### Manchester

The Rotary Club of Christiana and the Dental Division in the Ministry of Health continued to work with JaMAC in providing ongoing dental care.

1. A Rotary volunteer dentist from Chile, conducted clinics at the Rotary Club of Christiana Dental

Clinic in Coleyville during the period August 7 to 28, 1997. The dentist treated 295 patients performing 433 extractions and 22 fillings.

2. Another Rotary volunteer dentists from Raipur, India, provided dental care to 151 persons from October 13 to 29, 1997. He worked at the Rotary Club of Christiana Dental Clinic in Coleyville where he did 17 fillings and 197 extractions.
3. The American Flying Dentists team of 4 dentists, 1 hygienist and 3 assistants worked at Chantilly, Robins Hall and Craig Head Health Centres from November 3 to 7, 1997. Between the three clinics they saw a total of 603 persons performed 762 extractions, 7 fillings and 5 cleanings. In addition, 65 persons were referred for treatment by one of the dentists who worked at a clinic which did not have the facility for filling.

One of the dentist and the hygienist gave lecture demonstrations on oral hygiene and handed out tooth brushes and dental floss to the students at the Chantilly, Christiana

Leased, Craig Head, Zorn and Spalding Primary Schools, the Sacred Heart Preparatory, Holmwood Technical, Mount Olivet Boys Home and Spalding Comprehensive High. Of a total of 2,716 students in the 9 schools 1,146 were screened and those needing dental work referred to the clinics.

#### St. Catherine

JaMAC in association with the Dental Division in the Ministry of Health and Father Louis Grenier co-ordinated the visit to Jamaica of a dental team from Indiana, USA.

The team of 1 dentist, 1 hygienist and 3 assistants provided dental care to the community of Above Rocks, June 3 to 10, 1998.

The visit came out of the twinning of the St. Mary's Church in Above Rocks and the St. Louis Church in Batesville, Indiana, in May 1997. The twinning resulted in 4 churches, of which St. Mary's is the mother church, benefitting from donations of religious supplies and assistance for 10 schools being run by the 4 churches in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Catherine.

The team worked at the St. Mary's Rectory Clinic in Above Rocks and was hosted by Father Louis Grenier.

They treated a total of 138 persons of which 37 were children. The procedures done were 99 extractions and 102 fillings.

#### Grant For Eye Glass Programme

The Jeppesen Visionquest Foundation, which was scheduled to conduct an eye glass programme for children during November 1997 or January 1998, canceled its international activities due to problems with its aircraft.

JaMAC had requested the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association to nevertheless consider giving the grant of US\$10,000, which was to assist in underwriting the cost of the Visionquest programme, to the Lions Clubs in Region 4 so that they can implement the programme using the services of local eye specialists.

In response, the Committee received copy correspondence from the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association to the Lions Clubs' Region 4 Chairman approving a grant of US\$2,000 towards providing free eye examinations and glasses to needy children.

Visit of Executive Director of Global Links

JaMAC's initiatives were boosted by the visit of Mrs. Kathleen Hower, Executive Director, Global Links, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The visit, from April 3 to 10, 1998 involved sight assessment of the following institutions:

*Kingston Public, Victoria Jubilee, University, Spanish Town, Bellevue, May Pen, and Lionel Town Hospitals as well as the Comprehensive and St. Jago Clinics.*

Mrs. Hower also met with senior representatives of the institutions as well as the facilitating agencies, PAHO/WHO, JAMALCO and officials at the Ministry of Health.

**Local Activities**

1. The Jamaica Medical Assistance Committee, incorporating Jamaica-America and Jamaica-Canada Medical Assistance Committees, held its 16th Annual General Meeting on November 27, 1997. The committee was re-elected en bloc.
2. During March and July 1998, JaMAC assisted the PSOJ in securing a bed, a chest of drawer and two dressing tables for a

needy family. The items were donated by the McIntosh Group, Courts (Ja.) Limited and the Grand Bay Resorts.

3. At the presentation of the donation of nursing text books to the Kingston School of Nursing in October 1997, JaMAC was asked to assist with replacing the shelves in the library, as the books were stored at different locations and the existing shelves were in a state of disrepair. This would create a better study environment for the prospective nurses.

The Committee sent a request to Mr. Joseph A. Matalon, President/CEO, Mechala Group Jamaica Limited, for assistance in providing the lumber, nails, glue and varnish to make the shelves. In February 1998 JaMAC was sent a purchase order to collect the material from a subsidiary of the Mechala Group. Arrangements are presently being made for Mr. Matalon to visit the facility and participate in a formal presentation.

4. The Co-ordinator represented the PSOJ on the Ministry of

Health's Sensitization/Social Mobilization Committee at two meetings on June 1 and 15 1998.

The Ministry of Health has taken a policy decision to immunize all 13-39 year old males and females against rubella, in a Mass Rubella Immunization Campaign over the period September 1998 - February 1999.

The committee will identify and develop strategies and activities for sensitizing the public and for effective mobilization.

5. JaMAC members Mr. Lester Woolery, Mr. Philmore Ogle, Mr. Neville James and the Co-ordinator met with the Minister of Health, the Hon. John Junor, on Wednesday, June 3, 1998. The committee took the opportunity to brief the Minister on the work of JaMAC. The Minister expressed his appreciation for the work of the committee and said he was going to have an event to honour organizations such as JaMAC which have been making a

contribution to the health sector.

- 6 Two FluoroVision Units which were donated to the University Hospital in 1996 by Global Links in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania were retrieved from the University Hospital on Tuesday, June 23, 1998 and sent to the St. Ann's Bay Hospital on June 25, 1998.

The equipment was not put into service at the University Hospital because they were received shortly before new X-ray equipment were installed which had the FluoroVision feature built in. The X-ray equipment at the St. Ann's Bay Hospital does not have the FluoroVision feature.

FluoroVision produces digital enhancement and is added to the Fluoroscopy Unit for better imaging of blood-vessels in their entirety. □

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