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COLLEGE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, CARIBBEAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ST. THOMAS, V.I. 00801

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## Water Resources Research Center

### PEEBLES ATTENDS WSIA CONFERENCE

Dr. Roger Peebles, director of CRI's Water Resources Research Center (WRRC) attended the annual Water Supply Improvement Association Conference in Sarasota, Florida on July 17-19. The event attracted 150 scientists and researchers, as well as several Virgin Islanders, among them, George Suarez, Commissioner of Housing and Alda Monsanto, Director of the V.I. Housing Authority.

### WATER DESALINATION AGREEMENT REACHED

College of the Virgin Islands and the College of Science and Engineering at Fairleigh Dickinson University entered into an agreement to assist in funding the Desalting Technology Transfer Center at West Indies Labs on St. Croix. The funds are made possible through a grant from the WRRC and the Office of Water Research and Technology. The Tech Transfer Center will serve to demonstrate alternate desalting technologies to local decision makers and will provide students of desalination "hands-on" experience with desalting equipment. A small reverse osmosis desalination plant at the Center has been in operation four months and will be joined soon by small-scale electrodialysis and distillation units. Virgin Islanders may visit the Center to keep abreast of and gather current information on alternate desalting technologies.

### FOURTH ST. CROIX TEST WELL DRILLED

The fourth of eleven test wells to be drilled on St. Croix was completed and test-pumped in August at La Vallee as part of the ongoing Groundwater

Appraisal Project undertaken in October 1976 by the WRRC. The project is  
d for completion in January 1979.

#### **WATER CRISIS MEETINGS CONTINUE**

Throughout the quarter a number of public meetings relating to water problems in the Virgin Islands were attended by Dr. Roger Peebles and Al Pratt, WRRC research associate. The meetings included hearings on the allocation of groundwater, conducted by the V.I. Water Resources Commission. Other meetings involved the Water Supply Group of the Federal Regional Council, which has been actively concerned with solving the St. Thomas water crisis for the past year. Various public water-related hearings also were attended by Peebles and Pratt.

## **Ecological Research Center**

#### **ECOLOGY COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING**

On August 25 the first meeting of the Ecological Research Committee was held in the CRI Library. Besides CRI staff, those in attendance were:

Dr. Arthur Damman of the Caribbean Fisheries Council; Dr. Frank Prince of the V.I. Energy Office; Dr. Doreen Carter, Commissioner, Consumer Services; and Mr. Glenn Clark, Chief Park Naturalist of the National Park Service. The Ecological Research Center's (ERC) current priorities and problems were reported by Dr. Michael Canoy, ERC director. An Painter discussed the federally funded Energy Extension Service Project which she coordinates at CRI. Two sub-panels of the committee were formed, on energy and on ecology. The panels will consider community outreach programs of benefit to the environment and energy in the Virgin Islands.

#### **3-MONTH RUM EFFLUENT RESEARCH CONCLUDED**

The Rum Effluent Study and Bibliography, undertaken in the spring for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was completed this quarter. The

study determined the effects of pollution from a rum distillery on the waters surrounding St. Croix. As a follow-up project, Dr. Michael Canoy was asked by the EPA to submit a proposal to initiate another year of research on this subject, beginning in January 1979.

#### **CONFERENCE ON ENERGY SLATED FOR DECEMBER**

At least 100 participants are expected at a CRI conference on energy self-sufficiency to be held on Friday, December 8 in the Sheraton Caribbean

Room. Two keynote speakers from the mainland will address the meeting on topics of interest to anyone concerned with energy resources and tropical architecture in the Caribbean. The guest speakers will be Richard Holt of the U.S. Department of Energy and Gifford Albright, professor of architectural engineering at Penn State University. A buffet lunch will be served and a social hour is planned so that those in attendance may meet with the visiting speakers and have an opportunity to establish state-side contacts in energy. There is a \$5.00 registration fee for the conference, which includes lunch. Those interested in attending should contact either An Painter or Stephanie Oliverio at CRI, 774-1252, ext. 249, 251 or 252.

## Social Research Center

### JAMAICAN PRESS TO PUBLISH FINANCE BOOK

A book of readings, PUBLIC SECTOR AND SMALL ECONOMIES: A VIEW FROM THE CARIBBEAN, will be published next year by the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica. The work was co-edited by Dr. S.B. Jones-Hendrickson, coordinator of CRI's Social Research Center (SRC) and Professor Fuat Andic of the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. This volume is the first comprehensive survey of readings in public finance to focus on the Caribbean. In addition to Dr. Jones-Hendrickson's contributions, Dr. Jerome McElroy, senior research associate at the SRC, submitted an article entitled "An Analysis of Tax Effort in the U.S.V.I.--1960-77." An extension of that article, "Tax Elasticity in the U.S.V.I.--1960-77" has just been drafted by Dr. McElroy for inclusion in the book.

### V.I. PUBLIC FINANCE PERSPECTIVE STUDIED

"Fiscal Capacity and Performance in the Virgin Islands," a 29-page article authored by Dr. S.B. Jones-Hendrickson, was published in Volume 26, Number 4 of SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES. The primary concern of the study was to present an overview of the public finance perspective in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Emphasis was mainly on fiscal capacity and performance during the period 1940-1975.

### JONES-HENDRICKSON ATTENDS LIMA MEETING

A "Meeting of Experts on the Institutional Problems of Participation in the Strategies of Integrated Rural Development" in Lima, Peru was attended by Dr. S.B. Jones-Hendrickson and 45 other participants. Sponsored by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the conference was held on September 4-8. One of 15 experts invited to make presentations to the assemblage, Dr. Jones-Hendrickson discussed the Caribbean experience in integrated rural development. His background paper was entitled "Rural Developments: A Case Study of Frederiksted, St. Croix, V.I." The results of the UNESCO deliberations will form input to a meeting on the subjects of food and agriculture to be held in Rome, Italy in 1979.

### TOTAL EDUCATION ARTICLE PUBLISHED

In the May 1978 JOURNAL OF THE COLLEGE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS an article, "Excellence and Equality in the Caribbean Educational System," was published. Written by Dr. S.B. Jones-Hendrickson, it takes a historical, econometric and politico-economic approach. The author indicates that the thrust of total education in the Caribbean must be geared toward understanding the laws of motion of Caribbean societies and the norms, morés and aspirations of the people. In addition, their perceptions of the endemic value of total education as a catalyst of occupational mobility must be monitored. Dr. Jones-Hendrickson's article appears on pages 50-66 of the JOURNAL.