

ERSKINE LAROCQUE CANDIDATE FOR COLIHAUT CONSTITUENCY

Erskine was born 41 years ago in Roseau into a large family, and early in life developed a spirit of determination that stands out even today. Educated at St. Mary's Academy where his serious attitude brought him success he entered the working world with mechanical and trademans inclinations in Roseau soon to depart as a polished gentleman to United Kingdom for further training and work opportunities.

After a decade of this experience in Britain which brought him in contact with the struggles of workers in London and third world peoples for Liberation he resolved to return home now a Mature, hard working gentleman.

At home he moved to Coulibistri, Married, started a family and began farming for his living in the Colihaut area. Immediately his serious determination and hard working interest in his people led him to contest the Coulibistri Village Council Elections. Numerous times he has been re-elected and serves as Chairman — a recognized respected leader in his community.

Today Erskine after active work in the Farmers' Union, post-Hurricane Relief organizing and building links among fishermen in the area, he says «... I feel ready to represent my people at the highest level of government and to work hard towards genuine democracy and progress...».

VOTE ERSKINE FOR DETERMINATION, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT FOR DUBLANC, BIOCHE AND COLIHAUT ! !

ATHERTON MARTIN CANDIDATE FOR WESLEY CONSTITUENCY.

Athie was born on 23rd December, 1945, and attended the Wesley High School and SMA. Although raised in Roseau, Athie developed a love for farming, and following a short term as a teacher at the SMA, Athie became a Research Assistant with WINBAN. Naturally, Athie chose a profession in Agriculture and studied Agronomy at Cornell University, USA.

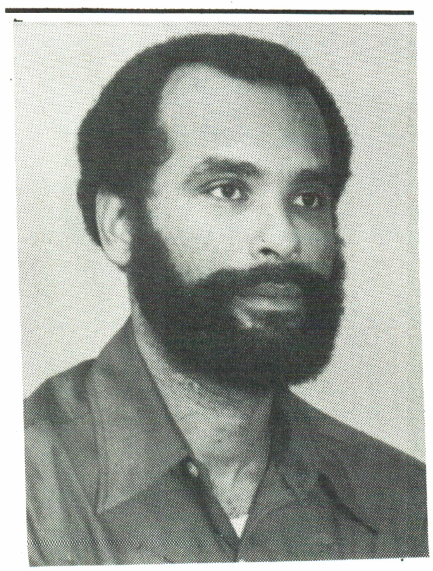
During his studies in the States, Athie returned with his wife for three (3) months, in 1970, to work for CDC Estate at Melville Hall as Farm Manager. This brought Athie face to face with the slavery-like conditions of the estate system in Dominica. «There was the most blatant oppressive, working and living conditions for the workers, and local drivers were used to do the dirty work», says Athie. After completing his studies in 1972, Athie a trained Agronomist, and a man who had become sensitive to the sufferings of our exploited people of his country, returned to Dominica and took up a job with CDC as Farm Manager of the 1,846 acre Castle Bruce Estate.

Three weeks afterwards, Athie was told to fire 55 of the workers. Athie refused to lay off the workers and was in turn fired by CDC. The workers rallied behing Athie and demanded that he be rehired. He got his job back but was soon fired again, and at that point the workers shut down the estate. A battle for the breaking of the estate structure in Dominica had begun with Athie at the head !

For 18 months Athie worked to educate, plan, and organise farmers, and in 1974, starting work on 150 acres, the Castle Bruce Farmers' Cooperative was established. By 1976, other cooperatives had sprung up in Dominica, and the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives was formed.

Athie spent the next two years, visiting rural development programmes throughout the Caribbean and devoting alot of time to deal with serious problems facing cooperatives. Marketing, Education and defining the political role of the new militant peasantry.

In 1978, Athie, together with NFAC formed the Dominica Farmers' Union with Athie elected as General Secretary, Under his leadership the Union has grown form 230 members in 1978, to 2.300 today, and consists of 30 District Branches over Dominica. Since that time Athie has successfully led the farmers through the leafspot crisis, the freeport crisis, the struggle to remove Patrick John, and now the task of reconstruction, following Hurricane David. As Minister of Agriculture in the Interim Government, his performance left little doubt in the minds of Dominicans that the man who now leads the DLM-Alliance, embodies the leadership qualities of courage, integrity, professional and political skill that Dominica needs right now.



ATHIE IS THE MAN FOR WESLEY, WOODFORDHILL AND CALIBISHIE THE FARMERS' CHOICE. VOTE ATHIE MARTIN.