

West Indian Information & Welfare Service,
34, St. Peters Street,
Ipswich,
East Anglia,
England, Europe.

22nd August, 1956.

Dear Mr. Abrahams,

I was very pleased to see you on Monday. I am sorry that you were unable to extend the time of your visit to the Ipswich Area as I was looking forward to the privilege of introducing to you as many West Indians as possible, to show you through all the accommodations operated by the Service and to introduce to you West Indians who in the like manner as Mrs. Smith have purchased their homes through the facility of the West Indian Welfare Service.

I am sorry too that time was not enough to enable me to explain in detail to you the purchase and lease housing scheme operated by the West Indian Welfare Service.

Under this scheme expensive dwellings are being made available to West Indians at cost within their earnings houses to let, situated in and around industrial centres are very expensive, rent per week ranges from £5. 5. 0 to £12. 0. 0 and over. Although West Indians are earning from £4. 0. 0 to £14. 0. 0 per week and sometimes more the majority can not afford to take on the responsibility of properties at these prices in view of the fact that during illness the statutory allowances of the Ministry of National Insurance and of the National Assistance Board incorporated is nowhere near the minimum requested for furnished dwellings.

In Britain a workman is not eligible for National Insurance benefits until the completion of 26 weeks employment.

This being so the West Indian who is taken down ill before his 26 weeks service can only apply to the National Assistance Board for financial assistance. The amount obtainable cannot meet the cost ~~for~~ satisfactory standard of living for West Indians.

This being so I established the West Indian Welfare Housing Scheme with an aim to acquire in and around industrial centres available dwellings. On occupation these dwellings are being Let to West Indians in Flats, Rooms, and Beds.

A furnished Flat is comprised of

1 Bedroom.
1 Reception Room.
Use of Kitchen.
" " Bath.
Bedding materials and Kitchen utensils.
Occupants find their own gas and electric.
Price 70/- per week.

Rooms Furnished Bedding materials, use of
Kitchen and Bath Kitchen
Utensils. Gas and Electric found.
Price for couple 42/- per week
single 35/- " "

Mr. Abrahams.

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Beds to Let

Two beds to each room
bedding materials use of
kitchen and bath.
Gas and Electric found.

Price 25/- per week each bed.

The Service Grant the free use of Electric Irons
Radios and Radiograms.

The Service operates Social Centres for West Indians.

The principal obligation of the Service is to find
fruitful employment and appropriate living accommodation for
West Indians.

Tomorrow Thursday the 23rd of August I am hoping to
take six redundant West Indian Workers with me in search for
new jobs. This will be my first trip since the spread of
redundancy in Britain. I will be calling at the following
places Bury St. Edmunds, Norwich, Newmarket and Cambridge.

Majority of the West Indians who are expecting the
termination of their engagement have already called on me.

There are approximately 75 West Indians affected.
I believe that within three weeks the majority if not all will
find employment, it may not be possible for me to find each
West Indian the job he is accustomed to perform, therefore if you
could in any respect inform West Indians at home that circum-
stances in Britain could change their desires it would I believe
obviate frustration.

I wish for you a safe and happy voyage.

Best Wishes.

Yours sincerely,



EDWARD G. FEAROW.