Field Trip E
Western Northern Range

El Oeste de la Cordillera Norteña

AIM
To give regional reviewers an opportunity of seeing and examining three major formations of what was mapped in the middle 1800's as the Caribbean Group.

INTRODUCTION
These formations, the Maraval, the Maracas and the Laventille, have been the subject of controversy for many Geologists, internationally and locally, for more than 100 years.

There have been reversals of their respective positions in the stratigraphic column of the region and finally one formation, the Laventille, has been separated into two formations of lateral age equivalence, the Laventille Formation and the Chancellor Formation.

To add further to the complexity, one researcher has postulated that the entire section is an overturned anticline so that what appeared as a younger bed is now being considered as the oldest of the series.

THE TRIP
The trip will be long but attempts will be made to stick to the planned stops in order to cover as much of the area as possible within the time allowed. See Location Map, Fig. 1.

Leaving the Hilton Hotel the bus will travel to Old St. Joseph Road via Piccadilly Street hence into Picton Road. At the junction of Picton Road and St. Joseph Road what appears to be the top member of the Laventille Limestone - almost at sea level - will be seen. However, further mapping in the area suggests that that member is most probably at the bottom of the formation and hence the oldest part.

A discussion paper on the model suggested will be given out subsequently. A brief stop (Stop 1) will be made here, and at a location 150 metres (495 ft) east of this location to examine that member further.

Stop 2. Picton Quarry (Old Fort Picton)
This Limestone member of the Laventille Formation with its interbedded sequence of limestone, shales, shaly phyllites, quartzites and sandstones was mapped by Wall and Sawkins (1860) as probably the youngest of the Caribbean Series and is a lateral equivalent of that seen at Stop 1. Its age is probably Upper Jurassic - Lower Cretaceous.

This formation, with its dominant E-W trend, may be traced...