

CONSTITUTIONAL REPORT RECOMMENDS SWEEPING CHANGES—

**CHIEF MINISTER
TO BE APPOINTED**

- Leader of the Opposition provided for;
- House to increase from 15 to 18 members;
- Speaker now to chair Finance Committee

By Wil Pineau

THE NEW CAYMANIAN

The creation of the post of Chief Minister to head up a ministerial-style government, increasing the composition of the Legislative Assembly to 18 members—three official and 15 elected—and designating an Opposition Leader are among the sweeping changes proposed in a report on the review of the 1972 Cayman Islands Constitution released Wednesday night.

The 20-page report, completed by Constitutional Commissioners Sir Frederick Smith and Walter Wallace and presented in a parliamentary question before the British Parliament yesterday, was also released locally by His Excellency the Governor Alan Scott in a press briefing.

The release of the report follows a five-week public consultation exercise in January and February by the Constitutional Commissioners. In the report, they noted that they received 64 submissions, met with 92 persons representing 16 organisations and 63 individual members of the public. A further 120 persons attended public meetings in each district, the report noted.

The major recommended changes to Cayman's politi-



Constitutional Commissioners Walter Wallace (left) and Sir Frederick Smith who conducted their research in Cayman earlier this year. Their report was released last night.

cal system include:

- Changing the titles of the elected Executive Council Members to Ministers;
- Recreating the post of Chief Secretary who would be appointed to Executive Council;
- Increasing the number of ExCo Members from four

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TO OUR READERS

This is a special NEWS EXTRA edition of The New Caymanian, published to provide our readers with immediate, comprehensive reporting on the Constitutional Report. Our regular weekend edition will appear as usual on Friday.