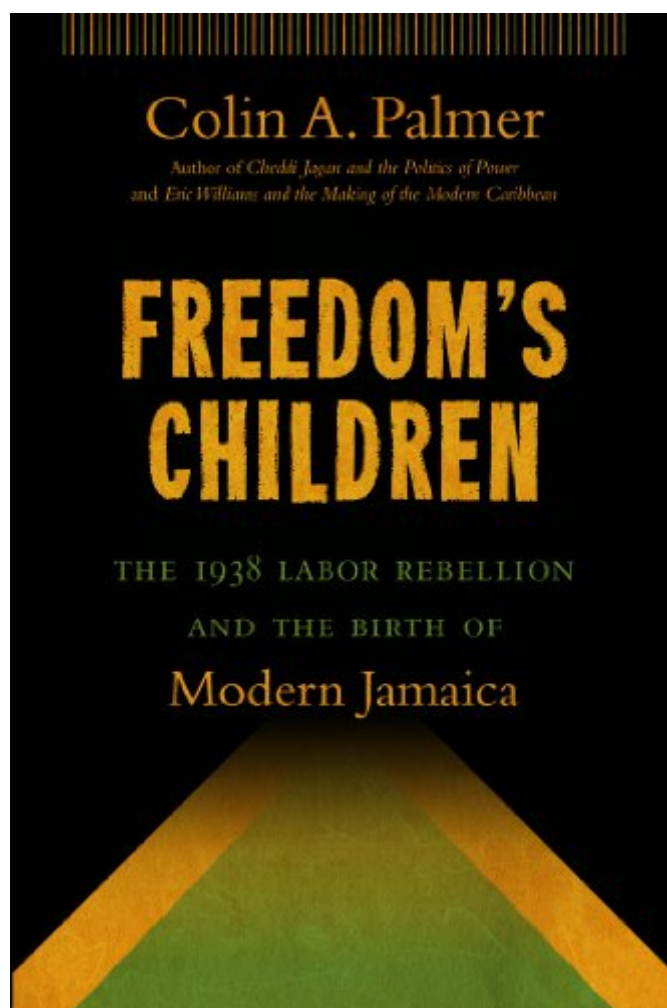


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Freedom's Children: The 1938 Labor Rebellion And The Birth Of Modern Jamaica



Synopsis

Freedom's Children is the first comprehensive history of Jamaica's watershed 1938 labor rebellion and its aftermath. Colin Palmer argues that, a hundred years after the abolition of slavery, Jamaica's disgruntled workers challenged the oppressive status quo and forced a morally ossified British colonial society to recognize their grievances. The rebellion produced two rival leaders who dominated the political life of the colony through the achievement of independence in 1962. Alexander Bustamante, a moneylender, founded the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union and its progeny, the Jamaica Labour Party. Norman Manley, an eminent barrister, led the struggle for self-government and with others established the People's National Party. Palmer describes the ugly underside of British colonialism and details the persecution of Jamaican nationalists. He sheds new light on the nature of Bustamante's collaboration with the imperial regime, the rise of the trade-union movement, the struggle for constitutional change, and the emergence of party politics in a modernizing Jamaica.

Book Information

File Size: 2000 KB

Print Length: 424 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1469611694

Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press; 1 edition (February 3, 2014)

Publication Date: February 3, 2014

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00I4S43U8

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #1,345,972 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #128

inÂ Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Jamaica #462 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Labor & Industrial Relations #545 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies

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