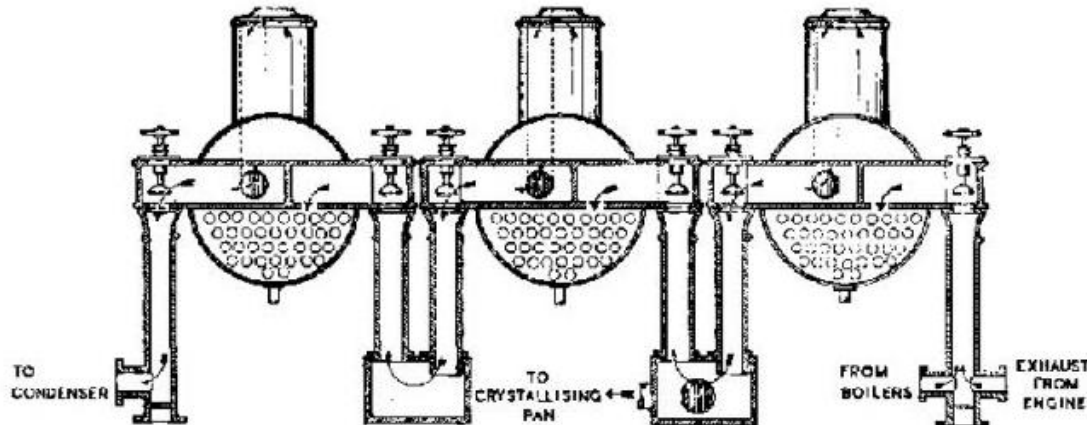


Measures Employed

1. The development of the triple effect vacuum pan. Three pans could use the same steam power. This method though efficient was very costly. Large estates in Trinidad and Guyana were able to afford this.



An old diagram of the triple effect vacuum pan

2. The planters protested and cried 'ruin' just as they did in 1848 in response to the challenges of Emancipation.

3. In response Britain sent out two Commissions to inquire into the true state of affairs and make their recommendations. The first Commission (1882-1883) supported the planters' viewpoint that beet sugar had destroyed them. The second Commission or Norman Commission (1896-1897) recommended a wider use of technology in an effort to cut expenditure.

4. Their recommendations also led to the creation of the Department of Agriculture in 1898. It was situated in Barbados. It adopted a more scientific approach to the production of the sugar cane.

5. Joseph Chamberlain, the British Secretary of State for the colonies influenced his colleagues to prohibit the entry of subsidized beet sugar into Britain.



Joseph Chamberlain

- 6.** The introduction of the central factory system. This help to cut the cost of production by as much as fifty per cent in Trinidad and St. Lucia.
- 7.** Wider use of the railways in transporting the canes from the field to the factory. This helped to reduce time and labor costs.
- 8.** The use of fertilizers for example, Guano from Morant and Redonda.
- 9.** New varieties of cane were introduced that produced a better quality of product as well as a higher yield per acre.



Different varieties of sugar cane

- 10.** New centrifugal driers separated the molasses from the sugar crystals by rapid spinning. This replaced the three weeks that the mixture used to spend in the curing house to effect the same separation of crystals and molasses.
- 11.** In some instances there was the amalgamation or joining of estates. This helped to cut costs.
- 12.** Loans and grants were secured from various interest groups in Britain. Some used it to clear debts while others bought equipment and other necessities such as fertilizers.
- 13.** Improved management practices and important scientific data and information from the Department of Agriculture helped to ensure productive

efficiency and lower costs in the long run. Agriculturalists and botanists attached and unattached to the Department made valuable recommendations.

14. Lower price meant that the West Indian planters stood a better chance at competing on the open European market.

15. They sought and were allowed re-entry into the North American: United States of America 1875-1898 and Canada 1898 -1912.

16. Finally in 1903 at the Convention in Brussels, Britain managed to convince European countries to remove the protective subsidy from beet sugar. This led to a slow but welcome recovery of cane sugar.