

● *Example to women*

Praise for Lady B on birthday

THE HON. LADY Bustamante was yesterday lauded as a woman possessing qualities that are shining examples of and an inspiration to Jamaican womanhood.

Lady Bustamante was so praised in toasts to her by the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, Deputy Prime Minister, and Mr. Dudley Thompson, Q.C., at a special luncheon in her honour on her birthday, yesterday, at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The luncheon was organised by the Bustamante Foundation.

Mr. Shearer, a patron of the Foundation, described Lady Bustamante as a woman of quiet strength and courage, tireless and indefatigable patience, loyal and devoted person to her late husband.

He paid tribute to her for "those sterling qualities which we hope will inspire all Jamaicans: her quiet, unassuming and self-effacing dignity, her unequalled courage and determination, her ability to remain constant to those ideals she has always held dear, her dedication to her country and profound commitment to Christian principles."

The Deputy Prime Minister, who recalled her work in the establishment of the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union and the Jamaica Labour Party, said he hoped that the experiences she had shared would be one day recorded in such a manner to

allow those who came after to continue to draw hope and inspiration from the past.

He emphasised that Lady Bustamante, who had served her husband with unswerving devotion, must be honoured in her own right for the magnificent contribution she had made to the country and for her tireless work with the "Chief."

Her work as secretary to Sir Alex was a "record of unselfish and untiring devotion to the people of this country," he said. He noted the significant role she played then as she was involved in the ceaseless rounds of discussions and note-taking.

Mr. Shearer said she worked with a fervent commitment which grew out of a desire, not just to help her husband, but to help those whose cause he championed. Throughout

(Continued on Page 3)

her career, that dual commitment characterised her contribution. He added that she was a loyal, devoted and untiring secretary and confidante to Sir Alexander.

Mr. Shearer pointed to her leadership of courage and fortitude of the trade union when her husband was in detention, a task which she undertook "with the same quiet strength which has always been her hallmark." He said her strength and courage kept things going until Sir Alexander's release. He also noted her "intimate" involvement in the events that influenced the history of Jamaica since 1938.

Lady Bustamante, whom, he said, was a "rich reservoir of knowledge" about events and personalities during Sir Alexander's years of activities, continued to make her contribution to those institutions to which she had dedicated her life and to other worthy projects for human upliftment.

Mr. Thompson said that Lady Bustamante was one that had given a living example to the women of Jamaica in many fields, especially that of the dedication of a wife to a husband. She had given an example to the women and wives of Jamaica, an

example of sacrifice that had never been excelled. He said she forsook all the pleasures of society in devotion to her husband.

Lady Bustamante, Mr. Thompson said, was adding her own weight and influence in the unification of this fractured society. She had left for Jamaica a vision that every woman could cherish.

In Sir Alexander's great moments she was always there, never seeking the searchlight of popularity, never seeking the fame but earning it, he

Congrats to Lady B

The following telegram was sent to Lady Bustamante on the occasion of her birthday by the Jamaica-America Society: "The Jamaica-America Society congratulates Lady Bustamante on her birthday and wishes her many more years of happiness and continued service to Jamaica".

said. She always stood by her husband — "and that is a picture that she has given to every woman as to what a wife should be to a husband."

He said she had brought lustre and distinction to her birthplace in Ashton, Westmoreland, and, according to him, she was born for a purpose and she had achieved it. She had earned the love and respect of every Jamaican.

"Lady Bustamante has earned, in her own right, the support, the respect and the love which belong to a very small band of people who are able to bring together a fractured society that needs to be bound together by love; because the love she has received from the people in Jamaica she has returned," Mr. Thompson said.

In her reply, read by Dr. Irvine, Lady Bustamante urged the women of Jamaica with ability to come forward and take their places alongside the men in contributing to the society. She congratulated all those women who had qualified themselves in various fields of endeavour and who were contributing to the development of the country.

She said she pledged to carry on service throughout her days. Gratitude was expressed to the organisers of the function.

Birthday messages to Lady Bustamante came from Queen Elizabeth, the Queen of Jamaica; the Governor-General, the Most Hon. Sir Florizel Glasspole; and Mr. Michael Manley, a patron of the Bustamante Foundation. These messages were read by Dr. Irvine.

The Queen expressed warm congratulations and good wishes, while Sir Florizel sent his warm and sincere greetings. Mr. Manley paid tribute to her for her distinctive contribution to the country in her own right and not just beside her husband. He said she had played her role in the social and economic stability of the country.

A toast to the guests was given by the Hon. Hector Wynter, O.J., Editor of the *Gleaner* and a member of the Foundation. The reply was given by Dr. John Royes, a Bustamante Scholar.

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—Sterling photo

HEROES' WIVES IN UNITY: The Hon. Lady Bustamante, O.J.(right), smiles radiantly as she gets assistance in cutting her birthday cake from Mrs. Edna Manley, widow of National Hero Norman Washington Manley, during the special luncheon in her honour at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel yesterday. Sharing in the joy of the occasion are, from left, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, Deputy Prime

Minister, and a close associate of Lady Bustamante; Senator, the Hon. Ronald Irvine, chairman of the function; and Mr. Dudley Thompson, Q.C. Mr. Shearer and Mr. Thompson gave toasts to Lady Bustamante at the luncheon, another feature of which was a message from the Queen congratulating Lady Bustamante on her birthday.