Jamaica is fortunate—PM

"Your Excellency, trade unionist, politician, parliamentarian, statesman and now Governor General, we of Jamaica salute you."

This was the summation of Prime Minister Michael Manley's congratulatory remarks to the nation's third Governor General Florizel Glasspole on his installation on the lawns of King's House yesterday.

"Mr. Glasspole has had the remarkable good fortune to have lived through and to have served during some of the most turbulent, but exciting and momentous years in this country's history," Mr. Manley said.

..Giving a brief history of Mr. Glasspole's varied career, Mr. Manley said: "Jamaica is truly fortunate to be able to have as its new

Governor-General this man whose devotion to duty in the service of his people is a matter of record, and whose courage and integrity are undoubted."

Referring to the sterling performance of former Governor General Clifford Campbell, the Prime Minister said he had taught the country to appreciate and honour the symbolic significance of the post.

He had shown that the holder of the post embodied within him the hopes and ideals of the nation and carried with him the respect and affection of all the people regardless of political affiliation or economic or social status.

"In Florizel Glasspole we have confidence that he will be all these things for all of us," Mr. Manley said.

He paid tribute to Mrs. Glasspole and to Miss Sara Lou Glasspole, praying God's blessings as they continued to do their work for the country.

Sincere and warm congratulations also came from the former Acting Governor General Herbert Duffus, who bridged the gap between the retirement of Sir Clifford and the installation of Mr. Glasspole.

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"I shall regard it as my duty and my responsibility to be in the vanguard of any fight to preserve that motto and I call upon our people of all racial origins who accept Jamaica as their homeland to rededicate themselves to the cause of our motto and to be uncompromising in their words and deeds in support of that motto," Mr. Glasspole declared.

While acknowledging that the country was beset by serious problems, Mr. Glasspole paid tribute to the institutions — church, police, army, civil service, — for the work they were doing to surmount those problems.

"May we continue to be a shining example of what a little country filled with aspirations and determination, led by dedicated leaders can achieve and may we never forget that the best way to earn the respect of the world is to show respect for ourselves. God bless our people, God bless our leaders, God bless Jamaica," he ended.