

OUR NEW

G-G

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'We're restarting a tradition'

says the new G-G

BY CARL L. WINT

His Excellency, the Most Honourable Florizel Augustus Glasspole, O.N., C.D., was installed as Jamaica's third Governor-General in a short ceremony on the grounds of King's House yesterday.

In his inaugural address, the second native Governor-General took full responsibility for the decision to hold the ceremony at King's House.

"I believe that King's House being the main centre from which the Governor-General operates, there could be no better choice for the venue for swearing-in a new Governor-General than King's House itself. In my view, it is a matter of establishing a tradition," he said.

Mr. Glasspole then expressed the view that "maybe it is somewhat of an anachronism for the residence of a Jamaican head of state to be known as King's House.

Thanking the Prime Minister for appointing him to the post, Mr. Glasspole said, "You can rest assured that we will do everything possible for all Jamaica to be satisfied in the final analysis."

Mr. Glasspole classified the role of Governor-General under two headings. There was his responsibility under the Constitution as head of state as well as his other general responsibility in

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"It will be in this area there is no partiality," the Governor General said.

But, Mr. Glasspole said, the major testing ground was in the other area. Words and actions typify the Governor General and create his image which must be deep-rooted in the tradition of impartiality.

"I trust and pray that with the Almighty guidance, the iron mental discipline which I have exercised all these years, will stand me in good stead so that Government and Opposition alike, the Church and all other elements in our society will feel in good time that their confidence in me has been fully justified."

Turning to the national motto, Mr. Glasspole said that those who interpreted it to mean only that Jamaicans of different racial origins must inter-marry to make the motto a reality, were wrong.

The correct interpretation was that any person, regardless of racial origin, who was a Jamaican by birth and nationality or adoption and accepted the responsibility to the society and the Constitution were part of the "One People."

"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.