

# More praises for Glasspole

**MORE** tributes to former governor-general Sir Florizel Glasspole came in yesterday from the National Workers Union (NWU), Education Minister Burchell Whiteman, Jamaica Labour Party spokesman on tourism, Ed Bartlett and National Democratic Movement (NDM) president, Bruce Golding.

Danny Roberts, the NWU's vice president, described Glasspole as an "outstanding Jamaican who played a pivotal role in the shaping of our modern trade union movement".

According to Roberts, Glasspole, who served the NWU as general-secretary "with dedication and distinction" during the union's formative years, was committed to the cause of the working class and was unrelenting in his campaign for workers' rights and justice.

He will long be remembered for his courage, dedication and forthrightness, and his quickness to action wherever injustice, discrimination and oppression prevailed," Roberts said.

Whiteman listed Glasspole's achievements when he was the education minister and said he was responsible for a major expansion of the education system between 1955 and 1962 when he served in the administration of premier and chief minister, Norman Manley.

"It is a great pleasure to serve in a ministry which has benefited from one such as Sir Florizel. He has left a proud record which time may blur, but never erase," Whiteman said.

Bartlett described the former G-G as "one of the most outstanding citizens of the Caribbean and one of the finest governors-general of the region".

"He was a man of outstanding integrity and gave to the political and public arena a level of honesty, dignity and service that is unparalleled," Bartlett said.

He said that Sir Florizel has given young Jamaicans a strong tradition to emulate, as he "made politics a honoured avocation".

Golding said Glasspole could truly be regarded as one of the founding fathers of modern Jamaica.

According to Golding, Glasspole's work as a trade union leader, member of Parliament and minister of government was exemplary, "and despite the contentiousness of competitive politics, he always retained the dignity and decorum that servants of the public should have".

Golding said that it was in his role as governor-general that Sir Florizel truly distinguished himself.

"He held that position during a period of great conflict and



*GLASSPOLE... has left a proud record*

turmoil. Yet, he remained a symbol of unity and a point of stability for a nation that was being torn apart by contending forces. His forthrightness, in no small way, helped Jamaica through those crises," Golding said.

Glasspole, who died at his St Andrew home last Saturday at the age of 91, was Jamaica's second native governor-general.

He served for a total of 17 years from 1973 to 1990 when he retired.

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