

DJ

29 APR 1973

Burnham's tribute to N. W. Manley

Gleaner Guyana Correspondent

GEORGETOWN, Guyana:

A STALWART in the cause of Caribbean regionalism, is how Prime Minister Forbes Burnham described the late Norman Manley of Jamaica, whose birth anniversary has been perpetuated as the date chosen for the signing of the Caribbean Common Market treaty.

Paying tribute to Norman Manley's efforts towards Caribbean unity, Mr. Burnham said he was a man who devoted his energies and laid down his political potential and future on the altar of this concept of the West Indian nation.

Mr. Burnham also had a measure of praise for Trinidad's Prime Minister, Mr. Eric Williams, whom he described as "the greatest regionalist of our day."

Commenting on the aspirations of the region following the

signing of the Community and Common Market Accord, Mr. Burnham declared that the task facing the Caribbean leaders was not a simple one. There was need for unity and trust, he emphasized, and for appreciation of each other's problems and peculiar difficulties.

Mr. Burnham viewed the establishment of the Caribbean Common Market and Community as a means of planning for development on a much wider scale than in the past and an opportunity of

rationalising the economies of the various states, rather than having them in continued competition with one another. Touching on the bi-polarisation trend among the 'big nations' of the Caribbean, Mr. Burnham warned that in the move towards unity, the realities of the region must be kept in mind. He was confident, however, that the present leaders had the necessary determination, dedication and wisdom and hoped for the same qualities in the next generation of leaders.