

Hail the Hero

-5 JUL 1976

Nation marks Norman Manley's birthplace

J. M. N.

A GRATEFUL nation paid homage to the memory of National Hero Norman Manley at his birthplace at Roxborough Manchester yesterday.

As if answering the prayers of Mayor Cecil Charlton the rain clouds which hovered over the gathering sprinkled only a few drops in tribute.

National Trust Commission chairman Vic Reid said it was a "joyous occasion" to celebrate the National Hero who was born on July 4, 1893. His widow Edna was unable to make it, as she was indisposed.

But her son Douglas, Minister of Youth and Community Development, accepted the key to the City of Mandeville from Mayor Charlton and Mrs. Beverly Manley accepted a basket of flower on her behalf.

It was Dr. Manley, also, who unveiled the plaque

assisted by a farmer Frank Ellis. And on the platform sitting close by Prime Minister Manley was Mrs. Clarice Durrant the daughter of Sarah Matthews who was the nurse of the late National Hero in his infancy.

Mr. Manley also quoted excerpts from his father's farewell speech in which he spoke of "mission accomplished." And at the end there was a recording of parts of that speech as it was delivered.

Governor General Florizel Glasspole who for years worked closely with the late National Hero read the citation to his memory.

It all took place amid the ruins of the house which was destroyed by fire in 1968. Now it is a national shrine standing on 2½ acres of land donated to the National Trust Commission by Kaiser Bauxite Company.