

Senate regrets death of Vivian Allen

The 31-year span of public service by Senator E. V. V. Allen was recounted and praised by his colleagues yesterday as the Senate placed on record its regret at his death.

The Leader of Government Business, Senator the Hon. Hugh Shearer moved the following motion:

"BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate place on record its regret at the death of Senator Edward Victor Vivian Allen and its appreciation of the services rendered by him to the island over the past 31 years and extend to his widow and relatives its sincerest condolences:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mrs. Allen.

Speaking on the motion Mr. Shearer said that Mr. Allen had given 31 years of his life to public service, serving the country at various levels

Limited

"He represented the people from the days when election to office was by the limited few. And even at that level, Senator Allen, then Mr. Allen, then Member of the Legislative Council, enjoyed the respect and confidence of the limited few and the majority who did not have the franchise," Mr. Shearer said.

When adult suffrage came his reputation for honesty and frankness earned him the support of the overwhelming majority and he served as an elected member and eventually in

the "appointed chamber".

Noting that Senator Allen had died in the service of Jamaica Mr. Shearer recalled his unique style, his bluntness, his humility and the affection of his colleagues who had dubbed him "Dada".

"Let us hope that the principles for which he stood, the projects that he started, the education that he tried to impart to his people will produce good results for the people of this country and perpetuate the memory of this very good Senator who died revered, respected, and beloved of all of us.

Humanitarian

Senator Rudolph Burke recalled Senator Allen as a pharmacist, a farmer and a parliamentarian, as a humanitarian and as a gentleman.

He endorsed all that the Leader of the Senate had said. He added that Mr. Allen would be remembered for his many years of work for the Parliament and the country.

"We have lost a colleague ... we shall mourn with his family".

Senator Edgerton Wright spoke of his "greatest friend" and their early service together in local government. He recalled his fights on the old Legislative Council. He said that the Parish Council was moving to have the Black River Bridge renamed Allen's Bridge to the memory of the man who had made the bridge possible.

The motion was passed standing in a minute of silence.

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