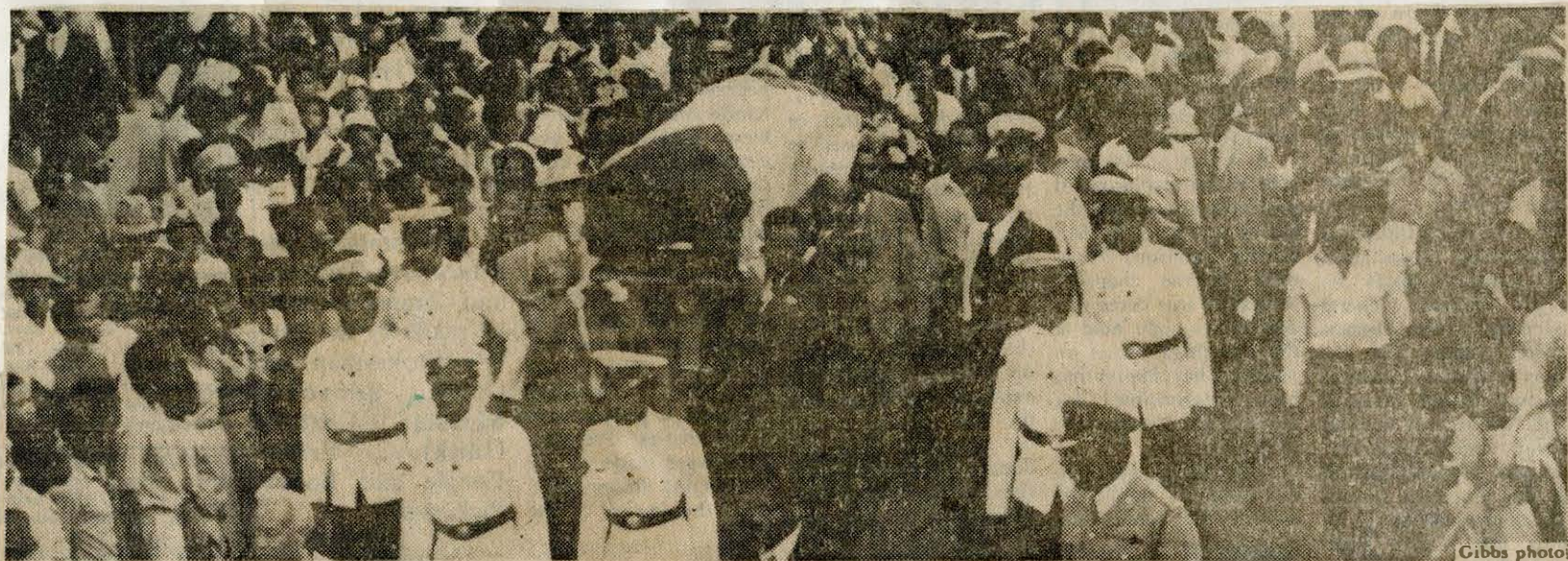


Allen Edwin



Gibbs photo

THE FINAL JOURNEY: The casket bearing the remains of the former JLP Member of Parliament and Minister of Education, the Hon. Edwin Allen O.J. being borne to the cemetery in Frankfield, Clarendon, yesterday, viewed by a large group of onlookers on either side of the street. The two pallbearers at the front are Mr. Len Kirby M.P., on the left, and Mr. Clifton Stone M.P., on the right.

Simple, rural funeral for Edwin Allen

Former Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) Parliamentarian and Minister of Education, the Hon. Edwin Leopold Allen O.J., was buried in a simple cemetery in his old North-West

Clarendon constituency yesterday, after an official funeral service attended principally by the Governor-General, the Most Hon. Sir Florizel Glasspole, and the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga.

Thousands of people packed the small, unpretentious Saint Bartholomew's Church in Frankfield, Clarendon, and overflowed into the rocky,

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hilly terrain of the churchyard for the ceremony which lasted some two hours.

A huge crowd lined the narrow, winding streets of the rural town leading to the church's unelaborate cemetery where the "Elder Statesman" of local politics and champion of equality in Education was laid to rest in a small, homely grave under the dutiful eyes of Prime Minister Seaga and Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, dozens of current and former Parliamentarians and well wishers, as well as hundreds of children who eluded the Police to invade the graveside to say their last farewell.

Prime Minister Seaga in his eulogy to the man who was his adviser on Education up to the time of his death, said that farewell was being said with "a deep sadness at his passing, but with treasured memories of a life that was lived to the fullest in the service of the people of this country and with unswerving dedication to the upliftment of the poor".

Mr. Seaga said that Mr. Allen's name had been etched indelibly into the record as the "Father of Jamaica's modern post-colonial education system".

His determination and courage to procur-

eth the best possible opportunities for educating the children of the poor, coincided with the principles of the political party of which he was a member, and all his life had been lived with a determined eye on that goal: the betterment of community life through the spread of knowledge, the Prime Minister said in his tribute.

The service opened with the singing of the hymn, "Pleasant Are Thy Courts Above". This was followed by the reading of the first Lesson, which was taken from Ecclesiasticus Chapter 44, by the current Member of Parliament for the constituency, Mr. Clifton Stone O.D. The second Lesson was read by Dr. Keith Allen, a nephew; and this was followed by tributes by Mr. Howard Cooke, a former People's National Party Member of Parliament and Minister of Education; and by Mr. F.G. Latty, current Principal of the Frankfield Comprehensive School, one of the products of Mr. Allen's educational policies.

The sermon was given by the Lord Bishop of Jamaica, the Rt. Rev. Neville DeSouza. The Rev. Marjorie Lewis and the Rev. C.A. Jennings said the Prayers, and the service concluded with the singing of the hymn, "God Is

Working His Purpose Out", followed by the National Anthem.

The casket, draped with the Jamaican flag, was borne from the church by six members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force. Deputy Prime Minister Shearer; the Member of Parliament for North-East Manchester, Mr. Len Kirby; Mr. Clifton Stone M.P., and the Hon. Dr. Neville Gallimore, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, assisted in bearing the casket up the slopes to the burial site in the hilly countryside.

At the graveside, the "Last Post" was sounded and the hymns, "Hark, Hark My Soul", "The King of Love My Shepherd Is", "How Sweet the Sound of Jesus Sounds", and "Sun of My Soul", were sung as the casket was gently lowered into its concrete grave.

The huge crowd which gathered from early afternoon was undeterred by a brief afternoon shower which threatened to dampen the ceremony. The streets were packed tight and on several occasions the procession had to stop to allow the uniformed groups, including the Police, Girls Guides and Girls Scouts, to re-assemble for the procession to the cemetery.

A small number of policemen prevented

eager schoolchildren from over-running the cemetery; and many people had to climb trees to get a last look at the casket.

Other mourners attending the service included; the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, the Hon. Dr. Mavis Gilmour, the Hon. Alva Ross, the Hon. Neville Lewis, the Hon. Bruce Golding, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, the Hon. Pearl Charles, the Hon. Edmund Bartlett, the Hon. Karl Samuda, the Hon. Enid Bennett, the Hon. Mike Henry, the Hon. Marco Brown, the Hon. Mike Henry.

Mrs. Joan Webley, Mr. Ryan Peraito, Mr. Audley Woodhouse, Mr. Derrick Smith, Mr. Wylie Hastings, Mr. Russell Hammond, Mr. Anthony Golding, Mr. Ferdie Yap, Mr. Dudley McKenley, Mr. Pat Stephens, Mr. St. Clair Shirley, Dr. Sydney Beaumont, Miss Princess Lawes, Mr. Earl Spencer, Mr. Christopher Rose, Mr. Astil Sangter, Members of Parliament.

Captain Glen Webley, Senator Arthur Ziadie, Senator Keith Worrell, Senator Errol Miller, Senator Babsy Grange, Mrs. Ossie Harding, the Rev. C. Evans Bailey and Mr. Seragh Lakasingh.

The service was conducted by the Venerable Archdeacon Walter S. O'Meally.

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