

B/N. Bennett, Hazel

UWI Department bids staffer farewell

MEMBERS of the Department of Library Studies, of the University of the West Indies, Mona, recently bade farewell to Senior Lecturer, Dr. Hazel Bennett at a luncheon at the Courtleigh Hotel.

Dr. Bennett who joined the staff of the Department when it started in August 1971 will retire at the end of September. Her service with the University of the West Indies began in 1967 when she joined the staff of the then Institute of Education (now integrated in the Faculty of Education) as Librarian/Documentalist.

In paying tribute to the honoured guest, Mrs. Amy Robertson, Librarian/Documentalist at the Faculty of Education and part-time lecturer in the Department of Library Studies, spoke in glowing terms of the "well-established foundation" which she had inherited in the Documentation Centre of the Faculty when she succeeded Dr.

Bennett. She emphasised Dr. Bennett's qualities of strength and determination and spoke warmly of her contribution to the Department.

Mr. Leslie Fenty, Librarian at the Norman Manley Law School and also part-time lecturer in the Department of Library Studies, traced Dr. Bennett's career in the library and information profession from her entry into the Jamaica Library Service in 1952, where she rose to position of Deputy Director. He also referred to her academic development, listing her achievements.

Mr. Fenty also spoke of Dr. Bennett's contribution to the wider field of librarianship at national, regional and international levels. Dr. Bennett has published widely, presented many papers at conferences and provided consultancy services on a number of occasions.

The parting gift was presented by Mrs. Cherrell Robinson.

In replying to the tributes, Dr. Bennett expressed her appreciation for the farewell function, for the gift and for the kind words spoken by her colleagues. She reminisced over past years, highlighting occasions such as the beginnings of her association in the library world when she served as Secretary to the Director of the Jamaica Library Service. She also recalled the letter to the University of the West Indies seeking the commencement of the Department of Library Studies which she had signed as the then President of the Jamaica Library Association. She said she would continue to feel a part of the library community and especially the training institution.

Professor Daphne Douglas, Head of the Department chaired the function.

Dr. Bennett was accompanied by her husband, Mr. Wycliffe Bennett.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF JAMAICA

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