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## Vic Reid's book on Norman Manley launched here

The book, *The Horses Of The Morning*, on the life of National Hero Norman Washington Manley, written by the Hon. Victor Stafford Reid, was launched on Wednesday at the Liguanea Club.

Dedicated to Messrs Vernon Arnett and O.T. Fairclough, it is published by the Caribbean Authors Publishing Company Limited.

Guest speaker was Professor Edward Baugh, head of the Department of English and public orator at the University of the West Indies, Mona. He said that in a time when people were tempted no longer to believe in promises, the book would challenge Jamaicans never to give up hope, "always to be ready to respond to the power and the beauty and the challenge of *The Horses Of The Morning*."

He said the title of the book evoked challenge, beauty, power, energy, faith and hope. The book presented Mr. Manley forcefully, truthfully and with understanding. It was a recreation of a character, a personality, the hero.

Professor Baugh said Mr. Reid had written biography as art. It was an excellent blend of "deep sympathy with objectivity.... Part of what we need now is more biography. We need still more of the lives of the people who have moulded our lives."

"Mr. Reid is one of the very few examples among us in these parts of the pure, the absolutely professional writer".... one who had "to fashion himself and hold fast to this purpose in a society which has not yet learned to honour properly its writers."

Professor Baugh said Norman Manley was a man "you could trust in all circumstances." He described him as the exemplar, the model, the hero, the model of an absolute integrity. Professor Baugh recalled an incident recorded in the book when Mr. Manley decided to offer himself to the workers, not approaching them with promises, but with the statement, "I believe you will find that I am a man you can trust."

Professor Baugh said, "Political skill is great. Even political cunning can be great and valuable. Managerial skill is important. Charisma is great but the first foundation of united action is trust. Where the leaders cannot command or enjoy the people's trust, the people perish. History has taught us that — our own history. The point about Norman Manley that I choose to single out and to stress — this was a man you could trust in all circumstances."

Dr. Matthew Beaubrun, Chairman of the Norman Manley Foundation, said the book was a living example of somebody who had given to the people of Jamaica and the Caribbean, the truth about Norman Manley, the man who looked for independence for the people of Jamaica. One of the worse things one could do was to attempt to manipulate religion and change history so that it became false and generations to come would not know the truth of what took place, he said.

Copies were presented to Mrs. Edna Manley, Mrs. Lucille Arnett and Mrs. Ivy Fairclough by Mr. Reid.