

Adolphe Roberts

WE congratulate the National Library on their display on W. Adolphe Roberts to mark the 100th anniversary of his birth.

A Jamaican who left our shores for the USA where he published many books — his *Semmes of the Alabama* was a notable contribution to the history of the USA — he returned to Jamaica and took an active part in the move for self-government, had been founder of the Progressive League in New York and on coming back to Jamaica he helped to found the Poetry League and the Bollvarian Society.

He was also the first editor of the *Pioneer Press* of *The Gleaner Company* which brought to the notice of many Jamaicans the writings of many native sons and daughters and helped to instil into readers an appreciation of our literary achievements.

An urbane, well-read and civilised character in the true sense of that appellation he still had much to give to Jamaica when he was suddenly taken from our midst. It is good to remember him.