

**Sir Philip Sherlock, C.B.E., LL.D.**

P.M. Sherlock's work is unrivalled in scope and the span of years it covers. He was educated at Calabar High School to enter which, as he puts it, was to enter into a tradition of involvement and service. The school, he adds, continued what his home — a Wesleyan manse — had started.

From a post on the Calabar teaching staff which Sherlock joined at 17, he took time off to do club work among underprivileged boys of Western Kingston, using his spare time future to prepare for the London University Bachelor of Arts examination by private study.

That he was able to win a first-class honours degree in this way marked him out in two respects — it drew attention to his exceptional capacity and, together with his concern with social problems (his gravity cloaked invariably in a puckish humour), it made him a natural selection for involvement in events calculated to improve conditions. He became:

— Headmaster of Wolmer's Boys' School and, afterwards, Manchester Secondary School

— Secretary of the Institute of Jamaica

— Education Officer of Jamaica Welfare Ltd.

— Vice-chairman of the Jamaica Schools Commission

— Member of the Legislative Council of Jamaica (1952)

— Member of the Irvine Committee on Higher Education in the Colonies (1944). This Committee recommended the establishment of a University College for the West Indies.

— Director of the Department of Extra-Mural Studies in the University.

Finally, he was raised to the Vice-Chancellorship. Among other things, the founding of the Creative Arts Centre was a proud dream of his.

As an author, Sir Philip's work covers a wide range of interests:

— the preparation, in collaboration with A.J. Newman, of reading materials for schools.

— several volumes of West Indian folk tales, popular histories etc.

— poetry, including the poetic drama entitled "Shout For Freedom", a tribute to Sam Sharpe

— scholarly history of the West Indies

— a sensitive biography of N.W. Manley.

Today, in 1984, Sir Philip's work has spanned a period over half a century and it is indicative of the incomparable vitality of the man and his commitment to the service of Jamaica and the Caribbean. That from the base of an Association of University Presidents and ex-Presidents, formed through his initiative, he has been active in promoting developmental studies and programmes which complement and support regional efforts with the same object.