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Sherlock tells of 'WI contribution to human progress'

MIAMI BEACH, Florida, June 23. (C.P.):

THE HON. Philip M. Sherlock, Vice-Principal of the University College of the West Indies said yesterday that the peoples of the British West Indies "are showing our divided world how differences of race and culture can enrich rather than impoverish human society".

Addressing the 75th convention of the American Library Association, he said that political, cultural and social unity is being achieved at a rapid rate. By 1958, he added, there will be a Federal Government of the British Caribbean with "complete independence as a dominion within the British Commonwealth not long after that date."

Ours is a region of cultural and racial diversity, and it is an extraordinary thing that people so scattered and so diverse should have become one community, and one nation".

Programmes for the industrial and agricultural development are being pushed forward together with agencies for social improvement. Mr. Sherlock added: "I know that as a nation, we will be judged by the quality of the contribution we make. The most important task we have is that of earning good will and the respect of other nations.

Unity

"We are making history. In a world dominated by power, we have emerged without military power. In a world bitterly divided by prejudices, especially racial prejudices, we have risen in spite of terrible misconceptions. I believe that our emergent nation is making at least one important contribution to human progress through our unity. This unity is significant precisely because we reached it in spite of diversity and difference."

Mr. Sherlock returned to the island on Sunday.

Among those at the convention were Miss Joyce Lawson, Director of the Central Library Service of Jamaica; Mr. Sydney Hockey of the Library Service of Trinidad; Mr. Burton of the Barbados Public Library; Miss deLisle, Librarian in St. Kitts.

Mr. Sherlock said in a brief interview at Palisades airport that one session of the conference was devoted to the Caribbean and that he spoke on political and social developments in the area.

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