

## Retiring Meadowbrook High School board chairman honoured

A special luncheon in honour of the retiring chairman of the Board of Governors of the Meadowbrook High School, the Rev. Henry Ward, was held at the school on Wednesday afternoon. It was sponsored by the staff and the members of the Board of Governors.

Paying tribute to the life and work of the Rev. Mr. Ward were the Rev. Clement Thomas, Mr. Euclid King, Senior Education Officer in the Ministry of Education; Mr. V. C. Cuthbert, vice-chairman of the Board of Governors; Mr. Donald Bogle, a former headmaster and presently headmaster of Wolmer's Boys' School, the present headmaster of Meadowbrook High School Mr. Warren Thorpe; Miss C. L. McLennon, a member of staff and the Rt. Rev. Ashley Smith, chairman of the Jamaica Council of Churches.

The Rev. Thomas said that the Rev. Mr. Ward first distinguished himself as headmaster of one of the best run schools in the island. Following this, he said, the Rev. Mr. Ward entered the ministry and later left for Nigeria where he successfully taught some 300 teachers.

Since his return to Jamaica, the Rev. Mr. Thomas said, he has continued to give distinguished service to education.

In his speech Mr. King said that the Ministry of Education was grateful to the Rev. Mr. Ward for his work in education and particularly to his effort in founding the Meadowbrook High School.

### Humility

Mr. Cuthbert described the Rev. Mr. Ward as a man whose entire life had been spent in efforts to uplift his fellowmen. He also described the Rev. Mr. Ward as a man of great humility, unswerving integrity, gentlemanly bearing and tactfulness, a man highly sensitive to injustice and strictly honest.

Speaking on behalf of the staff of the school, Miss McLennon said that Rev. Ward's work in education had spanned 40 years during which he had involved himself intimately with the people with whom he worked. He was a labourer among labourers, she said, he had the rare quality of never failing to bring out the best in the people with whom he worked.

Replying the Rev. Mr. Ward

said that he had been overwhelmed by the tributes that had been accorded him. Though the years have multiplied, he said, his heart, enthusiasm and devotion have remained young.

The Rev. Mr. Ward said that he was very concerned about the possibility of the elimination of the Sixth Form in high schools. If the most promising among the Fifth Form were to be removed, he said, this could mean the end of the Sixth Form in the schools.

The two years spent in Sixth Form are very important in preparing the students for the challenges of life and of the University. The elimination of the Sixth Form could create great dissatisfaction in the best teachers who may well feel that they are only participating in a half-way measure, the Rev. Mr. Ward added.

A presentation to the Rev. Mr. Ward was made by Miss F. Peterkin, senior mistress on the staff of the school.

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