

Presentation to Director of Education

Article in The Nassau Daily tribune

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Mr. Randol Fawkes, M.H.A., presented the first copy of his new book "The Bahamas Government" to Mr. T.P. Lightbody, Director of Education at a short presentation ceremony held in the reading room of the Southern Public Library at 4:00p.m. yesterday.

A gathering of well over sixty people jammed into the Library to witness the presentation.

The chairman of the ceremony was Dr. Cleveland Eneas, who in his opening address, said that the "Southern District should be very proud of Mr. Fawkes' achievement." Dr. Eneas then called upon the Hon. Eugene Dupuch to give an appreciation of the book.

Mr. Dupuch first thanked the audience for their presence and said, "This ceremony gives us an opportunity to pay tribute to Mr. Fawkes because he has in fact made a singular achievement. I had the privilege of reading the proofs of Mr. Fawkes' book before it was published, and I was really impressed."

He went to say that in the introduction of Mr. Fawkes' book, "He deals with constitutional government as we know it."

"We have the same kind of Government that England had in 1729," Mr. Dupuch said, "and in his book Mr. Fawkes tells you how the English constitution was evolved."

"When I was in school, which was some thirty years ago, the children knew every river in England – but ask them where Cat Island was and they would point north. They knew very little about their own Bahamas," Mr. Dupuch continued.

"The school has taken more care in training children to pass examinations rather than to take a place in life. I say this with the greatest apologies to the Director of Education who has no doubt changed this."

Before closing, Mr. Dupuch stated that a "copy of this book should be in every home."

Before making the presentation, Mr. Fawkes thanked the two previous speakers for “the kind words they have said about me.”

After the presentation Mr. Lightbody stated that he was aware that Bahamian civics was not in the school’s curriculum but “we have been discussing with a publishing company in England to get books on the history and geography of The Bahamas, just for the Bahamas. Mr. Fawkes’ publication comes at a very convenient time,” the Director said.

Copies of “The Bahamas Government” can be purchased at local book stores or from Mr. Fawkes. It is a revised version of a book called “You Should Know Your Government” which was written by Mr. Fawkes ten years ago.

The book covers a study in citizenship and is illustrated with photographs, diagrams and black and white drawings.