

## Theophilus Marryshow and the Integration Movement



*Theophilus Marryshow*

- He is nicknamed the Father of Federation
- In 1915 he established a newspaper called West Indian
- He was devoted to the cause of self government and creating a Federation of the British West Indies. The newspaper helped to garner public support for both causes.
- He was lead speaker for the Federation
- He devoted his life to the cause of West Indian unity.
- In 1922 the British Under Secretary of State for the colonies visited Grenada as part of a one year tour through the West Indies to inquire into the feasibility of an Association of the Windward Islands and of the introduction of a Legislative Council that was partially elected. This became known as the Woods Inquiry. Marryshow presented proposals for constitutional reforms.
- He was one of the first five elected members in charge of the new Grenadian government.
- In 1932, a conference was held in Dominica to consider West Indian Federation and self government. He was part of that conference

- In 1932 also, he was part of a two man delegation to Britain to put forward proposals for a greater say in the government of the islands. Though the meeting did not achieve its objectives Marryshow continued to press the issue.
- He viewed Federation as the destiny of the West Indies.
- He saw Federation as a step to self government.
- In 1939 another conference was held in St. Lucia. Resolutions passed called for closer union of the West Indies, uniformity of the Civil Service, sharing of specialists, joint certification of teachers, exchange of public officers and unification of judiciary and police among others. Marryshow was a part of that meeting.
- He was one of Grenada's three representatives to a conference on closer union in 1947 in St. Kitts.
- He served as one of Grenada's two senators in the Federal House of Representatives