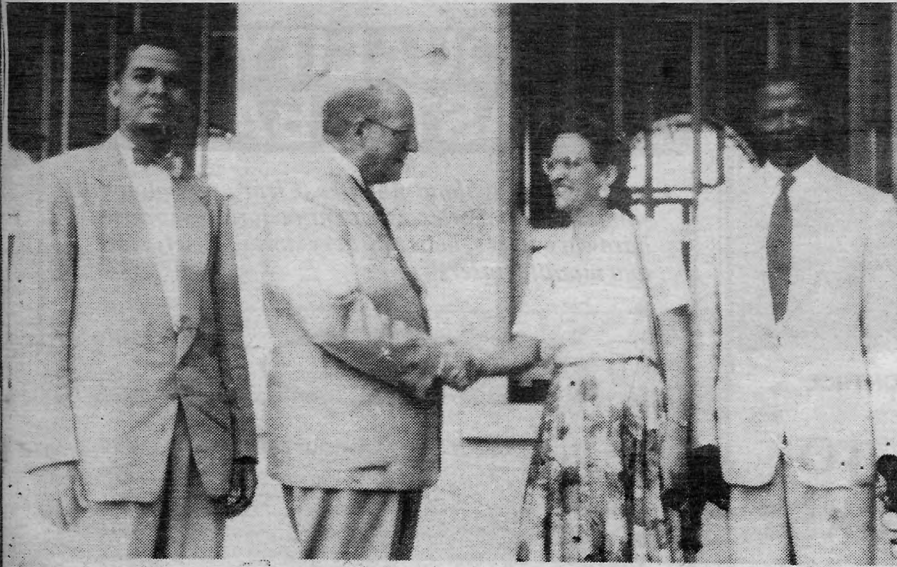


A Moment in History



The Famous Treason Trial

One of the most famous treason trials in the Caribbean took place in Guyana in the 1950s. Two members of the People's Progressive Party, Nasrudeen and Fred Bowman, both prominent and popular members were charged by the British government with treason, for remarks made at public meetings.

One of the great British lawyers, D.N. Pritt, Q.C., came to the then British Guiana to defend the two political activists. Mr. Pritt was known internationally for his renowned defence of political prisoners, including the late Jomo Kenyatta who later became President of Kenya.

He came to Guiana, represented Nasrudeen and Bowman, won the case in what was considered a brilliant and masterly defence and secured their freedom. The trial took place after the suspension of the constitution.

There was jubilation at this victory. Mr. Pritt was feted all over Georgetown and became a popular figure before he departed for his homeland.

Photo shows Mr. Pritt shaking hands with PPP General Secretary, Janet Jagan, in front of the Victoria Law Courts. To the left is Nasrudeen from Skeldon and to right is Fred Bowman, who later became a Member of Parliament.