

DR J. W. S. HARDIE

Dr J. W. S. Hardie, educationist, died on March 9. He was 74.

As principal of Loughborough College of Education from 1964 to 1973, he played a major role in its successful amalgamation with Loughborough University of Technology, from which he received an honorary doctorate.

From 1947 to 1959 he was headmaster of Canford School, Dorset.

John William Somerville Hardie was born on August 21, 1912, the son of W. G. Hardie, subsequently Archbishop of the West Indies.

He was educated at St Lawrence, Ramsgate, and at Trinity College, Cambridge.

He played hockey for Cambridge from 1931 to 1933 (captain 1933) and for Wales from 1931 to 1939 (captain 1933-39).

During the vacations he worked in boys' clubs in London's East End and in South Wales, experiences which gave him a life-long concern for the under-privileged.

After teaching jobs at home Hardie went to the West Indies as headmaster of Cornwall College, Montego Bay, in 1939. He was subsequently headmaster of Jamaica College, Kingston from 1943 to 1946.

Their facilities were rudimentary in those days, and, in each place his first task was to get his pupils to hack down the surrounding vegetation with machetes, to create for themselves recreation and exercise space.

He took part in a number of ventures related to overseas development and education. He was called in as a consultant in the early days of Voluntary Service Overseas, and he was also head of information and research, the Centre for Educational Television Overseas, Nuffield Lodge.

Hardie was a brilliant administrator who could handle groups of people and get results.

He married, in 1938, Evelyn Chrystal (Bay) Adkins who survives him with their two daughters and a son.