

have arrested a
at Robert Mugabe's
o supporters,

Since its inception in 1999,
the LDC, an educational insti-

by opening branches...
wide on grounds that the pro- erH reg.com

UNEB accused of passing failed students

BY PATIENCE AHIMBISIBWE

pahimbisibwe@ug.nationmedia.com

KAMPALA. Teachers have accused the Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb) of giving wrong marks to its candidates which qualifies them to join another level of education only to question their credibility after graduation.

The Uganda National Teachers Union (Unatu) general secretary, Mr James Tweheyo, said because Uneb is responsible for students who enrol in teacher training institutions after declaring them to have passed their respective national examinations at primary and secondary school levels, they should not turn against them after training that they lack the skills which the board examined them in.

"Uneb said they have teachers who are unable to read,

"Uneb said they have teachers who are unable to read, write and do numeracy. I laugh at Uneb. It is Uneb itself.... that qualified them to join teacher training colleges....."

JAMES TWEHEYO, UNATU
SECRETARY GENERAL

write and do numeracy. I laugh at Uneb. It is Uneb itself that gave credits and even in some cases, gave distinctions to these teachers at Primary Seven. The same Uneb gave good grades to Senior Four candidates, which qualified them to join teacher training colleges," Mr Tweheyo said in an interview on Tuesday.

He added: "Now the same Uneb comes back to say they are qualifying fake people? Isn't

Uneb fake then? If you qualify me three times and on the fourth time you say you didn't know you were qualifying something wrong, don't you think you have a deformity yourself?"

In September last year, Uneb released a report which showed that eight of every 10 primary teachers who completed primary teacher education in 2015 could hardly read, let alone do an arithmetic of a Primary Six level.

The survey indicated that only 18.8 per cent of the primary teachers' tutors could interpret graphs compared to their 5.7 per cent final year students subjected to the same task.

"These low results should be cause for worry because these students are now in the field teaching our children," Uneb executive secretary Daniel Odongo said at the release of the 2015 National Assessment of

Progress in Education assessment results.

Responding to the Unatu general secretary, Mr Odongo said the teaching fraternity should accept that they have challenges and find ways on how they can be assisted instead of disputing the facts.

Mr Odongo insisted that their findings last year about the teachers' abilities to count and read were authentic and should be a concern for every citizen.

"To accuse Uneb of falsifying marks is ridiculous. Uneb is not the one responsible for grades into PTCs. We highlighted the issues we found. Let Unatu go back and look at the grades admitted to PTCs, how they are being trained and the facilities available. It will be very good for them to focus on what they are facing so that they are helped," Mr Odongo told *Daily Monitor* yesterday.