Dr. Williams, Nettleford get Order of Merit

Paediatrician Dr. Cicely Williams and adult educator and creative artist Rex Nettleford have been awarded the Order of Merit in this year's Independence Honours.

Dr. Williams, who was born in Bethel Town in Westmoreland, has had a long career in child health, working in several parts of the world.

After studying in the United Kingdom, she worked in the Gold Coast (now Ghana) and in Malaya, where she was taken as a prisoner of war when the Japanese occupied Singapore.

Dr. Williams retired in 1948 from the Colonial Medical Service.

Since then she has worked with the World Health Organisation, the American University in Beirut, the Family Planning Association in London, and the UWI.

Many honours have been conferred on her, including the Doctor of Science degree by the UWI, and the Martha Elliot Award in Material and Child Health, the highest award from the American Public Health Association.

Dr. Williams has also been visiting professor to the UWI's Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.

Mr. Nettleford is the director of Extra Mural Studies and director of Studies at the UWI's Trade Union Education Institute.

He is the founder-director of the National Dance Theatre Company, and chairman of the Institute of Jamaica.

He has made several studies into Jamaica's cultural and social history, and in Government and Politics.

He is author of the book "Mirror, Mirror — Identity, Race and Protest in Jamaica" and editor of "Manley and the New Jamaica — Selected Speeches and Writings."

Mr. Nettleford has also served as a member of the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre founded by former Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson, and has received recognition for his work from the International Society for the History of Ideas.

He has made lecture tours to other parts of the Caribbean, and to North America and Europe. He has been invited by several United States Universities as a guest lecturer on the dance and black history.

Honours list on Page Two.

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