

B/N - BENNETT, Hazel

CITATION

Dr. Hazel Eloise Bennett

(SILVER)

Dr. Hazel Eloise Bennett is considered one of Jamaica's most distinguished librarians. As the Deputy Director of the fledgling Jamaica Library Service during the period 1957 - 67, she was actively involved in the planning and administration of the rapidly expanding island-wide public library service and schools library service. She also had a lasting influence on countless numbers of young librarians in Jamaica and the rest of the Caribbean during the period 1971 - 88 when she served as a Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer at the Department of Library Studies at the University of the West Indies..

However Hazel Bennett is more than a librarian, as she is also a scholar and author. She has written numerous professional articles and papers and her doctoral dissertation on the history of libraries in Jamaica is a seminal work in its field. She has been involved in audio-visual productions and along with Sir Philip Sherlock, co-authored the highly acclaimed **Story of the Jamaican People** published in Jamaica earlier this

year. This work tells the story of our history from our point of view and places a new perspective on the struggles and achievements of the Jamaican people since the start of our recorded history: a landmark in historical scholarship in Jamaica.

FOR OUTSTANDING MERIT IN THE FIELD OF LITERATURE: LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP, THE INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA IS PLEASED TO CONFER THE SILVER MUSGRAVE MEDAL ON HAZEL ELOISE BENNETT