

# OJ for 'Miss Amy', 'Miss May'

TWO outstanding Jamaican women, Miss Amy Beckford Bailey, O.D., M.B.E., and Miss May Farquharson, O.D., have been awarded the national honour of the Order of Jamaica, for outstanding service to the women's movement in Jamaica.

The honours were conferred on the pioneers by the Most Hon. Sir Florizel Glasspole, Governor General, yesterday, International Women's Day.

Miss Amy Bailey, now 94 years old, was originally a teacher who later branched out into social work. She has served as a Justice of the Peace, a farmer, high school instructor, director of an insurance company, was honorary treasurer of the Poetry League and has been a writer and a lecturer at international conferences.

Her work on behalf of women and children started in the 1920s and along with Miss May Farquhar-



MISS AMY BAILEY

son in 1938, she formed the Save-the-Children Fund. She is remembered for her fight for equality among the sexes and as championing the participation of women in public life.

Her efforts also helped to bring about better opportunities for black women in Jamaica. It was through her tenacity that the hiring of blacks in banks and the civil serv-



MISS MAY FARQUHARSON

ice was speeded up. Miss Bailey made contributions to family planning, housecraft and commercial training for young men and women. She turned her energies wherever she saw the need, her motto being: "Service is the rental one pays for one's existence."

Miss May Farquharson was Miss Bailey's partner in the fight for a better way of life for the people of

Jamaica, especially women, children and the disadvantaged. A Kingstonian, she also was a social worker, a co-founder, secretary and treasurer of the Jamaica Family Planning League and member of many social organizations. She served on the Rent Assessment Board, and was attached to the Nursing Staff Voluntary Nursing Aid Department in England. In Jamaica she helped to found the Save-the-Children Fund and was an advocate of old age pensions and old age insurance.

On February 8 this year, Sistren Theatre Collective, a feminist theatre group, launched a new video movie in honour of these two women. "Miss Amy and Miss May," as the video is called, is based on the contribution made to the Women's Movement by the two pioneer Jamaican feminists. Miss Farquharson attended the function but Miss Bailey was prevented from attending by illness.