MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR ELIZABETH JONES LEE

Elizabeth Lee, Associate Professor Emerita and head cataloger at the UWM Library, died January 31, 1986 at the age of 85. She is survived by two stepchildren, Dr. Howard J. Lee, Milwaukee, and Mrs. Dorothy Russell, Florida.

Mrs. Lee served the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and its predecessor institutions: Wisconsin State College, Milwaukee; Milwaukee State Teachers College; and Milwaukee Normal School, from 1923 to 1969.

During these forty-six years she witnessed a phenomenal period of growth, and she was an active participant in many of the changes that took place. She saw student enrollment increase from 1,420 undergraduates to 16,500, of whom 20% were graduate students. Faculty and staff members grew from 108 in 1923 to 968 in 1969. Professor Lee began her work as a librarian as the only cataloger in a library staff of five; she was one of a staff of fifty-eight when she retired. In this period library collections grew from 32,955 books to more than 650,000 bibliographic items.

Elizabeth Lee had the unique experience of participating in three changes of library classification systems: Cutter, Dewey, and Library of Congress. She also taught classes in cataloging. She was a strong leader and was responsible for effective team effort in the complex reclassification projects. In spite of many pressures, including those associated with the merger in 1956, she maintained her sense of humor. She had a well-deserved reputation as a sympathetic person who always had time to listen to the problems of her colleagues. All those who worked with her were aware of her
concern for and interest in her fellow workers, and she strongly identified with student and faculty users of the library.

Elizabeth Jones Lee was born in New Lisbon, Wisconsin, May 11, 1900. She received her bachelor's degree from Milwaukee State Teachers College in 1946 and her master's in Education from Wisconsin State College, Milwaukee in 1955. Prior to joining the staff at the university she was a high school librarian at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin. She was active in both community and professional organizations and served as a board member of the YWCA and Kenwood Methodist Church and as a member of the Wisconsin Library Association, the American Library Association, and Special Libraries Association.

After her retirement in 1969 she served as secretary-treasurer of the Retired Faculty Association from 1970-77. She donated her entire personal library collection to the university library.

Memorial Resolution Committee
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