MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR CARRIE B. EDMONDSON

Carrie B. Edmondson, a teacher in the elementary education program of the Milwaukee State Normal School and its successor institutions, died on October 20, 1969, at the age of eighty-eight.

Miss Edmondson, the daughter of a Methodist minister, was born in Pueblo, Colorado on January 30, 1881, graduated from high school in Atkinson, Illinois, in 1898, attended Northern Illinois State Normal School where she received a diploma in 1905, and received her bachelor's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1923.

She taught in an Illinois rural school for two years, was a supervising teacher at Northern Illinois State Normal School for 14 years, taught in a private school in New York City for two years, was a supervising teacher at Upsilanti, Michigan, State Teachers College for a year, and a supervisor of elementary education at the Glassboro, New Jersey, State Normal School before coming to Milwaukee in 1927. Her first work at Milwaukee was teaching the fifth grade in the Training School (now called the Campus Elementary School). After a few years in this position, she became a supervisor of student teaching in the elementary education program, and shortly after that, a group leader in the Integrated Course in Elementary Education. In 1948 she became Assistant Director of the Elementary Division in charge of Upper Elementary Education.

Miss Edmondson took an active part in various professional organizations such as the American Federation of Teachers and the Association of State Teachers College Faculties. Her colleagues showed their faith in her ability and respect for her judgment by electing her president of the Association for the 1944-46 term. In this position she was the chief officer of the Association's Executive Committee, which transacted most of the Association's business.

While Miss Edmondson's vocation was elementary education, she was a woman of broad humanitarian interests. She was extremely well informed on current problems. She took an active part in civic affairs, especially after retirement from teaching. She was an active member of the Democratic party. She became president of the Milwaukee chapter of the United Nations Association and later was made Honorary President of the chapter. She participated in many of the peace activities of the 50's and 60's.

Miss Edmondson's penetrating intelligence and scholarship was evident both in the field of education and of current local, national, and world affairs. The following excerpts from statements of some of her former students testify to the high esteem in which she was held as a teacher who wanted her students to be both good teachers and involved citizens.

"She guided our practice teaching group with great skill and helped us develop and mature in all aspects of life." John Tierney, Associate Professor of Physical Education, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

(Miss Edmondson) "brought to the classroom a keen interest in her subject, a unique skill in presentation, and a warm and concerned manner. Her lively interest in current affairs was an added dimension." Dr. Robert Ritsenthaler, Curator of Anthropology, Milwaukee Public Museum.
"Carrie B. Edmondson was a person of keen intellect who kept her student teachers on their toes... We were made to feel our future students would certainly be short-changed by teachers who were not concerned with the political and social problems of our day." Mrs. Helen Angel Hammersmith, former teacher, present housewife and mother.

"Miss Edmondson was one of a dozen people in my life who truly mattered. Miss Edmondson never confined her teaching to education--although she had her convictions in that area of study and made them clear to her students. Miss Edmondson was above all a person intensely concerned with the world around her, always reacting to her times with a remarkably consistent liberalism and humaneness." Dr. Norman A. Graebner, Stettinius Professor of American History, University of Virginia.

Miss Edmondson also had a great sense of personal responsibility. For many years she contributed generously to the support of a semi-invalid sister, and took care to provide for the sister's declining years, in case she, who was older than her sister, should die first.

Thus Miss Edmondson's life could be said to be characterized by devotion to her family, devotion to the improvement of education, and devotion to world betterment. In all three of these areas, she was a most stimulating and beneficial influence on her many students, colleagues, and friends.

Neal Billings
Bernice Blakely
John P. Tierney