

Alice B. Good, 1892-1961

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ON the 15th day of March, 1962, at the age of 69 years, Mrs. Alice B. Good died in Phoenix, Arizona. In a resolution introduced by the entire senate membership of the 25th legislature, then in session, was this eulogy:

"Mrs. Good, a charming and gracious lady, achieved distinction for her dedication in serving the State of Arizona. During her twenty-eight years of service on the staff of the Department of Library and Archives, she assisted and counseled thousands of persons who came to the library with their problems. This assistance she gave cheerfully and willingly. Mrs. Good made no distinctions between people and at all times shared her knowledge with all persons regardless of their position or status. She was glad to be of assistance whether it was to a student, a citizen, an employee, a Legislator or the Governor.

"Alice B. Good was born in Coffman County, Texas. She was educated at the Jefferson Military College in Mississippi and at Tulane University. After graduation she taught school at New Orleans, Louisiana, and she moved to Globe, Arizona, in 1918. In Globe she was employed as the Librarian and Vice-principal of Globe High School.

"In 1933, Mrs. Good joined the staff of the State Department of Library and Archives. In November, 1956, she was appointed as the Director, after the death of the Honorable Mulford Winsor, who had been the Director for a quarter of a century.

"The accomplishments of Mrs. Good were important to the progress of the State and her distinctions were many. The Library which she directed attained the reputation of being one of the best in the Nation.

"Mrs. Good was directly responsible for the promotion of the Library Extension and Bookmobile Service in Arizona. The Bookmobile Service was begun in 1957 and the Bookmobile route is reported to be the longest in the world. As a result of this service, books are available to persons in every part of the State, regardless of the location of the community. This important contribution

stands as a memorial to her dedication as a public servant of the State.

"The University of Arizona recognized her fidelity to the people of the State and therefore in 1960 she was awarded the University of Arizona Medallion of Merit for her service to the State.

"The Governor, in accepting her resignation as Director of the Department of Library and Archives, in July, 1961, stated: 'Few people have served the State with more devotion, or more effectively.' "

The arranging, classifying, and microfilming of State departmental records was begun in 1956 under Mrs. Good's guidance. County officers were assisted in making surveys of their records and in making plans for microfilming records or for permanent preservation of original records of historic value in the Department of Library and Archives. The Board of History and Archives was set up to pass on requests for disposition of records from city, county, and State agencies. This has brought about a control over and regulation of records preservation, microfilming, and the destruction of noncurrent records that have no further value for administrative or historical purposes.

As mentioned above, Mrs. Good was responsible for the inauguration of the Bookmobile Service, which sends trucks loaded with books to more than 150 small Arizona communities with populations of less than 10,000. She visited most of these towns and hamlets along the highways and byways of Arizona's vast area, singing the praises of the "Libraries on Wheels." Through her untiring efforts many towns had library service for the first time, and some of these towns now have their own libraries.

Mrs. Good was a faithful member of the Arizona State Library Association and had served on the association's executive board for a number of years. She was a member of the Society of American Archivists.

Those working with her and around her knew well that she would pursue a problem or query until an answer was found, if an answer was at all available. Arizona has lost not only a valued and beloved public servant but one of the most thorough students and competent authorities on Arizona history.