

Katharine Wyckoff Harris

October 30, 1899 — October 20, 1954

Katharine Wyckoff Harris, Professor and Head of the Department of Institution Management in the New York State College of Home Economics at Cornell University, died unexpectedly on October 20 at the age of 54. She had been ill at intervals for two years but was active in the department until the day before she died. She had been a member of the Faculty of the University for 27 years.

Miss Harris was born in Hackensack, New Jersey, where she received her elementary and secondary education. She entered Cornell as a student in the fall of 1918 and was graduated from the College of Home Economics in 1922. Miss Harris was a dietetic intern at Presbyterian Hospital, New York City; then head dietitian at Harling Loving Hospital, Ohio State University, for nearly four years. In 1926 she returned to Cornell as an instructor and in 1927 was made acting head of the Department of Institution Management and manager of the Home Economics Cafeteria. In 1933 she was appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Institution Management. She did graduate work at the University of Chicago, and at Teachers College, Columbia University, where she received the Master of Arts degree.

Miss Harris was known throughout the country for her part in developing work in institution management at the university level. She started an extension program in Institution Management which was the only one of its kind for many years. She was also a pioneer in the introduction of a research program in this field. She was closely associated with Professor H. B. Meek during the development of the Cornell School of Hotel Administration when it was a department in the College of Home Economics. She was coauthor of many articles and reviews in various areas of quantity food preparation and in institution organization and administration. Two of these which have been outstanding contributions in the field are: "Emergency Mass Feeding" and "Meals for Many" which has been condensed and edited as "Quantity Recipes."

Miss Harris was an active member of the American and New York State Dietetic Association, Home Economics Association, School Food Service Association, Regents School Lunch Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Standards and Grades of the Poultry Marketing Administration, U.S.D.A. She served as technical adviser for the American Red Cross on the revision of Canteen courses and preparation of supplementary teaching materials. She was appointed to represent the New York State College of Home Economics on the State University

of New York's Provisional Council and was a member of the first Faculty Senate of the State University. She was a member of Omicron Nu, Phi Kappa Phi, and Sigma Delta Epsilon.

In addition to her work in State and National organizations, Miss Harris always found time to serve her community. She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church. She worked with the Red Cross and served as an adviser on the local Civil Defense Committee. Miss Harris also served on the Board of Directors of Tompkins County Memorial Hospital and on the first Board of Directors of the Statler Faculty Club. She was an active alumna of her sorority and was Faculty Adviser for the Fraternities Cooperative.

Miss Harris's greatest contribution to the University and to her profession was made through her influence on the many students and members of the staff with whom she worked. She inspired her staff and students to strive for superior standards of personal and professional conduct. People looked to her for quiet, thoughtful and intelligent advice. Her friends were legion. In their hearts, in the hearts of her students and staff, her memory will live forever.

A. M. Burgoin, H. B. Meek, Grace Steininger