

# Alice M. Burgoin

*August 29, 1902 — December 8, 1971*

Alice M. Burgoin, professor of institution management, emeritus, was born in Silver City, Iowa. She received her B.S. degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University and her M.S. degree from Iowa State College. She pursued additional study in the United States and in England. Prior to her appointment in the Department of Institution Management, New York State College of Home Economics (now the College of Human Ecology), at Cornell University, she held positions in secondary schools and colleges in Iowa and Wisconsin.

Professor Burgoin came to Cornell in 1932 as an instructor and subsequently held appointments as assistant and associate professor. Following a leave of absence she was reappointed in 1951 as associate professor. From 1953 to 1955 she served as acting head of the Department and was promoted to full professor in 1962. She retired in 1964 as professor emeritus, having served on the faculty for a period of twenty-eight years.

Miss Burgoin's major responsibility during her tenure at Cornell was teaching undergraduate students in the College of Home Economics and in the School of Hotel Administration, and graduate students majoring in institution management. Together with the late Professor Katharine W. Harris, Miss Burgoin was responsible in 1933 for opening, and subsequently for directing, the Martha Van Rensselaer cafeteria, which for many years served as a student laboratory. Her area of specialization was quantity food preparation and service, and she contributed to publications in this field. In response to the needs of the National School Lunch program, she developed a graduate course in school lunch management and directed graduate studies in the area. Her vision in recognizing the need for training in this field, her pioneering efforts, and her competence led to her appointment on the New York State Board of Regents Advisory Committee on School Lunch.

Professor Burgoin was an adviser to the Executive Board of the New York State School Food Service Association and a member of the advisory committee for the Food Service Administration program at the New York State Agricultural and Technical College at Morrisville. She was also chairman of the college section of the American School Food Service Association.

Professor Burgoin gave unselfishly to many related groups, professional associations, and committees. In addition to her membership in the American School Food Service Association, she held membership in the American Home Economics Association, the National Restaurant Association, the New York State School Food Service Association, and the Cayuga Dietetic Association. She was a faculty member on the Cornell Board of Directors for

the Interfraternity Cooperative Association, and in this capacity she advised fraternities regarding the selection and purchasing of foods. She also served on several College and University committees.

Professor Burgoin was highly recognized as an outstanding teacher as well as an academic administrator. While she expected high standards of students, they held her in high esteem — she was affectionately known as “General Burgoin” by her students in Hotel Administration. She kept in touch with many of her former students, several of whose professional careers have been recognized nationally and internationally.

Miss Burgoin enjoyed a wide circle of friends, which included university and other professional colleagues, students, employees, and many persons beyond the university community. She instinctively sensed the needs of others and generously and cheerfully responded to these needs. In her retirement she was an active member of the Tompkins County Hospital Auxiliary. She participated in the Head Start program at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church and served on many church committees. Her many interests included gardening, entertaining, and travel. In her travels she frequently contacted former students.

Professor Burgoin came from a closely knit family. She maintained strong ties with her brother and three sisters in the United States and with her relatives in England.

Miss Burgoin was carrying on her usual schedule of activities and was making plans for the future, including travel, at the time of her illness. Her many friends and acquaintances were greatly shocked by her sudden death and they extend their deepest sympathy to her family.

*Catherine J. Personius, Kathryn O. Visnyei, Mary Bloetjes*