

Frances Ewing McFadden

March 21, 1922 — March 18, 1969

Frances Ewing McFadden was born in Delaware, Ohio, and grew up there as one of three children of Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Ewing, of whom a brother and sister survive. Mrs. McFadden died at Tompkins County Memorial Hospital at Ithaca, New York, following a prolonged illness.

Mrs. McFadden received her B.A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1944. She spent several summers studying at Ohio State University and Bluffton College while teaching vocational home economics at various high schools in Ohio, the last being at Port Clinton where she also served as chairman of her department.

In September 1960 Frances McFadden began graduate study at Cornell University, earning her Master's degree in textiles and clothing in 1961. She was immediately appointed assistant professor of textiles and clothing in the Cooperative Extension program at Cornell, assuming the position in September of that year. She was promoted to associate professor in 1966, continuing in that position until her death.

Honorary and professional associations to which Frances McFadden belonged included: Omnicron Nu, the American Home Economics Association, the New York Home Economics Association, Cornell Extension Club, Ohio Vocational Association, and the National Education Association.

Frances McFadden won state and national acclaim for a program "The Voice of Clothing" which she designed; for this program she received the Award of Merit from Lambda Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi in recognition of her achievement in advancing the work of Cooperative Extension. Another interesting program she developed was titled "Clothing and Women's Role from 1840 to the 1960s." During the time she was a member of the Cornell faculty she was also the author or coauthor of many other Extension publications; they covered a wide range of topics in textiles, performance of textile products, selection and construction of clothing, and the sociopsychological aspects of clothing. She will be remembered by many people throughout New York State for these and other highly stimulating programs she presented in order to assist consumers in solving their textiles and clothing problems. Mrs. McFadden was very much interested in the costume collection of the Department of Textiles and Clothing as an educational resource and shortly before her death gave a number of items of value to the College for the collection.

Frances McFadden was a warm, understanding, creative, and very attractive person, much liked by all who knew her. She was dedicated, conscientious, and thorough; even in the final months of her illness her work was ever uppermost in her mind—she continued to work at home as long as she was able after she became too ill to go to the office any longer. To those who witnessed her indomitable spirit during the long period of illness, she was a model of courage and devotion to her profession. She will long be fondly remembered by her many friends and acquaintances.

Jean Mclean, Elsie McMurry, Evelyn Stout