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FERRIS INSTITUTE NEWS LETTER

from President Byron J. Brophy

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MARY ROOD WARD

We mark with deep sorrow the passing, on December 25, of Mrs. Mary Rood Ward, Dean of Women at Ferris Institute.

A member of the faculty since 1931 and Dean of Women since 1934, Mrs. Ward was loved and respected by the thousands of students who came under her instruction and guidance, and by her many associates on the faculty through the years.

Mary Rood was born at North Adams, Michigan, on September 5, 1876, the daughter of Frank and Cynthia Rood. Her elementary and secondary education was obtained in the public schools of Michigan. Her college education was obtained at Albion College, the University of Minnesota, the University of Chicago, Western Michigan College, Columbia University, and the University of Michigan.

She started her teaching career in a rural school in Osceola County in 1894, when she was only 18 years of age. Most of the subsequent years of her life were devoted to the teaching and guidance of young people in grade school, high school, and college.

In 1925 she was united in marriage with Frank M. Ward, of Big Rapids, who preceded her in death by 20 years.

Mrs. Ward was an active member of the Business and Professional Women's Club, the A.A.U.W., and the Big Rapids Women's Club. For many years she was a member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Big Rapids. Funeral services were held at St. Andrew's on Thursday, December 27, at 2 p.m., with interment at Highland View Cemetery.

Mrs. Ward set high standards for herself and expected the same of her associates and of the young men and women who came under her tutelage. She had a firm will which was balanced by a refreshing sense of humor and a deep understanding of the problems of other people. Truly it has been said that "Great lives do not go out -- they go on." Thus the impact of her life on ours will be an enduring thing that time can never erase.