

Who's Who In Wisconsin Rapids

The Who's Who column will be run each Saturday in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune. It will include a brief sketch of the life of citizens who have helped make history for Wisconsin Rapids.

Miss Ruth Bennett



RUTH CARRIE BENNETT

Miss Ruth Carrie Bennett, County Superintendent of Schools of Wood county, who holds the distinction of being the first woman in the county elected to a county office, is fully proving her ability, successfully serving what has always been considered a "full sized man's job." Miss Bennett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Bennett, was born on the Bennett Cranberry marsh, in the town of Port Edwards, or Cranmoor, June 2, 1892.

Studied in County Schools

Her early education was received in the country school near her home. She later attended the Lincoln High School of this city, where she was graduated under the late H. S. Youker with the class of 1908.

After graduating here, Miss Bennett attended the State Normal at Stevens Point for two years.

Taught at Granton

Her first experience as a teacher was in the state graded school at Granton where she taught for two years. The greater part of the year 1913 Miss Bennett spent with a party of friends in a cottage at Biloxi, Miss. The two years following her return, she was a teacher in the grammar room in the village school at Mosinee.

During the next year Miss Bennett remained at her home in Cranmoor.

Principal at Boaz

In 1918 she was engaged as principal in the state graded school at Boaz, but before the termination of the school year, she was transferred to Biron to fill the principalship of the school in that village, which was made vacant by the former principal, Martin Zellmer who had been drafted into service in the late war. Miss Bennett was engaged to fill the same position at the Biron school the following year.

The next two years found her as principal of the state graded school at Rudolph. During the summers of 1918-19-20 she attended the summer sessions of the state university at Madison. Previous to the spring election of 1921, Miss Bennett was urged to become a candidate for county superintendent of schools for this county.

Received Large Majority

She was elected by a big majority over her opponent Robert Morris who had served the office for eleven years previous. Miss Bennett's duties involve much hard work which she skillfully masters. During the major part of her term she may be found in her office at the Wood County Normal School. The second Saturday of each month she is at work in Marshfield where she has an office at the Mansion House.

Unusually Qualified

With her educational knowledge and her experience as a teacher, Miss Bennett is unusually qualified to perform the duties her office demands. She is assisted in her work by two school supervisors, Miss Ella Hessler of Vesper and Miss Clara Farrell of Milladore, who were recommended by the Educational Committee of the County Board of Supervisors, and the work under these three capable women, with Miss Bennett at the head, is being carried on in a thoroughly systematic and successful manner. She has deservedly gained the reputation of being one of the best superintendents ever had in Wood county.

Fine Christian Woman

She is a firm believer in the Christian faith, although not belonging to any creed. She was among the first women to cast her vote at the last election and believes woman suffrage to be the key to solve the problem by which means the ballot will be uplifted and strengthened.

Miss Bennett is a member of Rainbow Chapter No. 87 Order of Eastern Star of Wisconsin Rapids. She is not a member of any club either literary or social, her work demanding almost her entire time and attention.

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