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MISS DOROTHY BRACKETT

MEMBERS of the Institute who remember its early years, and especially our research fellows, will hear with sorrow of the death on 20 September 1953 of Dorothy Brackett, its first Secretary. From 1926 to 1940, when a breakdown in health forced her to relinquish her post, she devoted herself unstintingly to the Institute, and to her energy, enthusiasm, and conscientious labour were due in large measure the development of its activities and the high reputation it achieved. The first research programme, and the earliest series of publications, were carried out under her meticulous and capable supervision. In collaboration with Margaret Wrong she was responsible for the valuable work on textbooks for African schools which gained for the Institute the favourable notice of educationists and administrators at a time when government responsibility for education in Colonial territories was first being discussed. She acted as Assistant Editor of this journal from 1929 till its publication was suspended in 1940.

After her retirement Miss Brackett continued for some time to advise and assist the Institute until her increasing ill health made this impossible. Her interest in the fortunes of the Institute, however, remained unimpaired and she always welcomed news of its activities. All who knew her will remember with admiration and affection her intellectual energy, her courage, and her vigorous personality, and will regret the illness which deprived the Institute of her invaluable services.

IN MEMORIAM: DOROTHY BRACKETT

Miss Brackett was the first Secretary of the Institute, and in collaboration with the Secretary General, Mr. (later Sir) Hanns Vischer, was an important factor in building up and directing the office; she was particularly well equipped for her task by her thorough knowledge of French and German and by her former position in connexion with the League of Nations. So it was easy for her to establish contacts in many parts of the world and help in making the Institute and its aims known in all circles interested in its work. She always emphasized and maintained the international character of the Institute. In her work she was full of energy and commanded great respect among her fellow workers. She loved her work in the Institute and was faithful in what had been committed to her. Those who have known her and have worked with her will always keep a grateful memory of her.

D. WESTERMANN