

## MAUDE RICE STUCKERT

(Aug. 9, 1881 - June 20, 1965)

Maude Esther Rice Stuckert was the daughter of Abbie and Harrison Rice. She graduated from George School in 1900. She received her A.B. degree from Swarthmore College in 1903, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She married William R. Stuckert on November 18, 1908 at Maude's home in Newtown with Evan T. Worthington and Willis Worstall as overseers. Helen Brown Buckman attended the wedding.

My memories of Maude go back many, many years. My aunt Mary Cooper, a dressmaker, would go to the Rice home to sew, probably in the spring and fall, staying there a week or two at a time. I remember my mother, Laura Cooper, saying that when Maude's mother was having a tea party or doing any entertaining, Maude was always willing to sing or play the piano to entertain the guests. Maude's sister Ludretta, who died when she was quite young, preferred to stay in the background and was happy when Maude did the entertaining. She taught First-day School for many, many years, first the young people's class and then later the adult class. At that time we were not promoted each year. Maude taught one class as many as six or eight years, commencing at the beginning of the Bible and continuing on through to the end. She taught us the things that she thought everyone should know, such as the names of the books in both the Old and New Testaments and where to locate them quickly if we were asked to read a particular verse. She said it was quite embarrassing to ask a person to read a verse and to see them fumble through the Bible, having no idea where to locate it. Each Sunday she would give us a Bible text to be memorized by the following Sunday. When her students graduated from Newtown High School, she gave them The American Standard Version - Teachers' Edition of the Holy Bible.

Maude loved working with young people. I often thought she was a dramatics teacher as well as a teacher of the Bible. It seemed as if we were always practicing for a play, and we did it gladly. She entertained the class quite often, sometimes giving a dinner party at her home. The tables would be set with care with beautiful linens, china, and silver. Games were always arranged. She and Mr. Stuckert would also take us on picnics. The one I remember most was a picnic at Ingham Springs near New Hope.

Maude was a great W.C.T.U. (Women's Christian Temperance Union) worker as well as an L.T.L. (Loyal Temperance Legion, a junior temperance group) teacher and leader. The sixth grade pupils went to her home every Wednesday afternoon after school for the L.T.L.

Maude showed a great interest in nature and was quite knowledgeable about birds, wild flowers, trees, shrubs, leaves, stones and rocks. I remember going to her home to try to identify some of the above. She was a member of the Bucks

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County Natural Science Association and was program chairman for many years.. She was also treasurer and secretary..

She was the first president of the League of Women Voters of Newtown and continued to be president for twenty years and then was the County League president for six years. She was also a school director for many years.

Maude was often asked to speak at Friends funerals or memorial services. She gave a very spiritual type of message, and it was evident that she had given it the greatest thought.

Maude was a perfectionist, and anything she attempted to do was always very well done. But she had a lighter side also. She enjoyed playing bridge and was quite witty..

Margaret Cooper McKenney  
Cousin of Maude E. R. Stuckert