

[Ritter, Carrie A.]

Carrie Ritter, Many Read Her Letters

Somehow it seemed appropriate to write it this way:

"Carrie A. Ritter—30."

Seldom anymore do newsmen used that overworked symbol to mark the passing of one of their number.

But it seems fit here to tell of the death last night of a woman who never worked on a newspaper but whose words were enjoyed by many thousands of our readers.

The sprightly little woman of 86 whose "letters to the editor" have appeared in the Utica newspapers for more than a quarter of a century, died in the Brown Nursing Home, Clinton Place. She had formerly lived at 1508 Kemble St.

Retired 16 years ago from a position as a bonding clerk with the State Department of Motor Vehicles, Miss Ritter continued to remain in the public eye with the crisp commentaries she wrote in her widely read letters.

All was grist to her mill. Subjects ranged from the feeling of birds to applied psychology and the problems of the aging. After each letter she usually received from 10 to 50 replies from readers.

Born in Syracuse, Aug. 14, 1873, she began the practice of writing letters to the editor when she was only 10. She was graduated from Syracuse High School, now Central High, in its first class and later continued advanced studies in English, German and psychology through tutors and mail courses.

She was later a clerk in the Western House of Refuge, Albion, now Albion State Training School, and later held Civil Service jobs in Rome State School and Long Lane Farm, Middleton, Conn. She began her service with the Motor Vehicle office here in 1924, retiring in 1943.

She was a member of the Church of the Reconciliation [Universalist] and active in many of its organizations for many years.

She had written articles for the Universalist Leader, the Psychological Clinic and the Journal of Education.

The funeral will be from the Fairchild & Meach Funeral Home, Syracuse.

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