

"DR. BLOUNT M.S.N.C. PROFESSOR PASSES AWAY
AFTER ILLNESS."

NORMAL COLLEGE NEWS

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Byron News Items

ALMA BLOUNT DIES

Miss Alma Blount died at Tempe, Arizona, Dec. 2. She was born at Byron Nov. 29, 1866. After graduating from Byron high school in 1882, she studied at Wheaton College. Upon her graduation there, she was retained for several years as a teacher of English. She later went to Cornell University, to extend her studies in English.

After receiving the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, English, she extended her studies of the persons of the Arthurian Legends at Harvard University and at the Sorbonne, Paris, where she had access to ancient manuscripts in old French and Gothic languages. Her extensive studies in this unusual field have not been published, but the manuscript was deposited in the archives of Harvard University library, where it is consulted by students of old literature.

Miss Blount resumed her teaching life and was for many years an instructor in English literature at the State Teachers College at Ypsilanti, Mich. She retired in 1935 and went to Arizona to live with a niece. Together they built a beautiful home in the outskirts of Phoenix, where they lived, until a slowly developing paralysis sent her to bed in a private nursing home.

She lay flat on her back for several years, reading and writing, knitting and sewing for her friends. She never complained. Her courage and cheerfulness were phenomenal and won the admiration of her many friends. Her last year was clouded by considerable pain. Death brought a welcome relief.

Byron Tribune, Byron, Illinois

MISS BLOUNT AIDS

LITERATURE STUDY

Normal College News

The unpublished and uncompleted "Onomasticon Arthurianum," dictionary of personal and place names in Medieval Arthurian romances, begun by Miss Alma Blount, professor of English, in 1898, has comparatively recently been deposited in a cabinet in the treasure room of the Widener Library, Harvard University, where it stands permanently at the disposal of qualified students and investigators. The work represented is stupendous. Miss Blount has made excerpts of personal and place names from some 200 works, composed in 10 languages, French, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Latin, low and high German, Middle English, Icelandic and Flemish. The Welsh was done from a French translation, the only one not done from the original. The collection, made on slips of paper 3 by 5 inches, is arranged in alphabetical order with proper names and cross references. Each tale is also given in short outline.

Dr. Blount is the author and co-author of a number of English texts and grammars. She has been on the faculty of the Michigan State Normal College since October, 1902.



Alma Blount
1907 Aurora Yearbook
Michigan State Normal College



Alma Blount
1914 Aurora Yearbook
Michigan State Normal College

Do you remember how, when the Daughters of the American Revolution held their last conclave in Washington, the townspeople had to send the police to quell the riot? Well, Miss Alma Blount belongs to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Dr. Alma Blount is a teacher in the English Department of our College; the State Board of Education has recently promoted her to the rank of full professor. Her doctor's degree she received from Cornell; she has been a student of philology and literature in the University of Paris.

Miss Blount is well known as the author of several text-books—an English grammar, lessons in composition for the grades, a series of studies in English literature for college classes, etc. She is interested in folklore and has partially completed a collection of English legends of the Arthurian cycle. Pending the completion of this latter work, the manuscript is deposited in the library of Harvard University. Anyone desiring more information may consult the Woman's Who's Who, where Miss Blount enjoys the distinction of three inches of fine print.

Those who have been so fortunate as to be in Miss Blount's classes will testify to her sympathy and her friendship for her students. All the members of the College wish her "the best of luck."



1920 Aurora Yearbook



1925 Aurora Yearbook

Alma Blount, Ph.D.
Professor of English
Michigan State Normal College, 1901-1935

B.S. & A.B., Wheaton College, 1890
Ph.D., Cornell University, 1896
Graduate Student, Cornell & Radcliffe
Research, British Museum & La Bibliotheque Nationale, France



1930 Aurora Yearbook



1935 Aurora Yearbook