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A TRIBUTE TO LOUISE FARRELL WINTERBOTTOM

STANLEY E. DADISMAN*

Simultaneously with the publication of this issue of the West Virginia Law Review, Louise Farrell Winterbottom severs her official connections with the College of Law of West Virginia University after a period of eminent services and accomplishments extending over a span of thirty-five years. She is not retiring, but is relinquishing her work here in order to be with her husband whose company has transferred him to an attractive position in Charleston, West Virginia, where they will reside.

Early in 1924 Mrs. Winterbottom, then Louise Farrell, was employed at the College of Law as secretary and proof-reader. Judge Joseph Warren Madden was then Dean. She later served as secretary to Dean Thurman Wesley Arnold and Dean Thomas Porter Hardman. While youthful in years at the time of her initial employment, she was yet most capable and competent, as will be attested by Benjamin G. Reeder, Esquire, of Morgantown, who was then Law Librarian and with whom she worked on publication of the *West Virginia Law Quarterly*. In Volume 34 of the *Law Quarterly*, published in the school year 1927-28, it will be noted that she was Editor-in-Charge of the publication. Since that time she has served in many capacities incident to production of the *Law Quarterly*, now the *Law Review*, and has in more recent years been Business Manager thereof. Also, in more recent years, she has been Law Librarian. We who have worked with Mrs. Winterbottom on the *Law Review* and in the Library can attest to her competence and superior abilities in these fields of work. Moreover, her attitudes of helpfulness and willingness to instruct and advise have been

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invaluable to the students, the faculty and the bar of the state generally. While Mrs. Winterbottom may not be a graduate in law, she must be recognized for her extensive, practical knowledge of where to find the law and how to compose and edit legal manuscripts. Hundreds of students have come to and gone from the College of Law in the thirty-five years since Louise Farrell first rode the Monongahela Railway train from her home at Nemacolin, Greene County, Pennsylvania, to her employment in Morgantown. When these former students return as alumni, she invariably will recognize each of them. Even though their presence may be unexpected and unannounced, she will be able to greet them by their full names. This rare combination of abilities, coupled with a devotion to duty and a fidelity to trust, has been of inestimable value to the College of Law and to West Virginia University.

It is noted that this expression of tribute began with the statements that Mrs. Winterbottom was severing her official connections and that she was not retiring. Her ties to the College of Law, even though unofficial and extended by distance, will continue. She will not retire—she will be determined to find, in the area of her new residence, opportunities for work and service in the broad reaches of the law and the legal profession. Our best tribute to her on this occasion and through this expression is that she will be greatly missed at the College of Law.