

THE MATHEMATICAL GAZETTE

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MARGARET PUNNETT, 1867-1946.

Honorary Secretary, 1912-1939.

MISS MARGARET PUNNETT's work as a trainer of teachers began with a short time at Saffron Walden Training College, followed by three years as Principal of the Cambridge Training College for Women, and in 1902 she became Vice-Principal of the London Day Training College (from 1932 the University of London Institute of Education), a post she held until retirement in 1933. As a faithful colleague and disciple of Sir Percy Nunn, she played a steady part in his great work at the London Day Training College. Her book, *The Groundwork of Arithmetic* (1914), was a sane and inspiring course for young children, of great benefit to the novice-teacher.

Miss Punnett joined our Association in 1910 and in 1912 was elected the first woman secretary of the Association, serving as joint secretary with the late Charles Pendlebury till his retirement (after fifty years' service) in 1936; on her own retirement from this office in 1939 she was elected a Vice-President. The services of a Secretary, so vital and yet so difficult to describe in detail, are seldom sufficiently appreciated by the ordinary member; Council members have more opportunity of estimating the debt the Association owes to its succession of Secretaries, and Miss Punnett's share in that debt is not small. We recall her imperturbable competence and her quiet kindness, the competence which was never ostentatious, the kindly manner which was never a cloak for weakness or indecision. Co-operating firmly on general policy with Pendlebury, she never failed to keep the Council reminded of its duties to women as well as to men teachers. We record here our deep gratitude for services so long continued and so faithfully rendered.
