

# Emma Elizabeth Scott



Mrs. Gilbert (Emma Elizabeth) Scott, Randolph County, was an outstanding instructor and volunteer leader whose activities and leadership spanned five decades and included two related, but somewhat separate, major activities. On the one hand, she provided leadership to a variety of family and church activities; on the other; she was an accomplished craftswomen who inspired a whole generation of West Virginians.

She was a charter member of the Crystal Springs Farm Women's Club, organized in 1922, and was an active member of the club for 43 years. From this beginning she became active in the county and state affairs of the organization and served as State President of the West Virginia Farm Women's Club in 1925-26. She helped establish the West Virginia Farm Women's Bureau and served on its Board of Directors. She also served as state chairperson of the Country Life Conference Council, and as President of the West Virginia Conference of the Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church.

On the other hand, her patience and skill made her an outstanding craftswoman with a great talent for transferring her skill to others. She taught weaving and glove making at Farm Women's Camps and 4-H Camps at Jackson's Mill, the State 4-H Camp, for many years. Her influence was especially felt during the depression days of the 1930's when she taught weaving and other crafts at the Resettlement Homes at Arthurdale and Crown. She helped establish the Home Industries Shop in Elkins and served as Chairman of its Board of Directors.

Another side of her many talents were with the cultivation of flowers. She won a national award in a Christmas Flower Contest published in POPULAR GARDENING in 1959. Her garden was described in BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS; she participated in a Rural Forum on "Building Rural Communities" at Perdue University, and was made an Honorary Tar Heel of North Carolina by Governor W. Kerr Scott. She made several national radio broadcasts on organized home industries and exhibited crafts at a National Rural Art Exhibition in Washington, D.C., in the early 1930's. In 1974, the Randolph County Garden Club was renamed the Emma Scott Garden Club.

Mrs. Scott has been described as a person with high personal standards, distinguished, intelligent, confident, kind, generous, talented, and a leader. It is to her credit that she shared her talent and leadership with others.