Entry type: Person
Entry ID: IMP0254

Marshall, Dorothy May

(1902 - 1961)

Born	19020515, Adelaide South Australia Australia
Died	19610712, Henley Beach South Australia Australia
Occupation	Teacher, Welfare worker

Summary

During World War II Dorothy Marshall was appointed by the Commonwealth government as South Australian superintendent of the Australian Women's Land Army. Previously a schoolteacher she assisted with the School Patriotic Fund of South Australia and was foundation secretary of the Women's War Service. Following the war Marshall became a camp welfare officer with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). Following the dissolution of the UNRRA she joined the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) as a welfare officer in the British zone of Germany. For her services to child welfare, Marshall was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire on 5 June 1952. Following her return to Adelaide she was appointed to the Department of Agriculture and initiated a bi-monthly bulletin *WAB News.*

Details

Dorothy May Marshall, the daughter of Charles Henry and Helen Cameron (née Grant) Marshall, attended Adelaide High School and then Adelaide University. She joined the South Australian Education Department and taught at Gawler (1923-1924) and Woodville (1924-1934) primary schools. In 1935 she participated in an exchange position program and taught at Bishop Goodwin Girls' and Margaret Sewell Central schools Carlisle, England. Upon her return to Adelaide she taught at Croydon Central School (girls' department).
In 1940 Dorothy Marshall was elected to the advisory council of the South Australian Women Teachers' Guild and the next year she was appointed adviser for vocational training to the Education Department. Later she assisted Adelaide Miethke with the Schools Patriotic Fund of South Australia and then joined the Department of Labour and National Service (on loan) where she became foundation secretary of the Women's War Service Council.

In July 1942 the Commonwealth government appointed her state superintendent of the Australian Women's Land Army. In this position she controlled major policy implementation, selected and managed headquarters staff, appointed field staff and supervised women volunteers on the land.

Dorothy Marshall joined the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) as a camp welfare officer helping displaced persons in the British zone in Germany in 1945. By June 1946 she was director-general and took charge of every camp in the zone.

After the UNRRA was dissolved in 1947, she joined the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) becoming child welfare officer and later chief of the child welfare division. On 5 June 1952 Dorothy Marshall was appointed to the Order of the British Empire – Member (Civil) for her services to child welfare. Upon completion of the IRO operations in the British zone she returned to Adelaide and was appointed to the Department of Agriculture as an organiser of the Women's Agricultural Bureau by the South Australia government.

Published resources

Edited Book
Who's Who in Australia 1950, Alexander, Joseph A, 1950

Resource Section
Marshall, Dorothy May (1902-1961), Jones, Helen, 2006,
http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A150366b.htm

Site Exhibition
Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,
http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

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