

Commercial Review, The (Portland, IN) - Wednesday, March 3, 2004

Dorothy H. Warner: CR columnist Warner dies at 83

Dorothy H. Warner, who delighted readers of her weekly newspaper column with reminiscences of times past and reflections on growing older, died Monday at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne. She was 83.

A school teacher before her retirement in 1992, she began writing letters to the editor of The Commercial Review, sharing stories of life in Jay County in the first half of the 20th century. Those stories evolved into an intermittently published column, "At Random," in the mid-1990s, which became a weekly feature in 1998.

Born in Portland on March 11, 1920, she was the daughter of Vernon and Grace (Glasgow) Bibler. She graduated from Portland High School in 1937, attended Hanover College for one year, and received her bachelor's degree in education from Purdue University in 1942.

She was married in 1941 to John Warner, who survives.

Mrs. Warner taught at Noble School, east of Portland, and at Redkey Elementary School. She later taught at General Shanks Elementary School for 30 years. She received her master's degree from Ball State University in 1961.

A resident of 420 N. Charles St., Portland, she had been a highly knowledgeable antique dealer. She was a member of the Jay County Hospital Auxiliary and had managed a charitable retail clothing store in Portland at one time.

Mrs. Warner was a member of First Presbyterian Church, where she served as treasurer and served on many church boards.

Surviving in addition to her husband are two daughters, Mrs. Tim (Janice) Whaley, Zanesfield, Ohio, and Joann Lusk, Labelle, Fla.; two brothers, Howard Bibler, Indianapolis, and Richard Bibler, Milwaukee, Wis.; a sister, Beverly Smith, Marshall, Mich.; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted at a later date. Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church, Portland. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Baird-Freeman Funeral Home in Portland.

Contributed by Jane Edson