

Miss Maude M. Wells, a retired secretary to five Ball State University presidents, died Thursday at the Indiana Baptist Home, Zionsville, where she had lived for the past six years. Appointed secretary by Dr. Benjamin Burris when he became Ball State president in 1924, she served under Dr. Linneus Hines, Dr. Lemuel Pittenger, Dr. W. J. Waggoner and Dr. John R. Emens until her retirement in 1945. After retirement, she worked for a year as director of the Alumni Association. She continued to live near the campus for the next 14 years, residing at the Huffer Apartments and on North Martin Street before moving to Zionsville.

Miss Wells, who was born on Dec. 6, 1876, had been the personal secretary to James Whitcomb Riley at the authors's home on Lockerbie Street in Indianapolis until his death in 1916. She was a member of the High Street Methodist Church and a charter member of the BPW Club. Her only survivors are two nieces and a nephew, Mrs. Dorothy Jeffords and Mrs. Joseph A. Pole, both of Atlanta, Ga., and E. Paul Sutton, Winterhaven, Fla. Friends may call at Meeks Mortuary from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday. Services will be there at 10 a.m. Saturday with Dr. E. Ernest Kaufman officiating. Burial will be in Green Park Cemetery, Portland.

**Contributed by DSON1492 - no source listed**