



EULALIA BELLE ALGER

Eulalia Belle Alger

In Memoriam

The California Avocado Society and the avocado industry have lost a good friend and efficient worker in the untimely passing of Miss Eulalia Belle Alger at her home in Berkeley, California, November 15.

Miss Alger was best known to the avocado industry for her work as Home Demonstration Agent for San Diego County. She was the first Home Demonstration Agent to do organized work with the avocado. Miss Alger was a trained nutritionist, having done post-graduate work on nutrition at the University of Chicago and serving as Nutrition Specialist on the Extension staff at the State College at Pullman, Washington, before coming to California in 1930.

Upon being assigned to San Diego County Miss Alger immediately became interested in the avocado, recognizing not only its great food value and the place it would fit into the normal diet, but also the economic importance of the avocado as a crop to many of the rural people with whom she was working. She enthusiastically took up the study of the avocado as a food and worked out many recipes and attractive ways of serving the fruit in her own home, before presenting them to the public. Miss Alger was a demonstrator of uncommon ability and the demonstrations which she presented at Avocado Department meetings and at the annual institute of the Society held at

Placentia in 1934 are well remembered by those fortunate enough to have seen them. Her article on "The Nutritive Value of the Avocado in the Normal Diet" published in the 1934 Yearbook is basic and well worth a rereading. A collection of her recipes and attractive ways of serving the avocado will be found in the 1935 Yearbook.

Three Annual Meeting Banquets of the Society were held in San Diego while Miss Alger was in the county and she had charge of all of them. The fine appointments, excellent menus, and attractive dinner programs and favors are well remembered by those fortunate enough to have been in attendance.

Miss Alger was graduated by the Michigan State College in 1913 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. She had specialized in Home Economics and taught these subjects at the Flint, Michigan, and Tacoma, Washington, high schools for several years after graduation. She entered the Agricultural Extension Service of the Washington State College at Pullman in 1922; first as Clothing Specialist, later becoming Specialist in Nutrition, and finally Assistant Director of Extension.

Miss Alger came to California and San Diego County as Home Demonstration Agent in 1930 and remained in that position for eleven years. In 1941 she was promoted to the position of Assistant State Leader of Home Demonstration Agents, Agricultural Extension Service of the University of California's College of Agriculture with headquarters at Berkeley. This position she held at the time of her death.

It is my privilege to express for The California Avocado Society the deep sense of loss that we feel, to the University Staff of which she was such a valued member; to her host of friends in San Diego County and other counties in California and in other states; and to members of her family.

J. G. PRANCE,

President California Avocado Society