

Mrs. Anderson Named As Mother Of Year Candidate

Tooele Womans Club and Junior Womens club have announced the selection of Martha Irvin Bowen Anderson as their candidate for Utah mother of The Year.

A biographical sketch of Mrs. Anderson follows:

Martha Irvin Bowen Anderson was born in Tooele, Utah, in October 1889. She is the daughter of Barbara Gowans Bowen who as the first telegraph operator in Tooele, and Benjamin Lewis Bowen, who filled three missions for the L.D.S. Church. Both her parents were civic and church workers all of their lives, and so is their daughter.

Mrs. Anderson's husband died in February 1920, and she found herself facing the world alone with two children and one due to arrive in three weeks.

Having had no special training for making a living, she was faced with a great problem. She must make a living and find something that would at the same time allow her to be with her children. She decided that teaching would be a very interesting occupation; and would also fill the first need, that of being with her children. By working at other things during the summers, she could support the four of them.

Her next problem was to secure the necessary training. She had had only two years of high school before marrying. She was given permission to enter Tooele High School and by taking extra classes and correspondence she completed two years of work in one year and graduated in the spring of 1921.

She then attended the B.Y.U. University at Provo for one summer. Because she had had the experience of being an assistant to the sewing teacher while attending the L.D.S. High School she was given a third-class certificate for teaching. Her teaching career began at the Plat C School in Tooele in the fall of 1921. This year, 1951, she is teaching her thirtieth year at Tooele Central School.

During this time she has been teaching she took correspondence, extension, and summer work, receiving a First-Class Certificate for teaching and later a Life Certificate.

By this time her two children were going to college and working for their degrees and she decided that she would be better prepared for teaching, as well as keeping up with her children, if she had a degree, so she began working for it.

In 1943, twenty-three years after resuming her education she received a BS degree from the University of Utah. This had been accomplished by extension and weekly trips to Salt Lake City for resident work. The same year that her daughter Rachel received her Master's Degree from Iowa State, and Norman, her son, received his M.D. Degree from Pennsylvania State University, Mrs. Anderson received her degree. Thus, her dream that her children could take their places in the educational world was fulfilled.

Normas Anderson, her son, attended the grade school at Tooele for six years, three years at Tooele High School, and the East High School in Salt Lake City for his senior year where he graduated. He attended the Utah Agricultural College at Logan for two years, then spent two and one-half years in Sweden on a L.D.S. mission. Following this he entered the University of Utah for a medical career. In 1943 he married Virginia Willis of Salt Lake City. They made their home in Philadelphia, where Norman completed his training and signed for

service with the United States Army but he was given permission to complete his training as a civilian. After completing his medical training and nine months of psychiatry in a prominent hospital in Philadelphia, he entered the service where he remained for two years. After being released from the army, he returned to Philadelphia to continue his training in Psychiatry. He is now using her training in connection with the University of Utah in Salt Lake City where he expects to make his home. He has three children.

Emma, while still quite young, decided that she would like to become a nurse, but her life was cut short. She passed away at the age of twelve and one-half years, just ten years after her father's death. She received a reading certificate from the State office and had high scores in arithmetic while attending the fourth grade.

Rachel attended the schools of Tooele and graduated from the tooele High School. She received her BA Degree from the Utah State Agricultural College at Logan, Utah, her Master's Degree at Iowa State, where she taught part time at Cornell in Ithaca, New York for two years. The following year she taught full time at Vermont State College. She received a contract to teach summer session at the University of Utah, here she accepted the offer to remain for the full school year. In June of the following year she married Paul N. Scherbel of Salt Lake City. They made their home at Big Piney, Wyoming, where Paul's work had taken him. Rachel taught in the High School there for one year. She now spends her time caring for her home and two children. However she finds time to be School Board Secretary and Town Clerk.

In order to have economic security, Mrs. Anderson decided to build a small home. This was started in March 1948. She drew her own plans and because she did not want a big debt on her hands, she just hired workers to do small contracts, such as brick laying, carpentry, a tile man and plumbers. It took nearly two years to get it ready for their painting and decorating. Mrs. Anderson did her own painting on the woodwork, walls of the bathroom, hall and kitchen. She had her sister help her in papering the bedroom.

Mrs Anderson made a table out of cedar for her front room. it is a very nice piece of work. The front lawn and shrubs are growing nicely. The back yard will be completed this spring. There will be a play corner for the grandchildren and a patio for outdoor living.