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Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin:

An Unusual Humanitarian

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Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin lived a life that was, by all accounts, unusual in the mid-twentieth century. As a wife, a mother, an educator, and a humanitarian Hutchinson was unique and extraordinary. Some of the beliefs she expressed reflect those held regionally while others were progressive for the time and place in which she lived. This is exemplified by the fact that Hutchinson was married, divorced, and remarried to the same man over the course of twenty years.[1] During this time she was also mother to four children and an active educator. After the death of her husband and injury of her oldest son, Hutchinson was the only person that could keep the family's farm in working order. This practical need prompted her to become a humanitarian. The ever-present regional and personal beliefs surrounding race play an important role in her humanitarian decision-making. Mary Hutchinson's life was marked most strongly by her family, her role as an educator, and the hope she brought to European displaced persons after the Second World War.

Biography: Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin

Mary Annette[2] McClure was born to William and Annie McClure on January 22, 1891, in LaGrange, Georgia. When McClure was a young girl her family moved to Shuqualak, Mississippi, where her father sold farming equipment and her mother was a music teacher.[3] She attended the Industrial Institute and College (now Mississippi University for Women, MUW) in Columbus, Mississippi and graduated in 1907 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in music. Mary

[1] "1920, 1930, and 1940 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry*, accessed November 26, 2017, entry for Mary Hutchinson, Columbus, Lowndes, Mississippi.

[2] "Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin," Family File, Billups-Garth Archives, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library, Columbus, Mississippi.

[3] "1900 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry*, accessed November 5, 2017, entry for Mary Hutchinson, Columbus, Lowndes, Mississippi.

McClure married William Nelson Hutchinson on November 10, 1910, and became Mary McClure Hutchinson[4]; they had four children: William Nelson Hutchinson Jr. (1911-1991), James Dudley Hutchinson (1913-1967), Mary Evans Hutchinson (1914-1997), and May Overbey Hutchinson (1916-1998.)[5]

Despite being married, Mary Hutchinson continued to have a professional career, and even obtained a master's degree in education from Columbia University[6], which was somewhat unusual for the 1930s. Well before her husband died in 1942, Hutchinson had already established herself as a pillar of the community and a dedicated professional educator. Through the 1920s and 1930s, she held positions in primary schools and universities and proved herself a leader in local and regional education policy. She taught Latin and English at Columbus' Franklin Academy in 1922. From 1923 to 1930 she was critic teacher at the Mississippi State College for Women (MSCW, now MUW) Demonstration School. In 1930, Hutchinson accepted a position as director of teacher placement at Morehead State Teachers College in Morehead, Kentucky. She returned to MSCW in 1931 and was again critic teacher as well as Assistant Professor of

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[4] Mississippi, Chancery Court (Lowndes Co.), General Docket Records, Case #4043, Billups-Garth Archives, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library.

[5] "1920 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry.com,* accessed October 17, 2017, entry for Mary Hutchinson, Columbus, Lowndes, Mississippi. Mary Evans married Benjamin Lawrence Moss on May 15, 1937 and May Overbey married Errett Evan Davis on August 17, 1937. Errett Davis died in 1962 and Overbey married Harold Eugene Bell on April 16, 1965. Harold died in 1967. James Dudley Hutchinson married Frances Maxwell and they had a son James Dudley Hutchinson Jr. on December 14, 1939 (accident reports). There is no evidence that William Nelson Hutchinson Jr. ever married or had children. James Dudley Hutchinson Sr. and James Dudley Hutchinson Jr. were both on Piedmont Airlines Flight 22 that collided with Cessna 310 in Hendersonville, North Carolina on July 19, 1967 not long after takeoff. There were no survivors. This crash prompted the National Transportation Safety Board to modify standards for air traffic controllers.

[6] "Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin," Family File, Billups-Garth Archives, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library, Columbus, Mississippi.

Education and head of teacher training for students majoring in elementary education. That same year she was named principal of the Demonstration School, a position she held until 1954. From 1938 to 1939 she served as president of the Mississippi Education Association and remained a member of their executive board until 1942. She served as vice president of the Southeastern States Elementary Principals in 1941. She was also listed in Who's Who in education as well as Who's Who in the South and Southwest. Hutchinson was appointed by Governor Tom Bailey to serve as a member of the State Textbook Rating Committee. With Pauline Brandon, she also co-authored *Gaining Independence in Reading,* a series of reading instruction books.[7]

Hutchinson was involved in the Columbus community as well, though her engagement waned somewhat after the death of her husband in 1942. Before that, she was a member of the Shuk-hota Tom-a-ha Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames of America, Mississippi Society, and the Colonial Dames of the XVII Century. Hutchinson was also an active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Columbus where she served as an officer, circle leader, and bible study leader for the women of the church.[8]

The year 1942 brought many disappointments. Not only did her husband die, but her son, William Nelson Hutchinson, Jr., came home from World War II with injuries that required full time treatment at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo, Mississippi.[9] Hutchinson had inherited a 600-acre farm from her husband after his death, and she needed help in order to keep it going. With the death of her husband and the incapacitation of her son, Hutchinson faced a

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[7] Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Obituary, Control File, Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin, 1950s, Billups-Garth Archives, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library, (Miss.).

[8] Ibid.

[9] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Zadurowicz Family 1949," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

crisis: how would she keep the farm operating? In keeping with the long-established practice of sharecropping, she initially hired African Americans from the local community. Sharecropping was exceedingly common in the southern states after the Civil War. For emancipated slaves, it was not an ideal situation, but at times a necessity. In a period when it was vital for former slaves to become independent, they often had no other choice but to remain dependent on landowners.[10] Many years later, this issue still existed in the south's African American community. In fact, it became even more difficult during the Great Depression. To rectify this, the United States Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration was established in 1946, and provided a program where the United States government would insure loans made to an individual to finance farming operations. This provided greater opportunity for those who may have been unlikely to secure a loan independently.[11]

It was under this program, in 1948, that Mary Hutchinson became the landlord for Willie Jones, an African American sharecropper. He leased forty acres from her for $595 and paid $175 in rent for his home. He was required to, "contribute all labor, seed for ordinary crops, work stock, tractors, and ordinary operating equipment and pay all ordinary operating expenses … operate the farm in an efficient and husbandlike manner, preform plowing, seeding, cultivating, and harvesting at the proper time and in the proper manner…" Unlike most sharecroppers, however, Hutchinson required a lump sum payment from the crops sold instead of a share of the

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[10] Jay R. Mandle, "Sharecropping and the Plantation Economy in the United States South," In *Sharecropping and Sharecroppers*, ed. T. J. Bynes (Totowa: Frank Cass and Company Limited, 1983), 121.

[11] "Agency History," United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, accessed November 20, 2017, https://www.fsa.usda.gov/about-fsa/history-and-mission/agency-history/index.

crops to use or sell herself. Not only was this system different from typical arrangements of the time, but also from the system she herself would utilize in the years to come. [12]

For instance, on December 5, 1949, William Nelson Hutchinson Jr. – Mary Hutchinson's son – leased 152 acres of the Hutchinson farm to John C. Baucom, a white sharecropper. The lease was for three years ending in November 1952. The stipulations placed on this tenant were much different than those for Willie Jones. This could be because Baucom's lease was a standard farm lease and not one provided for by the Farmers Home Administration. Still, the arrangements were for one-fourth of the cotton crop and one-third of the corn crop to go to the landlord with no indication that Baucom was paying rent on the land or a home.[13] The very different terms of these leases seem to point to unequal treatment of black and white farmers.

In a 1949 letter to Sam E. Woods, Consul General of the Displaced Persons Commission in Munich, Germany, Mary Hutchinson explained her zeal for sponsoring displaced persons. In this letter, Hutchinson expressed her displeasure with the African American workers she had employed, stating that the workers were "at best unintelligent."[14] The first Jim Crow statute in Mississippi was enacted in 1888; Mary McClure was born in 1891.[15] She grew up in Mississippi with Jim Crow laws and reached maturity as they hit their peak. This sentiment speaks to a larger

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[12] "Farm Lease for Willie Jones 1946," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[13] "United States Department of Agriculture, 1949-1954," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[14] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Zadurowicz Family 1949," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[15] Neil R. McMillen, *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians in the Age of Jim Crow*, (Chicago, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1989), 3.

statewide and regional climate of racism. The African American population was thought of as inferior and inherently unintelligent, and were simultaneously deprived of an opportunity to show themselves as anything else. From 1950 to 1951 in Mississippi, 62% of the white population aged 15-19 were enrolled in secondary school while only 25% of the black population aged 15-19 were enrolled.[16] Mary Hutchinson lived, as an educator of white children, in the middle of this time of inequality and inequity. The blatant discrimination that existed in Mississippi during this time sheds light on how Hutchinson approached the situation; black sharecroppers were unsatisfactory, but maybe European farmers were the answer.

The year 1949 is when a local story became international; in that year Hutchinson decided that the best way to care for her farm would be to sponsor people that had been displaced by World War II. Between 1949 and 1951, Hutchinson was in contact with at least nine families and individuals that were interested in immigrating to her farm in north Lowndes County, Mississippi.[17] Why Hutchinson decided to bring displaced persons to her farm is not entirely clear. It is clear, however, that she was unsatisfied with the work of the black sharecroppers and clearly held racist and racialized views of them. Part of her motivation seemed to be to eliminate the presence of black people from her farm and hire instead, what she considered to be better, white help. Ironically, there is also a humanitarian side of her reasoning. It would seem Hutchinson's decision-making aligned well with white supremacy, in that she was providing opportunity to suffering, white, European families where before it had been wasted on undeserving black Mississippians.

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[16] Ibid, 89.

[17] MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

The Displaced Persons Commission

After years of restrictive isolationist immigration policies, the United States government became a sponsor of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and the International Refugee Organization (IRO) in 1943 and 1947 respectively. The UNRRA was organized by forty-four countries with a mission comprised of four objectives: "… [to assist] liberated peoples to rebuild their countries and their lives by providing some of the necessary materials and the tools; to reunite families; to care for displaced persons and refugees; and to aid them to repatriate."[18] The IRO was formed to complete the job of the UNRRA. Once the process of repatriation was completed, the IRO was to "assist in the resettlement of approximately a million and a quarter refugees still remaining in camps and in the local economies of Germany, Austria, and Italy, and other countries…"[19] The United States' involvement in these two organizations coincided with the country's new sense of responsibility and post-war "humanitarian impulse."[20]

The Displaced Persons Act of 1948 sanctioned the entrance of 205,000 immigrants into the United States over a two-year period.[21] In passing, 205,000 seems like a relatively large number of immigrants, but the reality is that 200,000 of those visas were reserved for ethnic

[18] United States Displaced Persons Commission, *Memo to America, the DP Story* (Washington D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1952), 6.

[19] United States Displaced Persons Commission, *Memo to America, the DP Story* (Washington D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1952), 7.

[20] Ibid.

[21] Ibid.

Germans and Austrians. Only 2,000 were offered to native Czech's, 3,000 to orphans[22], and – because those who entered Germany, Austria, Italy, and Czechoslovakia after December 22, 1945, were excluded – most of the Jewish population were ineligible. In a statement made by President Harry S. Truman after signing the Displaced Persons Act on June 25, 1948, he expressed his disappointment with the bill, saying,

> If the Congress were still in session, I would return this bill without my approval and urge that a fairer, more humane bill be passed. In its present form this bill is flagrantly discriminatory. It mocks the American tradition of fair play … The bad points of the bill are numerous. Together they form a pattern of discrimination and intolerance wholly inconsistent with the American sense of justice.[23]

After, Truman made his disapproval known, it took two years for Congress to pass an amendment reforming the law. In a statement on June 16, 1950, Truman applauded the expanded and inclusive changes. The amendment made special provisions for 10,000 war orphans from Europe, 4,000 European refugees, 18,000 honorably discharged veterans of the Polish Army, 10,000 Greek refugees, 2,000 displaced persons from Trieste and Italy, and 54, 744 refugees and expellees of German origin. The amendment authorized a total of 400,744 visas.[24] This act

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[22] "Displaced Persons Act of 1948," U.S. Immigration Legislation Online, University of Washington, Bothel, accessed November 18, 2017, http://library.uwb.edu/Static/USimmigration/1948_displaced_persons_act.html.

[23] "Statement by the President Upon Signing the Displaced Persons Act," Public Papers Harry S. Truman 1945-1953, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum Online Catalog, accessed November 4, 2017, https://www.trumanlibrary.org/publicpapers/index.php?pid=1688&st=&st1=.

[24] "Statement by the President Upon Signing the Bill Amending the Displaced Persons Act," Public Papers Harry S. Truman 1945-1953, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum Online Catalog, accessed November 4, 2017, https://www.trumanlibrary.org/publicpapers/index.php?pid=794&st=displaced+persons&st1=.

exemplified the turn in United States foreign policy. The isolationist foreign policy seen after World War I was gone and a new age of the United States as a superpower had begun.

The Displaced Persons Conundrum

In 1949 only 961 displaced persons were known to have immigrated to Mississippi. According to a 1949 study conducted at Louisiana State University by Rudolt Herbele and Dudley S. Hall, no one in Lowndes or the three adjacent counties of Clay, Monroe, and Oktibbeha had accepted or sponsored displaced persons.[25] In fact, however, Mary Hutchinson started sponsoring displaced persons from Europe in 1949. Given the low number of immigrants and the Herbele and Hall study of sponsorship, it is plausible that Mary Hutchinson was the first person in her area to take on this type of humanitarian work.

The newness of the situation is evident in her experiences. Without any prior knowledge as to the process of sponsorship, she was sent two families much sooner than she expected. This led to confusion surrounding the sponsorship of the Pysarenka and Pianka families. They were sent to Hutchinson because they were believed to have farming experience; in fact, they did not.

Nonetheless, Hutchinson provided each family with a hog, fifteen hens, a cow, and one hundred baby chicks in the spring. They would be paid the prevailing wage in the community, which was $2.00 a day, and they would receive this wage until they started their crops. At that time Hutchinson would furnish them with work stock, tools, seed, and half of the fertilizer they would require. The families would do all the work and then keep half of the crop sales. Anything Hutchinson furnished them with during their crop season, they would repay upon the sale of their half of the crop.

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[25] Rudolt Herberle and Dudley S. Hall, *Displaced Persons in Louisiana and Mississippi*, (Baton Rouge, LA: Displaced Persons Commission, 1951), 19, 23.

In a letter to Teter (aka Josef Solterer, Mary's brother-in-law who spoke the families' native language), she describes the families as "quiet and industrious" adding that, "One family is Catholic, the other Orthodox (what in the world is this). They wished to go in town today to church, but I was too tired with all the week's activities. I told them I would take them next Sunday."[26] This suggests that religion was not a motivator for Hutchinson's humanitarianism, as she was happy to take the families to whichever church they chose to attend.

After the first two families moved to her farm, Hutchinson was acquainted with the process of sponsoring displaced persons. She was also in contact with Sam E. Woods, the American Consul General in charge of the Displaced Persons Commission in Munich, Germany. This allowed Hutchinson to bypass the middle man and vet candidates for sponsorship herself. She began corresponding with Woods who sent her information regarding eligible candidates. She would then request photographs and resumes from the families and decide for herself which of them matched her requirements. The following families represent three different situations that made it into Hutchinson's personal vetting system: the Kosinska family, the Mayer family, and the Zadurowicz family.

Hutchinson looked for several things when searching for the right families to bring to her farm. One was education. She was drawn to the Kosinska family because of the educational achievements of Tatiana Kosinska, wife of Stanislaw Kosinska, both of whom were well educated.[27] Tatiana Kosinska was born on December 23, 1924 in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Her

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[26] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Pysarenka & Pianka Families 1949," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[27] Mary began her correspondence with the Kosinska family in 1950. Stanislaw and Tatiana were well educated and originally from Poland and Czechoslovakia respectively. They had two children George, born around 1948, and Irene, born in lake 1949. Stanislaw, born on November 30, 1919 in Zelaskow, Poland fought for Poland in WWII and was taken prisoner by

mother was a teacher and insisted on her continued education even into the first few years of World War II. Her knowledge of languages was impressive; she spoke English, French, Russian, Czech, Polish, and German. In 1945, she moved to Salzburg, Austria to teach English in the displaced persons camps there. Kosinska then moved to Munich, Germany and became a secretary at Voluntary Societies Division Headquarters. At the time of Hutchinson's correspondence with the family, Kosinska was an administrative assistant at the Church World Service Resettlement Headquarters in Munich. Hutchinson was able to connect with Tatiana because of their shared love for education. Even though the Kosinska family did not immigrate to Hutchinson's farm, they kept in touch with each other. The Kosinska family ended up at Reed Farm in Valley State, New York.[28]

While education was clearly something that Hutchinson admired, it was not enough to get families an invitation to her farm. Indeed, the real key to being selected was that the family had farming experience. Hutchinson sought to help European families, but only if they could actually perform the farm labor she needed. Alois, Beatrice, and Stephanie Mayer were in contact with Hutchinson in 1950 and 1951. The Mayer's had three children, but Stephanie was the only child

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the Germans. He was forced to work in coal mines in Sachsonia. After liberation, Stanislaw began working with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration and the International Refugee Organization in Germany. According to a January 12, 1951 manifest of in-bound passengers, Stanislaw, Tatiana, George, and Irene arrived in New York, New York via the USNS General Harry Taylor from Bremerhaven, Germany. This document listed their name as "Kosinski" and the rest of their documents in the United States reflect this name change. Tatiana was naturalized in New York, New York on March 19, 1956 and is listed as residing in New York City.

[28] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Kosinska Family 1950," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

that still lived with the couple.[29] The family passed through Camp Allach, and then in 1950 were housed in the Munich-Feldmoching camp in Munich, Germany.[30]

While the Kosinska's may have been well educated, the Mayer's had the skill set that Hutchinson prized —farming know-how. Unlike Tatiana Kosinska, Beatrice Mayer had an eighth-grade education, but she had experience with farming, milking, and housework. Alois Mayer also had an eighth-grade education, but made up for it with experience as a heater and mechanic, as well as experience with milking and proficiency in vegetable gardening. Stephanie went to German public school at Kosolup, Czechoslovakia until fifth grade and continued her education at the Feldmoching camp. She was experienced with shorthand, typing, and housekeeping.[31] This family was skilled in all the ways Hutchinson required. The Mayer family represented a different situation that the Kosinska family – less education but more work experience.

Finally, the experience of the Zadurowicz family demonstrates just how complicated the status of a "displaced person" could be. Like the Mayers, the Zadurowicz family had training in farming practices, but also education beyond middle and high school that could rival the education of the Kosinska family. Jerzy Zadurowicz was born on December 13, 1898 in

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[29] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Mayer Family 1950," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[30] Ibid. Alois Mayer was born on November 13, 1895 to Josefa and Andreas Mayer. He was drafted in World War I and subsequently taken prisoner by the Russians and forced to work on a farm. Beatrice Vokoun was born on September 22, 1899 in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia to Marie and Johann Vokoun. In 1920, Alois Mayer and Beatrice Vokoun were married. Stephanie was born on December 4, 1933 in Tschkau, Czechoslovakia.

[31] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Mayer Family 1950," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

Smiatyn, Malopolska, Poland. He went to agricultural high school in Lwow and then studied law for three years. Jerzy Zadurowicz's wife, Margarita Pfeffel was born on July 9, 1882, in Neumarkl, Oberkrain, Austria. She was educated at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Austria and England and passed the Oxford Senior Locals, the last examination required for admittance to Oxford University. Though Jerzy and Margarita Zadurowicz were well educated, they came from families of landowners and farmers where they learned practical skills during their formative years. The couple was forced to leave their home in Galicia, Poland in early 1940 after the Nazi occupation began, which lead them to Breslau, Austria where Margarita Zadurowicz had relatives. In 1945, Breslau was evacuated and the couple fled again; this time to Germany. In order for them to find housing and work, Jerzy Zadurowicz was compelled to become a German citizen. This factor ultimately caused much trouble for the couple upon their attempted immigration.[32]

In November 1949, the Zadurowiczs began corresponding with Mary Hutchinson; they were very interested in emigrating as displaced persons. However, because Jerzy had received German citizenship, it was virtually impossible for him to be considered a displaced person. German naturals were often thought to have been Nazi sympathizers. Hutchinson had become very attached to the couple through their letters and was not willing to give up on them, and even contacted Sam E. Woods in an effort to expedite the process. Meanwhile, Zadurowicz was in the process of appealing his case to the International Refugee Organization (IRO) review board.

[32] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Zadurowicz Family 1949(50)," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

Hutchinson also wrote a letter to the IRO concerning the appeal. However, despite their efforts, the Zadurowiczs' displaced persons status was once again denied.[33]

All hope was not lost. Thanks to Sam Woods, this was not the end. Under a new amendment to Section 6 of the Immigration Act of 1924, the couple were hoping to be able to emigrate as "non-quota educated farmers." This also became a problem for Zadurowicz because when the couple went to the Displaced Persons Commission's office, and they were not able to meet with Woods who knew their story and circumstances. Therefore, the official they spoke with informed them that under this law, Jerzy was not qualified because he had not practiced farming in the ten years prior, even though this was through no fault of his own, but rather through displacement. Because the Zadurowiczs' case had been handled largely through direct communication between Woods and Hutchinson, their public file did not reflect their true status. Once Woods was able to rectify the issue, the Zadurowiczs' were hustled into the process of securing visas. After over a year of struggle, the couple received their visas in early November 1950 and less than a month later, on December 6, 1950, they arrived in New York, New York via the *SS Washington.*[34] Within days they arrived at Hutchinson's farm and began the next chapter of their lives.

Conclusion

Mary Hutchinson was a unique individual. She was dedicated to her family and her students. She was an unlikely humanitarian who changed the lives of those with whom she

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[33] "Letters Concerning Displaced Persons: Zadurowicz Family 1950," Manuscript, (Columbus, MS: 2017), MS 459 Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin Letters, 1945-1954, Billups Garth Archives, Columbus Lowndes Public Library.

[34] Ibid. The Zadurowicz's became naturalized citizens of the United States in 1955 in Lake Charles, Louisiana and were then residing in Crowley, Louisiana. Margarita Zadurowicz died in 1965. Jerzy Zadurowicz died in 1972.

interacted. She was influenced by the time in which she lived but she was never entirely defined by it. Though she held racialized views, she also helped families who desperately needed hope and a fresh start. Through her letters she showed her personality, her tenacity, and her strong will. Mary Hutchinson left her mark in many places. Students studying education at MUW and many other universities still use many of the techniques implemented by Hutchinson.[35] Displaced persons like the Jerzy and Margarita Zadurowicz were given an opportunity for a better life in America, and above everything Mary Hutchinson never gave up on who and what she believed.

[35] "Mary McClure Hutchinson Martin," Local History Vertical File, Billups-Garth Archives, Columbus-Lowndes Public Library (Miss.).

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