

MATILDA WHITE RILEY, hailed as the leading woman sociologist in the United States, pioneer in the development of her field, and collaborator with her husband in the production of numerous scholarly studies. Descendant of a Bowdoin family, she is an honors graduate of Radcliffe and has studied as well at Simmons College and the University of Vienna. Upon graduation she became the first Research Assistant in the newly formed Department of Sociology at Harvard and there directed the abstracting of social science data and literature in no fewer than five languages. Her career has been marked by numerous firsts: she was the first executive officer of the American Sociological Association, the first scholar to chart out the new field of sociology of age, and the first woman to be elected to the Sociological Research Association. In addition to her scholarly achievements, she has compiled a distinguished record of public service. In World War II she was, as chief consulting economist, one of the highest ranking women on the War Production Board; she has served as a Trustee of the Big Sisters, and has had special appointments with the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children and the Russell Sage Foundation. Hers has been a rich and productive career in teaching and research, marked by excellence and a devotion to professional and public service that is rare in any field.

Honoris Causa, DOCTOR OF SCIENCE