

*In total, this is a six page article detailing the work of the Gifford Foundation of which I was the Executive Director '68 to '78*

# \$7 Million Help Given in 20 Years



Painting by artist Dorothy K. Ashley of Miss Rosamond Gifford, for whom the Gifford Charitable Foundation was named. Below, during the past 20 years, the foundation has contributed to over 100 worthy organizations,

## Gifford legacy keeps proving faith in mankind

By EZRA GREENHOUSE

The Rosamond Gifford Charitable Corporation has begun its third decade of service to Onondaga County with a record not only of generosity, but also faith in the ideas and energies of mankind.

Bestowing 340 grants totalling \$7.1 million, the corporation known as the Gifford Foundation has supported such needed projects as volunteer ambulance services and treat-

ment for the handicapped, and such imaginative concepts as the Everson Museum and the new Civic Center.

"We don't just hand the money out on a silver platter," said Francis A. Feil, president of the foundation board of trustees. "We check out every request thoroughly, and people have to show they're willing to add their own work to the grant."

Downes said if the foundation began approving requests from an individual or church, it would be overburdened with similar requests it could not fund.

Beginning with a principal of \$5,255,403.75, the Gifford Foundation has distributed \$7,118,723.31 in individual awards to 123 charitable, religious and educational institutions

solely on the basis of income from investments, according to Gifford Executive Director John Downes.

Large grants are paid over several years, and major beneficiaries have included Syracuse University, which received \$992,047, and LeMoyne College, which received \$419,500.

Joanne Downes was named principal of LeMoyne School in the Syracuse School District. She has worked for the school district since 1972 in teaching and administrative positions. Most recently she was vice principal of Seymour Elementary School.



H-JOURNAL 2-13-89

Downes said if the grant is approved, the foundation investigates to determine whether the money was spent in the prescribed manner.

**Syracuse Herald-American**  
THE POST-STANDARD  
March 14, 1976  
**Empire**  
The Magazine of Central New York

In the meantime, Downes said, fund assets have increased to a current market value of more than \$7.5 million.