**Article in Spokane’s Spokesman-Review Column, “100 Years Ago”**

On March 31, 2020

**From the education beat:**

Mattie Clair Hoyt, said to be the state’s first female “normal school teacher” – meaning, college education instructor – died in Spokane at age 61, due to complications of influenza and pneumonia.

She taught at the State Normal School at Cheney (which evolved into Eastern Washington University) from 1891 to 1896. In 1891, the newly established school had about 50 students, 29 of whom were women.

Later, Hoyt’s husband established Hoyt Brothers Greenhouses and Florist Co. in Garden Springs, where she lived until her death.