

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**IN MEMORIAM
EDITH CLARKE**

Edith Clarke, retired professor of electrical engineering, died on May October 29, 1959. She was 76.

Professor Clarke was born on February 10, 1883, in Howard County, Maryland. She received a bachelor's degree from Vassar College in 1908 and a master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1919.

Professor Clarke was an engineer with the General Electric Company from 1919 to 1945, when she retired. She joined the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin in 1947 and taught for ten years, retiring in 1957. In joining the UT Austin faculty, Professor Clarke became the first female professor of electrical engineering in the country. She was an authority on electric power systems and worked on the design and building of a number of dams in the West.

Professor Clarke published a two-volume edition of *Circuit Analysis of A-C Power Systems* (1943 and 1950) and numerous papers in *AIEE Transactions* and *General Electric Review*. She won two awards from the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Best Regional Paper Prize in 1932 and the Best National Paper Prize in 1941.

In 1926 she became the first woman to deliver a paper before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Professor Clarke was also the first female engineer to achieve professional standing in Tau Beta Pi, the largest and oldest engineering fraternity in the country, and the first woman named a Fellow of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. In 1954 she was recognized by the Society of Women Engineers for outstanding contributions to the field. In addition, she was listed in *Who's Who in Engineering*, *American Women, Careers for Women*, *Women Can Be Engineers*, and *Men of Science*.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

Biographical sketch prepared by Teresa Palomo Acosta and posted on the Faculty Council web site on February 21, 2001. Additional biographical sources can be found in the UT Office of Public Affairs.