

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS FOR
C. M. CLEVELAND

Clark Milton Cleveland was born on December 4, 1892, the son of Helen Gressett Cleveland and E. C. Cleveland, in Union, Mississippi. He attended Union High School and graduated in May, 1913. He then entered the University of Mississippi and received the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree in June, 1917. Clark M. Cleveland's services as a Civil Engineer were used by the City of Sheffield, Alabama from 1918 to 1919 and by the State Highway Department of Mississippi from 1919 to 1920.

There is both folklore and scientific testimony to the existence of natural teachers. Clark M. Cleveland, viewed in retrospect, seems to have had all the qualities and attributes of a natural teacher. At any rate in the fall of 1920 he became an instructor in Applied Mathematics at the University of Texas. He and Mrs. Cleveland (nee Ruth Estell Monroe, married May 29, 1919) came to Austin, then a burgeoning small city due to the great influx of students after the end of World War I.

Teaching assignments were heavier then than now, and classes were large. He accepted this and he met his classes with zeal and enthusiasm. Young instructor Cleveland started teaching engineering students; but he realized that his limited preparation did not offer him growth to his full potential. He began work towards his doctorate degree in Mathematics under Professor Robert Lee Moore. This degree was received in June, 1930. Two publications resulted from this work:

"Concerning Points of a Continuous Curve that are not Accessible from Each Other," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, volume 13, (issue #5, 1927) pp. 275-276.

"On the Existence of Acyclic Curves Satisfying Certain Conditions with Respect to a Given Continuous Curve," Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, volume 33 (issue #4, 1931) pp. 958-978.

In the meantime Clark Cleveland had been promoted to the rank of Adjunct Professor (later renamed as Assistant Professor) and natural teacher Cleveland had both the engineering know-how and the deep theoretical knowledge to make his classes stimulating, interesting, and inspiring. It is no wonder that the engineering students sought out his calculus sections at registration time! He was popular with his students, but he maintained high standards of skills for successful completion of his courses. He had a deep and abiding interest in his students' welfare; he was always available for conferences.

Other promotions followed, the last to Professor in 1941. He served as chairman of the Department of Applied Mathematics at three different times (1936-1939, 1941-1949, 1952-1953) and also for many summer terms. His philosophy as to how to run a department of mathematics was relatively simple: Get good teachers, encourage them in their teaching so that afterwards objective tests would reveal improvement in their pupils, and encourage those teachers who could to do research work in Mathematics. Many of the younger teachers sought his advice on the art of teaching. Because of his encouragement and common sense approach to their problems, he was held in high esteem. He was affectionately called "Doc" by friends and colleagues.

The Texas Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Pi (the honorary fraternity associated with the College of Engineering) had elected Professor Cleveland as a member on December 1, 1938 on the basis of his high scholastic record as an undergraduate engineering student at the University of Mississippi in 1917. Thus his official Tau Beta Pi membership was Texas Alpha '17. [No doubt the real reason for this honor was the high regard that the engineering students and faculty had for Professor Cleveland and for his teaching skill.] In the late thirties and in the forties, the University of Texas chapter of Tau Beta Pi had a requirement that all newly elected members had to go around and get the signatures of all faculty members of Tau Beta Pi. This was to develop a closer relation between faculty and students. Newly elected members, after each election, would come up to Professor Cleveland's office, theoretically to make his acquaintance, to offer him a piece of stick candy, and to get his signature. Perhaps two-thirds of these students had already made his acquaintance in the classroom, and they willingly came to see their former teacher. It was a great joy for Professor Cleveland to see these young men doing well.

But about 1952 a change set in. The University began sprawling instead of just growing, and an increasing percentage of girls began taking engineering courses. In Mathematics (especially in what was later to become Computer Sciences) the girls began to challenge the boys both in number and in skills. Professor Cleveland was not perturbed - he had long since found that all mathematics students can be taught to appreciate calculus and to master its skills. He continued to teach the skills of and to exhibit the beauty in mathematics.

The students still flocked to his classes. Some, in addition to his University classes also attended his Sunday School Class at the First

Baptist Church. For in addition to being a dedicated teacher, C. M. Cleveland was a dedicated churchman. On October 24, 1920, he had joined the First Baptist Church, and he became a deacon in 1939. Doc Cleveland frequently gave a series of lectures on the Life and Journeys of St. Paul which was a valuable teacher training aid to that Church's program. At one time, the organization of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church called for seven committees. (This plan of organization was based on the report of a committee headed by Professor Cleveland entitled "Manual of Staff Organization and Procedures, 1948.) Over the years Professor Cleveland served at one time or another on each of these committees and was chairman of three committees during his years of service. In particular, he served on both the Building and Grounds Committee and on the Finance Committee and on the Building Commission at the time that plans for the new sanctuary were being formed. This new church edifice in the nine hundred block of Trinity Street (used for the first time in February, 1970) will be a monument to many Baptist Church members, and especially to C. M. Cleveland, who played a large part in the church decision to remain a down-town church and in the financing of the sanctuary.

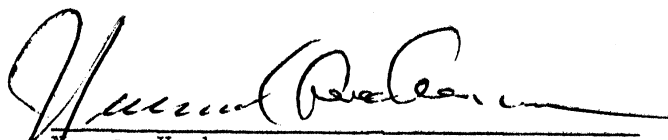
Trained as a surveyor, C. M. Cleveland would, on buying or selling a lot, get surveying instruments and run the survey himself. After the end of World War II he and Mrs. Cleveland bought a site and built a home in the suburban area of West Lake Hills. The house was equipped with a small work shop; indeed Professor Cleveland did much of the cabinet work in the new home himself. As a resident of West Lake Hills, he took an active interest in civic affairs. A careful search of the minutes of the monthly Council meetings failed to note his appointment as dog-catcher, despite Professor Cleveland's claim that he started with that office and

worked up to Mayor. The minutes do show he was Mayor from April 8, 1958 to April 11, 1960. During his administration, a gas franchise was granted, a system of building permits and inspections was devised, and a street numbering system was developed. In particular, he urged the creation of a volunteer fire department under a City Fire Marshall. In May 1959, this was done. When the first city fire truck was purchased, Professor Cleveland was on hand at the time of the tests. Although there is no written record of his having driven the fire truck during the test, some members of this resolutions committee feel sure that he participated to that extent.

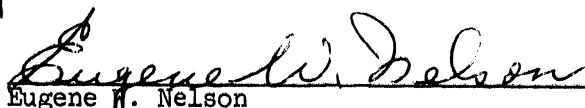
One Sunday afternoon during his term as Mayor, Professor and Mrs. Cleveland had an open house for the staff of the Mathematics Department. Members of the West Lake Hills police department volunteered to serve as traffic guides, and even the Police Chief showed up in uniform to assist. This token of esteem for their Mayor has been repeated many times in other areas of Professor Cleveland's service. There was no stipend attached to the office of Mayor of West Lake Hills, Professor Cleveland gave generously of his time and talent to this public service. Succeeding Mayors have written or spoken of his wise leadership and how his early planning made later developments seem easier and natural.

Although urged by his colleagues and the University Administration to transfer to modified service, Clark M. Cleveland decided to retire in 1962. A few years later he and Mrs. Cleveland moved to Jackson, Mississippi. Although a severe case of fungus pneumonia had left him with a weak heart, by taking care of himself he lived out his life of useful and fruitful service. Shortly after entering a hospital on November 1, 1969 for some tests he died peacefully on the hospital bed.

Besides his widow, Ruth M. Cleveland of Jackson, Mississippi, he leaves a son, Gerald Wooten Cleveland (born November 20, 1926) now associated with Microfilm West of Dallas, Texas. Gerald (or Jerry) attended the University and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in June, 1956. An orphaned nephew, Ray Oswell Cleveland, lived in the Cleveland home as a foster son from 1938-1940 and from 1946-1948 and received the Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in May, 1948.



Norman Hackerman
President of the University of Texas at



Eugene F. Nelson
Secretary of the General Faculty

These Resolutions were prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors H. V. Craig, W. T. Guy, Jr., Roger Osborn, Byron E. Short and Robert E. Greenwood, Chairman.