IN MEMORIUM

HENRY RUDOLF HENZE

Professor Henry Rudolf Henze died Saturday morning, September 21, 1974, in an Austin hospital. He had been ill since suffering a heart attack on June 19 in Churchill, Canada, while on a bird-watching tour. He was survived by his wife, Elizabeth Sledge whom he married in 1933, one son, Henry R. Henze, Jr., of Austin, and a granddaughter, Pamela Henze Forrest, and a grandson, Han Henze, both of San Antonio.

Professor Henze was born January 11, 1896 in New Haven, Connecticut. He graduated from high school at the age of 15, and because of the death of his father, he had to begin working immediately. He worked as an assistant in the Carnegie Nutrition Laboratory of the Connecticut Experiment Station in New Haven where his association with Dr. T.B. Osborne and Professor L.B. Mendel greatly influenced his subsequent career. After four years, he resumed his studies receiving the Ph.B. degree in 1918 and the Ph.D. degree in 1921 from Yale University. During this period, he was a Junior Chemist at the U.S. Bureau of Mines and Chemical Warfare Service and held the National Aniline and Chemical Company Fellowship while at Yale University. His association with the University of Texas began in 1922 when he was appointed an Adjunct Professor of Chemistry of the College of Pharmacy at Galveston; he served from 1924 to 1927 as Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. With the relocation of the College of Pharmacy to Austin, he continued not only as a Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the University of Texas at Austin but also as Lecturer in Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Texas

Medical Branch at Galveston. As a member of the faculty of the Department of Chemistry, he served as Chairman of the Department from 1929-1939. Although his position became that of Professor of Chemistry as a result of administrative efforts to limit specialty titles of positions, his work in pharmaceutical chemistry was well recognized, and the demand for his services in pre-medical advising and other health-oriented activities continued throughout his career. He was awarded a University Research Professorship in 1945-6.

He was a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Texas Academy of Science, Sigma Xi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, and Alpha Chi Sigma, and an associate member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Professor Henze directed the doctoral research work of 70 Ph.D. candidates, two of whom were jointly directed with other faculty, and the work of 45 M. A. candidates, 13 of whom subsequently completed their doctorates under his direction.

Dr. Henze with his students and co-workers published 108 research articles, and he obtained 11 patents based upon his research. A series of papers with C. M. Blair were the first to deal with calculating the number of theoretically possible isomeric aliphatic hydrocarbons and alcohols and received wide attention. Professor Henze's experimental work was concerned with the synthesis of heterocyclic nitrogen compounds, primarily hydantoins, pyrimidines, and related compounds, with emphasis on a search for compounds which were useful anticonvulsants for the control of epilepsy. Although his work was directed toward useful ends, it was also excellent for teaching research

students. Many of Professor Henze's students subsequently attained positions of major responsibility in the chemical industry and almost one fourth of them have become associated with the teaching staffs of colleges and universities.

In a course which he directed for more than 25 years, thousands of pre-medical and pharmacy students in organic chemistry recall vividly the vigor and enthusiasm of his lectures and the depth of his concern for their intellectual growth. Although he could be abrupt when necessary with a student, he spent unlimited time when a student needed help with his problems. Professor Henze's students sometimes described him as "tough as a boot" but recognized that this was his way of extracting from each student his greatest efforts.

For his outstanding achievements in research and teaching, Dr. Henze received the Southwest Regional Award of the American Chemical Society in 1953, and his excellence in teaching was recognized by the Lemuel Scarbrough Foundation Faculty Award in 1956. He was honored by the University of Texas System Board of Regents in 1968 for his services as Chairman (1961-6) and co-chairman (1966-8) of the pre-medical advisory committee with the adopted resolution which stated that his "contributions to the education, counseling and idealism of these students serve as a source of inspiration to all engaged in the fulfillment of The University's obligation to the medical welfare of the people of the State of Texas."

After three years of modified service, Professor Henze retired in 1969 with the title of Professor Emeritus of Chemistry. He remained available for special assignments. His contributions to the University and especially to the College of Pharmacy and the Department of Chemistry have had major impacts

in the development of these units.

Upon his retirement, his former students demonstrated their esteem and affection for him by providing a permanent endowment for two H. R. Henze Teaching Excellence Awards to be given annually to the outstanding teaching assistant in organic chemistry and in one other area of chemistry.

His love for vocal music was evidenced during his career by his membership in the Yale glee club, his singing in church choirs, and other activities. Fishing and hunting were enthusiastically pursued, and he was converted to bird-watching by his wife. He will long be remembered for his excellence in academic pursuits, for his love and commitment to the University, and for the friendship and regard he offered colleague and student alike.

Lorene L. Rogers

Lorene L. Rogers, President of
The University of Texas at Austin

John R. Durbin

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of William Shive (chairman), Margaret A. Eppright, and Philip S. Bailey.