IN MEMORIAM

HARRY E. MOORE

Harry Estill Moore was a delightfully complex person. When scholarly standards were concerned, there was no harder taskmaster. He was exacting of students and still more of himself. However, if a student needed patient encouragement, more strenuous prodding, or step-by-step guidance until he learned the skills of scholarly ways, Harry's office was open. His home, near the campus, also bore the sign of welcome to students and student groups.

One time an undergraduate visited Harry's seminars uninvited but welcomed. Looking back on that experience years later, he commented, "I do not think I have ever seen a professor and students trying to learn together as they did. And I do not think I have ever heard a professor teach students without raising his voice as Harry always taught."

Harry's wife, Bernice Milburn Moore, and he held each two degrees from The University of Texas and received their Ph.D. degrees in sociology at the same commencement from the University of North Carolina. Their writing and speaking ability caused their influence to extend beyond the academic community. They are known throughout Texas and the nation for their dialogue discussions of the application of social science research to current problems of the community and the family.

One of Harry's last invitations came from the Tactical Air Command and the Chief of Chaplains Office, United States Air Force, for an analysis of culture-shock problems faced by the families of servicemen in the Vietnam war. Prior to conferences at Langley Air Force Base, a special briefing was staged for the Moores at the Twelfth Air Force Headquarters in Waco by Major General Lucius Clay, Jr. Arrangements for consideration of current problems of stress in Air Force families were developed by the Chief of Chaplains, Major General Robert P. Taylor, and the Command Chaplain, Tactical Air Command, Colonel Ormonde S. Brown. The document written by Harry following this series of discussions is being used as the basis for research into
the mental health problems encountered by husbands and wives separated by Far Eastern and other isolated assignments. The program of study is under the direction of the Office of Operations Analysis.

Copies of the report by the Moores have been deposited in the office of the Secretary of the Air Force and of the Commander of the Tactical Air Command. Others have been placed in the archives of the latter command and at Air University in Montgomery, Alabama.

The Office of the Chief of Chaplains is using the document for training purposes with its chaplains whose major counseling assignment is with personal and family problems. The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health has received requests for one hundred copies of this material from community agencies faced with problems of families of military personnel on combat assignments. The theoretical framework upon which this report to the United States Air Force was developed had its origin in Harry's "Theory of Disaster," the outgrowth of his major research efforts in the latter years of his career.

The mingling of high standards, no matter the assignment, and a warm regard for persons is reflected in the following excerpts from letters written to Mrs. Moore after her husband's death.

Harry had a consuming concern about our culture and its people. This, I think, was why his studies, factual and professional though they were, were always enveloped in the warmth of his love for human kind.

Another wrote:

Harry will live in the memory of a thousand friends and students whenever they recall his gentleness, his integrity, and his great sincerity.

Again,

No matter how large the group nor how small, each member seemed to be in Dr. Harry's mind an individual. In any discussion or other relationship he was that individual's staunch protector and proponent.

Still another said,

Dr. Harry was a direct man and always aware of his own humanness which in him became so refined as to become "humaneness."

Harry's contributions to his own field of sociology and to the broader area of social science
were many. He served as editor-in-chief for the Southwestern Social Science Quarterly for ten years. Under his leadership the journal became one of the standard scholarly publications in the field, and articles were contributed from throughout the United States and foreign countries. Harry served as President, Southwestern Sociological Society, and was a member of the Council of the American Sociological Association in the early years of 1950.

Harry exhibited remarkable physical stamina and endurance throughout his academic career. In spite of illness with tuberculosis contracted in World War I and later with the development of arthritis, he could outlast his colleagues in sustained teaching and research. His engagements as a social science lecturer in other colleges and universities and as an analyst in community problems added to his workload, but not to his burden. His appearance of relaxed approach, his dry humor, and his gracious manner made him a person of freshness, vigor, and empathetic concern.

In World War II, Harry made his contribution through work for the Office of War Information in this region.

Harry was noted for keeping abreast of the newest developments in his field. He liked to own the most recent books, mark them profusely, and discuss them with students, colleagues and friends. Many of the books in his office and home libraries concerned social theory and research design. Others dealt with substantive problems in his special fields of interest: sociological aspects of disasters; communications; race relations; and social organization in the region and community.

Another major university has asked for his research data on disasters, but the Chancellor of his own university insists that his special collection be made available to scholars on this campus. Knowing of his methodical approach to any subject for which he was responsible, his former graduate students--now professors themselves--have requested his bibliographies and classroom notes. His files are so well organized that another writer will complete his major study on the mass media treatment of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, an additional investigation into disaster.
Dr. Moore's research was supported by the National Science Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, The University of Texas Research Council, and the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health of The University of Texas.

Harry Estill Moore died on Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock, July 19, 1966, at the age of 69 years. He was born January 4, 1897, in Bethany, Louisiana--or "Lickskillet," its early designation which Harry always used! His parents were James Francis Moore and Mary Ellen Pace Moore. He was educated in the public schools of Louisiana, and graduated from the Logansport High School. He worked in Shreveport, Louisiana, on the newspaper until he volunteered for service in the first World War. He entered The University of Texas in 1920 to work toward a degree in journalism. While an undergraduate, he served as sports writer on the Daily Texan; as intramural manager for the Department of Intramural Athletics; and as chairman of the publicity committee for the drive to raise the money for the erection of the Stadium and the gymnasiums for men and women. He later served in the same capacity when funds were being raised for the building of the Student Union and the Hogg Auditorium. In 1928 Harry was editor of the Alcalde, the ex-student's magazine.

On November 27, 1924, he married Bernice Ted Milburn of San Antonio, Texas. Before entering graduate school, Harry was also employed on the Austin American-Statesman and the San Antonio Evening News. He was city editor of the former and feature writer on the latter publication. Harry came to The University of Texas in 1937 as an assistant professor in sociology following graduation from the University of North Carolina. He rose to the rank of associate professor in 1945 and to full professor in 1955. During the period of 1950-1955, he was project coordinator, Southwestern Cooperative Program in Educational Administration, supported by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation.

Harry's study of the Waco and San Angelo tornado disasters was adapted by the Columbia Broadcasting System to a 30-minute documentary television program. It was released over the network on two different occasions and was also used by many individual stations. His writings
include five book-length monographs, one textbook, a half dozen pamphlets, and many articles which appeared in sociological and public opinion journals. A partial bibliography of his writings is appended, while his many contributions to non-academic publications are not listed.

Harry's years of journalistic training and experience gave his writing a lightness, directness, and wit which delighted his readers. His adherence to scholarly standards gave his work an unpretentious tone of authority. His classroom teaching and his public addresses combined similar qualities.

His many friends also saw in Harry's daily living a kindness and warmth which overlay a disciplined mind. Harry was a complex man who unwittingly set a model which many of his students and colleagues will try to emulate.

Dr. Warner Gettys  
Dr. Paul White  
Dr. Robert L. Sutherland, Chairman
Special Harry E. Moore Memorial Resolution Committee, January 9, 1967.

Distributed among the members of the General Faculty by the University Stenographic Bureau, January 30, 1967.