IN MEMORIUM

ELIZABETH TARPLEY

Miss Elizabeth Tarpley, Professor Emeritus of Home Economics, died February 25, 1993, in Austin, Texas, at the age of 95. She first joined the faculty of The University of Texas at Austin in 1927. Miss Tarpley was Head of the Division of Textiles and Clothing in the Department of Home Economics for 19 years, until her retirement in 1961.

Miss Tarpley received her undergraduate degree from Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee. After teaching high school home economics from 1920 to 1923, she attended Columbia University and received her Master of Arts degree in 1927.

Miss Tarpley co-authored two books with Lucy Rathbone, Fabrics and Dress in 1931, and Fashions and Fabrics in 1962. Both texts were widely used throughout the country. Her research centered around textile quality control and the clothing needs of the family. She published in Texas Textile Maintenance Reporter, Texas Hotel Magazine, Omicron Nu Magazine, and Journal of Home Economics. She was a specialist/consultant for the National Institute of Dyers and Cleaners, Macy's Bureau of Standards, and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

In 1937, she participated in a study tour of textiles in China and Japan. The current division of Textiles and Apparel still studies and exhibits the numerous textile artifacts which she donated to the historic costume and textile collection from her oriental experience. In 1954, she spent the summer studying the garment industries of Paris and London, as well as historic textiles in museums of Europe. Following her retirement, Miss Tarpley served as a consultant for The Ford Foundation in India, working with home economics programs at the college level. Faculty and students continue to study artifacts donated from her India experience. Upon her return from India, Miss

Tarpley regularly gave lectures concerning traditional Indian dress and adornment, textiles and clothing dress concerning cultural influences on textiles and apparel.

Miss Tarpley was a member of Omicron Nu , Pi Lamba Theta, and Kappa Delta Pi honoraries. She was active in the American Home Economics Association, American Association of University Professors, Texas Home Economics Association, and Texas State Teachers Association. She was treasurer, then vice-president and chairman of the credentials committee for the Texas Home Economics Association. She was chairman of the College Teachers of Textiles and Clothing Association for the central region and chairman for four years of the Textiles and Clothing Division of the American Home Economics Association.

Miss Tarpley is remembered fondly by colleagues and students who benefited from her scholarship and high academic standards. She was a pioneer in a young field of study which has now developed international status. She is remembered for her high standards of scholarship, her international contributions to the field of Textiles and Clothing, and her many admirable personal and professional attributes. The Department has established The Elizabeth Tarpley Endowment in her honor.

Robert M. Berdahl, President
The University of Texas at Austin

H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The General Faculty

This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professor Ardis Rewerts (Chair), Professor Ann Reed, and Professor Ann DuPont.