IN MEMORIAM

THELMA ANDERSON BOLLMAN

Thelma Anderson was born near Trenton, Texas, October 24, 1898, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Anderson. She died at her home in Austin, Texas, January 24, 1965. Survivors are her husband, Mr. Ralph Bollman of Midland, whom she married June 21, 1922; a daughter Betty (Thelma, Elizabeth, Mrs. Sam Cobb, Jr.) of Midland; an adopted son Billy (William Don) of Austin; a sister, Mrs. W. W. Vasse of Pasadena, California; a brother, Mr. Don Anderson of Pharr, Texas and granddaughters, Cynthia Elizabeth, Melissa Morris, and Tracy Alison Cobb.

She attended elementary school in Kennedy, Lampasas, and Eden, Texas, and graduated from Whitewright High School in Whitewright, Texas, in 1916. She received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas Woman's College now Texas Wesleyan at Fort Worth in 1919, and her Master of Arts from Columbia University in 1920. She taught history in the Okmulgee, Oklahoma, High School, 1919-1922, and English in the Okmulgee Junior College in 1935-1936. In 1939 Mrs. Bollman entered The University of Texas to pursue the doctorate with a view to entering college teaching. She obtained the Doctor of Philosophy degree in June, 1942, with a major in secondary education and a minor in history. The title of her dissertation was, "The Relation of College Entrance Requirements and the Secondary School Curriculum."
Dr. Bollman's college teaching began at The University of Texas as Instructor in the Division of Extension, where she served during 1941-1942. The next year she taught at East Texas State Teachers College, Commerce. In 1943 she returned to the University as Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education. She was advanced to Associate Professor in 1945 and became a member of the Graduate Faculty in 1953. Early in 1961, because of ill health, Dr. Bollman resigned her position as of the end of the spring semester. Soon thereafter, she was made Associate Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Bollman's principal contributions to The University of Texas were her classroom teaching, her leadership in the field of general curriculum and social studies education, her dedicated service to the cause of economic education, and her outstanding work on numerous committees of the Department and the College. For many years she was responsible for the basic general course in curriculum and each semester she taught one or more groups in her specialized field of social studies. Students frequently spoke of Dr. Bollman's professional skill as teacher and her thorough knowledge of her subject, and of such personal qualities as her graciousness, refinement, and dynamic personality. Early in the fifties one of her graduate seminars organized a "Bollman Club" in her honor. Also during the fifties, she became nationally known in the field of economic education and in the summers of 1950, 1951 and 1952 conducted economic education workshops at the University that the National Director of the movement credited with setting the standards for workshops elsewhere. She was Executive Director for the Texas Economic Education Council from 1950 through
1952 and, in addition to conducting the workshops, engaged in promoting economic education in the state through writing and visiting high schools and colleges. She served as consultant for Economic Education workshops at Southern Methodist University, The University of Houston, Baylor University, and New York University.

Dr. Bollman preferred teaching to writing and frequently was critical of the practice in higher education of placing greater value on research and writing than on effective teaching. Even though she was too independent to be swayed from her concentration on teaching, she published several pieces: "The Relation of College Entrance Requirements to the Secondary School Curriculum," The School Review, April, 1942; "Improvements Made in Some Texas High Schools after Using The Evaluative Criteria," Research Study Number Two, The Texas Study of Secondary Education, 1947; "Economic Education," The Texas Outlook, October, 1951; and "Secondary School Principals Look at College Entrance Requirements," The School Executive, February, 1952. In addition, Dr. Bollman, as director or consultant for Economic Education Workshops, supervised the preparation of eleven extensive resource units in economic education that set the pattern for other such productions in this region and elsewhere.

From the time Dr. Bollman became a member of the departmental staff until her health became impaired in the late fifties, she could always be counted on for excellent service on numerous committees, for sponsorship of student activities, and for leadership and service in the social activities that helped to keep the morale of the department at a high level.
Her off-campus contributions included teaching extension courses throughout the forties, serving on evaluation committees for more than fifteen high schools in all sections of the state, and speaking at professional meetings and P.T.A.'s.

As an undergraduate student, she had excelled as a tennis player and had developed keen interest in sports that made her an ardent fan her entire life.

Dr. Bollman's professional memberships included the American Academy of Political and Social Science, American Association of University Professors, American Association of University Women, American Education Fellowship, National Council for the Social Studies, Texas State Council for the Social Studies (Sponsor), Delta Kappa Gamma (President, local chapter), Pi Lambda Theta (Faculty Sponsor), Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Education Association, and the Texas State Teachers Association. She was also an active member of P.E.O., having been president of the chapter in Okmulgee and Austin.

Dr. Bollman's academic knowledge of the field of social studies was greatly enhanced by travel. She visited Mexico in 1949 and again in 1952, Canada in 1950 and in 1962, Cuba and the Bahamas in 1958, various European countries in 1955 and in 1963 (including Russia). In the summer of 1959 she went around the world eastward on an unscheduled trip that permitted her to stop as frequently as she chose and to stay as long in each place as her interest demanded. (Her independence and courage were revealed through her disdain for making hotel reservations in advance.) During the winter of 1961-1962 she spent six weeks in South America.
And after retirement, in 1963, she made another trip around the world southward from Anchorage to Australia and back by way of Hawaii, again traveling alone, choosing the places of greatest interest, and moving along at her own rate.

In Dr. Bollman's passing, the University has lost an able teacher, a staunch supporter, a gracious lady.

Norman Hackerman, Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs
The University of Texas

Eugene W. Nelson, Secretary
The General Faculty

The Resolutions were prepared by a Special Committee consisting of
Mary Bell James, Stephen McDonald and J. G. Umstattd, Chairman.
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