IN MEMORIAM

JOHN ARCH WHITE

John Arch White, the first child of John Van Dyke and Alberta Smith White, was born in Tocopola, Mississippi, on July 17, 1901. He moved to De Leon, Texas, with his parents as a small boy. On August 10, 1925, John Arch and Gazelle Williams were united in marriage. Mrs. White preceded her husband in death on July 2, 1970. He passed away on May 9, 1980, and is survived by two brothers, Goen White (of San Antonio), William S. White (of Frankfurt, Kentucky), and one sister, Mrs. Doris Rowe (of Beaumont).

John Arch White graduated from De Leon High School in 1919 and worked that summer as a clerk for the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway. In September he enrolled at The University of Texas at Austin. After successfully completing one year at U. T. he returned home and again worked for the railway and, later, for the De Leon Auto Sales, as a bookkeeper and attendant. He returned to The University in the fall of 1921 for a second year of collegiate education. From 1922 to 1928, John Arch White both taught at and served as the principal of the Sanderson (Texas) High School. He also was their basketball coach. In 1928 he returned to The University and earned the B.B.A. in 1929. He immediately entered graduate school and received an M.B.A. in 1930. He continued graduate study and took the Ph.D. in 1937.

From 1937 until his retirement in 1968, John Arch White held a long and distinguished series of academic appointments. Beginning as an instructor and advancing through the ranks of assistant and associate professor, he was promoted to full professor and member of the Graduate Faculty in 1945; served as the first Chairman of the Accounting Department from 1946 through 1954; was Associate Dean of the College of Business Administration from 1954 to 1957; was made Acting Dean of the College in 1957; and served as Dean of the College of Business Administration from 1958 to 1966. From 1963 to 1966 Dr. White also served as Dean of the Graduate School of Business. He was appointed Professor Emeritus in 1967.

During his tenure as Dean, John Arch White made many lasting contributions to collegiate business education. He was deeply involved in planning for the first College of Business Administration building on the Austin campus, which was completed and occupied in 1961. He skillfully led a reorganization in graduate business education which in 1963 culminated in the creation of a separate Graduate School of Business, and in greatly improved M.B.A. and M.P.A. curricula. John Arch White was also recognized and honored, at the time of his retirement, by having the first endowed professorship in the
the College of Business named in his honor.

Dean White's only long-term absence from the U. T. campus after 1928 occurred during 1943-44 when he served as District Price Executive with the office of Price Administration in Houston. For several years Dr. White also served as a consultant to Covington and Burling, a Washington, D. C. law firm.

John Arch White was a prolific author of accounting textbooks. His first text, Elementary Accounting, co-authored with Professors Newlove and Haynes, was published in 1938 by Heath & Company. This text was revised and published in three subsequent editions. Dr. White was also a co-author of three additional accounting texts, namely, Intermediate Accounting (Heath); Fundamental Accounting Principles (Irwin); and Intermediate Accounting (Irwin). Each of these texts has been published in numerous subsequent editions and the last two mentioned texts are among the most popular accounting textbooks in the world today.

Although teaching, writing, and administrative duties kept John Arch White very busy, he always found time to help others. Among the many services that he rendered to the accounting profession, The University, and the community, were one year as President of the American Accounting Association (1956-57); several years as faculty vice-president of Theta Chapter and another year (1951-1952), as national President of Beta Alpha Psi, the honorary accounting fraternity; three years as a member of the Executive Committee of the American Assembly Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSBB); a term as Associate Editor of the Southwest Social Science Quarterly; a long-term member of the U. T. Graduate Council; and service as a Deacon in the University Baptist Church of Austin. John Arch White's outstanding record of academic accomplishment and professional service was first recognized nationally with the inclusion of his biography in Who's Who in America in 1954.

On May 31, 1968, John Arch was forced by poor health to retire after 38 years of service to The University of Texas at Austin. On this occasion literally hundreds of former students and academic colleagues paused to reflect upon this truly amazing man, John Arch White. Although his professional accomplishments were legion, those who knew him well loved him not for what he had done but for the compassion and concern that he had always demonstrated in his own life. No student's problem was ever too small or too unimportant for John Arch White. No faculty member ever hesitated to seek his wise counsel on any problem, personal or professional. John Arch was clearly a concerned human and a devoted teacher whose contributions will live for many years through those he touched.
Dr. Peter T. Flawn, President
The University of Texas at Austin

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