



UNM's First
Dean of Women

Lena C. Clauve

A biography by
Betty Huning Hinton

UNM'S First Dean of Women, Lena C. Clauve

Betty Huning Hinton

with

Lena C. Clauve

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Betty Huning Hinton
Albuquerque, New Mexico



Lena Clauve at her retirement in 1961

PREFACE

This biography of Lena C. Clauve (pronounced "clove" as in the spice) was initiated as a segment of a project suggested by Betty Kelley, a close personal friend and colleague at APS, who is interested in history and research of all types. The initial idea was to interview retired women who had been in the work world during a time when most women stayed in the home, raising children. The project was designed to research the reasons for their working outside the home, and the influences in their lives that brought it about.

I began my interviews with Lena C. Clauve because of the generation she represents, and as a result became fascinated with her accomplishments, realizing that my contact with her at UNM began only five years after she became the first Dean of Women.

This project has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience for me, and it is my hope that others may find the same enjoyment in reading this booklet. Publication at this time is designed as my contribution to the Centennial celebration of the University.

The titles of musical selections as unit separation points are used to signify the influence of music throughout Dean Clauve's career.

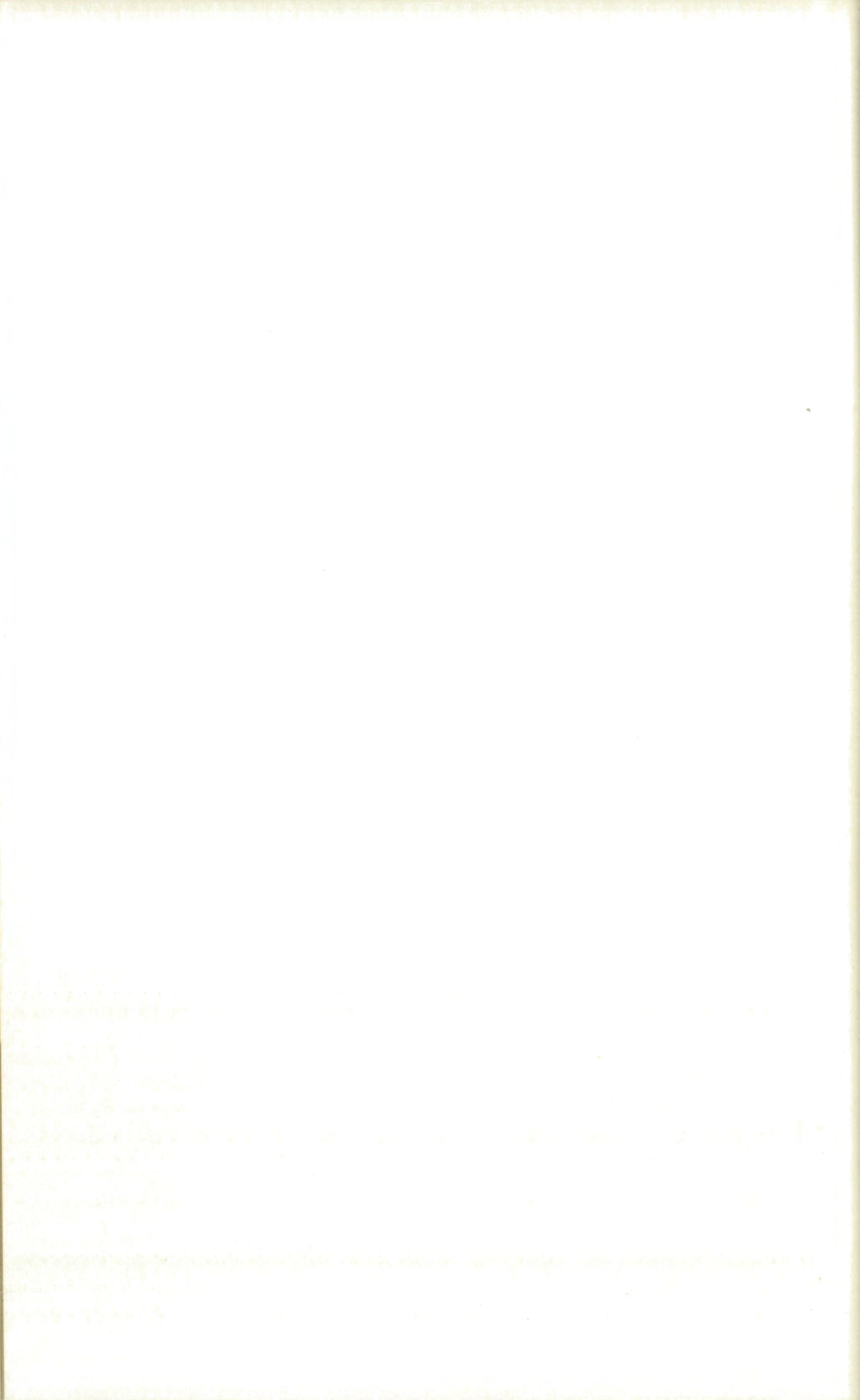
A similar biography of Elizabeth P. Simpson, Chairperson of the Home Economics Department at UNM from 1918 to 1957, is in progress. Her life is another one of continued interest in people and her relationship to them. Her imprint on the young women who attended the University will never be forgotten nor will her contributions to the growth of UNM. My interviews with her will be published as a companion piece to this one, and both biographies will be published as the above-mentioned project is completed.

I wish to thank Bub Henry, Doris Dolzadelli and Mary Lynn for their assistance in locating pictures, files and interviews that expanded my information. Mike Gibson of the UNM Photography Department was very helpful in

copying the photo of the Mortar Board members at their installation in 1936. The editing by Betty Kelley, Sara Miller, and Lucile Huning, my sister, was invaluable.

I am delighted that my nephew Tyler Huning agreed to design my book cover. His line drawing of Scholes Hall, formerly the Administration Building, on the UNM campus, creates the background in which Lena Clauve administered for so many years. Tyler's attractive art work represents the UNM campus past and present and makes my work complete.

B.H.H.



"ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH"

Lena Clauve was Dean of Women for the University of New Mexico from 1929 until 1961. She retired at age 65 in compliance with mandatory state law, but gained an extra year because her birthday is in August. When she came to UNM the student population was less than 1000 with 25 faculty members, by 1961 the student population had increased to 8,886 with a faculty of 285.¹

In 1929 the center of the campus, on a hill overlooking Albuquerque, was comprised of eight buildings. Hodgin Hall, the administration and classroom building, had been converted to the pueblo style from its original brick. Rodey Hall flanked Hodgin on the north and the library was to the east of Hodgin.² Hokona Hall, the women's dormitory, and Kwataka Hall, the men's dormitory, were also in pueblo style with Indian motif murals on the walls guarding the entrances. These buildings along with the Dining Hall; Hadley Hall, the engineering building; and Sara Reynolds Hall, the home economics building formed a rectangle with a grove of trees and grass in the center with a fountain, a concrete sundial, and concrete benches with 1905, 1921, and 1928 inscriptions which had been presented by various graduating classes. The pueblo style of architecture was modeled after that of Taos Pueblo.³

Lena C. Clauve at 94 years of age continues to be active in alumni and community affairs. She has a vibrant and enthusiastic personality, and a keen interest in people, which accounts for her many accomplishments.

Lena Clauve is about 5'6" in height and stands straight and tall, sometimes using a cane for security. Her hair is a blend of dark brown and grey, and always becomingly styled. Sparkling dark brown eyes, convey her active interest in the University of New Mexico, the students and alumni, and her contagious laugh bubbles as she tells of amusing incidents. Browns, beiges, and pinks are her favorite colors in dress because they emphasize her lovely complexion. Conservative in her style of dress, she is

always pleasantly well-groomed. She shows confidence in her bearing and her relationships with everyone. Her wonderful memory for names, and her pride in the position she held are evident as she recounts her remembrances of the University.

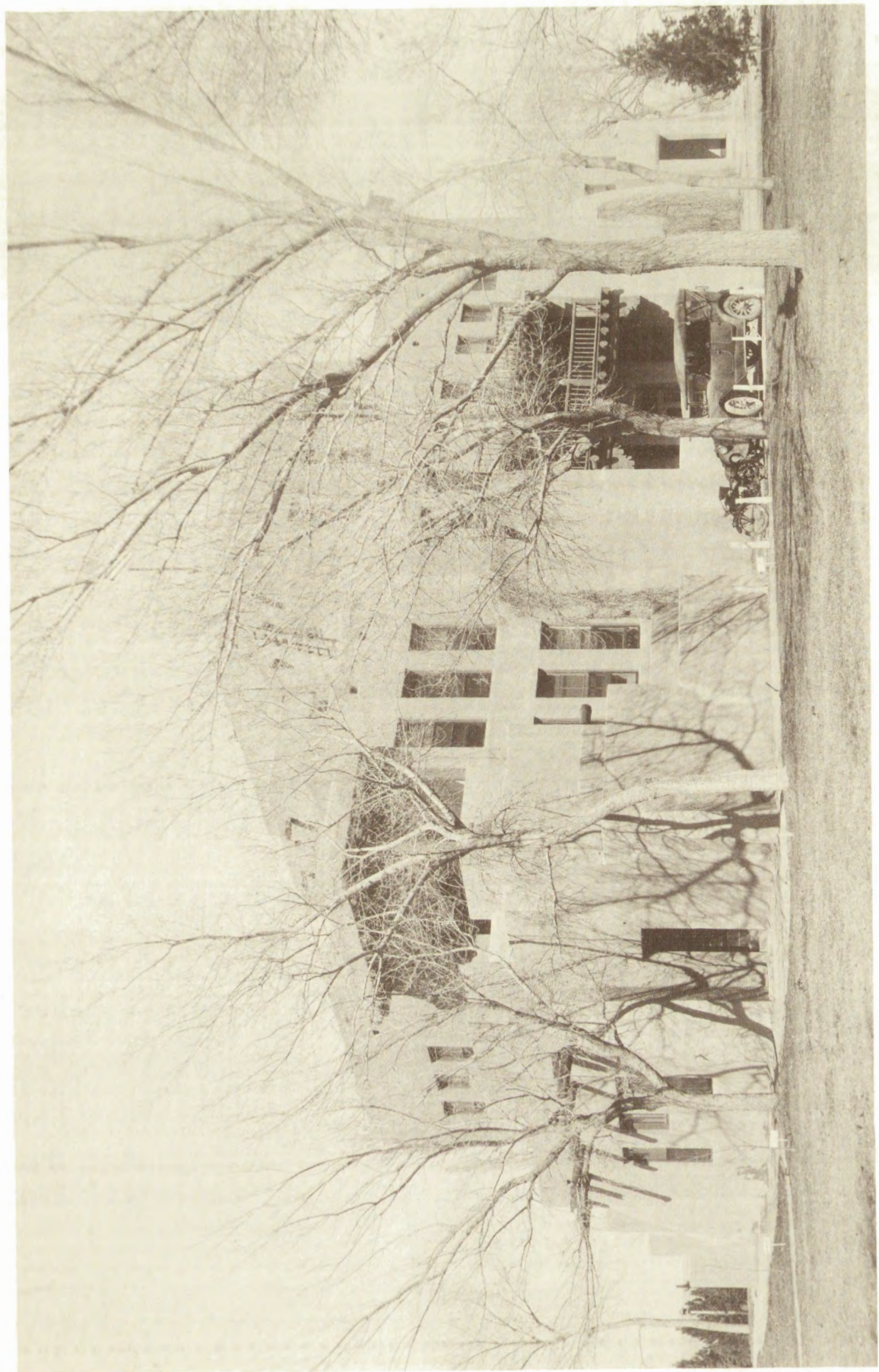
Lena loves to entertain and gave her own 92nd birthday party in the garden of her home with the help of family members and many of her close friends who were former students or members of Mortar Board.

Lena's career began at UNM when President Zimmerman was seeking a Dean of Women, and Grace Thompson was seeking a music teacher. Lena filled the bill in both instances. She had completed her bachelor's degree at the University of New Mexico, and had several years of teaching experience in Indiana. Music had been the center of her life from early childhood. She began her formal music training at the age of eight when her mother purchased a piano for her after her father died. She had lessons as the family could afford them. At times she taught herself or learned from her cousins.

Lena Clave was born in Wabash, Indiana on August 10, 1895 to Anna Cross Clave and Frank Clave. Lina Cecile is her full name, named for her grandmother Clave and a grand-aunt who was her grandmother's sister. One of her teachers changed the spelling to "Lena" when she started to school.

Frank's forebears came from Switzerland. Two Clave brothers, Emile and Feliste, fifteen and seventeen, had immigrated to the United States and settled in Indiana as farmers. They married Catin sisters from Bern, Switzerland, and it is from them that Lena's name was chosen. Lena remembers that her grandmother always kept a bunch of edelweiss tied with a blue satin ribbon hanging on the living room wall, and she realizes now how homesick her grandmother must have been.

Lena's grandfather was Emile Clave'. He came from northwestern Switzerland near the French border so the name is French and was written with an accent, but he



Hodgin Hall circa 1930

removed the accent and anglicized the name because it was simpler.

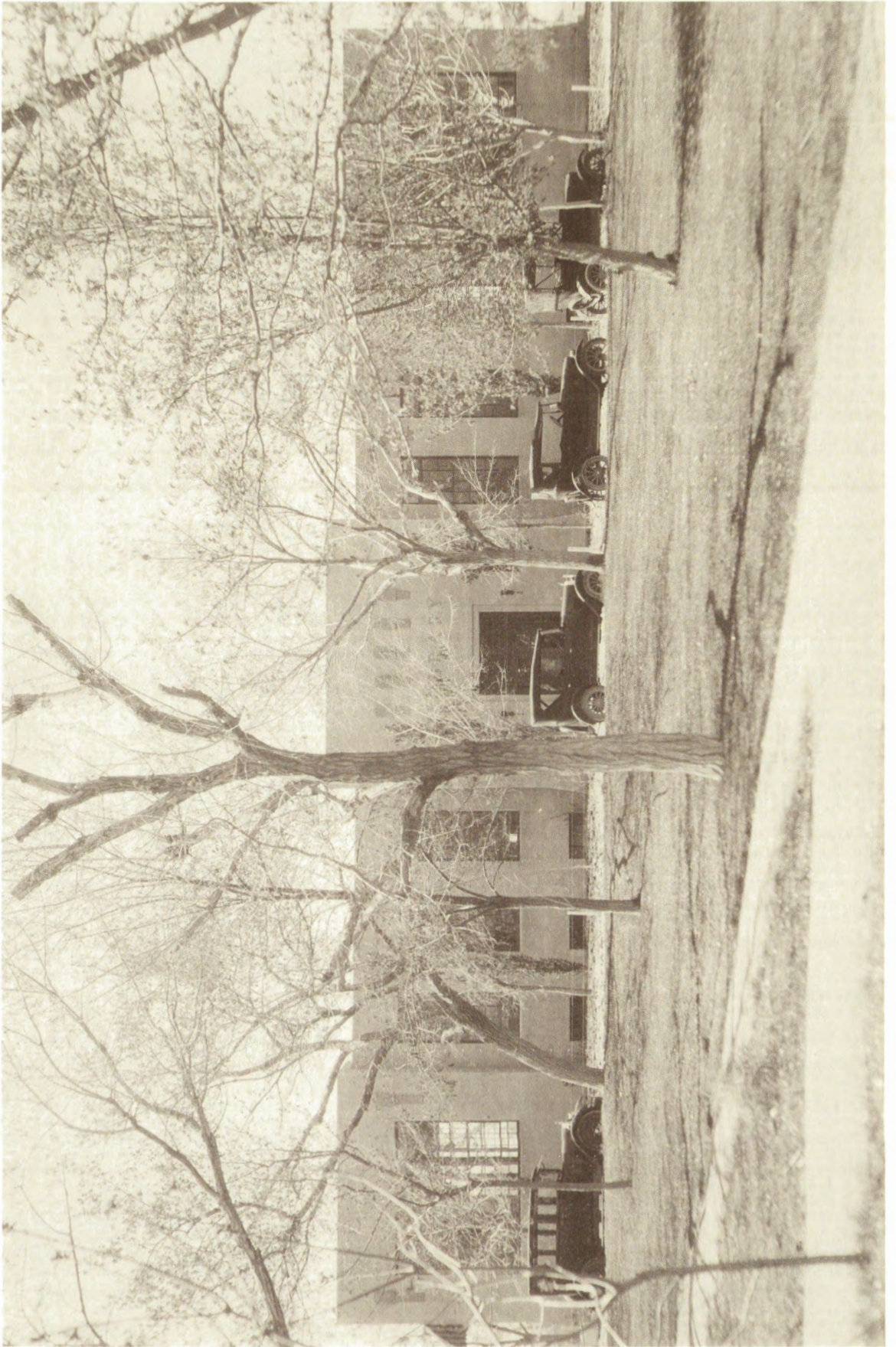
Lena's father Frank was a farmer, a woodcarver, and a very talented musician. He constructed beautiful pieces of furniture, some of which Lena has in her home today. He played the guitar, the violin, and the mandolin and had a beautiful singing voice. For entertainment in the evenings the family sat around their father and sang the old folk songs. This was the beginning of Lena's musical training, and her love of music.

Lena's maternal grandmother Gruell' was born in Baltimore, Maryland, but when she married Miles Cross they moved to Wabash, Indiana where he was a farmer.

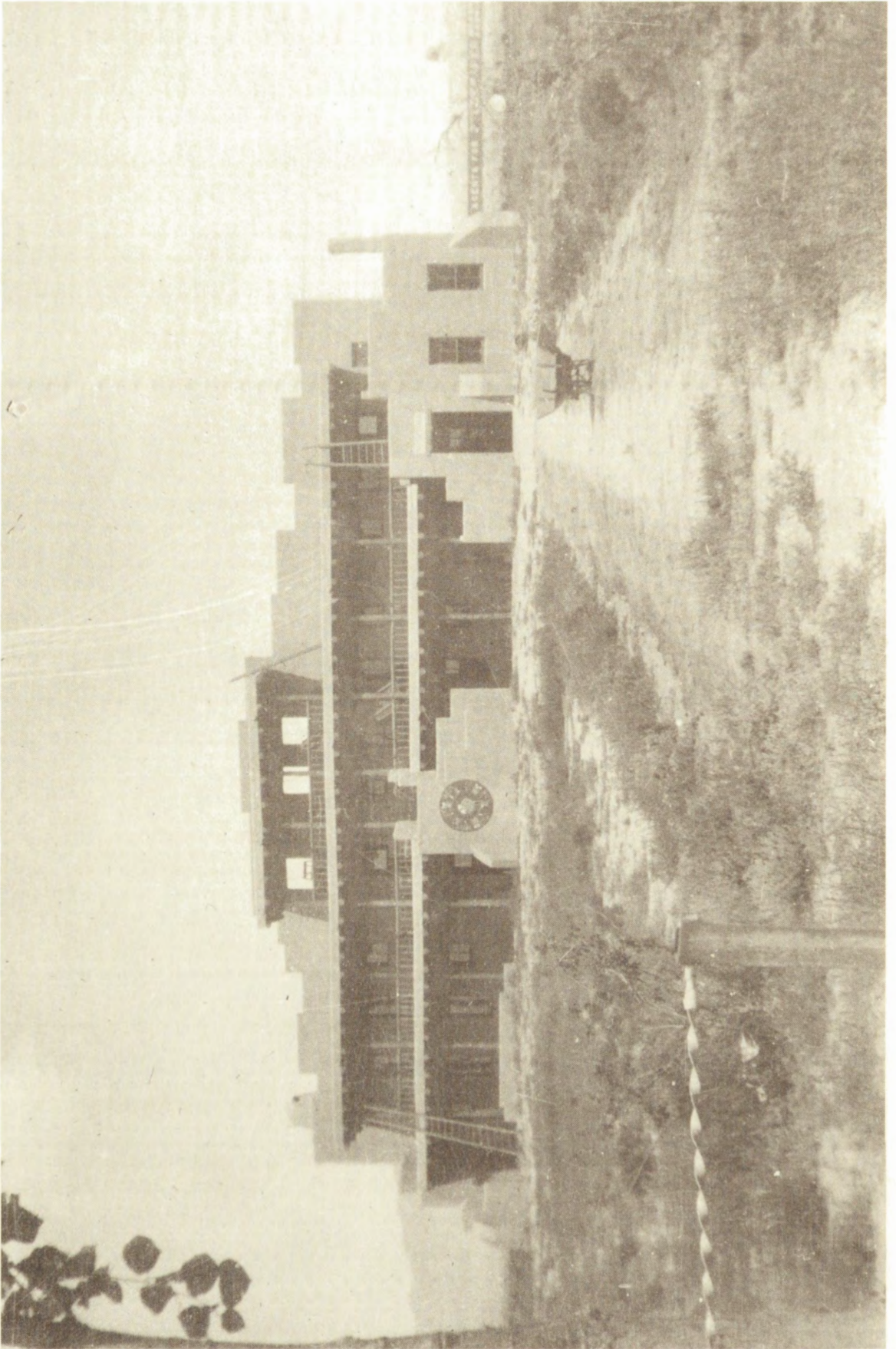
There is a family legend that Lena's great-grandfather Gruell' had been Secretary to President Jefferson Davis of the Confederacy. He was a wealthy property owner in Maryland, and because of his admiration for Jefferson Davis, he set up a Davis county in Maryland. The county is no longer in existence, but the name may have been changed.

Lena's mother, Anna was born in Wabash, Indiana, but when Anna was two, her mother died and she was sent to Connorsville, Indiana where she was raised by a paternal relative. Here she completed an eighth grade education and taught school for one year. There were no high schools in the vicinity for Anna to attend. She met and married Frank Clave in Wabash at age 18 and he was 20. There they lived on a farm, and had three children, two sons and a daughter, Lena. One son who was 6 years older than Lena died in 1913 of influenza. The other son was named Arnold but everyone called him Jack. He was four years younger than Lena, and he spent some time in Albuquerque with Lena in later years.

Frank died at the age of 38, and for two years Anna attempted unsuccessfully to run the farm on which they lived. She then moved to town with her three children, and was employed as a dressmaker by one of her friends. They designed and made clothing for women and children. Two



*First Library circa 1927
An Art Department Annex Today*



*Hokona Hall circa 1925
Women's Dormitory*

wealthy "maiden" ladies named Dowd, living on a farm near Wabash, ordered complete outfits made every season: coats, dresses, and suits. All the fabrics were specially ordered from New York. But no one ever saw the two ladies outside their home except at church. This seemed strange when they had ordered expensive clothing. Anna worked as a dressmaker for the woman who was commissioned to make these clothes and thus supported her family.

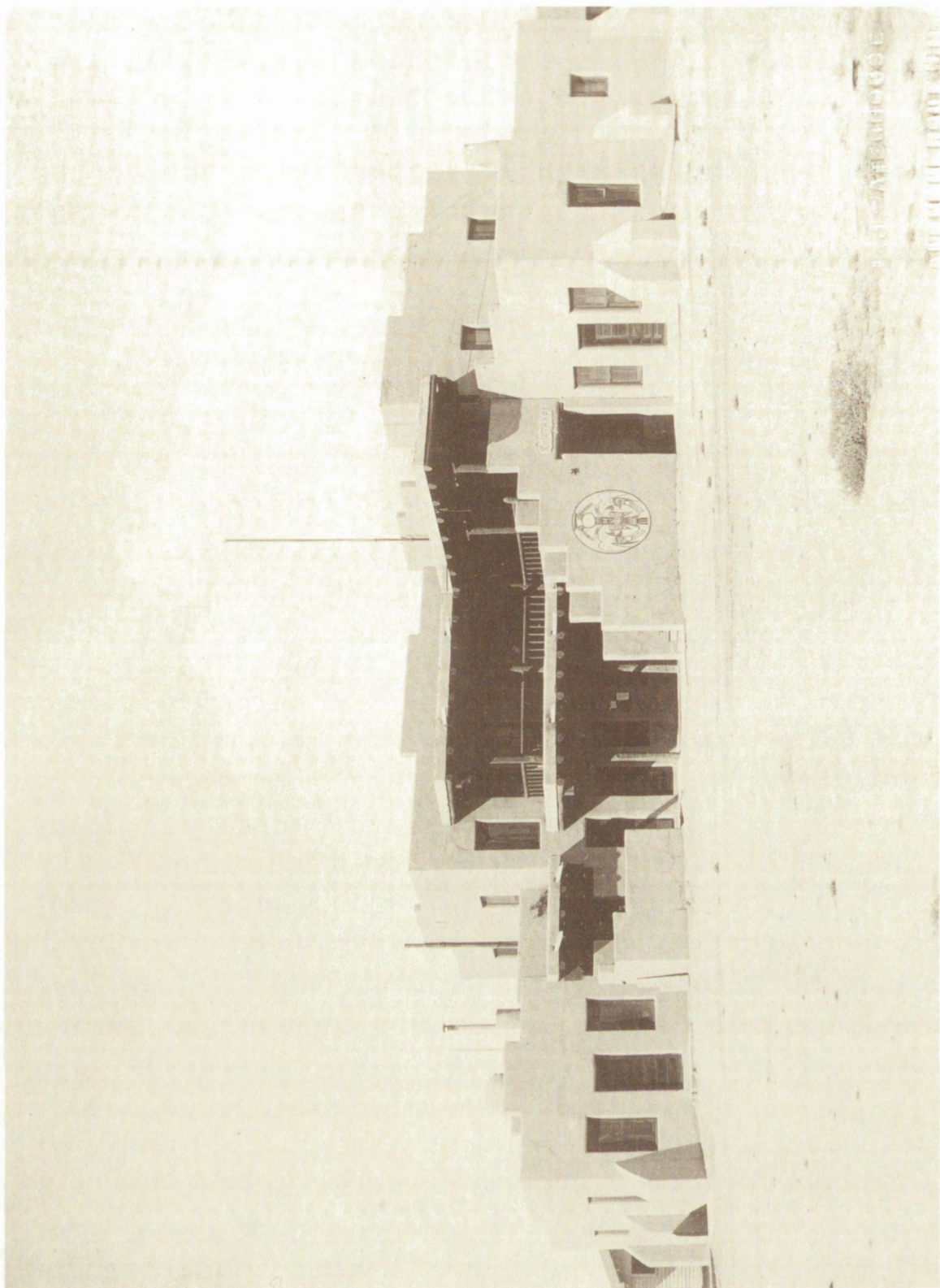
Lena's mother, Anna, was a very ambitious person. She always wanted more education and did a great deal of reading in history and law. She insisted that Lena continue her education.

When Lena graduated from Wabash High School in 1913, it was arranged for her to spend a year with an uncle who lived in Cincinnati. His daughter was just two years older than Lena and was attending Cincinnati Conservatory where she was a music major and voice student. This cousin was the first director of music for the radio station WLW, traveled a great deal, and later became Doris Day's voice teacher. While Lena was in Cincinnati, her uncle took the two girls to plays and musicals, and it was during this time that Lena saw Maude Adams in "Peter Pan." Lena remembers being enthralled because the actress was in her prime, 79 years ago. Lena stayed until almost Christmas, when she became homesick and returned home.

The next year her mother said, "You're going to school." She enrolled at Angola, Indiana and stayed a week. She was so homesick she couldn't eat or sleep. Lena conveyed her distress in a letter for there were no telephones for direct communication. Her mother wrote her to come home which is what she did. When she arrived, her big trunk was put on the front porch, and her mother said, "That trunk will stay there until we make another decision."

She next enrolled in North Manchester, Indiana, where she lived with former neighbors, whose daughters had been her good friends. She attended Manchester College for two summers. In those days one could go to summer school for several weeks and then teach anything. She

taught music, art, home economics, and coached the girls basketball team. Lena recalls, "You had to do everything, and were supposed to be ready after 8 weeks of training."



*Kwataka Hall circa 1925
Men's Dormitory*

"MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG

Lena's Teaching career began after she finished her stay in Cincinnati, and continued while she attended summer sessions. She taught for ten years in Wabash County schools.

The first year she taught in a one-room school built by the Spiker family that was referred to as Spikerville. It was not a town, although the Spiker family had set up the school and hired the teacher. Some of the boys in the eighth grade were older and taller than Lena, and she had difficulty with classroom control and keeping their attention on their studies. She went home crying every day.

Her mother told her, "Either quit crying or quit." She chose to quit crying, because that ten dollars a week was big money. But one year was enough!

The next nine years were spent teaching in the consolidated schools. She went to a different school each day to teach music; traveling to some by inter-urban street car, to some by walking, and in the winter by bob-sled. There were few cars at that time.

While she was the itinerant music teacher, she also worked in the summer time in the County Superintendent's office, and became more familiar with the Wabash School System.

In the meantime, Lena's mother married Oren Smith. Anna and Oren subsequently came to New Mexico because she had become ill with tuberculosis. After two years, Anna returned to Wabash for a short visit, but refused to return to New Mexico unless Lena accompanied her. Thus Lena arrived in New Mexico in 1923 planning to stay only two weeks but she remained for two years.

Anna was quite ill, and Dr. Reidy recommended that Lena should stay with her. For something to do, Lena enrolled in summer session courses at the University of New Mexico.

The day she went to register for summer session in 1923 she walked up the sidewalk leading to Hodgin Hall all dressed up in a pretty blue dress and hat and gloves. A young man was seated on one of the concrete benches and as she

says, "I must have looked terribly lost."

He came over to her and asked if he could help her. When she said she wanted to go to the office of the Dean of Women, he replied, "We don't have a Dean of Women. We have one Dean and that's Dean Mitchell and I will take you to him."

The young man was Pat Miller and was the first person she met at the University. She and Pat have been good friends ever since. Pat later became Registrar at UNM during the time Lena was Dean of Women.

Her step-father told her that if she would work for a degree, he would pay her expenses. This opportunity was too great to pass up, and she enrolled full time, but it was very difficult to resign from her teaching position in Wabash. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1925 with a major in piano.

Albuquerque at this time was "The Heart of the Health Country" and Central Avenue was lined from Oak Street to the University with beige and white frame cottages for tuberculosis patients seeking health. All had sleeping porches because it was believed that the sunshine and fresh air, even at night, were the cure. The patients were seen in their front yards everyday, lying in striped canvas beach chairs soaking up the sunshine. The Presbyterian Sanitarium and the Methodist Sanitarium, facilities for the treatment of tuberculosis, were also located in this vicinity.⁴

This was the scene when Lena arrived. Her mother and Oren lived just off Central Avenue on Harvard Drive in a duplex, close enough that Lena could walk to the University. It was by coincidence that her parents found this duplex. When they arrived in Albuquerque the only place they found to live was a rooming house close to the Immaculate Conception Church. As they were looking for another place to live, and were walking along the street close to the University they met a couple, Mr. and Mrs. Ward, who had been friends of Lena's mother back in Indiana. Lena's mother had been Mrs. Ward's maid of honor. They greeted each other in astonishment and discovered that the Wards had just completed a duplex in which they were living and desired tenants for the other half.

"HAIL TO THEE, NEW MEXICO"

During her undergraduate years at the University, Lena was very active in many organizations. She belonged to the campus YWCA which met every Sunday evening with the girls from the downtown YWCA and alternated in entertaining each other. They called it the CUP Club – "Call Us Pals," Lena giggles. She also belonged to the dramatic club, was assistant business manager for the *Mirage*, the yearbook, and was a member of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority. In her senior year, she was elected to Phi Kappa Phi, the scholastic honorary. To make a little extra money, she played the piano for 25 cents an hour for the dance classes in the physical education department. She was also the accompanist for the chorus and glee clubs.

After two years, she never wanted to leave Albuquerque. Her family, however, all returned to Indiana in 1924 when Anna's medical diagnosis was changed from tuberculosis to asthma. At this time, Lena moved into Hokona Hall, the women's dormitory on the campus.

John Milne, Superintendent of the Albuquerque Public Schools, had promised Lena a job when she received her degree. When she didn't hear from him at the end of the term, she made an appointment to see him. Mr. Milne beat around the bush and finally told her that he couldn't employ her. When she asked, "Why?", he told her it was because she was an immoral woman. Lena was stunned, but said nothing, just walked out of his office. She didn't let her emotions show until she was out of the building, then she broke down and "blubbered." She returned to Indiana immediately.

She taught in a Wabash consolidated county school for two years, then taught in the Wabash City Schools where she was supervisor of music for two years.

Lena subsequently learned that the man from the music department whom she had given as a reference had told Mr. Milne that she was an immoral woman. Lena had been his accompanist when he sang at different functions, and

he had asked her repeatedly to go out with him. She always refused, and this was his retaliation.

When Lena returned to the University as Dean of Women she and Marie Balling became good friends. Marie later married John Milne. The two ladies went to lunch together once a week, and Lena teased Mr. Milne by asking him if he wasn't afraid to let his wife go out with an immoral woman. Lena's eyes twinkle and she laughs as she recounts this taunting. He was so embarrassed by her teasing that he finally told Lena it was the music professor who had refused to recommend her by making that false accusation.

While teaching in Wabash, Lena was called to the phone during one class period, and was surprised to hear Dr. Zimmerman's voice. He was in Chicago at a meeting of Presidents of Universities and Colleges. He asked Lena to come to Chicago the next day for an interview. She declined because that was the night of the Spring Music Festival for all junior and senior high school choruses.

She said, "I cannot possibly come, because I would disappoint all those music students."

He said, "Well, I'm sorry because it may mean that you won't get the position."

Lena's answer, "Well, I'm sorry too, because I want to come back to New Mexico."

Two weeks later she received a letter from President Zimmerman, asking her to come to the University as Dean of Women. He said that her integrity in placing her students above a meeting for a new job made him realize she was the person he needed.

So she says it wasn't really her choice. She didn't plan her career; it just happened.

President Zimmerman set no guidelines for her new position, just told her to use her common sense.

She learned a great deal from the young women in her charge because they were much like the girls she had taught in public school, and with their suggestions she formulated her duties. She singles out Winifred Stamm Reiter to whom she is particularly grateful for her assistance in working out

the guidelines, and to Leona Raillard Kohlhaas who was secretary to Dr. Zimmerman and her very close friend.

In 1930 Dr. Zimmerman sent Lena to a meeting of Deans of Women in Laramie, Wyoming. Here she learned that many Universities had an organization of Associated Women Students who set regulations for women. She also learned of Phrateres, a national organization for women not belonging to any Greek fraternity or sorority. When Lena returned from this conference she established both of these groups.

The image shows a handwritten musical score for the song "Hail, New Mexico". It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system includes the lyrics: "Hail to thee New Mex-i-co / Thy loyal sons are / Marching down the". The second system includes: "field we go / Fight-ing for thee, Roh. rah. rah. / How we pledge our faith to thee". The third system includes: "Ne-ver shall we fail, / Fighting ev-er / Yielding never. Hail, Hail, Hail,". The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature.

Music by Lena Clauve,
Lyrics Dr. George Stclair
1930

Original Score of "Hail, New Mexico"
composed by Lena Clauve. UNM's first fight song

Grace Thompson, chairperson of the music department, was searching for someone to teach music education in her department, because she had no personal experience in the field. Lena seemed an obvious choice because of her experience in teaching music in the public school. So she taught music education classes, as well as performing her duties as Dean. She established the Music Education Department, advised students majoring in music education, and taught two classes. As chairperson of the Music Education Department, her title was that of Professor.

In the early 1930's the faculty presented a "Faculty Follies", the purpose of which was to raise \$2000 to repay Dr. St. Clair for his having taken responsibility for a debt incurred by the *Mirage*, the yearbook. Dr. George St. Clair was chairperson of the English Department and the sponsor of the *Mirage*. At the end of the dress rehearsal, Dr. Zimmerman noted that the ending needed a "lively, rousing tune". Leona Raillart, who was Lena's roommate at the Riordan home, suggested that Lena play her recent piano composition. As she played her original selection, Dr. St. Clair composed words that became the first fight song for UNM. And that was a finale the President Zimmerman approved.

An excerpt from a tribute to Lena by Gladys Black Smart gives this description of the "Follies." "The entire history-making talent show was a spirit-lifting success in every sense of the word. Enough money was raised to reimburse Dr. St. Clair, and the high-class entertainment was table conversation throughout Albuquerque for weeks afterward. There was that fabulous chorus line which, among others, included you, (Lena), Leona, and Loretta Barrett Keleher. Grace Thompson Edminister outdid the original Boo-boop-a-doop girl in her own breathless interpretation, especially directed to Dr. St. Clair".

For fifteen years Lena worked in the Music Department and as Dean of Women until the work in the office of Dean became so heavy and complicated that she couldn't fulfill both positions. During this time, Lena continued her own academic studies in summer sessions and received her

Master of Arts Degree from Columbia University in 1932.

It was during World War II that Lena's load became very heavy. As Dean of both men and women she was responsible for student employment, loans, and housing. She supervised fraternities and sororities, and hired house mothers for both, as well as, for the dormitories.



"A NEW WIND BLOWIN' "

Lena has never regretted her acceptance of the position as the first Dean of Women, and acknowledges, "The University has been good to me, and I tried to do my best to help the University. I hope I have made some contributions."

In her work as Dean of Women, Lena was very innovative and a great many changes were added to campus and alumni life under her leadership. Many organizations were brought to the campus through Lena's efforts.

She established Pi Lambda Theta, the education honorary; Sigma Alpha Iota, the music honorary; and Mortar Board, the senior women's honorary which was originally "Maia" on the UNM campus. Las Campanas for Juniors, and Spurs for Sophomores were also established. She wanted an honorary organization to recognize outstanding girls in each class. Las Campanas means bells. The national organization of The Bells had been contacted, but before the UNM chapter could be established, the national organization disbanded so UNM kept its original name.

With the organization of Mortar Board, Lena established an alumnae group because she thought it was necessary for those young women who had been so active on the campus to continue to serve the community.

The first goal of this alumnae group was to establish contact with the Albuquerque Public library, and at the first function Erna Fergusson was their speaker and guests were asked to donate books. Later it became a silver tea with a noted personality or writer as the speaker. The funds were used to purchase books on the Southwest to be placed in the Albuquerque Public Library. At one time Mortar Board had the finest collection of Southwestern literature and artifacts in this area. Students came from far and wide to do their research. The collection was housed in the Public Library in a special room, but with the hiring of a new librarian, coupled with moving into a new library facility, the collection was scattered. Most of the books have been

*Photo Mortar Board Installation
1936*



Front Row: (l. to r.) Katherine Milner, Frances Watson, Marian Rohovec, Roberta Palmer, Lena C. Clauve (Honorary Member), Carol Stevens* (National President of Mortar Board), Wilma Shelton* (Honorary Member), Helen Goetz*, Geraldine Dubois, Dora Russell*, Lois Blair, Alta Black. Second Row: Standing (l. to r.) Mary Elizabeth DeGraftenreid, Grace Campbell, Jane Spencer*, Winifred Stamm, Ruth Brock, Bernice Rebord, Clarissa Bezemek*, Thelma Pearson, Sara Finney*, Evelyn Bigelow, Mrs. J.C. Knode (member from Colorado University), Ruth Bigler*, Delight Keller Dixon*, Mary Jane French*, Hulda Hobbs, Nell Francis Naylor, Estelle Wisenback*, Margaret Easterday, Mela Sedillo.*

**Deceased*

re-assembled and are housed in a special room in the Special Collections Library at Central Avenue and Edith Boulevard, but the artifacts have been lost from the collection.

Lena has continued to be active in the Mortar Board Alumni organization. She attends all their meetings and activities, and for the traditional book tea she bakes 400 quarter-size tarts with chocolate or lemon filling topped with a tiny peak of whipped cream. These tarts are known as "Lena Clause" tarts and are a big drawing card for the tea.

Because of her dedication, Lena has received two Mortar Board awards: the Lobo Award for outstanding personal service to the University or for special achievement in her career which reflects credit on the University, and the Distinguished Woman Award for continuous contributions to the state of New Mexico. This last was bestowed on October 8, 1988 at the Homecoming breakfast sponsored by Mortar board and the University Alumni Association. Besides these awards, the Lena Clause Scholarship for a university student was established by Mortar board when she retired in 1961.

Her guidance and guidelines for the sororities on campus was an important part of the office of Dean, and as such she was also a member of the National Panhellenic Association. For several years she served on the National Panhellenic Committee as a member of the scholarship board. The Albuquerque Panhellenic Council nominated her for the award as an outstanding member of a Greek organization. In 1967 she was elected outstanding member of her own sorority, Alpha Delta Pi.

Lena saw a need developing for organizations to help young women further their University careers. With changes in school population there arose a need for an organization for young Indian women who attended the University, but lived at the Indian School. She also established an organization for women in the NROTC program. Lena was sensitive to the problems and desires of young women in her charge.

Lena was a firm but understanding and compassionate administrator. She expected women students to understand and adhere to all rules, particularly in sorority and PanHellenic relationships.⁵

Lena Clauve has a marvelous memory and in recounting her experiences as Dean of Women can cite specific examples.

In the early years Lena sent out cards in early September to all new women students, assigning them an appointment time to come to her office. One night the campus police were patrolling and discovered a young woman sitting on the steps of the Administration Building. It was midnight. The policeman asked her what she was doing there. She said she had an appointment with Dean Clauve but Dean Clauve wasn't in. He looked at the card and, of course, the card said 12 p.m.

"Young lady, your appointment time is 12 p.m. and it is now 12 a.m. You'd better come back in the morning."

The student returned to the dormitory, rather shamefaced to be greeted by the Dorm Mother who was almost frantic with worry. Curfew in the 1930's was 10:00 p.m.

Another time at the opening of school in September the Dorm Mother called Lena with the startling information that there was a young woman in the dormitory who had a gun, and she refused to give it up. Lena looked up the girl's schedule to determine when she might be back in her room, and went to visit her. When Lena entered the room, she did see the gun placed on nails that had been driven on the inside of the door so the girl could get to it in an emergency. In her conversation with the girl Lena asked if her family did a great deal of hunting.

The girls said, "Oh, no."

Then Lena said, "Well, do you plan to hunt?"

Again the girl said, "Oh, no."

Lena's next question was, "Why do you have a gun?"

The girl's reply was, "My family was afraid we might have an Indian uprising."

"Why did you come to New Mexico then? We haven't

had an Indian uprising in a hundred years."

"I came to study Anthropology because UNM has the best Anthropology Department in the country. My family was very opposed to my coming to New Mexico and the Wild West so they bought me a gun."

Lena remarked, "You know we have Indian girls in the dormitory?"

The girl's rejoinder was, "No. How do they dress?"

"Well, they dress just like you and I do."

After the conversation, the girl finally unloaded the gun and gave it to Lena. Another crisis averted!



"SMILES"

Counseling of girls having difficulties with their finances was one of Lena's foremost concerns, and many of these girls have kept in touch and are some of Lena's closest friends.

One of these counselees was Matilda, a small girl who came from the Philippines to attend UNM.

Matilda was a victim of the war. Her father's business was taken away from him, and they hid in the mountains on a farm until the war was over. The Japanese came in and broke up all their furniture for firewood.

Her father and mother had attended the University of Kansas, and they had a couple of friends in Albuquerque that they believed would look after Matilda. At the end of the first semester "she came to me one day, all dressed up in hat and gloves."

She said, "I don't know what I am going to do. My father gave me all the money he could give me, and I have no money left."

She had spent it all in the first semester, sending box after box of gifts to every distant relative for Christmas. The couple had paid no attention to her, whatsoever.

When Matilda told Lena she didn't know what to do, Lena wrote her parents, and they said they couldn't send her any more money. It would cost \$1000 to send her home. "I didn't have \$1000 so I took her home with me and kept her for 3½ years." That was Lena's solution.

Matilda lived in the dormitory part of the time, because Lena believed she needed the companionship of her peers. She was a music major, and played the piano expertly. Matilda's parents asked Lena to take Matilda's younger sister to help her complete her education, but Lena refused because her nieces were reaching college age.

Lena keeps in touch with Matilda, and when the UNM Alumni Association celebrated Lena's 90th birthday with an elaborate party in Hodgin Hall, Matilda came from San Francisco to play the piano at the celebration.

Matilda is still teaching in San Francisco. Her husband John has retired from the Postal Service and they have built a home and included a bedroom and bath for Lena so they "can take care of her in her old age."

Lena counseled many foreign students, one of whom was a Japanese girl, who returned to Tokoyo after graduation. After her mother died she returned to the United States. She was employed as secretary to the Vice-President of the Japanese Airlines in New York City, then worked with a Japanese import company. While she was on the campus, if she got bored with the dormitory she would come to Lena and say, "I'd like to stay with you tonight." And she would stay.

Another foreign student was Alberta who came from Bolivia. Alberta thought she had a lot of money, but after she paid her tuition and bought her books she had very little left. She didn't know what she was going to do, so Alberta went to Lena with her problems. She was willing to work for board and room, and Lena found her a job. She always came to stay with Lena when she was between jobs.

Lena was also called upon to help the young men. One of these was Red who came from Indiana as had Lena. This was a mutual bond and they became good friends. Toward graduation he was broke, and she loaned him quite a bit of money. Lena's colleagues scolded her for being so trusting. But Red got a job at Zuni at one of the big trading posts, and paid back every cent.

Red invited Mr. Williams of the College Inn, where Red had worked to put himself through school, and Lena to come to Zuni for the week-end. Mr. Williams stayed with Red, and they fixed up a bed in the granary for Lena. There was no inside plumbing, so Red came in the middle of the night to take Lena outside to the backhouse. She laughs as she tells it. "We were very good friends."

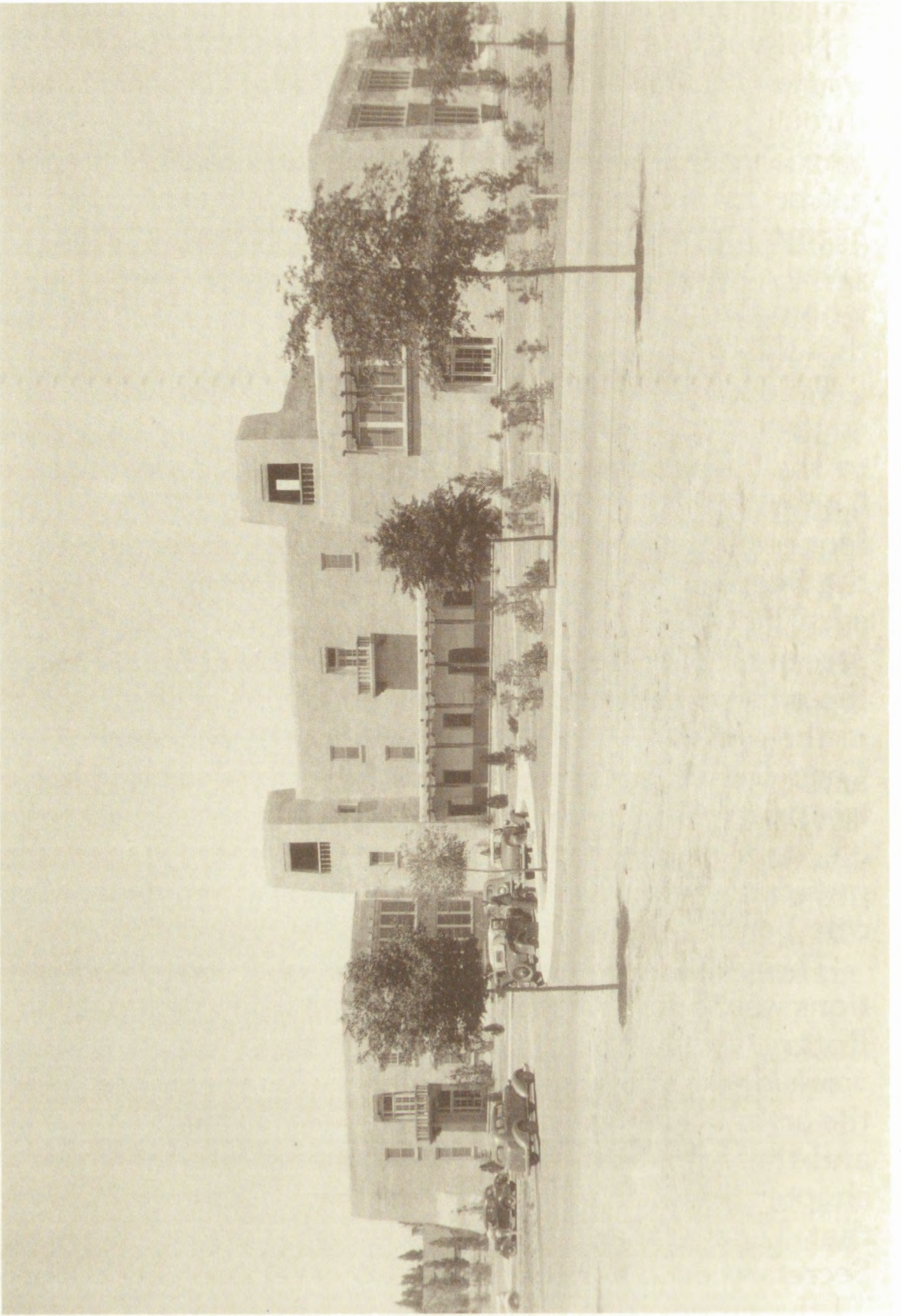
Another young man came in every week-end to borrow five dollars for a date. He used the money to get a hair cut, and had enough left over for a date. He always paid her back. Lena had faith in students, because she believed she

had to have faith in people in order to enjoy them.

Not only was Dean Clauve continually assisting the women students on campus, she also helped her three nieces through the University: Jo Ann Parish who is a dietitian, Kay Clauve Miller who is a teacher, and Sue Clauve who is a computer engineer with the State. She is now helping her grand-niece Lisa to complete her education, and has given some financial help to three grand-nephews, all of whom are Jo Ann's children. She is very proud of the fact that she has been able to help members of her own family.

Even with all her other duties Lena continued making contributions to the Albuquerque community, as well as to the University. For example, she helped organize the Community Concert Association upon Dr. Zimmerman's request that she represent the University. She remained on the Board of Directors until the Association was dissolved. This was the only organization in Albuquerque that presented concerts for which money was collected before the artists were scheduled. The group met for the first time in the summer of 1929 and held the first concert in 1930. Over the years, Lena held all the offices except that of treasurer. As many other cultural organizations were formed, such as the Symphony, the University Series, and musical series in various churches, the Community Concert Board decided it was time to step down.

Through Lena's membership in Altrusa, many contributions were added. Altrusa is an organization patterned after Rotary, made up of women in business or professional work. It is an invitational organization. Lena had joined the organization in Wabash where she was music supervisor and thus qualified. When she came to the University, a chapter was being formed, and Grace Thompson insisted that Lena transfer her membership here. She became Secretary of this District, and through the years, has held all the offices in the local club, and was Governor of the District. She was also International President for 6 years. She has enjoyed the organization because she believes she has met a number of outstanding women whom she might



*New Administration Building
Scholes Hall (today)
circa 1937*

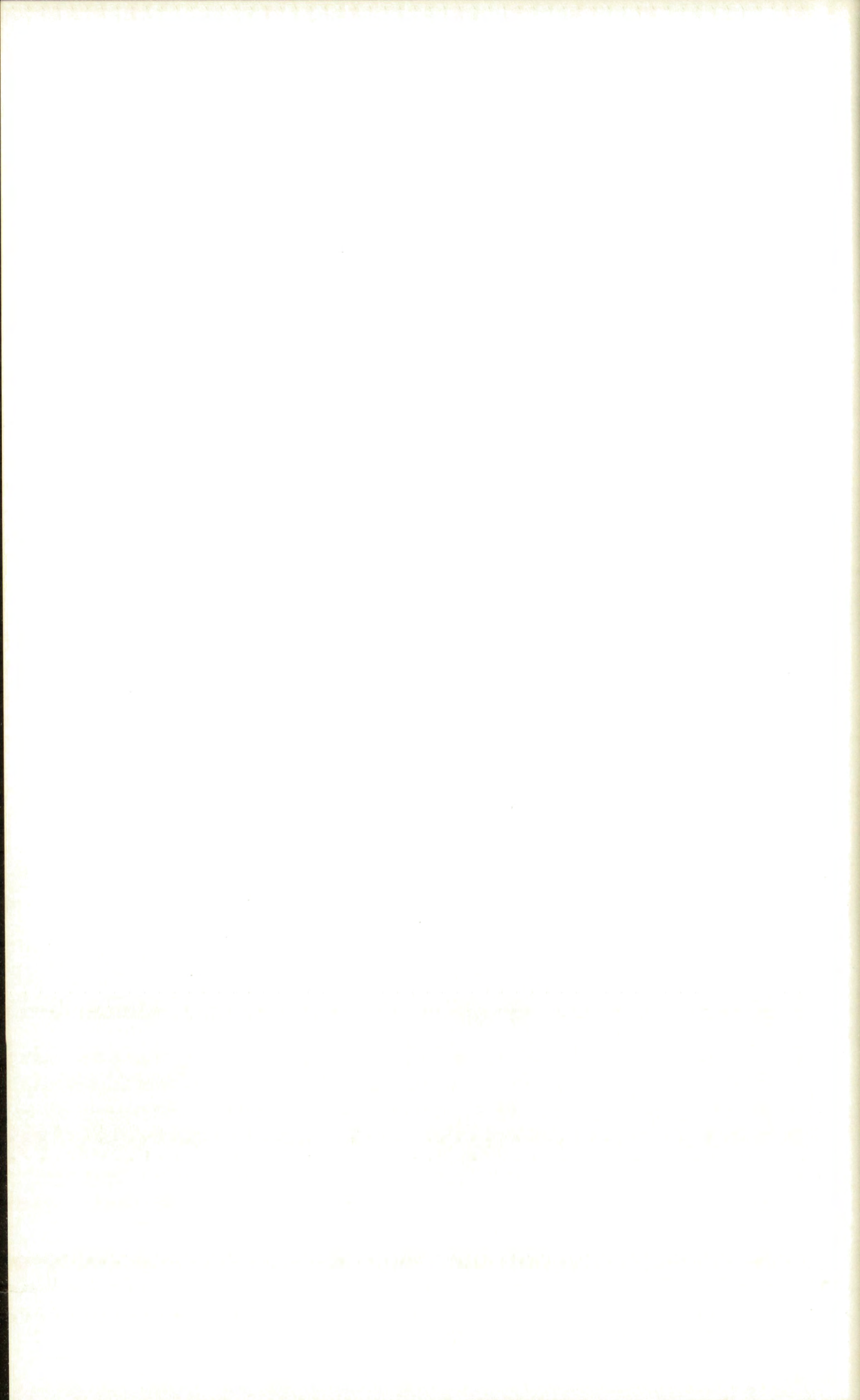
never had met otherwise.

While she was International President, she established the Vocational Service Award in 1951 for women who needed help to become self-supporting. In this program the club has purchased wheel chairs, sewing machines, and laundry equipment. The latest recipient is a woman who has several children and wants to become a nurses' aide. At Lena's retirement, Altrusa established this as the Lena Clave Award for Vocational Assistance.

Lena has been active in other community organizations. For example, director of personnel for the YWCA, member of the the Board of Directors of Campfire Girls for several years. To the UNM campus she brought a national meeting of officers and leaders of Campfire Girls.

She worked with Girls' State for several years because she felt it was a good way to get girls interested in the University. Girls' State, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, is a summer workshop to provide high school girls with an opportunity to understand how their government works.

She also worked with the "Make It of Wool" organization that had contests at the State Fair. She served on the scholarship committee for the Reed and Barton Silver Company, and helped judge the essays in their yearly contest.



"ALOHA OE"

She attended the White House Conference on "The Status of Women and Children and Their Place in Society". The conference was invitational and was held every ten years. Lena attended the conference in 1950 in Washington, D.C.

In 1952 she attended a *Herald Tribune* Forum in New York City as a representative of Altrusa International. Many nationally recognized speakers presented current information during the week-long meeting. This forum was held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel and was concerned with the infiltration of Communism. Men and women from many different organizations, such as, the Department of Education and several other government departments were included.

In 1934 she worked with Fred Huning, Jr., who was UNM Student Body President, to raise money to furnish the Student Union building that had just been completed. NYA groups made the furniture: iron work was done in La Cienega, woodworking was completed in Albuquerque under University direction, and hides from Los Lunas were used for chair seats in making New Mexico style furnishings. Three faculty members were in charge of the furniture planning: Dr. Newsom, Dean Bostwick, and Lena. Lena had hoped that some of these groups making the furniture might continue and make a profession of it. They did have a shop in Old Town Albuquerque for a short time with weavers and furniture makers but it didn't last.

When Lena moved into her office in the new Administration building which was about 1937, she didn't like her plain old ordinary steel office furniture. She went to Dr. Zimmerman and told him she'd like something else. He asked her what she wanted and she said she'd like something that was at least typical of New Mexico and the Southwest. He said she could have \$500 to get the furniture she wanted. So she had the furniture all made in Santa Fe, beautifully carved and very efficient. She had a desk, a chair for her desk, a settee and two additional chairs for \$500.

Lena had some memorable adventures in her position. In 1953 she was invited by the Secretary of the Navy to take a trip to Hawaii. Fourteen women were chosen from all over the U.S. The trip was made on a hospital ship that left from Long Beach, California, leaving on Monday and arriving in Hawaii on Saturday.

Classes were held every morning, and the group visited all parts of the ship. Taking their meals with different units, they ate breakfast with the nurses, lunch with the doctors (who appeared to resent them), and with the enlisted men in the evening. They discovered that the enlisted men had the best food. Lena learned that each group ordered and made their own menus.

The group saw demonstrations, using dummies, of how the wounded were flown in helicopters to the ship, showing how quickly they could be treated.

When they reached Hawaii they were flown to every part of the island to see all the installations. She and Dorothy GaBauer were assigned to the WAVES, living with them, checking their clothing, eating with them, and participating in their recreation. Then they were required to write a report on their findings.

In one of their classes they were shown the activity of the Korean Conflict as it was going on. This was an astonishing experience — a fore-runner of today's live TV. Again a report was required.

Dorothy GaBauer and Lena were assigned a room together where the door was tagged VIP. They considered this a compliment, and in their estimation, were treated as such.

One day they visited the Marine Base, and when they arrived a young officer approached Lena, and asked her to follow him. As he escorted her to a huge limousine, he told her she was to be the guest at lunch with the admiral and his wife. The wife was a friend of Frances Lee, of San Mateo, New Mexico. A friend of Lena's had told Frances that Lena was on this trip. After that Lena was the envy of the other women.



*Photo of Lena C. Clauve at her desk
in the Administration Building
circa 1938*

Maneuvers were held for the class, and the admiral pointed out a pilot who was from Santa Fe and a former student at UNM. Another instance of interest was when Lena asked a young Lieutenant how they learned to pronounce her name. He said, "It took work."

One of the WAVES had attended UNM. Also her father was a doctor in Albuquerque. She gave them the correct pronunciation.

The Lieutenant said, "We had to have it correct."

The perfection the Navy achieved impressed Lena.

One evening the admiral in charge of the base they were visiting had a cocktail party. The young officer who escorted Lena informed her of the protocol. "We have to be there on the dot, and when the admiral looks at his watch, it's time to leave."

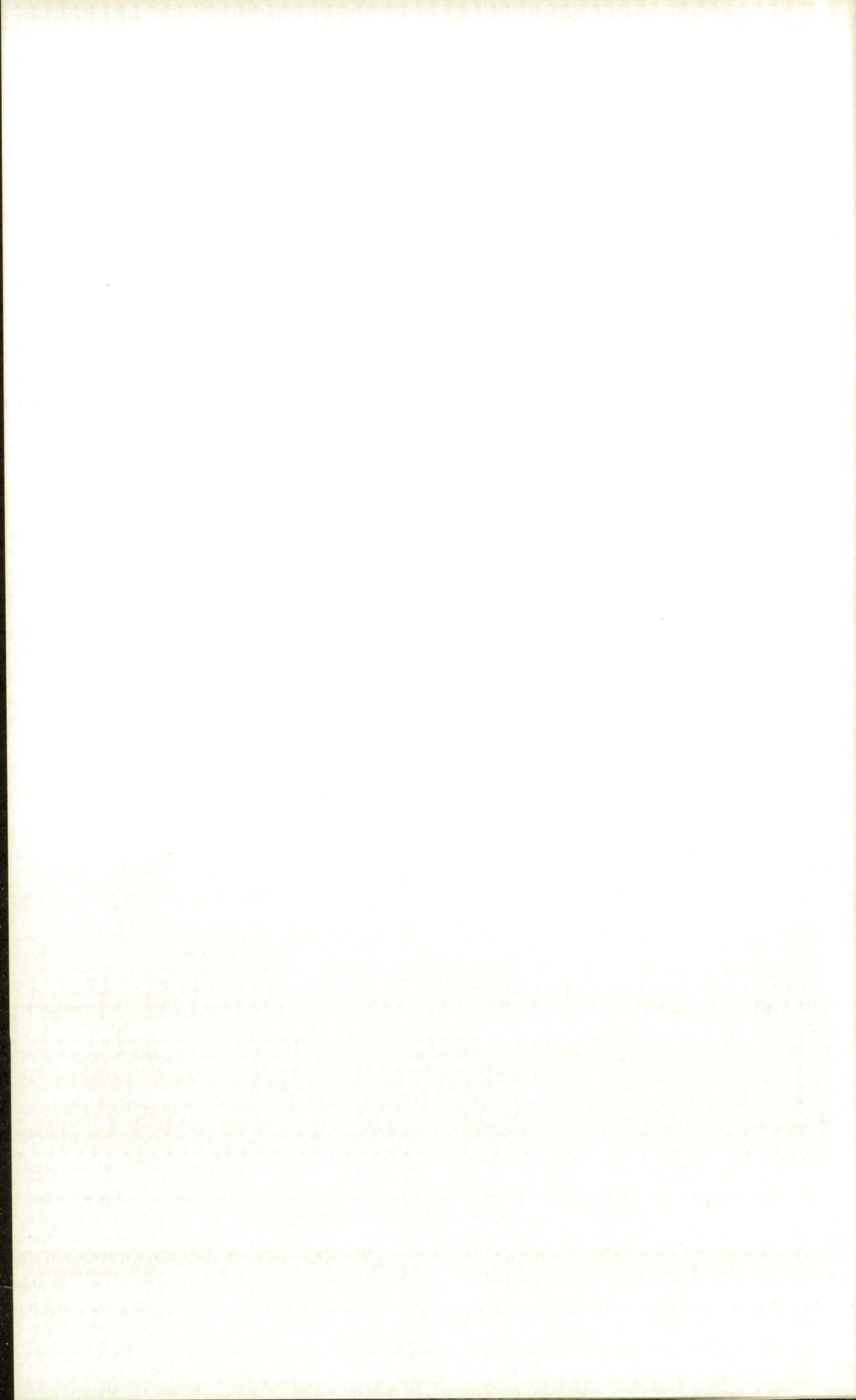
At the party each of the ladies was assigned a young couple as host and hostess. Lena's host was the nephew of Mrs. Kaseman of Albuquerque. Lena realized how carefully the hospitality had been arranged. When Lena returned to Albuquerque, she called Mrs. Kaseman to tell her of the nice visit she had with her nephew.

When they flew back on a double-decker plane, there was a great deal of anxiety. They all boarded the plane on Saturday evening, but soon had to de-plane because of engine trouble. They stayed overnight and started out again on Sunday.

Lena will always remember that their group had the finest service and food on the upper deck while the enlisted men and their families were down below, but they had to bring the children up to the bathroom every five minutes to see what was up there. So there was much activity on the upper deck.



*First Student Union Building
Maxwell Museum Today
circa 1935*



"AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL"

Following her retirement, Lena became a member of the Assistance League and helped establish the Thrift Shop and the home for teen-age girls. She was manager of the Girls' Home for three years until a conflict occurred with the State Welfare Department. The Home was located on north Edith Boulevard in a home that had been built earlier by the state for this purpose, but had been vacant for several years. The League rented it for \$1.00 a year, and agreed to do all the remodeling. For instance, there was no inside stairway to the second floor, so this was added along with repairs and painting. At one time there were eighteen girls in residence, most of them of junior and senior high school age.

The Welfare Department paid the Assistance League for each girl's support. Lena did all the buying, and scrounged through the University for all the furniture she could find to help make the home liveable. She was also the counselor for the girls, who attended Valley High School. She was proud of the one girl who graduated. Lena lived at the home only at times when the house parents were away or being replaced.

At the end of three years, the Welfare Department decided that Lena was not capable of counseling the girls, despite her experience at the University. They insisted on placing their own choice of advisor. Then the Department wanted to take over the management while the League continued to pay the bills. This arrangement was unacceptable to the League. They discontinued their participation, and the Home was subsequently closed.

Throughout her career, Lena has continued membership in all the organizations that she helped to establish. Other organizations in which she is a member include the following: First Presbyterian Church, American Association of Retired Teachers, Albuquerque Association of Retired Educators, Phi Kappa Phi, the Assistance League of Albuquerque, National Association of Deans and Counselors and New Mexico Counselors Association. Lena organized

the New Mexico Counselors with Margaret Kennedy and Marie Milne. They were the only three members who met for years, but today there is a large organization.

Lena is particularly interested in the UNM organizations. She is a life member of the Administrative Board of the UNM Alumni Association, a member of the Hodgin Hall board, and of the Alumni Awards Committee. She is grateful to Ben Hernandez, Bill Brannon, Dr. Jack Redman, and Bub Henry for saving Hodgin Hall from the wreckers "ball."

Alumni and faculty of the University of New Mexico have a great deal of respect and love for Lena Clauve and her accomplishments, resulting in the many awards from the Alumni Association. In 1974 the Bernard S. Rodey Award was bestowed on her. This award is given to persons not on the paid staff of the Alumni Association who have devoted an unusual amount of time in a leadership capacity, and whose efforts are crowned with unusual success in the field of education. This was followed in 1981 by the Award of Distinction given in recognition of exceptional commitment and distinguished service to the University of New Mexico and the Alumni Association.

Other honors have been bestowed by University groups. She was commissioned to work with John Gaw Meem in planning the new Hokona Hall, and in 1970 the Lena Clauve Lounge in that building was named in her honor. "But nobody knows about it," she laughs.

The Lena Clauve Outstanding Senior Awards are given annually at the recognition dinner. In 1987 one recipient was Johnny Brown, whose devoted community service in speaking to elementary students in their classrooms about narcotics and good behavior, demonstrated that he was an amazing young man. He was an outstanding student and outstanding on the UNM basketball team. When he was presented the award, he gave Lena a kiss. Her pride in UNM students continues.

Other awards include: the Theta Sigma Phi Matrix Table Award in April, 1965 for outstanding community service

and service to the University. Theta Sigma Phi is the National Professional Honorary for Women in Journalism. The New Mexico Distinguished Public Service Award in June, 1977 for contributions to UNM, the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Humanitarianism in 1981, and the Governor's Recognition Award for Service in 1987. She is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in Education* and *Who's Who in American Women*.

Lena has also done some traveling. As President of Altrusa she traveled to Puerto Rico, visited Canada, and toured seven European countries. In 1941 she spent several weeks in Cuba. The custodian at Hodgin Hall always greets Lena as "My friend" because he is from Cuba and she has visited some of the places he knows.

In a video interview with Gladys Black Smart in 1983, Gladys asked Lena to tell one of her fondest memories. Lena responded with her favorite story that concerns a formal student-faculty dance held in the dining hall in the 1930's. As her partner danced her past President Zimmerman and his partner, Lena caught her heel in the cuff of Dr. Zimmerman's tuxedo. They fell to the floor in a heap with Lena in Dr. Zimmerman's lap. Other dancers were helpless with laughter as they scrambled around to help Lena and Dr. Zimmerman to their feet. President Zimmerman was a very dignified gentleman, but he, too, was laughing when everybody was righted.

In this same interview Lena mentioned her friendship with Peter Hurd who presented her with a print of his painting "Eve of St. John" of which she is very proud. Her friendship with Tom Popejoy lasted from the time they were classmates, through his Presidency of the University.

When Gladys commented on the length of Lena's tenure, saying, "How did you happen to stay so long?"

Lena's reply was, "They didn't fire me, so I stayed!"

When asked to comment on her career, Lena thinks of two words "happy" and "content" with her life. "Contentment is the most important factor in life," is her philosophy. Her mother always advised, "Be content in what you are

doing. If you're not content, quit."

She considers her outstanding accomplishments to be that she has been self-supporting, has a good outlook on life, has enjoyed people, and is satisfied with what she is doing.

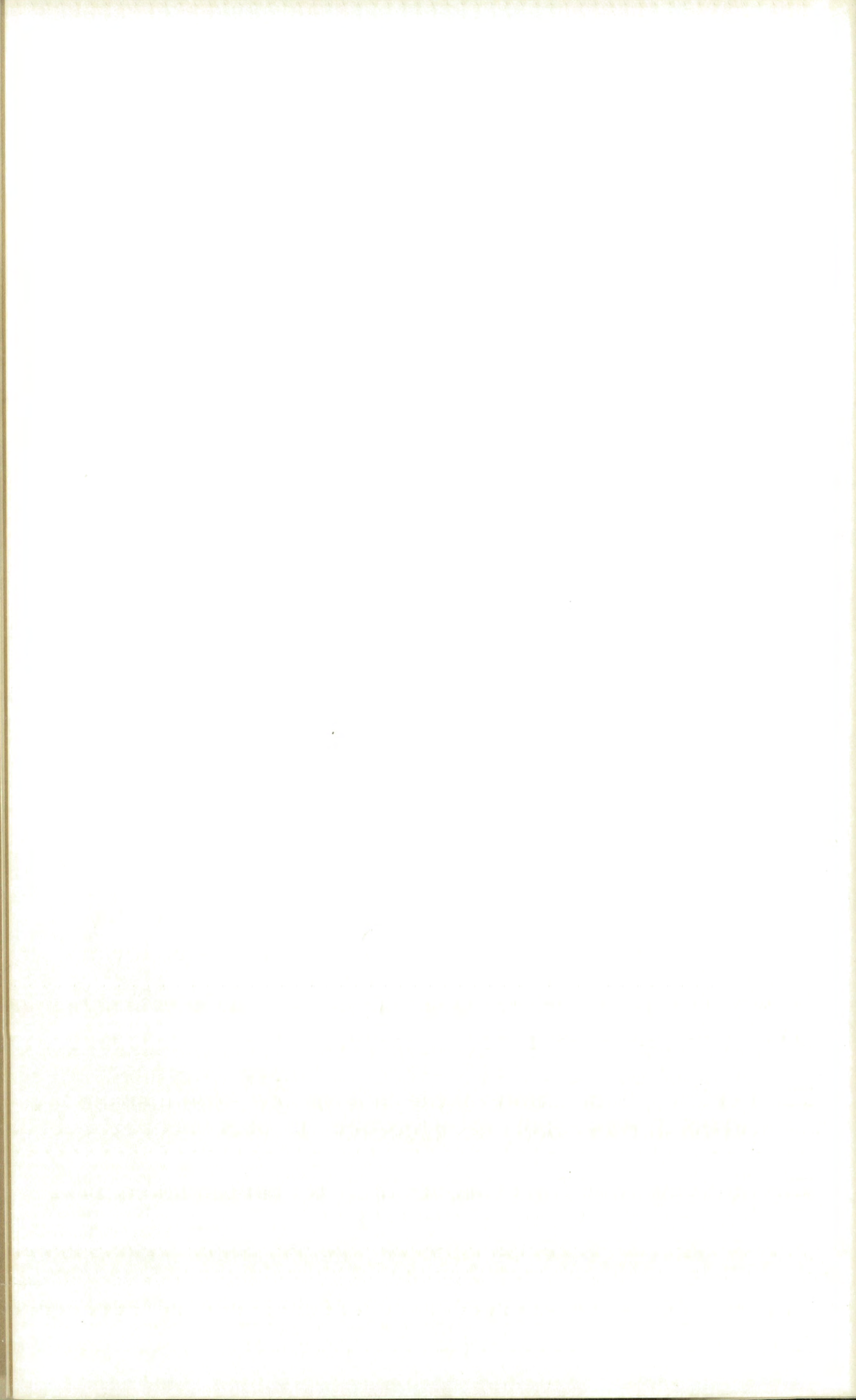
Lena concludes with "I think people have a mission in life, and you stay here until your mission is completed. And I don't think my mission is completed."

FOOTNOTES

1. Statistics from Office of the Secretary to the Faculty, UNM.
2. Description of the campus. Personal recollection of the author.
3. Twitchell, Ralph Emerson, *Leading Facts of New Mexico History*, Vol. V, p. 178.
4. Description of Albuquerque. Personal recollection of the author.
5. Description of Lena Clauve as Dean of women. Personal recollection of the author.

APPENDICES

1. Taped Personal Interview with Lena C. Clauve on September 9, 1988.
2. Taped Personal Interview with Lena C. Clauve on January 12, 1989.
3. Taped personal Interview with Lena C. Clauve on May 25, 1989.
4. Newspaper items on awards from files at Hodgkin Hall Office at UNM.
5. Pictures from files at Hodgkin Hall Office at UNM.
6. Tribute to Lena Clauve by Gladys Black Smart July 28, 1981 from files at Hodgkin Hall at UNM.
7. Video interview of Lena C. Clauve by Gladys Black Smart Fall, 1983 from files at Hodgkin Hall Office at UNM.
8. Copy of original score of fight song from files at Hodgkin Hall Office at UNM.
9. Twitchell, Ralph Emerson, *Leading Facts of New Mexico History*, Vol. V, Torch Press, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1917.
10. Personal files of Lena C. Clauve.
11. Personal recollections of the campus and Albuquerque of the author, Betty H. Hinton.
12. Photograph of Lena Clauve and Betty Hinton taken by Florence S. DeValk at the 1938 class reunion.





*Photograph of Lena C. Clauve and Betty H. Hinton
October 8, 1988
Fiftieth Reunion of the Class of 1938*

Lena C. Clauve was the Dean of Women at the University of New Mexico from 1929 until 1961. She came to New Mexico from Wabash, Indiana intending to stay only two weeks, but instead spent her lifetime in the state.

Betty Huning Hinton is a member of a pioneer New Mexico family. Her grandfather Louis B. Huning settled in Los Lunas about 1858 where he established a ranching and a mercantile business. Her father Fred D. Huning continued the family business and Los Lunas was the family home. Betty attended Albuquerque Public Schools and received a B.A. and an M.A. from UNM. She married John W. Hinton in 1941 and has two children and three grandchildren. For 25 years she taught history in the Albuquerque Public Schools, retiring in 1982.