

## OBITUARY

### HERBERT CHAYYIM YOUTIE

28 August 1904–13 February 1980

For half a century, Herbert C. Youtie devoted himself to papyrology at the University of Michigan. He came to the University in 1929 as a research assistant in papyrology, and in the following year he was made instructor in Greek. In 1938 he was promoted to the assistant professorship, in 1944 to the associate professorship, and in 1948 he became research professor of papyrology, a position he held until his retirement in 1975.

Although his base was the University of Michigan, Professor Youtie's scholarly reputation was truly international. The recipient of many honors and awards, he took special pleasure in his election as a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, his election to membership in the American Philosophical Society, the awarding to him of an honorary doctorate by the University of Cologne, and his honorary presidency of the Association Internationale de Papyrologues.

In his scholarship, Professor Youtie succeeded in fusing the functions of textual critic and editor. In his monograph, *The Textual Criticism of Documentary Papyri: Prolegomena*, as well as in his seemingly endless series of notes on papyri, he showed the essentially philological basis of the discipline and the need for ever-vigilant evaluation of published texts. Unlike those who are ineffective at practicing the critical principles they espouse, Professor Youtie produced a series of papyrological volumes which have become models of *Editionstechnik*: *Tax Rolls from Karanis (P. Mich. IV)*, *Papyri and Ostraca from Karanis (P. Mich. VI and VIII)*, *The Archive of Aurelius Isidorus*, *Das Archiv des Petaus*. Although in these works he often collaborated with others, throughout his is the guiding hand, and they bear the unmistakable imprint of his genius.

Those of us privileged to know Professor Youtie well will forever be grateful to him for all that he has done. He raised papyrology to the level of art, and his works, fashioned with consummate skill and integrity, will remain as a *monumentum aere perennius*.

G.M.B.