MEMORIAL

It was a severe shock to his many friends and associates to learn that David (Dave) Patrick Donoghue had passed away of a heart attack in Mexico City, October 15, 1958. Those who really knew him feel that his character and his contributions to his fellow man and the world in general were summed up perfectly in this simple tribute by a young priest who said of the internationally known geologist at the funeral services in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Fort Worth: “He asked no favors but granted many”... It would be impossible to cover all the favors that Dave Donoghue granted during the greater part of his 67 years, for his interests and his desire to be of service were multiple and, in addition, he was a sound practitioner of the Biblical injunction, “Let not your right hand know what your left hand doeth.”

One had to know Dave Donoghue very well indeed, work for him, with him, or even better, to need some help in any emergency for which no “agency” existed, to have knowledge of his true spirit. Beneath his surface of brusque sophistication and intense realism which Dave chose to present to the world at large was a fine Christian character with great sensitiveness to human need. His culture was many faceted and his personal education never ended, nor did his desire to assist in all possible ways those who wished to learn. There are many volumes in the Fort Worth Library to aid the knowledge seekers of today and generations to come because of David Donoghue’s help in establishing the “Earth Science Education.” He not only believed in sharing with others his own knowledge and means, but also in making sure that his friends did the same.

Dave was born in San Antonio, Texas, on January 19, 1891, and was educated in that city at St. Mary’s College, finishing with a B.S. degree in 1909. From there, he went to the University of Texas where he specialized in mining engineering and geology from 1909 to 1912. During that time, he spent his summers as an assistant to Alexander Deussen, who was working on the geology of the Gulf Coastal Plains of Texas for the United States Geological Survey. Upon finishing the University of Texas, he went to work in the oil fields of the Gulf Coast as a laborer, but soon worked into scouting-leasing and then into geological work for the Gulf Oil Company—then moving out of the Gulf Coast to the North Texas area during the Ranger-Breckenridge-Burk Burnett development. Dave then returned to the Gulf Coast as a consulting geologist at Houston, where he assisted Edgar B. Davis in the discovery of the Luling field. Dave had located the fault, which was the trap for the oil field, during a boat trip down the Guadalupe River. In 1925 Dave became a director of Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Company in charge of exploration. During the next four years, he had a very important part in the exploratory effort of his company in its successful entry into the vast West Texas area. In 1929 he returned to the consulting field. During