

*The Jessie L. Clough Art Memorial
for Teaching*



SOUTHWESTERN AT MEMPHIS



THE LATE MISS FLOY K. HANSON, of Memphis, well known and beloved teacher of art, gave Southwestern her fine and valuable collection of oriental objects of art to be known as THE JESSIE L. CLOUGH ART MEMORIAL FOR TEACHING, in memory of her first art teacher and friend, Miss Jessie L. Clough.

Miss Hanson was reared in Memphis and was graduated as valedictorian of her class at the Jenny M. Higbee School. It was in the Higbee School that she began her art study under Miss Clough. Her work in art was continued at the Chicago Art Institute and at the Art Students' League in New York. She was graduated from the Art Department of Teachers' College, Columbia University, where, under the influence of Arthur W. Dow, she became interested in crafts.

For fifteen years she lived in New York, where she maintained her own studio and worked with various crafts, such as blockprinting fabrics and designing and carving furniture. Her original work was warmly received and was exhibited by invitation at the Applied Arts Exhibition held at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh and also at the Touchstone Galleries and the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

Miss Hanson and her friend Miss Clough traveled extensively and studied numerous crafts with native masters in the Orient. The secrets of real lacquer, cherished in Japan but unknown to the Western World, were taught to Miss Hanson by a lacquerer of the royal staff in Kyoto.

On one leisurely trip around the world, Miss Hanson and her fellow craftswoman, Miss Clough, were accompanied by Miss Hanson's sister, Miss Etta Hanson, also an enthusiastic lover of art. Starting from England, where they

spent several months studying in the British Museum, they visited India, Java, China, Japan, Turkey, Greece, and other countries. In all their travels they collected materials of many kinds—textiles, Japanese prints, articles of brass, copper, and precious metals, jewelry, pottery, woodcarvings, and other objects of art. These objects were selected primarily for their usefulness in the study and teaching of design in arts and crafts. Many articles in this collection were exhibited by invitation at the Brooks Memorial Art Gallery of Memphis.

In 1954, through the courtesy of the Far Eastern Section of the Metropolitan Museum in New York, a visit to Southwestern by Miss Pauline Simmons, Assistant Curator of the Far Eastern Division was made possible. The purpose of Miss Simmons' visit was to examine and to initiate the cataloguing of the Jessie L. Clough Art Memorial for Teaching provided through the generosity of the late Miss Floy Hanson, and her sister, Miss Etta Hanson, who, largely as a labor of love, now serves as curator of this collection at Southwestern. Since that time, two other experts in their respective fields have been invited to examine and appraise the collection. In 1958, Miss Margaret Gentles, Associate Curator of Oriental Art at the Art Institute of Chicago catalogued the Japanese prints. In 1959, Mr. William C. Latchford, of the firm of Gunn-Latchford, Incorporated of New York, and a member of the Appraisers Association of America made an inventory and gave an appraisal of the holdings in the field of Oriental art.

When the proposed Fine Arts Building is secured, space will be available for the display of the entire Clough-Hanson collection. Then this "library of objects" will come into its full range of usefulness in making available material for the understanding of the fine arts.