PAY TRIBUTE TO
C. G. KLEINSTUCK

(By Samuel Folz)
In memory of Carl G. Kleinstuck
whose friendship I valued because I learned to know him; whose exterior semblance belied his soul's immensity.

It was my good fortune to be associated for many years with this big, little man in Humane Society work, in this city and therefore I feel that a word of tribute from me, now that his life work is ended, is but just and proper.

My friend and co-worker was made of sturdy fibre; he could withstand hardship for himself but was quick to relieve suffering and distress where speedy relief was needed. He knew no distinction, man and beast alike must not suffer, and times innumerable, in stress of weather and without creature comforts himself. He traveled miles to learn for himself if alleged acts of cruelty as reported were based on facts. This he must know and, having learned the truth, he was content only when conditions were remedied.

His was a busy life but the call of the unfortunate and helpless was ever paramount, and he gave of his time unselfishly to the Humane cause into which work he entered more than a quarter of a century ago with great vigor.

For many years he was Secretary of the Humane Society of Kalamazoo County, continuing until recently when failing health made necessary his abandonment of activity. Those who knew Secretary Kleinstuck realized that here was a dynamic personality, and even if the current of his life was not always evenly distributed, the main it flowed on with well-directed energy and force.

He was tender, kind and helpful to those who invoked his aid and, correspondingly severe toward those who, he thought, deserved censure. He was never wilfully unjust. You may say that he was quick at conclusions and that he tried to force results, yet he never meant to pre-judge. He had little patience with subterfuge and false promises, his chief desire being to weld into good citizenship the erring, the thoughtless and the malicious ones, with which element he had at times to deal. But at the first sign of willingness to co-operate with him in the humane work he was kindness personified, and his purpose was ever open to assist the securing of food and shelter for the neglected friends of man.

In all this work I became deeply impressed with his nobility of soul and his intense earnestness and desire to do right as God had given him the light to see it.

He might have truly said with Whitman:

“Of all the work I, my hand hath wrought
Beneath the sky.
Save a place in kindly; human thought.
No gain have I.

The humane work of Kalamazoo will continue, but the loss to our society will be keenly felt by all. His late associates in the work bid him farewell and reverently lay upon his bier a wreath of immortality.

SAMUEL FOLZ,
President, Humane Society of Kalamazoo County.