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**CLIFFORD TRUEDELL**  
**UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE**

**THE TRAGICOMEDY OF CLASSICAL  
THERMODYNAMICS**

**COURSE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT  
OF MECHANICS OF SOLIDS  
(JULY 1971)**

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**P R E F A C E**

*The early history of thermodynamics is traced. The indications given in Fourier's work on heat conduction, the elaboration of the caloric theory by Carnot, and the introduction of internal energy by Clausius are given major attention. The historical analysis searches for the formation of precise concepts and for their analysis by clear mathematics.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clausius", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.