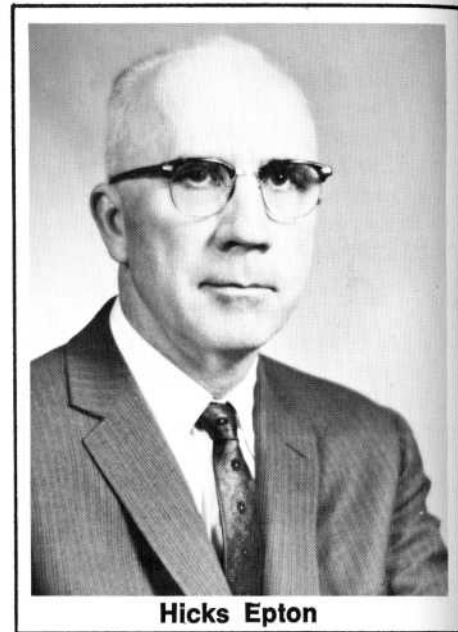


DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION



Hicks Epton

The highest honor the University of Oklahoma can confer is the Distinguished Service Citation, an award comparable to honorary degrees in other states. It is awarded each year to no more than five persons who must accept the award in person. Selections are based on outstanding leadership qualities and service to others, and are made by an anonymous committee from nominations submitted throughout the year. The recipients need not be University alumni, but they should have an appreciation of the importance of higher education.

Four persons received this year's Distinguished Service Citations: Hicks Epton, partner in the law firm of Horsley, Epton and Culp, Wewoka; Dr. John Hope Franklin, John Matthews Manly Distinguished Service professor of history, University of Chicago; Maria Tallchief Paschen, associated with the New York City Ballet Company, Chicago; and Earl Sneed, president of The Liberty National Corporation and vice chairman of the board, Liberty National Bank and Trust Company, and former dean of the OU College of Law, Oklahoma City.

John Houchin of Bartlesville, deputy chairman of Phillips Petroleum Co. and former president of the OU Board of Regents, was also selected. Due to prior commitments he was unable to attend this year and will receive the award next year.

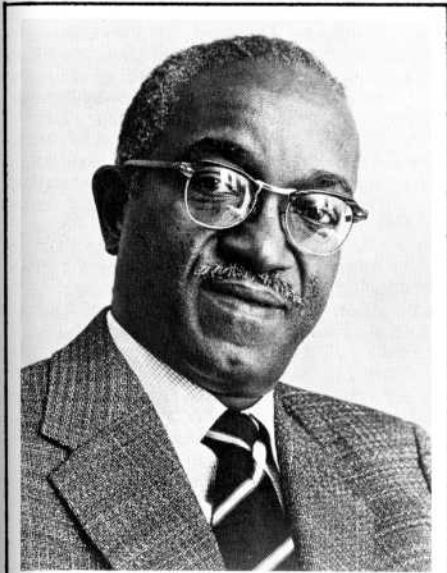
Hicks Epton, we regret to say, passed away May 17, 1972, after receiving his DSC award May 14. A Wewoka attorney and partner in the law firm of Horsley, Epton and Culp, he was born near Nashville, Ark., and graduated from the OU College of Law in 1932.

He exerted a profound effect on the judicial system of the United States. He continued to play a vital role in improving the administration of justice and, in so doing, demonstrated the qualities of humility, integrity and sensitivity which have characterized a life of service and concern for the law of this country. Epton was an outspoken reformer and worked willingly for unpopular causes if he felt his efforts would improve the quality of life.

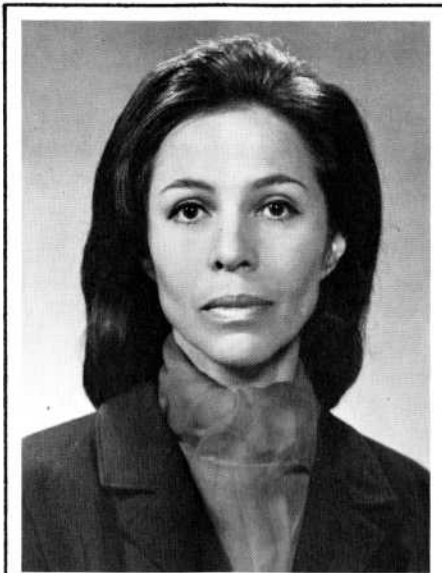
At the time of his death, he was serving as president of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers. One of his primary goals in the area of the administration of justice was speeding the judicial process.

Epton was a member of the first Civil Rights Commission of this state and was a member of the Oklahoma Commission which investigated the alleged bribes of the Oklahoma Supreme Court during 1964-65. In 1939 he was president of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association, and he was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1967.

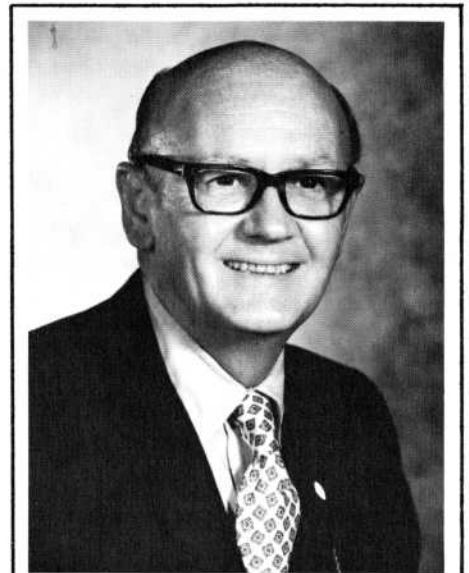
Epton also was a board member and vice president of the Baptist



John Hope Franklin



Maria Tallchief Paschen



Earl Sneed

Foundation of Oklahoma. He was married to the former Thelma Pate of Duncan.

Dr. John H. Franklin has spent the greater part of a lifetime applying the art of knowledge to the building of a better society. He has achieved a national and international reputation as a historian and a writer, specializing in the history of the black American.

He was born in Rentiesville, Okla., in 1915 and moved to Tulsa when he was 10. Though he has spent most of his lifetime out of Oklahoma, he refers to Tulsa as home.

After receiving a BA from Fisk University and a master's and PhD from Harvard, Franklin began his teaching career. He is now the John Matthews Manly Distinguished Service professor of history at the University of Chicago.

Following his higher education he began making his mark as a dedicated scholar-statesman. His book, "From Slavery to Freedom, A History of Negro Americans," is considered the best survey of black history available. Franklin was the featured author in the first installment of the "The Search for a Black Past," Life Magazine's series on Negro history.

Another of his major interests is international education, and he has lectured all over the world, espousing the idea that the strengthening of a community of international scholars will transcend prejudices and promote greater understanding between nations.

Maria Tallchief Paschen is a performer whose name has become synonymous with her artistry, American ballet.

A native of Fairfax, Okla., of Indian (Osage) descent, she early demonstrated a talent for dance and music, and her uncompromising dedication to the development of that talent has enriched the appreciation of ballet for countless audiences, from the European continent to the White House of the United States.

She made her debut at the age of 15 in the Hollywood Bowl in California, and about two years later she joined the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo as a member of the corps de ballet and remained with that company until 1947, working up to soloist rank. After serving as guest artist at the Paris Opera, she joined the New York City Ballet, and she is still associated with this company.

She has received two honorary doctorates in fine arts; one from Colby College in Maine and one from Lake Forest College in Illinois. She has just been selected for the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and will be inducted later this year.

It is this ballerina who is credited with creating in this country and internationally the image of the American ballerina, and has helped place American ballet on an equal footing with ballet standards of European cultures.

Earl Sneed, president of The Liberty National Corporation and vice chairman of the board, Liberty National Bank and Trust Co., is a public servant in the most literal sense. Through his continuous roles of leadership, he has been a dynamic force in the civic and business communities of the state of Oklahoma, and as an educator, has served the University of Oklahoma during a significant era of growth.

Born in 1913 in Tulsa, Okla., he received a bachelor of arts degree and the bachelor of laws degree from OU in 1934 and 1937, and the master of laws and doctor of science of laws degrees from Columbia in 1948 and 1960.

As dean of the College of Law at OU for 16 years and a member of the college faculty for 20 years, Sneed attracted and retained an excellent faculty, and he built a strong base of private support from which the college continues to benefit. He additionally served the cause of intercollegiate athletics on the regional and national levels.

He served as mayor of Norman for two terms from 1961-65. Sneed, whose specialty as an attorney is the law of corporations, is on the education committee of the Oklahoma Bankers Association. In addition to his other roles of leadership, Sneed serves on the executive committee of various state organizations promoting education, the fine arts and the sciences.