

Quotable Quotes

The veteran speechmaker collects thought provoking quotations and snappy one-liners the way the Wall Street speculator pounces on hot stock tips. The speaker, however, is eager to give away his treasures to others.

Faced with delivering the annual charge to the graduating classes of the University of Oklahoma, President William S. Banowsky gathers words of wisdom all year long for his commencement message. For pre-Banowsky Sooners who have missed the president's charge, here are a few selected quotes worth repeating.

From John W. Gardner's *Excellence*: "The society which scorns excellence in plumbing because plumbing is a humble activity, and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because philosophy is an exalted activity, will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy. Neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water."

From the cartoonist, Garry Trudeau: "There is something disturbing in our society when people wish not to be esteemed but to be envied."

From F. Scott Fitzgerald: "At 18 our convictions are hills from which we look. At 45 they are caves in which we hide."

From Eric Sevareid, upon retiring from CBS: "Early in my career I determined that it was crucial to retain the courage of my doubts as well as my convictions, in this world of dangerously passionate certainties."

From famed architect Mies Van Der Rohe: "God is in the details."

From the German writer Goethe: "To know even one person with whom you can feel there is genuine understanding, in spite of distances or thoughts unexpressed, that can make of this earth a garden."

From Dr. Samuel Johnson: "Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome."

And a few from Banowsky's personal storehouse:

"By the age of fifty, you have the face you deserve. Age will remove the confusion possible only in youth, between physical and moral characteristics."



Culture's Contagious

The influence which renowned musicians, such as Thomas and Carol Brice Carey (see Page 4), have had on the campus was demonstrated this spring at the President's Concert when OU administrators joined the orchestra for Franz Joseph Haydn's "Toy Symphony." Above, the director of the school of music Allan Ross, right, auditions President Banowsky for the toy trumpet section while the Careys and Provost J. R. Morris look on. Banowsky's previous musical experience was limited to lessons in elementary school which ended when a marble got stuck in his trumpet.

"When you are my age, you will know that it is better to regret what you have done than to feel remorse for what you did not do."

"The genuine respect of those whom you genuinely respect will be worth far more to you than the applause of the multitudes."

"The only thing better than someone you can really trust is someone who can trust you."

"It's never easy to buy yourself back once you've sold yourself out."

"Don't be afraid to be different. Remember that eagles do not fly together; you have to find them one by one."

"It's what you learn after you know it all that really counts."

And finally, from Will Rogers: "Never forget where you came from."