

THE SOONER MAGAZINE

OKLAHOMA ALUMNI NEWS

JANUARY, 1931



Oklahomans at home and abroad

JANUARY CALENDAR

January 1. Basketball, Southern Methodist university at Norman.

January 5. Christmas recess ends.

January 5. Basketball, Bethany college at Norman.

January 7. Basketball, Oklahoma Aggies at Norman.

January 10. Basketball, Oklahoma and Iowa State at Ames. Phi Psi dance at house.

January 12. Basketball, Oklahoma and Kansas at Lawrence.

January 13. Dr W. B. Bizzell, President, will speak to the chamber of commerce Winfield, Kansas.

January 15. "The Philosophy of American Democracy," Dr Cortez M. Ewing, assistant professor of government, meeting of Philosophy club, 211 Liberal Arts. University Choral club presents *Elijah* Oratorio by Mendelssohn, university auditorium.

January 16. Alpha Tau Omega dance at College shop.

January 17. Basketball, Nebraska at Norman. Beta dance at College shop.

January 23. Wrestling, Oklahoma and Kansas at Norman. Pi Kappa Alpha dance at College shop.

January 24. Basketball, Oklahoma and Kansas at Manhattan. Sigma Nu dance at house. Delta Tau Delta dance at College shop.

January 26. Basketball, Oklahoma and Missouri at Columbia.

January 29. Semester examinations begin.

ASSOCIATION PROGRESS

Tulsa club

After being dormant for several years, the Tulsa Sooner club has been reorganiz-

ed. Officers are Earle Sneed, '13 arts-sc., Tulsa lawyer, president; Floyd L. Rheam, '29 law, vice president; Mrs Pearl Goodrich Porter, '09 mus., '10 arts-sc., secretary; Mrs Walter Ferguson, ex '07, treasurer.

The club's first official act was to purchase a bloc of seats at the University of Tulsa-Missouri School of Mines game at the Skelly stadium, Tulsa, November 15. *The Tulsa Tribune* reports the aim of the club:

The principal purpose of the new Oklahoma alumni chapter here will be to promote interest in the state institution among students at the Tulsa high school.

"Too many of Tulsa's star students are going away to other schools after graduation from high school when they have a bigger and better university right here in Oklahoma than the one they may go away to," said Mrs Porter. "We probably will sponsor scholarships for Oklahoma university within a year or two."

The Oklahoma Alumni association here will meet several times each year, but not at regular intervals, it was said. More than fifty, all that could be accommodated at the Earle Porter home, attended the Tulsa chapter organization meeting recently and many more manifested keen interest in the project.

At Cushing

Over at Cushing things began to happen when Sooners there discovered that Hilary Lee, Sooner guard, might not be able to play in the Aggie game, because of the fact that he was detained at the bedside of his mother at Charleston, Missouri. Mr Lee spent three days at his home on learning that his mother had become critically ill. Cushing alumni offered to send an airplane for him, to bring him to Stillwater and then return him to Charleston immediately.

Dr Daniel Perry, '24 sc., M. D. '26, of Cushing, telegraphed Athletic Director Ben G. Owen:

Cushing alumni willing to send plane to Charleston after Lee and return him after game Sunday morning if that will help.

To «Fortune»

From the canyons of Wall street to the strata of upper New York, from the Guaranty Co. to celebrated *Fortune*, has moved Dr Elgin E. Groseclose, '20 arts-sc., contributing editor of *The Sooner Magazine*.

Doctor Groseclose does the financial editing for this most gorgeous of American magazines, published by Time-Fortune, Inc. He is an associate editor of the magazine.

"From a bank platform in Wall street which is always on the lower floors and consequently so dark that candles are burned all day long, I find myself overlooking the panorama of New York from the top floor of one of the skyscrapers in the Grand Central zone—and I am still taking in the view," Doctor Groseclose writes.

OUR CHANGING VARSITY

Sproul inauguration

One of the most notable gatherings of educators ever assembled on our western coast gathered at Berkeley October 20 to attend the three day inauguration of Robert Gordon Sproul as president of the University of California. One hundred and twenty-six universities and colleges and twenty-six educational boards, foundations and learned societies each sent one or more distinguished delegates. Most of the institutions represented are in the United States but many Canadian schools, the University of the Philippines, the University of Porto Rico and a few universities of far off countries including Lingnan university, China, sent delegates.

The University of Oklahoma was represented by Dr David Ross Boyd, president emeritus. Doctor Boyd described the occasion as perfectly arranged for and epochal in some of its intellectual offer-

ings. Professor Herbert Hersam of the University of California attended Doctor Boyd as his personal escort.

Two interesting dedications took place Tuesday, the second day of the exercises. Giannini hall, part of the \$1,500,000 gift to agricultural research by the Bancitaly Corporation of San Francisco was dedicated in honor of A. P. Giannini, once an Italian immigrant boy. The huge Ernest V. Cowell Memorial hospital also was dedicated. Oklahomans will be particularly interested to know that the physician in charge of the eye, ear, nose and throat department is Dr Roy P. Stoops '98 arts-sc., one of the first two graduates of the University of Oklahoma.

In the evening the two thousandth anniversary of Vergil was celebrated in the Greek theater with addresses and interpretive Greek dancing.

Wednesday the inauguration exercises proper were held with the customary academic procession and inaugural address by Doctor Sproul, the new president, in which, Doctor Boyd said, he showed that he "fully and finely conceived the function of the university."

This is the third educational event last year at which Doctor Boyd has represented a university with which he has been associated. In March he represented the University of New Mexico, of which he was president from 1908 to 1917, at the dedication of the new campus of the University of California at Los Angeles. In June he represented the University of Wooster, of which he is a graduate, at the fiftieth anniversary of the University of Southern California.

FLORENCE HOOD JOHNSON.

Penal education

The University of Oklahoma extension division is promoting a plan whereby the inmates of the penitentiary at McAlester and the reform school at Granite will be aided in receiving an education. Dr Paul L. Vogt, dean of the extension division, recently made a report of the educational facilities and the needs of the prisoners, after visiting the institutions and consulting with the wardens and other officials in charge.

Redbud grove

Redbud trees, a grove of them nearly 200 feet long, flanked with gothic buildings, will some day replace the dusty drill field west of the Armory with a new south oval.

So says W. W. Kraft, superintendent of university utilities, who has drawn up ground plans for the eleven new buildings asked in the school's appropriation

request to come before the legislature in January.

Landscaping has already been begun on the new oval, which is intended for a permanent memorial to the redbud, one of Oklahoma's finest shrubs, now threatened with extinction by vandal tourists. The redbud trees will be grouped between clumps of full-grown maples and elms moved from other parts of the campus. Curbing and roads for the new oval, facing directly on the library, are being laid and should be complete by late spring.

The south oval is the second step in the realization of a pattern which will some day center the University of Oklahoma about the two ovals, north and south, with the library-administration building units as a connecting link between them.

Tentative plans call for only three buildings of the eleven requested in the appropriation estimate to be placed on the new oval. A \$250,000 home economic unit would be constructed on the northwest corner, facing east on the oval and north on Brooks street. A biological science building, including quarters for both botany and zoology departments, will occupy a corresponding position on the northeast corner of the area, and will be designed along similar lines. A physics building will be located on either the east or west side immediately south of either the home economics or biology unit.

Other buildings asked for in the estimate would be scattered about the northern half of the campus. A \$250,000 business administration building is to be situated on Brooks street just east of the library. Between it and the liberal arts building is to be an education building facing on Asp avenue.

A journalism unit is to be put up just south of the present Press building. A fine arts building is plotted on a site west of the present building on the northwest corner of the campus. Other structures asked in the appropriation request are an addition to the engineering building for petroleum engineering, with location yet unselected, and additions to the women's building and power plant.

JACK FISCHER.

Regents meeting

The board of regents, meeting November 10 in the administration building of the university, voted against permitting post-season football games. A post-season game had been urged by an Oklahoma City newspaper between the university and Oklahoma City university. The resolution of the board follows:

The board of regents approves the stand taken by the athletic council of the university in de-

clining to play a post-season game of football. It is believed that such a game not only would indicate an overemphasis on football in the university but it would set a precedent that would make it difficult to decline requests from many organizations in the different towns and cities of the state for athletic contests that would carry extra-curricular activities of the university far beyond their rightful place in the institution.

The regents also approved the James Shannon Buchanan Memorial Lecture-ship plan, clearing the way for the final execution of plans for the financing of the lectures.

Regents in attendance were: Frank Buttram of Oklahoma City; John Rogers of Tulsa; John Carlock of Ardmore; Breck Moss of Oklahoma City; and Mrs Addie Lee Lowther of Guthrie.

Endowment

Aldrich Blake, Oklahoma City capitalist, has endowed *Books Abroad*, international quarterly of comment on foreign books edited by Dr Roy Temple House and published by the University Press, with \$10,000, Doctor House has announced. This is the third endowment the magazine has received, but the first from any individual.

Phi Beta Kappa shield

Phi Beta Kappa chapter of the university has awarded the 1930 scholarship shield to Blackwell high school. The shield is presented annually to the high school whose freshmen students at the university make the highest grade average for the year.

Thirty four years

The thirty-eighth year of the university is the thirty-fourth year of Dr Joseph Francis Paxton, professor of Greek and classical archaeology, who began his service with the university in 1896. Mrs Paxton is the first woman graduate of the university (Fantine Samuels, '01 arts-sc.). Professor Paxton is the oldest member of the faculty in point of continuous service.

In the legislature

Strong candidates for the leadership of both the senate and the house of the state legislature are Sooners. W. G. Stigler, ex '16, state senator from Stigler, is a candidate for president *pro tem* of the senate. A number of Sooners had announced their candidacy for speaker of the house, but all have withdrawn in favor of Carlton Weaver, ex '07, of Wilburton. These candidates included Dave Logan, '16 arts-sc., of Okmulgee, J. T. Daniel, '25 sc., of

Waurika, and Richard Cloyd, '19 arts-sc., '28 law, of Norman.

Mr Logan, in withdrawing, declared of Mr Weaver:

Mr Weaver's experience in the constitutional convention and his active interest in state politics have equipped him for the leadership to which he aspires. He is a close friend of the incoming governor and entirely in sympathy with Mr Murray's announced policies. I am in accord with these policies and feel that it will be to the best interest of the state to support him.

Mr Weaver is editor and publisher of the *Latimer County News-Democrat* at Wilburton. He was elected a member of the state constitutional convention while a student in the university and has the distinction of having been the youngest member of the constitutional convention. Mr Weaver, in announcing his candidacy declared:

I have never entertained political ambitions, but I concluded I wanted to have an intimate part in Oklahoma government while Mr Murray is at the helm.

Senator Claud Briggs of Wilburton, plans to introduce a bill in the coming legislature that would vitally change the relations of higher educational institutions in the state.

Mr Briggs' plan will be to create a junior college system in the state, confining the last two years of work and graduate work in the state university and probably, the state agricultural college. Paul Robarts, writing in the *Tulsa World*, describes the plan thus:

Raise the standards of the junior colleges of the state to that of the state university and compel students to attend the junior colleges in their immediate districts, or have the alternative of paying a high tuition fee to attend the state university.

Mr Robarts sees some difficulties ahead of this program, and comments:

It will be recalled that Governor-elect Murray, in one of his few formal statements, pointed out that he is opposed to junior colleges doing the work of the state university and the A. and M. college, and also opposed to having the state university and A. and M. college doing junior college work. His idea is that the junior college should be the step from the senior high school and a step down from the university which is, under his plan, to be the ultimate in higher education in this state.

The Murray educational plan calls for the successive steps in education practically as follows: the common school, junior high, senior high, teachers colleges on the one branch, junior colleges on the other branch, with the state university as the highest goal for a technical education and A. and M. the highest goal for a technical education in agriculture and mechanics.

Amendment loses

The proposed amendment to the Oklahoma constitution creating a board of regents of nine members for the University of Oklahoma failed to carry in the election of November 4, according to the official count announced November 10. The vote was 168,798 for the amendment, and 164,455 against it. To pass, the

amendment required a majority of all the votes cast. A similar amendment to create a board of regents for Oklahoma Agricultural & Mechanical college failed to carry, the vote being 179,164 for, 167,505 against.

Worth any man's time

President Bizzell was the speaker at Oklahoma City's armistice day observance, November 11. Urging capital citizens to attend the municipal observance sponsored by the American Legion, Walter Harrison declared in the *Oklahoma City Times*:

I don't know what Doctor Bizzell is going to talk about, but I know he is worth thirty minutes of any man's time on a memorial day subject or anything else he chooses to talk about.

From Winnipeg

An autographed photograph of the University Miniature symphony orchestra that broadcasts over WNAD will go to Winnipeg, Canada. E. W. Levinsky of that city won it as the listener sending a letter to the station from the longest distance.

Intersession

A college of from two hundred to three hundred students; a faculty of about fifty professors.

That will be a reality this coming summer during the summer session, as the result of the decision of the university to hold its first intersession, which will come between the close of the summer session proper and the beginning of the fall semester.

When ten or more students in the summer session ask for a class, it will be offered as a two hour course, charged for as graduate extension courses are now charged. Class periods will be of ninety minutes each, and will be held daily, including Saturdays. The maximum number of courses that may be carried is four. The first intersession will be from August 7 to September 4. The intersession is primarily for teachers wanting extra graduate work.

A real memorial

A posthumous tribute to the teaching ability of the late Dr G. Maurice Smith, head of the anthropology department, is found in the way his classes continued the work he had begun. There were six members of the class in anthropology who were determined on keeping on with the program Doctor Smith had outlined at the beginning of the year. They asked the permission of Dean Reaves of the college of arts and sciences, and Doctor

Reaves gladly granted them the privilege of continuing the work. Todd Downing, '24 arts-sc., who in summer vacations works in Aztec lore in Mexico, took over the supervision of the class.

Great Greet

Sir Ben Greet, celebrated English producer of Shakespeare's plays, now on a farewell tour of America, presented under the auspices of the University Playhouse *Twelfth Night* and *Hamlet* afternoon and evening respectively of November 25.

Faculty

Dr A. O. Weese, professor of zoology, was elected president of the Oklahoma Academy of Science at its annual meeting in Tulsa November 29.

Dr Edwin DeBarr of Norman, formerly head of the university chemistry department, has accepted temporarily the position of Norman health officer, in response to popular demand that the health safeguards of the university city be tightened.

Dr Homer L. Dodge, dean of the graduate school, was one of the speakers November 28 and 29 at the University of Iowa, celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the graduate school.

Miss Edna McDaniel, dean of women, spoke on "College Life" before the senior girls of Sapulpa high school November 19, at the annual tea sponsored by the American Association of University Women of Sapulpa.

Dr Cortez Ewing of the department of government, has been elected secretary of the executive committee on religion formed recently in conjunction with the school of religion.

Dr Frederick Blachly, formerly professor of government in the university (1916-1925), has been appointed political science lecturer on the Brookings Institute graduate school faculty at Washington.

While B. A. Botkin, member of the English faculty, shows his talents to the world of letters as the editor of *Folk-Say*, his brother Henry A. Botkin of New York works wonders with a paint brush. An exhibition of Botkin's water colors was recently shown in the exhibition room of the art building.

Three university men were to appear on the program of the Geological Society of America at the meeting in Toronto, Canada, during the Christmas vacation. They are Dr Charles N. Gould, director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, whose paper will be on "The Geography of geology and Geologists," Dr Victor E. Monnett, '12 arts-sc., head of the geology de-

partment, on "Classification of Oil Reservoirs," and Dr Frank A. Melton, associate professor of geology, on "An Interpretation of the Joint System of a part of Eastern Oklahoma."

GRADUATES IN EMBRYO

Ex clapper

In the tower of Old Central, dean of buildings of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical college at Stillwater, is a bell. And in the bell is a clapper. And it is the ancient and accepted custom of Aggies to make the bell in the tower resound with thunder claps whenever the Aggies defeat the Sooners in football.

The bell was silent this year, although the Aggies gave the Sooners something to write down in their memory books. An ambitious Sooner student (singular or plural) detached the clapper from its parent bell, and, we are informed by the papers, took it to Norman.

The game over, the Aggies rushed to Old Central. But the bell had as much efficacy as a man who has just had all his molars removed by a dentist.

In the meantime, while Aggies hunt for the clapper and swear by the Prophet's beard that they will have vengeance on the joker who expunged the clapper, the clapper itself, according to campus report, lies sinking in the quicksands of the Canadian river near Norman, being buried deeper every day by the waters that rush down that tricky river's channels from New Mexico.

Teepee sold

Nickles and dimes may make a great business—if a John D. Rockefeller is giving them out. But when students give them out, a business doesn't flourish. So J. C. Clayton, proprietor of the Teepee fountain, is closing shop. He made the announcement at the same time that Mrs Maud Whistler announced the sale of the Teepee building to J. T. Milam of Chelsea.

Seventeen years spent in the cafeteria business saw its first failure with student patronage, Mr Clayton said, adding "I can't make money selling cokes, cups of coffee and a few toasted sandwiches."

Law-arts degree

While freshmen lawyers take but twenty-six hours work, that work may be offered in lieu of the thirty hours required for students taking the combined law-arts-sciences course. Thus, in six years, a student may obtain both his law and his arts-sciences degree, as a result of recent action of the faculty of the col-

lege of arts and sciences. Previously, law freshmen had to make up the extra four hours.

Knights of kulture

On the night of November 21, Sam Kaplan, '34, son of Jake Kaplan, university painter, lay in his bed asleep.

Abroad were the Knights of Culture.

Mr Kaplan stirred uneasily in his sleep as he felt a hand stealing across his face. The uneasiness was not lessened as he opened his startled eyes and beheld in the half-light masked figures about his bed.

"Come along," said one of the masks.

When six or seven men in black in the dead of night give such a command, there is little gained saying "no." It makes little difference whether the black mask covers the eyes only, or the whole body. That is not a time for philosophic musings.

"You have been tried and found guilty of being a stool-pigeon," the Mask informed Mr Kaplan.

"Judge" and "jury" thereupon proceeded according to Mr Kaplan's story, to beat him with a belt. After warning him not to be seen in a certain automobile again, the men left their victim.

Across the breasts of the six figures in black were the letters "D. D. M. C." according to Mr Kaplan. The Deep Dark Mystery Club was up to its old tricks again, said campus gossip.

Mr Kaplan denied that he was a stool-pigeon (campus vernacular for one reporting car license numbers of students allegedly violating the no-car rule). Mr Walter W. Kraft, superintendent of utilities, revealed the entire system of checking no-car rule violators. There are no stool-pigeons employed, he explained, and the work of checking is done by regularly employed and known men.

Mr Dick Pearce, editor of *The Oklahoma Daily*, deplored the attack. Students generally weren't much concerned. Declared the *Daily Oklahoman*: "The event will prove whether the university authorities and the laws of Oklahoma are impotent or ineffective."

Mr Pearce's acidic comment follows:

Just as one is supposed to stand and shout crazily when "Boomer Sooner" is sung, it is a custom for editors of the *Daily* year after year (excepting those who were members of the order) to write scathing editorials against the D. D. M. C., when it makes its annual bid for notoriety. The editor is expected to juggle those fierce phrases "Hooded Hoodlums," "Masked Cowards," "Fiendish Morons," etc., etc., winding up with a blazing torrent of invective.

I can't do it. I don't feel that way about the D. D. M. C. To me they are not big, hairy-chested, deep-throated, awe-inspiring he-men who strike fear into the hearts of the bravest. They are not a powerful clan gone astray from its

original purpose. They are not undisciplined savages imbued with the fanatical belief that they are the scourges of mankind.

No, they are just a bunch of ordinary boys who haven't grown up. They are in that stage most of us passed through when we rode wooden sticks for horses and shot wild Indians out of the hay loft, or played Two-Gun Pete with six-shooters made out of the kitchen stove-wood. They are little kids playing with black robes and masks instead of toy guns and horses. A little foolish. Somewhat simple-minded.

Prexy ought to line them up and spank them.

In the meantime, university authorities began trying to find the needle in the haystack.

W5BLB

No.

This does not mark a telegraph pole. Rather, it is the call number of the radio station of Alpha Sigma Delta, honorary radio fraternity.

Installed in the Union building is the fraternity's new station, twenty watts, frequency 3,500 and 7,000 kilocycles. Between 2,000 and 3,000 student messages a month can be sent over the station, whose messages are handled by the American Radio Relay league.

Miles of talking

Has democracy been tried and found wanting?

Sooner debaters are going to tell the east about this next spring. They're going to take quite a trip east, and may even get to see President Hoover. (A western team last year was entertained by President Unmaker Will Rogers).

The tentative Oklahoma eastern debate schedule follows:

- March 1. Kansas Aggies at Manhattan.
- March 3. Washington university at St. Louis.
- March 9. George Washington university at Washington.
- March 11. Bucknell university at Louisburg, Pennsylvania.
- March 13. New York university at New York.
- March 14. Fordham university at New York.
- March 15. Columbia university at New York.
- March 19. Bates college at Lewiston, Maine.
- March 20. University of Maine at Orono, Maine.

A debating team from the University of Porto Rico will debate in Norman.

A tour of the south is also being planned by a debate team.

Tooth-picked

Clarence C. Buxton, jr., '33 arts-sc., of Oklahoma City, utility man on Coach Lindsay's football team, and massive iron man, has lost some of his love for pig sandwiches.

Said Buxton and friends sat in a room discussing the approaching conflict with the celebrated and naughty Jayhawkers.

Mr Buxton who had just consumed a

favorite delicacy, a pig sandwich, wanted to demonstrate some effects of the game. He took the paper sack in which the sandwiches had come, put it to his mouth and blew hard.

"This is the way it will sound when the Jayhawks hit our line on the first play," he remarked, laying back on his bed and popping the bag with both hands.

A doctor was called to remove the toothpick hidden in the sack that ran into his hand between the thumb and forefinger.

Stunt winners

Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity with its stunt "A Rushing Business" won the organization prize in the tenth annual Stunt night held in the university auditorium November 8. Max Gilstrap won the short act prize.

Historical association

Sponsored by Dr John L. Waller, '23 educ., and Ralph H. Records, '22 arts-sc., M. A. '23, assistant professor of history, a University of Oklahoma Historical association has been formed on the campus, with Finis C. Gillespie of Hobart as president.

Penalized

Kappa Alpha Theta and Alpha Chi Omega fraternities were penalized for initiating pledges after the first six weeks' period without sending grade cards of initiates through the registrar's office and that of the dean of women. Both fraternities will not be permitted to initiate for six weeks after the close of the first semester.

Canny Greeks

The Greeks of Norman do not claim Phi Beta Kappa for their spiritual papa. For some time they have "viewed with alarm" the grade-getting abilities of the celebrated Sigma Alpha Mu and the Phi Beta Delta fraternities. Both of these latter organizations have not been members of the interfraternity council for some years. Both have petitioned for admission.

The interfraternity council admitted Phi Beta Delta to its sacrosanct ranks and then paved the way for keeping its grade records immaculate. Sigma Alpha Mu has been ranking at the top for some years now—or mighty near the top. Its membership list is usually a small one, rarely more than twenty members. In these days of bigger and better houses, the Greeks must have clubs the size of an Elks lodge. So there are few fraternity chapters with fewer than thirty-five mem-

bers, and most of them approach double that number.

So, before admitting Sigma Alpha Mu, the Greeks decided to make it an empty honor. They ruled that no fraternity with less than thirty-five members should be considered as competitor for the interfraternity scholarship cup.

No late deliveries

Hereafter coeds will either have to go hungry after the 10:30 and 11:30 whistles or lay away their supply of cheese and crackers early in the afternoons as this year the eating houses are not delivering to women's houses after the date whistle.

Non-fraternity organization

A nonfraternity organization has recently received sanction on the campus with Charles Christensen, junior, arts-sc., as president; Tom Hieronymous, freshman law, vice president; and Otis Blankenship, sophomore, arts-sc., secretary. This is not in opposition to fraternities but is simply a representation of the non-fraternity group.

Rhodes nominees

Meeting at the University club in Oklahoma City Saturday, December 6, a committee of former Rhodes scholars under the chairmanship of President W. B. Bizzell, nominated two young Oklahoma students to represent the state in the regional competition December 13 and 14 at New Orleans.

Carl Albert, '31 arts-sc., of McAlester, and Eugene Dyche, a graduate of Oklahoma City university, Oklahoma City, were selected from fourteen contestants to represent Oklahoma.

This is the first year that the regional plan is being tried. Previously each state selected scholars, and under that plan, Oklahoma this year would not have held an election, since one year in three no election was held. However, the nation has been divided into eight districts of six states each and elections are now to be held annually. Oklahoma is in the sixth district or Gulf states region, comprising Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas. At New Orleans a regional committee of former Rhodes scholars, presided over by a distinguished citizen from the Gulf states makes the selection. There were to be twelve contestants at the New Orleans meeting, from which group four were to be selected to go to Oxford.

D. Hope Ellotson of St. John's college, Oxford, and B. J. Creehan of the University of Liverpool, were defeated December 6 in the university auditorium

by an Oklahoma team composed of Albert and George Copeland, '31 law, of Oklahoma City, on the question "that the principle of democracy had been tried and found wanting." Oklahoma defended the negative side of the question. It was the first defeat for the English team in eighteen debates.

EXPRESSED IN THE PRESS

The Mahaffies

There is a corking good story of the Mahaffies—Charles, George B. jr., and Oscar Beaty—in the *Daily Oklahoman* written by Alvin Rucker, who has a knack of finding interesting history, whether in an old fort or in the achievements of an Oklahoman. Charles, the oldest boy, is a Kingfisher graduate, but the other two brothers were Sooners. Mr Rucker's story follows:

"I doubt if some of the sons of millionaires will climb higher than have my sons." The self-satisfied statement was made by Mrs George B. Mahaffie, white-haired mother of Charles D. Mahaffie of Kiowa county, Oklahoma, recently appointed by President Hoover to membership of the all-powerful interstate commerce commission. The interstate commerce commission is the extra-judicial and executive body that controls the destinies of the railroads of the United States, and indirectly much of the welfare of the people, for despite automobiles the public is dependent upon railroads for many of the necessities of life.

Mrs Mahaffie and her husband live alone on a farm five miles south of Komalty, a trading point eight miles east of Hobart, northern Kiowa county, where Mahaffie owns 500 acres of agricultural and grazing land. Mahaffie also owns 1,100 acres of grazing land in Colorado. He is seventy-five years old.

Mrs Mahaffie's reference to "some of the sons of millionaires" and to attainments of two of her sons was not intended to be invidious. The reference was collateral to her son Charles' appointment to membership of the interstate commerce commission. It was occasioned by an extraneous remark that some millionaires, in last will and testament, pensioned their heirs until judgment of middle life provides some guarantee against squandering of patrimony, the pensions being in form of doles of the fortune distributed.

Mrs Mahaffie is a former school teacher, and her mother was a school teacher and Mr Mahaffie has a sister who has been teaching in the public schools of Kansas City, Kansas for twenty-three years.

In 1893 the Mahaffies moved from Olathe, Kan., where Mrs Mahaffie had taught school for eight years, to Kingfisher county, Oklahoma, where they settled on a farm near Cashion. Charles Mahaffie was then nine years old. He attended the local rural school five years and then entered Kingfisher college, and there remained seven years, taking highschool and college work in that institution. He was graduated in 1905, and in the same year was selected as the second Rhodes scholar from Oklahoma.

"Charles and another boy sawed wood one year to pay part of their way through school, and then Charles became librarian," Mr Mahaffie explained. "Of course we helped him financially, but he worked every vacation. After we moved to Hobart, in 1901, where we lived two years before moving onto this farm, I obtained the contract to grade the streets of Ho-

bart and he helped me do the grading during Christmas holidays. During the vacation period of 1902, I had two teams employed in the building of the Hobart-Oklahoma City telephone line and he drove one of the teams all through the summer vacation. During each vacation period, whether Christmas or summer, he worked."

While attending Kingfisher college, Mahaffie did not become so absorbed in his studies as to ignore athletics and the social side of school life. He was captain of the Kingfisher college football team in 1903 and was a devotee of tennis. He strove ardently to succeed, Mrs Mahaffie says, adding, "All through life he fought to come out ahead, and nearly always did. I never saw anyone who took defeat harder than he did."

In 1905, the year of Mahaffie's graduation from Kingfisher college he took the examination and was selected as one of the Rhodes scholars, being the second selected from Oklahoma. The scholarships were part of Cecil Rhodes' distribution of the enormous fortune he accumulated in the diamond mines and other enterprises of South Africa. Rhodes was a British subject, and at his death provided a fund to enable qualified students throughout the world to obtain an education in England. When Mahaffie was selected in competitive examination in 1905 the scholarship paid \$1,500 a year. He left immediately, following his selection, for England and entered St. John's college, Oxford, where he studied law, graduating in 1908, with the degree of bachelor of law. He was then twenty-four years old and too young at that time to receive the degree, according to regulations governing the school. The degree, however, had been conferred before the school authorities became aware of Mahaffie's youthfulness. Another graduate of Mahaffie's age was refused a degree on the ground of age, and when he pointed out that Mahaffie, regardless of age, had received a degree, was told that a mistake had been made and that it would not become a precedent.

Mahaffie's record while at Oxford attracted attention of authorities of Princeton university of which Woodrow Wilson was then president and Mahaffie was employed to teach jurisprudence at Princeton. The year Mahaffie spent as jurisprudence teacher at Princeton bore more profit later than at the time. While a member of the Princeton faculty, Mahaffie became acquainted with Wilson and with other teachers was a guest at house parties given by the institutional head. Mahaffie taught jurisprudence at Princeton during the scholastic year of 1908-9 and in the summer of 1909 moved to Chickasha, Oklahoma, and associated himself with J. A. Julian, a cousin, engaged in the loan business, Mahaffie beginning the practice of law. After a year spent in the practice of law in Chickasha, Mahaffie moved to Portland, Oregon, in 1910. He had hardly arrived in Portland when he received a communication from Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer, soliciting him to join in the defense of the McNamara brothers, charged with dynamiting the *Los Angeles Times* building, ship yards and other large non-union enterprises. Mahaffie went to Chicago and talked with Darrow relative to joining in the defense, and was assured that there was plenty of money back of the McNamaras.

Later revelations disclosed Darrow was right about the money. The *Los Angeles Times* had been waging a crusade against labor unions on the Pacific coast, and the situation had become so tense that the editor of the *Times*, either through fear or for effect, drove an armored automobile around Los Angeles. During the disturbance, the *Los Angeles Times* building was wrecked by dynamite, and the two McNamara brothers were arrested as perpetrators of the job. Labor unions throughout the country, believing that the McNamaras were being persecuted, rallied to their defense with financial aid, and Clarence Darrow was employed as chief lawyer for the

defense. The case was the first profitable one in which Mahaffie engaged. During his connection with the case he received \$20 a day, and later it caused the labor element to throw much legal business his way.

Mahaffie continued in private practice in Portland until the approach of the World war period. In 1916 he enlisted the aid of the two United States senators from Oregon, and obtained presidential appointment as solicitor for the department of the interior, during President Wilson's administration, his Princeton acquaintance with Wilson probably being a material factor in the appointment. That appointment was the only one in which political or personal influence played a part in Mahaffie's advancement. Mahaffie continued as solicitor until 1921, when he was appointed attorney for the United States railway commission, and in 1922 he was made director of the bureau of finance for the commission. During the following eight years Mahaffie remained director of the bureau. While bureau director Mahaffie completed the organization of the bureau.

Charles Mahaffie is the second oldest of four children born to Mr and Mrs Mahaffie, a sister, now Mrs Ed Cobb of Pomona, California, being two years older than Charles. George B. Mahaffie, jr., five years younger than Charles, was graduated from Kingfisher college and studied law at the University of Oklahoma one year. In 1910 he took the Rhodes scholarship examination, with other Oklahoma applicants, but none from Oklahoma was successful that year. Following the war he went into the cattle business with his father and was in the cattle business until he died, in 1919. Oscar Beaty Mahaffie, brother, 15 years younger than Charles, attended Kingfisher college one year and then attended the University of Oklahoma, where he specialized in chemistry and was graduated in 1921. He is now chemist in the United States prohibition laboratory at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Among his classmates were Dan Moody, who became governor of Texas, and Fred Capshaw, who became a member of the Oklahoma corporation commission.

The old Kingfisher college, although long ago merged with the University of Oklahoma, is affectionately remembered by Mrs Mahaffie, as it was in that institution that her four children spent a large part of their school days. Mrs Mahaffie likes to relate that the thrift habit practiced by Charles while attending Kingfisher college found reflection when he attended St. John's where he saved \$1,000 from the amount allowed by the Rhodes scholarship, when some of the other St. John students from the United States were under the necessity of sending home for money on which to return to the United States at the end of their scholastic work.

SPORTS OF ALL SORTS

Kansas and the Big Six

University of Kansas, after debating some time whether to call it the Big Six or the Big Stick, is apparently considering the athletic organization of the mid-western state schools as the Big Six. Recent developments, largely as a result of the mediation of President Bizzell of Oklahoma, permitted the re-entry of Kansas in the Big Six conference for next year.

Recently, the Kansas school was ostracized from the conference because of alleged practice not in keeping with the spirit of the conference rules. President Bizzell communicated with Chancellor Lindley of Kansas and suggested a meeting of the presidents of the Big Six

schools. A meeting of faculty representatives and presidents was held in Kansas City November 28, under the chairmanship of President Bizzell. Action was taken at that time which generally was considered as paving the way for the full reinstatement of Kansas. A week following the Kansas City meeting, Kansas took steps that indicated it would return to the fold, by declaring certain players ineligible.

Speaking of the Kansas City meeting, President Bizzell told *The Norman Transcript*:

The representatives of the various schools discussed the problem with great candor, frankness and sincerity of purpose. I am very hopeful that a satisfactory solution will be reached, and I believe that the result eventually will make possible better relations than ever before between the Big Six schools.

A resolution passed by the conference states that no student participating in athletics shall receive any subsidy, either directly or indirectly, or advance on salary. Kansas, it is understood, will subscribe to this policy.

At a meeting in Kansas City December 6, Big Six schools rearranged their schedules to play Kansas.

The place of athletics

Are athletics dominating our schools?

American university presidents during the coming year are going to give serious study to this much debated question. In a way, the decision to make this study is the most important step taken by the national Association of University Presidents at the Washington meeting November 19 and 20, President Bizzell states.

A committee was appointed to study the problem and "this group will make a thorough survey of athletics in all colleges and universities and report at the next session in November, 1931," President Bizzell states. "Adverse criticism from men outside educational circles was the immediate cause of the move to see just where athletics in the universities are going."

President Bizzell, who is chairman of the association's military training committee, said that Col. Myron Parker of the general military department in Washington, praised the university on the unusually high standing of its R. O. T. C. department.

A trying Thanksgiving

It was a trying Thanksgiving in the home of Ben G. Owen, director of athletics. And it was a trying game the Sooners played, as a result. Ruth Owen, the fifteen-year-old daughter of the veteran Sooner football genius, her sister

(TURN TO PAGE 139, PLEASE)

1927

Lynden Mannen, '27 law, instructor in government in the University of Oklahoma, and managing editor of the *Oklahoma Municipal Review*, attended the meeting of the American Municipal association in Cleveland, Ohio, November 13.

Joe Bird, M. A. '27, formerly secretary of the university Y. M. C. A., has been awarded a Ph. D. degree by Columbia university. He and Mrs Bird are living at White Plains, New York.

Raymond Selders, '27 med., is a practicing surgeon at Houston, Texas, with offices at 321 Medical Arts building.

Eliston Diem, '27 arts-sc., is first trumpet player in the stage band at the Metropolitan theater at Houston, Texas. His address is 2411 Main street.

1928

Earl L. Hassler, '28 arts-sc., '30 eng., is engineer for the long lines department of American Telephone & Telegraph Company. His business address is 202 Telephone building, Oklahoma City.

Elgin L. Shaw, '28 eng., 1015 Emma avenue, Akron, Ohio, is aeronautical engineer for Good-way Zeppelin Corporation.

Miss Genevieve Cowman, '28 arts-sc., maintained charity booths in a few of the leading hotels in Oklahoma City during the month of November in assisting the women's division of the community fund in that city.

L. M. Poe, jr., '28 law, of Tulsa, is the lone Tulsa county tag agent to be held over in recent changes made in that county by the state highway commission.

1929

Dennis Bushyhead, '29 law, of Claremore, resigned November 10 as secretary of the state in-

dustrial commission, in order to become county attorney of Rogers county.

Jess S. Hudson, M. S. '29 of 2216 West 40th, Tulsa, was named principal of the Springdale school this fall.

Miss Mex Rodman, '29 arts-sc., led a group of Junior League members in charity work in Oklahoma City in November.

R. F. J. Williams, jr., ex '29, sailed November 29 from New York on the floating university for a round-the-world trip. His home is Oklahoma City.

1930

H. H. Sprout, '30 eng., has recently completed the graduate student course of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, receiving a degree of commercial engineering.

A group of Sooners who are teachers at the Broxton Consolidated School near Apache are: Roscoe Roberts, '30 bus., superintendent; Virginia K. Sage, '26 arts-sc., principal; Georgia Metzger, ex '29; Marjorie Pettitt, ex '29; and Mrs Bessie Malone Benson, '26 home ec.

Hiram H. Sprout, '30 eng., of Hydro, has completed the course in commercial engineering offered by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. at East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Allergic diseases (such as asthma and hay fever) are often developed by the cottonwood and pecan trees, Dr Ray M. Balyeat, '12 arts-sc., '18 M. D., in a talk before the faculty forum of the university recently. Some children, Dr Balyeat declared, contract the disease from Bermuda grass in which they play. Sometimes foods are the cause, as in the case of a child so sensitive to wheat that she cannot drink the milk from a cow fed on wheat. Tendencies in allergic diseases are hereditary.

Mrs Sylvia W. Hefley and her son Maurice

will both receive their degrees from the university next spring. Mrs Hefley, who attended the university more than thirty years ago will receive her B. A. degree and Maurice will graduate from the school of engineering.



SPORTS OF ALL SORTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 122)

Jane, and three other girls were injured when their car overturned in a ditch in Norman Thanksgiving morning.

The Owen car was forced to make a short turn to avoid a collision. Miss Ruth was critically injured.



On east-west team

Bus Mills of Oklahoma has been invited to play with the western team in the national Shriner's football game at San Francisco December 27, as quarterback. Leading football players of the west play against the best of the east in this game.



All Big Six

C. E. McBride, sports editor of the *Kansas City Star*, selected on his all Big Six eleven Hilary Lee of Oklahoma as guard, and Bus Mills of Oklahoma as quarterback.

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