

Not everyone realizes how far-reaching are the services of the University of Oklahoma to the citizens of the state. The work of the university is by no means confined to the campuses at Norman and Oklahoma City; for the extension division serves the citizens in their own communities in many ways, one of the most striking being the public information service described in the article which follows by Herbert H. Scott, M.A. '26, director of the department of public information

Serving your community

BY HERBERT H. SCOTT, '26

EDUCATION, today, is facing its greatest challenge. We are living in an age in which conditions are changing rapidly. More than twenty-five per cent of the persons employed in the United States are now engaged in occupations that were wholly unknown at the turn of the century. Occupations that have existed for a longer time have been subjected to marked evolutionary changes. These changes have come so rapidly that should Rip Van Winkle awake today he would scarcely recognize this as being the same world he once knew.

Education must indeed be alert to keep pace with the rapid strides of this modern age. Education must be a moving force to cope with the training of persons for the new tasks that have come, in this age of machines. Education must assist young and old alike in adjusting themselves to the present state of things. This includes not only education in the use of the machines—but education in the proper use of leisure time—education for safety—education for health—education on our status as a nation, in the family of nations, under the present-day systems of transportation and communication—and education in dozens of other important things and modes of living.

This involves not only the training of adults in the field of adult education, but also affects the proper training of the youth in the grades and high schools. Dr Robert M. Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, has said recently, "The universities may develop ideas in higher education of striking symmetry and beauty but they are futile unless they penetrate the public schools."

Dr Glenn Frank, president of the Uni-

versity of Wisconsin, says, "We must see to it that the learning of the university is ever linked closely to the life of the state in terms of practical service, serving alike the youthful minds of the campus, making all the knowledge and all the insight of the universities available to men and women throughout the state for the economic betterment, the intellectual stimulation and the spiritual enrichment of their lives."

It is only natural that the people of Oklahoma should turn to their university for help in solving their problems of an educational nature, that they themselves cannot solve. It is only natural that they should ask their university for educational material that is not commonly used and must be traced down by research students where extraordinary facilities and materials are to be found. It is natural and reasonable for the university to fulfill its obligations to the people of Oklahoma in every possible way. It is reasonable for the university to co-operate with other educational agencies for the performance of their functions.

Therefore, to carry on the activities in this particular field of public information and research, the department of public information of the University of Oklahoma came into existence. This department performs an important function in the educational system of the state of Oklahoma. It carries its message of learning directly into the heart of each and every community in the state. It concerns itself with assisting men, women, and children in the various walks of life in carrying on their respective educational endeavors. This is no theory or supposition, but it is a practical reality.



A few facts concerning this work would prove interesting.

The department of public information has passed through several years of evolutionary processes, until now it is serving directly many thousands of Oklahomans annually. The information sent reaches many times more people than the number actually receiving the materials, for much of the subject matter is for discussion programs where there are dozens and even hundreds of listeners. The department has in its package library more than 150,000 selected articles covering 2,300 general subjects. These articles include clippings from newspapers, magazines, pamphlets, bulletins, and so on. Moreover, it has the co-operation of the general library of the university, of the faculty members, and of the departmental libraries in conducting research investigation for information not already prepared. Furthermore, the department has a collection of 2,600 plays and 2,500 readings available to be loaned to any person in Oklahoma.

Ordinarily, when a request for help or information is received, it is sent out to the person making the request in the form of a package library. This package is a collection of articles and pamphlets all on the same subject and dealing with all phases of that subject. In some instances where the proper material is not to be found in the files, information found as the result of research work is sent out in the form of a typewritten document.

A major portion of the activities of the department may be divided into eight general classifications; First, ser-

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vices to women's organizations; second, services to men's organizations; third, furnishing debate material to the members of the Oklahoma High School Debating League; fourth, the assembling of plays to be used by the participants in the Oklahoma One-Act Play League; fifth, the assembling and compilation of material and bibliographies for the use of participants in the county and state interscholastic reading and oratorical contests; sixth, collecting and assembling material for the oratorical contest on the constitution; seventh, a collection of miscellaneous debate material on all current debatable subjects; eighth, miscellaneous collection of plays and readings for use of those preparing programs for special occasions.

The work with the women's organizations is divided into three different phases, the first of which deals with the assembling and compilation of women's club programs; the second of which includes the work of the counsellor of Women's organizations; and third, the furnishing of material on topics outlined in their yearbooks.

In carrying out the club program service, this department has on file a large number of study club outlines on many different subjects. These may be borrowed by the club women of the state to use as guides in making up their club yearbooks. The outlines are on such varied and diversified topics as: American ideals, art, the Bible, books, child welfare, citizenship, Oklahoma history, home economics, etc.

The counsellor of women's organizations is prepared to consult with and advise the club women of this state on any problem that may arise in making up their study outlines or in performing their club activities. She is ready to furnish suggestions, plan programs, and to make talks on topics of particular interest to the clubs.

In addition, the department has on file adequate package library material to cover most of the topics listed in the study outlines. Thus each individual club woman may borrow the particular material needed for the preparation and presentation of her topic.

The department's service to the men's organizations of Oklahoma includes the furnishing of material such as skits, programs, and other helps for carrying on civic club and other activities, and material to be used in preparing special entertainments. Material for the preparation of speeches on topics of current interest to men, also is available.

The director of the department of town and country service has administrative charge of the various high school and junior college forensic leagues in

Oklahoma. However, the department of public information works in close cooperation with the functioning of these leagues by the selection and distribution of literature used by the individuals engaged in these activities. By working in close harmony with the university extension library and information agencies of the National University Extension Association, this department annually collects the best materials available for forensic participants. Each year hundreds of selected articles on the current debate subject for the High School Debating League are mimeographed and made available to all debaters in Oklahoma. Furthermore debate handbooks are sent to all members of the league.

After the executive committee of the Oklahoma One Act Play League has selected the titles which may be used in the state contest, the department at once secures several copies of each title for the files. These plays are loaned to each member school for use in selecting a proper number to be presented. Plans are already being laid for this phase of the work for next year co-operating with the department of town and country service, in the hope for greater and more complete service to the public in this line.

The annual national oratorical contest among the high school students of the state attracts increasing attention on the part of the public each year. This contest is sponsored by the *Daily Oklahoman* and by local publishers throughout the state with the administration in charge of the extension division of the University of Oklahoma. Adequate package material on all the different phases of the subjects to be discussed by these young orators, as well as several complete bibliographies to be used for research, is assembled for their convenience.

Each spring brings with it the annual county, district, conference, and state interscholastic reading and oration contests. This department has in its files hundreds of readings and orations which prospective participants in these contests may borrow to read or copy for their own personal use.

Many high schools and junior colleges have, in addition to their regular and representative teams, inter-class debates, debates in public speaking, English or history classes, and clubs which sponsor debates on different subjects. For these activities, the department has on file briefs, bibliographies, and material on all phases of such subjects as: Capital punishment, restriction of immigration, extra-curricular activities, prohibition, reparations, independence of the Philippines, government control of industry, and numerous others. This material is at all times available for the use of the students of Oklahoma.

In addition, the department of public

information has on file hundreds of plays and readings suitable for a wide variety of occasions, exclusive of the particular contests previously mentioned. Many of the plays and readings are used for junior and senior class entertainments, for chapel programs, for community entertainments, for women's club special programs, etc. Included in these files are to be found many operettas, pageants, and books of collections of readings and plays.

The "Special Day" entertainment material consists of patriotic plays, religious plays, boy scout plays, negro minstrel plays, Thanksgiving Day plays, St. Patrick's Day and Valentine plays, Mother's Day plays, May Day plays, Hallowe'en plays, Easter plays, Christmas plays and other kindred subject matter.

Figures on the accomplishments of the department of public information, covering the year from July 1, 1930 to June 30, 1931, show that the package library sent out a total of 25,650 packages to the people of the state. March was the peak month of the year with a total of 4,211 packages forwarded in response to requests. In addition to the above items, the department mailed out 4,254 bulletins of the university covering special topics.

Our records on the users of the package library show the following summary: Of the 25,650 packages used during the year 1930-31, those sent to students of the state proved most numerous, with a total of 8,981; women of the state, most of whom were interested in club work, received 7,269 packages of material; teachers came next with 7,102; men impelled by the requirements of special programs and club entertainments or banquet speeches, asked for 1,871 packages; and, libraries of the state, finding themselves unable to satisfy the requirements of patrons, used 427 packages for reading matter.

It should be understood that this service is free to the citizens of the State of Oklahoma, subject, however, to a few simple regulations, which follow:

First, loans are made for a period of two weeks, with the privilege of one renewal of two weeks; provided the renewal request is made in advance of the expiration date of the loan period; second, the borrower refunds outgoing postage and pays return postage on all materials; third, there is a fine for keeping materials over time—ten cents for the first day and two cents a day thereafter; fourth, lost articles are to be paid for—the minimum for any article is twenty-five cents; fifth, borrowers who fail to comply with the regulations may have their privilege of further service suspended; sixth, the borrower's name and address should always be on the package when it is returned—every article is charged to the individual and it

is necessary to have the name in order to give proper credit; and seventh, if the borrower will state what the material is wanted for—whether it is for debates, club program, theme or whatever else—it will be helpful in selecting the correct phase of the subject desired. When possible, requests should be sent several days in advance of the time the material is needed.

Regulations regarding the forwarding of plays and readings follow; first, loans are made for a period of five days, with no renewal privileges; plays are loaned for the purpose of "reading and selection" only; the copies necessary for production must be ordered directly from the publishers; the publishers should be written also with reference to the royalties. In addition the regulations applicable to the package library, with the exception of the loan period, as given above, are operative in connection with the loaning of plays and readings. All communications should be addressed to the department of public information, extension division, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

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GRADUATES IN EMBRYO

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election are: Vincent Dale, Guymon, who was elected vice-president; Herman Greenhaw, Hobart, secretary. Dick Murray, independent, Colbert, won the law school election. Charles Davis, Oklahoma City, Dale, Stamper, and Greenhaw, were administration party candidates elected from the college of arts and sciences.

Engineers elected Ernest Childers, Geary; Raymond McClung, Norman and Ervin Glasgow, Carman. In the college of business administration, Ralph Cissne, Oklahoma City; Andy Beck, Oklahoma City were elected.

Cecil Ferree, Skiatook, and Ralph Enix, Hennessey, were elected in the schools of education and pharmacy respectively. Paul Huff, Norman, won the college of fine arts seat by default.

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Kappa Delta Pi alumni

Oklahoma City alumni members of Kappa Delta Pi, national honorary educational fraternity for men and women, entertained recently at the new Andrew Jackson junior high school for members of the chapter at Norman.

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Robertson hall president

Miss Annell Criswell '34 arts-sc., We-woka, has been named president of Robertson Hall, dormitory for women. She will succeed Miss Floriene Slayton '34, of Oklahoma City.

Phi Beta Sigma initiates

Phi Beta Sigma, national scholarship fraternity in education, announces the initiation of nine prospective teachers, majors in education in the university. Membership is based upon scholarship and is limited to the upper fifteen per cent of the class, according to F. F. Gaither, '21 arts-sc. M. S. '26., assistant professor of education and secretary of the fraternity. The new members are Virginia Earley, Oklahoma City; J. M. Ashton, Norman; Mrs Ruth Russell, Ringling; Gertrude White, Prague; Mrs Judith Marie Gaither, Norman; Anna Neal, Norman; Mrs Emma Lee Bond, Mangum; Mrs Ruth Bernard and Irwin F. Bingham, both of Norman.

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Dramatic awards

Buffalo Masks, highest honor which may be accorded to a university actor, have been awarded to eight dramatic art students. They are Juanita Beauchamp, Tulsa; Virginia Dicken, Oklahoma City; Calvin Good, Chickasha; Eugene Hassman, Oklahoma City; Lucille McGuire, Norman; Subert Turbyfill, '25 B. F. A. in expression; '26 arts-sc., '32 candidate for the master's degree in dramatic art; Larry Haydon, instructor in dramatic art, and Mrs Katheryn Haydon. All have taken major parts, either as actors or technicians in Playhouse productions.

The Playhouse, honorary actor's organization announced the following pledges at the annual dinner of the fraternity, May 19:

Doris Pearson, Norman; June Marie Williams, Oklahoma City; John S. Weaver, Dallas; Subert Turbyfill, Norman; Maurice Steinig, Oklahoma City; Earl Sneed, Tulsa; Oscar Smith, San Marcos, Texas; Lillian Sanders, Weleetka; Iva Jewel Rone, Walters; Hylagene Robber-son, Norman; Lucille McGuire, Norman; Ben Marks, Tulsa; Georgia Ledbetter, Norman; Helen Hillsmeyer, Norman; Gladys Henson, Oklahoma City; Calvin Good, Chickasha; Howard Fielden, Anadarko; Virginia Dicken, Oklahoma City; Corinne Chandler, Anadarko; Milo Brisco, Seminole; Louis Bond, Oklahoma City; Juanita Beauchamp, Tulsa; Eugene Barney and Walter Ainsworth, Camden, Arkansas. Rupel J. Jones, director of the school of dramatic art, was toastmaster.

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German prize

Beryl C. Ward '33, Norman, has been awarded the prize given by the Zion's Evangelical church, Oklahoma City, in the annual German contest of the university. Seymour Ingerson '33, Chickasha, and Margaret Barnes '33, Norman tied for second place, receiving German books awarded by *Books Abroad*.

Sigma Delta Chi pledges

Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalistic fraternity, announces the pledging of Ervin Lewis, Tulsa; Hirst Suf-field, Gage; David Truitt, Helena; Robert Whitney, Tulsa; John Fortson, Tecumseh; and Ralph Roberts, Guthrie.

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Engineers president

Fred Newton, Cushing, is the new senior president for seniors of '33. Backed by the engineering students, Newton was elected by an overwhelming majority in the junior election May 19. Virginia Lester, Oklahoma City, was elected secretary, and James Hamill, Norman, vice-president.

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Sigma Chi prize

Lee Bond '32, Chickasha, has been awarded a \$50 life membership prize offered by his fraternity, Sigma Chi, for the best letter submitted to the *Sigma Chi Magazine* by any chapter's associate editor.

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SPORTS OF ALL SORTS

Track men second

Oklahoma trackmen have just wound up with the heartening record of second in the Big Six outdoor meet at Lincoln, Nebraska, May 20 and 21. Alfred "Hippo" Howell of Nowata was high point man of the meet with eleven points. Two Big Six records were broken by Sooners, Ben Marks of Tulsa, throwing the javelin 197 feet 9¾ inches, breaking the old record of Arthur Cox of Oklahoma.

Harold "Hap" Morris of Tulsa, made a new record for the outdoor broad jump with 24 feet, 4½ inches, exceeding the old record held by Gray of Nebraska. Nebraska won the Big Six meet, with Oklahoma second; University of Kansas, third; and Kansas State, fourth.

Tracksters were brushing up for the Olympic tryouts which were to be held at Norman May 26-27. The last big event of the year was to be the National collegiate meet at Chicago, June 10-11.

Track schedule:

	O. U.	Op.
April 16 Kansas State at		
Manhattan	71 2/3	59 1/3
May 6, Nebraska at		
Lincoln	63 2/3	67 1/3
May 11, Oklahoma Aggies at		
Norman	76 1/2	54 1/2

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Second in tennis

The tennis squad, coached by Prof. John O. Moseley, made an exceptionally fine showing this year by rating second in the Big Six conference. Charlie Davis, star player, is a junior from Oklahoma City, and will be back next year. The