

# Man not afraid

BY JOHN JOSEPH MATHEWS, '20

**E**E SA RAH N'EAH told the story as we sat cross-legged at the edge of the camp when the drum beats were like the pulse of the earth, and the chant of the singers around the kettle-drum came and went on the fickle air currents. He sat with his small moccassined feet drawn up under him; his blanket draped his left shoulder, as his long graceful fingers gripped the butt of his eagle-wing fan which he moved slowly in front of his face.

"It is wah'kon," he said gravely, "men do not understand these things. My father told me this thing and many times leaves have come to trees, since he said this to me. His father told this to him too, and it is true." Then, as was his custom he gazed for a long time into the distance, then spoke again: "My grandfather was Wy Zte Kee Tompa (Eagle That Dreams). When he was this high (holding his hand about three feet off the ground) his father went toward morning sun with Ee Sta Hah (men with hair on faces—Frenchmen). This father of my grandfather was Wy Nah She Zhee (Eagle That swoops).

"Many suns they traveled toward morning sun, and there were many Osages, and there were many Ee Sta Hah, and other people. Many times they slept and they came to land of big trees. Ee Sta Hah talked much he said. One time runner came to Ee Sta Hah and said: 'There are many long knives with red coats coming.' There was much talk, and Ee Sta Hah told Indians that for hair of long knives they would give white iron of white man. They would give guns and powder to use in guns. Osage thought this was good. They said we will do this—it is all right.

"Eagle That Swoops said that long knives with red coats came like leaves of sumac when wind blows, but he said they didn't know how to fight. He said they fell from horses like leaves from trees in time of falling leaves, and Osage were sorry to see horses run away in woods.

"Soon he said, a giant came on a white horse. He said this man was taller than any Osage, and a tall thing on his head seemed to make him very tall, but he said this man could not be wounded. Arrows would not hit this tall man on white horse. He said they would go to one side like arrows that are made by man who cannot make arrows well, and he said Osage believed that bullets from guns melted before they got to him. Pretty soon

Indians said we will not shoot at this man on white horse. It is wah'kon (mystery) they said. This man on white horse is brave man, and we do not want to kill brave man; he is Man Not Afraid, and wah'kon will not let this man be wounded. This tall man on white horse did not die because Indian would not shoot at him.

"When long knives with red coats went

# Norman Thomas

BY JACK FISCHER, '32

**N**O soap-boxer is suave, silver-haired Norman Thomas, leader of the American Socialist party.

No soap-Boxer Rebellion, no Marxian world revolution did he preach to university Oklahomans in four campus talks December 4. Instead he sketched his blue prints for a slower, quieter rebuilding of the country's creaking social and economic structure.

An eager, curious audience crowded to hear the acid irony of the former presidential candidate, reputed one of the keenest intellects in national politics. Six years ago Mr Thomas, a Princeton graduate, stepped out of a Presbyterian pulpit to lead the moderate wing of American radicalism into dozens of fiery and unsuccessful campaigns. He holds a record for political defeats. A candidate for scores of offices, he has never yet won an election.

Students to some of whom "Socialist" meant bombs, beards and red neckties were disabused when the six-foot, good humored Mr Thomas walked on the platform. He looked more like an athletic college professor than the cartoon version of a socialist.

But his talks had no lack of lash and sting. The racketeering ethics of modern business, the menace of an American Fascism, the myth of Hoover's "rugged individualism," the folly of rabid nationalism, were dissected under the scalpel of Mr Thomas's analysis.

"All American life," Mr Thomas de-

clared, "Is shot through with the virus of racketeering—legal and illegal. The three greatest rackets in the United States are politics, Wall Street, and the organized terrorism of gangsters, and they differ only in degree of respectability. The American motto is 'My son, get rich, honestly if possible.'

"The greatest racket of all is the legal profession. The gangsters could not exist without the support of the lawyers, politicians and business men who live off of them."

Business has adopted the worst vices of politics and the racketeers, Mr Thomas contended. He pointed to the widespread nepotism in modern industry and the repeated use of gunmen by big business to break strikes.

"Capone stabilized the chaotic liquor business with no more violence than has been used in many a legal merger," he said. "And the only crime for which he has been convicted is that of evading income taxes. Scar-face Al certainly isn't the only prominent American who has been careless with his income tax.

"The worst thing about public officials is that they have taken over the ethics of private business. Grace of Bethlehem Steel got a \$1,500,000 bonus to the mere one million that Mayor James Walker has collected from Tammany. There is no more reason for one bonus than for the other."

Condemning jingo nationalism, the So-

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# Drama's debt to Miss Ida Kirk

BY BETTY KIRK, '29

**S**TUDENTS from the University's school of dramatic art here have entered with success into the theatrical activities of our nation, in capacities both professional and amateur. Though no one has yet attained the stature of a Barrymore or Lunt each has made that difficult first entry into stagedom and many will go far.

The credit for this increasing success of university players may go in a large part to Miss Ida Z. Kirk who has spent eleven years of service in the university and is the senior member in her department. Miss Kirk came to Norman when the school of dramatic art was young and has remained to see it become one of the most successful and appreciated departments on the campus.

She was the co-director of the first play written by Lynn Riggs, now famous as one of the most important of the nation's dramatists. This play was titled *Cuckoo* and was a one act farce-comedy. Thelma Wildrose, who carried the lead in the show, became a teacher of dramatic art in an exclusive girls' school in New York City, after leaving the university.

Ernest Sharpe, who was president of the Playhouse organization and acted frequently under the direction of Miss Kirk, has spent the past five years in New York City, acting in the theatre and preparing for further theatrical work. He has appeared in *A Most Immoral Lady* with Alice Brady and *The Second Little Show* which had a very successful run both on Broadway and on tour. For the past six months he has been singing over the radio.

Harriette Russell is the only graduate of the school who has returned to play at the University with a nationally known group. She played Ophelia in *Hamlet* and Jessica in *The Merchant of Venice* when the Fritz Leiber Players appeared here two years ago. She has since been studying and working in New York City.

Bill Miley, the most recent of the University players to attempt to crash Broadway, has recently succeeded for he has been cast to appear in a musical show which will be produced this spring. Miley will be remembered as the hero in several of the plays produced by Miss Kirk in recent years.

Cedric Marks, who was first a student and later an instructor in the school of

dramatic art, has had a varied theatrical experience since leaving Norman. He first journeyed to New York, then to California where he worked for a time with the Fox studios, and is now back in New York City beginning the difficult business of learning the workings of the professional theatre.

Van Heflin, who recently gave a distinguished performance in *Berkeley Square* under Miss Kirk's direction, is now a student but has already had professional experience. In the summer of 1928 he appeared in Channing Pollock's *Mr Monneypenny* under the direction of Richard Boleslavsky. He played for the run of the show but refused other parts in order to return to the University and obtain his degree. Heflin will complete his college work at the end of the first semester and will then go to New York to try out for further theatrical parts.

Don Murray, who played in many Playhouse productions as a student, is now in California. He recently played one of the roles in the production of *The Apple Cart* by George Bernard Shaw and is now connected with one of the motion picture companies of Hollywood.

Activities of dramatic art department students have not been confined to the professional stage however. Many who were trained in the University have gone out from here to the cities and towns of the state and of the southwest to share their training and their talents with others and to contribute to the constantly growing appreciation of the drama in our smaller communities.

It would be impossible to comment upon all of the students who have taken parts in Little Theatre or Civic Theatre productions, who have contributed to the artistic life of their localities by the generous devotion of their gifts to entertaining others.

Mildred Maxey has recently been honored singularly for an amateur performer. Her sympathetic interpretations of parts which she has played with the Tulsa Little Theatre attracted the attention of Lynn Riggs and he selected her to play the lead in his *Rancour* which was recently produced by the Santa Fe Players.

Alice Mæ Kistler is another of Miss Kirk's students who has been active in Tulsa Little Theatre productions, while

the Oklahoma City Civic Theatre has profited by the cooperation in its productions of Laverna Stealey Boyles, Janet Thompson and Rollin Boyles.

It is the drama of human conflict or aspiration which is of greatest interest to Miss Kirk, preferably a drama of smoothness and wit, rather than the mechanical pieces of the experimental stage. Though her work is almost entirely with amateurs there is nevertheless a feeling of maturity, of finish, to her productions for she brings to her direction a roundness of conception and a subtlety of interpretation which make an evening's attendance at any of her productions an experience of pleasure and enjoyment.

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## NORMAN THOMAS

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cialist leader declared that patriotism almost always took the form of hate against other nations rather than efforts to combat the evils at home.

"It is possible and quite common to teach a type of patriotism that is immoral and vicious," he said. "The absolutism of the state is a dangerous doctrine. Under such a theory the nation can draft all of its children into killers, it can pit worker against worker in deadly and useless wars.

"The nationalists have made the state a sort of God. If you lose your money in Wall Street it is just too bad. But the whole United States army will protect your investments in other countries—particularly in marine-sized nations that need civilization anyway!"

An American Fascism, dominated by big business, is the greatest danger of the United States, Mr Thomas said. Communism he regards as hopeless, because never in history has armed revolution been so hopeless as today. Street barricades have no chance against aircraft, he pointed out, contending that any change must come slowly and legally through existing democratic institutions.

Instructors, students and many an out-of-town visitor listened to Mr Thomas outline the program of his party at a Faculty club luncheon. Lower tariffs, hunger relief funds to be raised from income and inheritance taxes, national control of major utilities, and a national house-building program were among the prime aims cited for American Socialists.

"It is hopeless to deal with economic problems piecemeal," Mr Thomas said. "Neither state regulation nor private enterprise can ever solve the desperate conditions in the coal industry, because it is impossible to limit overproduction by such means. Federal control is the only feasible solution.

"No question remains today as to whether we will have a system of individualism or collectivism. The question was decided when the world went in for

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pany at St. Louis, Missouri, will conduct a class in radio at Beaumont high school in St. Louis.

Tully Watson, '28 sc., is now a member of the physics department of the University of Illinois.

Victor Holt, '28 bus., all American basketball, is a member of the Oklahoma City Missouri Valley basketball team this year. With him are Bruce Drake, '29 phys. ed., Lawrence Meyer, '31 arts-sc., and Harry Pinkerton, ex '28.

W. Karl Ritter, '28 arts-sc., '29 eng., engineer in the aeronautical laboratory at Langley Field, Hampton, Virginia, visited his parents, Mr and Mrs H. F. Ritter of Norman, during the Christmas holidays.

John C. Glaze, '28 eng., of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. at St. Louis, is to conduct a class in radio at the Beaumont high school in St. Louis.

## 1929

Louise Nell Glaze, '29 fine arts, as teacher of the consolidated Terrel-Fleetwood school, is filling the combined positions her mother held 20 years ago and her grandmother Mrs Thomas C. Glaze, held 40 years ago. Mrs Glaze was Fleetwood's teacher in 1911 and Grandmother Glaze was conducting a subscription school at Fleetwood in 1891.

Everett F. Drumright, '29 bus., of Drumright, has been named vice consul at Hankow, China. He was formerly vice-consul at Juarez, Mexico. He sailed for his new post January 4.

Sam Binkley, '29 sc. of Oklahoma City, and now a student in the Harvard medical school, has been named co-editor of the Harvard medical school yearbook.

## 1930

Inez Ballard, '30 journ., is a reporter for the *Wichita Eagle*, Wichita, Kansas.

## ZOOLOGY LETTER

Editor's Note: Dr. A. Richards and his fellow members of the zoology department send an annual letter to all graduates and former students of the department. This, decorated by a member of the department, is a cheerful reminder of progress made by the department, newsy notes of faculty and students. We are excerpting parts of it, because we think the idea is one which other departments of the university could well copy. Our brief extract does not do justice to the *Zoolog* but if it calls it to the attention of other departments, we are happy.

Graduate students in the Zoology department of the university are digging out scientific facts in a number of interesting studies, G. Olin Rulon, graduate assistant from Gallatin, Missouri, is working on chemical stimulation of growth. H. Noel Ferguson, graduate assistant, Warsaw, Missouri, is studying spermatogenesis in water snakes. Sadie Mahon, Fort Worth, Texas, and Ruth A. Holzapfel, graduate assistants, are working on Ph. D. degrees. Babbette L. Shumacker, '31 arts-sc., Louisiana state university, has a fellowship and is working on the mitotic index of Whitefish eggs. Marion L. Palm, Galesburg, Illinois, is technician and part time graduate student. Leonard Strickland, West Virginia university, B. S., '30, and Roy W. Jones, associate professor of biology at Central State Teachers college at Edmond, are students.

Dr. A. Richards, Dr and Mrs A. O. Weese, Dr A. I. Ortenburger, Miss Ruth Holzapfel and Miss Babbette Shumacker attended the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at New Orleans during the Christmas holidays. George A. Moore, Stillwater, presented his thesis, worked out in the department of Zoology at the university on, "The Germ Cells in the Developing Gonad of the Trout."

Increased growth of the Zoological library results in about 2,000 books, subscriptions to fifty zoological journals and approximately forty five exchanges. Recent books, the more important journals and separates are kept on the reference library shelves.

Sigma Xi and Phi Sigma, national scientific fraternities, are cooperating to bring Dr W. G. Waterman of the Department of Botany, Northwestern University, here for a lecture, January 8. Sigma Xi recently elected to membership the following zoology students, Sadie Mahon, Ray Porter, Nell Guthrie, George Moore, Celeste Whaley Taft, Herbert E. Warfel, Ruby Northup Macy, and Mildred A. Groscurth.

Dr Ralph D. Bird, assistant professor of zoology, was on leave the first semester, at Vernon, British Columbia, where he served as entomologist for the Canadian government.

Owen Anderson, B. A. '28, M. S. '29 and Mrs Elizabeth Upshaw Anderson, B. S. '28 are living in Minneapolis. Mr Owen is a graduate assistant in the University of Minnesota, working toward a doctorate in Physics, and Mrs Anderson teaches biology in the Minneapolis high schools.



## SWISS JOURNEY

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didn't begin to become strong until about noon so I made good time as far as Rheinlan, in France, reaching there at 11, German time, or 10 according to French time. I spent an hour and twenty minutes in this little, dung-reeking town. It seemed that since the wheel wasn't mine I would have to deposit 151.88 francs as reckoned from the weight and estimated value of things, plus forty centimes for the papers, plus three francs sixty centimes for permission to "circulate" in France for three months. All I had with me was thirty-two Swiss francs and two mark five pfennig and the customs wouldn't accept anything but French money; they told me this after about twenty minutes inspection of the wheel and of my passport. For the same reason that this place was so difficult to get through, namely because it is a seldom crossed frontier place, the donanier helped me find a store that would change my money. We finally found a place, where I received 160 French francs for thirty-two Swiss, which is a very good exchange. Then we went back about the half-mile to his office where the officer stewed over his notes, books and form-sheets until it was 11:20 French time. I bought some bread, wine, and I thought, I had some sausage or liver-wurst in my sack. I went on for about twenty of the thirty-five kilometres to Strassburg; and although there were no hills, the north wind had come up so it was rather slow going.

I stopped at a nice grassy place to eat lunch and when I unpacked my sack I discovered that I must have left the liverwurst in my room in Emmendingen. So after the proper words, I started out again, and stopped at the

next village to buy some Frankfurter-wurst which is almost like boloney (no matter how thin you slice it . . . you know), and finally had a nice lunch. I've got so that I can hardly pass a butcher shop without wanting to buy some sausage or cheese. Tonight, however, I had a nice steak with potatoes, salad and beer. I reached Strassburg at about 2:30, after going through numerous Alsatian villages, which surpass I think the German and Swiss villages in dirty kids and dunginess. The pervading odor for the last three days has been that of dung. The German side was prettier with its vineyards; the French side has only an interurban track, a canal and sugar beet fields. I know now that the beets are sugar beets. There are numerous refineries in the region. In Strassburg which must be around several hundred thousand, I saw the sixteenth century cathedral, various public buildings, the university, where there is a monument to Pasteur, several parks and the gas works. Since the French customs' cashier's offices closed at five, French time, I went on so I could redeem my 151.88 francs, arriving here just at dark. Tomorrow I am going first to Offenburg and then down on to Basel, on the German side. With the wind at my back as it should be if it is consistent, I hope to reach Basel with the wheel and from there take the train to Zürich, getting home some time Sunday. I think I'll buy some liniment or alcohol tonight for my right knee is a little stiff. . . .



## NORMAN THOMAS

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machinery on a large scale. The real choice is between a democratic collectivism of the people and an autocratic collectivism of wealth.

Promising increasing success for his party, Mr Thomas announced that a precinct-by-precinct organization of socialists would be perfected in every state within the next two years, to compete more effectively with the older parties.

"My great concern," he said, "is not that the capitalist order will prevail but that it will break down before we are ready to carry on."

Nearly a hundred students 'crashed' the supposedly-private meeting of the Why Club, undergraduate forum, after Mr Thomas's main speech in the evening to hear his informal discussion of military training and the League of Industrial Democracy.

Compulsory drill in colleges he denounced as a waste of government money, a propaganda instrument for militarism and an unwarranted violation of academic