

A Service Institution

By FRANK S. CLECKLER, '21bus

Alumni Secretary

(Editor's Note: Following is an address made by Frank S. Cleckler, Alumni secretary, over station WKY, Oklahoma City, early in March.)

WHEN Walter Emery and WKY gave me the opportunity to speak on the University of Oklahoma series of afternoon broadcasts, my first thought was, what a wonderful opportunity this would be to remind the graduates, former students and friends of the University about their alumni dues and pledges to the Stadium-Union Memorial Fund. After all, that is expected of the Alumni Secretary.

Soon, however, I realized that a turn of the dial would eliminate such an appeal even more easily and effectively than the written notices can be thrown in the waste paper basket—so that's out.

Doubtless there are many in this audience who are not alumni—graduates or former students of the University of Oklahoma—but I am sure there are none who live in Oklahoma who are not in some way served by the University. You may never have attended the University of Oklahoma, you may not have sons or daughters, nieces or nephews, or others who are near and dear to you, who have received or *will* receive their education and training for life's problems on the beautiful campus of the University. Those who have been so fortunate, it is true, are the most direct beneficiaries of the education and training which you as citizens and taxpayers are providing for them. However, these benefits do not extend alone to those immediate members of the great University family—but actually and in a very real and personal way extend to all Oklahoma citizens.

Who in Oklahoma has not benefited in some way either directly or indirectly from the many oil fields which have brought untold wealth to Oklahoma? Many of these sources of wealth have been discovered by University of Oklahoma trained geologists. Much of the exploration which led to the discovery of the nearby Oklahoma City field was done by a graduate of the school of geology.

University of Oklahoma trained geolo-

gists and petroleum engineers have contributed materially in the discovery and development of most of the oil fields not only in Oklahoma but in the entire Southwest. Among this group are Frank Buttram of the class of 1910, president of the Buttram Petroleum company and outstanding civic leader in Oklahoma; Everett DeGolyer, formerly chairman of the Board, of Amerada of New York, who was graduated in 1911; Glenn C. Clark, 1913, is chief geologist for the great Continental Oil company, and Ben C. Belt, who was graduated in 1910 is chief geologist of the Gulf company of Houston, Texas—to mention but a few of those in the oil business.

The University of Oklahoma is contributing materially to the advancement of education in this state. Two hundred and nine superintendents and principals and hundreds of high school and grade school teachers received their training at the University of Oklahoma. Three of the six presidents of State Teachers Colleges are graduates of O. U. President H. G. Bennett of Oklahoma A. and M. College did the work for his master's degree here—so did John Vaughan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Doctor M. A. Nash, president of Oklahoma College for Women, was graduated with the class of 1919. President C. M. Conwill of Cameron State School of Agriculture, President R. R. Robinson of the State School at Tonkawa, President Hale V. Davis of Oklahoma Baptist University, and President A. K. Bracken of Bethany College are all graduates of the University of Oklahoma.

In the field of medicine the University has contributed much to the welfare of the citizens of Oklahoma. The medical school is rated as one of the very best and a great many of the physicians who daily protect your lives and the lives of your loved ones received their training in the University of Oklahoma Medical School. One of the graduates of the Medical School is perhaps the best known authority in the treatment of asthma and kindred diseases in the country today.

Graduates of the College of Engineering have contributed much to the development of the petroleum industry, mines, roads, public utilities, public buildings, and

other public improvements—not only in Oklahoma but in many parts of the country.

Many of you will remember the amazing engineering problems involved in the removal in twenty-four hours of the old Rock Island station on Broadway in Oklahoma City. This unusual engineering job was planned and directed by Leo Sanders, a graduate of the class of 1919 of the College of Engineering of the University of Oklahoma.

Sanders has directed other important engineering jobs in Oklahoma, including the raising of the Santa Fe tracks through Oklahoma City, the dredging of the North Canadian River and important engineering work on the Ramsey Tower. William H. Creel, a refining technologist, and a graduate of the engineering college in 1924, is in charge of all refining for the Phillips Petroleum company of Bartlesville. Ronald F. Danner, another engineering graduate, is General Superintendent for Oklahoma Gas and Electric company in Oklahoma City. Earl Bartholomew, who was graduated in engineering in 1922, a former Harvard University instructor, is now director of Engineering Laboratories for the Ethyl Gasoline Corporation of America. Another Oklahoma-trained engineer who is doing a big job outside of Oklahoma is H. S. Oderman, of the class of 1916, who is President of the Detroit City Service company, which produces almost a half million tons of ice a year for the people of Detroit.

University of Oklahoma graduates are taking a leading part in our state and national government. Five of the Justices, including the Chief Justice, of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma are graduates or former students Paul Walker, chairman of the Corporation Commission, was a member of the law class of 1912. The able and efficient County Attorney of Oklahoma County, Lewis R. Morris, has three degrees from O. U., Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and is a graduate of the Law School. The Attorney General is ably assisted by Randall Cobb and Fred Hansen, graduates of the Oklahoma Law school. In the Congress of the United States from Oklahoma, Wilburn Cartwright, Jed Johnson, and Will Rogers are alumni of the University. Leslie Salter, 1921, and Roy St. Lewis, 1915, have until recently been serving in Washington as assistants to the Attorney General of the United States.

Other graduates of the University who are making great contributions to the business and professional life of our nation are:

George B. "Deak" Parker, of the class of 1908, formerly editor of the *Oklahoma News*, is editor-in-chief of the Scripps-Howard publications in New York, one of the most important editorial positions in this country.

Eben E. Gridley of the class of 1904 is President of the Minute Tapioca company,

which makes a nationally known product with which we are all familiar. Carl Whiteman, a former student of the University of Oklahoma, is Vice President of General Foods company of New York, distributors of well known food products, many of which appear on our tables daily.

Ray H. Haun, who graduated in 1912, has for several years been Advertising Manager for the *Ladies Home Journal* in Philadelphia.

Delos Walker, General Manager of R. H. Macy and company of New York, one of the world's foremost department stores, is a former student of the University of Oklahoma.

University of Oklahoma graduates also are contributing to the arts as well as to the business and professional life of our times. Joseph Benton, who was graduated from the College of Fine Arts in 1920, is now singing in grand opera in Italy, where he is known as Giuseppe Bentonelli. Recently he sang a leading role in Rome before an audience which included the King and Queen of Italy and Premier Mussolini, and received thirty-one curtain calls.

Last year the Book-of-the-Month club selected Joe Mathew's book, *Wah'Kon-Tah*, published by the University Press. Fifty thousand copies were sold to the members of the Book-of-the-Month club. Mathews was a member of the class of 1920.

Recently word has come to the University from London that Ernest Sharpe—known on the stage as Erik Rhodes—who received his training in dramatic art at O. U., is just as great a success in *The Gay Divorce* in London as he was on Broadway last year.

Murder on Tour, a mystery story, by Todd Downing, '24B.A., now instructor in Spanish at the University, has been so popular that his publishers have asked for another book by Downing.

George Milburn, author of *Oklahoma Town* and *No More Trumpets*, is a former student of the University of Oklahoma. *No More Trumpets*, his most recent book, was rated by H. Allen Smith, United Press book reviewer, as the best volume of short stories published in 1933, and by John Chamberlin, book reviewer for the *Daily New York Times*, as one of the five most important books published in 1933. George is also a feature writer for the Hearst newspaper chain.

These are but a few of the members of the large University of Oklahoma family who have done great things which are a credit to themselves, to their Alma Mater, and to the State of Oklahoma. I wish I had time to name more of them. Really, their names are legion.

In the more than forty years of its existence, the University of Oklahoma has graduated more than eleven thousand young men and young women, the ma-

majority of whom have remained in Oklahoma to contribute to growth and development of our state.

The University of Oklahoma with its more than five thousand regularly enrolled full-time students, is the tenth largest state University in the country and the twenty-fourth largest institution of higher education in the United States. It is the largest school in the Big Six Conference, which includes in addition to Oklahoma, the University of Nebraska, the University of Missouri, and the University of Kansas; Iowa State College and Kansas State College. In the South and Southwest only Texas has a slightly larger enrollment.

The University of Oklahoma has done and is doing great things for Oklahoma; it has weathered many storms—economic and otherwise. It will go on to greater heights and greater service—with your support and good will.



Alumnae Get Offices

Two Sooner alumnae recently were elected to offices in the Oklahoma City Parent-Teacher Council for 1934.

They are Maude Richman Calvert, '20 M.S., who was elected president, and Mrs. Edna Cash Newby, '15as.

Alley Article Reprinted

REPRINTS of *Memories of Roundup Days*, by Colonel John Alley, which appeared in the January issue of the *Sooner Magazine* have been made to serve the great demand for copies of the article.

The reprinted copies may be had free of charge by requests sent to the Oklahoma Alumni office in the Union. Colonel Alley, director of the University school of citizenship and public affairs, received scores of letters complimenting him on the reminiscent article.

One letter of unusual interest was written him by Laura Mauk, of Tokio, Japan, an alumna of Kingfisher college. Six years ago, in contributing to a history of Kingfisher college, Colonel Alley wrote of her: "Among the other girl graduates attention should be called to the remarkable career of Laura Mauk of the class of 1910, who has acquired an outstanding reputation as missionary in Japan and whose service is still in full vigor. Miss Mauk also enjoys a national reputation as a forceful and eloquent platform speaker in the cause to which she has devoted her life."

The letter to Colonel Alley from Miss Mauk follows:

Tokyo, Japan

Dear Prof. Alley,

Ever since *The Sooner* came and I read your article *Memories of Roundup Days* I have wanted to drop you a note and tell you how much I enjoyed it. My enjoyment came chiefly, perhaps, from the fact that I entered Oklahoma at the same time, in the same way and I rather think over the same route. I was only four years old and have never been able to figure out whether I really remember the details of that trip

so well, or have only heard them rehearsed so often by my older brothers and sisters that I think of them as my own—any way I have a perfect memory of our wagons moving on and on between herds of cattle and sleeping on the ground under the stars and hearing the coyotes and crawling up close to Father—Mother's place was in the wagon with the twin babies—and finally reaching the sod house my Father had built for us on the school section near Dover.

My Father burned out in the drought in western Kansas and finally went to Oklahoma to hunt land. He found this vacant School-quarter near Dover—built a sod house, then hurried back to Kansas and moved the family down to it in the spring of '90.

All those early Oklahoma days are still bright memories to me. Just speak of the "Horse-thief-association" and what memories come back of seeing my Father and two older brothers getting their guns ready to go out and watch roads at night or going to a meeting to hear of secret plans to intercept them!

Your article brought so many such memories back and gave me a pleasant evening. I had thought I must stop the magazine as our cub salaries hardly allow me to continue to take it (and I haven't paid this year's subscription yet) but your article and the one about Dr. Scroggs alone are worth more than the subscription price to me.

Hoping you may have a good year in your work, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Laura Mauk