

Charles M. Gould, for many years director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey at the University, is author of "Oklahoma Place Names" released this fall by the University Press.

Belles lettres and bell ringers

Oklahoma Place Names. By Charles N. Gould. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1933.

FOR many years Oklahomans have sought here and there to learn what this name—or that name means. Now we know—at least in part. The author has classified Oklahoma place names as follows: Physiographic, Counties and County Seats, Post Offices and Towns, and Historic Names. There is an introductory chapter on Linguistic Origins in which the Spanish and French influences are discussed.

In Oklahoma, as in other areas, place names have frequently become modified by use or the inability of the local residents to pronounce a "foreign" word—*Bois d'Arc* becomes Bodock. Okeene is a coined word. "Okec" the last part of the word "Cherokee" and "ne" the last of "Cheyenne," hence Okeene. But some clerk in making time tables for the railroad evidently had a better appreciation of Irish than Indian and Okeene became O'Keene. Such features in place names occur frequently. Why do Oklahomans—and in the southern part of the State—have an Ardmore and Marietta? Dr. Gould tells the reader that they are suburbs of Philadelphia and so named by railroad officials living in or near Philadelphia.

Obsolete terms are given brief attention. Unless they are recorded, time will soon cover them until no one will know their origin or even the name. Swanson County is now a matter of history. "Cherokee Strip" is commonly confused with "Cherokee Outlet." Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad—like other railroads—has lost its identity by purchase. These terms the author seeks to place on the pages of history.

The author makes no pretense to claim the work as exhaustive or complete. It is the beginning of a task which is almost endless. Critics add interpretations of names which were not before known. Scores of names not mentioned deserve attention—and will, it is hoped, be given a place in the next edition of the book. This little volume can be read in one evening—but not all of it can be remembered; it should be on the desk of every office and in every home in the State. One may open

to any page and read as much as time permits and the few minutes spent will complete several stories, romances, or facts. Dr. Gould has rendered a good service to the State in this undertaking.

—M. L. WARDELL

"Home-Town Boys"

Six University alumni were given a hand in a story about "Home-Town Boys (and Girls) Make Good" appearing recently in the *Daily Oklahoman*.

Excerpts from the *Oklahoman* story which named more than a dozen former state residents who are world famous follow:

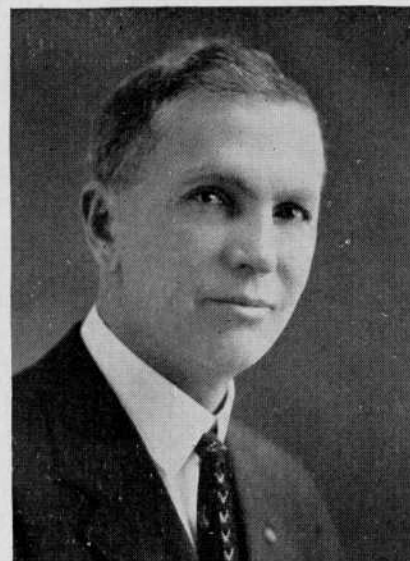
Red-headed Bill Miley ('30ex) after sporadic efforts to learn law at the University of Oklahoma, left four years ago for Broadway. He has a singing rôle in the Theater Guild's "School for Husbands" which opened recently. Last season he sang in "Flying Colors." He is the son of Judge and Mrs. John H. Miley, 733 Northeast Nineteenth street. At the University Bill always found himself reading lines instead of law.

E. Van Heflin ('32drama) is now appearing in the Broadway play "Sailor Beware." Within a few weeks he is slated to take the lead in one of the season's most promising shows, "Heavenly Express." He crashed Broadway in 1927 as juvenile lead in Channing Pollack's "Mr. Money Penny." Got a degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Now a special assistant attorney general assigned to fight racketeering in Chicago, Leslie Salter ('21law) another "home town boy," used to be an assistant United States district attorney here. While still a student at the University of Oklahoma, he became a member of the state legislature and had charge of prosecuting impeachment charges against Jack Walton, former governor, in 1923.

G. B. Parker ('07as), editor-in-chief of Scripps-Howard newspapers used to be an Oklahoma City newspaperman. Earl Sparling ('19ex) is another former city newspaperman now in big time.

Ernest Sharpe ('27as), city youth and former student at the University of Oklahoma, won the Marion Talley scholarship award and for the last five years has been singing in musical comedies on Broadway under the name of Eric Rhodes.



A Year's Literary Work

Nine University alumni and at least a dozen faculty members have been authors of books during the past year, according to a survey made by Kenneth C. Kaufman, literary editor of the *Daily Oklahoman* who is a member of the University modern languages faculty.

The books by alumni, several of whom are faculty members, follow:

Wah'Kon-Tah, by John Joseph Mathews '20as, Pawhuska (University of Oklahoma Press), spiritual history of the Osages.

Toward the New Spain, by Joseph A. Brandt '21journ, Norman (University of Chicago Press), history of the first Spanish republic.

Government and Development of Oklahoma Territory, by Dora Ann Stewart '21 M.A., Weatherford (Harlow Publishing company), history.

Murder on Tour, by Todd Downing, '24as, '28M.A., Norman (G. P. Putnam's sons), murder mystery.

No More Trumpets, by George Milburn, '30ex, formerly of Norman (Harcourt, Brace and company), short stories.

Kreuger's Million Dollar Bubble, by Earl Sparling, formerly of Oklahoma City (Greenburg), financial history and biography of Kreuger.

Functional Costs of Government, by John Milton Ashton, '29M.A., '33Ph.D., Norman (Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce), economics.

Early History, by Luther C. Snider, '11as, formerly of Norman (Century), geology.

The New First Course in Homemaking, by Maude Richman Calvert, '20M.S., Oklahoma City, and Anna Euretta Richardson (Smith and Hammond), home economics.