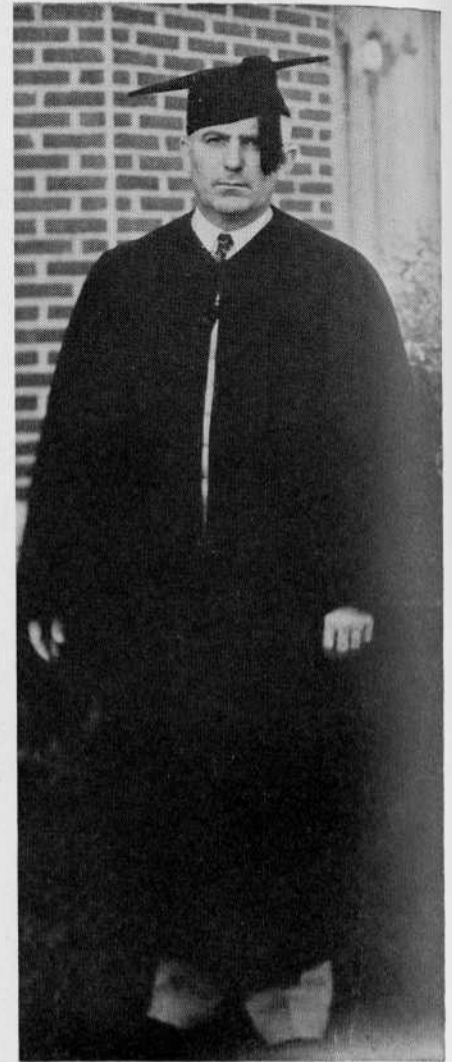


The alumni leader

Chester H. Westfall, '16journ, of Ponca City, was re-elected president of the University of Oklahoma Association at the annual meeting of the Executive Board in Norman June 5. Mr Westfall is seen in the photograph at the right in academic costume, worn in the academic procession that day. Tireless, courageous and resourceful, Mr Westfall has sacrificed much during the past year in the arduous task of guiding the Association in its fight to prevent destruction of the University of Oklahoma. The unanimous vote of the Board not only praised him for his resolute work of the past year but promised that the fight for justice of the state's principal educational institution would be continued successfully. Lewis R. Morris, '14as, '15M.A., '17law, of Oklahoma City, whose loyal counsel and personal sacrifice during the past year has proved so valuable to the Association, was elected vice president. Weaver H. Holland, '14as, of Dallas, Texas, the president of the Texas Sooner club, was elected second vice president. Mr Morris is county attorney of Oklahoma county and Mr Holland is vice president of the Dallas Power and Light Company. Frank S. Cleckler, '21bus, executive secretary since the reorganization of the Association, was re-elected



Dr. Roy A. Morter, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1913

Mrs Roy A. Morter, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Leonard Logan, Norman, 1914

Edward Everett Dale, Norman, 1911

Mrs Rosalie Gilkie Dale, Norman, 1917

Earle Miller, Norman, 1913

Frances Hunt, Norman, 1929

Bess Marriott, Norman, 1929

John O. Moseley, Norman, 1916

Grace Ray, Norman, 1921

Adelaide Carder, Cordell, 1926

Edgar Meacham, Norman, 1914

Guy Y. Williams, Norman, 1906

George A. Meacham, Clinton, 1920

Della Brunstetter, Norman, 1919

Wilda Griffin, Norman, 1927

James Forrest West, Anadarko, 1933

Earl Foster, Oklahoma City, 1913

J. W. Foster, Norman, 1908

Mrs Alta Sawyer Foster, Oklahoma City, 1930

A. N. "Jack" Boatman, Okmulgee, 1914

Mrs Ella Williams, Norman, 1906

Guy Wilcox, Oklahoma City, 1913

Charles Guy Keiger, Oklahoma City, 1908

OUR CHANGING VARSITY

The co-ordinating board

Governor Murray on May 23 named fifteen members of the Co-ordinating board to study greater economies and efficiency in Oklahoma higher education. The members of the board follow: Judge Redford Bond of Chickasha, chairman; J. J. Moroney of Tulsa; C. R. Bellatti, '12law, of Blackwell; Carl C. Magee of Oklahoma City; Houston B. Tehee of Tahlequah; Fred Tucker of Ardmore; J. T. Dickerson of Edmond; Bishop Francis C. Kelley of Oklahoma City and Tulsa; Dr. William Bennett Bizzell of Norman; Dr. Henry G. Bennett of Stillwater; Dr. John D. Finlayson of Tulsa; Dr. Eugene M. Antrim of Oklahoma City; Dr. I. N. McCash of Enid; Dr. Hale V. Davis of Shawnee; and Charles Briles of Stillwater, the latter being named secretary of the board. Doctor Davis resigned his position on the board, on the ground

that the church and state should not be united. Governor Murray then named Earl Oliver, of Ponca City, member of the board of regents of the Oklahoma Baptist university, to be the fifteenth member.

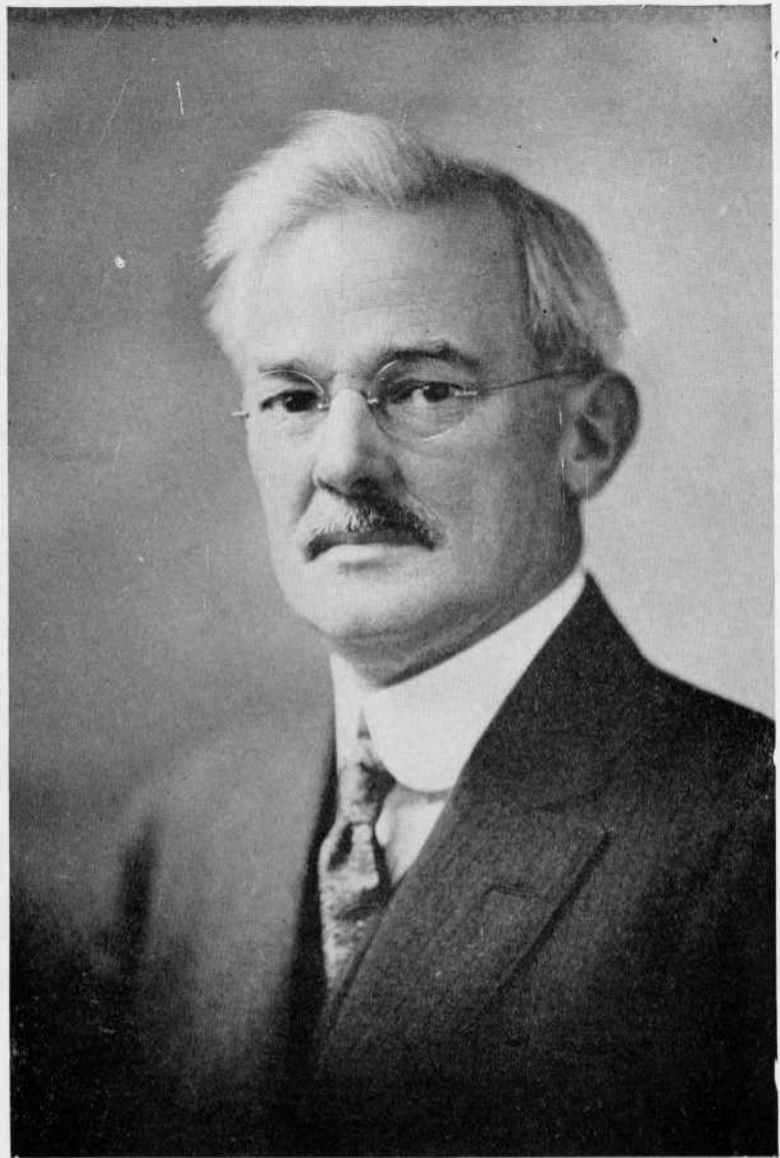
The board has held several meetings, one to organize into subcommittees and to plan its method of study. Bishop Kelley was made chairman of the executive committee. The committee inspected the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical college at Stillwater Sunday, June 11 and the University of Oklahoma Monday, June 11. Another meeting was planned for June 20.

Dr. Angie Elbertha Debo

The university conferred the degree of doctor of philosophy at its forty-first Commencement on Miss Angie Elbertha Debo, '18as, of Canyon, Texas. Miss Debo, who is assistant professor of history in the West Texas State Teachers college, received her master of arts degree from the University of Chicago in 1924. A native of Kansas, Miss Debo was graduated from Marshall, Oklaho-

AN OVATION FOR HIM

With all but one member of his family here for the forty-first Commencement, former President Stratton D. Brooks of Kansas City, Missouri, found Commencement-Homecoming a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. His daughter, Betty, received her M. A. degree at the Commencement exercises and Sooner alumni gave him an enthusiastic standing ovation at the annual Commencement luncheon



ma, high school in 1913 and from the university in 1918, later becoming superintendent of the village school at North Enid and a teacher of history in Enid high school. She was a research fellow in history at the university for 1930.

Miss Debo's publications are "The Historical Background of the American Policy of Isolation" (with J. Fred Rippey), *Smith College Studies in History*, Northampton, Massachusetts, April and July, 1924; "The Social and Economic Life of the Comanches," *Panhandle-Plains Historical Review*, Vol. III, Canyon, Texas, 1930; "John Rollin Ridge," *Southwest Review*, Dallas, Autumn, 1931; "Southern Refugees of the Cherokee Nation," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, Austin, April 1932; "Education in the Choctaw Country after the Civil War," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Oklahoma City, September, 1932.

Doctor Debo's thesis title was "History of the Choctaw Nation from the End of the Civil War to the Close of the Tri-

bal Period." The official abstract follows:

The history of the Choctaw Indian records the development of a primitive people with innate capacities for civilization. Through their contact with the white race their native customs and tribal institutions were modified by Christian traditions, Anglo-American political theory, the cultural heritage of Western Europe, and the complex economic organization of modern society. These diverse influences reacted strongly upon each other in an environment where the social and political life was intensified by the close family and personal relationships of a small republic.

The sources for the tribal history are to be found in the writings and reminiscences of the Choctaws themselves, in the official papers of federal employes, and, to a lesser extent, in the recorded impressions of visitors to the Choctaw country. During the tribal period the public archives were preserved at the capitol in the care of the National Secretary. After the surrender of the tribal government the original manuscript acts of the General Council and a few other documents were brought to the University of Oklahoma, and fragments of the Senate and House journals, reports of national officers and legislative committees, proclamations and messages of the Principal Chiefs, census statistics, election returns, county records, and court records were placed in the office of

the Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes at Muskogee. The correspondence between the Choctaws and the officials of the federal government is in the files of the Indian Office at Washington. Fairly complete files of the newspapers published in the Choctaw Nation during the tribal period have been preserved in the collection of the State Historical Society at Oklahoma City. A number of prominent Choctaw citizens who held office under the tribal government during its latter years are still living, and are able to contribute local color to the record of this vanished society.

An interpretation and evaluation of these sources reveals a rather clear picture of Choctaw life from the beginning of civilized institutions to the dissolution of the tribal government. The main facts in this story are the migration to Oklahoma, the shock of the Civil War, the economic changes that followed the coming of the railroads and the opening of the mines, the influx of white immigrants, the losing struggle to maintain the tribal autonomy, and the final surrender to the United States. The incorporation of tribal citizenship and the merging of tribal history into the composite life of the state of Oklahoma may be said to have ended the separate history of this gifted people, who maintained for so long a distinct social and political existence in the midst of a crowding alien population.