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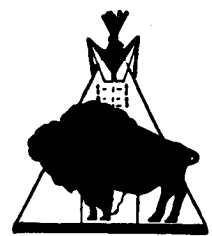
# THE SOONER MAGAZINE

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◆ OKLAHOMA ALUMNI NEWS ◆

October, 1935

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## Oklahomans at home and abroad

### Soonerland in Brief

*The Whirlwind*, campus humor magazine that has seen its share of ups and downs, is no more. In its stead is *The Covered Wagon*, whose constructors would have it more than campus humor magazine. Plans call for articles, stories and humor along safer and saner lines. The editor is John Runyon, Oklahoma City, and its adviser is James Hawes, Norman.

Billy Clayton, national skeet shooting champion, was to enrol as a freshman at the University this fall. A football player said, "Skeet shooting? Whose that? He should have come several years ago and shot that Skeet Berry over at T. U. Personally, I didn't have much luck hitting him."

Big Jim Robinson, who worked on his M.A. degree last year and did a little assisting around the public speaking department, has taken charge of speech work at Bristow high school. Robinson has a law degree.

Whitney Thrower, who left school two years ago without a degree, returned this fall a wiser but sadder man, according to his own story. He turned up in Cuba several months after leaving school and suddenly found himself the owner of two race horses. They were winners. He was on the road up. They finished in the money for two full meetings. His string was increased to four horses. Then, they suddenly became very weary and deliberate horses and finished that way. The road down was rapid. He has reopened the sign painting shop for which he was famous several years ago.

Judging from inquiries concerning enrolment and class schedule information, an increased registration was on its way into the University early in September.

The total is expected to be in the neighborhood of 5,500 students, perhaps more.

Eleanor Orrell, junior art student, Oklahoma City, was awarded second place in the national dress design contest conducted recently by the magazine *Style*. The design will be drafted into a pattern which will bear Miss Orrell's name. Although only nineteen years old, Miss Orrell has already won several medals for her art work.

Huey Long, who by the way remained active in the Oklahoma Alumni association by mailing in his membership check each year, was a visitor in Norman during his Labor Day appearance in Oklahoma City. He gathered up a group of old friends and Norman business men for whom he had worked in his student days and visited familiar spots. That was just six days before the senior senator from Louisiana was shot by the son of a political enemy. Mr. Long visited the varsity corner and found it looking much as it had looked twenty-three years ago. He asked particularly about McCall's men's store and its founder and owner, S. K. McCall, who died last year.

### Stillwater Judge Evens Count

It's one-up for the fraternities and sororities on the taxation question with the state supreme court expected to cast the rubber and deciding vote early this fall.

After Judge Richard Pendleton, '26law, Cleveland county, decided in a test case that two University fraternities were taxable, Judge Ralph Simcoe, Payne county, ruled that sororities at Oklahoma A. and M. college were not taxable. He listened to a test case against Chi Omega.

The conflicting decisions, each bearing an appeal from the losing side, were immediately appealed to the state supreme court. Both cases were an attempt to collect taxes for the past three years.

### Bush is Historical Society Officer

C. C. Bush, '23as, '30M.A., graduate student at the University from Prague, has been elected secretary of the Oklahoma Historical Society and will be placed in charge of the Historical building in Oklahoma City in January.

Bush has been working toward a Ph. D. degree in history under the direction of Dr. E. E. Dale, '11as, head of the history department. A year ago, Bush accompanied Dr. Dale and M. L. Wardell, '12as, associate professor of history, on a state tour sponsored by the Rockefeller foundation, collecting information concerning Oklahoma historical documents.

### R. O. T. C. Instructors Promoted

Four members of the University R. O. T. C. staff and three former members recently received army promotions. Majors Harry J. Malony and E. P. Parker, former commandants of the unit, were promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Captain George R. Hayman, po'o

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W. W. Isle, '15as, formerly superintendent of schools at Ponca City, is the new president at Southwestern State Teachers college, Weatherford, and John O. Moseley, '16M.A., formerly associate professor of Latin at the University, is the new president at Central State Teachers college, Edmond.



coach, and Captain D. F. (not Biff) Jones were promoted to the rank of major. Lieutenants G. P. Privett and James G. Anding were made captains. Lieutenant James V. Collier, '34as, who completed a four-year assignment at the University last June, also was promoted to the rank of captain. He is now at Fort Lewis, Washington.

#### ▲ "Pinky" vs. Joe

Following is a *United Press* dispatch written by R. H. Parham, '33ex, from Tulsa during the summer:

Truman "Pinky" Tomlin opened a stage appearance here today with a metallic twang in his voice. The twang, observers said, resulted from outpouring of silver dollars from Tomlin's pockets.

The Durant crooner and song writer was greeted on his arrival in Tulsa with a lawsuit filed by Joe Chatman, Norman bookstore owner and friend of Tomlin.

More than a year ago, before Tomlin went to Hollywood to win fame and fortune, through the stage and movies, he was broke.

He wanted to take his song, "The Object of My Affections," to the coast to find a producer who would publish it. Chatman, "the student's friend" at the University of Oklahoma, loaned Tomlin \$50 to take him to Hollywood. In return for the \$50, Chatman received a half interest in the song—or thought he did.

Meanwhile, the song began to develop owners. Coy Poe, Tomlin's business manager, was cut in for a third. Jimmie Grier, Hollywood orchestra leader who helped in the song's production, asked for his cut and also received a third.

In March, Chatman received a check

for royalties on his half interest. The check was for \$100. He thought he should receive more than a measly \$100. He bided his time.

When Tomlin returned for his appearance in Tulsa, Chatman's attorney greeted him with legal papers calling for an accounting for monies earned and for a receiver for the song.

The suit, however, did not stay in court. The principals settled outside. Just how much money changed hands, nobody seemed to know.

But Poe said the suit was withdrawn "to the complete satisfaction of everyone concerned."

"It was just a misunderstanding," he explained. "Tomlin wrote a song and had one idea. Chatman financed it and had another. They are just a couple of college boys."

#### ▲ Abner a Former Sooner Student

The Abner part of the famous radio team, Lum and Abner, is a former University student who ended his campus career in 1928.

Off the air, Abner is Norris F. "Tuffy" Goff, '28ex, formerly of Mena, Arkansas. His partner, Lum, is Chester H. Lauck, an alumnus of the University of Arkansas.

A recent radio survey showed that Lum and Abner, the quaint sages who claim Pine Ridge, Arkansas, as their home, are second only in listener appeal to Amos and Andy.

They started their meteoric rise a year ago on station WGN, Chicago. They are now heard five nights a week over a national hookup, advertising Horlick's. Their rural humor from the Jot 'em Down General Store has been so success-

ful that they recently made a personal appearance in several cities.

In Cincinnati, they hung up a new attendance record at the Taft theatre, shattering the mark that Joe Penner had made the previous week.

Goff attended the University during the second semester of 1928 and the fall semester of 1928-29. He and Lum are members of Sigma Chi.

#### ▲ Ted Maloy to New York

Ted Maloy, '29as, has been transferred to the New York office of the *United Press*. He recently wrote a signed article that was printed nationally concerning the anti-Nazi flareups in New York City. Before going to New York, he was news manager for the *United Press* in Arkansas with headquarters in Little Rock. Previously, he worked on newspapers in Shamrock, Texas, Elk City, Dallas and Houston.

#### ▲ Heads Speech Department

Lucille McGuire, '32drama, has accepted a position as head of the department of speech at Central State Teachers college, Edmond. During the summer she was secretary to Homer Heck, '35ex, state director of white collar work under the WPA.

#### ▲ Claremore Paper Praised

From all parts of the country compliments were heaped on *The Claremore Progress* and its coverage of the deaths of Will Rogers and Wiley Post, famous Oklahomans.

Partially responsible for the praiseworthy work of the small *Claremore* daily was a graduate of the University, Willard L. Bassmann, '29as, news editor.

Thousands of extra copies of the Will Rogers Memorial Issue of the paper were printed and mailed to all parts of the world. Hundreds of requests for extra copies of the paper have been received by Bassmann and the paper's publisher and editor, A. L. Kates and W. C. Kates.

The entire Memorial Issue was comprised of outstanding events and accomplishments in the life of the colorful Claremore humorist. Succeeding issues of the paper carried authentic biographies of Mr. Rogers, several contributed by persons who had known him since his childhood in Oologah.

#### Tessie Mobley Returns

Tessie Mobley, '25ex, formerly of Ardmore, has returned to this country following a successful operatic tour of Europe.

She was on the continent for three years, holding a scholarship in the state academy at Berlin during the first two years. During the third year, she was in Rome on one of the twelve scholarships offered by Mussolini.

She is the daughter of Ben Mobley, pioneer Oklahoman and former state game and fish warden. She is a Chickasaw princess and her stage appearances have been under the name of Princess Lushanya, her real Indian name.

During the European tour, she appeared in Cairo, Gottenberg, Alexandria, Florence and London. She sang the leading role in the oratorical opera, Hiawatha, during a two-weeks engagement in the Royal Albert hall in London.

She plans to stay in the United States during the coming year and may be heard on radio programs or seen in the movies.

#### Dick Richards Moves Up

The singing and directing Richardses shifted about during the summer but each finds himself with students to direct this fall.

Young Dick Richards, who accepted a position as musical director at Anadarko high school last year and then brought

his students to the University to win the state musical title, has been appointed head of the music department in the Sand Springs high school.

Dick accepted the Anadarko position lacking nine hours toward a University degree and was one of the youngest directors in the state. He returned to the campus during the summer and completed work before taking the new position.

His elder brother, John D., was Sand Springs director last year, but has accepted a similar position at Wewoka.

Their father who once was their director will continue at the University as associate professor of public school music and director of men's and women's glee clubs. He is the popular R. H. "Prof." Richards whose oratorios have attracted music lovers from all parts of Oklahoma during the past half dozen years.

#### '32 Lawyers Score

Graduates of the law school in 1932 hold most of the county attorneyships in the vicinity of Altus, according to a story in the *Altus Democrat*. The story follows:

An alumni meeting of the 1932 law class of the University of Oklahoma law school could be called when county attorneys and assistant county attorneys of four of the five counties in this judicial district get together.

Roy Steele, assistant Jackson county attorney; Lester Clay, assistant Kiowa county attorney; Mack Townsend, Tillman county attorney; and Victor Waters, Greer county attorney, are all graduates of the 1932 law school class, Steele revealed today. Harmon county is the only member of this district not represented.

Townsend and Waters were both elected to their offices in the last election. Steele went into office here with Weldon Ferris, Jackson county attorney, a graduate of the 1931 O. U. law school class, after the last election. Clay has been assistant Kiowa county attorney since 1932, going into office after graduating.

#### Highway Conference Set

The first annual street and highway conference to be held at the University will be conducted October 17, 18, and 19, Frank G. Tappan, acting dean of the college of engineering, announced today.

Highway, road and street problems will be discussed at the conference which is being sponsored by the engineering college, Mr. Tappan said. Similar conferences have been held for several years at many state universities throughout the country, he said.

The State Highway commission, the Oklahoma County Engineers association and other organizations concerned with the location, construction, administration, policing and safety of highways and streets will cooperate in the conference.

#### Freeland Gets Scholarship

Merle Freeland, '32as, Norman, has been awarded his third scholarship by the Julliard Institute, New York City. He has been studying piano at the Institute during the past two years.

#### Six Hundred Students Get Aid

Six hundred students, earning an approximate average of fifteen dollars a month, are attending the University with federal aid positions.

The students were informed of their selection September 1 and started work with the opening of school. About half of the six hundred were given aid last year, the others being newcomers and students who were unable to attend school this year without assistance.

A total of four thousand applications for the positions were sent out from the registry office, according to George Wadsack, registrar. Many, however, were never filled although they were originally requested.

The students are earning from five to twenty dollars a month, with the maximum average not exceeding fifteen dollars a month. They are working in various University departments doing all sorts of work, ranging from labor to research.

Out to California to see the premier of the Motion Picture, "Top Hat," were Mrs. Leslie Fain, better known as Winnie Mae Hall during her undergraduate days, and Mrs. Harry Frederickson, formerly Dorothy McBride. In the picture are Mrs. Fain, for whom Wiley Post's plane was named; Erik Rhodes (Ernest Sharpe while he was a University student), who is co-starred with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers in the picture; and Dorothy McBride Frederickson.



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