

Otto Wallace Walter, '21eng, outstanding graduate of the college of engineering, was killed in an automobile accident during the summer. F. G. Tappan, acting dean of the college, tells about his contacts with Walter at the University.

Otto Walter, 1892-1935

By F. G. TAPPAN

(Professor of Electrical Engineering and Acting Dean of the College of Engineering.)

OTTO Wallace Walter, who received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1921, was one of my first and most promising students at the University of Oklahoma. He was one of the outstanding members of his class from the standpoint of scholarship, which is signified by his membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi, and Sigma Tau, honorary scholastic fraternities. His eager and enthusiastic attitude toward his work made him a favorite with his teachers and his quiet, unobtrusive personality endeared him to faculty members and students alike.

In 1921 enrolment in the Electrical Engineering School had increased to such an extent that it became necessary to hire an additional instructor. Mr. Walter was selected for the position and was given the rank of Assistant Professor. The wisdom of this choice was soon evident as he proved to be a natural born teacher. He was untiring in his efforts to put his courses "across" to his classes and would spend an unlimited amount of time helping students who were having difficulty with their work. He was responsible for the organization of undergraduate research work in electrical engineering and had charge of the first "honors courses" in that department which makes it possible for the student who has better than average grades to substitute for certain courses in the required curriculum.

Perhaps the most outstanding and certainly the most lasting piece of work accomplished during the seven years he taught here was the construction of the equipment for the WNAD broadcasting

station, which was one of the first radio stations to be erected in the United States. He also designed and built the first electrical basketball score board to be used by the University.

In 1928 Professor Walter received an offer to join the research staff of the Hall Electric Heating Company, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Although he was reluctant to leave the teaching field the opportunity offered by this company to do research and development work in his chosen field was too promising for him to decline. Since he had by this time become one of the best known and best liked men on the campus it was with a real sense of loss that his resignation was accepted by the administration.

In 1931 Professor Walter terminated his connection with The Hall Electric to accept a teaching position with the College of the City of New York, which position he held at the time of his death in an automobile accident July 7th, in New York City.

The death of Otto Wallace Walter will be keenly felt in the field of engineering education. To me it means the loss of a favorite student, an admired colleague, and a valued friend.

Professor Walter is survived by his wife, the former Lois Trueblood and one son, Otto Wallace, Jr., who are living with her parents in Tonkawa. His extensive library of engineering books has been given to the College of Engineering by Mrs. Walter and it will be catalogued and kept as a separate collection. A list of Professor Walter's honors and achievements is found in Who's Who in Engineering.



Sooner Doctor in Ethiopia

A medical missionary in Ethiopia, five hundred miles southwest of Addis Ababa, is Dr. Virgil Frank Dougherty, '20as, 22bs, '24M.D.

Although warned that Ethiopia may be an unsafe place for even aliens, Dr. Dougherty, his wife and two of their six children are going to remain there.

Their eldest son is attending a school in Kansas City, while their next two eldest children are attending school during the winter at Alexandria, Egypt.

Dr. Dougherty is stationed at the United Presbyterian mission at Gorei.

Ballard on HOLC Staff

Hardin Ballard, '27as, '27law, formerly state senator from Purcell, is on the legal staff of the Home Owners' Loan corporation in Oklahoma City. He is in charge of inspecting titles.

A number of other former Sooners also are employed in the HOLC. Among them are Burton Jordan, '31law, Tulsa, and Carl Albert, '31as.

The 1935 Class

What are the 1935 class members doing?

Information cards are being mailed from the Alumni office to all members of the 1935 class in an effort to learn the whereabouts, activities and plans of the new Sooners.

Response will assist the University in keeping track of its new graduates so that announcements of interest may be sent to them at intervals.

Information concerning the graduates is of general interest to classmates and faculty members who read *The Sooner Magazine*.