

THE SOONER MAGAZINE

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◆ OKLAHOMA ALUMNI NEWS ◆

April, 1936

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Oklahomans at home and abroad

The Cover

At the head of the south oval stands the Library building. The first of the new buildings that some day will provide a duplicate of the north oval, the Library building is similar in structure to the Administration building. In future years, it is planned to make the south oval, the undergraduate part of the University, while the north oval is given over to administration and the graduate school. The first building south of the Library will be the Biological Sciences hall which is now under construction.

Soonerland in Brief

Two first semester graduates of the school of architectural engineering have accepted positions in their chosen field. James Roth, formerly of Bartlesville, is employed in the art department of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture company in Hollywood, while Kenneth Keller, Oklahoma City, is employed by the Harmon Construction company in Oklahoma City.

Peggy Laws, Norman, formerly of Dallas, Texas, was declared the best horsewoman in the University during a mid-term riding show. All of the riders taking part in the nine-event show were pupils of Lieutenant J. P. Holland. Close behind Miss Laws for high scoring honors were Sue Cecil, Vallient; Martha Craig, Idabel; and Elva Loomis, Norman.

A dull Saturday on the University campus was lamented recently by Bob Vollmer, *Oklahoma Daily* managing editor and columnist, Tulsa. He wrote: "On this particular day there doesn't seem to be any 'significant movement' to discuss. The Veterans of Future Wars apparently are awaiting a war; Townsendites are waiting as quickly as possible to grow old; Ad party candidates are still waiting for Dean J. F. Findlay to finish reading the

newspaper; and the Oklahoma Daily is waiting for something to happen. So the only significant movement today will be students who consult the clock at 10:30—and turn over to go to sleep. At least that's what we're going to do."

William Tilden, II, recently showed one thousand University tennis fans that he is still the old maestro of the net sport when he showed his lofts and volleys at an exhibition match in the Fieldhouse. He whipped Bruce Barnes, former Texas star, after a stiff struggle. Tilden paired with Ethel Arnold to defeat Barnes and Jane Sharp in a set of mixed doubles.

Mary Barbara Clark, Cherokee, has convinced W. R. Wehrend, University band director, that women have a place in the University 150-piece men's band. She turned up at practice one day and said she wanted to play in the University band. Director Wehrend offered to give her a trial. She tooted the clarinet convincingly enough to influence Director Wehrend to make an exception in her case. Now she is the only co-ed member of the band.

Completion of the tower on the Okla-

homa Union is set for late in April. A four-faced clock will be on top of the tower which houses fifth, sixth and seventh floors in the center of the building.

Ruth Clark, Tulsa, was elected president of the Women's Self Government Association during March on the campus. Other officers named at the general University election were Helen Anderson, Norman, vice-president; Exel Allender, Elk City, secretary; and Floreine Dietrich, Oklahoma City, treasurer.

On its first tour of the season, Coach Lawrence "Jap" Haskell's Sooners dropped two games to Baylor University, Waco, Texas, and won two from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

Fifty University students were confined in the Infirmary during March when an influenza epidemic struck the campus.

Senior women students nominated for Letzeiser medal awards, the highest honor for seniors, are Suzanne Arnote, Antlers; Elisabeth Barrowman, Norman; Margaret Freeman, Oklahoma City; Betty Hume, Anadarko; Margery Meacham, Clinton; Helen Mathews, Oklahoma City; Katherine Rader, Norman; Frances Myers, Oklahoma City; and Helen Stacy, Norman. Miss Hume, Miss Meacham and Miss Rader are daughters of outstanding University graduates.

Dr. Bruce Houston, associate professor of chemistry, has been elected president of the Oklahoma chapter of Sigma Xi, national scientific research society. Dr. George A. Van Lear, assistant professor of physics, was elected vice-president, while Dr. Loyd E. Harris, professor of pharmacy, was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Fred Groves, Norman, formerly of Hominy, won a tobacco spitting contest for University students recently when competition in the "honorable and ancient

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Pick yourself out a house, but you'd better drink some of Alice in Wonderland's magic elixir to make yourself no taller than a match stick before you try to move in. For these houses are only miniatures which were on display recently at the school of architectural engineering. They were made in the classes of Otho O. Sparks, instructor in architecture, and Leonard Wolfe, assistant professor of architecture. Types of houses and designers follow: modern by Bryan Miller, model by Lois Wilson Worley; California by Bryan Miller; California Spanish by Morrison Stevens; Norman English by Bessie Kniseley; Colonial by Charles Himes, design by Charles Monnet; English by James Roth, design by Joseph Smay.

art" was revived. His winning expectation was for 29 feet 6 inches. Roy Hollingsworth, Norman, won the competition for accuracy.

University students had an exciting time satirizing war during March when organizations of Veterans of Future Wars and Gold Star Mothers of Future War Veterans were formed. Ernest Butler, son of a Woodward clergyman, headed the veterans' organizations. At a public mass meeting on varsity corner, Old Man Mars was burned in effigy and student speakers delivered addresses.

▲ Mrs. Axelson Sells New Play

A play, *Life Comes to This*, by Mary McDougal Axelson who was a University student for several semesters while her husband, Ivar Axelson, was a member of the University faculty, has been sold to Carol Sax and will be given fall production on Broadway.

Mrs. Axelson had a play, *Life Begins*, two seasons ago on Broadway. It was filmed by Warner Brothers. Mrs. Axelson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. McDougal, Sapulpa.

Her new play deals with present day social problems in the United States.

▲ Pinky at Roxy Theater

Truman "Pinky" Tomlin, '33ex, made a personal appearance during March at the Roxy Theater in New York City.

He was to appear for one week but was held over by popular demand as New Yorkers flocked to see the former University student whose work in motion pictures is still a sensation. He was billed as "the screen's newest favorite" for the Roxy appearance.

▲ Journalism Alumni Classified

A total of 282 University graduates and former students are now employed in various phases of newspaper work, a survey conducted by the *Sooner State Press*, news organ of the Oklahoma Press association, recently revealed.

By classifications, the survey showed that 43 are editors and owners, 12 are managers and owners, 10 are trade journal or house organ editors, 6 are managing editors, 6 are editorial writers, 16 are advertising managers, 25 are city editors, 11 are society and department editors, 8 are sports writers and editors, 3 are reporters, 15 are correspondents, 13 are press association workers, 25 are magazine and free lance writers, 23 are advertising salesmen, 10 are college journalism teachers, 10 are high school journalism teachers, 17 are publicity writers, 3 are newspaper association employes, 6 are radio news broadcasters, 2 are promotion department workers, 1 is a newspaper librarian, 6 are print shop owners and 4 are mechanical employes.

▲ Interscholastic Meet Coming

The University's most widely attended openhouse—the annual Oklahoma Interscholastic highschool meet—is scheduled for April 29, 30 and May 1 and 2.

Four thousand Oklahoma high school students and many of their teachers will be guests on the campus during the annual event at which speaking, curricular, musical and athletic contests will be held.

The Alumni office in the Oklahoma Union will have the welcome mat out during the four days of excitement and the many alumni who will bring students to Norman for the meet are invited to use the Alumni association facilities.

Speaking and curricular contests will start first. Musical events will be held next. Sporting contests include tennis, basketball and the annual Oklahoma track and field meet.

▲ Belcher Second in Bachelor Vote

Wyatt Belcher, '32as, '32M.A., teacher at the Woodward junior college, recently ran a close second in a contest to decide Woodward's most eligible bachelor. He polled a total of 371,300 votes to trail Fireman Price Williams. Belcher had the coordinate support of Woodward's school vote. The contest was a leap year feature promoted by the *Woodward Daily Press*.

▲ Another Varsity Shoppe Product

Maurice Cotton, who is now Larry Cotton of the National Broadcasting Company airways, Chicago, has signed a two year's contract as a featured artist of NBC.

Terms of the contract were said to have assured Cotton one hundred fifty dollars a week, with a clause that allows him to accept a higher salary with a sponsored program at any time during the period.

Cotton, who crooned for campus orchestras and took over Pinky Tomlin's job as Varsity shoppe songster when Pinky went to the movies, is the son of Maurice Cotton, '16as, '29M.S., Altus.

Young Maurice changed his name to Larry when he appeared with Jimmy Grier and his orchestra in California. West coast newspapers predicted a brilliant future for the Oklahoma when he left California recently to accept the NBC position.

He was heralded as "better than Donald Novis," California's own lyric tenor. Cotton's program may be heard from 12:30 to 1 p.m. from Chicago's NBC studio.

▲ Patsy Truscott is Editor

Patsy Truscott, '33ex, poet, painter and columnist, is editor and publisher of a newspaper which was started during March in Nowata. It is called the *Nowata Weekly Digest*. Miss Truscott went to California when she left school in 1933 and edited a trade journal. For the past year, she has been working on a newspaper in Chelsea. Her home is at Haywood.

▲ "Blood and Gold—Profits of War"

An article entitled *Blood and Gold—Profits of War* by Josh Lee, '17as, fifth district congressman, is included in the April issue of *The Baptist Student*, national Baptist magazine published at Nashville, Tennessee.

The article outlines the steps Mr. Lee proposes to take the profits out of war. A picture of the University graduate is carried with the article. In the article, Mr. Lee suggests that United States soldiers were given a severe shock during the World war when they learned that some of the guns used by the Central Powers were American made.

▲ Fourteen Sooners Head Demos

A list of presidents of the State League of Young Democratic chapters reveals that fourteen University graduates head county organizations.

Presidents listed recently included Finis O. Stewart, '33law, Cherokee; Leslie Chamber, '28as, '29M.A., Watonga; Finis H. Parham, '34as, '34law, Norman; Alfred Naifeh, '37as, University; Victor Waters, '30as, '32law, Mangum; C. Everett Murphy, '33as, '35law, Kingfisher; Bro McDonald, '30ex, Fairview; Bob Sibley, '23ex, Pryor; Ewing Salder, '37law, Sulphur; John S. Gilkerson, '35law, Claremore; Joe Stamper, '33as, '35law, Antlers; E. J. Armstrong, '33law, Sallisaw; Vincent Dale, '33ex, Guymon; Raymond T. Plumlee, '33law, Cordell; and Everett Welburn,

'29law, Alva. Bill Powers, '36law, has succeeded Naifeh as president of the University league.

Hewes is Tennis Coach

Leslie Hewes, '28as, young geography instructor who has been appointed tennis coach at the University of Oklahoma to succeed John O. Moseley, who recently accepted the presidency of Central State Teachers' college, Edmond, has played the game most of his life and even coached in 1929 at Western Kentucky State Teachers' college at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Hewes started at Guthrie high school where in 1924 he went to the finals in the state high school tournament at Stillwater, and to the semi-finals at Norman, being put out each time by Jake Ingraham of Tulsa, state champion.

In 1926 he was a squad man at Oklahoma in the days of such Sooner cracks as Fred Royor, Dick Mason and Bob Brandenburg.

In 1928 he took a B. A. degree from Oklahoma and now lacks only his thesis of completing a doctor's degree in geography at the University of California.

Three Registration Records Fall

Enrolment records for the fall semester, the spring semester and for the year's total have been broken, George Wadsack, '18ex, registrar, has announced.

During the fall semester 5,548 students enrolled. The spring term finds an enrolment of 5,148 students, the seasonal drop being slightly less than usual. The total number of different students enrolled during the school year, summer term excluded, is 6,110, almost one hundred greater than last year.

Improving business and farm conditions were given as the probable reason for the gains.

The student personnel at the University still was shown as extensively drawn from farm homes. In giving the professions of their parents, 1,007 students said their fathers were farmers, 735 were merchants and 260 were public officials.

The National Youth Administration project has been responsible for keeping 600 students in school during both semesters.

John Newbern is Co-Author

John Newbern, '28ex, is co-author and compiler of a new volume about Texas which was released late in March.

The title of the book is *Odd Texas*, the roundup of queer and amazing facts about wild and woolly Texas. Jack Harper, Dallas, and Newbern are the authors. The book sells for one dollar and was published by Banks Upshaw and Company.

It includes 101 illustrations dealing with Texas history and carries out the "Believe it or Not" idea in presenting unusual aspects of history of the Lone Star state. Newbern is employed by the Harper Engraving company in Dallas. The book is

Fletcher S. Riley, '17as, justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, has accepted an invitation to be commencement speaker at University of Oklahoma graduation ceremonies in June. He was a Lawton attorney before he became a member of the supreme court. It will be the fourth consecutive year during which a graduate of the University was named commencement speaker. They were: in 1933, George B. Parker, '08as; in 1934, George C. Smith, '08; and in 1935, John G. Hervey, '23as, '25law.

expected to be a good seller during the Lone Star Centennial.

"Doll" Foster in "Script"

Roy Abner "Doll" Foster, '20ex, formerly of Norman, has had several stories in Rob Wagner's *Script*, California weekly, recently.

One of his stories, "Choc" *Beer Matrimony*, appeared in the February 15 issue of the publication which is the *New Yorker* of California. Foster is living in Hollywood and is spending his time writing short stories.

Thetas Win Grade Cup

Kappa Alpha Theta and Sigma Delta Tau won sorority grade average cups for the first semester.

The Kappa Alpha Theta chapter won the award in the first group which includes houses of at least thirty members. Sigma Delta Tau won the group two award for houses of less than thirty members for the third consecutive year.

Following are the records of both groups:

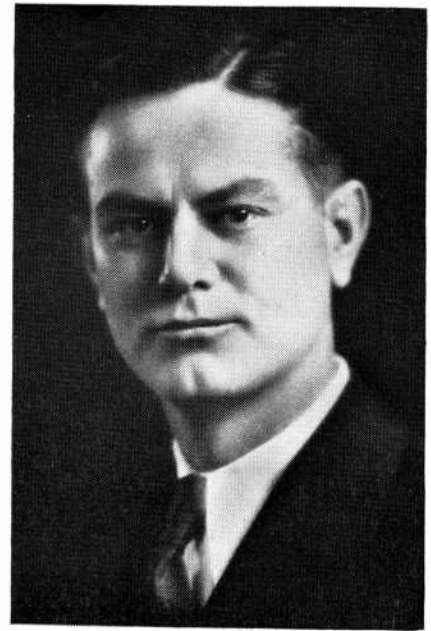
| Group One | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Kappa Alpha Theta | 1.8134 |
| Pi Beta Phi | 1.6633 |
| Gamma Phi Beta | 1.6401 |
| Delta Gamma | 1.6263 |
| Alpha Chi Omega | 1.6137 |
| Delta Delta Delta | 1.5580 |
| Kappa Kappa Gamma | 1.5445 |
| Chi Omega | 1.3679 |
| Group Two | |
| Sigma Delta Tau | 1.7766 |
| Alpha Phi | 1.3367 |
| Alpha Xi Delta | 1.1236 |
| Phi Mu | 1.0843 |
| Alpha Gamma Delta | .8043 |

Ely Added to Geology Faculty

Hugh M. Ely, '27as, has been appointed to a teaching assistantship in the University school of geology. He will be in charge of laboratory sections in beginning geology classes. John L. Fosness, University of Minnesota, also has been added to the staff to assist in the division of mineralogy.

Sibley on Minnesota Faculty

Mulford Q. Sibley, '34M.A., has been appointed to an instructorship in world politics and government at the University of Minnesota. Minneapolis.



Sibley was graduated from Central State Teachers college, Edmond, in 1933. He completed work toward an M. A. degree at the University the following year, writing his thesis on *American Nationalism Since the World War*. He was appointed to a fellowship at the University of Minnesota last year. He will continue work on his doctorate while he is teaching.

Reunions Are Coming

Members of the 1906, 1911 and 1916 graduating classes should begin making plans to return for the thirty, twenty-five and twenty-year reunions which will be held on the Oklahoma campus during the commencement period early in June.

Graduates of other classes will be welcome back for the commencement exercises, but special events are being planned for these three classes.

Committees to have charge of the banquets of each of the groups are at work to get as nearly one hundred percent attendance as possible. From all parts of the country will come the Sooner graduates of years past.

Bulletins to members of each of the three classes will be mailed during the next month. Friends who have not seen each other in recent years will make special efforts to hold reunions during the period.

A senior-alumni dance probably will be held the night before the reunion banquets.

"Come on back to the campus for a really good session on what you've been doing and what I've been doing for the past years" will be the bye-words for the hundreds of members of the three classes being honored this year.