

V. E. Monnett, director of the school of geological engineering, is a graduate of the University in the class of 1912. In the panel below the three faculty members to the left are Dr. R. L. Huntington, Instructor S. D. Comer and Professor I. F. Bingham. The others pictured are H. V. Beck, professor of mechanical engineering; Queen Verna Holcomb, who presided at the 1935 celebration; Max Lents; Louis Wallace; and Instructors Jim Cowan and Frank Morris.



## Geological Engineering

By Dr. V. E. MONNETT, '12

Director

THE school of geological engineering was established for the purpose of emphasizing the application of principles of geology to various phases of engineering work. Almost three-fourths of the required subjects are general engineering requirements. Basic courses in all brands of geology are included in order to serve the needs of men who expect to follow any of the various lines of geological field work.

The curriculum recognizes that some of the graduates will enter metal-mining, others petroleum work, while others will enter various state and federal bureaus where a study of geological conditions is essential.

The training of a geological engineer emphasizes exploration rather than development work and in that sense differs materially from mining engineering or petroleum engineering. However a number of graduates of the school have made places for themselves as production engineers, since their knowledge of subsurface conditions has fitted them to appreciate the problems of development which are not entirely of mechanical nature.

The faculty of the school of geological engineering has never encouraged large numbers to enter this field, but well-trained graduates have seldom found difficulty in securing positions.

Among the graduates of recent years, the present connections of a few are given:

A. L. Vasquez, '30, has been employed

in petroleum and metal mining work in Mexico for several years and is now with the Richmond Petroleum Company of Mexico. R. W. Dudley, '35, and Hal Wynne, '34, are doing geophysical work with the Carter Oil Company in Oklahoma. Harry S. Buckner, '34, is in similar work with the Humble Oil Company.

Herbert Beardmore, '25, has been production engineer with the I. T. I. O. Company and was prominent in the development of the Oklahoma City field. Ed J. Hamner, '31, has held a similar position in Texas with the Humble Oil Company. C. V. Sidwell, '23, is in charge of production for the British-American Oil Company and has recently had charge of their drilling program in the Oklahoma City area. Fay Coil, '30, is on the faculty of the State Junior College at Miami, Oklahoma.

The geological engineer is peculiarly adapted for the comparatively new field of work in geophysical prospecting. Last year and the year before every graduate had at least one opportunity to take positions in this type of work. Many prefer to start their practical experience in either the geological department or the production department of an oil company and start out as instrument men or scouts more often than in office work.

An increasing number of engineering students are planning their course of study so that it will include all of the required work in both the production engineering and in the geological engineer-

ing curricula. This enables them to receive both degrees in a period of five years and it appears to offer the best possible training which any university offers for those who expect to enter the exploration or producing divisions of the petroleum industry.

The University of Oklahoma is one of some half dozen universities in the United States that offer a definite curriculum in geological engineering. The geographical location of Oklahoma with regard to the centers of great oil production gives to this University a distinct advantage over most other colleges and universities.

The geological faculty alone comprises a staff of twelve men above the rank of instructor and includes specialists along ten different phases of the science. The geological engineer comes into contact with at least seven of these men through the courses required in the curriculum. This insures that the student will receive a variety of ideas and methods of presentation to supplement the textbook and laboratory information.

