

Campus review

BY ELEANOR LAIN, '40

THE University put on its top hat and dusted off its opera glasses April 6 and 7 to see the opera "Lakme" presented in the University auditorium by the College of Fine Arts. Amid mystic and colorful settings and costumes native to British India, "Lakme" was received by an enthusiastic and frequently applauding audience.

The rich baritone voice of Barre Hill, head of the department of voice, and the high, clear soprano of Geraldine Balbin, who played the title role, helped to make "Lakme" one of the best pieces of entertainment to be presented by the University this year.

The audience eagerly watched Miss Balbin, most often referred to as "Gerry," who had only three weeks to prepare for the lead role. She replaced Annette Burford, originally cast for the part of "Lakme." Gerry showed no evidence of the strain of the long practices and rehearsals she had undergone. She reached the high notes of the difficult "Bell Song," sung in the second act, with ease.

Hill's portrayal of Nilakanaha, high priest and father of Lakme, bespoke the years of experience he had with the Chicago Civic Opera Company. The rest of the cast gave capable support. Ballet numbers made the presentation a treat for the eyes as well as the ears.

Photo short course popular

The photographic short course sponsored by the school of journalism April 1, 2 and 3, drew an enthusiastic enrolment of 162, including a plumber, a theatre man, a collector of Indian curios and a

greenhouse operator. Eight states were represented among those enrolled.

The short course, which did much to put the University School of Journalism on the map nationally, had a distinguished faculty which included Jack Price of the staff of *Editor and Publisher*, William Vandivert, from *Life*, the new picture magazine, and Earl B. Moore, chief photographer for the *Dallas News*. Much of the success of the short course is due to the hard work of A. Clarence Smith, assistant professor of journalism, who conceived the idea of having a three-day photography school and who directed much of the work. It was the first course of its kind ever offered in any American university.

At the final session of the short course, the Southwestern Association of Pictorial Photographers was organized, and Moore was elected president.

Walter M. Harrison, writing in the *Oklahoma City Times*, declared the short course was of the highest value to the University. His comment was as follows:

This compliment to Prof. Clarence Smith of the school of journalism of the University of Oklahoma. Smith had an idea that is getting the university more national publicity this week than was secured by its best football team in any year and at a very small fraction of the cost. Smith's idea was to originate a short course in news photography. He secured the co-operation of top picture men throughout the United States, brought them to Norman this week to act as instructors. Some 150 "Minnie" camera nuts, staff photographers and embryo snapshot specialists are enrolled this week learning the tricks of the trade from the biggest men in the business. This is the first time in collegiate history that such a course has been held. Naturally it will get big attention in educational fields and news-



This spring for the first time, sweltering men students and faculty members can enjoy a swimming pool at the University. It's thoroughly modern in sanitary facilities and equipment.

May Calendar

- May 4—Oratorio, "Elijah."
- May 5—Recital, Mrs. Marius J. Lindloff and Irving Williams.
- May 6—Graduation Recital, Aileen Simms.
- May 7—Alpha Tau Omega dance, at house.
- May 8—Dance Recital, Helen Gregory; Sigma Chi dance; Pi Kappa Phi dance; Kappa Alpha dance.
- May 8 and 9—University Mothers' Day.
- May 11, 12, 13—Annual A. A. U. W. teas for all senior women students.
- May 14—Playhouse play; Phi Kappa Sigma dance; Phi Kappa Psi dance; annual costume Ball of El Modjii.
- May 15—Playhouse play; Delta Tau Delta dance; Sigma Alpha Epsilon dance.
- May 16—Chamber Music program.
- May 17—Graduation Recital, Beth Castleberry and West Losinger.
- May 22—Pi Kappa Alpha dance; Beta Theta Pi dance.
- May 23—Graduation Recital, Genevieve Stout.
- May 24—Maxine Appleman, special recital.
- May 25—Graduation Recital, Genevieve Kern.
- May 27-June 3—Final examinations.
- June 5—Alumni-Senior Dance and preliminary Alumni Reunion events.
- June 6—University Baccalaureate Services; Reunion Banquets for Classes of 1907, 1912 and 1917; Reunion Dinner for former editors of the *Oklahoma Daily* and its predecessors.
- June 7—Phi Beta Kappa Breakfast; annual meeting, Stadium-Union Trustees; Commencement Exercises; annual Commencement Luncheon; annual meeting and election of officers, Alumni Executive Board.

paper contacts. It would be no surprise if Life were to have a full page of action stuff from the Norman campus in its edition two weeks hence.

Radio broadcast prepared

Talented O. U. students had the chance of a life time April 23 when the Pontiac company sponsored a program which was broadcast from the University over the NBC chain. More than sixty hopeful and aspiring entertainers tried out before the critical eyes of Jack Roche, representative of the Pontiac company. Dramatic skits, singers, orchestras, quartets, and comedians tried out—none was barred.

John Held, Jr., famous artist and cartoonist, acted as master of ceremonies during the 30-minute program. An excited student audience watched friends broadcast their talents to the corners of the earth.

Hollywood trip offered

Twelve beautiful O. U. co-eds had a chance to go to Hollywood in April and maybe to have a screen test made by one of the major motion picture companies. They were participants in a contest sponsored by the *Oklahoma Daily* and the *Covered Wagon*, campus publications, and their pictures were mailed to Hollywood to be judged by the "Comedians Congress for Choosing Comely Co-eds." The lucky girl whose picture was selected from the 12 was to make the California trip by airplane, and there compete



Business and pleasure at the Photography Short Course. John Casey, William Vandivert, Clarence Smith, John Price, Jess Gibson, and H. H. Herbert talk things over. Surrounded by co-eds at a reception at the Pi Phi house, Life Photographer Vandivert declared: "I've never seen so many good looking girls in any one place."

against beauties from other southwestern universities.

Spring fever season

With only a month more of classes and studies until the end of the second semester, students had the happy thought, "School will soon be out," and the unhappy one, "Finals are coming." An epidemic of spring fever ravaged the campus and made sitting down to hard work even more difficult. Strolling couples, arm in arm, indicate that one person on the campus, Dan Cupid, hasn't let spring fever slow his activity.

Hazing is abandoned

University officials sang the swan song for hell week practices, and fraternities and other campus organizations joined in the chorus. When the interfraternity council took definite action in April and abolished hell week once and for all, the Jazz Hounds, pep club members, followed suit by announcing that they had abandoned hazing of their pledges.

Noted musicians perform

Students had a chance to hear and see two famous figures of the musical world April 15 when Composer Charles Wakefield Cadman and Tenor Charles Neibarger appeared in the last of the University artist series programs for this year.

The Student Peace Committee sponsored a peace demonstration held April 22 in front of the Administration building.

When the University Board of Regents refused to assign \$1 from the seniors' graduation fees in order to erect a statue which had been proposed as the combined junior-senior class memorial, graduating students once more turned their thoughts

to the question of what their donation to the University and to future students would be.

Since University officials smiled with favor upon the plan to build dormitories under the Stadium to accommodate at least 96 men, a similar plan for low-cost housing has been advanced by the co-eds. (But not in the Stadium.)

Ruf Neks serve tea

The Ruf Neks, time-honored he-men of the campus, they of the long and shaggy beards or downy but persistent stubbles and of the violent red flannel shirts, have gone "sissy." This stronghold of virility knocked precedent into a teacup early in April when the order formally initiated its pledges at a candlelight tea. Red and white tapers flickered over the tobacco cartons and tin cans that formed the centerpiece of the table. The smartly dressed were seen wearing red flannel shirts atop slightly soiled gray slacks.

Valuable art work donated

An art collection containing original pictures by Rembrandt and Van Dyke, and valued at approximately \$250,000 was donated to the University in April by Leonard Woodruff, Ardmore oil man. These new treasures, added to those already given by Gordon Matzene and Lew Wentz, will bring the total value of this year's art gifts up to approximately \$700,000, it has been estimated.

Two killed on highway

Fred Kroschwitz, a graduate student in modern languages, was killed on highway 66 near Moore March 31 when the motorcycle he was riding skidded 42 feet upright, then turned on its side and went 144 feet more, ending in a crash.

Kroschwitz was to have received his master's degree in Spanish and German in June.

Darrell Starry Cockrell, 21-year-old senior in the school of pharmacy, was killed early the morning of April 4 in an automobile accident just south of the Oklahoma-Cleveland county line. His car collided with a truck. He was the fifth student to die from highway accidents in the last nine months.

Since these recent deaths which shocked and sorrowed the campus, University officials have tightened up on the no-car rule in an attempt to prevent accidents.

Sooner debaters copped the all-school prize for the largest aggregate score in contests between nine universities in the annual Missouri Valley Forensic tournament held in St. Louis, Mo. during the Easter hecess.

One-house legislature described

An authority on Nebraska's unicameral legislature, Dr. John B. Senning, of the University of Nebraska political science faculty, explained the operation of that state's unique legislative system before a Norman Forum audience April 1.

Senning emphasized that the one-house legislature simplifies law-making procedure and tends to abolish partizan interests. He said that in the unicameral system there is no spread-eagle oratory, no horseplay, but an atmosphere of germane deliberation and a solidarity of interest among legislators.

Senning particularly noted that the press and radio have done admirable work in informing the public concerning day-by-day legislation. He summed up the following five advantages of the unicameral body: One—absence of hasty legislation. Two—a five-day notice of public

hearings on bills. Three—a better personnel of legislators. Four—adequate dissemination of information of legislative procedure by the press and radio. Five—the right of a single member to demand a roll call vote.

Phi Gamma Delta and Sigma Alpha Mu fraternities won the interfraternity scholarship cups, compilation of fraternity grade averages revealed. The Phi Gams had an average of 1.538, and the Sigma Alpha Mus an average of 1.364.

Walter M. Harrison, Jr., of Oklahoma City will serve as editor of the Sooner yearbook for next year.

The annual spring concert of the university band was given March 21 in the University auditorium. Jack Summers, Woodward, piano soloist, was featured.

An oratorical contest to honor the memory of Gordon Fuller, former University student who was killed in an automobile accident last December, will be sponsored annually by Mrs. Nell Fuller, Gordon's mother. Prizes of \$25 for first place, \$15 for second and \$10 for third will be given.

Norman girl heads W. S. G. A.

Helen Anderson of Norman will head the Women's Self-Governing Association next year. Miss Anderson is a French major, a member of the Y. W. C. A. town council, of Timber-cruisers Riding Association and Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Demetrice Thornton of Hollis will act as vice-president, Betty Coe Armstrong of Ponca City will be secretary and Peggy O'Reilly of Oklahoma City will serve as treasurer.

Students who have done work for credit both on and off the campus this school year total 8,788, George Wadsack, registrar, announced.

William Rose Benet, well-known poet and editor, was brought to the campus in March by the Norman forum for a lecture. In his talk, Benet emphasized that modern poets have ceased to be long-bearded messiahs and are now concentrating on themselves.

The Southwestern Gas Measurement short course was to be held April 20, 21 and 23. The course was open to students in the college of engineering and to men in the oil and gas industry. Enrolment in last year's short course was 522, and the attendance was composed of men from 23 states and 3 foreign countries.

Robert Whitehand's play, "Pegasus on Foot," was presented April 23 and 24 as the final university Playhouse production of the year.

Opera Lead



Geraldine Balbin... a pleasing soloist in the opera "Lakme."

944 aided by NYA

National Youth Administration jobs are helping 944 students through the university, figures released by University officials revealed.

The University's summer session will open June 8 when entrance examinations will be given and registration begins. First meeting of classes of the twenty-eighth consecutive summer session will be on June 9.

Instruments for the University's evaporation station for weather research have been installed east of the University Fieldhouse.

The School of Pharmacy recently received an inquiry concerning its curriculum from prospective student Tracy C. Call, Fluweelensingel 88, Gouda, Holland.

South's future discussed

More than two hundred persons attended the annual initiation banquet of the University chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic fraternity. It was a social as well as an intellectual occasion. Joseph Brandt, chapter president, presided.

Real Democracy as envisioned by the people of the United States can come about only by providing liberty, security and wide distribution of property among the

people, Herbert Agar, principal speaker on the program, declared.

Mr. Agar, associate editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and widely known lecturer, said that the racial problem, tenantry, and the clash of economic interests with other parts of the nation are the chief problems of the south.

The nation's forefathers were entirely correct in adopting the maxim that "power follows property," and that we will not have any actual Democracy until extreme concentration of control of property is eliminated, he asserted.

Co-operatives such as have been successfully established in the Scandinavian countries probably provide a way by which people with little cash income might obtain a direct interest in property, Mr. Agar declared.

He emphasized the evils of tenantry under the present economic setup, and charged that living conditions are worse among southern tenant farmers than among any of the people of western Europe.

The present economic system in America is that of a colonial empire rather than that of a true Democracy, he said.

With the faculty

Dr. G. L. Cross, associate professor of botany, was elected president of the O. U. chapter of Sigma Xi, national scientific research fraternity.

Thirty-five University faculty members unanimously agreed that the place of a professor is not in an ivory tower, but that he should have freedom to express his opinions. The group approved plans to present to national offices of the American Association of University Professors a summary of the recent incident in which 42 University faculty members received some adverse criticism because they signed a petition approving the President's Supreme Court revision plan.

Eleven faculty members went to Dallas, Texas to attend and take part in the Southwestern Social Science meeting. Dr. A. B. Adams, dean of the College of Business Administration, served as chairman of the panel group which considered his paper on "Bank Credit Inflation and Its Control in the United States."

Dr. R. J. Dangerfield, associate professor of government now on leave of absence, and Dr. Alfred B. Thomas, associate professor of history, spoke at the fourth annual session of the Institute of Public Affairs held April 26 and 27 in Dallas, Texas.

Charles P. Green, head of the Department of Speech, was elected president of the Oklahoma Speech Teachers' Associ-

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Another epidemic, which occurred outside our country in connection with a military expedition with which we had nothing to do, also had a tremendous influence on the expansion and development of our own country.

It is not too much to say that second only to obtaining our own independence, the most important event that has affected our national history was an epidemic of yellow fever little known by students of military history and certainly not realized by our own people. The country affected by this second sanitary disaster was France.

Napoleon was determined to give France a colonial empire, and owing to the weakness of Spain he had secured from her the cession of Louisiana to France. He also sent a strong military expedition to St. Domingo where a considerable portion of the French nobility had had rich estates, with the object of taking full military possession of the island and holding it against the blacks and against the English.

In ninety days the French had completely overcome all armed opposition and were in full possession of the island. Troops were not needed to administer and police the reconquered territory, and Napoleon's plan was to proceed with the waiting fleet and transports and continue on to Louisiana, establish French sovereignty and organize the proposed French colonial empire on the North American continent.

At this point the unforeseen and invisible factor of disease destroyed forever Napoleon's hopes and plans. Scarcely had the army begun to establish itself in Santa Domingo when the scourge of yellow fever descended upon them. Twenty generals were carried off at once. Officers and soldiers perished by the thousands. Of the 22,000 men that landed, only 10,000 were left. Newcomers were seized by the disease as soon as they landed.

Within six months after landing the army was reduced to nine or ten thousand, and despite heavy reinforcements, the quota of troops intended for the garrisoning of Louisiana after reconquering St. Domingo had been absolutely annihilated.

This forced Napoleon to make a complete change in his plans and with the imminence of war with Great Britain he decided to dispose as advantageously as possible of the unoccupied territory on the mainland which he did not have enough men to take possession of and hold. With the loss of Louisiana he early had to abandon his negotiations with Spain for the further contemplated cession of the contiguous territory of the Floridas.

"In this manner," says Thiers, "the Americans purchased from France that extensive country which increased their

territory in North America and made them master of the Gulf of Mexico for the present and for time to come. They were consequently indebted for their birth to that long struggle between France and England."

Munson says, "He might well have added that the United States was directly indebted for such greatness to an outbreak, in a foreign territory, of a disease which should have been foreseen, and even in those days was known to be largely avoidable through quarantine and the evacuation of disease centers."

It does not require the wisdom of a Solomon to appreciate the tremendous consequences to our then infant country as the beneficiary of France's neglect of military sanitation in 1802 in the relatively unimportant island of San Domingo, the effects of which have been in process of development for more than a century and have completely altered and expanded our national destiny.

Had France been able to establish its authority in Louisiana in 1802, supported by powerfully trained and veteran soldiers, there is strong reason to conclude that such well defended territory would have been permanently retained up to the present time just as today she holds French Guiana and the French West Indies.

Under such conditions, the United States, hemmed in by British possessions on the north, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, and French possessions on the south and west, would have been absolutely restricted as to territorial expansion and in all probability never could have extended south of Georgia or west of Illinois or Tennessee.

The present development and prosperity of the area originally held by the United States at the close of the Revolution is almost entirely dependent upon the expansion and development of new territory and resources to the westward and the tremendous immigration that accompanied it.

In the light of history the political, geographical and material development of our nation and country has been greatly affected and influenced by epidemics which brought to naught military movements of vast importance which had begun with every assurance of success.



Board nominees chosen

Several Sooners are on the list of ten nominees submitted by the Oklahoma Pharmaceutical Association for Governor Marland's consideration in filling a post on the State Board of Pharmacy. The group includes E. E. Duncan, '23pharm, Oklahoma City; Jess W. Strunkle, '25 pharm, Enid; Dave McLemore, '22pharm, Britton; and G. C. Von Horn, '20pharm, Stillwater.

WITH THE FACULTY

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ation. A. M. de la Torre, assistant professor of modern languages, was chosen the new head of the Oklahoma chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish.



Oklahoma college and university professors are far from well paid, the *Daily Oklahoman* commented editorially.

The editorial said in part:

For some weeks past, salary schedules maintained in the several departments of state government and in tax-supported schools of this state have been published daily. To the casual reader or to one who has no personal interest in teachers' salaries, those paid in the schools and colleges of Oklahoma may appear sufficient. To the men and women who must live upon those stipends and to persons who have an understanding of the cost of the education which prepared the deans, professors, their assistants and instructors for their life-work and to others who have a proper appreciation of their contribution to society, Oklahoma's college and university salary schedules are nothing we may point to with pride.

Taking 13 state universities in the central states, the middle west and southwest, only one state has a lower salary schedule than Oklahoma. It is Kansas.

No one, of course overlooks the fact that the state faces new obligations under the social security act which must be met. Yet, with the rising cost of living the average faculty family is finding it difficult to make ends meet. A number of those same families who have suffered sickness have been forced into debt, having deficits in some cases as high as \$957 a year. Because of financial pressure 11 faculty members have assigned all or part of their 1936-1937 salaries to obtain loans.

The average number in a professor's household is 3.1—these men of scholarly mind and high character cannot afford to rear many children, although for the sake of our country they rather than men and women on relief should be adding to our population.

One point which may have been overlooked by our state government is the cut in faculty salaries made by Governor Murray, the first of September, 1931, and the second of March, 1933. The total reduction ranged from 182 for deans down to 5 per cent for instructors. Since March, 1933 there has been, in effect, another reduction in salary, due not to pay cuts, but to the rising cost of living.

While reductions in other state departments were declared invalid by the state supreme court, no such action was taken relative to faculty salaries. Faculty members are asking, therefore not for an increase, but for a restoration of contract, previously ignored by the state. For at the time the cuts were ordered by Governor Murray, faculty members had signed up at a certain rate of pay. The cuts were accepted by them voluntarily.



Lieut. J. P. Holland, assistant professor of military science and Sooner polo coach, has received a captain's commission in the U. S. army.



E. N. Comfort, director of the Oklahoma School of Religion, was re-elected president of the Norman Forum, and Dr. Robert K. Carr, assistant professor of government, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.