



*William Vandivert, Chicago*

## Campus review

BY ELEANOR LAIN, '40



*John Price, New York City*

**B**ECAUSE a new figure in today's newspaper offices, the trained reporter with a small camera in his hip pocket, is becoming more and more important, the School of Journalism at the University of Oklahoma is sponsoring a photographic short course to be held April 1, 2 and 3. Some of the country's leading photographers will give instruction to those taking the short course, which is the first of its kind ever to be given.

Included in the staff of instruction will be Jack Price of New York City, probably the best-known news photographer today; William Vandivert of Chicago, staff photographer of *Life*, news picture magazine; Jess Gibson, chief photographer of the *Houston (Tex.) Chronicle*; and W. J. Shroder, staff photographer of the *Daily Oklahoman* and *Oklaoma City Times*. Many other experts, associated with camera corporations, will give instruction in such phases of news picture making as color photography, lighting, projection and chemistry.

The photographic short course is designed to teach in three days even the rank beginner to take good pictures. The course is planned primarily for newspaper photographers, other newspaper workers interested in photography, and instructors and students in schools of journalism. There will be sections for the beginner, the amateur and the professional. The cost of attending the short course will be \$5, with a special rate of \$3 for students.

### Prom exciting event

One of the most exciting events last month at the University was the Junior-Senior prom given in the Fieldhouse at which more than 1,000 students went dancin' with Anson Weeks. Soft lights and sweet music pervaded the huge Fieldhouse where only a few weeks ago Big

Six basketball games were being played on the hardwood. Seven and one-half miles of sky-blue crepe paper hung from the ceiling, colored spotlights played over the dancers and a huge electrically-lighted fountain dominated the center of the room.

### Miss Thornton is queen

Another event of March was the coronation of Miss Jo Wade Thornton of Oklahoma City as St. Pat's Queen to rule over the engineering students March 11 through March 13. Green-shirted engineers took charge of the campus for three days. Novel scientific displays and the coronation of a student St. Pat and his queen top-notched the celebration. The *Oklahoma Daily*, student newspaper, isued a 32-page special edition in honor of the engineers.

Lawyers and engineers clashed in scattered fist fights before and during the coronation, but the ceremony went through on schedule and the queen escaped kidnaping this year.

### Bobo is honored

One of Oklahoma's outstanding pioneer physicians, Dr. C. S. Bobo, director of the Student Health Service, was honored February 26 with a dinner at the McFarlin Memorial Church in celebration of his 81st birthday. This was the twentieth chance the genial, white-haired doctor has had to celebrate his real birthday, as he was born on leap year day, 1856, in Pickens County, Alabama.

Dr. Bobo's many accomplishments were recounted and he was dubbed "Oklahoma's No. 1 physician." He was the first physician to register after statehood, receiving Certificate No. 1. Among the honored guests at the birthday party were Maj. Gen. Robert U. Patterson, dean of

the University Medical School; Dr. Roy Gittinger, dean of administration; Doctors Horace Reed and LeRoy Long, Sr. of Oklahoma City; and Dr. George R. Osborn, Tulsa, president of the State Medical Association.

### Couple to graduate together

For the first time at the University a young married couple will graduate at the same time from different professional schools. They are Mr. and Mrs. James Hammond. He is a senior in the medical school and she is one of the few women in the senior law class on the Norman campus.

Young Dr. Hammond has accepted an internship at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for next year. His wife plans to get started in the legal profession upon graduation.

"Medical school takes an unusually long period of training and Dorothy wasn't just interested in sitting and twiddling her thumbs while I studied," said Mr. Hammond.

"Eventually, we hope to be practicing in the same city," added Mrs. Hammond. Mrs. Hammond's father, incidentally is C. Ross Hume, '98, one of the University's first two B. A. graduates.

### Court question discussed

During a hot session of the Norman Forum late in February, University professors engaged in verbal combat concerning President Roosevelt's proposal to reform the judiciary. The young Dr. Robert K. Carr, assistant professor of government and author of the book *Democracy and the Supreme Court* walked away from the meeting with a new and brightly colored feather in his cap, neutral observers said.

The heated discussion grew out of such

charges as "intellectual nincompoops" being hurled by Dr. Floyd Wright, professor of law, toward 42 other faculty members who signed a message to Roosevelt endorsing his plan.

At the Forum session, Dr. Wright argued, "To say that something must be done is like a doctor who doesn't know what is wrong with his patient, but says, 'I'll give him some medicine to throw him into fits.'"

To this Dr. Carr replied that the supreme court's attitude is to "just sit and wait until the patient gets well or dies." Dr. Carr also declared that "The rubber of the constitution is worn out."

### Symposium is held

In a later symposium held by the Forum to discuss the Supreme Court question, four well-informed University professors gave their opinions. They were Dr. Carr, Dr. Maurice H. Merrill, professor of law, Dr. Cortez A. M. Ewing, associate professor of government, and Dr. A. K. Christian, professor of history.

Dr. Merrill believed that Supreme Court judges should be contemporaries of the generation which they serve.

Dr. Ewing took another stand. He said, "The main issue at hand is the fact that the President has not been very frank. His every reason to change the present system is an excuse, not a fact."

Dr. Carr declared that a change must be made because the present situation is intolerable. He cautioned, however, that "judges should be reluctant to substitute their opinions for those of the President and Congress since the latter are the elected representatives of the people."

"If the president can remove the judges at will," Dr. Christian said, "then the independence of the judges will be destroyed and they will become rubber stamps."

### Memorial statue proposed

An 8-foot statue, symbolic of the college graduate's making his way into the world, was proposed as a combined senior gift for the classes of 1937 and 1938. According to plans, the figure would be carved in the University oval where all students could watch the work of Julius Struppeck, Baton Rouge, La. Struppeck has become well-known at the University for his sculpture. The estimated cost of the project is \$2,000.

### NYA aids 924 at Norman

A survey made of NYA allocations to aid needy young men and women to obtain educations revealed that Oklahoma's colleges and universities rank ninth among the states of the nation. The University of Oklahoma receives aid for 924 students.

During the last year a total of 4,284 students in the state of Oklahoma re-



*Neils Bohr, world famous Danish physicist, was entertained by student Indian dancers when he visited the O. U. campus. Mr. Bohr is shown above with Mrs. Bohr and their son. The three Indian students are, left to right, Woodrow Crumbo, Woodrow Wilson Tiger and Lawrence Ware (Photo by courtesy of G. A. Van Lear).*

ceived government aid. Only six states in the country received aid for a larger number of students. They were: Texas, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Illinois and California.

### Famous physicist is visitor

A renowned scientist, rated second only to Einstein, stopped off at Norman February 27 on a trip to the West Coast and Japan to visit a former student. Neils Bohr, founder of the modern atomic theory, was the guest of J. Rud Neilsen, professor of theoretical physics in the University.

While in Norman he lectured before students on "The Problem of Causality in the Atomic Theory." His Norman lecture was the only one delivered in this section of the country. University physicists said that Bohr is perhaps the greatest personage ever brought to this campus and that his visit was a decided honor. Bohr received the Nobel prize in 1922, when only 37 years old. He also was awarded the Planck medal. Einstein is the only other scientist to hold this medal.

In his Norman lecture, the stocky, slightly grizzled, blue-eyed scientist told his audience that the same processes which gave mankind familiarity with the atom may teach mankind the simple but evasive truths about life and psychology.

### Kerr heads O. U. regents

Major Eugene M. Kerr, Muskogee, became the new president of the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents March 1. He succeeds C. C. Hatchett, Durant. Joe Looney was named vice-president, and Emil R. Kraetli was re-elected secretary of the board.

### Symphony concert is pleasing

The University Symphony Orchestra presented its final home concert of the year at a brilliant performance February 16. Led by the baton of Paul S. Carpenter, conductor, the Symphony Orchestra gave renditions of the music of old-world composers. Barre Hill, handsome young head of the University voice department, thrilled the audience by singing the prologue to "Pagliacci."

### Original play presented

Written and directed by John W. Dunn, assistant professor of dramatic art, "Beyond Tomorrow," a play native to Oklahoma, was presented February 26 and 27 by dramatic art students. Dunn spent ten months, often more than one month on a single scene, evolving the play from a rough idea. He said the play had been suggested to him by an incident which supposedly took place 70 years ago. While looking through research files of the federal theater project, Dunn read the story

of a young Massachusetts girl who, jilted by her lover, followed him West to the Indian Territory and killed him. Four of the six scenes were laid in Oklahoma at Fort Gibson. The first two were laid in Boston.

#### Taxi boycott is brief

When Norman taxis raised their fares to ten cents per passenger several weeks ago, students opposed the price hike by "boycotting" the cabs and going on a "walking strike." The strike, lead by campus political parties, lasted more than a week. At the end of this time fares were reduced, but to a different level from the former rates.

#### Legislation still pending

In mid-March, the institutional appropriation bill was still pending in the Legislature, but indications were that no salary increases would be granted faculty members.

The House Appropriation Committee approved a \$2,768,689 appropriation for the University and the School of Medicine for the 1937-39 biennium. This includes an item of \$62,000 for employment of 31 additional instructors, but does not include salary increases.

As approved by the committee, the bill provides \$902,223.50 for salaries for each of the two years in the University proper. The Geological Survey appropriation was set at \$64,750 with \$35,950 of it for salaries. Medical school salaries were set at \$79,220 each year.

Specific items set by the committee for the University include: \$133,780 the first year and \$133,835 the second for maintenance; \$19,960 each year for library books; \$55,080 the first year and \$63,400 the second year for general equipment; \$54,240 the first year and \$63,400 the second year for engineering and shop equipment; \$29,700 the first year and \$29,200 the second year for permanent repairs to buildings, and \$34,240 each year for alterations to buildings.

An attempt by Rep. George Hunt of Pittsburg county to set an arbitrary limit on fees assessed students by state colleges and the University was defeated in a House committee hearing when presidents of several schools explained how any such law would disrupt the system of laboratory fees and various services for students.

The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill to outlaw the so-called "flunking fee" at the University, although University officials and Regents argued that the \$3 fee is reasonable and would not affect many working students.

#### Visitors from Virginia

The University had five outstanding visitors in March when Dr. Roy C. Brown and Mrs. Brown of Virginia Intermont



Dr. Paul B. Sears

College, Bristol, Va., accompanied by Louise Webb, Barbara Gamble and Peggy Dunn, senior students in the college, were guests of Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird and Mrs. Beaird.

Dr. Brown is national president of Phi Rho Pi, the national junior college forensic fraternity. The group went from Norman to Long Beach, Calif., where the students were to participate in the National Junior College Forensic tournament.

Miss Webb, of Seminole, Okla., Miss Gamble, of El Reno, Okla., and Miss Dunn, of Chisolm, Minn., were granted \$500 speech scholarships at Virginia Intermont because of the national recognition they gained in the Senior High School National tournament in Kent, Ohio, in 1935, and in Oklahoma City in 1936. They all plan to enrol for advanced work at the University of Oklahoma in the fall of 1937.

#### Sears has national recognition

Two broadcasts over NBC and various teas and luncheons given by large book publishing companies highlighted Dr. Paul B. Sears' trip to New York City last month. Sears was given what was said to be "the most extensive recognition ever given an Oklahoma author." He is head of the University Department of Botany, is a nationally recognized scientist and is best known for his book *Deserts on the March*, which was one of the selections of the Book of the Month Club.

Dr. Sears first broadcast over NBC on March 7 and again on March 9. During the broadcast he was interviewed by Hendrik Van Loon, well-known geographer and author. He was an honored guest at a luncheon given in New York City

by Stanley Rinehart, Jr., president of the National Association of Book Publishers, and at teas given by University Books Inc., and Simon-Schuster, publishers. He spoke at the 125th annual celebration program of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences; at a meeting of Sigma Xi, national scientific research fraternity; he talked before students at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio; and he attended the North American Wild Life Conference in St. Louis, Mo.

One of the greatest literary distinctions ever received by a Sooner came recently to Dr. Sears when he was chosen as one of four writers in the United States to receive four \$2,500 awards made by the Book of the Month Club.

The four writers were selected because of having written four outstanding books, distinguished for content, imagination or style, but with sales not over 5,000 copies, and the awards were designed to stimulate further work by the recipients.

Dr. Sears was chosen because of his *Deserts on the March*, which was published by the University Press in 1935 and was a Book of the Month club selection. The book attracted wide attention among persons interested in soil conservation, and also was praised by critics because of the excellent literary style he used.

The other three writers given the awards are Robinson Jeffers, for *Solstice and Other Poems*, Katherine Anne Porter, for *Flowering Judas*, and James T. Farrell for *Studs Lonigan*.

The selections were made by a jury of nationally known writers and critics. Dr. Sears is the only one of the four not writing in the field of belles lettres, but he won mention for the distinguished quality of his prose in addition to recognition of the importance of his subject matter.

A cross-section of the opinion of critics tells the story of *Deserts on the March*: "Mr. Sears has made a fascinating book, a book written out of wide and accurate knowledge and in the philosophic spirit . . . deserves to be classed as literature as well as science. (*New York Times*.)

"It reads as easily and excitingly as a well-wrought novel." (*Los Angeles Times*.)

"Gracefully written, witty and epigrammatic, but with all the suspense and climactic punch of a good play." (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*.)

"A clear American voice writing not to children but to adult American minds." (Donald Culross Peattie.)

"The one book I wish I had read 30 years ago . . . a rare find." (Hendrik Willem van Loon.)

George Milburn, '31journ, short story writer and author of the recently-published *Catalogue*, was ranked high among the nominees for the four awards, being rated eighth of all those considered.