

Tribute to Guy Y.



The artist pictures Guy Y. Williams in the days of his gymnastic glory at the University

UNIVERSITY students and alumni who have known forceful, energetic Guy Y. Williams over a span of thirty years gathered in December to pay tribute to his three decades of service in the University's chemistry department.

Dr. Williams graduated from the University in 1906 and, as he explains it, "became something of the nature of a general handy man in the Department of Chemistry." Since that time, he has taken an active part in developing the department into one of the major divisions of the University. In 1923, he became head of the department and director of the School of Chemical Engineering.

The complimentary dinner honoring Dr. Williams was held at the Skirvin hotel, Oklahoma City, under sponsorship of the student chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and Alpha Chi Sigma, professional chemical fraternity, representing students, friends and alumni of the department. More than one hundred persons attended.

William H. Barnes, chemical engineering senior, was the toastmaster, and Robert Henry, Muskogee, chemical engineering graduate of 1921, spoke for the alumni. Mr. Henry showed some early day pictures of Dr. and Mrs. Williams and recalled early history of the Chemistry department.

Highlight of the program was an illustrated talk by Dr. Ray M. Balyeat, '12as, '16as, '18med, Oklahoma City hay fever expert and a long-time friend of Dr. Williams. Dr. Balyeat retold humorously some of the stories about the veteran professor's skill as a gymnast and acrobat, which has become something of a tradition on the campus.

To lend substance to this tradition, Dr. Balyeat by laborious research and some trick photography, presented Dr. Williams on a screen as "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze."

Dr. Balyeat, who took chemistry from Dr. Williams when he first came to the University in 1909, declared that "Personally, I feel that he probably is the out-

standing teacher in the University of Oklahoma."

Dr. Edwin DeBarr, of Norman, head of the Department of Chemistry from the time of its organization until 1923, recounted the important and diversified services rendered by Dr. Williams during the time of their association in developing the department.

As spokesman for the groups sponsoring the dinner, Dr. DeBarr presented to Dr. Williams a handsome hand-tooled leather saddle and accoutrements. A white gold wrist watch was presented to Mrs. Williams.

Dr. Williams responded in true "Dr. Williams style."

Sharing the speakers' table with the honorees were President W. B. Bizzell, Dr. J. H. Felgar, dean of the College of Engineering, and Mrs. Felgar, and Earl S. Porter, '11as, '12ma, of Tulsa, vice-

president and general manager of the Amerada Petroleum company. Alumni from over the state and from adjoining states were presented and a number of former students, unable to attend in person, sent their compliments to Dr. Williams by telegram.

Dr. Williams has an M.S. degree from Chicago university and Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois in addition to the B.S. and M.A. degrees from the University of Oklahoma.

Noted for his energy, he has had interests outside his professional field. He has been active in Sooner athletic affairs, being chairman of the Eligibility Committee from 1918 to 1928. He was president of the athletic council from 1933 to 1935 and for a year was active head of the athletic department during a vacancy in the position of athletic director.

The spontaneous expression of appreciation from students and alumni of the department was a warm tribute to the character and influence of Dr. Williams. His salty remarks and forceful character have won him the reputation of being a "tough guy," but his sincere interest and frank counsel gained for him the respect and admiration of his students.

These students, now scattered far and wide, remember him as "Guy Y," one of the best teachers they ever had.



Ski jumping

William Davis, of Bartlesville, a junior in the School of Petroleum Engineering, represented the University in an odd sport over the holidays, finishing third in an All-College Ski jumping event at Lake Placid, N.Y., January 2.

Jumping off a substitute 30-meter jump which was packed with snow hauled by trucks from the shady ravines of the Adirondack mountains, owing to lack of snow, Davis got off jumps of 80 and 97 feet for 186.7 points.

Before coming to Norman, Davis attended Northwood school at Lake Placid.



Dr. Guy Y. Williams