

Books you will want for
your Oklahoma Collec-
tion—

101 Ranch

by Ellsworth Collings
and Alma England

Mountain Men

by Stanley Vestal

Red Cloud's Folk:

A History of the Oglala Sioux
by George E. Hyde

Indians and Pioneers

by Grant Foreman

Cherokee Messenger

by Althea Bass

Every Oklahoma item
can be secured from

The University Book Exchange

in the Union Building
NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

Belles lettres and bell ringers

State Control of Local Finance in Oklahoma, by Robert K. Carr. University of Oklahoma Press, 1937. \$3.00.

DR. ROBERT K. CARR, young and energetic assistant professor of government in the University, has done a tremendously worth while job for the State of Oklahoma by preparing this analysis of certain governmental problems.

The facts and interpretations presented in this volume should prove of the greatest value in future steps to improve the complex and often haphazard relationship between the State Government and the various local government units in Oklahoma.

Dr. Carr discusses the work of such state agencies of control as the Oklahoma Tax Commission, the State Board of Equalization, the Court of Tax Review, the Bond Commissioner, the State Examiner and Inspector, and the County Equalization-Excise Boards.

He shows how poorly co-ordinated the work of these agencies often is, and he points out numerous instances in which existing laws based on sound theories are openly flouted as a matter of custom.

Oklahoma has several methods by which it exercises state control over local finance, but the Oklahoma system is of a hit-and-miss nature, Dr. Carr says.

"It has grown up gradually, each successive legislature adding to it, without any attempt to build a truly comprehensive and scientific system. The result is that there is no element of consistency about it. Particularly, there has been a failure to consider scientifically such all-important phases of the problem as proper sources of revenue, the local units to be aided, their needs and their ability to help themselves, and finally, the specific local functions which the state should aid. Education and highways are both local functions in which the state does well to interest itself, but there has been no attempt to consider all local functions, weigh the value of each, and come to any logical conclusion as to which should receive state support."

Dr. Carr criticizes the present bases of distribution of state aid for various purposes as "extremely unsound."

But it is practically impossible to attempt a summary of a book which includes so much factual material. Everyone with a serious interest in the future of governmental affairs in Oklahoma can profit by careful study of this volume.

In 1935, while still in manuscript, *State Control of Local Finance in Oklahoma*

was awarded the Toppan Prize by Harvard University, a prize granted only to political studies "of exceptional merit."

—R. C.

▲
The 101 Ranch, by Ellsworth Collings. University of Oklahoma Press, 1937. \$3.00.

The story of 101 Ranch—a vivid story that could happen only in Oklahoma and only in one certain period of its history—has been told well by Dr. Ellsworth Collings, dean of the College of Education at the University, in this new book from the University of Oklahoma Press.

For more than twenty years the 101 Ranch Wild West Show represented to the average American the color and romance of the swiftly vanishing frontier. The ranch which produced it was equally a national institution, whose picturesque setting, famous rodeos, and generous hospitality attracted thousands of visitors from all parts of the United States and Europe.

The 101 ranch was founded nearly half a century ago by Colonel George W. Miller, one-time Kentucky planter. Under the guidance of his sons, the ranch became one of the largest diversified agricultural experiments in the world.

Collaborating with Mrs. Alma Miller England, daughter of the founder of the 101 Ranch, Dr. Collings has produced an accurate and interesting book that tells an important chapter in the history of Oklahoma and the Southwest.

The book seems certain to have a large sale. The University Press already has received some unusually big orders from retail stores.

▲ Former student honored

Edward F. Rines, '24ex, has been presented the 1937 fellowship award of the Friends of American Writers, a large Chicago literary organization. The award was presented at a dinner held at the Congress hotel in Chicago.

Mr. Rines, who is author of *Old Historic Churches of America*, is now living in Chicago but is a native of Oklahoma. He was born in Durant and went through high school there.

▲ Feature on Benton published

A page feature story about Joseph Benton, '20, Oklahoma's famed singer, was published recently in the *Oklahoma News*, Oklahoma City. Entitled "How It Feels To Be Famous," the article was written by Ernie Hill, '33, former editor of *The Sooner Magazine*.