

Thirty Years of Service

By Ivy May Coffey, '39

BUILDINGS and equipment make up a university plant, but it is the faculty members that give the institution the flavor and individuality to be remembered through the years by the alumni.

Occasionally an alumnus revisiting the campus asks about a well-remembered building of his student days. But nearly always the visitors ask about certain loved and respected faculty members. The lives of these men and women who have had long periods of service have been so closely tied to the history of the University itself that alumni inevitably think of them together.

A survey by *Sooner Magazine* reveals that eighteen persons on the University staff have been serving the institution for thirty years or more. They have played an important part in the development of Oklahoma's state university which in 1942 will celebrate its first semi-centennial.

J. F. Paxton, professor of Greek, now retired, is the oldest member of the faculty in continuous service, having been on the campus for forty years except for periods of leave. In 1900 he was absent from the University for a year, studying in Rome.

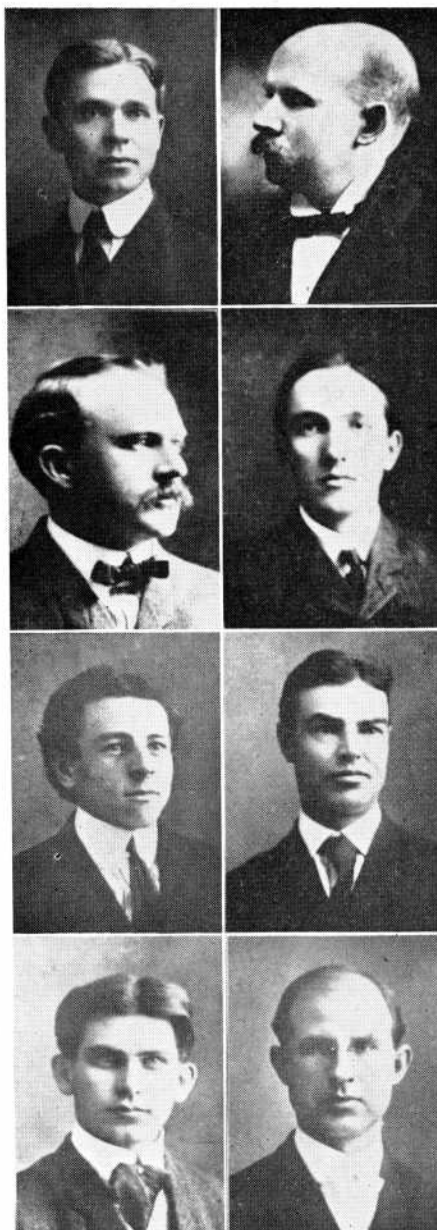
Mr. Paxton is a graduate of Harvard University and was president of the first Harvard Club in Oklahoma. As a member of the O. U. faculty he taught Latin, Greek and archaeology, and served as editor of the *Oklahoma Anthology of Poetry*.

He recalls that when he first came to Norman there were only ten faculty members, including the janitor and the man who plowed the field around the one building on the campus. Now there are almost four hundred faculty members.

Mrs. Paxton, the former Fantine Samuels, was the first woman to receive a degree from the University—in 1901.

Dr. Roy Gittinger, dean of administration and professor of English history, arrived on the campus in 1901, having come from Iowa to grow up with the new country. The University then consisted of a single building surrounded by scrubby trees, with the general effect of some kind of outpost in a pioneer country. He has watched the University grow from that modest start to the present plant that includes 23 major buildings on a 217-acre campus.

When he entered the University there were more students in the preparatory school than in the college courses, and bitter fights were staged between the two groups.



The student yearbook of thirty years ago—then called the Mistletoe—yielded these pictures of men who are still serving on the faculty. Top row, left to right: S. W. Reaves and Jerome Dowd; second row, J. F. Paxton and Roy Gittinger; third row, Guy Y. Williams and J. W. Sturgis; bottom row, S. R. Hadsell and J. H. Felgar. (Mr. Paxton died June 12 after this page already was in type.—Ed.)

Receiving a degree in 1902, in a graduating class of five seniors, Mr. Gittinger became instructor in history and civics in the preparatory school and was principal of the school until 1908. He became dean of undergraduates in 1915, and for a time was both dean of men and dean

of women. In 1918 he was relieved by a woman as dean of women. He served on the discipline committee for ten years, but frankly admits he disliked it.

Dr. Gittinger's connection with the University has been unbroken since 1901, although he was away to take graduate work in the University of Chicago during the first six summers after his graduation, and had a leave of absence for one year to complete work for a doctor's degree in California.

His main interest is the University and University history. In his office he has many valuable documents, including the history of the establishment of the University, many early catalogs, and files of the *Umpire*, predecessor of the *Oklahoma Daily*.

Dr. Gittinger served as president of the Alumni Association in 1903-04.

Back at the turn of the century an expedition being organized by Dr. Charles N. Gould for the Oklahoma Geological Survey needed a cook. S. R. Hadsell, a young student in Kansas who was in search of adventure, took the job.

In the summer of 1900 Hadsell came to Norman with Dr. Gould. After the expedition's work was finished, he settled in Norman and entered the University, obtaining part-time employment in the office of President David Ross Boyd.

After graduating in 1904, Mr. Hadsell taught English in the preparatory school and was registrar of the University until 1907. He also was editor of *The Umpire* for a time. Student life at that time, he recalls, was characterized by tugs-of-war and class fights.

The one building on the campus burned and when the legislature appropriated \$90,000 for a new building, a quartet made up of Hadsell, G. A. Bucklin, '03, W. L. Kendall, '03, first Rhodes scholar of the University, and C. C. Roberts, '01, made history by singing an original song about "Ninety Thousand Dollars on the Campus."

Mr. Hadsell received a master's degree from Harvard in 1927 and a Ph. D., degree from the University of Chicago. He is professor of English and besides serving as president of the Alumni Association in 1908-09, he is known to *Sooner Magazine* readers as editor of the Faculty Page.

C. W. English has been on the O. U. campus since 1905, having been connected with the utilities department before it was large enough to be considered a department. He has had an active part in

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1933

R. Milton Elliott, Oklahoma City; Wilda Griffin, Norman; Neil Keller, Norman; W. Bryan Scott, Oklahoma City.

1934

Herman R. Bender, Norman; J. B. Bender, Lenexa, Kansas; Mrs. John C. Bryce, El Reno; Luman T. Cockerill, Ithaca, New York; Geraldine Speyers Cockerill, Ithaca, New York; Roy H. Davis, Grandfield; William M. Dodson, Oklahoma City; Ralph C. Douglass, Okmulgee; Mary Tappan Garrison, Corpus Christi, Texas; Joe Fred Gibson, Oklahoma City; Marion Hauck Gibson, Oklahoma City; Roy E. Grantham, Ponca City; Irene Huey, Norman; Ralph V. James, El Reno; Dorothy Detrick Kendall, Norman; Eugene Kendall, Norman; Velma V. Landram, Madill; William Harold Landrum, Madill; Jack I. Laudermilk, Seminole; Mary Gittings Laudermilk, Seminole; George H. McElroy, Oklahoma City; Eda C. Nelson, Norman; Fred P. Schonwald, Oklahoma City; Georgia Mac Beasley Nicklas, Norman.

1935

Jack Campbell, Drumright; Ida C. Sloan, Norman; J. Wenonah Paul, Pauls Valley.

1936

E. E. Hatfield, Norman; George A. Hoke, Norman; Eugene R. Stewart, Norman.

1937

Dana G. Hefley, Tulsa; Lowell C. Brown, Norman; Boyd Gunning, Norman; H. H. Leake, Norman; Alfred Naifeh, Norman; Morris B. Tucker, Miami.

1938

Mabel E. Boggess, Norman; Ira Eppler, Norman; Catherine Smith, Drumright.

1939

James O. Asher, Oklahoma City; Catherine Barefoot, Oklahoma City; Earl Edsel Bradley, Goodwell; John W. Davis, Watonga; G. W. Guisinger, Washita; J. Ted Hefley, Norman; James Wood Henderson, Norman; V. E. Lewis, Oklahoma City; W. J. Porter, Lawton; Bryan L. Rakestraw, Oklahoma City; Billye Beth Robinson, Gould; Edward E. Sands, Jr., Houston, Texas; Jack Scott, Konawa.

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the improvement of the appearance of the University campus.

Ben G. Owen is one of the few men in the United States who have spent more than twenty-five years of athletic service in a single college. He ranks with Yost of Michigan and Dan McGugin of Vanderbilt in length of service.

After studying under Yost at Michigan, Owen coached winning teams at Bethany College and at Washburn in Kansas. He came to O. U. in 1905, at a time when there were fewer male students enrolled in both the preparatory school and the University than now check out football suits each season.

Within Owen's first month, the Sooner football team defeated a strong Haskell outfit 18 to 12, and the next week scored Oklahoma's first victory over the Texas Longhorns. School spirit soared and Bennie Owen was launched on a coaching career that lasted twenty-two years and carried Oklahoma to a prominent position in college athletics.

Owen's teams won 128 games, lost 52 and tied 13, for an average of .697—which means practically seven victories out of every ten games. He gained national recognition as one of the first coaches to

put extra emphasis on the forward pass as a major weapon in football offense.

Resigning as coach in 1926, Mr. Owen became professor of physical education for men and is now also the director of intramural sports. Owen Field, where the Memorial Stadium was erected, is a lasting memorial to his years of service as coach.

S. W. Reaves, now dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, came to the University in 1905 as professor of mathematics (the only one at that time) and head of the mathematics department. He taught in both the preparatory school and the University, which at that time had a combined enrollment of about five hundred.

Dr. Reaves had an active part in the development of the College of Engineering in its early days, and for a time taught courses in theory of mechanics, surveying and descriptive geometry.

He has served on the Athletic Council and was representative of the council fifteen years ago when the old Missouri Valley Conference was dissolved and the Big Six conference was organized. At various times he has served on important faculty committees such as those on eligibility, student conduct, and student loans.

Dr. J. W. Sturgis, professor of classical languages, has been on the O. U. campus since 1906. When he was a boy 14 years old he discovered the works of Vergil and decided he wanted to teach in that field, and his ambition has been fulfilled in his long years of service for the University.

He believes that the works of Vergil are "the most helpful I have ever found, outside of Christianity, in working out a practical philosophy of life."

Dr. and Mrs. Sturgis have taken a deep interest in charity and relief work, and for years have devoted much of their time and income to assist underprivileged families in Norman.

Gus Huey came to the campus of the University in 1906 and has been in continuous service on the staff since then. He has worked in many different departments, and is now employed in the power plant.

Connected with the faculty since his graduation from O. U. in 1906, Dr. Guy Y. Williams is now head of the department of chemistry and professor of chemistry. His Ph. D. degree was received from the University of Illinois.

He has been particularly interested in military training and Sooner athletics and alumni affairs, aside from his strictly departmental affairs. He organized military training in the University in 1917. President of the Athletic Council from 1933 to 1935, he was acting head of the athletic department during a period when there was a vacancy in the position of athletic director.

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Dr. Williams has served on the executive board of the Alumni Association and was one of the small group of alumni most active in reorganizing the association and establishing the Life Member plan in 1928.

His skill as a gymnast and acrobat in his younger years are a campus tradition, and his salty personality has made him a favorite of many students.

First head of the College of Engineering, Dr. J. H. Felgar guided this important division of the University through twenty-eight years of remarkable growth and development. In the summer of 1937 he resigned as dean of the college because of poor health, and was made dean emeritus of the college and professor of engineering.

Engineering work began at O. U. in 1904 with the establishment of a School of Applied Science. The next year Mr. Felgar joined the faculty as instructor in mechanical engineering, and in 1907 he became head of the school.

When the College of Engineering was organized in 1908, with branches in civil, mining, mechanical and electrical engineering, he was made the dean, and served continuously until 1937. Enrollment increased steadily and the college—particularly the school of petroleum engineering—earned a world-wide reputation that brought students to Norman from South America and other far distant parts of the world.

T. H. Brewer came to the University as professor of English in 1908, when there were six hundred students and three buildings. Previously he had taught at Wofford College in South Carolina and worked on various southern newspapers, including the *Nashville Banner*, *Nashville News* and *Louisville Times*.

Mr. Brewer became head of the English department of the University and served until a year ago when he resigned as head of the department, but remained as professor of English.

Many alumni remember him as the popular toastmaster of the Sigma Delta Chi gridiron dinners that were a highlight of student life in the '20s. Mr. Brewer regrets that the University is now too large for close contact between students and professors. In the early days, picnics and other forms of entertainment were enjoyed on an all-school basis.

T. B. Ferguson, a veteran in the utilities department, also joined the University staff in 1908. He is now foreman of the University warehouse.

In 1909, a young man named Jesse L. Rader took charge of the University's very modest collection of books, housed in a one-room "library." Today, as University librarian, he presides over a four-story collegiate Gothic building and a collection of 200,000 books.

The beautiful library facing the South Oval, with its offices, reading rooms, sem-

inar rooms, quarters for the School of Library Science, a treasure room for first editions and rare volumes, and a room devoted to the Frank Phillips collection of southwestern materials—ranks as one of the outstanding libraries in the entire Southwest and represents the culmination of a life-long dream held by Mr. Rader.

As a director of the School of Library Science, he has placed many graduates in important library positions over the nation.

His hobby, naturally, is book collecting and he is frequently called upon to speak to clubs and other groups interested in books.

Dr. Louis A. Turley, professor of pathology in the University School of Medicine, came to the University in 1908 after teaching at Southwestern State Teachers College. He organized bacteriological laboratories for the state board of health, and was state bacteriologist for three years.

He was instrumental in the program of improvements in the School of Medicine that brought the school its first Class A rating, and he helped secure appropriations for and superintend construction of the medical school plant in Oklahoma City.

At various times he has been pathologist, professor of histology and pathology, and assistant dean.

When Jerome Dowd came to the University in 1907 he literally started things.

He taught the first course in journalism, many years before the School of Journalism was founded. He taught the first anthropology course. He was the first to offer instruction in social work, the forerunner of the School of Social Work. Before the College of Business Administration was ever considered or dreamed of, Mr. Dowd taught courses in commerce and industry, which were the basic courses in business administration.

Mr. Dowd also taught sociology, studied Negro problems, and wrote on sociological topics. His books on Negro problems have won wide comment.

Impatient with those who say that modern young people are no good, Mr. Dowd declares that "the students in the University now are of a much higher type than they were in the early days." He remembers when Norman had eleven saloons.

Dr. Lucile Dora has been teaching French in the University since 1908, her continuous service being interrupted only by occasional trips to France where she studied the language. She received her doctor's degree from the University of Montpellier.

Dr. Dora sponsors presentation of a French play by students each year and is an active leader in the French Club.

Julien Charles Monnet organized the department of law of the University in 1909 and has been dean of the school ever since. He taught a year after his graduation in

George Washington University and then came to the University.

In 1909 there were only four buildings on the campus: the Administration Building, Old Science Hall, the Education Building and a small engineering shop. The first law classes were held in Old Science Hall in half of the space given to the Zoological Museum. Dean Monnet recalls that shelves and cases were shoved back to make room for classes. Later, classes were held in the Education Building and in 1913, Monnet Hall was constructed and named in honor of the dean.

There were six students in the first graduating law class. In 1938 there were eighty-four graduates.

Six honorary degrees were given in 1910 to law seniors of Epworth University, but these were not regular bachelor of law degrees.

For one year, in 1911, Dean Monnet was acting president of the University, following the resignation of President Evans and before the appointment of President Brooks.

Dean Monnet has more years of service as dean of the School of Law than any other dean of law in the nation.

Dr. John Cheadle, professor of law, was the other faculty member when the School of Law was first a department in 1909. He was assistant professor of law until 1911 when he became professor of law. He was acting professor of law at Leland Stanford University during 1914-1915.

He majored in modern languages at the University of Kansas and had some plans for teaching but dropped his plans and took a degree in law from the University of Kansas. Later he received degrees from the University of Chicago and from Harvard. He had a private practice in Alva until 1909 when he came to the University.

When he attended the meeting of the American Bar Association in London in 1924, he had one of his most interesting experiences. He attended a reception given by the King and Queen of England at the royal residence.

He has written many articles for legal publications and has written three editions of a case book in Indian land law. Dr. Cheadle was chairman of the civic commission of Norman and prepared the petition for elections by which the present form of city government was voted for Norman.

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The Sports Review

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with the Southwest conference individual scoring championship.

Adams beat the Sooners single-handed the first night, looping in nine field goals. However next evening Coach Bruce Drake of Oklahoma put Snodgrass, a squad man who had played very little, on Adams and the blond bulldog of the Sooners held the Razorback to a lone field goal.

Snodgrass stopped another great scorer

January 2 at Dallas, Texas, in J. D. "Sniper" Norton, Southern Methodist's great senior shot-maker. In the first game Norton ran wild against Oklahoma, scoring 19 points and leading the Mustangs to a 49-44 triumph.

Next night Drake beckoned Snodgrass into action and Norton scarcely got even a whiff of the goal as Snodgrass held him to one basket and Oklahoma breezed home, 49 to 31.

After that performance Snodgrass was a regular. He limited George Golay of Kansas to one goal and dangerous-shooting Ervin Reid of Kansas State to two goals. If an enemy sharpshooter threatened, Coach Drake sicced Snodgrass on him and quit worrying about it.

Perhaps Snodgrass's finest sentry duty occurred in the Missouri game at Norman. During the first half he held John Lobsinger, outstanding Tiger player, to one lonesome free throw. However Hal Halstead, the other Tiger guard, was hot, hitting five zooming long goals. Missouri led at the intermission, 24 to 17.

However, in the second half Coach Drake switched Snodgrass off Lobsinger on to Halstead and with Snodgrass holding Halstead scoreless, the Sooners rallied fiercely to win, 43 to 40.

Hurt in the Oklahoma Aggie game at Stillwater, Snodgrass was out of the Iowa State game at Norman and also rode the bench through most of the Kansas defeat at Lawrence. However, with Howard Engleman of Kansas scoring 27 points, Drake rushed the limping Snodgrass into action and for eight minutes of the second half Snodgrass picketed Engleman so grimly that he held him to one field goal and probably saved Jimmy McNatt's Big Six scoring record. But his injured ankle pained him so badly that Drake withdrew him.

In Oklahoma's 50 to 39 trouncing of Utah State, Rocky Mountain conference runners-up at San Francisco, Snodgrass was assigned to speedy little Delmar "Bus" Bingham, champion scorer of the Rocky Mountain conference, and held Bingham to one field goal.

In Oklahoma's 37 to 55 defeat by Oregon's rangy national collegiate champions in the finals, Snodgrass held Laddie Gale, Oregon's 6-foot 5-inch forward and Pacific Coast conference scoring champion, to two field goals.

Why is Snodgrass such a good guard? Coach Drake can give you the answer.

"He has good footwork," the youthful Sooner coach explains. "He shifts about the floor like a boxer with the gloves on, is particularly good at covering his man laterally and is hard to feint out of position. I never saw a player who can cover an opponent so closely without fouling him."

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Hatcher goes to Stroud

O. E. Hatcher, '27ma, superintendent of schools at Duke, has been elected superintendent of schools at Stroud.

Mr. Hatcher is a former president of Northwestern State College, Alva.

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