

Sooners at Home and Abroad

THE four-year-old son of Mrs. Winifred Brown Mummert, '21ex, now of Hollywood, California, is making his moving picture debut this year in a series of four pictures based on the comic strip "Blondie." Two of the series, "Blondie" and "Blondie Steps Out," already have been produced.

Danny, who has scored the remarkable level of 145 in an intelligence test (five points higher than that considered as indicating genius), plays the part of Alvin who is well known to readers of the comic strip as the playmate of Baby Dumpling.

Mrs. Mummert attended the University as Winifred Brown. She has lived in Oklahoma City and Dallas, Texas, before moving to Hollywood.

Mrs. Mummert began noticing her son's remarkable capacity for remembering facts when he was only eighteen months old. When he was only twenty-two months old, he appeared on the stage at the Dallas Exposition and gave the names of the capitols of the various states of the Union and the names of Texas state officials in answer to questions.

His mother saw motion picture possibilities in him and took him to Hollywood where he was enrolled for a short time in a dramatic school.

His intelligence quotient was determined in a test at the University of Southern California where scientists were deeply impressed with the boy's wide range of interests. In addition to displaying his large fund of knowledge, he sings cowboy songs, whistles, likes sports and dramatics, and appears to be a perfectly normal boy in his everyday contacts.

In addition to his stage and moving picture experience, he has performed on a radio program over NBC. He was in the "What's the Big Idea" program over NBC January 3, and answered questions fired at him.

Mrs. Mummert and her son visited Oklahoma City recently and Danny made a personal appearance at the State Theater there in connection with showing of the picture "Blondie."

Moving picture work has its problems, however, Mrs. Mummert said. It was found necessary to put some red dye on Danny's naturally blond hair in order to make it register properly on photographic film. The slightly unnatural shade of red proved to be more permanent than expected, so Danny will be red-haired for some time to come.

He had only a small part in his first picture but was so successful that the next picture was written to give him a more prominent part.



Danny Mummert, right, is the movie actor son of Mrs. Winifred Brown Mummert, '21ex, now of Hollywood. Danny, along with his playmate and the dog shown in the picture above, have appeared in a series of movies based on the comic strip "Blondie."

Suspension affects O. U. alumni

Several University alumni were faced with the problem of securing new employment last month as a result of suspension of the *Oklahoma News* at Oklahoma City.

Ernie Hill, '33, who was covering the State Capitol for the *News*, was immediately given a position on the staff of the Oklahoma City Bureau of the United Press. Mr. Hill is a former editor of *Sooner Magazine*.

Emory Grinnell, '38journ, went to the *Memphis (Tennessee) Commercial Appeal*, and Glen Bayless, '38journ, became a reporter on the United Press staff at Oklahoma City. Millard Purdy, '38journ, joined the staff of the *Daily Herald*, new tabloid paper in Oklahoma City. Ben Kaplan, City Hall and school board reporter for the *News*, went to the staff of the *Blue Valley Farmer* at Oklahoma City. Mahlon D. Hickman, Court House reporter, took a position as publicity director of the Oklahoma State Fair Association.

Death takes Staley

Heart disease caused the death February 23 of Judge Floyd E. Staley, '21law, district judge at Tulsa since January, 1938.

He was appointed to the district bench by E. W. Marland, former governor, and was elected for a second term at the last general election.

Judge Staley had walked with crutches since he was 2 years old, when infantile paralysis crippled both of his legs. After

graduating from the University Law School he practiced at Checotah, Pawhuska, and later in Tulsa. He was 44 years old at the time of his death.

Surviving him are his mother and father, with whom he lived and three sisters. He was not married.

New law firm

Lee B. Thompson, '27law, and V. E. McInnis, have announced the formation of a new law firm at Oklahoma City under the firm name McInnis and Thompson, with offices in the Ramsey Tower. Sullivan G. Ashby, '36law, is associate of the firm.

Heads commission

William L. Fogg, '30, '32law, of El Reno, has been appointed chairman of the new five-member State Industrial Commission.

George E. Fisher, '30law, Oklahoma City, has been named a member of the commission.

Now sole owner

W. J. Bacon, '24ex, editor and publisher of the *Sayre Daily Headlight-Journal* and the *Sayre Headlight*, recently became sole owner of the two papers. Part interest in the papers was formerly held by W. K. Leatherock, publisher of the *Perry Daily Journal*.

The Sayre Publishing Company, a corporation, will be dissolved, Mr. Bacon announced, and the firm will be operated

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speaking student and has been making good down through the years since that long "trek" to the North.

To the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville for a full Sunday and Sunday evening jammed with a heavy schedule. Here, of course, are the Sooners, ANNA JIM HOLMAN, '35ma, MRS. ALTA MAXWELL HUFF, '35, and LILLIAN E. MASSIE, '22.

A dash across to McAlester, pausing briefly in Fort Smith, Arkansas, to say hello to three of the Sooner group. We rapidly executed plans in a brief McAlester "work period" with our old friend BILL HORTON, '28law, to send M. L. WARDELL, '19, to McAlester for a speaking engagement and a possible alumni dinner... A breeze down through the southeastern section of the state to the home town of "PREXY" CHARLES MEMMINGER, '14, '33law, (time limited, however, to the mere filling of the gas tank) and a rapid drive on to Dallas, Texas.

A pleasant visit with Advisory Council member for the City of Dallas, ELIZABETH ANN McMURRAY ELLEGOOD, '35, and her husband, DICK ELLEGOOD, '36law. What a swell book shop they have, immediately across from the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas. Then a dinner engagement with DR. PRICE WALKER, '20, '22med, and later in the evening to head north and to enjoy the Santa Fe company of HAL WHITTEN, '25law, of Oklahoma City, who had been in Dallas a couple of days on legal work. At the Santa Fe station in Oklahoma City next morning there's a crowd of

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loyal Sooners including MRS. MYRTLE DRAKE, '30h.ec, (wife of the kid basketball coach BRUCE DRAKE, '29), Mr. and Mrs. JEFF SNODGRASS, (Dad and Mother of that "basketball Marvin" member of O. U. Scats), and Mrs. JIM McNATT, (Mother of Jimmie McNatt, that sensational "All-American boy" O. U. basketball Boy Scat), and I. Frank Haxel, '32ex, on duty at his daily task in the Santa Fe station—but just at that moment the "daily task" was receiving very little attention as he was giving me all the *fine* points on his new son some three weeks of age. The Sooner crowd was there to see the Boy Scats (O. U. basketball squad) pull in after the victorious battle to tie Missouri for the Big Six basketball championship.

A dash to Norman to meet a special committee working in the interests of the University in a joint assembly of various boards. Even the old time past presidents of the Executive Board of the Alumni Association were there in person, including NEIL JOHNSON, '15, '17law, alumni president in 1920; R. W. HUTTO, '10, president in 1922; FRED TARMAN, '10, alumni president in 1916; DAVE McKOWN, '21geol, alumni president in 1923; LOWREY HARRELL, '16law, alumni president in 1938; while the dean of alumni presidents in this assembly was CLYDE BOGLE, '02, the alumni president in 1902.

The next day, more of the Sooners stacking into Norman for additional committee work in the interests of their University, with HIRAM IMPSON, '15, of McAlester back for his first fling on University problems in these many days. Then too, ROY GRANTHAM, '34, '34law, of Ponca City; JOE FRED GIBSON, '36law, Oklahoma City; PAUL PEARSON, '23ex, Altus; NORMAN BRILLHART, '17geol, Madill; HICKS EPTON, '32law, Wewoka; TOM CAREY, '08, Oklahoma City; RAYMOND TOLBERT, '12, '13law, Oklahoma City; DICK CLOYD, '19, '28law, Norman; and dozens of others in this meeting of the "Squadron," solving the problems of State—and their University.

Thus it goes in the run of a month. Activities stacked on activities, but what an interesting program in meeting the challenges as we jog along "Riding the Sooner Range"!

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as the Headlight-Journal Company. He also operates an office supply store and a job printing plant.

Before going to Sayre in 1928, Mr. Bacon worked on the *Fletcher Herald*, the *Altus Times-Democrat*, the *Perry Daily Journal* and the *Woodward Daily Press*. He established the *Daily Headlight-Journal* in Sayre in 1934.

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Sigma Nu alumni meet

Sigma Nu fraternity alumni gleefully celebrated the end of a 15-year indebtedness on the Norman chapter house when they met in February at a dinner meeting in the Union Building and formally burned their mortgage.

Toastmaster at the dinner was Lewis R. Morris, '15, '17law, county attorney of Oklahoma County. Errett R. Newby, '07, '08, Oklahoma City, was guest of honor and principal speaker. Mr. Newby is a grand regent of the fraternity and a charter member of the Norman chapter.

Paul Darrough, '13, '15law, Oklahoma City, personally supervised the mortgage burning.

Guests at the dinner were C. C. Chastain, Harry M. Scott and Elmer Fraker, Chickasha; Buford Cardin, Robert H. Wood, Phillip H. Green and Marvin F. Owens, Tulsa; Dean C. H. McElroy, Stillwater; George E. Norvell, Seminole; J. T. Rader, J. J. Hill, Dr. Harold R. Granelle and Melville R. Garnett, Norman; Harold Skinner and Paul Ballinger, Holdenville; Tom Biggers, Wewoka; John R. Wallace, Miami; Charles Teel, Guthrie; Judd Allison, Afton; Charles Reed, Edmond.

Alumni present from Oklahoma City were Errett R. Newby, Herbert Davis Canfield, Lynn Adams, Luther Bohanon, George McElroy, Oles Clouse, Dr. John F. Burton, T. J. Woodmansee, J. Lester Sharp, J. J. Key, Dr. F. M. Sanger, James McClellan, Bus Bass, Dr. F. A. Sanger, C. Edgar Hannold, Lewis R. Morris.

Leonard Sibel, Gene Hemry, Lawrence R. Thompson, Loren Charles Sage, Frank Vogel, Tom F. Carey, Solon W. Smith, John J. King, C. D. Bennett, Sr., Otho E. Jones, Dr. Earl D. McBride, Evans Chambers, Paul Darrough, T. Ray Phillips, John Rinehart, Art Reed, Chester Reed, Dr. K. West, Phil Bird, Jim Pate and C. J. Wallet.

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Newspaper purchased

O. B. Campbell, '24, and L. W. Hightower have become owners of the *Vinita Daily Journal* and *Leader* at Vinita, Oklahoma. Lessees of the newspapers since last August, they become owners of the newspapers and the job printing plant by purchasing the entire capital stock held by I. H. Nakdimen, of Fort Smith,, Arkansas. Mr. Campbell has been associated with the newspapers as managing editor and lessee since 1935.

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National distinction

Eugene Kendall, '32, '34ma, of Norman, achieved a national distinction for the year 1938 as field man for the New York Life Insurance Company. Mr. Kendall ranked first in number of paid applications for the year 1938 among the entire field force of the company.

This firm has more than 9,000 representatives in the United States, and Mr. Kendall is a comparatively new man in the business. In 1936 and 1937, he ranked third among all the field men.

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Head mortgage company

Don R. Nicholson, '23ex, is president and F. M. Petree, '30law, is secretary and treasurer, of the new National Mortgage Company, a firm dealing in real estate mortgages and specializing in Federal Housing Administration insured loans. Offices of the firm are in the Key Building, Oklahoma City.