

# Sooners at Home and Abroad

**A**BOUT twenty Sooner alumni in Los Angeles gave a dinner in late summer honoring John A. Harts, founder of football at the University of Oklahoma, now living in Los Angeles, and C. Ross Hume, '98ba, '00ma, of Anadarko, historian of early-day football games at O. U.

Mr. Hume prepared a list of questions which Mr. Harts answered at the dinner in quiz-program style. Later a phonograph recording of the questions and answers was made in order to preserve the historical information.

In his introductory remarks, Mr. Hume declared that the account of the first football game played at the University should be recorded for the Semi-centennial celebration in 1942.

Preparations for the game included the selection of a yell, the first line of which remains today, and colors, the ones familiar to Sooners everywhere. Questions and answers pertaining to the "prehistoric" football game which took place in 1895 were as follows:

*Where were you born, and where did you attend school?*

I was born in Hartsburg, Illinois, a small village located on my grandfather's farm. I attended school first in the state of Illinois, and then moved when I was a boy of ten to the Jayhawker state—Kansas. I attended a country school near Wichita, high school in Valley Center, and college in Winfield, Kansas.

*How much football had you played before 1895?*

I first began playing football when I was in the eighth grade. We purchased a football, which was round, and proceeded to make our own rules, as we were unable to find any official rules at the time I commenced playing. I then played in high school and college, making in all about seven or eight years of football experience, when I came to Norman, Oklahoma, in 1895.

*How did you happen to enroll in the University of Oklahoma that fall?*

I had a friend by the name of N. T. Poole, first secretary of Dr. David Ross Boyd, who enrolled in the University of Oklahoma, and he wanted me to take charge of the athletics and organize a football team, which I did after some correspondence with Doctor Boyd.

I proceeded to organize football, but to my consternation I could find no one, with the exception of possibly one, who had ever seen a football, let alone a football game. That one was Jim Brown, of Edmond, Oklahoma.



*J. E. Peery, '30m.ed, is one of three alumni serving on the State Board of Regents for Higher Education. He is superintendent of schools at Minco.*

It is impossible for me to remember after all these many years the names and positions of all the players, however, you have the list of most of them. If my memory does not fail me, Bud Risinger was a barber of Norman, and Fred Perry was employed by the City Fire Department.

*Will you tell us about how many men trained for the team, if any of them had any previous football training, and about your problems in securing equipment?*

We had but one team in which I could put any dependence. Many problems confronted us, and the most important was lack of capital. We had only one football and when we put in a substitute, we had to wait until the substitute changed clothes with the regular player, because we only had 12 suits.

We laid out our own football ground, which to my knowledge was due north of the University on a buffalo grass field, with goals located north and south.

As our first game progressed with the high school team from Oklahoma City, who had been well trained for a couple of years, I saw to my consternation that the University boys were particularly anxious not to hurt any of the members of the high school team, who were as large or larger than the University players. As I had to continue changing the team for my substitutes, the team became less and less aggressive and the Oklahoma City

High School boys had very few obstacles in their way. The game finished 64-0 instead of 34-0 as has been reported.

Jim Brown, our fullback, was the only man who had ever seen a football game, and the only man who played through the entire game. We had about 21 men on the field. It has been reported on several occasions that I was injured soon after the game started, however, this is incorrect as I was injured one day prior to the game.

*How did you come to play this first game with Oklahoma City High School?*

It was obvious that we should play some football team, and Oklahoma City High had the only football team in either territory at that time.

I would say, in summing up the first football game ever played at the University of Oklahoma, in the fall of 1895, that it was without doubt the most discouraging effort of my life up to that time. There seemed to be little inspiration among the boys. In fact, the girls seemed to be more inspired than the male element. The things that I said to those boys that evening after the game are not for one of my age to repeat.

But since those days I have wandered far, and in all these years I have watched with much interest the progress and the wonderful teams that the University of Oklahoma has developed. I think many times of the distances they have traveled since those days back in 1895, and I assure you gentlemen, it has been a pleasure to meet and again to associate with you Sooners, the "old-timers" and others of recent years, and I shall cherish the memory of that year at the University of Oklahoma as long as life lasts.

## Grand Master

Genial president of the University Board of Regents, Joe Looney, '20ba, '22 law, has doubled up on the "prexy" titles with his selection as state president of the International Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Looney will take office in October at Guthrie. The title which he will bear will be that of grand master.

A great believer in activities, the We-woka attorney is now head of the two state organizations in which he is most active. He recalls that even back in his student days at the University, he preferred to spend his time taking part in oratory and debate rather than in studying a great deal.

However, Mr. Looney evidently did not neglect the academic part of his college life too much, as a Phi Beta Kappa key dangles from his watch chain.

His tenure on the Board of Regents is something to be proud of, because he has served the longest period of any member of the board, as well as the longest continuous term. He was appointed a board member in 1927 and has been president twice.

Other activities which now keep Mr. Looney busy include membership in the Masonic lodge, the board of stewards of the Methodist Church, and the American Legion.

### Conservation Director

Everett Lee DeGolyer, '11ba, Sooner geologist now living in Dallas, Texas, has been appointed by Secretary of the Interior Ickes to a staff of experts chosen to administer a co-ordinating program for the oil industry.

Mr. DeGolyer, well known consulting engineer and independent oil producer, will direct the conservation phase of the program. There are 11 men, including authorities on the petroleum industry, a lawyer, a journalist and an advertising man, on the staff selected by Mr. Ickes.

Mr. DeGolyer is the introducer of geophysics as a means of oil prospecting. He organized the Geophysical Research Corporation in 1920 and since 1935 has been director of the American Petroleum Institute and trustee in several oil corporations. He is widely known for his technical writings on numerous phases of the oil industry.

### Heads Dam Authority

James A. Rinehart, '23law, El Reno, floor leader of the State Senate, has been named general manager and general counsel of the Grand River Dam Authority by the board of directors of the authority. Confirmation by PWA officials at Washington was awaited in early September.

He succeeds T. P. Clonts as general manager and R. L. Davidson as general counsel.

Mr. Rinehart, recommended for the G.R.D.A. job by Governor Leon C. Phillips, '16law, was elected to the State Senate in 1934 from Canadian County and was re-elected in 1938.

### Victory Song

Beethoven probably never dreamed when he wrote his *Fifth Symphony* many years ago that an Oklahoma composer would take the exposition of his theme and supply words which liberty-loving people can sing in their "V for Victory" campaign against Hitler.

The composer is Samuel McReynolds, '25fa, Oklahoma City musician who came to the Sooner state in 1893. He has studied at the Verdi Institute in Genoa, Italy, and toured Europe as a mandolin soloist.

Mr. McReynolds' choralization, with lyrics, of the Beethoven "V" theme from the Fifth Symphony was presented August 19 at Oklahoma City by the Oklaho-



*Two Sooner alumni who are teaching future army aviators at Randolph Field, Texas, are shown above. Testing the two-way radio equipment in one of the flying classrooms is Lt. Lewis D. Rice, '40. Below, Lt. Edward F. Hubbard, '38, uses a model plane on the flying line as he explains aerial maneuvers.*

ma WPA Symphony Orchestra and a newly formed Victory Chorus of 150 voices.

He has sent the choralization to a publisher and has asked for a copyright. The song has the dot-dot-dot-dash victory theme widely publicized in Europe.

### Instructors at Randolph

An education at the University of Oklahoma, plus "pilot" degrees from the Air Corps training center, has brought Lt. Edward F. Hubbard, '38bs, Grandfield, and Lt. Lewis D. Rice, '40, of Frederick, teaching positions at Randolph Field, the "West Point of the Air." Caps and gowns have given way to flight caps and ear phones, and their lectures are delivered, not in classrooms, but in 450-horsepower training planes high in the Texas skies.

And many of their students, in the new classes of 400 flying cadets which arrive

at Randolph every five weeks, are former students or graduates of O. U.

Lieutenant Hubbard received his B. S. from the University in 1938. At the University he played football and was a member of Scabbard and Blade and Kappa Alpha. After completing his course in the training center he reported as flying instructor at Randolph Field in August, 1939, and is now assistant flight commander.

Lieutenant Rice attended the University from 1937 to 1940, where he participated in wrestling and tennis and was a member of the dramatic club and debating team. He received his wings and commission at Brooks Field, and reported for duty as flying instructor at Randolph Field in January of this year.

### Roy Johnson Dies

Roy S. Johnson, '10, president of the Federal Land Bank of Wichita, Kansas, died July 27 of a heart ailment while on a vacation in Minnesota. Funeral services were held in Wichita and burial was made at Newkirk, Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Froma Johnson Johnson, '21fa; three sons and a daughter. Mr. Johnson was 51 years old.

He was born in Woodland, Illinois, on February 1, 1890, and came to Newkirk about 1900 where he lived until he was appointed president of the Federal Land Bank in 1937. A student at the University in the early days, he was one of the charter members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

For a number of years he was active in civic and community organizations, having served as president of the Rotary Club and Business Men's Association in Newkirk, the Oklahoma Mortgage Association and the Oklahoma Title Association. In the early days of the Roosevelt administration, he was federal emergency relief administrator in Kay County for more than a year.

At the time of his death, Mr. Johnson was president of the Kay County Federal Savings and Loan Association, member of the board of governors of the Mortgage Bankers Association, vice chairman of the Community Chest of Wichita, and member of the First Presbyterian Church.

### Teaching Couple

When the superintendent of schools drops into the office of the high school principal in Minco, Oklahoma, they might chat about school finances, the status of the weather, or what they'll have for supper.

For the superintendent is J. E. Peery, '30ms, member of the state board of Regents for Higher Education, and the principal is Mrs. Peery, '31m.ed, who formerly was Zoma Catherine Teeman.

Mr. Peery has one of the longest tenures among Oklahoma superintendents. He's held that position at Minco for 20

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years. In addition to his teaching duties, he is a member of the Lions Club, the Methodist Church, and holds the honor of

The Peerys have two children, Harold, 24, and J. E., Jr., 23.

## Oklahoma City Teachers

Among 19 new teachers employed for the 1941-42 school term by the Oklahoma City School Board are a number of Sooners. They include:

James Capp, '41ed; L. K. Mooney, '37bs; Katherine Amis, '31fa; Howard Hayes, '39m.ed; Annie Youngblood, '37fa; Elizabeth Thomas, '40phys.ed; and Lois Mallory, '37ed.

Leaves of absences were granted by the board to James G. Harlow, '31ba, '33ms; Mrs. Willie Hogg, '28ed; H. H. Phillips, '34ed; and Mrs. Mary Dunlevy, '36ba.

## Ed Kerrigan Fatally Injured

Edwin S. Kerrigan, '23ba, former reporter on Tulsa and Oklahoma City newspapers, died July 26 at his home in Tulsa as a result of a brain concussion received in a fall.

A journalism student when he attended the University, Mr. Kerrigan was on the staff of the *Oklahoma Whirlwind*, forerunner of the *Covered Wagon*, humor magazine, and the 1923 *Sooner Yearbook*. He was a member of Sigma Delta Chi, national honorary journalistic fraternity, and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

During his career as a newspaperman, he was city editor of the *Norman Transcript*, reporter on the *Tulsa World*, *Tulsa Tribune*, and *Daily Oklahoman*, staff member of United Press in Tulsa, publisher of the *Democrat-News*, Norman, co-owner of the *Current-Argus* at Carlsbad, New Mexico.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kerrigan, Tulsa, and two children, John and Jane, both of Hominy, Oklahoma.

## Aubrey Shives Honored

Aubrey C. Shives, '29bus, real estate dealer and president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Greenville, South Carolina, has been named one of the six most outstanding men in the Junior Chamber of Commerce movement in South Carolina.

At the University, Mr. Shives was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity, Congress Club, Polo and Riding Association and Spanish Club.

## Death Takes Physician

Funeral services for Dr. Charles Daniel Johnson, '07ba, 59-year-old physician and surgeon who died June 22 of a heart ailment, were held in Tulsa where he had practiced for 24 years.

Known as an outstanding authority on

appendicitis, Dr. Johnson was a member of county, state and national medical organizations. After receiving his doctor's degree from the St. Louis Medical School in Missouri, he served on its faculty before beginning private practice in Tulsa.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Blanche Allen Johnson; two daughters, Maxine Lee and Phyllis Ward Johnson; and his mother, Mrs. L. J. Johnson, all of Tulsa.

## Pi Phi Alumna Dies

A teacher in the Purcell schools for the last nine years, Mrs. Wanda Little McClain, '27fa, died July 22 at Yukon, Oklahoma, while on a shopping trip with her sister. Death was attributed to a heart ailment.

The 37-year-old teacher attended Lindenwood College at St. Charles, Missouri, before coming to the University. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority and the University Glee Club, as well as a leader in music activities on the campus.

At Purcell, Mrs. McClain was affiliated with the Eastern Star, Business and Professional Women's Club and the Methodist Church. Funeral services were held at Purcell.

## Alumnus' Death Called Suicide

Last rites were held in Oklahoma City for Herbert O. Roberts, Jr., '38ba, '40law, 25-year-old insurance adjuster who was found dead in his car July 8. The coroner returned a verdict of suicide.

Survivors include his widow, Ruth Powell Roberts, '39fa, whom he married in April, 1941; his parents and a brother, Jack, who live in Oklahoma City.

Mr. Roberts was adjuster for the State Fire Mutual Life Insurance Company, a position which he accepted shortly after his graduation from the University. A .22 rifle which belonged to his father was found beside the body.

## Plane Accident Fatal

George Ogg, '38, 24 years old, was killed August 4 when the light training plane in which he was riding crashed near the home of his parents three miles southeast of Tonkawa.

Pilot of the plane, a Tonkawa youth, also was killed. Mr. Ogg had completed Civil Aeronautics Authority flight training at the Blackwell School of Aeronautics and had passed his physical examination August 2 for training for the U. S. Army Air Corps.

He was an employee of the Continental Oil Company in Edmond and a former law student at the University.

## Leland Jamieson Dies

Leland Jamieson, '23, airline pilot and magazine writer, died July 9 in Jacksonville, Florida, following a long illness.

Funeral services and burial for the 37-year-old former Oklahoman were held in Edmond, his boyhood home.

Survivors are his wife, two children, Sandra and Leland, Jr., his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Jamieson, a brother, Warren, an Eastern Air Lines pilot, and a sister, Mrs. Fayette Copeland, Jr., Norman.

In 1925, Mr. Jamieson began pilot training, graduated from the U. S. Army Air Corps, and was a second lieutenant in the army for three years. He became manager of a system of flying schools and later directed operations for an airmail line.

Out of his experiences in commercial aviation, Mr. Jamieson created the aviation stories which made him a well known magazine writer. In 1939, he was awarded a medal by Eastern Air Lines for his outstanding contributions to aviation outside the line of duty.

For the last several years he made his home at Coral Gables, Florida.

## Sculpture Winners

Two weeks after they were married, Craig Sheppard, '38fa, '39fa, and Mrs. Sheppard (Yolande Jacobson, '41fa) were chosen winners in sculpture contests at the 47th annual exhibition of the Denver, Colorado, Art Museum.

Mr. Sheppard, former member of the University faculty, won first place, and Mrs. Sheppard took second place honors. They live in Bozeman, Montana, where he is a member of the faculty at Montana State College.

## Fellers Has New Position

James D. Fellers, '36ba, '36law, Oklahoma City attorney, has been elected judge advocate of Cosmopolitan International, civic organization.

Mr. Fellers was chosen at the 19th annual convention held in June, 1941. The office of judge advocate ranks in importance with the office of vice president.

The attorney served for two years as state chairman for Oklahoma of the Junior Bar Conference of the American Bar Association. Later he was elected to the national executive council of the Junior Bar Conference.

## Death Takes Geologist

Edwin S. Smith, Jr., '31, Texas oil geologist, died July 28 at his home in Vernon, Texas, after an illness of several months. He was 31 years old. Funeral services were held in Vernon.

Mr. Smith attended the University of Oklahoma and the School of Mines at El Paso, Texas. He was a member of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, and of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

As a private geologist and operator, Mr. Smith is credited with having contributed a great deal to the oil development of Wilbarger County, Texas. He discovered several oil pools in the county.

### Wilbur Wilcox Killed

Funeral services for Wilbur W. Wilcox, '25, Oklahoma City teacher and former graduate student at the University, who was shot to death July 6, were held in Lamont, Oklahoma. He was 52 years old.

Survivors include his wife, Cecile Procter Wilcox, '38soc.wk, a son and a daughter. Mr. Wilcox was graduated with a bachelor's degree from Northwestern State Teachers College at Alva. For the last seven years he has been gymnasium instructor at the Oklahoma City Youth Center.

Before moving to Oklahoma City, Mr. Wilcox was a teacher and coach at Jenks, Oklahoma, and also taught at Shidler and Vici.

Mr. Wilcox was shot at the home of a relative, and a nightwatchman at the home was held by police for investigation.

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### Farewell to 'Dean of Men'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

sonally every student who ever took a course under him.

The criticism occasionally heard that "education is just a game played between students and professors" could never apply to the type of teaching Mr. Copeland does. He has never been known to "get hard" with a student nor impose his own ideas on anyone. He never argues, always gives the other fellow the benefit of the doubt, invariably displays a courtesy of innate tolerance and the greatest degree of self-control.

"Mr. Copeland can say 'no' and make you like it and admire him for saying it more than anyone I know," said an alumnus who worked in the University engraving plant during the two years when Mr. Copeland got the plant started.

Incidentally, only those closely associated with Mr. Copeland know that he spent many nights and whole week ends in the Press Building engraving room during those two years, endeavoring to establish a project which would benefit the whole University. The excellent pictures now appearing in the *Oklahoma Daily* as a matter of routine are the result of his foresight and the hundreds of hours of hard over-time he did to train student engravers and perfect the technical operations.

He doesn't like to be called an "authority" on anything, but he is considered just that on certain phases of American journalistic history.

He knows something of art, and took a number of courses in the Art School a

few years ago. He knows something of drama also, and in recent years has been teaching a course in the reviewing of fine arts productions. He studied economics as another sideline. He has taken many graduate courses in English.

He dug into these fields because, he said, "a journalism teacher has to know so many things." He also has been around the oil fields a good deal, did some leasing, and knows oil-field language. He taught oil and gas reporting as a journalism course.

The Copeland home on South Ponca avenue is a hospitable one, where casual conversation may range from detective stories to the history of the Mexican War, and students always have been welcome to drop in. Mrs. Copeland was Edith Jamieson, Class of 1920. Fayette, Jr., a 13-year-old in University Junior High, likes to make model airplanes and talk about aviation and swimming.

Mr. Copeland enjoys talking sports with the boys, and knows sports from A to Z. He hasn't missed a football game in years. For a long time he covered football and basketball games for the A. P. and the *Kansas City Star*. Former students in sports writing praise his system of keeping basketball scores. The Copeland system, originated some years ago when he found he didn't have enough facts on a game to dictate a good long-distance story to the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, has spread over this section of the country, and is considered standard. Mr. Copeland has served on the Athletic Council the past few years, and is vice president.

Journalism alumni writing back to the school regularly send special regards to "Copeland." Many got their jobs on the strength of small-city reporting technique learned in his classes.

Mr. Copeland understands O. U. history and the particular flavor of life on the Sooner campus probably as well as any man on the staff. Second-generation Sooners whose parents knew him as a student have been coming to college in the last year or two, and frequently call at his office to get acquainted.

They, and all callers, are made to feel at ease immediately. Though he may have two classes, a laboratory and three committee meetings coming up on his schedule, Mr. Copeland takes time to be friendly and gracious to everyone who comes.

As for committees, he has served on dozens of them, ranging from the celebrity series committee to the group selecting members of President-Emeritus Bizzell's honor class. Whenever a committee is being formed, someone is likely to suggest "There's Fayette Copeland over there—he has good ideas. Let's put him on."

Where the University's welfare is concerned, his loyalty is endless. He has had chances to leave the University staff for more highly paid positions, but has stayed in Norman to serve the school which is home to him.

DIARY AND LETTERS OF

# Josiah Gregg

Southwestern Enterprises

1840-1847

Edited By

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