



University students like Rhoda Spruce, shown here with L. E. Peaster, flight instructor, are training for aviation service through the program of the Civilian Pilot Training Corps. At the bottom of the page are a group of former Sooner students who graduated last month from the army's advanced air training school at Kelly Field, Texas. Left to right, Robert D. Coggeshall, Jay S. Lee, J. E. Miles, Jr., Russell D. Hale, Noel R. Strader, J. P. Rousek, Robert E. Breidenthal, Clarence A. Martin, Jr., and Martin B. Schofield, Jr.

Sooners on the Wing

By PEGGY CLAY

From Research Laboratories to the Fighting Front, O. U. Alumni Are Doing All Kinds of Jobs in Aviation

HUMMING propellers are a familiar harmony to hundreds of Sooner alumni who fit into federal and commercial flying circles like so many bees in a hive.

Into almost every phase of aeronautics, from the mechanical department of major aircraft factories to the cockpits of commercial airliners, go graduates of the University and, more particularly, of the College of Engineering.

Some of them long ago left the ranks of ordinary pilots and became outstanding personalities in the field of aviation. Consider, for instance, Bennett Griffin, '17ba, who in January was given supervision of all instrument equipment for the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

Formerly an Oklahoma City pilot, Mr.

Griffin first gained public acclaim when he teamed with Jimmie Mattern in a daring but unsuccessful attempt to circle the globe. For some time he had charge of federal instrument landing research, and only recently he returned from Havana, Cuba, where he flew as a representative of the CAA administrator.

His new CAA position in Houston, Texas, places him at the head of a huge instrument flying school, a new federal aviation project.

One former Sooner has been flying with Britain's air force. He is Bob Moore, '39, former Sooner wrestler, whose censored letters back home reveal he is in the thick of things in England.

Add to the list of colorful personalities of the air, Grace Stevenson, '39journ, who

in the two years since her graduation from the University has achieved a position seldom reached by women pilots. After completing her training at Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, Miss Stevenson went to Casper, Wyoming, where she is now an instructor with the Civil Aeronautics Administration.

Only 23 years old, the young pilot's present occupation is almost contradictory to her college education and professional training. First she attended Lindenwood School for Girls, an experience which in itself would be expected to turn her attention toward almost anything but government aviation. Later, at the University, she majored in journalism and worked in the advertising department of the *Oklahoma Daily*, student newspaper.

Throughout her college work, however, she managed to gain many hours of occasional flying instruction and now is an instructor for both light and heavy planes, and has ground school ratings in navigation, meteorology and civil air regulations.

It's a far cry from the football gridiron to the flying field, but Lt. Lynn Mapes, '26ba, former Sooner gridman, donned a helmet of a different sort after his graduation from the University, and now supervises a government flying school in California.

Louis Gittings, '39eng, graduated from a Navy air training school in October and was commissioned an ensign and appointed an instructor for navy aviation cadets at Pensacola, Florida.

Sooner alumni have also gone far in the field of commercial aviation, where the University is represented by such well-known pilots as Leland Jamieson, '23, and his younger brother, Warren Jamieson, '27, both employed by the Eastern Air Transport Company over the route from Florida to St. Louis, Missouri. Le-

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land Jamieson has further broadened the scope of his aeronautic service by writing numerous fiction stories, based upon his knowledge of aviation, for the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Also engaged in commercial flying is Carl Ballard, '40, who received his primary aviation instruction under the Civilian Pilot Training program at the University. Later he completed his secondary training, received a commercial license, and is now employed as a pilot for the Pan-American Airlines.

Many alumni own and operate their own planes, either for pleasure or for business convenience. Lloyd Noble, '21, of Ardmore, president of the University Board of Regents, uses his plane for all major trips in connection with his far-flung drilling interests and his frequent visits to the University. Tom Gilcrease, '41, prefers the air routes for most of his work with the Gilcrease Oil Company in San Antonio, Texas, and Bud Gentry, '15 ba, of Enid, well-known for his work as founder of the Oklahoma State Highway Patrol, is a first-class pilot himself.

Varied from the routine tasks of the average pilot are the duties of Arch M. Wallace, '21eng, '31ms, who, as ground school inspector for the CAA in Oklahoma City, each month makes inspection tours to all governmental fields in Oklahoma and to some in Texas.

Gliders, rather than airplanes, command the attention of L. D. Montgomery, '29ba, '30ms, research engineer in Detroit, Michigan for the General Motors laboratory. He has made more than 600 glider flights.

Working at government flying fields are Raymond F. Stevenson, '39eng, aeronautical engineer in the United States army air corps at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio; George T. Chadwell, '38eng, second lieutenant in the air corps reserves; Aaron Alexander, '40eng, chief engineer assigned to air base construction at Corpus Christi, Texas; and Philip B. Klein, '32eng, with the United States air corps at Albrook Field, Panama Canal Zone.

In the business of actual aircraft manufacturing are many graduates of the College of Engineering. Louis Surber, '40, is employed by the Douglass Aircraft Company in California. Ralph L. Wassell, '34eng, is an engineering designer with the Aviation Manufacturing Corporation at Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Also in Pennsylvania is Howard S. Leeser, '40eng, employee of Curtis Aircraft Company. Harold L. Pietschker, '40, is employed by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in Burbank, California.

While Sooner alumni continue to advance in aviation, the University of Oklahoma turns out young pilots from its own CAA field as fast as they can be assimilated

in professional flying circles. During the past semester forty students were enrolled in the primary training program, and fourteen were enrolled in the secondary, or advanced, class.

The program, supervised by the Burke Aviation Service, employs equipment which is the latest in model and design. Primary students use five 65-horsepower Taylor Cubs, and in the secondary program the young pilots receive their instruction in two 225-horsepower Waco biplanes.

For ground school classes at the University the United States army has furnished a full-sized disassembled plane, to be studied for structure and design. The plane is equipped with a Wright-Whirlwind engine.

Now in its second year, the University CAA program has trained 130 persons in the primary division and 20 in the secondary work. The first course consists of a minimum of thirty-five hours of flying time and seventy-two hours of class or ground work, including meteorology, aerial navigation and civil air regulations. The advanced training consists of forty-five hours of flying time in planes of at least 125 horsepower and classroom instruction in aerodynamics and structures, radio and celestial navigation, and aeronautic power plants. Instruction on the proper care and storage of planes is provided at the University's flying field northwest of Norman.

Directing the training program is R. V. James, '18eng, head of the department of mechanics in the College of Engineering. L. H. Cherry, instructor in mechanical engineering, teaches courses in navigation; C. J. Bollinger, associate professor of geography, supervises classes in meteorology; and L. A. Comp, '27eng, '35ms, assistant professor of mechanics, teaches aerodynamics and civil air regulations.

Primary training is open to both men and women students, and four women were enrolled in the course last semester. Advanced training in heavy ships, however, is closed to co-eds.

Besides the government flying courses in Norman, engineering students at the University may enroll in numerous courses in aeronautical engineering, planned in accordance with a survey of major aircraft factories regarding innovations in the aeronautics curriculum. As approximately 65 per cent of the engineers in aircraft work are interested primarily in design, drafting, tracing and blue-print work, the plan of study has been changed to emphasize these aspects of aviation. Special courses are offered in aerodynamics, aircraft structures and design, and stress analysis.

Approximately 50 per cent of the students who have completed the CAA program at the University have entered the United States Army Air Corps. Spartan, Randolph and Kelly fields are generously populated with Sooner pilots.

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More than sixty Sooner alumni have graduated from the army aviation schools at Randolph Field, and Kelly Field, Texas, in the last two years.

A class graduated last month from Kelly Field, the advanced training school, included Robert E. Breidenthal, '40; Robert D. Coggeshall, '39; Jay S. Lee, '40; Clarence A. Martin, Jr., '40; James E. Miles, Jr., '39; Jay P. Rousek, '38; Martin B. Schofield, Jr., '38, and Noel R. Strader, '40.

Now in the upper class at Kelly Field are John T. Snyder, '40; James A. Johnston, '40; Hubert S. Judy, '40bus; and Julian Jacobi, '40. The lower class at Kelly Field includes Edwin J. Angelo, '40 journ; Harrison R. Christy, '35; Frank R. Crabtree, '39; Paul F. Hawkins, '39; Robert R. Mason, '40; Andrew W. Salter, Jr., '32; Joseph W. Scannell, '39; Kenneth M. Taylor, '40; and Isaac N. Taylor, '40eng.

Recent Sooner graduates from Randolph Field include George T. Chadwell, '38 eng; R. H. Anthis, '38; Raymond S. Morse, '37; Stuart M. Porter, '38bus; Edward F. Hubbard, '38bus; Roderick N. Brown, '36; George H. Koehne, '38; Charles O. Peterson, '36; Walter L. Callahan, '39bus; Thomas C. Kelly, '39; Charles W. Himes, '38arch; M. E. Sims, '39; Duane J. Clapham, '38bus; Robert H. Jones, '35; Howard F. Hugos, '38; Richard R. Wilson, '39; Dorwood C. Stephens, '39; Robert J. Ahern, '38; Neal R. Day, '37; Marshall J. Anderson, '37; J. P. Gregg, '39; Charles N. Breeding, '39; Charles M. Kirkland, '39; Frederick S. Harlow, '39; Harry L. Evans, '40; John W. Shamel, Jr., '40; George V. Bell, '40; John W. Minor, Jr., '40; Carl V. Ballard, Jr., '40ex; Wendell J. Kelley, '40; David L. Obert, '40; Lewis D. Rice, '40; and F. R. Thompson, '40.

So numerous are the positions held by Sooner pilots that a complete list of graduates employed in aeronautic activity would be difficult to compile.

Employed by the Spartan Aircraft Company in Tulsa are John F. Mason, '39eng, chief designer; William Gordon Stuart, '39eng, stress analyst; and William Romine, '38eng, designer and drafter.

In the Stearman Aircraft Company in Wichita, Kansas, are Wilfred A. Pearce, '37eng, and Gordon Steinhoff, '37eng, both in the stress analysis department.

Bell Aircraft Company, Buffalo, New York, employs Peter O. Tauson, '36ms, special design engineer, who designed the wind tunnel at the University of Oklahoma. In the Solar Aircraft Company, San Diego, California, is Leonard B. Allen, '37 eng, serving as chief engineer. John J. Jarrett, '40eng, works at detail design and drafting for the Vega Airplane Company in Burbank, California.

With the Boeing Aircraft Company in Seattle, Washington, are John W. Riley, '39eng, research engineer, and Claggett Anderson, '37eng, student engineer. Lockheed Aircraft Company, Burbank, California, employs Jim B. Beach, '40eng, and

Charles J. Liddell, '40eng, both engaged in drafting and designing special equipment.

In San Diego, California, with Consolidated Aircraft Company, are Dan A. Redwine, '40eng, engineer in loft; Elmer C. Wade, '40eng, drafter; Bob Kahn, '40 eng, stress analyst; and William A. Clegern, '40eng, detail designer and drafter.

Working for Curtiss-Wright Corporation in Robertson, Missouri, is Logan Roark, '37eng, layout and design engineer supervising empennage design. John Sakaly, '40eng, is an engineer with an airplane-parts company in southern California.

Raymond Stevenson, '39eng, is a test engineer for the United States Army at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. Ralph L. Wassell, '34eng, is employed as an assistant depot engineer officer with the United States Army Air Corps.

In the United States Naval Air Corps at Pensacola, Florida, is Delmar Duskin, '40eng. Medford Cashion, '39eng, is a naval pilot with the U. S. S. Colorado. Floyd W. Gooch, '40eng, is a pilot in the United States Naval Reserves.

Orville Rogers, Isaac Taylor, O. T. McCall, Jr., and Ted H. Morgan, all of whom were University students last year, are following their CPT training with advanced flying. Charles Woodrow Himes, '38eng, is a second lieutenant with the United States Army Air Corps at Duncan Field in Texas.

Clifford Ivan Motley, '32eng, is employed by the American Airlines in Fort Worth, Texas. James G. Pipines, '39eng, is at Midland Park, New Jersey, where he is a test equipment designer for Wright Aeronautical Corporation. In Ellet, Ohio, is Elgin Lowrance Shaw, '28eng, employee of Goodyear Aircraft Corporation.

The Glen L. Martin Airplane Factory in Baltimore, Maryland, employs Lee Showen, '38eng. George Kem Stephenson, '40eng, is with the Wright Aeronautical Corporation in Patterson, New Jersey. William A. Woods, '29eng, North Hollywood, California, is a radio engineer for the Hughes Aircraft Company.

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Magazine Publicizes Artist

Art achievements of Edith Mahier, professor of art in the University, are described in a feature article in the March issue of *Holland's* magazine, published in Dallas, Texas, and circulated throughout the South.

The article, written by Harold Rubin, a student in the University School of Journalism, appeared as one of the series of articles on southern personalities featured by the magazine. The national recognition Miss Mahier has received for her work in originating a new motif for women's clothing utilizing the cultural tradition of Southwestern Indians is described in the article.

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