

Sooners at Home and Abroad

FOR the first time in the history of the fraternity, Sigma Alpha Mu has chosen a national president from one of its western chapters. He is David R. Milsten, '25, '28law, an attorney at Tulsa. Mr. Milsten has served the fraternity in the capacities of regional advisor, national director and national vice-president since leaving the university.

Writings on the life of humorist Will Rogers have brought Mr. Milsten national acclaim. After the publication of *An Appreciation of Will Rogers*, Mr. Milsten received many requests to speak to groups and to make talks on radio networks. His poem, "Howdy Folks," a tribute to Will Rogers, inscribed on a bronze plaque, is a part of the memorial to the cowboy philosopher in Claremore, Oklahoma.

While continuing his private law practice, Mr. Milsten in 1938 became general counsel in Oklahoma and Arkansas for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, the society controlling performance rights of a large proportion of copyrighted music in the United States.

During 1930 and 1931 he held the public office of assistant county attorney, Tulsa, County. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association, and has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

At the University Mr. Milsten garnered awards in his avocational field of writing. He was author of several plays presented in the University Auditorium, was president of Menorah Society and a member of Blue Curtain Players. In the Law School he won the Rittenhouse Insurance legal treatise competition.

Institute in New York

Organizer of the American Council on Public Relations, Rex F. Harlow, '36, opened his lecture and discussion institute on public relations at the Harvard Club of New York City last month. This is the ninth of a series originated on the Pacific coast in 1939.

According to Mr. Harlow, associate professor of education at Leland Stanford University and former vice-president of Harlow Publishing Company, Oklahoma City, his institute is a genuine university short course.

"Its fundamental principle is that business and the public must come to understand each other," he said.

Lecturers for the New York institute are Harwood L. Childs, associate professor of politics, Princeton university; Don D. Leschier, professor of economics, University of Wisconsin; Paul H. Nystrom, professor of marketing, Columbia university; Edwin



David R. Milsten

G. Nourse, director, Institute of Economics, Brookings Institution; Harford Powel, vice-president, Institute of Public Relations, Inc., and Harlow.

Discussion members include George W. Gallup, of Gallup poll fame; Roy Dickinson, editor and publisher of Printer's Ink; H. G. Weaver, director of customer research staff, General Motors; Donald M. Nelson, co-ordinator of purchases and administrator of priorities for the national defense advisory commission and executive vice-president of Sears-Roebuck Co., and more than a dozen other public relations and industrial experts.

Another Johnson Star

The Johnson family's Hall of Fame in Sooner football history appears likely to gain a new member.

Young M. T. Johnson, Jr., son of Hap Johnson, '17ba, quarterback of the all-victorious Sooner team of '15, was ranked among the best field generals of Texas Interscholastic League history at the end of the 1940 football season. The younger Johnson played quarterback for the Amarillo High School team which won the state championship.

Sports observers highly praised his field generalship, his ability to think ahead for a sequence of plays leading up to a try for a touchdown, and his general all-around ability on the football field.

M. T.'s father a few years ago was chosen quarterback on Oklahoma's all-time all-star team, in recognition of his great record with the Sooners. And three uncles of M. T.—Eddie, Neil and Graham Johnson—all

played prominent parts in O.U. football history.

Heflin Plays Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City welcomed home a successful local boy in the person of Van Heflin, '32ba, last month when he co-starred with Katherine Hepburn in *The Philadelphia Story* on the stage of the Shrine Auditorium. Two packed houses witnessed the matinee and night performances.

An Oklahoma City newspaper critic wrote, "He is probably the most comfortable leading man on the stage to the husky-voiced whirling dervish that is Hepburn."

About the same time, Warner Brothers' new film *Santa Fe Trail*, with Mr. Heflin in the cast, made its first appearances.

Capitol Correspondents

Most of the news writers covering the session of the Eighteenth Legislature at the State Capitol are former students of the University.

The group includes Ernest M. Hill, '32, United Press; Jim Flinchum, '39, United Press; Lee Bond, '33, United Press; Schuyler Allman, '31ba, Associated Press; Howard Wilson, '38journ, Tulsa World; Otis Sullivan, '24, Daily Oklahoman; Ralph Sewell, '35, Daily Oklahoman; Harold Mueller, '19, Oklahoman and Times; and Joe Stocker, '35journ, Oklahoma City Times.

Mexican Trip

Maurine Cunningham, '31ba, '37ed, Brunette Shanklin, '30ba, Lucy Tandy, '30ba, '32ma, and Mrs. Stephen Scatori, all of Norman, returned January 14 from a four-week tour of Mexico. Places visited by these four wandering Sooners during the Christmas holidays included Morelia, Querertaro, Patzcuaro, Saltillo, Monterrey, Taxco, Cuernavaca, Acapulco and Mexico City.

During their visit to Taxco they met and visited with Margaret Brandenburg, '34ba, who has been a resident of Taxco for several months. She is studying art and Spanish in Mexico. The Sooner group also visited Betty Kirk, '29ba, in Mexico City.

Junior Leaguers

Four University alumnae are among the fifteen young women chosen in Tulsa as the Junior League Provisionals. Both honor and work are involved, for they are obligated to make an intensive study of social service for a year.

Principal undertaking of the league is the Junior League Convalescent Home for Crippled Children in Tulsa. A large tea room is another project which the league members run themselves.

The four Sooners included are Mrs.

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Morris L. Bradford (Margaret Gooderham, '32ba), housewife and mother of a 21-months-old daughter, and member of Delta Delta Delta sorority on the campus; Mrs. John Backus, '31, a Delta Gamma at Goucher College, Baltimore, and at O. U.; Miss Adele Richards, '40ba, member of Kappa Alpha Theta, who attended Fairmont, Washington, D. C., and the University of Texas, in addition to O. U.; and Mrs. Booth Kellough (Jo Craker, '31ba), an attorney's wife and mother of a daughter 2 years old and member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Sales Manager

John F. Wilkinson, '23ba, has been appointed sales manager of the bond department of the Mercantile Commerce Bank and Trust Company at St. Louis, Missouri.

Mr. Wilkinson has been in the investment business since his graduation from the University, and has been with Mercantile Commerce since 1930. His sales territory for many years has included the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Oklahoma.

Woman Banker

Only woman loan officer of the Morris Plan, Oklahoma City, Mrs. Leah Morehead Neal, '33ba, believes that interest in business is in her blood. Her father owned the first store at Washington, Oklahoma, and an uncle was an official in the treasury department of Pangeninan Province of the Philippine Islands.

Mrs. Neal taught English and music for five years in high schools of the state before joining the Morris Plan as secretary to the manager in 1935. In 1938, she was appointed loan officer. She was the only woman to attend the Western Morris Plan Bankers Association held in Kansas City in June, 1939.

Art Work Praised

Paintings by William Black, '24, have been receiving notice from art critics in recent years. He has exhibited his work at the Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego museums and in other west coast galleries. A reproduction of his "Little Negress" appeared in *The Art Digest*, which commented on the naturalism of the painting.

Since Mr. Black left the University, he has studied three years, full-time day work, at Choisard School of Art in Los Angeles, and has had four years of night school. He has now met all the requirements and will be recommended for a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Oklahoma in June, 1941.

Film Actress

Mary Milburn, '29, who has been dancing in many of the major film musicales

since 1935, has been assigned to play small parts in forthcoming movies, in addition to her dancing. Some of the pictures in which she had played are "Ghost Breakers," "A Night at Earl Carrol's," "Strike Up the Band," and "Gone With the Wind."

Miss Milburn is a native of Coweta, and sister of George Milburn, '31, now a radio and screen script writer.

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Campus Review

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voters would have the effect of requiring fraternities and sororities to pay ad valorem taxes.

... The University chapter of Phi Beta Delta has received notice of the merger of Phi Beta Delta national fraternity with Pi Lambda Phi. The new fraternity, said to be the largest Jewish fraternity in existence, will use the name Pi Lambda Phi. ... Four full-time engineering defense training courses will be offered at the University during the second semester. The courses have been approved by the Federal Office of Education as part of the defense program. Courses are offered in aeronautical engineering, material inspection and testing, machine design and engineering drawing. Although the work is of college grade, no credit is offered, as the sole purpose is to train men for work in defense industries.

... Ruth Bryan Owen, former minister to Denmark and daughter of William Jennings Bryan, will speak at the Matrix Table dinner to be given in March by the University chapter of Theta Sigma Phi, women's journalism fraternity. Alumna members of the fraternity and state newspaper women are invited to attend. Members of Pi Omega, Scout service fraternity, plan to conduct a voluntary finger printing campaign in February in co-operation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The fraternity hopes to fingerprint 6,000 students, professors, and Norman residents for civil identification purposes.

... Dr. Hu Shih, Chinese ambassador to the United States, is to be speaker at the annual spring initiation banquet of Phi Beta Kappa, April 28. Dr. Shih received his Ph. D. degree from Columbia University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Geology Camp

The Oklahoma State Planning and Resources Board has granted the School of Geology a ninety-nine year lease on a tract of ground situated on the south shore of Lake Murray, east of Ardmore, comprising approximately three hundred acres.

This area includes the stone building commonly known as "Tucker Tower" and the peninsula of land lying east of the "Tower." The site will be developed as a base for instruction and research in the fields of geology, mineralogy, paleontology, and geography.

While the School of Geology of the University will maintain control and instructional supervision of the camp to be established on the site, the facilities will be made available to students of geology from any college within the state and to anyone outside of the state interested in the purposes for which the camp is being established. It is expected that instruction work will be carried on throughout the entire summer under a corps of instructors to be chosen from the various colleges and universities participating.

Temporarily, the students will be housed in tents, but the stone building already erected will be used for classrooms, laboratories, and drafting rooms. As soon as financial arrangements can be made, it is planned to construct a group of rock buildings to serve as dormitories, kitchen, and dining rooms.

The Lake Murray site was chosen because it is situated in the center of one of the most interesting geological areas in the United States. The compressed folding of the rocks is indicated by the nearly vertical position of the ledges which project around the shore line of the lake. A short distance to the north the varied pattern of the Arbuckle Mountain uplift is readily accessible, while the Criner Hills uplift to the south and the cretaceous section north of Red River are within a short distance. Geologists from all over the United States have visited the Ardmore Basin to study the unusual thickness of sediments exposed, and, also, the Arbuckle Mountains which have been called the Appalachian Mountains in miniature. There are few places on the North American continent where such diversity of geological features may be observed in as small an area as within a twenty-five mile radius of the new camp site.

For more than twenty years a summer field course in geology has been conducted in the Arbuckle Mountains, and short field trips have been made into the area by geology students from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas for more than thirty years.

In establishing this center of instruction and research for undergraduate and graduate students in geology, the University of Oklahoma is following the example of many other universities which have established similar summer camps in various parts of the Rocky Mountains and of the Appalachian Mountains.

The facilities of Lake Murray will be accessible to all members of the summer field courses; and the area is readily accessible by good highways, as well as railway connections at Ardmore.

The problem of financing the permanent construction work to be carried on will necessarily be made through donations of men interested in the project. Sufficient encouragement has already been received to warrant the belief that development will proceed as rapidly as plans can be approved.