

Oklahoma Books and Writers

GRANT FOREMAN, state pioneer and leading authority on the facts of Oklahoma history, has written 14 books that describe various phases of the unique and dramatic story of the Southwest. Now, out of his rich experience in research and in thinking about Oklahoma history, he has selected the most significant and the most interesting phases and has written a truly great book which has been published by the University of Oklahoma Press under the title *A History of Oklahoma*.

Although much has been published about the history of Oklahoma, including formal textbooks for school use, the state's development has been so rapid that there has been little time for the historian to assimilate and to organize the factual material.

A History of Oklahoma is not just a chronological account of events. It is not just a biographical work describing important individuals.

As Mr. Foreman himself says "It is my privilege to present a single volume in which I have endeavored to describe and place in their proper relation the principal facts of our history."

He writes of the Trail of Tears, the tragic migration of the Five Civilized Tribes; their readjustment to surroundings in this strange land; rebuilding of their homes, governments and schools; the establishment of army posts, activities of the military in setting up a new order in this country; attempts of the federal authorities to provide a government over this country; historic routes of travel, river navigation, industrial enterprises carried on by the Indians; involvement in the Civil War and alignment of the Indians in that disastrous conflict; problems of reconstruction after the war; ultimate recovery from the devastation occasioned by the war; revival of efforts towards a territorial government; coming of the railroads; intrusion of whites in this country guaranteed to the Indians, and a multitude of other vital steps that ultimately led to the opening of the country to white settlement.

Most of the book is devoted to the pre-statehood period—the period that is remarkably unique as compared to the early histories of other states. As Mr. Foreman points out, since statehood Oklahoma has become more like other states.

A tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Foreman was presented in a statewide radio broadcast March 9, originating from the Uni-

versity station WNAD, and going to the stations of the Oklahoma Network.

Governor Leon C. Phillips, '16law, speaking from Oklahoma City, complimented the Muskogee author for his success in teaching Oklahomans about their own state through the medium of books. Paul Bruner, editor of the *Muskogee Phoenix*, saluted the author from Muskogee, and M. L. Wardell, '19ba, professor of history in the University, spoke from Norman.

The program was one in a weekly series presenting the University of Oklahoma Press.

Sooner Writers

Houghton Mifflin has scheduled publication of a book *Old McDonald Had a Farm*, by Angus McDonald, '33ba, '34ma. The book is the factual story of his father, a vigorous Oklahoma preacher who took over an eroded hill farm and made it into a going concern by introducing modern ideas. Part of the material for the book has appeared in magazines, one article in the December, 1940, issue of *Harpers* and another in the March, 1942, issue of *Country Life*.

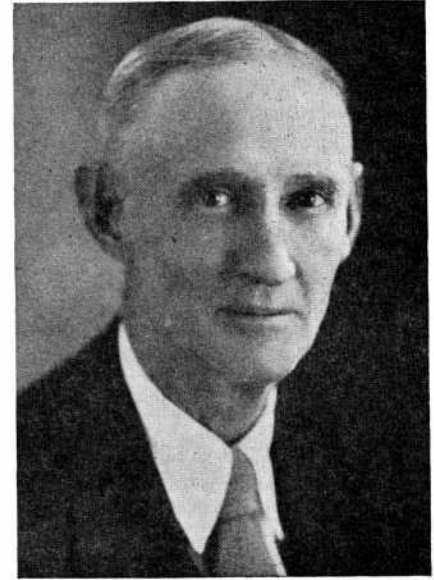
Mr. McDonald is employed in the office of research and information in the Soil Conservation Service at Washington, D. C. He has written numerous articles and bulletins in the field of soil conservation.

► J. L. Hefley, '99ba, '30m.ed, retired minister who was one of the first graduates of the University, is author of *Apache Prophets*, a book of poems published by the Oklahoma City University Press. Kenneth C. Kaufman, book editor of the *Sunday Oklahoman*, commented that "The technique is perfectly handled, and most of the poems are marked by dignity and music."

► Winifred Johnston Perry, '24ba, Norman, editor of Co-operative Books, has received word from New York that her pamphlet *Visual "Education"?*—*The Serious Student's Guide to Social Misinformation* was chosen the March selection of the national Pamphlet-of-the-Month Club. The pamphlet is the second which Mrs. Perry has written on the movies and public opinion.

► Maurief Kelley, '27ba, is author of *THIS GREAT ARGUMENT: A study of Milton's De Doctrina Christiana as a Gloss Upon A Paradise Lost*, published by the Princeton University Press (\$4.00).

Edward Everett Dale's New Book



Cow Country

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OKLAHOMA: A Guide to the Sooner State is still a state best-seller. This is the book of which Kenneth Kaufman says, "Nowhere else is there so much about Oklahoma between book covers." Lavishly illustrated. \$2.75.

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