

there. A painting by the latter was recently on display in the Harwood Galleries at Taos.

► One of the foremost interpreters of American piano music, John Kirkpatrick, was on the campus early in February for recitals, a concert and conferences with music students.

A member of the faculty of Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, Mr. Kirkpatrick is deemed by many critics as one of the great pianists of the day.

Library Graduates in Demand

Requests for graduates in library science exceed hundreds of times over the number of persons enrolled in the University School of Library Science, J. L. Rader, director, said. At present there are 13 persons taking library science.

Many public libraries in large and small cities, as well as institutional libraries, are seeking trained librarians and since the University school is one of the finest and best equipped in the country, letters pour into Rader's office daily asking for graduates.

Chess Club Organized

The University of Oklahoma Chess Club was organized in mid-February at Franklin House and has been approved by the University Committee on Student Organizations. Dr. Kester Svendsen, of the Department of English, is faculty sponsor.

Membership is limited to students with a 1.5 grade average for the preceding semester, but all students above the rank of first semester freshmen are invited to attend the meetings. A round-robin tournament has been started and plans have been made for group study of openings, traps and master games.

Organizer of the group was Berton J. Scull, geology major from Lawton.

More Commissions Granted

Seventeen graduates of the Naval R.O.T.C. unit received commissions at a luncheon, held in lieu of the traditional commencement program, on February 24 in the Union Ballroom.

The modified commencement was also the occasion for granting of degrees to 19 Navy men and several civilian students who completed college work late in February at the close of the Navy term, and for awarding of certificates of completion to V-12 trainees who have finished training at O. U.

The affair was planned without speeches or academic costumes. President Cross conferred degrees and Capt. J. F. Donelson, commandant of the Navy unit, commissioned the Navy graduates.

Speech Contests Cancelled

The Oklahoma High School Public Speaking League tournament held each spring at the University of Oklahoma has been cancelled this year, Dr. M. L. Wardell, acting director of the Extension Division, has announced.

The cancellation was necessary because of the recent Office of Defense Transportation order banning conventions and meetings involving more than 50 persons unless absolutely vital to the war effort. However, Dr. Wardell pointed out, individual districts in the state are being urged to hold their debate and public speaking contests as usual.

Lopez Honors O. U.

University of Oklahoma servicemen were honored by Vincent Lopez and his orchestra on their Luncheon with Lopez program of February 17 broadcast over the Mutual Network.

In a letter received at the University notifying officials of the dedication, Bandleader Lopez wrote, "At this time Gerry Larson, Karen Lee, Bruce Hayes, the boys in the band and 'yours truly' will be on hand to entertain especially for you. Hasta la vista."

Oklahoma Books

RECENTLY released by Farrar and Rinehart, *The Missouri*, by Stanley Vestal, was described as "a notable addition to the many fine books in the Rivers of America Series" by a reviewer in the *New York Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review* section of January 28. The book is the 26th volume in the series.

The review written by Stewart Holbrook, author of *Holy Old Mackinaw* and *Iron Brew*, appeared on the front page of the section along with a large reproduction of an illustration from Mr. Vestal's book.

"It is a tremendous panorama of history that the Big Muddy has witnessed," Mr. Holbrook wrote, "and Mr. Vestal, a man by inclination and long residence eminently fitted to chronicle its story, has done it proud."

"Because of the great mileage of the river, the book has been broken into sections, each with a sectional map at its head, and the river's story told, in general, sectionally instead of chronologically. This unusual method works out very well in the present case, for the author is careful to avoid repetition, and one follows the long river from St. Louis to its far reaches in western Montana, with many pauses to contemplate great or amusing incidents in its history, and numerous side trips into its tributaries."

In commenting on the material which the author chose to include, Mr. Holbrook wrote, "Mr. Vestal, all praise to him, does not romanticize the cowhand nor the Indian, but he has filled this book with thumping good stories about both groups, making for a narrative as swift and bumptious as the river."

Mr. Vestal is Walter S. Campbell, who lives in Norman and teaches courses in professional writing on the University of Oklahoma faculty.

► The spring issue of *Books Abroad*, international literary quarterly edited on the University campus by Roy T. House, was scheduled for

release in February. Dr. House is professor of modern languages on the University faculty.

Included in this issue is an article about the American poet and writer, Gertrude Stein, entitled "Gertrude Was Always Giggling," by Arnold Ronnebeck, German sculptor and art lecturer. Accompanying the article is an illustration by Ronnebeck showing Miss Stein and Alice B. Toklas. Ronnebeck, Stein and the painter Picasso were friends in their younger days in Paris and were members of the Bohemian group which lived in the Latin quarter there.

Also included is an article by Jose Osorio de Oliveira, a Portuguese writer, who discusses the question of whether Portugal should align herself with Spain or Brazil. Mr. Osorio advocates the sympathetic alliance of Portugal with Brazil, Dr. House said.

► Maj. Henry D. Rinsland, '20ba, '24ma, University professor of measurements on leave for duty in Washington, D. C., with the War Department, has had published with Dr. A. I. Gates of Columbia University, a series of spellers for the elementary school grades. The Macmillan Company published the books.

► Savoie Lottinville, director of the University Press, and L. J. Carrel, sales manager, attended the annual meeting of the Association of University Presses which convened late in January in New York City.

► *THE TEN GRANDMOTHERS* by Alice Marriott. University of Oklahoma Press, 1945. \$3.00.

This is a distinguished piece of writing, one of the finest books the University of Oklahoma Press has published—and that is saying something. Every reader who cares a whoop about Indians—and especially the indigenous tribes of Oklahoma—will read and buy this book. It was written by a thorough scholar, who has done a solid piece of research among the Kiowas.

The history of the Kiowas has been done before, and done well. In fact, the Kiowas kept their own history on painted buffalo robes. But here we have the history given as experienced by living eyewitnesses, truly and fully, as they saw and felt it. The author has managed to get into the minds of her informants, and has recorded their intimate thoughts and emotions in a manner that would do credit to a biographer or novelist, yet she has been carefully authentic throughout. Here we not merely read history—we live it.

The story starts with 1847 and comes down to yesterday. It presents the Indians as people—not romantically, not as figures in a melodramatic panorama—but as human beings. Those parts of the book which deal with the life and thoughts of women are, naturally enough, especially good; but the whole is as convincing as the Wichita Mountains. The adventures of Eagle Plume, the man, and Spear Woman, the Indian woman, make up the book.

The author writes, "Each sketch may be taken as an eyewitness account of the event related. And where the feelings of a person are described, it is only because he himself said that he felt that way that the feeling is put down. I have tried to tell these stories as much as possible as they were told to me." And what stories they are—of war, of hunting, of ceremonies, birth, marriage, death, and religion. With Nye's *Carbine and Lance* (also a University of Oklahoma Press book) and *The Ten Grandmothers*, O. U. has done herself and the Kiowas proud. The book is illustrated with drawings taken from old Kiowa calendars painted on hides.—STANLEY VESTAL.



SECOND GENERATION

Two generations of American Legion officers look over the new charter of the Thomas C. Reynolds post established last fall at the University of Oklahoma. Seated are (left) J. B. Koch, Norman, department commander of the Legion for Oklahoma, and Milt Phillips, state director of veterans affairs on Governor Kerr's staff. Looking on are (left) Bob Wilson, commander of the Thomas C. Reynolds post, and Floyd Hathcoat, Nowata, adjutant.