

Faculty

Tacker Returns to O. U.

After being on the spot to record actual scenes of landings, beachhead facilities and battles in film for use both in news reels for the "folks back home" and in secret showings to governmental officials plotting strategic island landings, Harold Tacker, former University photographer, has returned to his alma mater to continue his work as head of photography.

Tacker, who held the rank of lieutenant, senior grade, in the navy at the time of his discharge, September 14, is still on terminal leave but has assumed his duties at the University and will have offices in the Science Hall.

First under fire while filming the landing at Attu after which he and two other men in his unit were awarded the Legion of Merit for their coverage, Tacker took photographs of 17 different operations during his 22 months of overseas duty.

Entering the navy as a lieutenant junior grade in July, 1942, as specialist in aviation, Tacker's first duty was at the photography school, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. After four months he was assigned to special duty and attended the March of Time motion picture directors' school at New York City. Following the completion of advanced motion picture combat photography school at Washington, D. C., he was named officer in charge of a navy combat photographic team and headed toward the Aleutians.

With orders to take motion and still pictures of "anything picture worthy," Tacker and his team made a historical film on the development and life of the island to be shown before high navy officials who could not actually visit the islands to inspect the operational bases.

Following his filming of the Kiska landing he was ordered to the carrier division and thereafter covered operations from aboard the USS Enterprise, known as the mighty "E," making both motion and still pictures on "strikes" over enemy territory.

The Marshall, Carolinas, Marianas and New Guinea were all included in Tacker's photographic coverage of the Pacific war. Sometimes it took as many as four different operations of "strikes" over a target to get enough material so that landings could be made with less loss of lives and equipment, he reported.

Following the pre-landing pictures, the combat picture teams would not only record the landings and fighting but filmed the establishment of naval facilities on the beachhead after the islands were secure.

It was in November, 1944, that Tacker was sent to the United States for a rest and later stationed in a photography research laboratory at the Anacostia Naval Air Station, Washington, D. C. Following his service there he was photography officer at Melbourne, Florida, and officer in charge, motion pictures, at the Navy's photography school in Pensacola.

Tacker, who served in the army for six years—1929 to 1935—as a teacher of meteorology, photography and a photo-engraver, has had numerous photographs appear in *Colliers*, *Life*, *Time*, Associated Press Wire Photo, United Press News, and Acme Photo Service, in addition to those in trade journals.

With an eye toward future expansion of the photography department on the University campus and the securing of needed equipment Tacker's greatest difficulties at present include establishing a University office, finding secretarial help and—a minor thing—locating permanent living quarters for his wife and five-year-old daughter!

New Faculty Appointments

O. W. Rush has been appointed assistant counselor of men by the Board of Regents. He succeeds William J. Mellor who is now counselor of men.

Dr. Royden J. Dangerfield, University professor of government on leave of absence for military service, has been appointed administrative assistant to the president. Dr. Dangerfield took over his new duties October 1. He was a lieutenant commander while in the Navy and was stationed in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Sherman P. Lawton has joined the University faculty as professor of radio and co-ordinator of radio instruction.

He has attended the Albion College, Albion, Michigan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Since leaving Wisconsin, Dr. Lawton has taught at Bradley Polytechnic Institute, Peoria, Illinois; Stevens College, Columbia, Missouri; and the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Gilbert C. Fite, assistant professor of history, is on the campus for the first time. Dr. Fite received a BA and MA from the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, in 1941 and was an instructor of history at the University of Missouri last year.

He is combining his specialty, American history, with his research interest and writing a biography of Peter Norwick, a leading politician statesman of South Dakota.



HAROLD TACKER

O. U. Band Changes Leaders

The famed University of Oklahoma band is now under the direction of a new leader for the first time since 1929, the date that William R. Wehrend became a member of the faculty and assumed duties as director of university bands.

After 16 years of service, Wehrend recently resigned to devote his time to working on a master's degree. Leonard Haug, assistant director of the band since 1938, who is an expert on band marching, has been named to succeed Wehrend. Haug will also conduct the O. U. symphony orchestra.

Oklahoma Professor At Army University in England Cast "Spell" On First Name

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CENTER, SHRIVENHAM, ENGLAND.—One member of the faculty at this American University Center will never be able to chide his students for their poor spelling ability.

He is Dr. Virgle G. Wilhite, who was a civilian instructor at a War Department school in Washington, D. C. and a professor of economics at the University of Oklahoma before joining the teaching staff here.

Dr. Wilhite, who is now teaching "American Economic Problems" to a group of advanced students at Shrivenham tells this little story about the spelling of his first name:

"When I was ready to graduate from junior high school, I was asked to give my name in the proper order for my diploma. Up to that time, the boys had always called me "Glen," which is my middle name. When I was asked for first name, I realized that I didn't know how to spell "Virgil." However, there was one of those plaster busts of the famous Greek poet in the school hallway and I tried to remember how the name "Virgil" was spelled on its base. The catch came when the man who cast the bust of Virgil misspelled the name and my recollection was not the best either, so I told them that I spelled my first name 'V-i-r-g-l-e.' And it has been 'Virgle' ever since."

Dr. Wilhite is a resident of Norman, Oklahoma. His wife, Mrs. Grace M. Wilhite resides at 815 West Lindsay Road.

Butterfield Rated First in Business Communication

William H. Butterfield, '35ma, Norman, chairman of the department of business communication, has been rated the top ranking author in the field of business communication by the Dartnell Better Letter Service, the largest letter service in the United States.

The Dartnell service stated in its current release that Butterfield is doing more constructive work on the subject of business correspondence than any other person.

Butterfield's latest book, *Effective Personal Letters*, has been reprinted twice since its release last July. His tenth book on business letter writing, *Building Hotel Business By Letter*, was to have been published in October.

Butterfield is also the author of many magazine articles which have appeared in various business magazines. During the past two years he has served as president of the American Business Writing Association.

More Extension Work

Two University of Oklahoma staff members, Dr. M. L. Wardell, acting director of the extension division, and Miss Lucy Tandy, director of the correspondence study department, have been appointed to committees of the National University Extension association. Dr. Wardell will work on committees for institutional co-operation, the preparation for extension workers and the workers' education. Miss Tandy was named to the correspondence study committee of the NUEA.

Professor Emeritus Dies

Dr. Samuel Weidman, 74, professor emeritus of geology at the University, died September 22 following an illness of four years.

Dr. Weidman had taught at the University since 1919 as assistant professor of geology until he became a professor in 1925 and later professor emeritus in 1943. He is listed in *Who's Who* and was author of several books and articles pertaining to soil and agriculture.

Survivors include his wife, three sons and six grandchildren.

New O. U. Doctor

After serving as a surgeon in five European war areas, North Africa and Panama, Dr. John Y. Battenfield, native Oklahoman who held the rank of captain in the army, has returned to his alma mater—the University of Oklahoma at Norman—to assume his duties as newly appointed director of the student health program.

A native of Pryor, Battenfield received his B.A. and M.D. degrees from the University of Oklahoma and later received the master of public health degree from Johns Hopkins university. The 37-year-old doctor served with troops in Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium and Germany; participated in the invasion of France and was awarded the purple heart and bronze star.

Dr. Battenfield, who is a graduate of the army medical field service school, parachute school and the school of tropical medicine, will expand the student health program on the O. U. campus.



LT. COL. C. GUY BROWN

Air Corps Colonel On Faculty Leave

Lt. Col. C. Guy Brown, on leave of absence from the commercial education department, is now the commanding officer of the Second Army Air Force Headquarters Squadron at Bowling Field, Washington, D. C.

Col. Brown was on active duty as an enlisted man in the Navy in World War I. Several years after the end of the war, he joined the Oklahoma National Guard as a private. He remained in the National Guard until May, 1926 when he entered the Reserve Officer Corps. In September, 1940, Col. Brown went on active duty as a captain in the 45th Division. Two years later he was transferred from the Field Artillery to the Air Corps.

One of the distinguishing highlights of his Army tour of duty in World War II was that he was Project Officer in charge of the Yugoslav project. As such, he was the United States Army coordinator charged with the responsibility of bringing Yugoslav Air Force personnel to the United States, coordinator of their training while in the United States and officer in charge for the transfer of Yugoslav combat crews to the European theater of operations.

For his outstanding work in this capacity in the Army, Col. Brown received special commendation from the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces and also received a decoration from the Yugoslav government wherein he is authorized to wear the wings of an aircraft observer of the Yugoslav Air Force.

He and his wife, Frances, and little daughter live in Arlington, Virginia.

Quasi-Aggies

State farmers who desire information concerning insects and their development in Oklahoma will benefit from information on the subject collected by Dr. A. O. Weese, professor of zoology.

Dr. Weese, accompanied by Dr. Arthur N. Bragg, assistant professor of zoology, who collected amphibians and plans to compile his findings on salamanders, travelled more than 10,000 miles in Oklahoma during the summer months to accumulate data to determine what insects are characteristic of certain grasslands.

Insects in different stages of their life cycles were collected from relatively "undisturbed" or not overgrazed areas of grasses by Weese, who is planning a similar trip with Bragg next summer to gather comparative information.

Johnson Attends Meeting

D. B. R. Johnson, dean of the school of pharmacy, recently attended a meeting of the committee of pharmaceutical service in the armed forces in Washington, D. C.

New Commandant Assumes Duties At Campus Unit

It's Oklahoma now for Lt. Col. Aylwyn P. Williams, who recently arrived in the state from Louisiana to assume duties as commandant of the University of Oklahoma reserve officers' training corps.

Prior to Williams' assignment as professor of military science and tactics at the Louisiana State university ROTC unit, he was executive officer at an army administration school at Sam Houston State Teachers College, Huntsville, Texas. Williams, who went on active duty in 1940, received a reserve commission at Pennsylvania University and was a member of the Pennsylvania national guard.

First Postwar Rhodes Awards Will Be Given

Oklahoma college and university students may apply for a Rhodes scholarship to the University of Oxford, England, for the first time since the war, Savoie Lottinville, director of the University of Oklahoma Press, who is secretary of the state committee of selection, has announced.

With the first postwar elections scheduled for December, 1946, applications should reach Lottinville on or before November 2, 1946. Scholars-elect will enter the University of Oxford in October, 1947.

A limited number of war service scholarships for men between the ages of 19 and 25 who have completed at least one year of war service since October 1, 1940 are available now in addition to the regular Rhodes scholarships. "War service" includes civilian work such as scientific research, education, government service and positions in industry or agriculture which contributed to the war effort.

State Regents to Attend Governing Board Convention

E. C. Hopper, Eufaula, president of the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents, and Joe McBride, Anadarko, member, will attend the annual meeting of the Association of Governing Boards of State Universities which will be held at Ohio State University, Columbus, November 15 to 17.

Mr. McBride, former president of the O. U. regents, will preside at the evening session on Friday, November 16. The two Oklahomans will attend the Ohio State-Illinois football game November 17.

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