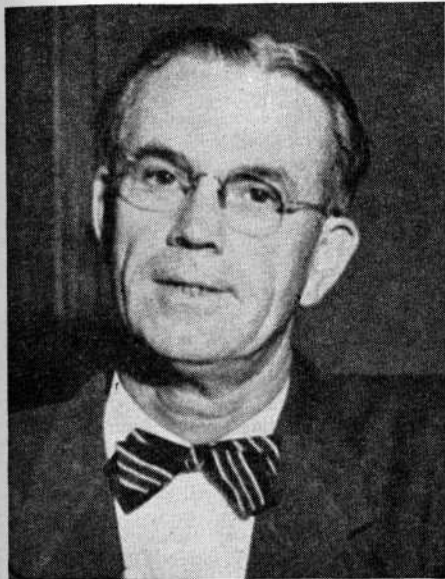


# Sooner Profile



DR. H. V. THORNTON

## Professor-Mayor Guides Norman

By BUD BAER, '47 O.U. Journalism Senior

"He may be a university professor, but he has his feet on the ground"—a campaign slogan.

Norman was in the market for a new mayor in March of 1943. Civic meetings were in progress with discussions of likely prospects to fill the position. A group of civic leaders centered their nominations on Dr. H. V. Thornton, '22ba, '29ma, professor of government at the University of Oklahoma.

"H. V., we need a good man and we think you're the man for the job," said the group, in urging the University professor to run for mayor of Norman.

Thornton felt honored at having been asked to run for this responsible city position. He thought that some practical work in city government would be helpful to him in his field of teaching. After all, his predominating interests were based on his university work. His job was to develop future leaders who would some day carry on administrative activities for the public.

Some people were of the opinion that college professors with all their reading, thinking and idealistic planning wouldn't understand people and political organization.

This professor proved to be different. He had a sound intellectual foundation in government. He received his bachelor of arts and master's degrees from the University of Oklahoma in Norman. He taught political science at New York University for seven years. He actively participated in two campaigns for former Mayor LaGuardia of New York City. Living in New York broadened his political experiences and gave him a wide perspective in government management and affairs.

What better experience could he hope to get in his chosen field? He had a few ideas that might improve the city administration. Crossing his fingers for luck, he consented to run.

Thornton was on the spot. For the past five years he had been very active in many civic organizations in this city of 12,000 people. How could he decline the request after having talked others into running for the same office during previous elections?

How would people of Norman react to having a professor-mayor governing the town? This was something different from the past. Most of the other mayors were business men. The people of Norman might not want this "highbrow" professor practicing his theories of government on them.

Thornton had a strong opponent. He made no campaign speeches. This didn't fit into his scheme of politics. He won. In fact, he received a total number of votes more than double the combined votes of his opposition.

Three years have passed since Thornton first assumed duties as mayor. In this period he has never yet had to search for something to do. His full-time teaching schedule and his job of guiding the Norman administration account for all of his time. In the mornings and early afternoons, he lectures to his government classes, cracking jokes about mayors. The rest of the day and sometimes at night, he is usually at the City Hall, explaining to irritated citizens or conferring with officials about policies of municipal government, reasons for increased water rates, new garbage collecting system and other common city problems.

Thornton's administrative system is based on his motto, "There are no secrets in the City Hall."

He constantly strives to maintain close relationship between citizens and the city government. He fully realizes that city government cannot get ahead of the people and yet remain effective. To accomplish this, he uses the "townhall" technique.

At frequent intervals, Thornton calls a meeting of representatives from practically every club and organization in the city, ranging from the city chamber of commerce to garden clubs. Important policies concerning city government are discussed. Problems are ironed out. Opinions are expressed. The representatives spread the word to their organizations. The city board of commissioners ordinarily acts upon the consensus of these organizations.

In July, 1945, Thornton played a leading role in revising the Norman city charter. Instead of electing the mayor at large as he had been chosen two times, he instigated a new system whereby the city commissioners elect one of their group as mayor. Previously, four districts elected commissioners. Now seven commissioners are elected-at-large, one of them being selected as the mayor of the city.

The new method has an advantage over the old since the group of commissioners can now act in better harmony without the influence of the individual districts. It imposes a city-wide responsibility on each commissioner.

The post of mayor is not without its light moments. When Thornton was attending a city commissioners' meeting a discussion concerning the enlargement of the city fire department was made the chief topic of conversation at the gathering. One of the commissioners made the proposal that they wait until an "emergency" arose before taking steps to expand the department.

Thornton has discovered that some people in Norman still believe a mayor has unlimited powers. He has established two requirements for a mayor of a small city. First, he must have a sense of humor. Second, he must be available for all calls at any time.

One morning about 3 a.m., the phone rang in the mayor's home. Half asleep, Thornton staggered to the phone only to hear someone ask, "Where's Julia street?"

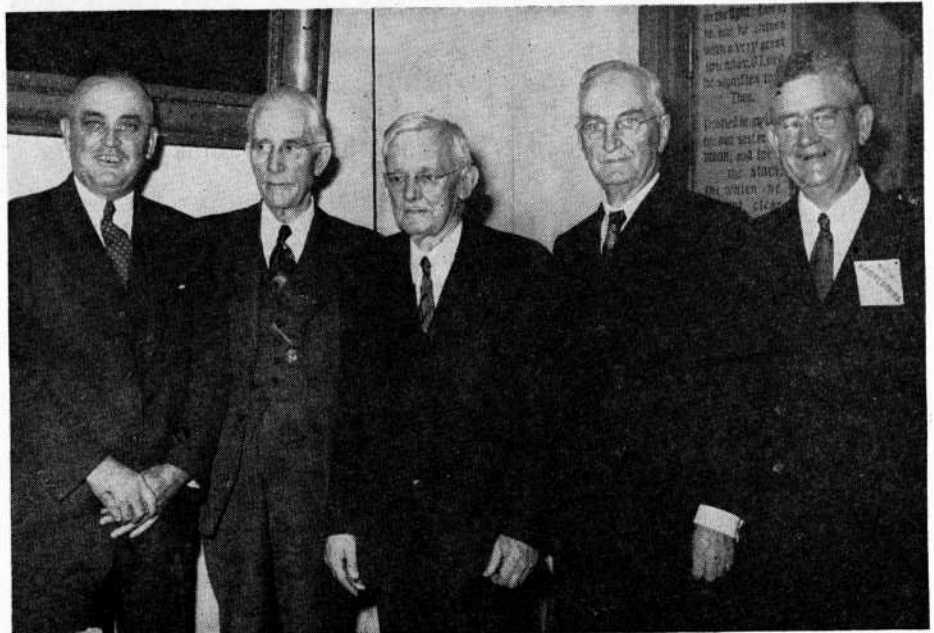
Not knowing the exact location of every street, he was forced to apologize for being unable to answer his question.

Whereupon the voice at the other end exclaimed disgustedly, "You're the mayor, ain't you?"

Occasionally Thornton gets called in the wee hours by some disdainful citizen requesting action against howling cats disturbing the peaceful atmosphere in the last few moments before dawn, with wakeful squalls.

City improvements during Thornton's administration include the building of a \$260,000 sewerage disposal system, construction of a modern municipal hospital, building an additional fire station, drilling a number of deep wells, laying several miles of sewer and water lines and providing needed additions to park facilities.

Thornton's present term as mayor expires next spring, but his position as professor at O.U. remains definitely. He feels that he will have gained enough practical experience in city government by spring. After that time, he will be devoting all his time to teaching, waking up his government students with interesting excerpts from his tenure as mayor of Norman.



It's a homecoming! Former O.U. president, Stratton D. Brooks (center), was a special guest at the "former regents' Homecoming luncheon" held in the Oklahoma Memorial Union Building on Homecoming Day. Here he confers again in the Oklahoma Memorial Union Building with four of the seven regents who were his board members after a law creating the Board of Regents was passed 27 years ago. Twenty-three years ago, Dr. Brooks resigned his position as president of O.U. and immediately accepted the presidency of the University of Missouri, Columbia. Left to right, are Harry Diamond, '12law, Holdenville; Hal Muldrow, Norman; Dr. Brooks; George Bowman Kingfisher, and Earle Miller, '13, Tulsa.



Comdr. Paul Harkey, '39, Idabel, looks up nomenclature with his recently appointed supply officer, Jack Luttrell, '38ba, '41law, Norman, while working out details on the newly activated Naval Reserve.

## Navy Reserve Activated

Just because the North Base has been overrun by students instead of sailors since September, there's no basis for believing that Navy personnel are extinct on the campus. Not by a long shot.

In fact, the Navy uniform is still not a bit uncommon, for Division 8-43 of the Navy Reserve has taken up where the regulars left off.

At present only veterans of World War II are eligible for membership in the local division, whose ultimate personnel will consist of 200 enlisted men and 15 various officers, Commanding Officer Paul Harkey has announced.

However, membership will not be restricted to former servicemen after discontinuation of the draft, he said.

Training men for artificer ratings is the primary duty of the unit. The primary training groups include: Radiomen, machinist mates, electrician's mates, metalsmiths, and shipfitters.

It's not all lessons, lectures and drills for the local reserve members, for an active sports program is a definite part of their activity. What's more, an annual cruise is desired of each division member by the Navy Department, and a jaunt at sea every three years is a requirement.

"Another outstanding feature of our program," Harkey pointed out, "is that reserve men get three and one-third percent of their monthly base pay for each class attended as well as full pay and allowances while on cruises."

The reserve's shops and classrooms are located in the North Base armory, formerly the North Base alteration and repair building, which at present is the object of an anticipated \$38,000 conversion chore.

Although no contracts have been let for the project, surveys have been made and the complete remodeling of the spacious edifice will be a reality, Harkey reveals. Just when work will get under way has not been designated by the Public Works Department of the Eighth Naval District headquarters at New Orleans.

Included in the remodeling of the building, one of three at the base retained by the Navy, will be the construction of a central drill hall, a radio station, which will operate on a Naval network; a gally, lounges, as well as classrooms and offices.

A freshman law student from Idabel, Commanding Officer Harkey launched a successful campaign for a seat in the state legislature this fall. He was the first Oklahoma University student commissioned under the V-7 program and served 74 months in the Navy, 56 of which were spent at sea. The local division head saw action in six major campaigns in the Pacific aboard the battleships Wisconsin and New Mexico. He is a graduate of the General Line Command course of the United States Naval Academy Post Graduate School.

## N.R.O.T.C. Applications Offered

High schools, colleges and Naval Officer Procurement offices in the Eighth Naval District now are issuing application blanks for competitive examinations in the first annual nation-wide selection of students for the Navy's college training programs, Capt. E. W. Armentrout, University N.R.O.T.C. commandant, said recently.

More than 6,000 students from 17 to 21 years of age who stand highest in the national examinations will be offered full college scholarships under either the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corp (N.R.O.T.C.) or the Naval Aviation College Program (N.C.A.P.).

Completed applications must be prior to Dec. 17 and examinations will be held on Jan. 18.

The N.R.O.T.C. program is designed to provide a steady supply of well-educated officers for the line and staff corps of the regular Navy and to build up the ranks of trained reserves. It will give graduates opportunities equal to those of the U.S. Naval Academy graduates.

Dave Wallace kicked 28 of 32 extra-points this season and added two field goals to break a record set by Jack "Straight-Line" Haberlein in 1941. As a team the Sooner set ten new season records.

## 2 Sooner Alumnae Go Abroad

FRANKFURT, Germany—Recently arriving from the United States to serve as Army Librarians in the European Theater was Miss Mary J. Prince, '35lib.sci, Guthrie and Josephine Paxton, '32lib.sci, formerly of Norman, now a resident of Richmond, California. Army Librarians are brought over from the United States by European Theater Special Services, who sponsor the many libraries in occupied Europe for the American troops.

European Theater Special Services, whose chief is Maj. Gen. A. R. Bolling, the former commanding general of the 84th Infantry Division, has the over-all task of maintaining a high level of morale among the occupation troops by providing the best recreation and entertainment possible. Besides the many libraries scattered throughout the Theater, European Theater Special Services sponsors many other forms of relaxation such as motion pictures, live shows, service clubs, athletics, tours, and handicraft shops.

Miss Prince has been assigned with the United States Forces in Austria, and there will take up her duties as Army Librarian. She has previously done librarian work at Camp Robinson in Arkansas.

Miss Paxton has been assigned to the Headquarters Continental Base Section, and there will take up her duties as Army librarian. She has also served as librarian in the United States, at Camp Maxey in Texas and Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

## Kenneth Wade Joins 'Regulars'

Lt. (jg) Kenneth W. Wade, foster son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wyman, 416 South 19th Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas, has been sworn into the regular Navy at Eighth Naval District headquarters at New Orleans.

Lieutenant Wade, who was commissioned in the Naval Reserve in June, 1944, and served 18 months in the Pacific, has been on duty in the district public information office there since last February as officer in charge of radio programming and special events.

A 1940 graduate of Fort Smith High School, he entered the University of Oklahoma as an N.R.O.T.C. student, but left the University in 1944 to attend Midshipmen's School at Tower Hall, Chicago.

Upon being commissioned ensign, he was ordered to the LC(FP)995 in the Pacific Fleet for duty as navigator and later became executive officer of the ship. For participation in the invasion of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, he wears two battle stars on his Asiatic-Pacific ribbon.

He is a member of Delta Sigma Fraternity at Fort Smith. For his work in arranging extensive Navy participation in the recent Louisiana State Fair at Shreveport, Lieutenant Wade received a letter of commendation from Rear Admiral A. S. Merrill, U.S.N., commandant, Eighth Naval District.





COL. WILLIAM E. CORKILL

## Colonel Corkill Gets Medal

Col. William Edward Corkill, '16ba, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, veteran of World War I and II, has served with the Field Artillery in the Philippine Islands and the Pacific theater of operations.

In June Colonel Corkill received the medal for the Legion of Merit for his work in the Philippines. The award read, "Colonel William E. Corkill rendered exceptionally meritorious service from 8 December, 1941, to 9 April, 1942, as Chief of Operations and Training for the Chief of Artillery, United States Army Forces, Far East and later Luzon. He made notable contributions to the Philippines defense, preparing directions and training plans, and constantly inspecting to assure the maintenance of highest standards. He was of greatest value to his chief in obtaining information, making valuable recommendations, and solving serious personnel problems. Colonel Corkill's work throughout this period was a notable contribution to the defense of the Philippines."

He has also received citations for the Silver Star, Purple Heart, Pre-Pearl Harbor, Pacific Theater, Defense of the Philippines, German Occupation, Victory Medal, and Presidential Unit Citation with two oak leaf clusters. He was assigned to the R.O.T.C. at the University from 1925 through 1930.

He was active in intramural athletics at the University and was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Colonel and Mrs. Corkill are now living in Oklahoma City, and he is expecting to be retired from the Army in January.

## National Guard to Re-Organize

Re-organization of two companies of the famous 45th National Guard Division in Norman offers students a chance to make a minimum of \$1.25 an hour for two hours, one night a week, Lt. Col. James O. Hood, University Infirmary director and commander of the 120th Medical Battalion announced recently.

A re-organization meeting of Companies A and B of the 120th Medical Battalion that served the "Thunderbirds" on Anzio Beach, Salerno, and southern France, was held in the Infirmary lobby.

Veterans may enlist in discharge grade for one or three year terms. Non-veterans may enlist for three year periods. Discharge Marine or Naval personnel may enlist in a grade comparable to the rate they held in their service branch. University R.O.T.C. personnel may enlist without affecting their R.O.T.C. pay status. Enlisted Reserve Corps members may enlist but will be dropped from the E.R.C. rolls.

First Lt. Fred Harris, University pre-med student will command Company B and 1st Lt. Marshall Hearrell will command Company A. These units will meet two nights a week until July and personnel will be paid regular Army pay rates.

## Binkley Resumes Active Service

Capt. John F. Binkley, '40pe, Oklahoma City, recently has been recalled to active service and assigned to duty with the Artillery School at the Fort Sill Artillery Center of the nation.

He served 20 months in the European Theater of Operations as Battery Commander, Battery C, 547th Field Battalion His outfit saw action against the Germans in the Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns. In addition to the E.H.M.E. Ribbon with two battle stars, Captain Binkley wears the Victory, American Theater, and Occupation Ribbons.

Captain Binkley received a reserve commission at the University in 1939. He was called to active duty in January of 1942 and a month later attended the Battery Officers Course at Fort Sill. In July of the same year he was assigned to the 419th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Benning, Georgia, where he served until January of 1943 when he was assigned as an instructor of research in the department of Gunnery, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill. It was in April of 1944 that he was assigned to the 5447th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Houston, Texas, that same month the entire Battalion was sent overseas.

Prior to entering military service Captain Binkley was a petroleum engineer for the National Tank Company, Tulsa.

At the present time Captain and Mrs. Binkley and their son, John Ford, are living in Lawton.

## Phi Beta Kappas Hold Banquet

Phi Beta Kappa held Founder's Day banquet on December 5, in the Woodruff Room, Union.

President and Mrs. Cross were special guests. Dr. W. Page Keeton, dean of the School of Law, addressed the group, speaking on "Some Observations Regarding Government Regulations of Industry."

H. H. Herbert, professor of journalism, reported on the triennial council of Phi Beta Kappa, held at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, in September.

## Discharged—

▶ Rollie D. Thedford, '28-'30, has recently returned from service, and spoke to a gathering in the farm assembly room at the courthouse in Norman. Thedford is a graduate of the University Law School.

▶ Dr. Harold Wooldrige, '38-'40, was recently discharged from the Navy, and has established a dental office in Altus with his father, Dr. M. H. Wooldrige.

Wooldrige was discharged as a lieutenant (j.g.) and was stationed at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Base.

▶ Lt. (j.g.) George Robert Alford, '31bus, was discharged from the service in June. Alford is now at home at Box 428, Dillon, South Carolina.

▶ Leonard Bertram Alford, '33ba, was discharged in November, 1945, with the rank of lieutenant from the U.S.N.R. He has since accepted a position with the Veterans Administration in Washington, D. C. and has taken up residence in Arlington, Virginia.

▶ Oberon K. Fowler, '45ba, former Navy ensign, has returned to civilian life and is now living at Bartlesville.

▶ Lt. (j.g.) John S. Danner, '43ba, recently discharged from the Navy, has returned to civilian life, and is now living in Lawton.

▶ D. Ross Bell, '37bus, has returned from the service and is now at home at 1315 Northwest 22nd street, in Oklahoma City.

▶ Bion J. Acton, '41-'43, was recently honorably discharged from the service. He has established residence at Guthrie.

▶ Lt. Col. James W. Billings, Jr., '40eng, was discharged from the service in May. He is now living at Cushing.

▶ Lt. Col. Felix A. Bodovitz, '21ba, was discharged from the service recently and is now living in Tulsa.

William Harold Smith, chairman of the art department, is exhibiting an oil painting "Rendezvous" at the Tulsa County Art exhibition being held through January 5.



President Cross (left), receives a certificate of distinction for the University from Col. Jerome J. Waters (right), commandant of the University R.O.T.C. unit, who made the presentation on behalf of the War Department. The citation commended the University for its contribution to the training of 2,000 Army Specialists through the A.S.T.P. The award was a climax to President Cross' Armistice Day talk on his regular radio broadcast, "The President of O.U. Speaks," over station WNAD.

# On the Level

By HAL MIDDLESWORTH, Sports Writer

The Daily Oklahoman

(Editor's note: SOONER MAGAZINE quotes below the Hal Middlesworth column from Monday morning, December 2, 1946, sports page of the Oklahoman.)

"In a football season which produced one reversal of form after another, two disappointments stand out above all others. One was the decline of the proud Texas Longhorns and the other was the almost complete collapse of the Oklahoma Aggies.

"In September and early October, Texas had the record and every appearance of one of the greatest teams of all time. After mid-October, the Longhorns never looked the same and finally lost to both Rice and Texas Christian.

"Before the season opened, and even through their first couple of games, the Aggies gave plenty of indications that they might repeat their performances of 1944 and 1945 which carried them to the Cotton and Sugar Bowls. But before their year ended Saturday with Oklahoma putting them through the wringer, 73-12, the Cowboys were a completely deflated eleven.

"An interesting explanation of why Texas hit the skids comes from a man who is close to the Southwest Conference.

"When Texas becomes primarily a passing team, as it was this year, every coach in the conference knows what to do," he said. "He goes back to the last year that Texas was a passing team and runs the movies of his game with Texas that year—over and over again.

"He knows that Texas will be using the same passing plays and the same passing pattern it used that previous year and he can get set for every sequence. That's what happened this year."

"He very well could be right, for the Longhorns' running appears to have folded up on them and Bobby Layne's passing was their chief stock in trade through late October and November. When it was stopped, the Steers were stopped.

"As for the Aggies, there are as many explanations for their fall-apart as there are fans in Oklahoma. Disregarding the ugly rumors you may have been hearing about the service and non-service players

not getting along, the Cowboys' plight appears to come down to two deficiencies.

"Everyone, including Coach Jim Lookabaugh, must have been over-sold on a number of war-time players who looked good against inferior competition but couldn't carry a load in the postwar tough going.

"The Aggies probably never did get in tip-top physical condition and there is some doubt that many of them were very seriously concerned about the game, either.

"It's an axiom in football that when a player is in real good condition he isn't apt to get hurt. The way injuries mowed down the Aggies all season long, there certainly would be basis for believing they weren't as tough as Lookabaugh thought they were when he eased up in their training grind back in September 'because they're crippling each other.'

"More serious, however, was the Aggies' game and post-game conduct. An example would be their debacle Saturday against Oklahoma.

"At least four times Saturday, the fans got the idea that maybe the Cowboys just weren't trying as hard as they might.

"Once they punted on second down—and you can't score if you don't have the ball.

"Once an Aggie knocked down a Sooner pass—when it appeared he might well have intercepted it.

"Once an Aggie backed off into the end zone and reluctantly ran a kickoff barely back into the field and fumbled—when he could have ground it and had a touchback, putting the ball on the 20-yard line.

"Once, when they were behind 66-0, the Aggies chose to kick off to the Sooners—again giving up the ball when it was they who needed the points.

"One more thing—when the game was over, a man who has spent his life playing and coaching stood and watched the Aggie players stream off the field where they had just been beaten, 73-12.

"I counted 19 of them walking along, either with his arm around a girl's waist or with her arm on his.

"If they had any regrets over taking one of the worst lickings an Aggie team ever took from the Sooners, they certainly didn't show it."

"Is it any wonder the man in the stands is speculating on the Aggies' downfall?"

## Sooners Accept Gator Bowl Bid

Oklahoma University's Sooners will play the North Carolina State Wolfpack in the Gator Bowl at Jacksonville, Florida, January 1.

The Oklahoma team voted to accept the bid for the New Year's day game and the Big Six Conference approved the move.

President Cross said, "I am sorry that the game with Tulsa did not materialize, but since it did not, I am glad we are going to a bowl game. I'm sure we will make a good showing in the Gator Bowl."

Complete plans for traveling have not been made as yet but Tatum said that the team will practice three days a week. The players will get to go home for the holidays around December 20, then report to Jacksonville the day after Christmas. This will give the players three or four days of practice the week before the game.

North Carolina State, the Oklahoma opponent in this bowl engagement, has won 8 and lost 2 games during the regular season.

Duke, Wake Forest, Clemson, Davidson, VMI, Virginia, Florida and Maryland fell before the Wolfpack, sometimes called the Red Terrors. Vir-

ginia Polytechnical Institute, playing in the Sun Bowl January 1, and Vanderbilt were the two teams that beat State this year.

The Duke game offers the only comparison between the Sooners and North Carolina State. Army defeated Duke 19-0 and Oklahoma 21-7. State beat Duke 13-6.

## 3 O.U. Boxers Move to A.A.U.

Rollocking Red Ivy, colorful Sooner middleweight, plastered Melvin Stevens, Oklahoma City Boxing Club, for a K.O. in the 160-pound semi-windup recently, as Coach Snorter Luster's fighters placed three men in the final round of the southern Oklahoma A.A.U. Gloves tournament at Ardmore.

Bailey, former novice fighter from Okmulgee, moved into the 125-pound finale opposite Oklahoma City's red headed Frank Anderson, with a first night decision over Sparkey Mauldin, also of Oklahoma City.

Benham, former Army pugilist, traveled the knockout route for a final go with Ted Acton, big brother of the famous Herschel Acton, national lightweight champion.

## Tatum Explains O.U. Grid Power

Building his first Oklahoma team from men who sincerely liked to play, Jim Tatum achieved a sound reconstruction of the sport in his freshman year.

Tatum's hard-hitting Sooners played toe to toe with mighty Army, tied for the Big Six championship, had what was probably the nation's mightiest line at the close of the season and possessed a savage running attack that broke all modern O.U. records for scoring and yards gained rushing.

Besides, Tatum was so successful at emphasizing the old-fashioned business of scholarship that mid-semester grades revealed a surprising thing—none of the Sooner starting team had flunked a single course.

"If a football team wins, its players must have intelligence, character, football ability and a desire to play. If a player lacks any of these qualities, he is just wasting time for his team and coaches," is Tatum's theory.

There were things he firmly believed each player should do if Oklahoma was to have a great club. If a player did not want to do them, he was advised in advance to withdraw. The things Tatum stressed were personal conduct, loyalty, scholarship and staying in good, hard physical shape to play football.

"What little success we've had this year should be attributed to our fine staff and the boys on our squad. Every one of our players and coaches took tremendous pride in his work," the Sooner headmaster said. "That's why I insisted, when I came to Oklahoma, that I be given the right to employ absolutely the best assistant coaches. Any head coach is only as strong as his poorest assistant."

Charles "Bud" Wilkinson, Walter Driskill, William "Dutch" Fehring, George Radman, Bill Jennings and Jack Baer can all take a bow.

## Ginn Wins Big Six 2-Mile Title

When Bobby Ginn of Nebraska won the 13th annual Big Six individual two-mile team race on Homecoming day in 9:48.5 in a cold north wind, he became the second runner in the history of Big Six and old Missouri Valley Conferences to win three crosscountry titles in a row.

John Munki of Missouri won in 1937, '38 and '39, setting a record of 9:17.5 the middle year that still stands. Ginn won in 1940 and 1941, war delaying capture of his third title. He may win a fourth time next fall, the Big Six having granted war vets four years. Here are the individual winners of the meet since its inception 34 years ago:

- 1912—no first place winner available.
- 1913—Snyder, Iowa State 27:22 for five miles.
- 1914—Rodney, Kansas, 28:10.
- 1915—Rodney, Kansas, 26:40.
- 1916—Husted, Iowa State, 27:44.
- 1917—Hawthorne, Iowa State, 26:56.
- 1918—no meet, influenza epidemic.
- 1919—Frevort, Iowa State, 28:33.
- 1920—Frevort, Rathbun and Graham, Iowa State, 27:20.
- 1921—Rathbun, Iowa State, 26:13.
- 1922—Heuse, Kansas State, 28:03.
- 1923—McIntire, Iowa State, 28:03.
- 1924—Rutherford, Oklahoma, 26:53.
- 1925—Rutherford, Oklahoma, 26:06.9.
- 1926—Conger, Iowa State, 25:52.
- 1927—Frazier, Kansas, 24:44.
- 1928—Frazier, Kansas, 25:44.3 for 5 1/4 miles.
- 1929—Dawson, Oklahoma, 24:57 for five miles.
- 1930—title awarded percentage basis.
- 1931—title awarded percentage basis.
- 1932—Cunningham, Kansas, 9:32 for two miles.
- 1933—no meet.
- 1934—Lochner, Oklahoma, 10:05.
- 1935—Wheelock, Kansas State, 9:45.1.
- 1936—Lochner, Oklahoma, 9:41.5.
- 1937—Munki, Missouri, 9:44.
- 1938—Munki, Missouri, 9:17.5.
- 1939—Munki Missouri, 9:29.8.
- 1940—Ginn, Nebraska, 9:42.1.
- 1941—Ginn, Nebraska, 9:44.4.
- 1946—Ginn, Nebraska, 9:48.5.