

Faculty

Summer term dates at the University of Oklahoma have been announced by Dr. A. E. Joyal, director. They are: eight weeks, June 3 to July 31; summer quarter, June 3 to August 30, and August term, August 1 to 29. Fifty departments will offer courses during the eight weeks session and the 12 weeks session.

Truman Pouncey, '42, assistant professor of journalism at the University of Oklahoma, will be listed in the 1947-48 edition of Who's Who in American Education. Pouncey, who came to the University in 1941 to teach photography courses, was former picture editor of the *Dallas Morning News*.

Miss Maurine Bowling, assistant professor of physical education for women at the University, has been invited to teach in the national golf clinic to be held June 28 to July 2 at North Carolina State College for Women, Greensboro, North Carolina.

An article by Dr. Alice Sowers, director of the family life institute of the University of Oklahoma, recently appeared in *Coroneus*, the journal of Coronet Instructional Films. Entitled "Shy Guy," the article discusses shyness as "a problem on the minds of many high school boys and girls." It is partially based on the Coronet film production by the same title.

Professor Maurice H. Merrill of the University School of Law has been named adviser to a group of draftsmen engaged in preparing a proposed uniform commercial code. This undertaking is a joint project of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and the American Law Institute. Professor Merrill represents the conference, of which he is a member from Oklahoma.

Dr. Stratton D. Brooks, president of the University from 1912 to 1923, was presented with an honorary life membership in the American Association of School Administrators at the recent national meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Dr. Brooks is now director of the grand council, Order of DeMolay, with headquarters in Kansas City.

The University Auditorium in Holmberg Hall has been the scene for the recitals of many graduate students and faculty members in the College of Fine Arts during this year.

The first appearance was made on October 8 when Spencer Norton, '28ba, pianist, and Paul S. Carpenter, violinist, presented a sonata recital. A voice recital was given by Lucille Grant, '37ba, '38ba, '39m.music, mezzo-soprano, on November 12.

Joseph Benton, '20bs, '21ba, '41ma, tenor, was heard in a voice recital on December 10. During the month of February Spencer Norton, '28ba, pianist; Dorothy Neal Snead, '46m.music, soprano, and Genevieve Kern, '37ba, '42m.music, pianist, presented recitals.

On March 3 Kathryn Sadlo, '46ba, soprano, appeared in a graduate recital and Max M. Waits, '40-'42, flutist, was heard on March 12. Carol Johnson, '43fa, soprano, and Mildred Andrews, '37fa, organist, were presented in April.

During the remainder of the current semester Marguerite Ebel, '45fa, soprano; Wilda Griffin, '27fa, '33fa, soprano; Joyce Cook, '46fa, pianist; Charles Moon, '40-'43, pianist; Norene Marshall, '45fa, violinist, and J. P. Meaders, '46fa, pianist, will be presented in graduate and senior recitals.

Dr. Robert K. Carr, formerly on the staff of the department of government, has been appointed executive secretary of President Truman's committee on civil rights. Dr. Carr will receive a leave of absence from Dartmouth College where he has been teaching.

Henry Hubbard Foster, dean emeritus of the University of Nebraska Law College and one-time professor of law at the University, died at his home in Lincoln February 22.



President George L. Cross (center), chairman of the University Senate, sits at his desk in Senate meeting. Seated at left is E. E. Hatfield, chairman of department of secretarial science, Senate secretary; at right is Dr. John F. Bender, professor in education and vice-chairman of the Senate. Standing (left to right) are committee chairmen Dr. John H. Leek, professor of government; Charles F. Daily, professor of economics; Dr. S. W. Reaves, dean emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. A. K. Christian, professor of history; Charles P. Green, professor of speech, and Dr. E. D. Meacham, dean College of Arts and Sciences.

University Senate Co-operates With Faculty in Making Policies

Many simple problems that would otherwise grow into serious controversial issues are brought to a focus and solved by the University Senate. This body is composed of faculty members from each college and independent degree-granting school.

Started in 1942 by President Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, the Senate has since served as a subordinate legislative body of the General Faculty.

The General Faculty is composed of the University President, the deans and directors of schools, the director of student affairs, the counselors of men and women, professors, associate professors, assistant professors, and instructors. Other employees of the University concerned with policy making may be admitted to membership by election. This is done by the faculty upon nomination by the president with approval of the Senate.

All legislative powers of the faculty relative to the University as a whole are vested in the General Faculty. These powers may be exercised directly by this body or by the Senate.

Powers of both General Faculty and Senate are specified within their charter. The General Faculty meets at least once each semester. However, the University president, who is chairman of the Senate, may call as many meetings as he deems necessary. Meetings may also be called upon petition by 30 members.

In General Faculty meetings, problems affecting students or faculty of more than one independent school or college are brought before the group. If the problem affects only one school, it is handled by the faculty of that particular school.

Measures passed by the Senate are subject to the approval of the General Faculty. For expediency, many problems are forwarded to the Senate without action being taken on them in the General Faculty.

The Senate meets at least once a month and is subject to additional call meetings either by the chairman or vice-chairman. At these meetings, business that has been forwarded from the General Faculty is acted upon. Other business handled is that which has its origin on the floor of the Senate. Also, quite often the University president passes measures from his desk down to the Senate for recommendation or action. Any legislative action taken by the Senate, if not protested by petition from the General Faculty, becomes effective with the approval of the president.

Measures passed by the Student Senate also

goes to President Cross for approval. Quite often he forwards these measures to the University Senate for recommendations, thus getting an idea of whether the faculty thinks the measures workable.

Any legislation enacted on the campus is naturally subject to veto by the administration, and in some cases by the University Board of Regents or State Board of Higher Regents.

A term of office in the Senate is three years. One senator is permitted for each 20 faculty members in a school or college. He is elected by his respective faculty.

Dr. John F. Bender, professor of education, is vice-chairman of the Senate. Serving as secretary of the organization is E. E. Hatfield, '36ms, associate professor of secretarial science and chairman of that department.

Ten committees function for the purpose of investigating measures before bringing them up on the floor for a vote. They also function for handling special legislative problems.

These committees and their chairmen are committee on committees, Dr. John H. Leek, professor of government; journal committee, Charles F. Daily, professor of economics; committee on curriculum and University standards, Dr. L. E. Winfrey, professor of modern languages; committee on libraries and laboratory facilities, Dr. John H. Leek; committee on research, Dr. W. A. Willibrand, professor of modern languages, and committee on faculty personnel, Charles P. Green, '25ba, professor of speech.

Also, Committee on co-ordination, Dr. A. K. Christian, professor of history; committee on utilization and development of University buildings and grounds, Dr. E. D. Meacham, '14ba, dean of College of Arts and Sciences; committee on organization of departments, schools, and divisions, Dr. S. W. Reaves, dean emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences, and committee on extra-mural functions, Dr. William B. Ragan, '22ba, '28ma, associate professor of education. Each member of the Senate is required to serve on a committee.

The Senate and General Faculty function for the general advancement and welfare of the University. They serve as a means by which members of the faculty become better acquainted and grow more conscious of the needs and problems of the University.

George P. Selvidge, '42ba, Ardmore, and Mrs. Selvidge are the parents of a son, Mark Frederick, born recently in Norman.



After paying tribute to Ben Owen, director of intramural athletics, during his weekly broadcast, "The President of O.U. Speaks," President Cross presents the former Sooner head grid coach a decorated football. Owen directed grid activities from 1905-'26.

President Cross Salutes . . .

In his regular weekly broadcast over University station WNAD, President George L. Cross salutes an outstanding O.U. faculty member or employee who has served the University for many years. The following excerpts are from several recent broadcasts.

I should like to tell you about the University's second oldest faculty member in point of service. He is an active, busy, friendly man, loved by thousands of our older alumni, and respected by all who know him. He is a man who has taught little in the classroom during his 43 years on our staff. Yet, he has made a national reputation teaching the value of scholarship, good sportsmanship, decency and clean living. He is Benjamin Gilbert Owen, professor of physical education and director of intramural athletics.

Most people of the state, particularly those interested in sports, remember Bennie Owen as the coach of great University football teams from 1905 through 1926.

Bennie's teams were winners. His lifetime record is 122 games won, 54 games lost, and 16 tied. But more important than the football program during his day was the most wholesome and the most truly amateur in the history of the sport.

Thousands of boys who played football at the University under Bennie Owen are men who have made their work in virtually every known phase of business and professional activity. Without exception, they will tell you that the lessons of human behavior taught them by Bennie Owen have stayed with them all of their lives . . . lessons of learning to subordinate themselves to the good of the team, of learning to get along well with others, of learning to take victory modestly and defeat gracefully . . . lessons of learning that intelligent planning and hard work may often accomplish wonders, that alibis are not in good taste, that clean speech and clean living are essentials of clean sportsmanship. Bennie Owen is truly a great teacher . . . and a great builder of men.

Dean Samuel Watson Reaves, Professor of Mathematics and Dean Emeritus of the College of

Arts and Sciences is perhaps best known to his colleagues as an outstanding administrator and scholar. But to thousands of our graduates, he is known as one of the University's greatest teachers.

When he retired from the deanship in 1940, President Bizzell wrote him, saying: "In the thirty years I have been a college president, I have never been more happily associated with any man than with you. Your high integrity, your loyalty, and your devotion to duty have been a constant source of satisfaction to me. You have done much through the years to improve the standards of the University, and the College of Arts and Sciences will in future years reflect the impress of your high ideals and scholarly attainments."

When Dean Reaves was promoted to Dean Emeritus, his former students and friends decided to make concrete recognition of his vision, leadership and contributions to the University, and they established a scholarship fund in his honor. Through this fund, the Samuel Watson Reaves Scholarships are awarded to encourage study in pure and applied mathematics.

His great stature in his chosen field is recognized by mathematicians throughout the United States. He is a member of such learned and professional societies as the American Mathematics Society, the Mathematics Association of America, the Oklahoma Academy of Science, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and Phi Eta Sigma. His biography, for many years, has appeared in "Who's Who in America" and "American Men In Science."

The story of Professor Williams' life reads like a modernized biography of the story-book adventurer. Acrobat, rancher, soldier, scholar, athletic director, teacher, administrator, author . . . these are some of the activities that have made "Guy Y" a legend on the O.U. campus . . .

In his early days, Professor Williams punched cattle on the Oklahoma and Texas ranges, dug ditches, and became a circus acrobat, before beginning his teaching career. Following graduation from Enid High School, he attended the University of Oklahoma, where he completed his B. A. degree in 1906, and his M. A. degree in 1910. He received his master of science degree from the Uni-

versity of Chicago in 1911, and two years later, the degree of doctor of philosophy was conferred upon him by the University of Illinois.

Professor Williams joined the staff of the University of Oklahoma as an instructor of chemistry in 1906. In 1914, he was made professor of chemistry, a rank which he still holds today. As head of the department of chemistry for 19 years, from 1923 to 1942, he played an important part in developing the great chemistry department we have here at the University . . .

He is well known in his chosen field. He is a member of such learned and professional societies as: English Chemical Society, American Electro-Chemical Society, American Metal and Metallurgical Society, American Chemical Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Geographic Society, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Rho Chi, and the Oklahoma Academy of Science. His biography for many years has appeared in "Who's Who in America."

Through the years, Professor Williams' sincere interest and frank counsel have gained for him the respect and admiration of his students. Now scattered throughout the land, they will always remember and cherish him as "Guy Y," friend and teacher. His continuing popularity is attested by the fact that he has more students in his classes than does any other chemistry professor.

It is a privilege to salute these men of the physical plant who have been with the University twenty-five years or more. The first man to whom I want to pay tribute today is C. W. Inglis, a janitor who has been with the University for 42 years. Mr. Inglis came to Norman in 1894 which was only two years after the University had been established.

Another man in the physical plant department who deserves recognition is T. B. Ferguson, a former superintendent of buildings and grounds. Mr. Ferguson was appointed University carpenter 39 years ago.

Next I would like to mention the name of Bennie Shultz. He is the assistant superintendent of the University physical plant. Mr. Shultz entered the University of Oklahoma in 1914, graduated, and later took a master's degree in electrical engineering.

Gus L. Huey, the power house engineer, has been a University employee for over 40 years. One of his sons is a lawyer here in Norman and a former member of the state legislature. And there is J. N. Houston of the Landscape Department who joined the University in 1910. He is now foreman of the athletic grounds and has the nickname of Gunga Din of Athletics. There is John Stibbens who has been an employee of the University since 1919. For many years he was listed on the payroll as "John Stibbens and Team." John and his team of horses played a real part in the development of our University grounds. Another man who should be mentioned is Ed Jones, janitor, who has been a University employee since 1920.

Dr. J. Richard Hall, '42pharm, and Mrs. Hall (Hazel Kathryn Rowley, '39-'42) are the parents of a son, Scott Richard, born October 21 at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City. They recently established a home in Tulsa where Dr. Hall is practicing dentistry.

Charlie Barr, '42eng, Enid, is now located in Midland, Texas, with the Stanolind Oil Company. Bob Cochran, '42bus, is employed as a bookkeeper for the Carter Oil Company in Seminole.

John L. Bumgarner, Jr., '40-'42, Norman, and Mrs. Bumgarner are the parents of a daughter, Mary June, born January 24 in Norman. Mr. Bumgarner is attending the University and is employed in the circulation department of the *Norman Transcript*.

Walter Campbell, Harris Teach Successful Professional Writing

Everybody but Oklahomans seem to know that Oklahoma has the most successful school for writers in the country, a visiting editor commented recently after trying vainly to get directions to the office of the Professional Writing courses. He had come from New York. The last few steps of the way into the office of Walter Campbell and Foster Harris, '25ba, he had to find for himself.

Which was probably just as well, Professor Campbell thinks. Even with the help of some obscurity, would-be writers still contrive to find their way in from early morning until late at night. They come from all over the country.

Courses in Professional Writing at O.U. are relatively new. President W. B. Bizzell appointed a committee to organize them in 1938.

Professor W. S. Campbell, who writes under the pen name Stanley Vestal, was chosen to set up the courses.

He had at that time already published a dozen books and, being a professional writer, had become thoroughly disgusted with the way academic courses in creative writing were conducted. It was a rare thing that a student in these courses wrote anything which he could sell or publish. Professor Campbell believed that writing could be taught, and on his own time undertook to train a small group of men. The results of this experience was his textbook entitled *Professional Writing*.

Therefore, when President Bizzell asked him to set up courses in Professional Writing, Campbell was unwilling to be a party to the old-fashioned fraud of the usual creative writing course. He requested a free hand and his request was granted.

Various suggestions were made as to how the courses should be taught. The University offered to publish a magazine in which students could have their work printed, but Professor Campbell felt that there were plenty of magazines and that, in all probability, a magazine edited on the campus by professors would lead students toward academic standards rather than along the highroad to publication.

When prizes were suggested for which his students might compete, he objected that a campus prize, like a campus magazine, might lead a student away from his real career.

A number of persons were considered for the post of assistant in this work, but Professor Campbell insisted that only a person who had earned his living as a writer could fill the bill.

"A man can hardly teach others to do what he cannot do himself," Campbell declared. "I was lucky," he says, "in persuading my old friend Foster Harris to join forces with me. I had known him as a student in a writers' club sponsored by the Department of English. He was a professional writer of some years' standing, and had besides considerable editorial experience."

Applicants for the courses in Professional Writing at the University of Oklahoma are screened by means of a questionnaire. As part of this screening process the applicant is given the beginning lines of a story and asked to imagine and write the rest of it.

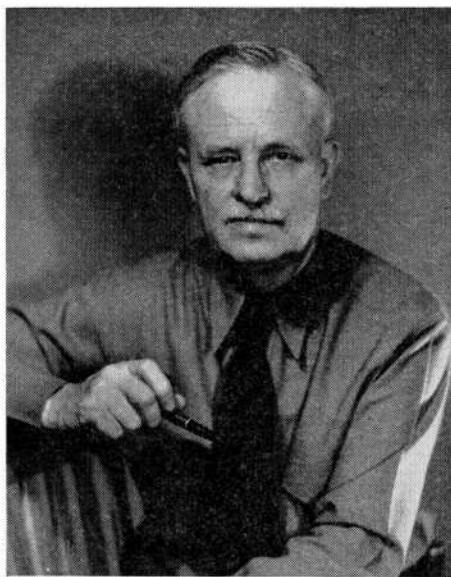
Such a test enables Campbell and Harris to estimate the applicant's power of imagination, command of language and knowledge of human nature. Of course the whole questionnaire covers far more than that.

An applicant, to be eligible, must possess four qualifications:

- (1) He must be interested in something about which he wishes to write.
- (2) He must be a communicative person.
- (3) He must be one who seeks a response from readers and who likes appreciation.
- (4) He must have an earnest desire to write well, for otherwise he will never endure the many disappointments of his apprenticeship.

"At the start," Campbell says, "I expected that talent would be rare and fortitude plentiful, but I found that talent was fairly common, while character was rare."

One up-and-coming correspondence student,



WALTER S. CAMPBELL . . . writer, producer of writers.

after completing his course, took the story he had written for the questionnaire, polished it up, and sold it.

The object of the course is not to turn out a story or two, but to turn out a writer, as a law school turns out a lawyer, by putting the student through a definite course of training. This training is planned to make the student thoroughly professional in his point of view and methods of work.

In order to teach their courses in fiction and non-fiction, Campbell and Harris had to write their own textbooks, as none suitable for courses of their character were to be found. Accordingly, Campbell turned out *Professional Writing*, *Writing Magazine Fiction*, and *Writing Non-Fiction*. Professor Harris wrote *Basic Formulas of Fiction*, which was published by the University of Oklahoma Press. These texts are now used in many other schools and universities.

The soundness of the methods employed is shown by the fact that no other school in the country approaches our own in volume of copy sold and published. The work of graduates in these courses has appeared in nearly every magazine of national importance—quality, slick, or pulp. A day seldom passes without the announcement of one or more sales.

During the past two years graduates and students have reported the sale or publication of 21 books, more than two million words of free-lance magazine material, a play to Broadway (based upon the story "A Very Valuable Quality" originally published in *Collier's* by Naomi John White, '35ma) and a best-selling novel in Japan. The best seller, first written in English, is *Tokyo Romance*, written by Earnest Hoberecht, '41ba. He has also published two other books in Japanese since his first came out. *Collier's* recently ran a full-page story about him as "the foremost author in Japan."

Students come from all over the country. At one time or another every state in the Union has been represented in these classes, while those taking the correspondence courses are scattered over both hemispheres. The correspondence students slightly outnumber those who have taken the work on the campus, though the correspondence courses were set up several years after the campus classes were organized. So far, the two groups run about neck and neck in amount of copy sold. All the courses offered on the campus, with the exception of Professor Harris' course in the novel, are also offered by correspondence.

SHORT COURSE, JUNE 16-19

Each year a Short Course on Professional Writing offers a four-day program with talks by well-known authors, publishers, critics and literary agents. This Short Course in Professional Writing

has been popular. In 1947 it has been scheduled for June 16 to 19; registration fee \$5.00.

Not infrequently other universities send their students to Oklahoma for work of this kind. One lady, living in Oklahoma, went all the way to New York to take creative writing at Columbia, only to be advised there that she had better go back home to get the best training.

Indeed, recognition of the quality of the work done by Professors Campbell and Harris in teaching these courses has not been slow in coming.

The Saturday Review of Literature said, "The course in Professional Writing offered by the University of Oklahoma (under the supervision of Professor W. S. Campbell, 'Stanley Vestal') sounds so efficient and intelligent, whether taken in person or by correspondence, that we are tempted to refer to it many applicants who wish that kind of information and training."

The creative writing laboratory, English 167, conducted by Professor Harris, has been rated "the best college residence school for teaching writing in the United States" by *Writer's Digest*.

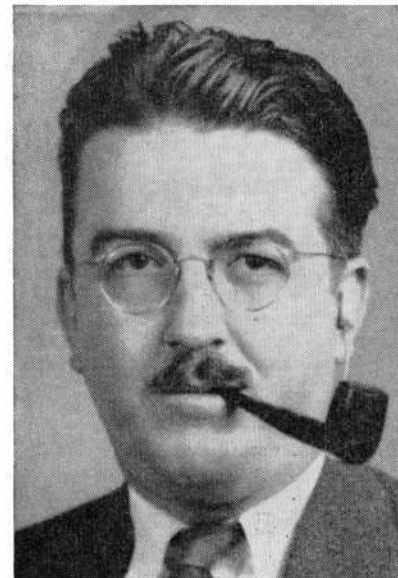
The age of students taking Professional Writing varies from college sophomores to men who have passed the allotted span of three score and ten. "One is never too old to learn to write," Professor Campbell declares. "Indeed, it often happens that a man writes better if he takes up writing after having had a considerable experience of life. I myself did not begin to write seriously until I was 40. Michaelangelo, the Italian painter and sculptor, wrote his sonnets at the age of 79.

"We had in our class here some years ago a man of 80 who wrote a perfectly readable book that would certainly have been published but for certain libelous passages which he refused to alter. W. H. Jackson, the man who took the first photographs of Yellowstone Park, wrote his first book, an autobiography entitled *Time Exposure*, at 97. After that he talked of plans for "my next book."

In the last two or three months sales have been reported to *Saturday Evening Post*, *Liberty*, *Adventure*, *Holland's*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Woman's Home Companion*, *Modern Romances*, *Real Story*, *Detective Story*, and *Scientific Detective*.

Also, *Open Road for Boys*, *Scene*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Today's Woman*, *American Home*, *Farm Journal*, *Christian Herald*, *The Readers Digest*, and many others.

Teaching a course of this kind is more arduous than conducting ordinary academic classes, both Campbell and Harris agree. But they feel that it is a far more rewarding experience, for every student has his heart in his work.



FOSTER HARRIS, '25ba . . . author, production assistant.



Posing formally for the Sooner Magazine photographer are these officers of the University's Faculty Club. Seated from left to right are J. Ray Matlock, '25eng, vice-president; Raymond R. White, '41m.com.ed, president, and K. Baker Horning, secretary. Standing are V. G. Edmondson (left), treasurer, and Herbert G. Allphin, chairman of the house committee.

O.U. Profs, Officials, Wives Gather at Faculty Clubhouse

The Faculty Club of the University of Oklahoma is a traditional institution of fellowship and offers its members excellent opportunities for making new friends and renewing old acquaintances among faculty members and their wives.

The club was organized in 1922. Joseph B. Umpleby served as first president. In 1925 it was incorporated. The purpose of the club then as now was "to promote the social and intellectual interests of the members and to promote education."

The clubhouse is a large red-brick building standing next to the President's home. A hostess, who lives in the clubhouse, prepares the refreshments for all activities. Two boys, students at the University, care for the lawn and do odd jobs around the clubhouse in payment of room rent.

The club limits membership to the instructional and administrative staff of the University and their wives or husbands. A special membership class is provided for widows of deceased members. They are called Associate-Affiliate members. The by-laws, which were adopted in 1940, allow members to elect no more than thirty non-faculty members. This group is a "Special" class. While actual membership in the Faculty Club is in the name of the faculty members, the wives of the members actively participate in most of the events.

Officers are elected each spring to serve for one year and enter upon their duties on June 1 succeeding the election. Present officers of the club are Raymond R. White, '41m.com.ed, president; J. Ray Matlock, '25eng, vice-president; K. Baker Horning, secretary; V. G. Edmondson, treasurer, and Herbert G. Allphin, chairman of house committee.

Past presidents of the clubs and the years they served are: Joseph B. Umpleby, '22-'23; A. K. Christian, '23-'24; A. B. Adams, '24-'26; J. H. Felgar, '26-'27; Gayfree Ellison, '27-'28; S. W.

Weidman, '28-'29; F. L. Vaughan, '29-'30; Jerome Dowd, '30-'31; Joseph F. Paxton, '31-'32; Lewis Salter, '12bm, '17ba, '32-'33; Charles M. Perry, '33-'34.

Also, William Schriever, '34-'35; J. B. Cheadle, '35-'36; Carl Almquist, '36-'37; Frank Tappan, '37-'38; John H. Casey, '38-'39; Arnold W. Johnson, '39-'40; George L. Cross, '40-'41; Gilbert Harold, '41-'42; Milton Hopkins, '42-'43; R. L. Huntington, '17ba, '43-'44; Bruce Wiley, '44-'45; Stephen Scatori, '45-'46; and Raymond R. White, '46-'47.

Weekly teas highlight the clubhouse's Thursday afternoons. Both men and women attend. An annual reception is given early in the year in the Union lounge for all new faculty members and their wives.

Once a month a formal dance for all club members is held in the Great Hall of the club. A new record player was purchased this year for the Hall and has furnished the music for all club dances. New records are purchased and kept on file to avoid duplication. On each Monday night the clubhouse is the scene of informal dancing, cards, checkers, darts, quoits and coffee. These informal evenings were started again this fall after a wartime absence.

Thursday nights, beginning at 8:30, square dancers take over for a dancing party. This activity is especially popular because the committee is as interested in helping novices learn as they are in dancing themselves.

Every Saturday night the club is closed to women. This is "Men's Night" and the club is open until midnight for the men to play billiards, pool, ping pong, and card games.

The first formal dinner this year was the annual Thanksgiving Turkey dinner held in the Union ballroom. About four times a year the club has a formal dinner and dance for club members and guests.

Club members may reserve the clubhouse for any private parties they wish to give. It is an ideal

place to have private dances, bridge parties, or to be host to certain organizations.

The club also has a reading room for members' use, a tennis court, ping pong tables, and pool and billiard tables. Two guest rooms are kept on reserve for use by guests of members. The club also sponsors special teas for children of club members.

Three-Day News Photo Course To Begin May 1 on the Campus

The University of Oklahoma School of Journalism's annual news photography short course, suspended since 1942 because of the war, is coming back to the campus May 1 in a three-day revival designed for professionals, amateurs and beginners.

Truman Pouncey, '42, assistant professor of journalism, who will direct the course, said tentative plans call for registration at 10 a.m. May 1, with the first half of the course devoted to instruction for amateurs and beginners. Second half of the session will emphasize discussions led by professional photographers.

Luncheon meetings are scheduled opening and concluding days. Paul Threlfall, Wichita, Kansas, vice president of region 7 of the National Press Photographers' association, will be the principal speaker May 1.

College of Education to Hold Youth Protection Conference

Highlighted by two special conferences, a two-week course on delinquency control and youth protection will be held June 16-27 by the College of Education at the University.

One of the principal speakers for the conference on exceptional children, June 17-19, will be Jane Stoddard, Richmond, Virginia, supervisor of special education in Virginia. Dr. Camilla Low, University of Wisconsin, will address the conference on guidance, June 24-27.

Graduates attending the course will receive two units of credit.

Laessig Joins Sooner Faculty

Scholar, teacher, composer, missionary and master of over 30 languages—that's the story of the life of Dr. Robert A. Laessig, special instructor in German at the University and recent repatriat from a British prisoner of war camp in Jamaica.

Born in Germany, Dr. Laessig attended high school in Berlin and in 1928 received his Ph. D. from Berlin State University.

During his early teens he became interested in languages. By the time he was graduated from high school he had mastered in addition to his native German, seven languages—English, French, Latin, Ancient Greek, Hebrew, Spanish and Swedish.

He entered college as an African languages and Chinese major, minoring in European and Asiatic languages. His choice of African languages was due to Germany's interest in regaining her colonial empire in Africa. Also, less was known about those languages, thus leaving the field open for more research.

Following his graduation from Berlin State University, Dr. Laessig taught languages in that university and in the Berlin School of Oriental Studies until 1935.

He then spent a year at Hamburg Baptist Theological Seminary studying for the ministry. Had he studied for the ministry at Berlin State where he taught, he would have been obliged to enter the German church of state as a government employee.

Upon completion of his work at the seminary in 1936, he went to the British Cameroons as a missionary of the German Baptist Church. Four years of religious work interspersed with an intense study of native dialects followed.

In school Dr. Laessig had formulated a system of his own for learning languages. Now that he was in the locality where African languages were spoken, he concentrated even more so on them. His system of learning languages was to break down the structure of the language and elaborate on it further than did most textbooks.

In 1940 war between Britain and Germany interrupted Dr. Laessig's work. As enemy aliens he, his wife and two children were interned by the British.

For four months they were interned in a prisoner of war camp in Nigeria and were then sent to Jamaica. There they were separated. Mrs. Laessig and the two children were interned in one camp and Dr. Laessig in another.

Camp officials granted two-hour passes to husbands once each two weeks. However, these visits to the wives' camp were often cancelled because of epidemics, gasoline shortage or numerous other reasons.

Three years of such conditions passed, but in October, 1944, a camp for families was built. This permitted a reuniting of the Laessigs.

Routine life in prison afforded little opportunity for linguistic advancement. However, Dr. Laessig continued to study his languages. In addition to duties performed as a prisoner he also was in charge of all linguistic education of internees and was active as a minister in the church.

Dr. Laessig realized one life-long ambition during his internment. This was the writing of a symphony. Since childhood he had played the trumpet, viola, English horn and oboe. Separated from his family and with plenty of time on his hands in prison, he started to work on his symphony.

He found it a difficult job because of the absence of all musical instruments. With only the music that ran through his mind he realized his musical ambition. He looks forward to releasing his musical work for publication after he has smoothed out a few rough spots.

The end of the war still was not the end of internment for the Laessigs. Not until January, 1947, were they able to leave Jamaica.

For ten years Dr. Laessig had corresponded with Dr. Johannes Malthaner, '31ma, associate professor of modern languages. When hopes of repatriation presented itself, Dr. Malthaner suggested that Dr. Laessig come to O.U. and apply for a position on the modern languages faculty.

(Continued on page 35)



Dr. Robert A. Laessig, special instructor in German, looks up from his notes on one of the 30 languages of which he is master to pose for the photographer.



Following a recent broadcast honoring Dr. S. W. Reaves, dean emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences, President Cross presents the Dean with a recording of his tribute.



Looking through one of the 278,167 books housed by the University library, Professor Jesse L. Rader, '08ba, '13ma, director of the School of Library Science, is obviously enjoying this one. It was largely through the efforts of Professor Rader and former President William B. Bizzell that appropriations for a new library building were sought in 1924.

University Library Houses Treasure Room, Lib-Sci School

Boasting 278,167 volumes of works ranging from highly technical scientific information to simple American verse, the University Library takes its place as an invaluable institution of the University of Oklahoma.

Since 1892 it has grown from a cubbyhole in the old Administration Building to its present expanded size. One of the milestones in its path was the fire in 1904 which razed the Administration Building, taking with it some 20,000 volumes of treasured books.

Recovery from this tragic episode was slow. After a few months of convalescence in a small room in the second Administration Building, which was located at the same site as the present Administration Building, the Library moved in December, 1904, to Carnegie Library. This library was located in what is now the Education Building. From there it moved in 1920 to a new Library Building, the present Art Building.

President William B. Bizzell and Jesse L. Rader '08ba, '13ma, then librarian, now director of the School of Library Science, realized in 1924 that the fastly expanding library demanded more space. They went to work immediately seeking appropriations for a new building.

The state legislature answered the prayers of these two men to the tune of a \$500,000 appropriation. This first appropriation enabled beginning of construction in 1928 of the present building. By December, 1929, it was ready for occupancy.

Functions of the present day library are divided into five departments. The acquisitions department handles orders. The catalog department numbers incoming books, lists them, and forwards them to their proper channel.

The loan department takes care of the bulk of the volumes. Books that may be checked out by students and faculty are cared for by this department. The reference department has in its shelves filled with encyclopedias and various reference books numbering 14,000 volumes. It is housed on the second floor of the building in a huge room conveniently furnished with mahogany study tables and plush chairs.

One of the most popular departments of the library is the periodical department. Located in the basement it is constantly frequented by students interested in current affairs. The department is on the mailing list of over 800 periodicals. Magazines come from all sections of the United States and from several foreign countries.

In addition to the above departments, the library also operates the School of Library Science, which graduates students well trained in the requirements of modern libraries.

Outstanding graduates of this school include Gaston L. Litton, '34ba, '40ma, who has been appointed director of Benjamin Franklin Library, Mexico City, Mexico. He formerly was employed in the National Archives, Washington, D. C. He recently completed reorganization of the National Library of Panama.

Ethelyn Markley, '31ba, is another outstanding graduate of the School of Library Science. She is a professor in the School of Library Science at the University of California. Prior to accepting this job she was a professor in the O.U. school.

Aida Golcher, '43ba, a Costa Rican, is representative of the many foreign grads. She is at the present time director of the United Nations' Medical Library in Geneva, Switzerland.

At the University the Library is branching out to give better service to the students. A recent development is the establishment of a branch

office at the South Campus. Approximately 1,000 volumes chosen to meet the demands of the courses being taught on that campus are kept there.

By far the most cherished asset of the library is the Treasure Room, which contains a number of first edition volumes, plus unique collections of the world's finest literature.

Everette DeGolyer, '11ba, Dallas, who is publisher of *Saturday Review of Literature* and senior partner of DeGolyer and MacNaughton, Consulting Geologists, recently donated eight volumes to the Treasure Room. Seven of these comprise the first collected edition of Shakespeare's works. The other is Charles Darwin's *Journal of Researches . . . of His Majesty's Ship Beagle*, complete with the author's presentation inscription on the fly leaf.

Other collections adorning the shelves of this exclusive section of the library include the entire collection of Joseph Quincy Adams, who was director of Folger-Shakespeare Library, Washington, D. C., until his death. Another private collection maintained in the Treasure Room is that of Joseph Edward Hallinen, which consists of 15,000 volumes. Five-hundred first editions of American Literature, complete runs of scientific journals and other periodicals, and scientific treatises make up this prize collection.

From a local standpoint the most interesting collection is probably the hundreds of volumes of selective histories of the Southwest, most of which are first editions. Among these are John W. Monette's *Mississippi Valley*, Du Pratz's *Histoire de la Louisiane*, Washington Irving's *Tour on the Prairies*, and Philip St. George Cooke's *Scenes and Adventures in the Army . . . 1857*.

Growing more popular as its presence becomes known is the Shirk collection. This collection came from a Nazi cache in Europe. It contains volumes of reproductions of art of Velasquez, Murillo and many other artists. One complete volume tells the life of Franklin D. Roosevelt from the Nazi propaganda viewpoint. Another is a collection of copies of orders given by General Dwight D. Eisenhower to his subordinates during the Normandy invasion. Still another contains copies of orders given by the nazi's to their armies during the African campaign. Pictures of Hitler and his marshals fill one volume, while original art is devoted to another. An original edition of *Mein Kampf* and a French translation of *Grimm's Fairy Tales* make up two more volumes of the collection of over 300 volumes.

To maintain the Treasure Room and other functions of the library requires the employment of 17 full time librarians and 40 to 50 student librarians.

Despite his many duties in directing the library and School of Library Science, Mr. Rader has found time to write a book. This book *South of 40*, is at the University Press now. It is a bibliography of the region south of the 40th parallel and between the Mississippi and the Rio Grande.

Gathering of information for this bibliography involved a search through 1,000,000 library cards. Four-thousand titles are used. The first edition of this book should be out in June, 1947.

Illness Is Fatal to Mrs. Benton

Hundreds of University alumni were grieved to learn of the death March 22 of Mrs. O. M. Benton, mother of Joseph Benton, '20ba, '21fa, University professor of voice.

Mrs. Benton, whose death followed a lengthy illness, was foster mother to over 800 alumni who have lived in the big Benton home during school months over the past 27 years. Her warm and lively friendliness and annual Christmas parties will long be remembered by students who have lived at "Bentonville."

Funeral services were held in the First Presbyterian Church, to which Mrs. Benton belonged for many years. The Rev. John B. Thompson, minister, officiated. Vocalists were two of Mr. Benton's students, Norma Weir and Eugene Savage. Bearers were six men students who live in the Benton home.

The Bentons moved to Norman in 1916 so that Joseph, later to become a widely acclaimed opera star, might receive educational advantages.