



Dr. Pedro Salinas, eminent poet and scholar, chatted with Mrs. Lowell Dunham (Frances Ransom, '37ma) and Dr. Jewell Wurtzbaugh (right) during his lecture visit on the O.U. campus recently.

Spanish Poet Salinas Visits O.U.

An ill-fated Europe has in one regard been a source of rare gain for the Americas. Artists and scientists who perhaps would never have left their native lands but for the ravages of war have sought refuge in the new world, where the right to live freely and create as one wills is still preserved.

It was not otherwise with the eminent poet and scholar, Pedro Salinas, who had taught at the Universities of Paris, Cambridge, and Seville, and at his alma mater, the University of Madrid; who had been secretary of the International Summer University at Santander; and, who had lectured at Oxford, Brussels, and other European universities, before civil war in Spain brought him to this country as professor of Spanish at Wellesley College, in 1936. With already five volumes of distinguished poetry to his credit, he was, the following year, invited to give the well-known Turnbull Lectures on Poetry at the Johns Hopkins University. In 1940, the University tendered the poet its chair of Spanish language and literature.

In Baltimore, Salinas found not only a post, but what is perhaps even dearer to a poet, a translator, Eleanor L. Turnbull, who, with unusual accuracy and delicacy, has put into English the poems in two volumes, *Lost Angel and Other Poems*, and *Truth of Two*, the latter of which would alone rank Salinas among the first of contemporary poets. A third volume, her translation of his long poem, *Zero*, is just off the Contemporary Poetry Press.

But if civil war in his native Spain brought the poet-scholar to America, World War II indirectly played a role in his coming to the University of Oklahoma; for, when Salinas was lecturing at the University of Puerto Rico in 1944, Oklahoma's own talented student of Spanish letters, Lowell Dunham, then assistant agent in charge of the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in San Juan, was in his few leisure hours cultivating the Spanish artists in exile in Puerto Rico. By none was the Oklahoman more impressed than by Pedro Salinas, whose learning, gift, and charm he planned, once the war was over, to share with his friends in Oklahoma.

He kept his promise by taxing the interest of the Committee on the University's Public Lecture Series to such good end that Salinas presented a series of three lectures on the campus in February. In the first of these—that on February 4—the poet illustrated the Spanish character as delineated in painting from El Greco to Goya. On February 5, he addressed students and state teachers of Spanish on "What we owe to Don Quixote," pointing out

that for the first time in the history of the novel in *Don Quixote* human nature was conceived as an "organic integration of two separate and distinct elements . . . the quixotesque and the sanchesque." His final lecture, also in Spanish, was a commentary on a favored metaphor of three Spanish classical poets who likened the transiency of life to a river.

Before his lecture on February 6, the Department of Modern Languages entertained Dr. Salinas at dinner in the Blue Room of the Union, where the tables in gracious tribute to the poet were made festive with Spanish candelabra and charmingly carved wooden figurines of Quixote and Sancho. Especial guests at the dinner were Vice-President and Mrs. Royden J. Dangerfield, Dean and Mrs. E. D. Meacham, Dean and Mrs. Glenn C. Couch, and Professor and Mrs. Cortez A. M. Ewing. Here it was the poet paid his prettiest compliment to Oklahoma. He had heard before he came to Norman "of Professor R. T. House and *Books Abroad*" (in which chapters from his new book, *In Defense of Letters*, will soon appear) and "of the University Press," but he had to come to Oklahoma, he said, to discover its "rare cordiality."

His own warmth induces such "rare cordiality"; for, in addition to his scheduled addresses, the poet generously lectured to the eleven o'clock Spanish classes on February 6 on his impressions of South America, based on observations made during the summer of 1947, when he lectured at the Universities of Quito, Bogota, and Lima; and, on February 5, he delighted the Inter-American Club of the University with a barrage of ideas and wit seldom equalled on our campus, making all who heard him doubly indebted to Professor Dunham and the Committee on Public Lectures.—By Dr. Jewell Wurtzbaugh.

Dean Johnson Gets Memory Test

It's the second generation that's worrying Dean D. B. R. Johnson of the University School of Pharmacy. And it's all because his famous memory for names of students is undergoing a severe test during these days of skyrocketing enrollments.

Dean Johnson, who has been a member of the faculty for 30 years, has always prided himself on the ability to remember the name of every student in pharmacy—even if there was a lapse of 20 years between graduation and the time he saw him again.

But now the children of former graduates are in school and the dean scratches his head and says,

"Golly, is used to be fairly easy to remember everybody's name, but now with so many it's almost impossible." More than 450 students are now enrolled in pharmacy.

Dr. Hassler Heads Committee Planning Interscholastic Meet

Heading the faculty committee for the planning and supervision of the Interscholastic Meet this spring is Dr. J. O. Hassler, professor of mathematics and astronomy and newly appointed chairman of the committee.

Dr. Hassler succeeds R. Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37law, as head planner for the meet. Gunning, former extension division director, resigned to take over directorship of the University of Oklahoma foundation. Gunning served as interim chairman following F. G. Tappan, David Ross Boyd professor of electrical engineering, who directed the meet from 1919 to 1942.

James G. Harlow, '31ba, '33ms, recently appointed director of the high school science service, will take over the curricular division of the meet, which was formerly handled by Dr. Hassler.

Other faculty members on the committee include Gilbert Waller, fine arts events; Leslie H. Rice, publication events; Guy Brown, speech activities; J. Willis Stovall, museum features; Garner Coliums, '19ba, housing; Katherine Culbert, women's athletics; Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, co-ordination of men's athletics and John Jacobs, '16ba, men's track and field events. Bette Yarger, '48 journ, recently appointed secretary of interscholastic activities, will also work with this committee which is appointed annually to make arrangements for the meet.

Dr. Hassler has served on the University faculty for 28 years, but this is his first experience with the Interscholastic Meet. He commented that one indirect contact with the meet might be the fact that his text, *Plane Geometry*, was studied by many high school students in preparing for the meet some years ago. He has written or collaborated on six other books, one of which is a college text for the teaching of highschool mathematics.

Formerly chairman of the department of mathematics, Dr. Hassler is in demand as a speaker on mathematics at teacher's meetings in Oklahoma and other states. Active in professional organizations, he lists membership in Sigma Xi, honorary scientific research society; American Mathematical Society; American Astronomical Society; Mathematical Association of America, and has served as president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. A fellow of the American Association for Advancement of Science, his name is listed in *Who's Who, the American Men of Science and the Leaders in American Education*.

Dr. Hassler has been very active in promoting interest in astronomy. When he first came here, one course in astronomy was offered; now through his energies, it is possible to list astronomy as a major. Principally through his efforts, the observatory was built and equipped so that research might be carried out in astronomy.

Boy Scout work has figured high in the interests of Dr. Hassler; he has worked with the group here in Norman for 27 years. For his "distinguished service to boyhood," he was presented with the Silver Beaver award in 1936. He is now chairman of the Court of Honor.

Committee plans for this spring's meet are in full swing, with the dates set for May 5, 6, 7 and 8. Curricular events are scheduled for May 6 and 7, athletic for May 6, 7 and 8. State finals in debate and speech are slated for April 12, 13 and 14, with state finals in instrumental music events set for May 5, 6 and 7. Entrants in the latter two divisions must have won their respective district contests to be eligible.

This meet, the forty-fourth annual, will bring entrants from over 250 high schools to meet in statewide competition.

Professors Make 'Who's Who'

The names of two University of Oklahoma professors appear for the first time in the geographical index of the 1948-49 *Who's Who in America*. A total of 39 O.U. staff members are listed.

Included are 85 from Oklahoma City, 50 from Tulsa, 42 from Norman, and 15 from Stillwater.

Governor Roy J. Turner is listed for the first time. Former governors included are Robert S. Kerr, '16, Martin E. Trapp, Robert L. Williams, and William H. Murray.

The two O.U. professors listed for the first time are Dr. Glenn C. Couch, '31bs, '37ms, dean of the University College, and Dr. M. L. Wardell, '19ba, professor of history.

The other 37 are:

Dr. Arthur B. Adams, dean of the College of Business Administration; Dr. John F. Bender, David Ross Boyd professor of education; Joseph H. Benton, '20ba, '21fa, '41ma, professor of voice, and Walter S. Campbell, research professor of English.

W. H. Carson, dean of the College of Engineering; Dr. John B. Cheadle, David Ross Boyd, professor of law; Wilbur F. Cloud, '25ba, '26ma, professor of petroleum engineering, and Dr. Ellsworth Collings, professor of school supervision.

Dr. George L. Cross, president of the University, Dr. E. E. Dale, '11ba, research professor of history; Dr. C. E. Decker, research professor emeritus of paleontology; Dr. Cortez A. M. Ewing, professor of government, and Dr. Roy Gittinger, '02ba, regents professor of history.

H. H. Herbert, professor of journalism; Dr. Roy T. House, David Ross Boyd, professor of modern languages; Dr. R. L. Huntington, '17ba, professor of chemical engineering; Dr. Oscar B. Jacobson, research professor of art, and Dr. Arnold E. Joyal, dean of the College of Education.

Dr. Victor H. Kulp, David Ross Boyd professor of law; Dr. J. H. Marshburn, professor of English; Dr. E. D. Meacham, '14ba, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Maurice H. Merrill, '19ba, '22law, professor of law, and Julien C. Monnet, dean emeritus of the School of Law.

Dr. V. E. Monnett, '12ba, professor of geology; J. L. Radar, '08ba, '13ma, director of the School of Library Science; Dr. S. W. Reaves, dean emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. A. Richards, professor of zoology, and Lewis S. Salter, '12bm, '17ba, professor of music.

Dr. William Schriever, professor of physics; Joseph E. Smay, professor of architecture; Dr. Laurence H. Snyder, dean of the Graduate College; Dr. Alice Sowers, professor of family life education, and F. G. Tappan, David Ross Boyd professor of electrical engineering.

Dr. Floyd L. Vaughan, professor of marketing; Col. Jerome J. Watters, Jr., professor of military science and tactics, and Dr. A. O. Weese, professor of zoology.

Charles N. Gould, former geology professor and head of the U. S. Geological survey, Dr. John Hervey, '23ba, '25law, former Dean of the School of Law, and Josh Lee, '17ba, former U. S. senator, are also listed with the Norman group.

Oklahoma Cityans whose names appear for the first time include, Herbert B. Bruner, Fain G. Cesar, Leonard L. Clifton, '16ba, Randall S. Cobb, '19law, Ferdie Deering, Estelle C. Hoffman, '24ed, and Ralph Hudson, '32ba, '33lib.sci.

Also Singer B. Irelan, Roy W. Kenny, Grady F. Mathews, '23ba, '23bs, '25med, W. Angie Smith, Henry H. Turner, and Governor Turner.

Med School Chairmen Named

Six members of the University School of Medicine faculty were approved recently as new departmental chairmen by the Board of Regents. The new chairmen are:

Dr. R. Q. Goodwin, head of the department of medicine; Dr. D. H. O'Donoghue, department of orthopedic surgery; Dr. L. Chester McHenry, department of otorhinolaryngology; Dr. Coyne Campbell, department of psychiatry and neurology; Dr. Peter E. Russo, department of radiology, and Dr. L. J. Stary, department of surgery.

Dr. Tom L. Wainwright, '31ba, '33med, instructor in surgery, was appointed co-ordinator of clerkships, and Dr. William C. McClure, '32ba, '36bs, '36med, clinical assistant in medicine, associate co-ordinator.

Other medical school appointments included Dr. William Howard Atkins, resident in anesthesia; Dr. John H. Clymer, '42bs, '42ba, '44med, resident in surgery; Dr. Paul Martin Darden, '38bs, '42med, resident in medicine; Dr. John Florence, '40ba, '43med, resident in orthopedic surgery; Dr. Robert Alvin Rix, Jr., resident in neuro-surgery, and Mrs. Opal Filson, '32nurse, head nurse.

Dr. C. E. Decker Receives Grant

A grant-in-aid of \$700 has been appropriated to Dr. Charles E. Decker, University research professor of geology and professor emeritus in paleontology, by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists to be used in research investigations of Ordovician graptolites of Alabama, Tennessee and Virginia.

Dr. Decker, an international authority on the microscopic marine animals of the early paleozoic age, corresponds and exchanges specimens with other paleontologists throughout the world. He recently received bulletins from the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal and the Indian Botanical Society, containing articles by Dr. G. S. Puri, paleo-botanist of India.

The articles on "Fossil Plants and the Himalayan Uplift" indicate the possibility that "the fossils found in the Himalayan region may be identical with some found in the Arbuckles," Dr. Decker said. He has written the Indian society, requesting specimens in order to make comparisons with the Oklahoma fossils.

He will address the 33rd annual meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, being held jointly with the Society of Economic Paleontology and Mineralogy, April 26 to 29 in Denver.

BOOKS

Family Fun Down South

WITH A SOUTHERN ACCENT, by Viola Liddell. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.00.

Mrs. Liddell gives a hilarious account of her own family life in the Old South in this book released in March by the O.U. Press. The adventures of the nine children of Robert and Annie Goode provide humorous reading throughout the entire book.

Father was the lord and master of the household, deeply loved yet held in awe by the fun-loving group of children he reared. They could put almost anything over on Mother, however, who was gentle, undemanding—the exact opposite in temperament and action of dynamic father.

In telling of her fun and frolic, Mrs. Liddell gives informative descriptions of the prevailing attitudes from the 1880s to the 1920s on the Negro problems, the fall of King Cotton, and other Southern ideas and reactions.

As could be expected from such a heavily populated book, one does not become thoroughly acquainted with all the characters. Deck, Mrs. Liddell's most mischievous brother, never tires of playing pranks on anyone and everyone. The author pictures herself as an impossibly lazy child, explaining that what was play for her brothers and sisters was downright work for her.

One of the most laugh-provoking chapters in this amusing book is entitled "Twice-told Tales." It includes some of the favorite stories and jokes of this unconventional family, most of which are uproarious. In fact, I can't resist telling one of the anecdotes here.

"Uncle Art", who is described as "not being afraid of the devil but who was deathly afraid of snakes . . . had gone to the barn to feed the stock and, unfortunately, was standing behind a frisky

mule while he forked hay into the stalls. Some of the hay probably tickled the mule's rump and at the same time kept Uncle Art from seeing what was about to happen to him, so that it was some time after it happened before Uncle Art knew that the touchy critter had loosed a rear salvo squarely into his midriff. The lick had knocked Uncle Art out of his wits and through the barn door, and when he came to his senses, he found himself lying in a pile of fresh manure and unable to move because of a shirt full of broken ribs. What he did not know and could not at once see was that a big blacksnake, which had, in the commotion, fallen out of the loft, was lying across his chest.

"After a time, however, when he was somewhat revived, Uncle Art raised up his head to look the situation over, and there in front of his face was a snake thumbing his fangs at him like forked lightning and looking icy daggers into his eyes. But for the first time in his life, Uncle Art was too incensed and hurt to care what happened to himself or to the snake; so he groaned and dropped his head back on the manure heap and said defiantly, 'Just go right ahead and bite, damn you, 'cause I'm already dead anyhow.'" *Thellys Gill Hess, '47bus.*

Iran—A Complex Pattern

INTRODUCTION TO IRAN—by Elgin Groseclose, '20ba. Oxford University Press, New York. \$3.50

Elgin Groseclose is well qualified to present Iran as it appeared from 1921 until the last year or two. He taught in a mission school in Tabriz during 1921-22 and participated in the work of the Near East Relief. Again in 1943 he was in Iran as treasurer general, having been appointed by the Iranian Parliament.

His book covers many phases of Iranian life, culture, political beliefs, and working habits. The volume is interspersed with interesting photographs taken by the author and the United States Army Signal Corps.

An interesting similarity in the characteristics of the land of Iran and that of the American Southwest, and the cultural kinship of the Aryans and Americans is brought out in the early chapters of the book.

The Persian arts—rug weaving, poetry, music, etc.—are abstract. The great beauty of Persian rugs seems to come from the ability of the weavers to express some inner feeling of beauty. The author states that Persian music—even more than rug decoration or poetry—is the quintessence of design and the abstraction of pattern. The music is so ethereal that it is even more insubstantial than the air upon which it palpitates.

A great deal of the book is devoted to the political troubles of Iran. The regime of Riza Shah Pahlavi is discussed, and his mistakes and good works commented upon. The occupation by the British, American and Russian forces of Iran is covered quite in detail. The author closes with the prophesy that whether Iran will be able to pursue its independent existence without molestation by its northern neighbor remains "locked in the Kremlin". *Thellys Gill Hess, '47bus.*

Books by Vestal, Pearce Appear

Two Oklahoma authors, Dick Pearce, '31ba, and Stanley Vestal (Walter S. Campbell), research professor in English and director of courses in professional writing, appear on the list of forthcoming publications from Random House.

Dick Pearce's *Desert Steel* tells of New Mexico in the 1890s, the conflicts among the people and between the people and the land itself. Due for release in May, this novel will thrill all western fans.

Warpath and Council Fire, the story of the conflict between Indians and the settlers and the Indian bureau and the war department, is Vestal's 20th book. The stories of Sitting Bull and Kit Carson, Buffalo Bill and General Custer are included in this non-fiction item. The book will be available in April.