

Finding the prospect of a teaching position in Ethiopia a challenge, R. M. McCool, '31, and his wife, Berry, relax at their Norman home before leaving for their foreign assignment.

Sooners Are Off to Ethiopia

When Italy invaded Ethiopia, few people had ever paid much attention to the obscure African Kingdom. Yet, it's an ill wind, etc., and from the defeat of Hailie Selassie's legions the world learned of this backward country and its famous leader.

Now embarked on a course of improving the conditions of his country and in particular the educational facilities, Hailie Selassie dispatched Perry Carmichael, '33m.ed, director of elementary education in Addis Ababa, capital city of Ethiopia, to the United States with orders to select instructors for teaching assignments in Ethiopia.

Nine alumni and wives of alumni of the University are among the 13 instructors that answered the invitation of Carmichael to

accept three-year teaching assignments in the East African country.

R. M. McCool, '31, and his wife, Mrs. Berry McCool, Norman, were among the first to sign for the foreign assignment. McCool is a long time resident of the state. He has been state Democratic chairman, president of Murray State School of Agriculture at Tishomingo, educational advisor for the C.C.C. and was city manager of Norman during 1942-46. Mrs. McCool is a graduate of Clark Memorial College, Newton, Mississippi.

Roy Heffner, '18ba, '19eng, and his wife, Mrs. Edna (Spencer) Heffner, '47ba, Norman, form another teaching duo. Heffner has been an instructor in the physics depart-

ment of the University. Mrs. Heffner has had a wide teaching experience and at present is instructing at the Jane Brook Foundation, Purcell. She did not leave with her husband because of her present teaching assignment, but will join him next summer.

Eugene Parks and wife, Mrs. Alma Parks, Checotah, are both slated to teach as will Harry James and wife, Mrs. Emma James, Clinton.

The last of the O.U. alums to accept the teaching post in Ethiopia was Clayton Russell, Oklahoma City.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Rice, Stillwater; Alfred P. Ingram, Seminole, and Frank A. Massey, Sarcoxie, Missouri, complete the group of instructors.

Mr. and Mrs. Parks were accompanied by their 10-month-old daughter, Alma, and Mr. and Mrs. Rice were accompanied by their son, John Richard, 12.

Carmichael and the twelve instructors with their children left New York City September 20 aboard a T.W.A. Constellation bound for Cairo, Egypt, where they transferred to Ethiopian Airlines for the remainder of their aerial trip to Addis Ababa.

To illustrate the need for American teachers, Carmichael gave a brief outline of the curriculum in the schools of the East African kingdom.

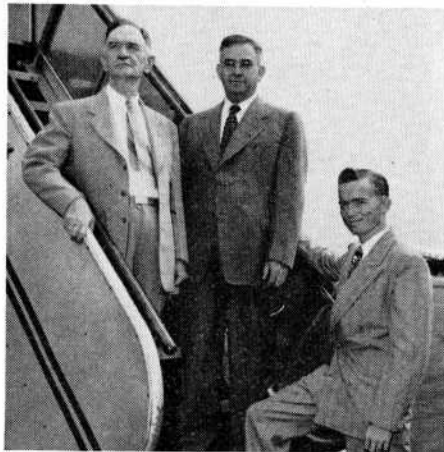
English is the number two language of the country. In their first year of schooling the children learn to read and write Ethiopian and spend one hour a day learning to speak English. During the second year, the one hour of English includes primer level reading. Beginning the third year, the process is reversed with the native language taught for one hour and English the rest. Ethiopian children study virtually the same subjects as American children.

Besides the transportation, teachers who signed for the tour of duty will have unfurnished living quarters provided and will have the return transportation provided if they stay three years.

Food costs of fresh meat, eggs, and vegetables are low, but imported goods are high. The climate, Carmichael says, is delightful. No summer weight clothes are needed.

School starts about October 1, Carmichael said, and is divided into three terms. The first term runs until the Ethiopian Christmas, which is January 6 by the American calendar. After a two-week recess (they don't call it "vacation" or "holiday"), the second term extends to the Ethiopian Easter which is a variable date, the same as the United States, and falling last year on May 6. Following another two-week recess the third term begins and extends until July

23 which is the emperor's birthday and the date on which all schools close. Schools hold classes five days a week, and the days taught in a year closely approximate the American school year.



The oldest teacher to accept an Ethiopian assignment, R. M. McCool, 63 years of age, Norman, and the youngest teacher in the group, Eugene Parks, 23, pose with Perry Carmichael on the steps of the TWA Constellation which took them to Cairo, Egypt, from where they continued the journey via the Ethiopian Airlines to Addis Ababa.

There are 16 schools in Addis Ababa, a city of approximately 150,000. Ten of the schools take the student through the lower grades, varying from the third to the sixth grade. Four are elementary schools, with



Thirteen school teachers from Oklahoma and Missouri, including nine University alumni or wives of alumni, are shown as they waved farewell before boarding a Trans World Airline Constellation. Going aboard at La Guardia Field, New York City, September 20, they were enroute to Addis Ababa where they will teach in the government schools of Ethiopia. They are left to right, front row: Clayton Russell, Oklahoma City; Roy Heffner, '18ba, '19eng, former professor at the University; Kirk Rice, Stillwater; Alfred Ingram, Seminole; Dr. Perry Carmichael, '33m.ed, assistant to the Ethiopian Minister of Education, Eugene Parks of Checotah, his wife, Alma, and their daughter, Alma. Standing on the steps, left to right: R. M. McCool, '31, Norman; Robert Rice; Frank Massey, Sarcocixie, Missouri; Mrs. McCool; Mrs. Kirk Rice; Harry James, Clinton, and wife, Emma.

Sixty-four Enter Med School

Sixty-four students have been accepted as the freshman class at the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine. The fall term began September 20.

Selections were made on a competitive basis from 265 Oklahoma applicants. No out-of-state students were considered, although there were

some students going on through higher grades. There are two secondary schools.

If attendance were restricted to children within the city limits of the capital, Carmichael said, the schools would be able to accommodate most of the children, but unfortunately that is not possible. Ethiopia has no census and any child who applies for enrollment can claim he is a resident of the city. The youth of the country is eager for education and the demand for seats in the classrooms is much greater than their capacities. When a school is filled, the enrollment is closed.

"This works to one advantage, so far as the teacher is concerned," said Carmichael. "We have no disciplinary problems in Ethiopia. With every child pleading to attend classes, if one of the enrolled students doesn't profit from his studies, or if he doesn't behave and follow instructions, he is immediately dismissed and another allowed to take his place."

1,500 requests for application blanks from students living in other states.

Originally scheduled to accept only 52, the class was increased after the Board of Regents made arrangements to open several wards in University Hospital and to use part of the facilities of other Oklahoma City hospitals for medical student teaching.

Class members are: Arthur W. Buswell, Kingfisher; Clarence C. Callicot, Alva; Leo Patrick Cawley, Drumright; David Clifton Clemans, Gypsum; Marion D. Christensen, Mutual; Ted Clemens, Jr., Oklahoma City; James Thomas Colwick, Jr., Durant.

Hugh M. Connor, Jr., Oklahoma City; Howard Sample Davenport, '41, David; Ralph Carrol Denny, Guthrie; James Louis Diacon, Alva; John H. Ennis, '48ba, Oklahoma City; James H. Elliott, Enid; John Robert Findlay, '48bs, Oklahoma City; Harry E. Fischer, Jr., Tulsa.

Maurice C. Fuquay, Hugo; M. Lloyd Godley, Jr., Woodward; Jasper Carl Hallford, Enid; Jack Allen Harris, Bartlesville; August Louis Helmbright, Jr., Okmulgee; Orville U. Holt, '41-'42, Muse; Joe Charles Horton, Hollis; Mahlon Eugene Ingham, Newkirk.

George Harry Jennings, Jr., '48bs, Oklahoma City; William Thomas Johnson, Oklahoma City; Stephen Tisdall Jones, Cordell; William Hunter Knoblock, Jr., Cushing; Allen F. Lawrence, Lawton; Joseph Karl Lester, Miami; Kenneth Gilbert Lowe, Atoka.

Willie George Long, Pauls Valley; Cecil Haynes Meares, Jr., Muskogee; James Merida McCleery, Oklahoma City; George Fred McDonald, Oklahoma City; James Leon McGovern, Wewoka; Robert Aubrey McGregor, '48ba, Mangum; George Elmer Merkle, '48ms, Depew.

Herman C. Moody, Portersdale, Georgia, formerly of Oklahoma City; John Morgan Moore, Ada; Arnold G. Nelson, Ninnekah; Hugh Beryl Norris, Tahlequah; Stephen Parks, Stigler; William Robert Patten, Norman; Donald Earl Payne, Rush Springs; Robert Bryce Petric, Oklahoma City.

George R. Randels, '48ba, Tulsa; Paul E. Sadler, Muskogee; Burl E. Stone, Council Hill; Jerald Raydell Senter, Tulsa; Catherine Anna Svoboda, Bartlesville; Billy B. Taylor, Chickasha; Lawrence E. Thompson, Jr., Muskogee; Charles R. Veirs, Pawhuska; William A. Vint, Strang; Jasper Lawrence Wheeler, Jr., Durant, and Granville Jean Womack, Stillwater.

Medical School Notes

- ▶ Martin Dale Edwards, '45med, has recently established an office in Oklahoma City.
- ▶ William H. Reiff, '39bs, '41med, recently opened an office in Oklahoma City. Dr. Reiff is limiting his practice to the field of Internal Medicine.
- ▶ William E. Price, '44ba, '46med, was a recent visitor to the School of Medicine. He is with the Navy at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California.
- ▶ C. P. Bishop, '35bs, '37med, has been awarded a scholarship by the State Department of Public Health to attend Columbia School of Public Health for the coming year.
- ▶ John F. Hackler, '31bs, '33med, professor of preventive medicine and public health, has resigned his position with the School of Medicine to accept that of director of the Muskogee City-County Health Department.