

BOOKS

The Heart of the Matter

AMERICA'S HEARTLAND: *The Southwest*, by GREEN PEYTON. University of Oklahoma Press, \$3.75.

Although not written by an O.U. professor or alumnus, *America's Heartland: The Southwest*, contains so many allusions to both that it is fitting for it to be reviewed for you here.

As you are probably aware, the Southwest includes the states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and New Mexico. The history, characteristics of the inhabitants, and future of each of these states are related in a most entertaining manner by Mr. Peyton, an adopted Southwesterner. The lives of people who helped make the Southwest the empire that it is today are touched briefly. To mention a few of the many prominent alumni referred to, Evrette L. DeGolyer, '11ba; Joseph Benton, '20ba, '21bfa, '41ma; Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba; Dr. E. E. Dale, '11ba; Neil Johnson, '15ba, '17Law; Savoie Lottinville, '29ba, and there are many others.

Naturally, I was most interested in the author's treatment of the State of Oklahoma and the University. Mr. Peyton picked O.U. as his first choice among the many educational institutions in the Southwest. He states that the University "aspires to fulfill what seem to me the true functions of a university: to enlighten the minds of young men and women, and instill in them a respect for learning." You will be interested to know that "the University of Oklahoma was chosen by the Rockefeller Foundation to make the cultural survey of the Southwest which this book introduces, for the precise reason that it does have a wide and tolerant outlook in all the fields which are covered by the survey."

Incidentally, I learned more Oklahoma history in this book than I ever did in school. Political graft in the state and the universities and colleges is unabashedly disclosed. The possibility of the extinction of oil and gas because of the rapid use of our resources is discussed. The book contains 24 pictures of various personalities, scenes, and locations. There are also four maps. The material is presented in such an enchanting fashion that one forgets it is primarily a geographical and biographical survey of the Southwest.

Mr. Peyton is the author of two novels, a biography, and three informative works. He lives in San Antonio. *Thellys Hess, '47bus.*

Geologists' Future Bright

With hundreds of young geologists seeking degrees, what does the future offer? Is the field being overcrowded?

Dr. V. E. Monnett, '12ba, director of the School of Geology, bases his answer on available opportunities. "Last year every person getting a degree in geology from O.U. had from one to six jobs offered him. Already this year we've had requests from five different oil companies to interview seniors this fall."

The University has 758 major students in geology, the largest enrolment ever recorded here. Monnett also believes it's a record for any geology school in the world. Included are 69 graduate students, 206 seniors, 315 juniors and 168 sophomores. The smaller sophomore enrolment is explained by the fact that almost half of O.U.'s major students are transfers from other schools.

Frank D. Hess Dies

A quiet service at the Drumright First Methodist Church, Wednesday, October 7, marked the passing of Frank D. Hess, '25bs.

Long a prominent civic and school leader, Mr. Hess died following a heart attack. At the time he was serving as superintendent of schools for Drumright, a post he has held for the past 20 years.

During his tenure of office he has been responsible for many improvements made in the school system. The current construction and repair program for the school buildings was but one of the many physical improvements credited to Hess. His work in local and state organizations won him the applause of leaders throughout the state.

He had served on the Will Rogers Council of the Boy Scouts for five years and on the board of directors for the Chamber of Commerce, the Red Cross and of several state educational organizations.

The Rotary Club, of which Mr. Hess was a past-president and long-time member, sat in a group at the funeral as did the staff of the school system.

Born in Alva, Oklahoma, on December 6, 1895, Mr. Hess taught school in Helena, and served in the Navy before going to Drumright in 1920 as a teacher and coach in the junior high school.

With the exception of one year at the University and two years as principal of Cleveland high school he has been a part of the Drumright school system ever since. He was appointed superintendent of schools in 1929.

He is survived by his wife, the former Edith Williams, and two children, Frank Jr., and Thomas.

Ardmore Schools List Many Alumni

Most travelers journeying throughout the state of Oklahoma have seen advance signs enumerating the respective wonders to be seen in city, town, village or hamlet. Although there is at present no physical placard or billboard announcement, a new claim is about to be voiced—Ardmore, The Home of O.U. School Teachers.

The facts would bear out such a statement. Forty-three members of the public school system, including two board members, have attended the state University.

Topping the list is George D. Hann, '36m.ed, newly elected University Dad's Association prexy and Superintendent of Schools at Ardmore. Since leaving his alma mater, he has served as president of the Oklahoma (Alumni) Association. He has also held the offices of president of the Oklahoma Education Association and president of the Association of School Administrators in Oklahoma. His wife (Irene Argabright, '26), also attended the University, and his son, George, Jr., is currently enrolled.

Hardly a year has passed since 1924 that cannot be represented by degrees from the University in the Ardmore school system. Two instructors—Mary Gordon Jones, '16ba, and Eloise S. Grimm, '22ba, precede that date.

Julia Sparger, '24ba, '34ma; Mabel Wolfe, '25ed, '40m.ed; Lillian G. Schenk, '25; C. A. Franklin, '26; Ethel McClure, '27; Mary M. Ringer, '28; Carrie E. Love, '28ed; and Ralph Hall, '29, were graduated or in attendance during the late twenties.

Only two graduating classes are not represented in the 1930's—1933 and 1935. Doris Duston, '30; Ramona Madden, '30ma; Jennie Smith, '30ed; Dr. J. Hoyle Carlock, '31ba; Maytie Dennis Mitchell, '31; Vercue Sandlin, '32; Bernice Bow, '34m.ed; Gladice Carpenter, '37bs; R. E. Goins, '38m.ed;

Marvin Wesner, '39m.ed, and Murl H. Price, '38-'39, make up the representation of the thirties in addition to Hann.

Few of the war years are represented by graduates with the emphasis on the years immediately preceding the war. Fannie Maude Wham Peddy, '40, Elizabeth Thomas Shilling, '40bs; William E. Thomas, '40ed; Walter Rappolee, '40m.ed; Virginia Rawlings Jones, '40m.ed; George Connely, '40m.ed; J. Burr Stout, '41m.ed; Evelyn Spears, '41m.ed; Charlotte Wall Seren, '41m.ed; George Holloway, '41m.ed; and Lena Ellen Rice, '42m.ed, were among the graduates of the early forties.

Ruth Chaffin Lawrence, '45fa; Clara L. Cameron Hodges, '45, and Hortense Landgraf, '46, reflect the lack of male graduates during the war.

Cecil Morris, '47m.ed; Colleen Oliver, '48ed; Geneva Evans, '48m.ed; A. G. Sturdevant, '48, Irene Pate McGoodwin, '48, and Lila Sturdevant, '48m.ed, round out the alumni affiliated with the Ardmore schools. Dr. Carlock and C. A. Franklin are members of the Board of Education.

Credit Controls Studied

How do the new credit controls work? How do they affect your business? A University professor will answer those questions in a special study on consumer credit being conducted as a service to state business.

He is James M. Murphy, assistant professor of finance, who will make an analysis of controls passed at the special session of congress. Their effect on bankers and businessmen in general will be determined as a project for the O.U. Bureau of Business Research. The report is expected to be available to businessmen this month, Francis R. Cella, bureau director, said.

Murphy joined the faculty here this fall, after serving on the University of Indiana faculty. He holds a master's degree in business administration and has completed all course requirements for a doctor's in commerce.

Laundry Closed

The University laundry on the South Campus, which was closed last June, was not reopened this fall because there was not a sufficient volume of business to justify continuing, Roscoe Cate, '26ba, financial vice-president of the University, reported.

The University found it difficult to operate the laundry on an efficient basis because of the small demand for service during the summer and vacation periods.

Also, the laundry was designed and equipped to laundry navy clothing rather than student clothing.

Another reason which led to the closing was the improvement of service to students by privately operated laundries.

Industries Meeting Set

Officials of the Oklahoma Industrial and Mineral Industries Conference have accepted an invitation to hold the 1949 meeting on the University of Oklahoma campus. Robert H. Dott, program chairman and director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, said the meeting will be held next fall with the dates to be announced later. It will mark the third year for the combined conference. The 1948 meeting was held in Oklahoma City.