

# The Street Leads One Way

By Paul A. Andres



ROY HADSELL  
1908-'09

In the second article, the author brings eight more outstanding presidents of the Alumni Association into focus. As these men went, so went the Association. It was a one way street—forward.

WHEN Dean Gittinger broke the ink over the bow of the *Alumni Quarterly* in June of 1909, he launched the first alumni publication at the University. Appropriately enough, the new magazine contained articles by such famed Sooners as Mrs. David Ross Boyd, Errett R. Newby, '07bm, '08ba, V. L. Parrington and Roy Gittinger, '02ba. Issues were slated for September, December and March and, although these are the only issues to be found in the archives of the University, there is reason to believe that a subsequent issue or issues followed before a publication called *The University of Oklahoma Magazine* took over the alumni work in the latter part of 1910.

The new magazine had a department reserved for alumni notices and publications, although designed primarily as a literary publication. Roy Hadsell, '04ba, served as alumni editor and the fifty page, six by nine, digest entered the land of the Sooners, according to its opening editorial, with the statement that "No blast of trumpets has announced our entrance. No prophets have predicted our coming, our wonders, our perfections. No wise men have been sent forth to prepare a way for us. Nor do we come like the silent winged snow, or a ghost at night. We need no introduction, for we bring no new message. We are putting forth no new element of University life, no new thought, no new principle. This magazine is merely attempting to collect and publish some of our everyday thoughts. . . . Every individual, or body of individuals, possess some peculiar characteristic. We feel sure that this University has its distinct, living individuality, a breathing pulsating character. Our every effort will be to faithfully portray this thought, this character, this individuality."

And just that is what the *University of Oklahoma Magazine* did until 1928 when *Sooner Magazine* was born.

The second issue of volume one (*University of Oklahoma Magazine*) is worthy of note herein because of the early effort it portrays on the part of the alumni association in its membership drives. An article by Roy Hadsell, '04ba, in his Alumni Notes department states that—

"It was voted at the last annual meeting to include in the Alumni Association all graduates from all schools. When the association was first organized there were no graduates other than those from the College of Arts and Sciences and from the two-years course from the School of Pharmacy. There was a disposition for years to admit graduates to four courses only, a disposition which grew strong when the University was young. Last year there were no objections to the plan of incorporating all grads into one general association. This plan will enable the officers to keep in touch with all graduates; it will enable the magazine to exist; it will enable the association to take part in an organized way in civic affairs which concern it where it is capable of taking part, for the graduates now number over 100."

The June, 1911, issue is purely an alumni directory—a list of the names and addresses of all graduates—and it is interesting to note that the total stands at 422 graduates!

The leader of this fast moving, quick thinking group was one of the foremost members of the faculty until his death in August of 1942.

He was one of two men in point of service as a full-time faculty member. Coming to the University in 1900, Hadsell was both a student of and secretary to the much loved David Ross Boyd, the first president of the University. He also served as part-time registrar from 1900 to 1904.

In 1904, he became an instructor in English and three years later was given the rank of professor. While on leave of absence from the University in 1906-07, he obtained a master's degree from Harvard University, and, twenty years later, went to the University of Chicago to work toward his doctor's degree in English. At the same time he taught several classes at the Armour Institute of Technology.

Hadsell held numerous positions in educational societies, having served as president of the University of Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, and later, as president of the State English Council. He also served as general editor of the Western Series of English and American Classics which comprised 25 volumes.

He was a member of the Modern Languages Association, the American Association of University Professors, Beta Theta Pi social fraternity and the Masonic Lodge.

During his undergraduate days he was one of the original activity men of the campus. He was president of his class, president of the Y. M. C. A., a member of the glee club and quartet, editor of the *Umpire*, the predecessor of the *Oklahoma Daily*, and editor of the *Mistletoe*, which is the forerunner of the *Sooner Yearbook*.

In an interview published in this magazine in February, 1929, Hadsell recalled that tugs of war and class fights were quite in vogue at O.U. in the old days. It was an annual custom to have a tug-of-war between University students and those of the preparatory school.

Hadsell was studying one night when he looked out the window and saw the first University building burning. The desk containing most of the records was saved, and school started again the next day, he related in the same article.

About this same time the state legislature appropriated \$90,000 for the construction of a new building at the University. Feeling the importance of the occasion, Hadsell arranged a song for the quartet to sing commemorating the event. He couldn't recall much of the song but was sure that the refrain as well as the theme was "\$90,000 on the campus."

Hadsell, who had served for many years as secretary of the general faculty, was honored April 24, 1933, when a portrait of him was painted by



C. ROSS HUME  
1909-'10

the late Patricio Gimeno, a former member of both the Spanish and Art Departments. The portrait now hangs in the University library.

It might be interesting to note at this point that all the meetings of the Alumni Association were held in a very sacred place. Amid the atmosphere of the University Chapel, which according to Ben Owen, former director of athletics and now director of intramural athletics, was on the third floor of the then Carnegie Library. The original building donated by Carnegie was the first such library to be granted to a state institution and it is still standing although it is known as the Education building. Possibly the atmosphere and surrounding of this first alumni meeting place had something to do with the very formal style in which the meetings were conducted and the minutes recorded.

1909-10 Following Hadsell as president of the Association was a man known far and wide in Sooner legend for his many "firsts." His folder which I have just pulled from the alumni files is possibly the thickest one of the entire group of over 100,000 alumni. It contains over 50 years of University history and indeed the autobiography of one of the University's longest and most loyal supporters.

His name is CARELTON ROSS HUME, '98ba, '00ma.

In an article written for Dr. M. L. Wardell, David Ross Boyd professor of history, Hume reminds that "In olden times the story of early events was told or sung by the B-A-R-D. These are the initial letters of the members of the first faculty: Boyd, Amos, Rice, Debarr. This makes this work peculiarly appropriate of one who tells of early University life."

And it is appropriate that Hume should tell of the formative years, because he not only was an integral part of these years, but has been active in University affairs since 1894 when he first entered as a freshman.

Hume's list of University accomplishments are worthy of mention here because of the great value they have to students and faculty of today.

He was a member of the first freshman class consisting of nine people and served as their secretary; he was a charter member of the Pierian Literary Society which was the second such group on the campus; he saw the organization of the Historical Society and the first changes in the original faculty. Incidentally, he coyly reminds, in referring

to the first faculty change, "I saw the first scandal too!"

During the school year 1895-96, he was a member of the first sophomore class which then stood at five. He was the scorekeeper at the first baseball game and exchange editor of the first newspaper, the *Umpire*. Probably one of the most interesting accounts of University history is the story of how the yell was chosen—a yell which even today resounds wherever Sooners gather—the never-to-be-forgotten *BOOMER SOONER*. Hume was at the University when this first yell was formulated and according to the 1916 yearbook, which recounts the event, it happened like this:

There was a story circulating about the Plains Indians and the white man which contained the following paragraphs:

HI noon came at the several races for land.

RICK-E-TY Scattered along each border creaking rigs started in the "Run" across the rolling prairies of this "Land of the Fair God," where before only the war—

WHOOOP of the wild Indian, or the howl of the

lone coyote, had been heard.

Those sturdy pioneers had but one aim;

that was

TO DO to die, ere they failed in their quest for a home for their families.

BOOMER, Whether they were a who had sought the opening of the country long and earnestly;

SOONER, or a who had slipped in before the appointed time to gain an undue advantage; or later settler who came with dreams of homes, schools, churches and communities; they purposed also to found an "institution of learning."

OKLAHOMA U. This ambition they have realized, and they and their posterity enjoy and point with pride to

whose name and fame are heard round the world. . . .

The story went on and so did the accomplishments of Hume.

During 1896-97, he was a junior and his class had now narrowed to three. It was during this year that he was the first quarterback ever to play on a University of Oklahoma team. He also was president of the Pierian Literary Society, a member of the first male *quartette*, and an actor in *Queen Esther*, the first student play.

Finally the great year arrived. Hume was a member of the senior class and with Roy Philson Stoops, one of the two first graduates of the University, was looking forward to graduation. Also during this last year, he was a member of the first fraternity to organize on the campus, a member of the first glee club, manager of the baseball team and a member of the faculty acting as a tutor for a salary of 15 dollars a month. In addition to being a charter member of the Alumni Association, Hume, in 1900, became the only graduate student in the school, and consequently, the first man to receive a Master's Degree from O.U.

Hume's record at the University did not end when he received his Master's Degree in 1900. He has been active and continues to be active in alumni and University affairs as witnessed by the fact that



W. L. KENDALL  
1910-'11

this office receives almost a monthly letter or two from him. He attended the 50th reunion of his class last year and parted with the remark that "I hope to attend my 55th class reunion in 1953. I'll be an O.U. Grandad then!"

In the spring of 1948 Hume was granted an honorary membership in the Oklahoma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa for "his distinct and outstanding contributions as an undergraduate student, an alumni and an O.U. Dad."

Currently he is following his chosen profession as a lawyer. He lives in Anadarko where he has been County Judge of Caddo County since 1910. Hume received his Law Degree from Kansas University in 1903.

1910-11 Under the administration of W. L. KENDALL, who succeeded Hume as president of the Association, two notable innovations were made, both of which have become accepted facts today, but which in those days, were matters of high concern. In brief, it was resolved and passed "that the governor of the State of Oklahoma set it up as a precedent that members of the alumni association be appointed to the board of regents." The second far-reaching step was taken in the form of an amendment to the constitution. It is interesting to note that this particular section of the constitution—the membership section—has been amended about eight times since the original document was formulated.

Following a very definite course of logic, a special committee declared in its report to the meeting of June 8, 1911, that—

"The prime object of any alumni association is the promotion of the best interests of its alma mater. It is a recognized fact that as the Alumni Association of an institution grows in number that the institution will become stronger due to the influence of the alumni in securing suitable legislation for their institution.

"By definition, an alumnus is any one that is a graduate of a school or college or other institution of learning. Therefore a graduate of any school or college of the University of Oklahoma is, by virtue of that fact, an alumnus of the University. Most institutions of learning recognize the above definition as correct and include in their alumni associations all those that hold a degree of any kind from any of their schools or colleges.

"The committee believes that the question of



WALTER C. ERWIN  
1911-'12

number of years of work does not enter into the consideration of the membership of the Alumni Association of the University of Oklahoma, and furthermore, it believes that the best interests of the University of Oklahoma will be promoted by including in its alumni association all those who have a degree from any of its schools or colleges.

"Therefore the committee moves that the constitution of the present Alumni Association be amended so as to include in its membership graduates of any school or college at present in the University of Oklahoma, or that may be organized in the future, within the University of Oklahoma."

According to the minutes, the debate on this question was "heated," but the report of the committee was finally approved, thus paving the way for a larger and more-powerful alumni organization.

Kendall, the leader of this far-sighted group of alumni seems to have changed his address because countless letters and postcards to him apparently were not received. However, it is known that he was the proprietor of the Kendall Tire Service Company, well-known to Oklahoma City motorists, and that sometime during his life he worked in the claim department of the American International Underwriters Corporation with offices in New York. Past addresses on his file card include University, Louisiana; Kansas City, Missouri, and Maplewood, New Jersey.

In Volume VII, Number 1 of a 1903 *Umpire* he is listed as having accepted a position as superintendent of "school" in Lexington, Oklahoma. He entered the University in the spring of 1898 and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Latin during the summer of 1903.

Harold Keith's *Oklahoma Kickoff* lists Kendall as the first Rhodes Scholar from the University (his father went all the way to Oxford to see him graduate) and he is also spoken of both as a quarterback on the freshman team and the man who represented the varsity in the famed oratorical contests of the day; so famous were these syllable-slugging gatherings that they attracted more attention than the football games.

1911-12 Succeeding Kendall was WALTER C. ERWIN, '06ba, now deceased.

The minutes for the Alumni Association year 1911-12 are curiously missing from the aged pages of the record book. The president during this pe-

riod was, nevertheless, not only a very active but a very prominent alumnus of the University.

Coming to Oklahoma with his parents soon after the opening of the territory, he attended Central State Teacher's College at Edmond. He received a teacher's degree in 1900 and for two years served as superintendent of schools at Wellston before coming to the University. Receiving his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1906, Erwin was appointed a member of the faculty serving as professor of psychology and philosophy and director of the School of Education until he resigned in 1912.

He received a Master's Degree from the University of Chicago in 1910 and a Law Degree from Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee, in 1913.

After beginning the practice of law at Wellston with his brother, P. D. Erwin, '11ba, '12Law, he moved to Chandler and opened an office for the firm there. He became active in civic affairs and took part in many community projects. Serving several years as president of the Cimarron Valley Council of the Boy Scouts, he was awarded the Silver Beaver Award for outstanding work as an



TOM CAREY  
1912-'13

adult Scout leader.

Erwin died in October of 1937.

1912-13 TOM CAREY, '08ba, and a very energetic association came on the scene in June of 1912.

Under the guidance and leadership of Carey, who was to serve again as president of the association in 1928-29, many innovations were made.

A committee was appointed to encourage all past classes of the University to appoint a life secretary who would keep in constant contact with the alumni office at the University and thus cement the already closely knit ties between the association and the alumni.

Another committee was appointed to make provisions for the scheduling of regular reunions and plans were also made for representation of the University at the Panama Exposition.

An Alumni Cup was awarded to the class of 1908 for having 44 percent of its total living alumni back for their first official reunion and the class of 1898 was present in almost full strength as C. Ross Hume signed the registration book.

Carey's relationship with the University and with the world of business provides a story well worth reading.

Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1908, Carey founded Tom F. Carey and Company to engage in public accounting and to offer his services as a tax counsel in Oklahoma City.

His interest in accounting stems back to his college days when he was employed as treasurer and purchasing agent for the University.

Having attended Shawnee high school, Carey came to Norman and immediately began to take part in campus activities. He belonged to Sigma Nu social fraternity, was a member of the yearbook staff and took part in "several" stage presentations, the University orchestra and many oratory contests. He won the oratory medal while a student and also has the distinction of serving as president of the class of 1908.

Continually active in University affairs for almost forty years, Carey today holds the title of trustee of the University of Oklahoma Foundation and the position of second vice-chairman of the foundation. He also is a member of the board of trustees of the University of Oklahoma Association Life Membership Trust Fund, and a former member of the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Memorial Union.

As an acknowledged leader in the public accounting and tax counsel field, Carey holds a position of prestige and esteem that makes him a worthy member of the American Institute of Accountants and the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants.

He is married to the former Bess Margaret Bullock of Crete, Nebraska, and both of his children—Martha Lynne and Tom, Jr.—attended the University. Tom graduated in 1938 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in business and a Law Degree in 1940.

1913-14 EDWARD E. HOLMES, '08ba, succeeded Carey on June 11, 1914, and the work of getting more alumni on the board of regents continued although without much success during the years 1913-14.

According to Dean Gittinger and Mrs. John Hefley (Minnie Gould, '03ba) an exposition "of considerable size" was sent to the Panama Exposition at St. Louis by the Alumni Association which acted as a representative of the University.

Holmes received early recognition as an educator. In 1909, shortly after his graduation from the Uni-



EDWARD E. HOLMES  
1913-'14

versity, he was appointed ward principal of the Chickasha public schools; from 1910 to 1912 he served as superintendent of Marlow Public Schools and as an instructor in a summer school in Duncan for three consecutive summers.

An article in the *Daily Oklahoman* dated September 7, 1913, refers to the appointment of Holmes as Superintendent of Schools for Norman and states that he "is president of the Oklahoma High-school Debating League" and that he is "one of the leading public school educators of the state."

Unfortunately, Holmes activities after leaving the Norman post on January 28, 1915, are unknown. I have written countless letters all over the country trying to locate him, but to no avail. It is known however, that he was engaged in the real estate and loan business in Fort Worth in 1919.

1914-15 JOHN T. HARLEY, '13ba, '15Law, Tulsa attorney, was elected to serve as president following Holmes and the work of the Alumni Association continued to move forward into an ever expanding and aggressive organization. The meetings were being held in the library building at this time and the first thing on the docket for that June morning in 1915 was the proposal by the class of 1910 that "the commencement week events be held prior to the final examinations." A very unusual



JOHN T. HARLEY  
1914-'15

proposal indeed, but it passed the association and the resolution was sent to the "proper authorities." The University of Oklahoma Association Fund, which later became the life membership fund, was proposed by the "teners" also, and plans were made to carry the resolution into effect. The Homecoming Cup awarded to the class having the largest living representation present during commencement week went to the class of 1910 which had thirty-three and nine-tenths percent of its members return. To say the least, this certainly was a silver cup day for the 1910 grads!

The alumni president of this year certainly deserved his job, if interest and University activities are to be taken into consideration. And they definitely are.

During his sophomore year Harley, who at 22 years and 160 pounds played fullback on the Sooner squad, was a member of the team which ran up large scores and completely stampeded its opponents. They beat what was then Kingfisher College by a score of 66 to 0; Edmond went down before



FRED TARMAN  
1915-'16

the charging Sooners to the tune of 79 to 0, and even the "hardest struggle seen on the home field during the year" resolved with O.U. beating the Aggies 12 to 0. Harley's team played Texas that year too and barely managed to squeeze by them with a score of 3 to 0.

In addition to his football activities, Harley was a member of the Senate, the *Umpire* board and staff, was athletic director of Sooner football and president of his class. During his senior year, he continued to be active in campus affairs—so active in fact that he was elected to Pe-et which is a group comprised of the 10 leading men on the campus. He also is a member of the American Legion, Sigma Alpha Epsilon (social) and Sigma Delta Chi (journalism) fraternities.

Immediately following his graduation from the law school, he went to Coalgate, Oklahoma, and entered the practice of law. Two years later he was elected county attorney, but was called to military duty in April of the same year. Returning from the war, he was re-elected to the same office.

In 1920, Harley was appointed assistant U. S. district attorney at Muskogee, and was later appointed U. S. district attorney there. Still later he became a special assistant U. S. district attorney. He went to Tulsa in 1922 and maintained an active practice there both in state and federal courts. He served for a number of years as chief counsel for a major interstate bus company before his appointment to a common pleas judgeship in 1942 by Governor Leon C. Phillips, '16Law, and later Governor Robert S. Kerr, '16. He is now actively practicing law in Tulsa.

1915-16 FRED E. TARMAN took over the reins of the Alumni Association following Harley and really did some good riding.

The entry in the minute book stating "this proposal was not accepted" referred to the aforementioned suggestion made to the "proper authorities" that Commencement Week be held prior to final examinations. But this didn't stop the determined Sooner alumni. After debate and consideration, Tarman "suggested that each alumnus write a letter to the University authorities about the matter."

Another interesting motion was made at this June 7 meeting. It was proposed "that the Alumni Association co-operate with the School of Journalism in the publication of the *University of Oklahoma Magazine*—the scheme being that each

alumnus will pay the yearly dues of one dollar and that one-half of this will go to the magazine and the other half turned to the treasurer of the Alumni Association. This plan was unanimously adopted."

"Adjournment for luncheon!"

After a pleasant luncheon the group reassembled to decide that the class of 1906 won the Commencement Cup for the largest attendance.

Tarman's career is one that literally reads of success from the time that he wrote small inconspicuous stories as a reporter to the blazing headlines that he now edits and publishes as the man behind the printer's ink of the *Norman Transcript*.

He was a member of the first journalism class in the University and was assistant professor of journalism from 1917 to 1920. In the term between his graduation in 1910 and his joining the faculty of the school of journalism he had been reporter, sports editor, state editor, city editor and night editor of the *Daily Oklahoman*. In 1916, he was news editor of the *Oklahoma City Times*.

In 1920 he left the University to try his hand at the oil business for two years. He served as secretary of the board of the North American Oil Company. But the inevitable happened. Tarman found himself too much of a newspaper man to desert the publishing business and returned to buy an interest in the *Transcript* in 1922. He has been editor since that date and in more recent years has attained the position of publisher.

His University activities include membership in the Senate Literary Society, the fabulous Deep Dark Mystery Club and the *Sooner* yearbook staff. He also served as captain of the class football team and vice-president of the senior class.

Tarman was one of the founders of Pe-et and was also elected an honorary member of Sigma Delta Chi, national honorary journalism fraternity. He is an alumnus member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Gamma Delta is his social fraternity.

His journalistic adroitness and expertness have won him acclaim throughout the world of the humming presses.

He has consistently received the monthly editorial contests awards of the Oklahoma Natural Gas Company; he served as chairman of the state fair newspaper contest committee for 1947 and the *Sooner State Press* reports him as being named on a committee to serve with the faculty of the University of Oklahoma to judge the entries in the contest for weekly papers for the use of illustrative material in the 1939 National Editorial Association contests. He served as treasurer of the Oklahoma Press Association from 1930 to 1948 and was elected vice-president for the year 1948-49 and president for 1949-50.

Under his leadership the *Transcript* won the Sweepstakes award for the best all-around newspaper in the state in 1939, 1941, 1943, 1944 and 1946.

Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, appointed Tarman as chairman of the Cleveland County tree planting program during his administration and on April 9, 1948, Tarman was chosen to serve an eight-year term as a member of the board of trustees of the University of Oklahoma Foundation, which receives and administers gifts and bequests to the University.

Now entering his twenty-seventh year as editor of the *Transcript* and his twentieth year as president and general manager of the publishing company, Tarman is indeed a credit to both his University and his profession.

(To be continued in the next issue)