

Third in a Radio Series

The Class of 1914

BY ROY GITTINGER

that year the family moved to Norman where Mr. Wood opened another doctor's office and also operated a drug store. Three children were born to the Wood family after moving to Oklahoma.

This reunion was in observance of their 75th wedding anniversary. This milestone is as important to the state as it is to the Wood family, because the Wood clan have left their indelible mark on Oklahoma before and after it became a state. They have been represented on the campus of the University during the greater portion of the institution's life. Their family has watched both the state and University grow to its present size and importance. Beulah Wood, '92, now Mrs. C. N. Harr, was the first woman student to matriculate in the University at the time of its inception in 1892.

Attending the family reunion as official representative of the Alumni Association was George Cummings, '49bus.

Mobley Begins Training

Robert L. Mobley, '48bs, of Ardmore, has begun a three month period of full time employment at Allied Purchasing Corporation, one of New York City's department stores, as part of his training at the New York University school of retailing.

Under the store-service plan of the school of retailing, graduate students are able to combine classroom training with practical on the job experience. While they are employed in the stores the students are paid the standard rates of pay thereby making it possible for them to be partly self supporting while attending school.

Grad to Head Department

Alfred A. Crowell, '29ba, '34ma, associate professor of journalism at Kent State University, Ohio, will become head of the department of journalism and public relations at the University of Maryland, January 1.

Crowell is the author of "Law of Press Photography," published recently. He is also a former newspaperman, having been managing editor of two papers, the Columbus, Ohio, *Enquirer* and the Middletown, Ohio, *Journal*.

Asfahl Named Council Member

Milton Asfahl, '29ba, '30ma, has been elected a member of the National Advisory Council of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa. He is Oklahoma general agent for the company in Oklahoma City.

In September Mr. Asfahl received his C.L.U. degree from the American College of Life Underwriters in Cincinnati, Ohio.

New Professor Added

Wei-Ta Huang has joined the University staff as assistant professor of geology.

A graduate of the National Sun Yat-Sen University of China, he received his master's degree from the University of California and his doctor's degree from Syracuse University.

Niedermaier Assigned to Far East

Edward Niedermaier, Jr., '47-'48, has been assigned to the Far East Air Forces Headquarters as a radio operator.

Pfc. Niedermaier entered military service August 18, 1948, at Oklahoma City after attending the University business school.

Niedermaier's present assignment will be up in July, 1951, when he hopes to be reassigned at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Dean Gittinger's remarks concerning the class of 1914 was a portion of the radio series the Dean presented over radio station WNAD. All of the classes the series cover were reunion classes which met last June—D. B.

In June and August, 1914, 166 candidates received degrees from the University. Five years before 35 had been graduated. Ten years before the number had been 14. During the year 1913-14 the number enrolled was 1,008 with 420 in attendance during the summer. Five years before the total number of students had been 646 and ten years before 467. Accordingly the University was just beginning a period of development and expansion. This new era was largely due to the vision and dynamic personality of the third president, Stratton Deluth Brooks.

It will be remembered that the second president was dismissed in the spring of 1911. The new Board of Regents, known officially as the State Board of Education, seemed to think that the dropping of President Evans and of two or three members of the faculty who came in with him would serve as an atonement for the dismissal of President Boyd and half of his faculty three years before. While two minuses are supposed always to make a plus, it is seldom that two wrongs make anything right. It certainly did not in this case. The two reorganizations in the short space of three years gave the University and the state a reputation for mixing politics and education that forty years have hardly erased. The board selected Dean Julien C. Monnet of the School of Law to serve as acting president for a year while search was made for a permanent president. Dean Monnet successfully guided the University during the school year 1911-12. In May, 1912, President Brooks began his work, and in the eleven years and two months of his administration the University began a period of growth to continue to the present—interrupted only for brief intervals of war time. During 1911-12 the board had sought the country over for the man ablest and best fitted for the presidency and Stratton D. Brooks fortunately was selected and induced to accept. This meant in his case the decision to leave a successful career as city school superintendent, first in Cleveland then in Boston to try his hand in University administration. President Brooks, a Harvard alumnus it should be noted, in one of his early talks to the faculty said that Oklahoma was like Yale—chiefly famous because its name so often coupled with Harvard's. Only when men said Harvard and Yale they meant to link together two of the greatest universities, but when they said Harvard and Oklahoma they meant to go from one end of the gamut to the other and to link the name of the best conducted university with that of the worst. He went on to say with the support of the state and the regents and the help of the faculty and the student body it would be his earnest desire to change Oklahoma's reputation.

On May 1, 1912, President Brooks found at the University a 60-acre campus on which were four buildings of fair size, University Hall, Carnegie Library, the Engineering Building (now known as the Administration Building, the Education Building, and the Engineering Laboratory, respectively), and Science Hall. Besides these were the gymna-



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sium and a number of small, temporary wooden structures and lastly a heating and lighting plant. The new law building, Monnet Hall, was completed during the year 1912-13 and was occupied in September, 1913. This gave needed space for offices and classrooms. The annual income of the University at the time was approximately \$175,000. The library, including departmental collections and government publications, numbered approximately 20,000 volumes. At Norman there were (including the deans), 39 professors and associate professors, five assistant professors, and 13 instructors. In the School of Medicine at Oklahoma City there were 10 professors, 21 lecturers, and six instructors. There were in addition six other members of the staff in Norman. Sixteen laboratories were in operation ranging from anatomy to zoology.

The leading members of the faculty in addition to Dean Monnet, included three of those mentioned in the first broadcast series, Edwin DeBarr, chemistry and vice president of the University; James S. Buchanan, history and dean of the college of arts and sciences; and A. H. Van Vliet, biology and dean of the graduate school. Among others were J. F. Paxton, Greek; J. W. Sturgis, Latin; Jerome Dowd, economics and sociology; H. H. Lane, zoology; S. W. Reaves, mathematics; J. H. Felgar, dean of the college of engineering; Fredrick Holmberg, dean of the school of fine arts; T. H. Brewer and Roy Hadsell, both English; Roy T. House, German; Guy Y. Williams, chemistry; John B. Cheadle and Victor H. Kulp, both law; J. L. Rader, librarian; and Ben Owen, athletics. With President Brooks came among others, Charles F. Giard and Lewis S. Salter, music, and L. N. Morgan, English. A little later came Gayfree Ellison, bacteriology; Arthur B. Adams, economics; H. H. Herbert, journalism; and E. E. Dale, history. During the year 1913-14

the University Extension Division was organized. In the words of the catalog the purpose of this division was to make the University available to the entire state. Angelo C. Scott, former president of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and J. W. Scroggs, recently a member of the faculty of Kingfisher College, were in charge. The listener will perhaps remember that J. L. Lindsey came to the University in January, 1912, and E. R. Kraetli began work in November, 1913. During the year 1913 also W. G. Schmidt and Paul S. Carpenter were added to the music faculty.

When President Brooks came to the University he found several members of the staff whose preparation had perhaps been sufficient for teaching in a small college but who had not had the training and perspective needed for members of the faculty of the larger university that he was undertaking to build. The president therefore made plans for sabbatical leaves of absence. Members of the teaching staff on sabbatical leaves received half pay for the year and agreed to return to the faculty and remain with the University for a reasonable time. Only one member of the faculty was on leave during 1913-14, but after that date several took advantage of this arrangement to complete the requirements for advanced degrees. The result was more effective than might have been the case if a number of new teachers had been brought to the campus. This action on the president's part is indicative of his manner of success. A man less magnanimous would have insisted that the proper thing to do was to drop the inadequately trained men and bring in teachers who had already had the required training. The policy followed did much to engender faith in the University and to make the faculty members feel that they were a part of it. They appreciated the efforts of the president and gave unstinted support to his plans. Returning faculty members had the advantage of a new point of view that new faculty members would have brought in—but with a complete understanding of the problems of the University and the state, something that new faculty members could acquire only as a result of experience.

The income of the University for the year ending June 30, 1914, had grown to \$213,913. In addition, nearly \$50,000 had been appropriated for repairs of buildings and for a new heating and power plant. The area of the University campus was doubled in 1914. Sixty acres lying south of the old campus were secured in exchange for a section of land granted to the University by Congress in 1907. By this exchange the University also secured a president's home and several lots just north of the campus and west of the University Boulevard.

On June 11, 1914, the students who received degrees numbered 144. At the convocation on August 7, twenty-two degrees were conferred. The 166 degrees were distributed as follows: Bachelor of Arts, 91; Bachelor of Science, eight; Bachelor of Science in Medicine, one; Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, one; Pharmaceutical Chemist, 14; Bachelor of Science in Engineering, six; Bachelor of Music, six; Bachelor of Laws, 14; Master of Arts, 11; Doctor of Medicine, 14. Since eight students were the recipients each of two degrees the graduating class actually numbered 158.

It will be difficult to select the few who can even be named in the space allotted. First to come to mind will be John Rogers, LL. B., who has been a member of the University Board of Regents and is now one of the State Regents for Higher Education. Orel Busby, LL. B., and Eugene Ledbetter, LL. B., have been members of the University Board of Regents. Edgar D. Meacham, B. A., has been an instructor in the department of mathematics since

his graduation except for periods of absence to complete the requirements for advanced degrees, and is now dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Two other members of the class are now members of the University faculty: Perrill Munch, B. A., now Mrs. Brown, and Leonard Logan, B. A., both of whom have since completed the requirements for advanced degrees. Dr. Logan is well known both on the campus and in the state for his activities in organizations designed to promote the public welfare. Among other members of the class of 1914 who should be mentioned because of their active participation in public affairs and their continued interest and help in the progress of the University are: W. J. Armstrong, B. A., A. N. Boatman, B. A., Fred Capshaw, LL. B.; Roy Cox, B. A., William L. Eagleton, B. A., Fred Hansen, LL. B., Charles B. Memminger, B. A., Wade Shumate, B. A. Roy Spears, B. A., Carl Steen, M. D., and Luther White, B. A. Mention must be made too of Marie Anderson, now Mrs. Fenner, and Dr. Earl Yeakel who were both members of the faculty for a time.

This class must have been Cupid's favorite—so many romances flourished in it, *seven* in all. Remember Raymond Courtright and Elizabeth Eagleton Courtright; Fred Capshaw and Fannie Haynes Capshaw, she alas, is no longer living; Fred Hansen and Charmoon Simpson Hansen; Howard Holt and Bertha Oliver Holt; Claude Reeds and Luella Bretch Reeds; H. V. L. Sapper, not now living, and Lena Trout Sapper; Terrence Westhafer and Addie Maloy Westhafer.

Will space permit mentioning a few others? Dr. Charles N. Berry, John Eischeid, Dawson Houk, Carl Hughes, Charles Orr, Norman Reynolds, Dr. Mary Sawyer Sheppard, among many others come to mind.

Finally we must take time to pay tribute to two brothers no longer living: Tom Lowry and Dick Lowry who received bachelor's degrees at this time and were graduated in medicine later. Both served on the faculty of the school of medicine and Thomas Claude Lowry, to give his full name, was dean of the school of medicine for a short time.

While the members of the class of 1914 were receiving diplomas in June and August the cloud of world war was beginning to cast its shadow on the campus. The next article in this series will deal with the class of 1919, a class that completed the requirements for degrees during and at the end of the first World War.

Counsellors Begin Drive

One of the big strides in the Alumni Development Fund organization has been completed. Fund counsellors from Adair to Woodward counties have begun whipping into shape their plans to get contributions from alumni in their county.

Each counsellor is adapting a method of collection that best suits the need of his locality. But several points are included in every counsellor's program. He first ascertains the number of alumni and former students in his district. Then he appoints a committee of solicitors to aid him in his collections.

The job of the counsellor and solicitors is to obtain gifts from as many alumni as possible. They are more interested in small contributions from *all*, rather than several large contributions from a few. The success of the development program depends on the planning and energy of the counsellor in contacting the "little man."

Funds collected by the state's counsellors will go to 12 projects selected by the Board of Directors of the Fund. Each department of the University submits a list of three needs which they consider most

important in their particular fields. From this list the Board of Directors selects the objectives for the year.

Guy Brown, field director for the Alumni Development Fund, amply realizes the importance of the counsellors. Speaking before a group of the counsellors he said, "The University is grateful to the counsellors for accepting this responsibility, which exemplifies their loyalty and interest in their Alma Mater. As was expected, the Alumni Counsellors have accepted their appointments with real pride. . . . The basic idea of the Development Fund is extensive participation by Sooner alumni. Yes, participation by all is the key to success! This success depends upon the active co-operation of you, the Alumni Counsellors."

In the following months, Oklahoma alumni and former students will have a chance to meet the men who are the backbone of the Development Fund drive. They will be ringing doorbells and telephoning to solicit the aid of everyone in a program that will benefit the University and the state.

Turbyfill Is Appointed

The following article was printed in the *Panama-American* newspaper, Panama City, Republic of Panama, concerning Subert Turbyfill, '25fa, '26ba, '32ma, on November 9:

"Subert Turbyfill has been appointed representative for the theater of the Panama Canal by the United States Center of the International Theater Institute, according to word released from the office of the Superintendent of Schools at Balboa Heights.

"The local director of Balboa Little Theater and of the College Drama Activities will be in charge of planning and reporting to the international organization on the local observance of International Theater Month in March 1950. The International Theater Month was first suggested and approved by 24 nations at Zurich as a part of the general overall program of UNESCO.

"This will be the first time that any art or cultural group in Panama or the Canal Zone has been recognized by UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

"The theme for the month will be "World Peace through International Understanding" and the local College Drama Activities have already secured approval for a production of Katherine Cornell's version of the world famous "Antigone" during the month of March.

"It is expected that all other theater and drama groups in Panama and in the Canal Zone will join in International Theater Month observance, plans for which will be announced in more detail later in the year."

Professors Attend Meeting

Laurence H. Snyder, dean of the graduate college, attended a meeting of deans of southern graduate schools in New Orleans November 12-15.

Professor Rupel J. Jones, school of drama, attended a meeting of the national theatre conference November 24-28 in Chicago.

Miss Dorothy Friend, director of forensics, is going to Columbia, Missouri, to supervise a debate team in the University of Missouri, to chair a panel discussion at the conference and to give a speech on debate in Oklahoma, December 8-11.