

Sooner Portraits

A teacher, a newspaperman, a veterans administrator—they've made and are making large contributions to their chosen fields and to society



DR. W. W. ISLE, '15BA

It Sounds a Little Utopian

Dr. Walter W. Isle, '15ba, has a philosophy that sounds a little Utopian. But as president of Eastern Washington College of Education at Cheney, Washington, he is making it a reality. He is bringing his philosophy out of the Ivory Tower into the classroom.

Briefly, his belief is that it is the duty of educators to make the art of learning so dynamic and appealing that no boy or girl, from kindergarten through college, can be kept away from the school room. And that teachers must become such examples of dynamism and erudition as to inspire the best class of young Americans to follow the teaching profession.

Dr. Isle has some cogent arguments and a string of academic titles to back up his contentions. On the academic side, he has a B. A. from the University of Oklahoma and a M. A. and Ed. D. (doctor of education) from Stanford. And on the argumentative side he contends that teachers must develop a student's individualism to the utmost. His resistance to regimentation and belief in the individual are the main tenets of his philosophy in education.

A thumbnail description of his background shows that he was born in the state that is famous for people that have to be shown—Missouri. He's slightly reversed the state procedure and is showing the education world. He moved to Oklahoma when 10 years old. After filling various positions as school principal and superintendent in Clinton, Ninnekah,

Wewoka, Mangum and others, he became president of Southwestern Teachers' College at Weatherford.

In 1939 he was appointed director of research for San Mateo Junior College in California and, at the same time, worked on his degree for doctor of education at Stanford. For his doctor's thesis he wrote an analysis of the philosophy and practices of teacher education. This provided him with data to back up his philosophy of education. During the war, he abandoned teaching to accept a position with the educational service of OPA, having the jurisdiction of six western states.

Dr. Isle is in no sense of the word a stereotyped scholar. He is an avid sports fan, having coached football, basketball and track during periods of his teaching career. And he is a good match on the golf course. He has vast interests and has a zest



JOE MCBRIDE, '28BUS

for doing. In short he seems to typify the sort of educator specified in his own philosophy.

Another aspect of Dr. Isle's educational dream is physical fitness. During the war he was alarmed by the deplorable record of physical deficiencies discovered in draft examinations. He says schools should share the nation's responsibility of providing better physical fitness programs. At his Washington college post he is striving to encourage athletics without over emphasizing them.

Ample proof of the success of Isle's idea is found in the continued increase in enrolment in Eastern Washington College. For years to come his ideal will be a reality in the educational field.

His Ambition Was Big Enough

Over twenty-five years ago Joe W. McBride, '28 bus, arrived on the University of Oklahoma campus from Arkansas with \$1.15, a scanty wardrobe and a big ambition to go to college. Today he is

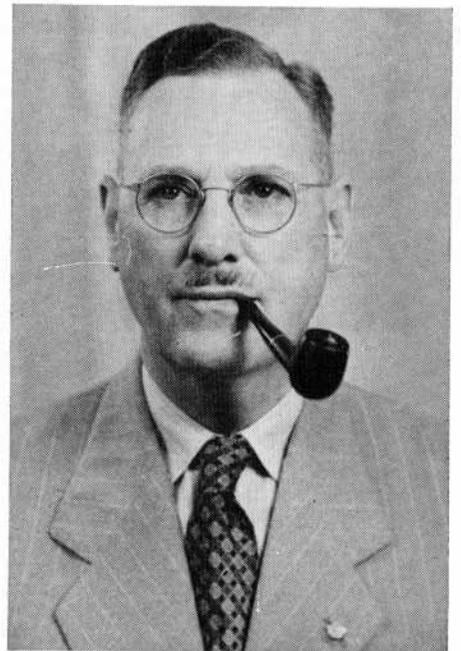
manager of the Nance-McBride Enterprises covering 14 newspapers, owns a real estate business, and is publisher and editor of the *Anadarko Daily News*.

On the surface it might appear that McBride is a typical "rag to riches" sort of fellow. But he is too much of an individual to be so easily typed. His story is unique. As a student he worked his entire way through school on publications and at book-keeping and collecting. McBride washed dishes for his room and board, delivered newspapers, held a concession for an electric slide machine carrying advertisements, was advertising manager of the *Oklahoma Daily*, student newspaper, and circulation manager of the old *Oklahoma Whirlwind*, humor magazine.

He displayed his now famous eye for business when as a student he cornered the roller skate market. A roller skating craze had struck the campus and McBride reaped many a dime by renting skates to the students and coeds. University authorities brought about a minor depression in this business when they ordered skaters to stay off University sidewalks.

After leaving the University, McBride held newspaper positions at Oklahoma City, Clinton, Hobart, Elk City and Walters. He was advertising salesman on the now defunct *Oklahoma News*, advertising manager and publisher of the Pulliam newspapers in Clinton, Hobart and Elk City, and 1935 became a partner in the Nance-McBride newspapers with newspapers in 14 Oklahoma cities.

McBride has always had a flair for leadership. He was named president of the board of regents in



R. H. CLOYD, '19BA, '28LAW

1943 and was the youngest man ever to serve in that position. He is past district governor of Rotary International and was two times Rotary club president and twice president of the Anadarko Chamber of Commerce. Presently he is president of the Oklahoma Advisory Council on Health and is a member of the Board Directors of the Oklahoma Press Association.

In 1943 the board of regents selected McBride to be acting president of the University until a permanent president could be chosen. McBride was also instructed to assume the responsibilities as news and editorial director of student publications.

Other organizations which carry McBride's name on the membership rolls are the Masons and Shriners, Anadarko Country Club, Riding Club, Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity, Alpha Delta Sigma advertising fraternity. And he lays claims to being a fair golfer, a truthful fisherman, and an even tempered bridge player.

It's quite a climb this man has made since he arrived with that \$1.15 in the pockets of trousers that did not match his coat, several pairs of socks, a banjo and a cornet slung over his shoulder.

He Shunned the Sidelines

Back in 1948 the University Alumni Association wrote Richard H. Cloyd, '19ba, '28Law, asking him to fill out a biographical blank. In a space labeled 'Combat Record,' Cloyd commented, "Too old for the fighting forces—so the Adjutant General of the army ruled."

And that seems to be the only thing that kept Cloyd on the sidelines during World War II. But even then he was not exactly on the sidelines. He had served in the army in World War I and in 1940 rejoined the army as a colonel to command a battalion of engineers. He served on the general staffs of the Eighth Corps Area, Eighth Service Command and Fourth Army. Cloyd was not allowed to go overseas but he was responsible for giving training to many of the soldiers who did make the jaunt.

But that's only his wartime record. On the civilian side of life, Cloyd really comes into his own. Since September 1925 he has served continuously as an officer in Phi Delta Phi, international legal fraternity. In 1941 he was elected president of that fraternity and served in that capacity until 1947. Then he was elected Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the fraternity. And at the 1949 Ottawa, Ontario, convention was elected an Associate Justice of the Court of Appeals in the fraternity.

There are many facets to Mr. Cloyd's career. From 1928 to 1939 he was actively engaged in politics. He was state representative from Cleveland County from 1928 to 1934 and was chief clerk for the House of Representatives from 1934 to 1935. Then he served as acting mayor of Norman from 1935 to 1939.

While in Norman he was president of the Norman Kiwanis Club and was a member of several other organizations. Among the other fraternal and civic organizations in which he holds membership are the IOOF, BPOE, AF and AM and Indian Consistory.

The stadium and Union in Norman are partly the work of Cloyd. He was one of the original incorporators and members of the board of trustees of the Stadium-Union Memorial Corporation from 1924 to 1946. This was the organization that raised one million dollars to erect the first stadium seating 15,000 fans.

As a student, Cloyd will be remembered for his interest and participation in campus affairs. He was president of his freshman class in law, played varsity football in 1917; played polo the first year it

was instituted at the University and received a polo letter. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon social fraternity, Pick and Hammer Club, Las Dos Americas, Panhellenic Association and Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity.

He's still interested in campus life. As a member of Phi Delta Phi he has visited the campuses of more than 40 universities and colleges throughout the United States. And now at his present occupa-

tion he is aiding college students. Daily as Assistant Chief Attorney of the Veterans Administration in Oklahoma City he is confronted with the student's problems.

On the hobby side he enjoys tennis, polo, rifle and pistol marksmanship. Perhaps by such strenuous hobbies, he's still trying to show the Adjutant General that he made a mistake about his age being a handicap.

Son of the Cheyennes

BY GRACE PENNEY, '40ED



Wah-pah-nah-yah of the Cheyennes, in Indian ceremonial dress. Walter Richard West, art director of Bacone Indian College, Muskogee, is the grandson of Ghost Woman.

When the annual American Indian Exposition, the only "all-Indian managed" gathering of its kind in the country, opened its four-day spectacle to a record crowd, August 16 at Anadarko, it used for the first time the new official seal designed by the noted Indian artist, Walter Richard West, Wah-pah-nah-yah, son of the Cheyennes.

The colorful seal symbolizes the desire of the Plains Indians to weave the best of their tribal culture into the pattern of American life. It features the lordly buffalo, source of food, clothing, and shelter, in front of a teepee, their typical home, beside a river of life-giving water.

The eagle-feather banners of the Plains flank the American flag, along with Oklahoma's state flag, and the new flag of the Exposition, in the sacred colors of scarlet and dark blue, patterned after the Chief's blanket. Buffalo tracks, used on all men's moccasins in the old days to symbolize endurance and agility, march around the border of the seal.

West, the first Indian artist to receive a Bachelor

of Fine Arts degree from the University of Oklahoma, is art director at Bacone College at Muskogee. He is now working on his master's degree under the direction of Leonard P. Good, '27fa, professor of art at the University. West is a member of Delta Phi Delta, honorary art fraternity, and is listed in "Who's Who in American Art." He was winner of the grand prize in the national competition of American Indian artists at Philbrook Art Center in Tulsa this spring, the only artist to win prizes in each of the four successive years of the show. His winning picture was "Dance of the Soldier Societies," painted in the traditional two-dimensional style of Indian art.

Possessing a versatility of technique and feeling that has won him prominence in the last ten years, West includes in his exhibits paintings ranging from the traditional Indian studies through the American realism style in portraits and landscapes to the cubistic form of expression. Going on from there, the artist is evolving an exciting personal idiom of his own, a three-dimensional style that is causing interested comment wherever shown.

West, who paints under the name of Wah-pah-nah-yah, which means "Light Foot" in his native Cheyenne tongue, is the grandson of Ghost Woman, and of the noted Cheyenne warrior, Thunder Bull. As a child, he lived with Ghost Woman on the old Cheyenne reservation, and attended the Indian school at Concho. Later, he attended Haskell Institute, Lawrence Kansas, and Bacone College, where he studied under Acee Blue Eagle, famous Indian artist. He has also been the pupil of Dr. Oscar B. Jacobson at the University of Oklahoma, and of Olaf Nordmark, noted Swedish mural painter.

In 1941, West won a national competition among Indian artists for a mural for the post office at Okemah. Portraying the meeting between the Plains Indians and the Five Civilized Tribes in 1842, this mural shows the painstaking research West does to insure the absolute authenticity and accuracy of his historical paintings. Another is the "Trail of Tears" mural in the prayer chapel at Bacone College, Muskogee. Other murals are in Arizona and New Hampshire.

An artist who has exhibited in a third of the United States, West's paintings are included in the collections of former Secretary of War Patrick J. Hurley, former governor of Massachusetts, Frank C. Allen, Dr. E. A. Shaw of Tufts College in Boston, the late Roberta Campbell Lawson of Tulsa, the Nelson Art Gallery of Kansas City, the U. S. Department of the Interior, Philbrook Art Center, and many others.

His present assignment, while working on his master's degree at O.U. this summer, is to compete with three other top Indian artists of the plains section for a mural in the Steinhart Park building, Nebraska City, sponsored by the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska. The four pictures submitted by the artists will be on permanent exhibit at the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum, Omaha.

(Continued on page 17)

The Class of 1919

By ROY GITTINGER

In the two Commencements of 1919, June and August, 254 degrees were conferred by the University. Five years before 166 had received degrees. The number in 1918-19 was 2,263, a gain of about 1,000 over a five-year period.

The seventh legislature had repealed the provision of the law that made the State Board of Education the Board of Regents and had set up a new and separate Board of Regents for the University. The new board began duties on April 9, 1919. The new governor and the board appreciated the work of the University and of President Brooks, and the next few years were to run smoothly and successfully. The appropriation for support and maintenance for the year ending June 30, 1919, was about \$400,000 with over \$600,000 appropriated for buildings.

It will be remembered that there were four large buildings in 1914. DeBarr Hall, the chemistry building, was added in 1916. The Auditorium and Fine Arts Building, now Holmberg Hall, the Geology Building, and the Armory were in use by Commencement time in 1919, and two other buildings were in the process of construction—the Women's Building and the Library, now the Art Building. On the campus of the School of Medicine at Oklahoma City the first permanent university building was nearing completion—the State University Hospital. The other buildings used by the School of Medicine were temporary quarters.

The University at the time comprised the following colleges and schools: The College of Arts and Sciences (including the schools of education, journalism, public and private business, and social service), the College of Engineering, the School of Fine Arts, the School of Law, the School of Medicine, the Training School for Nurses, the School of Pharmacy, and the Graduate School. The faculty at this time, including that of the School of Medicine, numbered about 180, half of whom were professors or associate professors. The other 90 were assistant professors or instructors. In addition there were a number of assistants and lecturers.

To go back to the beginning of the school year, the University in September, 1918, in common with the rest of the country, was definitely on a war footing. The Student Army Training Corps, always called the S.A.T.C., which included a naval reserve unit with 80 members, had more than 1,000 enrolled. Special courses were planned for these students. Two captains, five first lieutenants, and 10 second lieutenants were in charge of the S.A.T.C. An ensign was in charge of the naval unit. One of the second lieutenants was Philip LaFollette, later to be governor of Wisconsin. All men in the University under 21 who were physically fit were required to enroll in the S.A.T.C. There was also a vocational unit whose members were not considered University students. Those enrolled in the vocational unit received training in general mechanics, auto mechanics, radio operation, and surveying.

A considerable amount of building was necessary in order to conduct the S.A.T.C. according to government regulations. Four large mess halls, three barracks, a bath house, an infirmary, a guard house, a canteen, and the "Y" Hut were constructed. Several fraternity houses were taken over

for use as barracks. The gymnasium and the basement of Monnet Hall were also occupied by the military. From October 1 to December 21, 1918, the University was practically a military school. In October the epidemic of influenza for a time threatened to interfere seriously with the work. Due in part to good luck and in part to the efficient military medical service, little time was lost. There were only two deaths in both sections of the S.A.T.C.

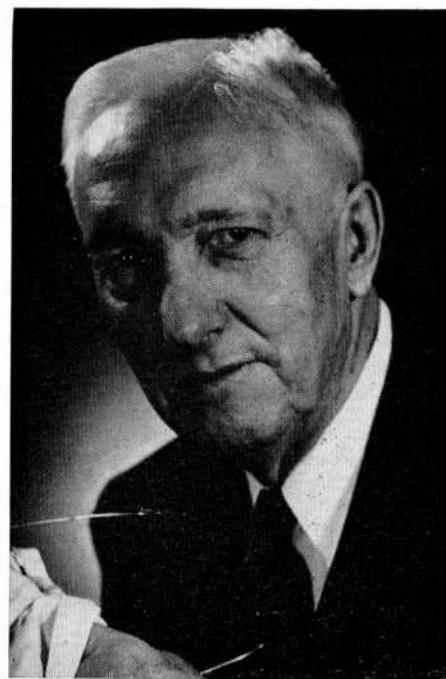
Before the war was over more than 500 alumni and nearly 1,800 students or former students had served in the army, navy, or marine corps. Thirty-eight members of the faculty enlisted or were inducted into service. Nine members of the faculty served the United States in activities other than military. Three members of the faculty died—including one killed in action and two who died in the influenza epidemic. Casualties among alumni or former students numbered 18, including the two deaths on the campus. Eight of the 18 were killed in action. In spite of changes and uncertainties due to the war normal conditions were maintained on the campus as far as possible.

During the winter of 1918-19, members of the faculty on leave of absence for military service began to return and by the spring of 1919 many had resumed their positions. In the same way students who had been discharged at the close of the war began to re-enroll. Superficially, at least, life on the campus became nearly normal after January 1, 1919. It must be understood that the University was not very successful in carrying on its real work during the year 1918-19. While the S.A.T.C. may have been satisfactory from the point of view of army training, its activities allowed members very little time for real study.

The epidemic of influenza interfered greatly with the work of students who were not in military service. The excitement occasioned by the end of the war and demobilization did not provide a good background for serious study. The University and all other educational institutions in the United States had adopted the term system for the year. The first term ended December 20, the second term, March 9, the third term, June 10. This rearrangement while apparently minor added to the difficulties of readjustment. The successful conclusion of the First World War brought on a hectic buoyancy that made itself felt on the campus.

One manifestation of this was the appearance of a number of organizations some of which proved to be of little advantage either to the University or to the students concerned. Accordingly, it was a somewhat demoralized student body that was expected to welcome the establishment of the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University in March, 1919. For the third term of the year about 250 enrolled in the basic courses in military science, but little was accomplished during that term. The first commanding officer of the R.O.T.C. was Lieutenant Colonel Karl A. Baehr.

On June 10, 1919, 202 candidates received degrees, 52 additional degrees were conferred on August 5. The 254 degrees were distributed as follows: Bachelor of Arts, 159; Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, 3; Bachelor of Science in Home Economics, 1; Bachelor of Science in Medicine, 16;



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Bachelor of Music, 5; Bachelor of Fine Arts, 2; Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 11; Bachelor of Laws, 12; Master of Arts, 17; Master of Science, 1; Doctor of Medicine, 12; and in addition eight graduates in nursing and seven in pharmacy.

Many of these graduates should be mentioned at this time, but the space will permit us to recall only a few names. First, perhaps, should be Mell A. Nash, who received the degree of Bachelor of Arts with this class. Dr. Nash is now chancellor for the State Regents for Higher Education and was for many years president of the Oklahoma College for Women. Next to come to mind will be Morris L. Wardell, Fayette Copeland, and Maurice H. Merrill, all three of whom were recipients of the B.A. degree in 1919 and who have since completed the requirements for advanced degrees. Dr. Wardell has been a member of the University faculty since 1925. For two years he was acting dean of men and for four years assistant to the president—time and space do not permit mention of his other activities. He is now a David Ross Boyd professor of history. Dr. Copeland has been a member of the faculty since 1921. For four years he was counselor of men and is now director of the school of journalism. Dr. Merrill after holding important positions elsewhere became professor of law at the University in 1936. He was acting dean of the school of law during the year 1945-46.

Four others of the class who are contributing to the progress of the University must be mentioned next. Arthur C. Shead, recipient of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Chemistry in 1919, has been a member either of the staff of the University or of the Oklahoma Geological Survey since his graduation. Malcolm Oakes, B.A., 1919, has been a member of the geological survey since 1937. Della Brunsteter (now Mrs. Owl) also B.A., 1919, has served in the department of modern languages since 1920. Garner G. Collums, another B.A. of 1919, has been director of University housing during three difficult years. Three of the class of 1919 who received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medicine at the time and the degree of Doctor of Medicine later now come to mind. Dr. James B. Eskridge and Dr. Theodore G. Wails are on the faculty of the School of Medicine and Dr. J. R. Hinshaw is a staff physician of the University Health Service.



Alpha Sigma Phi

Founded at O.U. in 1923

Causa latet vis est notissima—The Cause is hidden, the results well known. This motto of Alpha Sigma Phi has been in effect for over one hundred and four years, making her the tenth oldest fraternity in the United States, and the fifteenth largest.

Nationally the fraternity was organized at Yale University on December 6, 1845.

Locally, Alpha Alpha chapter was officially installed at the University of Oklahoma on May 19, 1923, after approval of a petition of the local fraternity Delta Kappa Rho.

Recently, the chapter has purchased a new home at 602 West Boyd street, and will occupy it early in 1950.

Prominent alums of Alpha Alpha chapter are: Joe Smalley, '34ba, '37Law, Norman, floor leader of the House of Representatives; John Pearson, Jr., '28bus, president of the Oklahoma City school board; William Atkinson, '22bs, Oklahoma City, oil properties; Dr. Curtis Berry, '31bs, '35ms, '37

med, Norman; Calvin P. Boxley, '25Law, Oklahoma City, corporation lawyer; Dr. Ralph Bienfang, professor of pharmacy, Norman; Elmer Streich, '26, manager of the Progress Brewery, Oklahoma City; General Charles E. McPherrin, ex-commander of the 45th Division, attorney, Oklahoma City; Roy Holbird, '30Law, assistant county attorney of Oklahoma County; Judge J. Earle Kuntz, Wichita Falls; Lt. Col. Walter A. Downing, commander of training in the Alaska area; and many others.

Nationally prominent alums include Vern Meyers, executive assistant publisher of *Look* magazine, Joyce Swan, publisher, *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, Ed Jefferies, mayor of Detroit; head football coaches at Michigan and Illinois; Lieutenant Governor of Ohio; president of the Standard Oil Company of California, and many other equally outstanding men.

Actively engaging in campus activities since being re-activated following the war in January, 1948, the Alpha Sigs have taken their place among the leaders on the campus.

For instance, actives and alums were the backbone of Senior commencement in 1948. Jim Thomas, our first chapter president, was chairman of Senior Day activities; alum Joe Smalley, was speaker at the senior luncheon; alum Dave Fields, vice president of the Flint Steel Company of Tulsa, was speaker at the Engineer Awards Assembly; and "Dusty" Dilley, editor of the *Tomahawk*, our fraternity's national magazine, spoke at the Greek Amphitheater awards assembly, and, finally, the active chapter assisted the Tri Delta sorority in staging the Senior Class Show.

Athletically we have gone into the playoffs in all intramural sports: football, basketball and softball.

In November of 1948 the chapter was awarded a bronze cup for winning first place in a School Spirit contest sponsored by the Ruf-Nek pep club.

Earlier in the year the fraternity's national office presented the editor of our chapter newspaper a plaque for having the best all-around paper in the United States.

We must take time here to pay tribute to two members of the class who are no longer living. Randell Cobb, LL.B., 1919, was an able and faithful servant of the public until his untimely death in May, 1948. His work on the staff of the State Attorney General should long be remembered. Kenneth Kaufman, M.A., 1919, was a member of the University faculty from February, 1928, until his death in April, 1945. Kaufman Hall on the campus is a monument to the impression that his work made at the University.

We must mention briefly three persons who were connected with the University for a time but are now active elsewhere; Fred Lyman Tibbits, M.A., 1919, and Paul Eldridge and Ray Six, both of whom received the B.A. degree. Two of the graduates in this class are remembered on this campus but are better known at Central State Teachers College, Edmond. John G. Mitchell, M.A., 1919, was president of Central for many years and Cliff Otto is still a member of the faculty of that college. It is proper to note here Wade Loofburrow, LL.B., because of his later prominence in state

affairs. Finally in this connection, Richard H. (better known as Dick) Cloyd, B.A., 1919, must have separate mention, especially as he served as part-time secretary of the alumni organization while he was completing the requirements for a degree in law.

May we at least name a few other members of the class of 1919? (The selection may seem somewhat arbitrary.) Margaret Applewhite Chaney; W. L. Eagleton, who was mentioned a month ago as receiving the B.A. degree in 1914 received the law degree in 1919; Julia Steele Eley; Glenn Faris; Charles B. Fawkes; Reedy Jennings and Bess Cudd Jennings; Graham Johnson; Dr. Stratton Kernodle; Nellie Jane McFerron (now Mrs. Littick); Katie Freeman (now Mrs. Ozbirn); Jewell Risinger (now Mrs. Ditmarr); Paul Nagle; Dr. Shade Neeley; Dr. Claude Norris and Fannie Bell Norris; Malcolm Oakes (already referred to) and Lyra Bahrenburg Oakes; Leo Sanders and Jessie Holloway Sanders; Pearl Scales; Raymond Selders. Then let me distinguish between Dr. Richard G. Soutar who received the bachelor's degree with this class and

Dr. Ellis Soutar who received his degree in medicine.

Son of the Cheyennes

(Continued from page 15)

A brawny six-footer, West looks more like an All-American tackle than the traditional, though erroneous, concept of a frail artist. There is nothing namby-pamby about the man or his pictures. He paints with a bold sureness, and a fine color-sense that make his pictures vibrantly alive.

West, who captained the football team during his undergraduate days at Haskell Institute, served in the navy during the war, working his way up from an enlisted man to lieutenant senior grade on "baby flat-top carriers." He is married and the father of two husky boys. Richard, 6, and Jimmie, 3, are learning the dances, legends and tribal lore of their father's people along with the Anglo-American culture and musicianship of their attractive blond mother. She was Mary Belle McRea, born in China, daughter of a missionary to the Chinese.