



## Acacia

*Founded at O.U. in 1924*

The original chapter of Acacia was begun by a group of Masons at the University of Michigan in 1904. The Oklahoma chapter was founded as an outgrowth of the University Masonic Club through the efforts of Dr. Edwin E. DeBarr in 1924. The fraternity strives to carry on the high principles of the Masonic organization. Masonic contact, however, is not necessary for membership.

During the war years, the fraternal system on the Oklahoma campus was inactive. With the cessation of hostilities and the reactivation of the fraternal system in the spring of 1946, the Oklahoma Chapter of Acacia was reopened.

The beautiful old English style house is adjacent to the west side of the campus at Elm and Cruce streets which has become the center of the fraternity district. The house affords comfortable living accommodations and generous space for dancing and recreation.

The primary emphasis in Acacia is academic. A quiet study atmosphere is provided. Every assist-

ance is given by the upper classmen and, when necessary, by special tutors. Almost every year since the fraternity was founded Acacia has had the highest scholastic standing of all national social fraternities.

The fraternity prides itself in a strong varsity and intramural athletic participation. Every Acacian is a member and an active participant in some extra curricular activity other than sports. The fraternity is represented in almost every campus activity open to it.

The social calendar of the Oklahoma chapter is full and well planned. There are at least two formal dances given by the organization every year, as well as house parties built around every seasonal theme. Some outstanding Acacian is the honor guest and speaker at the annual Founders' Day banquet. A portrait of Lew Wentz, deceased publisher, industrialist and philanthropist, and Dr. William B. Bizzell, Acacian and former president

of the University of Oklahoma, was presented to the chapter by the alumni at last year's banquet.

The traditional Oriental Ball is one of the most beautiful and outstanding costume affairs in the southwest. A Christmas party is planned each yuletide for the orphans of some state institution, with each member and pledge being host to a child. In August of 1947, the Oklahoma Chapter was host to the Regional Conclave of Acacia at which all midwestern chapters were represented.

Acacia, like all college social fraternities, proposes to give its members that intimate, beneficial fellowship with good men, so necessary to their full development, and to supplement their cultural and professional education with training in those qualifications for citizenship and leadership which are not definitely or directly part of the University function. A balanced program of study, athletics, society and fraternal life is the constant goal of Acacia Fraternity.

tration was the reestablishment of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. As one of the spasmodic efforts of the Walton regime to reduce state expenditures, the survey had been discontinued at the end of June, 1923. It was revived in March, 1924, with Dr. Charles N. Gould as director. It will be remembered that Dr. Gould was the first instructor in geology at the University and was the first director of the survey, serving from 1908 to 1911.

Two who are now deans of important schools of the University were brought to the campus in Acting President Buchanan's administration. Dr. Mark R. Everett came to teach biochemistry in the first years of the medical school then, and until September, 1928, conducted at Norman. After 23 years of university service, Dr. Everett became dean of the School of Medicine in November, 1947. The other important arrival at the time was that of Mr. W. H. Carson who came to teach mechanical engineering but who has been dean of the College of Engineering since September, 1937.

Those who received degrees in 1924 numbered 690—541 on June 3, 149 on July 29. The 690 degrees were distributed as follows: Bachelor of

Arts, 271; Bachelor of Arts in Home Economics, 2; Bachelor of Science in Bacteriology, 1; in Chemistry, 10; in Geology, 18; in Home Economics, 38; in Business, 23; in Education, 58; in Engineering, 28; Bachelor of Fine Arts, 18; Bachelor of Music, 11; Bachelor of Laws, 44; Bachelor of Science in Medicine, 44; Doctor of Medicine, 21; Graduate Nurse, 11; Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, 3; other degrees in pharmacy, 39; Master of Arts, 42; Master of Science, 5; Master of Science in Physics, 1; Master of Science in Education, 1; Civil Engineer, 1.

The class of 1924 is especially noteworthy in one respect—two members of the present Oklahoma delegation in Congress were members of this class. A. S. "Mike" Monroney, ba, Representative from the fifth or Oklahoma City District for several years, is one of the ablest and most respected men in public life. W. F. "Dixie" Gilmer, '24Law, Representative from the first or Tulsa District, is serving his first term in Congress. He had made a notable reputation in the state as a devoted public servant. Harrington Wimberly, '24 ba, was for a time a member of the University

Board of Regents and held other important positions in Oklahoma and is now a member of the Federal Power Commission in the nation's capital. As important as either of these three is Henry G. Bennett, '24ma, president of Oklahoma A.&M. College at Stillwater. Dr. Bennett became president of the A.&M. College in 1928. At the time it was a struggling and little-known agricultural college and in 21 years he has made it one of the best-known educational institutions in the United States.

Four of this class are now members of the faculty at Norman. Two who received the master's degree are Henry D. Rinsland, an authority on school measurements, and James E. Belcher, an unusually successful teacher of chemistry. (Mrs. Belcher, formerly Blanche Martin, also received the master's degree at this time.) Two who received the degree of Bachelor of Arts are able teachers of mathematics—John A. Brixey and Raymond Dragoo. Seven members of the present faculty of the School of Medicine received degrees in 1924; Dr. Charles P. Bondurant, who received

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