

# It Was a Great Day

When two Oklahomans visit the Royal Enclosure for the Ascot Races, even the British sun seemed to conspire with them.

Two Sooners in England recently found time in busy schedules to attend the races.

Dr. J. Raymond Hinshaw, '42ba, '46med, who has been attending Oxford University the past three years, wrote his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Hinshaw of Norman, telling about the event.

An outstanding student at the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Hinshaw was junior ranking member of Phi Beta Kappa, president of the medical school yearbook, winner of a \$1,500 Oklahoma Hall of Fame medical scholarship award, and 1946 Rhodes Scholar from Oklahoma.

Aside from winning a hatfull of honors, Dr. Hinshaw made a "straight A" record for 16 consecutive school years.

At Hartford College, Oxford, Dr. Hinshaw shares a room in the "Old Parsonage" with Charles Ritcheson, '46ba. Ritcheson, whose home is in Maysville, is majoring in history at Oxford, working for a Ph.D Degree. He was awarded a Fullbright fellowship at Oxford this year.

From England Dr. Hinshaw wrote:

"It was a great day. The day for the Ascot Races had arrived. In the 238 years since the Ascot Races had been established interesting occurrences have

taken place at Ascot. Even the British Sun seemed to have conspired with us on this particular day. We sallied forth, Charles Ritcheson and I, dressed impeccably in morning suit, grey topped hat, grey gloves, swinging our furled umbrellas and saying good morning in the middle of the afternoon.

"Everyone seemed agreed that it was the finest and gayest Ascot in ten years. Ladies' hats were heaped high with flowers and frills and the gentlemen, as always, were clad in morning coats, striped trousers and the conventional Ascot grey toppers.

"Our petitions had been filed weeks ahead. We had every good reason to feel we would not be refused. We had addressed to 'His Majesty's Ascot Representative,' St. James Palace, petitions for admission to the Royal Enclosure of Ascot. We waited in suspense until a week before the races. Our pleas had been scanned by a battery of palace secretaries, then checked and passed on to Ascot's Chief Steward, the Duke of Norfolk. The Duke's appointed list was sent to the Lord Chamberlain. Then the King and Queen themselves gave the list a final scrutiny. People who had been successfully sued for divorce were ruthlessly weeded out.

"About a week before the event we had been mailed a crown-embossed cardboard admitting us to the coveted square of turf, the Royal Enclosure. Holders of mere owners' cards (like Rita and Aly Khan) sat in boxes overlooking the Royal Enclosure. These underprivileged souls did have a few crumbs of comfort for ladies in the Royal Enclosure may not smoke cigarettes and are forbidden to lean across the fence and place bets with bookies.

"The Royal Enclosure was quite an experience. It contains the largest group of well-dressed people that I have seen in England, and titles by the dozens. All of the Royal family turned up at the races except Queen Mary.

"Charles and I placed a few two shilling bets (40 cents) just for the fun of it, and by sheer accident ended up with 18 shillings to the good. We really gloated about that one.

"It is a custom for King George and Princess Elizabeth to follow the royal filly, Avila, to the saddling ring. Then as the horses go to the starting post in the Coronation Stakes, George VI paces the royal box. As the field approached the finish, a bookie spotted the royal colors, purple, gold braid and red, in the lead. He shouted, 'Hats off boys,' and everyone cries, 'The King! The King!' At Ascot everybody is glad when the king's horse wins, so when Avila crossed the line about three lengths ahead of the others, every gray topper on the course, except the king's, was raised in congratulation.

"It was a great day for us at Ascot."

Dr. Hinshaw, who has been doing medical research during his three years at Oxford, has been chosen as a representative to the International Anatomical Congress which will be held at Oxford next July.

He plans to return to Norman in August, where he will remain until October 1. Then he will leave for Rochester, N. Y., to join the staff of Strong Memorial Hospital.



CHARLES RITCHESON

## Zimerman Is Arabia Bound

Sam Zimerman, '30, will leave April 17 for Dhahran, Arabia, as senior geophysicist for the Arabian-American Oil Company.

Now Zimerman is in New York City spending five hours daily learning Arabic. Three hours daily are spent on lectures on Arab history, religion, customs and general indoctrination.

Middle East is not new to Zimerman. He spent almost two and a half years in Egypt as chief geophysicist for the Standard Oil Company of Egypt.

## Swank Dies in Norman

Fletcher B. Swank, '99, former fifth district congressman, died in Norman, March 16. He had been ill for several years.

Swank was born in Iowa and came to the Indian territory in 1887. He served as secretary to Scott Ferris, Oklahoma's first congressman and was later named assistant county attorney of Comanche County. He was Cleveland County judge two terms and served a similar period as district judge.

He was elected to congress in 1920 and served years with the oil resources board in Washington, until 1934. After leaving congress he served two He returned to Norman to open law offices.

## Ellis Gets Sales Position

L. W. Ellis, '23bs, has been named sales representative in Oklahoma and the western part of Arkansas for the National Radiator Company.

Mr. Ellis, whose headquarters are in Oklahoma City, has been selling heating equipment for the last 17 years, both as a jobber salesman and as a manufacturers' representative.



DR. J. R. HINSHAW, JR.