

Sooner Portraits

Two professionals—one a doctor the

other a reporter—Are Sooners of the Month



DR. JAMES O. HOOD

12,000 Patients a Year

Dr. James O. Hood, '29bs, '31med, is head of an infirmary that treats about 12,000 patients during a normal year. And he enjoys it!

As head of the University Ellison infirmary and the University student health service, Hood doesn't have much time for other pursuits. Ellison infirmary is always a busy place. Dr. Hood and his staff just recently finished quelling a minor flu epidemic on the campus, and now they are overflowing with seniors. As part of a new system, all seniors must have a chest X-ray and a tuberculin skin test before graduation.

"We give the students a test when they enter the University. And we catch them going out. I don't believe we let any tuberculin cases slip by us," Dr. Hood said.

This smiling, loquacious man probably has more contact with students than any other man on the campus. He estimates that 88 percent of all students come through the infirmary during some period of their college career.

Hood has been a familiar figure in Norman. In 1935 he was elected mayor of the city and in 1937 was re-elected. He's equally well known in Norman and Cleveland County for his work as chairman of the Cleveland County Democratic Central Committee from 1934 to 1938. And in 1936 was a delegate to the national convention in Philadelphia.

At the end of his second term as mayor, he was appointed health officer for the Cleveland County Unit. But on September 16, 1940, he became one of the first to join a then popular profession—the army.

Today Hood still wears in his lapel the insignia

of the famed 45th Division. While a member of this division, he saw a sizable chunk of the earth. But he observes:

"It was quite a sightseeing tour, but I didn't exactly enjoy it under the conditions."

He was overseas 28 months in Africa, Sicily, Salerno and up through Italy, made the Anzio landing, saw Rome and then landed in Southern France and finally ended up in Munich.

After being discharged he took up his old job as county health officer and in 1946 he was appointed to his present post.

Born in Texas but a Sooner by choice, Hood has quite a job running an infirmary that receives no tax revenue and is supported solely by fees from students. The infirmary gives general medical and health service and just about every student in the University finds some cause for visiting the infirmary sometime during the year.

In spite of dwindling funds, Dr. Hood hopes to continue giving the same standard of medical service that has been given through the years.

An Inquisitive Fellow

Chances are that if you live in an Oklahoma community, an inquisitive writer for the *Daily Oklahoman* has written an excellent article concerning your town or persons in the town.

This inquisitive fellow is Roy P. Stewart, '31ba, who ranks as one of the best known and one of the most emulated writers in Oklahoma. His easy prose style in describing the life in Oklahoma has served as a goal for many a young, aspiring Oklahoma writer. Outside of Oklahoma, Stewart is known by his articles in *Life*, *Time*, *Fortune*, *Banking*, *Successful Farming* and many other magazines.

On the *Oklahoman* Stewart is listed as a special writer. But he adds the position of "utility infielder—Sunday desk, picture desk and city desk." For eleven years now he has been turning out copy for that paper and each year new recognitions roll in for his work.

Not only is he recognized as a writer but as a strong advocate for better farming in Oklahoma. He has served as executive secretary for the Oklahoma Future Farmers of America and is public relations director for the Oklahoma State Fair.

Stewart's advanced education began at Southwestern State College in Weatherford where he was a member of the track team.

Later he enrolled in the University of Oklahoma school of journalism. At the University, Stewart began to display his versatility. He was stage manager of the Playhouse and director of *Stunt Nite and Follies* in 1930. His publication staff positions included advertising manager of the *Sooner Yearbook* and the editorial staff of the *Whirlwind*. Fraternity memberships included Pi Kappa Alpha, social fraternity, and Alpha Delta Sigma, advertising fraternity.

After graduation Stewart served as news editor and advertising manager of the *Marietta Monitor*. Later he was publicity director and advertising



ROY P. STEWART

manager for the Oklahoma State Fair. At various times he served on the staffs of the *Blackwell Tribune*, *Seminole Morning Reporter*, and the *Weatherford News*.

In 1940 and 1941 Stewart was attached editor of publications for the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and director to headquarters of the 45th Division at Camp Barkeley as staff correspondent for the *Oklahoman* and *Times*. In November of 1942 he was named city editor of the *Oklahoman*. But in June of that year he went to Camp Barkeley, Texas, as a first lieutenant in charge of public relations. He served overseas in Okinawa and Korea and was discharged as a major.

His wide range of curiosity has led him to study agriculture at Oklahoma A.&M. and anthropology, Japanese and area study at the University of Chicago. He was an honor student at the University of Chicago Far Eastern Civil Affairs training school in 1944-45.

Other activities that Stewart delves into include the famous Oklahoma City Gridiron Club of which he is on the executive committee. And he is vice chairman of the University Alumni Development Fund. These all add up to a busy man with an insatiable interest in people. If your community hasn't yet been visited by this energetic journalist, then chances are he'll be dropping by almost any day.

► Dr. H. Lloyd Stow, chairman of the department of classical languages, attended the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the midwest and south in Cleveland, Ohio, April 4-9.

► Allan L. Rodgers, assistant professor of geography, was in Worcester, Massachusetts, April 3-12, attending meetings of the Association of American Geographers.