

# Sooner Portraits

United Press' Hoberecht and the army's General Muldrow are both feeling the effects of war. One reports it as the other prepares.



**EARNEST HOBERECHT**  
... To Kiss Yankee Style

## The Lovable Egotist

He taught the Japanese how to kiss Yankee style, and now he's covering the Korean War for the United Press. He's Ernest Hoberecht, '41 journ.

Battlefields are not a new field for Ernie. During World War II he was a United Press war correspondent in the Pacific. And strangely enough, when world-shattering events are taking place, it seems only natural that Ernie should be there.

He held his first newspaper job on the *Watonga Republican*, came to the University for a degree in journalism, worked on several newspapers, became a war correspondent for the UP, wrote a best-seller published in Japanese and became a millionaire in Japanese yen. All that, and he's only 32.

A major in journalism, he was recognized on the campus as an enterprising newsman who was always on hand when news was breaking. Probably it was his nose for news that caused him to leave a good job on a Memphis newspaper to go to Hawaii as a laborer in the Pearl Harbor navy yard. He wanted to get nearer the war, and he was looking for a way to break into the war correspondent ranks.

His break came when he joined the United Press in Hawaii as night manager of the Honolulu Bureau. Then he became a war correspondent accredited to the Navy.

He spent considerable time at sea with aircraft carriers and during the final months of the war

was with Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet off the coast of Japan. He reported the first naval bombardment of the Japanese home islands, covered the signing of the Japanese surrender aboard the Battleship Missouri and was one of the first allied correspondents to land with the occupation forces.

Ernie has stayed in Japan with the exception of a short time on special assignment in China and brief service in the United Press New York office. Extroverted to the nth degree, he describes himself as a "lovable egotist." And whether it's because of his self-assured attitude or something else, he has made a big hit in Japan.

When the 1950-51 *Japan Who's Who* was cranked off the press, it listed him as United Press Chief Correspondent and Manager for Japan. But probably his published books give a hint of the way he swept occupied Japan off its feet.

It was 1946, and Ernie noted that nobody in Japan had written a postwar *Egg and I* for the Japanese book-reading trade. So he whipped out a novel which he called *Tokyo Romance*. Overnight it became a best-seller. The Japanese gobbled up the first printing, and were soon yelling for more. Ernie gave them more in a song, also entitled *Tokyo Romance*. Then he introduced Oklahoma to the Orient through another novel, *Shears of Destiny*. Written with an Oklahoma background, the book was an attempt to "set the Japanese straight about Oklahoma if they had read *Grapes of Wrath*."

The kissing business began in *Tokyo Romance*. It was the first novel in Japanese in which a passionate kissing scene was presented. The Japs liked it, and he soon became a Far Eastern expert on Yankee kissing. He even gave instructions to a Japanese movie actress who was to appear in the first kissing scene ever filmed for a Japanese movie.

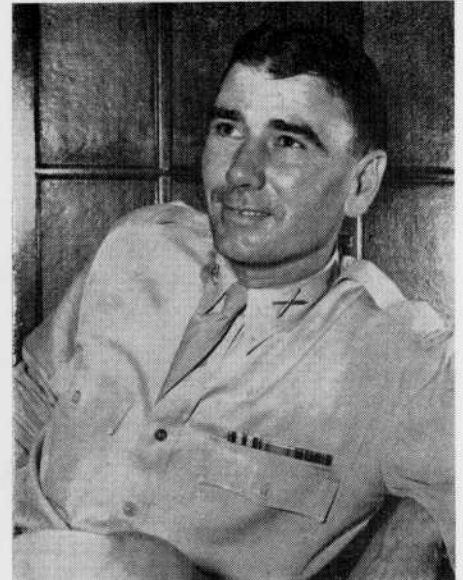
Ernie has whipped out several other books, but actually they didn't just sprout up like Topsy. While he was at the University he was a student in Dr. Walter Campbell's professional writing courses, and before he became a war correspondent he had experienced success as a free lance writer of both fiction and non-fiction.

But Ernie isn't writing fiction now. He's covering the biggest news spot on the globe. There's action, and there's Ernie filing United Press dispatches under his byline.

## A Distinguished Record

Brig. General Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28bus, has left his Norman insurance business for the second time in less than a decade to go to war.

Commander of the division artillery, he was one of those officers who preferred to remain with the 45th Division rather than to accept promotions which would have been available to him in assignment with other outfits. During World War II he became commander of the medium artillery



**BRIG. GEN. HAL MULDROW**  
... Return to Active Duty

batallion and served in that assignment throughout the war.

A former University athletic star, General Muldrow is a military man who sees war as a job that has to be done. In 1943, during the heavy fighting in Sicily, he found time to write to the Cleveland County war bond administrator, asking him to thank the people of Norman for their support. He expressed his attitude toward the conflict: "this dreadful war will be over before long and we will all be back home living a normal life again."

The return to normal life came for Muldrow in December, 1945, when he was released from active duty with the rank of colonel. Six months later Lt. Gen. Ray S. McLain came to Oklahoma to help reorganize the 45th. Colonel Muldrow was promoted to Brigadier General, climaxing his years in military service which began as an outstanding ROTC student at the University.

According to McLain, Muldrow's record "was one of the most brilliant of any of the top-ranking officers of the 45th Division." "He distinguished himself at Salerno, and his battalion was one of the two which stopped the breakthrough between the Calore and Sele Rivers."

On the Anzio beachhead during the intense drive, his organization established an all time record for medium artillery firing in the tonnage of steel and TNT hurled at the enemy.

His decorations include a Silver Star, Bronze Star and the Bronze Arrowhead. The Silver Star was awarded in 1943 for gallantry. The citation read:

"When communication with his forward observers was lost, Lt. Col. Muldrow took a radio

set and went forward to where contact was re-established and relayed data to his battalion. In spite of enemy infantry patrols, covered by artillery fire and infiltrating to cut off his withdrawal, he remained at his post for more than six hours, continuing to relay firing data and so effectively directed the fire that it assisted in a large measure to force the enemy to retreat and our forces to advance. The actions of Lt. Col. Muldrow reflect great credit upon himself and the armed forces."

The leadership traits which carried Muldrow to his new rank in the 45th Division were shown while he was a student at the University. A colonel in the University ROTC unit, he was a member of Scabbard and Blade and one of the founders of Bombardiers. He was a member of the student council for two years and received a Leitziser Medal during his senior year.

Muldrow resigned as representative on the O.U. Athletic Council when the 45th was called to active duty. A life member of the Alumni Association, he has served one term as an executive board member.

The Hal Muldrow, Jr., Insurance Agency, which he had owned and managed in Norman for 13 years, will have to get along without its top boss until the 45th comes home again.

### Dr. Davis Begins Practice

Dr. James E. Davis, '42ba, began private practice in gynecology and obstetrics in July in Beverly Hills, California.

Davis entered Johns Hopkins Medical School after graduating from the University in 1941. After being elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa in 1942 he was graduated with an M.D. degree in 1944. He remained at Johns Hopkins as instructor in gynecology for two years before enlisting in the Army in 1946.

He was in Heidelberg, Germany, for 19 months where he was in charge of obstetrics and gynecology at a station hospital and also served as consultant for other hospitals in southern Germany. While in Europe he attended the Frauen Klinik at the University of Heidelberg and was on the University's consulting staff for one year. After two months in a post-graduate course at the University of Vienna he was discharged from the Army in 1947. A resident staff member at the University of California until July 1, 1950, he resigned to enter private practice.

He was married in 1948 to Martha Lee Riggs.



DR. JAMES E. DAVIS  
... A Private Practice



Dean Ralph W. Clark of the School of Pharmacy and Ralph Enix, '36pharm, look over plans for the new University of Oklahoma Pharmacy Alumni Association which will foster closer relations among graduates and former students in pharmacy.

## Pharmacists Outline Program

A 100 per cent membership of graduates and former students of the School of Pharmacy is the goal of the newly-organized University of Oklahoma Pharmacy Alumni Association.

A steering committee, appointed at the State Association meeting in Oklahoma City last spring, has served as midwife at the birth of the new organization. Its purpose is to establish closer contacts among graduates and former students, a need which has been discussed among Oklahoma druggists on numerous occasions.

Services which will be available immediately to members of the Association will include a School of Pharmacy directory, listing all alumni with their address and other information, plus news about the Pharmacy school and its plans for the future.

All members will receive Bud Wilkinson's football newsletter giving a report on each game and a forecast on the game to come each week during the football season. And members will be entitled to priority on the purchase of football tickets for O.U. games. They will be informed about the details of ordering either by special notice from the Athletic Department or through *Sooner Magazine*.

*Sooner Magazine*, giving alumni news about the University and items of special interest to druggists, will be mailed to members each month. Also spe-

cial information letters concerning problems and developments of interest to pharmacists will be mailed periodically.

Activities planned by the Association for this year will include a retail druggists seminar to be held on the Norman Campus February 19 and 20, 1951. This seminar will be of special importance to retail druggists and emphasis will be placed on the problems of merchandising.

Other activities on schedule for the year are an essay contest, weekend retail store studies for seniors, research in problems of dosage of new drugs, and a study of the need for new courses and other changes needed in pharmacy education. The group plans to sponsor closer relationship with allied professions in the field of medicine.

Annual membership dues are \$5, \$3 of which pays for regular membership in the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association, and the other \$2 pays for postage, stationery, and maintaining the records of the Pharmacy Association. Persons who are paid members of the University Alumni Association will pay only \$2 to become members of the Pharmacy Alumni Association.

Officers in charge last year in beginning the initial work in the organization were W. A. "Tate" Taylor, '40pharm, Norman, and Pat Henry, '37pharm, Oklahoma City. Ralph Enix, '36pharm, Kingfisher, is chairman of the steering committee. Members are:

Bob Friesen, '33, vice president, Oklahoma City; Ralph W. Clark, dean of the School of Pharmacy, executive secretary; C. J. "Connie" Master-son, '28pharm, Oklahoma City; W. A. Taylor, '40pharm, Norman; Lawrence Northcutt, '23pharm, '31ms, Ponca City; R. C. Walker, '36pharm, Ponca City; Mrs. Ina Griffith Black, '27pharm, Chickasha; John Thornbrough, '38-'41, Clinton; Pat Henry, '37pharm, Oklahoma City; and Edmund C. Payne, '31-'34, Shawnee.

### Vice Presidency for Nolan

Jerry J. Nolan, '39bus, has been elected a vice president of the Empire State Bank of Dallas. He will be associated with the business development division of the bank.

Prior to coming to Dallas in 1946, Nolan was associated with the Irving Trust Company of New York. He was formerly an assistant vice president of the Mercantile National Bank at Dallas.