

them had consulted with their advisers during the pre-enrolment period last semester, and the sectioning process operated smoothly. Only new students and those who had not pre-enrolled had a long wait.

University officials had predicted a drop in enrolment, but tabulations from the office of Admissions and Records have not yet been released. A large reduction in the number of veterans attending school was predicted.

A Gifted Addition. Michi Hirata put on a Japanese costume, participated in an Art Museum reception and talked to newspaper reporters. It was all a part of something which had come about through the work and dreams of the 19-year-old Japanese girl who became a special piano student early in January.

Rated as the top pianist in her home country, Michi has enrolled at O.U. as a special student studying English, contemporary music and piano. Studying under Keith Wallingford, she doesn't know how to put across her ideas in English words. But she speaks the universal language of music when she touches a keyboard.

"I had always wanted to study in the United States," Michi says. And it was Harrison Kerr, dean of the College of Fine Arts, who sold her on carrying out her desire.

Kerr was with the Army in Japan when he first heard of the child prodigy. Victor and Pat Searle, O.U. students who were then living with their father, Col. Clark Searle, '28ba, '29ms, in Tokyo, also knew Michi and were trying to get her to attend O.U. Their combined efforts got her to Oklahoma.

At the University Michi is living with Pat in the Women's Quadrangle. She has already given concerts in most of the major cities in Japan, and she is planning to give a concert in Norman soon.

Under the tutelage of her father, Yoshimune Hirate, Michi gave her first public performance at the age of five. An accomplished musician in his own right, her father studied in Berlin and has been the only piano instructor for Michi the past 14 years.

Her guest performances include appearances with the Nippon, Osaka and Tokyo philharmonic orchestras.

One of her first experiences at the University was wearing Japanese clothing. At home she wore American styles, but she borrowed a Japanese costume to wear during the University Art Museum's reception and her newspaper interviews.

She expects to study at the University for at least a year.

Credit Where Due

Achievement. *Ebony*, national Negro
Continued page 35

An interesting experiment in lay journalism at the University has resulted in the Engineers'

Sooner Shamrock

This March a group of engineering students turned part-time journalists will celebrate a birthday. Eleven years ago this month the *Sooner Shamrock*, magazine of the College of Engineering of the University of Oklahoma, was launched; it has a respectable record of uninterrupted publication even though it was started on the eve of World War II.

Purpose of the magazine is to advance the College of Engineering. It provides a journal in which the students can publish their technical writings, and it reports the latest news of the Engineering College. Special articles by engineering alumni and occasional articles by faculty members often are included in an issue's offering.

Published six times a year, the *Sooner Shamrock* displays its articles, spiced with pictures, on slick paper.

The policy of the *Shamrock* is to print articles which are valuable to the student as an aid to the furtherance of engineering and engineering principles. "The Little Reporter," a popular feature in the magazine, is a column which keeps the student engineers posted on activities in the various departments of the Engineering College. Tribute to the achievements and activities of outstanding seniors is paid through the "Men of Might" column. Another regular feature is the "Exhaust," a joke section which staff members describe as a blast of hot air.

The editor of the *Shamrock* is selected by St. Pat's Council, and he selects the staff of the magazine. Membership on the staff is open to all students in the College of Engineering. The present editor is Joe Burke, chemical engineering senior from Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, who heads a staff of 15 engineering students who put the magazine together.

Sam Wilson, chemical engineering junior from Norman, is serving as business manager of the magazine this year. Named by St. Pat's Council, he selects his own advertising staff. Those who act as advertising salesmen are the only staff members who receive any payment for their work; they are paid a commission on the advertising they sell.

The engineers-turned-journalists are responsible for every phase of the publication of the *Shamrock*. The spanking good job

which they turn out goes to 2,000 subscribers who are largely students in the College of Engineering.

The magazine also is sent to all high schools in Oklahoma. It carries articles and informative writing which are intended to aid highschool students in selecting the fields of engineering they wish to enter. Several alumni are included on the mailing list, and the staff of the *Shamrock* hopes to expand its circulation in this department. Primary reason that an increased circulation is desired is that the staff believes the *Shamrock* is a good means to bring the College of Engineering before the general public and in that way enhance its reputation in industry.

Many industrial firms help to support the magazine by including advertising in each issue. The *Shamrock* is now supported by income from such advertising and a publications fee which is paid by every engineering student at the time of enrolment. When it was launched in 1941, the Engineers Club footed the finances.

Staffed entirely by engineering students, the magazine got off to a good start with Sam Holland, '30ba, '33bs, as first faculty adviser. Holland stayed with the *Shamrock* until the fall of 1941 when teaching duties forced his retirement from the advisership. Then the late Vester E. Willoughby, '49 m.eng, watched over the *Shamrock* for the next eight years while editors came and went. After Willoughby's death in 1949, Harry H. Hill, '48bs, present faculty adviser, took over the guidance of the magazine.

Each year at the St. Pat's celebration banquet a key is awarded to graduating senior members of the Shamrock staff as recognition of their time and effort put into the publication. This key, designed four years ago by Betty Jo Kern Everett, '47eng, a former editor of the magazine, consists of an open book with crossed quills in the background, a slide rule across the top and a shamrock across the bottom. The key is finished in gold and black.

The spirit of those who produced the Shamrock through the trying years of the war and those just after the war is shown in the excellence of the magazine today. And it is indicative of the spirit present in the College of Engineering.