

ing a little seedy, or out of date like the country parson, the country lawyer and doctor. But then let's see. Wasn't it once a country lawyer that pulled us through a civil war, and a doctor that managed to—?

Yes, perhaps even Mr. Chips might bring forth some words about living well in a world that seems at times to have lost the art of living at all.

## Research

### *Doctor's Degrees Conferred in June*

The degrees of Doctor of Education and Doctor of Philosophy were conferred on the following candidates at the June commencement.

#### **Doctor of Education:**

Milton Lowell Bast. Dissertation—"A Comparative Study of the Preparation of Business Teachers With Specific Implications for the State of Oklahoma." Directed by Professor Gerald A. Porter.

Margaret J. Felsing. Dissertation—"Investigation of the Study of Controversial Issues of American Democracy by Pupils in Certain Oklahoma High Schools." Directed by Professor Ellsworth Collings.

Marion Edmund Franklin. Dissertation—"A History of Industrial Education in Oklahoma up to 1950." Directed by Professor F. A. Balyeat.

Ernest Allen Jones. Dissertation—"The Status of Reading Instruction in the Secondary Schools of Oklahoma." Directed by Professor F. A. Balyeat.

John Earl Sands. Dissertation—"A Survey of Facilities and Practices in 112 Teacher Education Institutions Utilizing Programs of Off-Campus Student Teaching." Directed by Professor Ellsworth Collings.

Basel B. Vanschuyver. Dissertation—"Uses of Standardized and Teacher-Made Tests in the Public Schools of the United States." Directed by Professor Henry D. Rinsland.

Guy Newton Waid. Dissertation—"An Opinion Poll of Forty-Four Oklahoma High Schools: Should The High School Help Youth With Certain Common Problems And How Adequate Is the Help Now Given?" Directed by Professor Harlan Bryant.

#### **Doctor of Philosophy:**

Carl Dean Douglass. Dissertation—"Studies on the Analysis for and the Preparation of Flavonoid Compounds." Directed by Professor S. H. Wender.

Robert Stevens Harper. Dissertation—"A Conceptual 'Mechanism' Intervening between Stimulus and Response: Based on

# In the American Tradition: Gigantic Rushmore Monument

By W. H. SMITH

*MOUNT RUSHMORE.* By Gilbert C. Fite. Illustrated with photographs. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. \$3.75.

The idea of carving a gigantic monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota was conceived by Doane Robinson, the state historian, in 1923. The story of Mount Rushmore relates the difficulties encountered by a small but determined group of people in carrying out this most colossal attempt of artistic expression known to man.

After the initial task of arousing public interest and enthusiasm sufficient to get the project under way, its backers were constantly faced, during the long years of its halting progress, with the never-ending task of providing financial backing to keep the work going. Their problems were constantly aggravated by the sculptor, Gutzon Borglum, whose energy, enthusiasm, grandiose plans, and ability to capture the public eye, were equaled only by his inherent inability to work in harmony with anyone, and his mastery of vituperation and abuse which he leveled at his associates.

At the time Borglum was first consulted as to the feasibility of carving a monument in the Black Hills he was in the initial stages of carving the head of Robert E. Lee on Stone Mountain. However, he soon became available for the new project when he was dismissed after reaching the stage of violent disagreement with the administrators of the memorial.

The first actual drilling at Mount Rushmore took place in 1927 and the work was carried on spasmodically until Borglum's

death in 1941. The story, which is as much a tribute to the patience and understanding of Mr. Borglum's administrative associates as it is to the sculptor's drive and ability, is treated with warm and sympathetic interest by Mr. Fite who is himself a native of South Dakota.

The conception of mountain sculpture has always been regarded with mixed emotions by those interested in preserving the natural beauty of our landscapes. The author presents an excellent critical evaluation of the merits of the project in his final chapter. "Borglum's mountain figures are accurate sculptural reproductions. Judged in the tradition of romantic naturalism, they are good heads, powerfully modeled and skillfully executed. As a work of art, however Mount Rushmore has never excited any particular comment in professional circles.—Some critics assert that the main flaw in this gigantic sculpture lies in the weakness of the artistic tradition to which Mr. Borglum belonged.—Most of Borglum's major work was popular because it was naturalistic. The great rank and file could appreciate his efforts because they understood them.—Mount Rushmore was Borglum's conception of art on a grand scale, equal to the other aspects of American greatness. It is a part of the American emphasis upon size and bigness. Colossal sculpture is in the tradition of the skyscraper, the 45,000 ton battleship, the superhighway, the six-engine airplane, the Grand Coulee dam, or the Paul Bunyan legend. To many American citizens, the greatest things in their culture are the largest and the most monumental."

a Study of the Process of Perceiving." Directed by Professor L. B. Hoisington.

Thomas Aylesbury McCoy. Dissertation—"Studies in The Amino Acid Metabolism of *Streptococcus Faecalis* A.T.C.C. No. 6057." Directed by Professor S. H. Wender.

Charles William Oxford. Dissertation—

"Desorption of Hydrocarbons from an Unconsolidated Sand." Directed by Professor R. L. Huntington.

Oscar D. Weaver, Jr. Dissertation—"The Geology of Hughes County, Oklahoma." Directed by Research Professor C. E. Decker.