

The Tenth Year of a New Era

By BILL GOODNER, '52ba

Setting aside a week (February 2-8) to honor and to dedicate, the University of Oklahoma voiced tribute to those who had contributed to her first 60 years of educational trail-blazing, and to her president as he began his 10th year of office.

Billed by faculty planners as "The Tenth Year of a New Era," the week-long program was highlighted February 6 by dedication of the new men's dormitories. Individual housing units were named in memory of 16 graduates and students who lost their lives in Korea and World War II, and the central lounge and dining area was named for the three students who lost their lives in O.U.'s 1949 BOQ fire.

Honoring the man most responsible for the accelerated strides the University has

taken during the past 10 years (Dr. George L. Cross), Dr. Oscar B. White, '21bs, president of the O.U. Regents, named the new men's housing area Cross Center.

James I. Miller, a student counselor at the Center, addressed parents of the honored dead, distinguished guests and University officials at the dedicatory ceremonies.

The evening of the same day, a banquet honoring Dr. and Mrs. Cross topped off the Norman campus celebration. As principal speaker, Dr. Cross gave his informal "Reflections on the Administration of a State University" (*Sooner Magazine*, February, 1953).

The faculty and staff of the University dedicated a commemorative stone to the

University Friday afternoon before the Cross Center program started. The stone was placed in the south end of the South Oval. The principal address was given by Dr. E. E. Dale, '11ba, research professor emeritus of history.

The anniversary program began with Monday's roster fully packed. Ground-breaking ceremonies for the Fred Jones, Jr., Memorial Chapel, dedication of the Meacham Auditorium and the first DeGolyer lecture on the history of science and technology started the first day off in roaring style. The students followed suit and dressed appropriately in frontier style garb.

Accepting the chapel, Dr. Cross said, "In my opinion, this is by far the finest and most significant gift that the University has received during the first 60 years of its existence."

In an impressive ceremony Monday afternoon, the Union auditorium was dedicated to Dr. Edgar D. Meacham, '14ba, late dean of the college of arts and sciences, who distinguished himself at the University as a student and member of the faculty for 41 years.

"In his determination, the College of Arts and Sciences truly became a stronghold of liberal education," L. N. Morgan, professor of English and close friend of Dean Meacham, said in the dedication speech.

Business and Engineering dominated celebration activities the second day of the week. George R. Bryant, vice president of the Texas company, spoke on "Resources and Resourcefulness" Tuesday morning in the Business Administration auditorium.

L. L. Dresser, president of the Dresser Engineering Co., addressed the engineers on "The Engineers Contribution to Society" in the afternoon.

While Jet P-80s and B-25s thundered overhead, Dresser addressed the crowd present on the North Campus for the dedication of the Aeronautical Engineering building. The crowd paid the streaking jets only passing heed and waited like expectant children on Christmas eve, for the demonstration of a flying saucer designed by one of the aeronautical engineering students. Primarily, they were there to hear O.U. Regent T. R. Benedum, '28Law, dedicate the \$105,000 building, but the saucer stole the show. Blasting off, a small model rose sluggishly for about 50 feet then rapidly lost altitude. It gained another burst of speed, shot upward for a short distance and glided down as it spent its short ration of fuel.

The dedication of the \$600,000 Education building marked Wednesday's activity. Dr. White made the dedication and Dr. John R. Rackley, '31ba, '35ma, dean of the



THREE EARLY GRADUATES were present to help the faculty and staff dedicate a commemorative stone at the University's birthday anniversary. They were J. L. Hefley, '99ba, '30m.ed, Norman, Dr. E. E. Dale, '11ba, Norman, and C. Ross Hume, '98ba, '00ma, Anadarko. Dr. Dale, research professor emeritus of history, delivered the principal address at dedication ceremonies.

the College of Education, delivered the acceptance speech.

Speaking on "Education as a Profession and a Discipline," Dr. Lee M. Thurston, Michigan State superintendent of public instruction, Lansing, Michigan, gave the dedicatory address.

That night, Dr. George Catlin, professor of political science at the University of Oxford, England, spoke at the 12th annual Daniel lecture in the Meacham Auditorium. His topic was "What Is the Best Form of Government for the Happiness of Mankind?" The annual lectures were provided for in the will of the late J. L. Daniel, Oklahoma City cotton broker.

"Maintenance of peace is a necessary framework for the happiness, freedom and equitable enjoyment of mankind," stated Dr. Catlin in his brisk British accent. "This government we seek must be able to repress aggression in international as is done in domestic affairs, and to cut short those who ask too much."

Thursday brought along Professional Day. Heading the list of speakers was Mrs. Walter Ferguson, the former Lucia Loomis, '07, Tulsa, nationally syndicated columnist, who spoke on "Education for Living."

"If modern woman is in a dilemma, then modern man is in a pickle," Mrs. Ferguson told her audience. "The trouble is, that it is impossible to know how women should act, or how they should be educated, because men have never been able to make up their minds to what they want a woman to be. The stronger sex has traditionally dumped all women into two categories,



FIVE FRIENDS of the late Dean E. D. Meacham, '14ba—Frank Cleckler, '21ba, Oklahoma City, President George L. Cross, Stewart Harral, '34ma, L. N. Morgan, all of Norman, and Lee B. Thompson, '25ba, '27Law, Oklahoma City—helped dedicate the Union Auditorium to his memory February 2. Morgan gave the dedicatory address. Thompson made response.

fitting either the evil Eve or the saintly Madonna ideas," she said.

The dedication of the Home Economics building, Gittinger Hall, and the addition to DeBarr Hall was made by Regent Benedum, James Harlow, '31ba dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, made the acceptance.

Climaxing the week-long program was the dedication of the University's Medical School addition in Oklahoma City, Sunday, February 8. Some 1,000 persons toured the newest additions to the school during the open house festivities. Governor Johnston Murray delivered the principal address.

Sixty years of progress ended with the hope that the future would be as rewarding.



GEN. HAL MULDROW, '28bus, Norman, commanding general of 45th Division, officially named Cross Center housing units in memory of 16 war heroes of Oklahoma University.

FRED JONES, SR., and Mrs. Jones, Oklahoma City, participated in ground breaking ceremonies February 2 for Fred Jones, Jr., Memorial Chapel as Dr. George L. Cross watched.

WILLIAM S. BURGETT, architect, Mrs. George L. Cross, Mrs. Lucia Loomis Ferguson, '07, Tulsa, Mrs. Louise Holmberg Crawford, '33ba, and Miss Mary Warren, director of the school of home economics, took part in the dedication of the new Home Economics Building.

