

Under Cover

By DAVID BURR, '52ba

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Executive Board of the Alumni Association June 5 in Norman, an unusual event took place. For the first time in the history of the Association, a woman was elected president.

The new president is Mrs. Kitty Shanklin Rountree, '23ba, wife of a prominent Oklahoma City doctor and a long-time active friend of the University. Mother of two sons, one a University student and the other in high school, her election came as she was completing a 3-year term as a member of the Association's Executive Board.

Rhys Evans, '36ba, '39Law, Ardmore attorney, was elected vice president. He also was completing a term on the Board. Mrs. Rountree succeeds T. Howard McCasland, '16ba, Duncan. McCasland was presented a bronze "Pioneer Woman" statuette for his many services to the Association during his term as president.

FIVE NEW MEMBERS of the Executive Board were seated at the Association's meeting also. They are Mrs. Puilla Hill Hodges, '25ba Bartlesville representing District I; Don Kerr, '34-'37, Ardmore, District III; Paul Reed Jr., '50geol, District V; George Dinkler, '33pharm, Hennessey, District VI, and C. D. Northcutt, '39ba, '38 Law, Ponca City, District VIII.

The five were elected in the Association's April mail vote. This year's vote far exceeded the number of ballots cast in any previous election.

The five new members will serve 3-year terms on the Board. They succeed Judge Royce Savage, '25ba, Tulsa; Evans; Mrs. Rountree; McCasland, and Ed Fleming, '14, Enid.

THIS YEAR'S REUNIONS for the Classes of "0" and "5" (see report page 2) were the largest held in the Association's history. More than 350 alumni attended the Reunion luncheon and many more participated in class meetings and other events of the day.

While on the campus, several alumni asked the editor how they could secure prints of their Reunion pictures. Anyone desiring to order a picture may do so by

sending \$1.00 to David Burr, *Sooner Magazine*, University of Oklahoma.

IN THE MAY ISSUE of *Sooner Magazine* (there is no June or August issue) the news of Bruce Drake's resignation as basketball coach at O.U. was carried. At that time there was no news available as to who was to be the new basketball coach.

The magazine was not off the press before the announcement was made that Doyle Parrack, 33-year-old Oklahoma City University basketball coach and athletic director, had been appointed to the position.

Here is Parrack's record as reported by Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, director of Sports publicity at O.U.:

"Parrack was born December 6, 1921, in Cotton County, Oklahoma, on a farm near Randlett close to Red River. He had all his high schooling at the nearby Union Valley Consolidated school, graduating from Union Valley in 1939.

"There was no football team at Union Valley High School, so Parrack played literally the year 'round on the basketball team coached by Supt. Ray Prough. It won the Central College invitation tournament at Edmond in Parrack's junior season.

"Parrack played two years for Coach Cy Wilson's Connors Agriculture College at Warner, Oklahoma, then transferred to Oklahoma A. and M., where in 1941-42 and 1942-43 he played for Coach Hank Iba, graduating in 1943 with a B.S. in arts and sciences and joining the marine corps.

"Upon his discharge from the marines, he played the last semester of the 1945 season for Iba's first national collegiate championship team at Oklahoma A. and M., the Missouri Valley conference permitting graduates a fifth year of sports eligibility then.

"His first year of coaching came during 1945-46 when his Shawnee High School team finished with a 16-12 record. He played the 1946-47 season with the Chicago Stags professional team, which won the western division championship.

"In 1947-48 he began coaching at Oklahoma City University where, despite the handicap of not having a home court, his

Chiefs won 137 and lost 81 games for .628 per cent and were invited the last four years in a row to play in the Western regional "at-large" bracket of the NCAA championships.

"Although Parrack's Chiefs lost all four times, twice they were put out by the nation's No. 2 team, Kansas in 1953, Bradley in 1954. They divided two NCAA consolation games, defeating UCLA 55-53 at Corvallis, Ore., in 1942 and losing 58-56 to Texas Christian at Manhattan, Kan. in 1953.

"Twice Parrack's OCU teams won the All-College tournament championship at Oklahoma City. In 1949 they cut down Baylor, Oklahoma A. and M. and Wyoming. In 1951 they defeated Tulane, Oklahoma A. and M., and Tulsa. Parrack-coached OCU teams have a 12-6 record in the All-College.

"The new Sooner coach has been noted for his development of obscure high school players. Among his stars at OCU were A. E. "Abe" Lemons, '49, of Walters, his present assistant at OCU; Farrel Craig, '51, of Enid; Don Penwell, '52, of Oklahoma City; Andy Likens, '53, of Dale, and Arnold Short, '54, of Weatherford who was a Helms Foundation All-American. None of them were big-name players in high school.

"Parrack is married and has a five-year-old daughter. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, golf and livestock breeding. He raises Hereford cattle on his stock and hay farm located 12 miles south of Tecumseh, near St. Louis, Okla.

Shortly after his selection, Parrack named John Grayson, '38bs, assistant coach under Drake, to the same position under the new regime.

SPECIAL NOTE TO '54 GRADS

July is the last issue of the 1954-55 publishing year. It is also the last magazine that 1954 graduates will receive on the special 1-year membership granted to all new graduates.

We hope that the Class of '54 has enjoyed reading the 10 magazines they have received and the many other advantages of membership in the Alumni Association during the past year. A \$4.00 check sent to the Alumni Office, University of Oklahoma, will continue the membership and the *Sooner Magazine* subscription for another year. Why not send your membership today?