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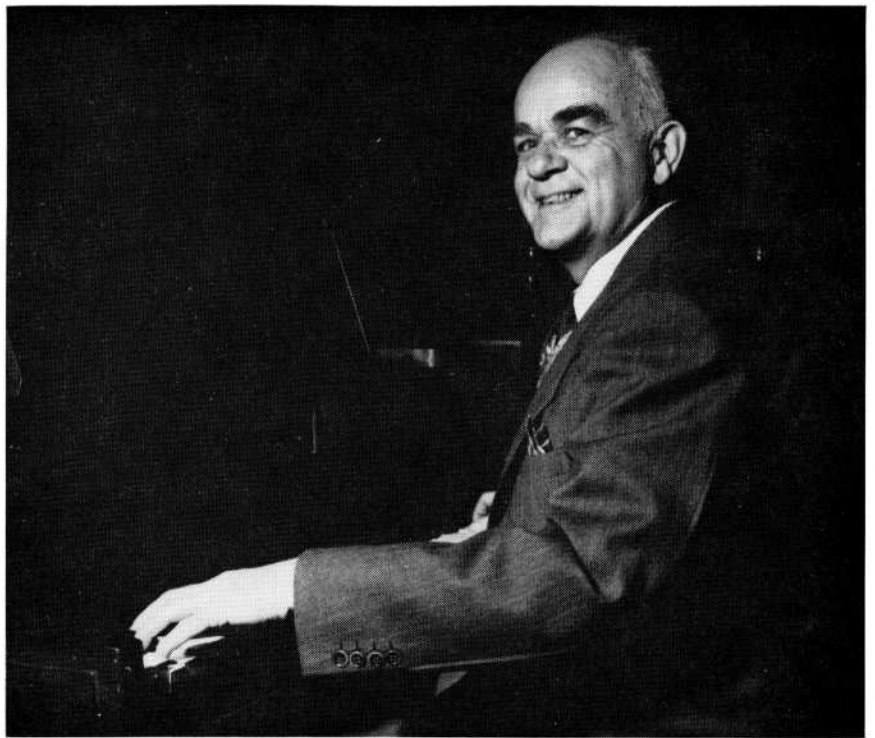
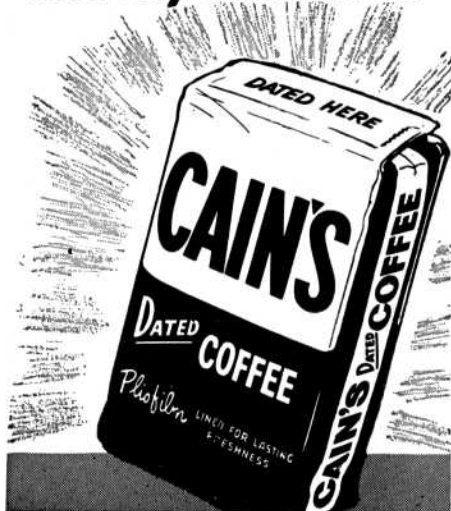
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Dean Laurence H. Snyder of the Graduate College is pictured at his favorite hobby.

Recently honored by selection as president-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, O.U.'s graduate dean has been acclaimed one of the world's foremost scientists and the . . .

Father of Human Genetics

PRACTICALLY every weekday morning, just about coffee time, a short, cheerful man leaves his office in O.U.'s Administration Building and heads for the Union. In the course of his walk, those passing him see a middle-aged man wearing a warm smile. His eyes sparkle. His hair is white and departing.

Over his coffee cup, he jokes and chats with friends. He always seems to be enjoying life, having fun, taking an acute interest in the world around him. This interest, however, is more than just a part of his makeup; it could perhaps be called the backbone of his work. This gentleman is one of the world's foremost biologists and "father of human genetics."

Dean of the University's Graduate College, Dr. Laurence H. Snyder is a man difficult to keep at home. In fact, he's found a second home on the speaker's rostrum where he's delivered well

over 1,000 public lectures concerning the genetics field. He has spoken in each of the United States, as well as in Alaska, Puerto Rico, five European countries and, most recently, Hawaii. These talks cannot be said to be prepared for or aimed at any one particular group. World-famed scientists and high school students alike have heard him.

Nor is Snyder above making an example of himself during a lecture. A made-to-order illustration of genetic tendencies, he often points out his own colorblindness to an audience. This striking trait inherited by Snyder lets him distinguish only various shades of gray and tan, but he'll seldom dwell on it for too long. Rather, he will go on to ask the audience to consider his physique, another illustration supporting the fact that our given genes will constitute the way we appear and operate.

The Hawaiian sojourn began around

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Father of Human Genetics . . .

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New Year's and lasted until last June. Snyder taught genetics at the islands' university, and he returned mighty pleased with the experience: his students—Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Okinawan, plus, of course, Hawaiian—were serious about Snyder's specialty. Too, he managed to move about enough among the islands to get in about 40 public lectures.

But Snyder apparently never feels he's quite as busy as he could be, so he and Mrs. Snyder put their minds and hands to work at a new trade in their spare time. Interested in Hawaiian jewelry, they collected dozens of varieties of lustered palm seeds, then learned to sandpaper them into fine necklaces, as the islanders do. One specimen took 100 hours for the two to complete, and it's valued at \$100.

How did Snyder happen to become a world leader in human genetics? It all began about 35 years ago when he was a college student. Having become fascinated by the study of blood groups, he went on to write his doctoral dissertation on the subject while at Harvard. This led to another book, *Blood Groups in Clinical and Legal Medicine*. It was the first work of its kind to be brought out in English, and following publication the American Medical Association packed its author off to the Royal Dutch Academy of Science so that he could reveal his findings to that group in person.

Snyder plunged into research. Through the years he became a veritable scientific detective, tracing racial distribution of blood groups, questioning the inheritance of human diseases, tracking down taste deficiencies and linking them to the individual's genetic makeup. He devised new methods of studying genetics, then laid out practical methods on trait information for families. The basis for genetic counseling throughout the world is the work of Snyder, as is the practical application of heredity in the prevention of disease. Some of his work was done at Oak Ridge in the way of nuclear studies.

Countless students pored over the elementary genetics textbook written by Snyder some 30 years ago. Besides being one of the first written in English, it's

still the best used of any elementary work in the field. Also, Snyder organized the first genetics class in this country to be required of medical students, and he or his students originated every course being taught here.

He was chairman of Ohio State University's department of zoology and entomology before joining O.U. in 1947. Besides heading the Graduate College at Oklahoma, he is professor of zoology and medical genetics and director of organized research as well. A man of his stature holds many honors and offices, and Snyder's are almost too numerous to enumerate. He has been president of the American Society of Human Genetics and is now editor-in-chief of its journal. He is a member of the editorial boards of three other publications. One can count at least nine different fraternities to which he belongs, and he's been president, vice president, director or a distinguished member of at least ten other major scientific organizations.

There is no saying just which of his many honors has been tops; certainly he would be too considerate of all organizations recognizing him to ever choose a "tops." Still, friends of his took special note of his selection, in 1953, as honorary president of Phi Sigma, international biological society, for the office is reserved for the scholar considered by the group to be America's outstanding biologist. Just as mentionable is the occasion when, in the closing days of 1955, the American Association for the Advancement of Science named him president-elect, which meant that he'd serve in three major presidential offices.

An appreciation of the Dean's role in science hasn't stopped colleagues and students from terming him a "real character" to boot. Snyder is anything but staid. He has a remarkable sense of humor and keen wit, something most persons coming into contact with him realize right off the bat. Yet the clincher comes when Snyder just happens to spot a convenient, unoccupied piano in the room. Seating himself at the instrument, he flexes his fingers for an instant, then drops them to the keys. For the next few minutes, you'll be hearing eight-to-the-bar boogie woogie.

Corporation's Denver offices. They have three children, Lynne, Stephen and Mark.

B. W. Bourne, '47eng, has been appointed Houston (Texas) area sales manager for Delta Tank Manufacturing Company. He is a veteran of ten years of sales work in the petroleum equipment industry.

The Rev. Luke James Hallenbeck, '47bs, Holy Cross Abbey, Canon City, Colorado, was presented a Master of Science degree in June at New York University.

BIRTH: Robert A. Rutland, '47journ, and Mrs. Rutland (the former Peggy Marchant, '47journ), Los Angeles, California, have chosen the name Nancy Allen for their second daughter born May 10 at U.C.L.A. Medical Center, Los Angeles. Their other daughter is Betsy, 4.

1948

James L. Buckley, '48bus, and Mrs. Buckley (the former Thelma Antone, '48fa) and their four children recently visited Oklahoma City while on leave from Venezuela. Buckley works in South America as an accountant supervisor for Standard Oil Company.

Robert H. Martin, '48eng, recently was chosen to fill a key production position in the Corning Glass Works plant, Muskegon. He will be plant quality and process engineer.

Lyman Bryan, '48journ, Detroit, Michigan, was a special guest at the first meeting of a proposed statewide public relations organization held July 24 in Oklahoma City. He is director of community relations for the Chrysler Corporation, Detroit, Michigan, and a director of the American Public Relations Association.

Virgil B. Brown, '48eng, Baytown, Texas, has been promoted to senior coordination technician at Humble Oil and Refining Company's Baytown refinery. He and Mrs. Brown have two sons, Gary Alan and Steven Mark.

Lieut. Dorothy A. Folmar, '48ba, '50m.ed, Oklahoma City, was recently graduated from the Women's Army Corps basic officers course at Fort McClellan, Alabama. Her new station is Wolters Air Base, Mineral Wells, Texas.

Stanley Goldstein, '48ms, Flushing, New York, received a Master of Science degree in June from New York University.

BIRTH: Curtis A. Milligan, '48bus, and Mrs. Milligan (the former Wendalccn Farmer, '43journ), Oklahoma City, have chosen the name Patricia Susan for their third child, a daughter, born June 14 in Oklahoma City. They have another daughter, Michaela Lynn, 11, and a son, Ricky Dane, 8.

1949

Martin Margulis, '49ba, Bronx, New York, received a Master of Arts degree in June from New York University.

MARRIAGE: Miss Phyllis Margaret Brooks, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and Martin E. Dyer, '49bus, '54Law, Ardmore, were married June 9 in Toronto. They have established a home in Ardmore.

BIRTH: John W. Chyz, '49bus, and Mrs. Chyz, Norman, have chosen the name Margaret Ann for their daughter born June 20 in Norman.

1950

Capt. James B. Stewart, '50ed, Anadarko, served as platoon leader while helping to train some 1,800 R.O.T.C. cadets during a 6-week summer camp at Fort Riley, Kansas. Stewart is regularly assigned to the R.O.T.C. staff at the University of Nebraska.