

*Mr. Morgan's boyish appearance, so different from that of the traditional college professor, and his popularity with new students soon won for him the nickname of "Fess," by which he has been known for many years.—Roy Gittinger, University of Oklahoma: A History of Fifty Years.*

Gittinger's comment concerned the arrival of L. N. Morgan on the campus in 1912. The new instructor of freshman English did indeed become a popular figure among students and faculty members. But as the years passed, his mark—first made because of sheer likeableness—changed to a deep, definite impression pressed by a special brand of kindness, humility and compassion which indicated the genuine "Fess" Morgan.

He came to O. U. following his graduation from the University of North Carolina. Morgan was born January 22, 1890, in Yokohama, Japan, the son of American missionaries, but he grew up in Goldsboro, North Carolina. Even after

L. N. "Fess" Morgan  
Teacher

settling in Norman he kept up his own studies between teaching sessions, taking courses at the University of Chicago and at Columbia. He received his master's degree from Harvard in 1916. Keenly interested in the writings of George Bernard Shaw, Morgan ultimately became an expert on the Irishman's works.

He held a Phi Beta Kappa key and was one of the charter members of the group's O. U. chapter. For 13 years he served on the Athletic Council. In 1929 he was appointed a full professor of English; by 1928 he'd begun a four-year term as head of the department.

Morgan became a kind of specialist in taking over difficult or emergency assignments and conquering them. When increased enrollments made mandatory the selection of an assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Morgan took the job. When he was appointed director of University Publications, he dived into the school catalogs and began throwing out extraneous mat-

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## Two O.U. Greats Pass From Scene

E. L. DeGolyer  
Alumnus

Everette L. DeGolyer, '11geol, died December 14 in Dallas, Texas. The world's foremost geologist and father of applied geophysics, he amassed a fortune in the oil business. Yet he wasn't all oilman, nor all businessman. He took from the earth, then gave back in the form of knowledge and culture. O. U.'s DeGolyer Collection—more than 11,000 scientific and technological volumes valued at \$250,000—stands as proof. So does the *Saturday Review*, saved from bankruptcy by DeGolyer; thereafter he became its publisher.

He was born to a homesteading family on October 9, 1886, in a sod hut in Kansas. After attending a Joplin, Missouri, high school, he took up studies at O. U. in 1906 and worked toward a degree in geology. Summers he worked for the U. S. Geological Survey in the Rocky Mountain area.

While still an undergraduate he left O. U. to join the newly organized Oklahoma Geological Survey, but in 1909 he went to Mexican Eagle Oil Company as a field geologist. His fame was assured when he staked the location for what proved to be one of the world's largest producing oil wells; this was the well called "Petrero del Llano No. 4," and eventually it gave up more than 100 million barrels.

In 1911 DeGolyer came back to O. U. to receive his degree and to marry Nell Goodrich, '06mus, '07ba, who had taught him German I there. Returning to Mexican Eagle as chief geologist, he then staked the location for the discovery

well of spectacular Los Naranjos Field. For a time he maintained his own consulting practice in Norman, but after completing a geological reconnaissance of western Cuba in 1916 he opened a consulting office in New York. By 1919 he'd helped organize Amerada Petroleum Corporation.

Amerada's success largely was due to DeGolyer's pioneering efforts in oil geophysics. Serving successively as the company's vice president and general manager, president, and chairman of the board, he introduced the torsion balance, the modern magnetometer, and the refraction and reflection seismic methods of exploration into this country. Also in this period he successfully directed the first geophysical survey of a U. S. oil field, and several other companies organized by him discovered many fields in Texas and Illinois.

In 1936 he aided in the formation of the world-famous oil properties appraising concern of DeGolyer and MacNaughton. He joined boards of oil and railroad firms too numerous to list. World War II came, and he was called upon to serve in several high government posts.

Never one to be inactive or behind the changing times, DeGolyer took the lead in 1956 in organizing Isotopes, Inc., a firm designed to adapt radioactive isotopes to industry use. At the time of his death he was a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, an advisor in exploration and mining, and had just been elected a board member of the Smithsonian Institution.

# ROLL CALL

of Alumni Newsmakers



Lemuel Dorrance, '96pharm, first student to earn a diploma from O. U., practices pharmacy in this rare old photograph. (See story on page 25.)