

a series of brief news stories of events that shaped the lives of the alumni family

1900-20

Dr. Hubert M. Nicholson, '11pharm, '12bs, Denbigh, Virginia, now is retired as a colonel, Army Medical Corps. Dr. Nicholson spent 32 years in the service. He was the first O. U. graduate to enter Johns Hopkins Medical School, where he received his degree in 1917. "They took me as a try-out to sample the training I'd received," he said. "I had to match wits with graduates of most of the large Eastern universities, and my basic training at O. U. stood up with the best of them. We had no ivy on our walls then, but the training was there."

Dr. W. Kelly West, '13bs, '15med, Oklahoma City, was named president-elect of Southern Medical Association in November in Washington, D. C. He has been professor of orthopedic surgery at the O. U. School of Medicine since 1942.

Leo H. Gorton, '13eng, is president of the Machine Tool & Supply Company and is partner in the Gorton-Howell Machinery Company, both of Tulsa.

M. E. Carpenter, '16eng, is an independent geologist in Oklahoma City.

Theodore J. Bode, '20eng, Lakewood, Ohio, operates as a design engineer for the Cleveland (Ohio) Electric Illuminating Company.

C. H. Salwachter, '20eng, Waynoka, is self-employed in the fields of engineering, construction, and surveying.

DEATHS: M. L. Reagan, who attended O. U. in the early 1900's, died January 12 in Norman Municipal Hospital following a heart attack. Reagan, postmaster of the O. U. North Campus post office, suffered the attack in the campus fieldhouse while waiting for a wrestling match to begin. He was 70.

Clarence Dunn Storm, '07ba, Colusa, California, died December 25 in the Colusa Hospital. Survivors included Mrs. Storm and a son, Bob. Details of the death were received from H. A. Everest, '06ba, Los Angeles, California, who was Storm's roommate the first year the two attended O. U.

1921-25

A. R. Denison, '21geol, '25m.geol, Tulsa, is vice president of Amerada Petroleum Corporation.

Glenn O. Briscoe, '21geol, is an independent consulting geologist and oil operator in Dallas, Texas.

Carl E. Reistle, Jr., '22eng, is vice president and director in charge of Production Department, Humble Oil and Refining Company, Houston, Texas.

Ira H. Stein, '23geol, Fort Worth, Texas, is vice president of the Land and Exploration department of Champlin Refining Co., The Chicago Corp.

George L. Townsend, '23eng, is a partner in the Townsco Contracting Co., and George Townsend & Company, Oklahoma City.

Harold V. Yerby, '23eng, Poteau, is owner of an insurance agency dealing in property policies.

C. G. Roush, '23eng, Kansas City, Missouri, is district manager of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

J. Roy Seitz, '23geol, Wichita Falls, Texas, is a partner in the firm, J. R. and Adam Seitz, oil operators.

A. L. Solliday, '25geol, is executive vice president of the Stanolind Oil and Gas Company with offices in Tulsa.

Hubert Lee Hendrix, '25eng, is a consulting engineer in Tulsa.

DEATH: Dr. Ralph H. Records, '22ba, '23ma, died January 4 in his home in Norman after suffering a coronary occlusion. An O. U. professor emeritus of history, he had been ill since 1945 when he retired from active teaching after 19 years. Survivors include Mrs. Records and three daughters.

1926-30

H. W. Maris, '26geol, Pecos, Texas, works as a surveyor for Gulf Oil Corporation.

Mrs. Starr Otto Doyel, '26ms, retired in January from her teaching duties at Central State College, Edmond. Chairman of the home economics



Allan M. Casey, '25ba, has been elected a vice president of General Motors Acceptance Corp. Casey is assistant manager of branch operations, Western U. S., with offices in New York City.

department, she had been on the school's faculty for 24 years.

Dr. A. L. Kerbow, '26ed, '34m.ed, Houston, Texas, celebrated his 50th anniversary as a teacher last November 12. Dr. Kerbow began his teaching career in a country school in East Texas, later served as superintendent of schools at Wewoka, Oklahoma, and as president of Westminster College, Mexia, Texas. His present position, that of professor of education and a staff member at Houston Junior College, began when that school first opened in 1927.

A. B. Gross, '26geol, is a consulting geologist in San Antonio, Texas.

Jack M. Copass, '27geol, is a partner in the firm of Copass & Sullivan Consulting Geologists, Tulsa.

Francis L. Sprehe, '27eng, is located in Oklahoma City, where he works as a sales engineer for the Boardman Company.

John B. Hewett, '28eng, Dobbs Ferry, New York, is president of the John B. Hewett Co., Inc.

Alexander E. McKay, '28geol, is president of the Continental Geophysical Company in Fort Worth, Texas.

Chester Sappington, '28eng, is chairman of the board of the General Geophysical Company of Houston, Texas.

J. D. Tompkins, '28eng, is an independent geologist and oil producer in Abilene, Texas.

Tom McGlothlin, '28geol, is an independent consulting geologist in Laurel, Mississippi.

Jack J. Berry, '28geol, is in the oil business in Tyler, Texas.

Mrs. Joe Short (the former Beth Campbell, '29ba) has been appointed personal secretary to Senator Mike Monroney in Washington, D. C. A former correspondent for President Truman, she is the only woman ever to hold a top position on the White House staff other than secretarial. Her late husband was Truman's press secretary.

Ralph Will, '29geol, now has retired and is owner of the Ralph Will Development Company, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. He is a member of the Calgary Petroleum Club.

William N. Ballard, '29geol, '30m.geol, Oklahoma City, is an independent consulting geologist.

Merritt H. Brown, '29geol, Tulsa, is vice president and manager of the J. F. Darby Oil Co.

William M. Plaster, '29geol, is an independent consulting geologist located in Shreveport, Louisiana. He also is a professional engineer in Texas.

L. E. Acker, '29eng, is owner of a firm that bears his name in Oklahoma City. He serves as a manufacturers' representative for sale of industrial and construction materials.

Elza T. Gray, '30eng, now is located in Kirkwood, Missouri. He works as a relay and communications engineer for Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

Herbert N. Peters, '30m.eng, Beverly Hills, California, is a member of the board of directors of Southwest Indemnity and Life Insurance Company, Dallas, Texas.

L. E. Patterson, '30geol, '32m.geol, is an independent petroleum geologist in Midland, Texas.

John H. Guntharp, '30geol, is a partner in the Brazos Exploration Service, Wichita Falls, Texas.

DEATHS: Mrs. Otho L. Fowler (the former Laura Haddock, '27ba, '28h.ec, Norman, died January 5 in Norman Municipal Hospital. She was 52 and had been ill for 18 months.

Dr. Benjamin B. Kies, '28med, recently died following a heart attack at his K-Bar-S Ranch southeast of Muskogee. He was a medical rating specialist with the U. S. Veterans Administration.

1931

Edward L. Howard, '31geol, is a self-employed consulting geologist and oil producer in Tyler, Texas. Howard is president of the Tyler Petroleum and on the board of directors of that city's Chamber of Commerce.

James N. Russell, '31eng, is employed as supervising engineer in Bechtel Corporation's refining division, San Rafael, California. He deals in both chemical and petroleum engineering.

Ruth Downing, '31ba, Tarrytown, New York, last October was appointed director of the Harlem office of Community Service Society, New

York family counseling and health agency.

James A. Lewis, '31eng, is president of James A. Lewis Engineering, Inc., of Dallas, Texas.

Melvin E. Culbertson, '31eng, Corpus Christi, Texas, is sales manager of an auto agency.

Roy J. Thompson, '31eng, Oklahoma City, is a partner in the firm Carnahan & Thompson, Engineers.

Elmer R. Prag, '31eng, is owner of the Day-Brite Lighting, Inc., firm in Oklahoma City.

Philip B. Berry, '31geol, is owner of an oil investment and exploration company which bears his name in Tyler, Texas.

Ed J. Hammer, '31eng, '32m.eng, is with Humble Oil and Refining Company, Houston, Texas. He is director in charge of exploration.

Charles Porter Bristol, '31eng, Tulsa, is vice president of Shell Oil Company.

1932

Ivor H. Hughes, '32eng, Tulsa, is vice president of Sunray Mid-Continent Oil Company.

Merritt C. Hewett, '32eng, '33ms, has been promoted by the American Oil Company. He has been named assistant manager of asphalt sales in New York City. A native of Oklahoma City, Hewett has been with American since 1935.

Allen L. Pelton, '32eng, is co-owner of Pelton Manufacturing Company in Fort Worth, Texas.

J. O. Conner, '32eng, is district plant superintendent for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in Lawton.

Bramc Womack, '32geol, is exploration manager of the Midcontinent Division, Sohio Petroleum Company, Oklahoma City.

Cecil W. Armstrong, '32eng, '37m.eng, is general manager of Cecil W. Armstrong and Associates, Warsaw, Indiana.

William O. Frost, '32eng, is co-owner of Frost Construction Company, Hydro, Oklahoma.

Henry J. Johnson, '32eng, Houston, Texas, is owner of the H. J. Johnson Consulting Engineer Company.

George D. Gibson, Sr., '32geol, works as a seismologist-geologist in Shawnee. He is a partner and supervisor in the firm Oklahoma Geophysical Company.

Raymon M. Grisso, '32eng, is owner-manager of the Grisso Hotel, Seminole.

1933

Paul R. Battenberg, '33eng, is employed as a designer-engineer for Ric-Wil, Inc., Akron, Ohio.

Siler D. Lambdin, '33eng, is vice president and general superintendent of Traders Oil Co. of Houston.

C. Earl Blackburn, '33eng, is vice president in charge of Oil and Gas Division of the J. M. Huber Corp., Borger, Texas.

Jack H. Abernathy, '33eng, is vice president of the Big Chief Drilling Company of Oklahoma City. A leader in engineering societies, lay activities of his church, and civic organizations, Abernathy is the author of numerous articles dealing with the oil and drilling industries.

G. Harrison Cooper, '33geol, is executive vice president of the Ambassador Oil Corp., Fort Worth, Texas.

Sylvan H. Garonzik, '33eng, is president of the Crown Brick Manufacturing Company, Mesquite, Texas.

Frank E. Brown, '33eng, is president of the Republic Exploration Company with offices in Tulsa.

J. Clifford Wright, '33eng, is owner of the Wright Realty and Insurance Agency in Lone Wolf.

Kenneth W. Henson, '33eng, is the owner of a

Lem Dorrance Holds Distinction Of Earning First O.U. Diploma

By BILL FRYDAY

The time was early morning. The day was Friday, June 6, 1896. As usual, the faculty and students of O. U. had gathered for the weekly convocation period. But this period was to be a special one. For the first time, the University was going to present diplomas.

A young man of medium height and build sat waiting for his name to be called. Lemuel Dorrance was handsome, had brown curly hair and piercing blue eyes. He had been such a good student that teachers had called him "determined, serious minded, busy, methodical, studious, ambitious—and likeable."

Appropriate speeches were made that morning, and then Lem was called forward, his diploma handed to him. The paper was made out in signification of his completion of two years' prescribed study as a pharmaceutical chemist; the letterer had forgotten to cross the "t" in "chemist." At the bottom were four signatures, among them those of David Ross Boyd, first president of the University, and Edwin DeBarr, dean of chemistry.

So Lem was the first. The second—the only other student in the '96 class—also received his diploma that morning. He'd missed being first because his surname began with a "T."

In those days relatively young states like Oklahoma needed pharmacists badly, so it isn't strange that O. U.'s College of Pharmacy became the institution's earliest professional division. In 1897 there were, again, two students, both pharmacists; of the 14 who received diplomas in '98, a dozen were pharmacists.

After leaving school, Lem went on to work in drug stores in Guthrie, Oklahoma City and Pauls Valley. He'd chosen the field because it was interesting, important and seemed to offer fulfillment, but, naturally restless, he gradually became aware of the fact that the work was too confining for him.

Suddenly, then, in 1906, Lem virtually disappeared from sight.

Forty years later an O. U. professor of pharmacy, Dr. Ralph Bienfang, paused one day and wondered what sort of person the first diploma holder had been and what had happened to him. Bienfang managed to locate a niece of Lem's, Mrs. Pearl Ables of Oklahoma City, and the two took up a correspondence which steadily filled in the highlights of Lem's life.

Lem was born on July 27, 1873, in Stark County, Illinois, the son of a farmer. A few years later the family moved to Iowa, and it was there that Lem graduated from high school. Rather than become a farmer like his father, Lem decided to come to Norman and attend the newly established University. Perhaps a relative of his (Edward Ingle, who was first editor of the *Norman Transcript*) helped influence the boy.

A popular student, Lem liked to sing, hunt, dance. He rode a bicycle to classes. And he was a camera "bug." In spare moments he lugged his large, heavy old camera along the streets of the small town or across the fields which were later to become giant ovals and feel the press of 10,000 pairs of shoes every day, and he snapped everything which suited his fancy. To work with a camera at the turn of the century meant being an ardent hobbyist, for there was little ease in taking pictures. For example, Lem had to make his exposures on thick gelatin-coated glass plates instead of rolls of film, and the handling and treating of such plates was a difficult business.

Naturally most of his nights he spent in studying. Around midnight, feeling mentally exhausted, he would grab up his violin and play it for relaxation. Ten years after leaving school he was playing his violin in Costa Rica; his "disappearance" had consisted simply of a trip to Central America.

In the new country Lem took a look at the cocoa plantations and decided he

LEM DORRANCE Continued

wanted one for his own. Eventually he had it, and at one time it contained about 7,000 bearing trees. Always interested in land and the things it could produce, he bought timber land and ranch land. Then he became fascinated by gold mining, and about 1916 he took to prospecting.

Early July in Costa Rica is hot. On such a day in 1919, just previous to his forty-sixth birthday, Lem suffered a sunstroke. Paralyzed, he was taken to a hospital. Within five days he was dead. The body was placed in a zinc casket which in turn was fitted into a fine mahogany coffin and buried in a cemetery in Granada. Because of certain regulations existing at that time, it could not be shipped back to the States.

Lem had never married.

Today Mrs. Ables says that she still has his violin, and it is difficult to realize that more than 60 years have passed since Lem used to dig his chin into the instrument and make it sing out into Norman midnights. His diploma and diary Mrs. Ables gave to Dr. Bienfang, who has placed them in the University Archives.

An assembly room in the College of Pharmacy building is known as the Dorrance Room, in memory of Lem the First.

contracting company that bears his name in Pauls Valley.

Lester Wilkonson, '33eng, is a consulting petroleum engineer in Wichita, Kansas. Wilkonson is a registered professional engineer in both Kansas and Oklahoma.

Ben D. Marks, '33geol, Corpus Christi, Texas, is co-owner of the Tri-Mark Oil Company.

Paul D. Balbin, '33eng, is president of an investment firm that bears his name in Fort Worth, Texas.

Robb W. Moore, '33eng, '34arch, is a partner in the architecture firm of Nolen and Moore, Oklahoma City.

G. Scott Hammonds, '33eng, is an independent oil producer in Dallas, Texas.

R. W. Lange, '33geol.eng, is an independent geologist in Garden City, Kansas.

1934

Evert E. Stong, '34eng, Oklahoma City, is a professional engineer and partner in Phillips and Stong Engineering Company. He also serves on the board of the Northside Chamber of Commerce.

Lawrence L. McWilliams, '34eng, Caracas, Venezuela, is a member of the management staff for Socony Mobil Oil Company de Venezuela. He serves as assistant to the general manager.

Tom Ashton, '34bus, has qualified for the Starr Club for 1957. Ashton, a New York Life Insurance Company agent located at 1100 Liberty Bank Building, Oklahoma City, and Mrs. Ashton will travel to Edgewater Park, Mississippi, on May 5 for the club convention.

Thomas F. Thompson, '34eng, is president and general manager of the firm Thompson, Haight & Keister of Oklahoma City.

Stanley C. Morian, '34eng, is president and general manager of the Dixie Chemical Company with offices in Houston, Texas.

Jackson L. Gordon, '34eng, is district manager of the Hamilton Management Corporation with offices in Sheridan, Wyoming.

John A. Watters, '34eng, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, works as a process chemical engineer for Gulf Oil Corporation.

James R. Sommerfrucht, '34eng, Oklahoma City, works as an assistant general agent for Aetna Life Insurance Company.

1935

Frank T. McCoy, Jr., '35ba, has been honored by Shattuck School, Faribault, Minnesota. He is one of four alumni of the school recognized for distinguishing themselves in various fields. A shield bearing the seal of the U. S. Air Force has been hung in Shattuck's dining hall in honor of McCoy, a brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve.

Dr. Paul C. Fine, '35ba, was recently honored at the first annual atomic energy commission awards ceremony in Washington, D. C. Fine, who is director of operations analysis and planning for the Atomic Energy Commission, received an award for outstanding service.

W. C. Bednar, '35eng, Dallas, Texas, is a partner in the firm of Meyer and Achtschin, consulting petroleum engineers.

Martin G. Miller, '35eng, Houston, Texas, is partner in the consulting firm of engineers, Butler, Miller & Lents.

N. J. Kruger, '35eng, Albuquerque, New Mexico, is president of the firm Kruger, Lake & Henderson, Associated Architects & Engineers.

Louis Loeffler, Jr., '35eng, is general manager and president of the Federal Corporation of Oklahoma City.

F. Marion Setzer, '35geol, Bellaire, Texas, is employed as senior paleontologist (jg) by Stanolind Oil and Gas Company. He is a member of the Houston Geological Society.

George A. Weisser, '35eng, is a highway engineer for the Bureau of Public Roads. He is located in Austin, Texas.

1936

Roy D. Ewing, '36eng, Oil City, Pennsylvania, is with United States Steel Corporation. Ewing is engineer in charge of production equipment design in the firm's oil well supply division.

E. Lyle Johnson, '36eng, Norman, is a partner in the Johnson & Flesher Drilling Company.

W. R. Clarke, '36eng, is manager, Production Equipment Sales, Jones & Laughlin Supply Division, Tulsa.

W. Wesley Wood, '36eng, Bartlesville, is employed as chief electrical engineer of the Phillips Petroleum Company. His latest article, "Emergency Shutdown Systems," appeared in the *Oil and Gas Journal*.

Ray A. Molina, '36eng, is located in Caracas, Venezuela, and working for Creole Petroleum Corporation. He is office engineer in the production department.

DEATH: C. W. Binckley, '36eng, '48m.eng, and George Sneed, '37Law, both were killed December 12 in an airplane crash near Bartlesville. Employees of Phillips Petroleum Company, the two were riders in the company plane which had just taken off en route to Salt Lake City, Utah. Six others perished with them.

1937

Elliott Davis, '37geol, is a partner in the firm of Davis Brothers, Geologists, Tulsa.

Philip A. Meacham, '37eng, is a partner in both Meacham Hardware Company and the Meacham Oil Company, Port Alleghany, Pennsylvania.

Walter W. Butcher, '37geol, is an independent geologist located in Oklahoma City.

Alfred E. Graham, '37eng, is owner of the Gene Graham Drilling Company in Oklahoma City.

Charles A. Bell, Jr., '37geol, Oklahoma City, is a partner in the Nuckolls-Bell Drilling Company.

King D. Boyd, '37eng, Dallas, Texas, is manager of technical service for the Ideco Division, Dresser Equipment Company.

Harold R. Wehrenberg, '37eng, is a partner and manager in the firm, Harold's Concrete Supplies, Elk City.

Billie Bryan Burke, '37eng, Houston, Texas, is the owner of an oil firm which bears his name.

B. M. Nowery, Jr., '37eng, is vice president of the Nowery Drilling Co., Inc., Shreveport, Louisiana.

John Curry Giles, '37eng, is plant engineer for Continental Oil Company, Ponca City.

1938

Herbert G. Bailey, Jr., '38ba, Greensboro, North Carolina, took over his duties January 1 as new director and vice president of the Bank of Greensboro. For the past five years he has been executive vice president of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce. He is a native of Oklahoma City.

Milton J. Gordon, '38eng, Tulsa, received his promotion to Air Force colonel on January 9. A reservist, he also works for a manufacturer as sales representative.

Paul B. Fletcher, '38eng, works as a senior petroleum engineer for Sun Oil Company, Dallas, Texas. He is author of "What Water Flooding Did for Delhi Field," which appeared in an August, 1955, edition of *Oil and Gas Journal*.

Francis W. Ringer, '38eng, Narberth, Pennsylvania, is owner of the firm of Francis W. Ringer, Consulting Engineer.

Milton J. Gordon, '38eng, Tulsa, is a partner in the Knight-Gordon Engineering Company, which deals in sales engineering.

C. E. Siberts, '38eng, is an independent geologist operating in Okmulgee. He was president of the Okmulgee Geological and Engineering Society for 1956.

Garth H. Caylor, '38geol, Tulsa, is vice president of the Oil Capital Corp. He is a member of American Association of Petroleum Geologists, A.I.M.M.E., Tulsa Geological Society, Tulsa Country Club and Tulsa Petroleum Club.

J. A. Sinex, Jr., '38eng, is president of the Sinex Drilling Company, Longview, Texas.

W. Clyde Shelton, '38eng, is a building contractor in Lawton and owner of the firm that bears his name.

A. Leander McAlister, '38eng, is owner of an oil field trucking and well servicing company in Wichita Falls, Texas.

1939

Reginald O. Hocker, '39ba, '41ms, Edmond, received his doctor of philosophy degree last August from Oklahoma A&M College, Stillwater. He now is professor of biological science at Central State College, Edmond.

Clare C. Smith, '39bus, recently shared announcement of the relocation of Early and Smith, a certified public accountant firm in which he is a partner, to new offices in Oklahoma City.

Joseph W. Robinett, '39eng, now is located in Springfield, Missouri, as a life insurance salesman. Robinett, an employee of Equitable Life Assurance Society, also is a 1956-57 president of the Springfield Association of Life Underwriters.

R. H. Pruitt, '39eng, is president of the Pruitt Oil Corporation and of the Greater Valley Terminal Corporation.

Charles P. Wantland, '39eng, is owner and plant manager of the Wantland Treating Company, located in Tulsa.

Fred P. LaBoon, '39eng, Vinita, is owner and lessee of the LaBoon Conoco Service, a super service station.

J. Howard Brown, '39eng.phys, is president of the La Canada, California, firm of J. Howard Brown, Inc.

O. H. Crews, '39m.ed, '41eng, is general superintendent of the Great Western Drilling Company, Midland, Texas.

Robert W. Kline, '39geol, is division manager of the Midwest Oil Corporation with offices in Fort Worth, Texas.

Robert E. Howard, Jr., '39eng, is senior staff engineer in the Area Traffic office of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Oklahoma City.

1940

Charles L. Williams, '40geol, is a self-employed independent geologist in Corpus Christi, Texas. He belongs to that city's geological society.

Mrs. James T. Herrington, Jr. (the former Louise Houssiere, '40geol) is a consultant geologist in Jennings, Louisiana. She is also vice president of both the Latreille Est., Inc., and Houssiere-Latreille Oil Company.

Barth P. Walker, '40Law, '40geol, is an attorney-at-law located in Oklahoma City. Among the various firms for which he serves on the board of directors are Garber, Inc.; Houston Hydrocarbon, Inc.; Ercott Oil Field Supply Company, and Newman Courts, Inc.

Glenn E. Hess, '40eng, is vice president and general manager of Concho Construction Co., Inc., Oklahoma City.

Richard D. Adams, '40geol, Oklahoma City, is a landman with Ashland Oil and Refining Company. He is a member of the Petroleum Club of Oklahoma City.

John E. Green, '40eng, is now employed by Shell Pipe Line Corporation, Houston, Texas.

1941-45

Gerald D. Butterworth, '41eng, East Chicago, Indiana, is head engineer of projects in the general engineering department of Standard Oil Company (Indiana). He is a member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

C. F. McLaren, Jr., '41eng, Houston, Texas, is employed as senior petroleum engineer in Humble Oil and Refining Company's equipment division.

H. E. Schwartz, Jr., '41eng, Wichita, Kansas, is senior petroleum engineer for Magnolia Petroleum



Three student lawyers brought another first to the University in late December. In arguments before Supreme Court Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter, seen with them, the O. U. team of Patrick Williams, J. Jerry Dickman and W. DeVier Pierson won the National Moot Court Competition. The competition was held in New York City; more than 90 top schools participated in the contest.

Company. He is a registered engineer in the state of Texas.

Harry A. King, '41eng, is an independent sales engineer operating in Westfield, New Jersey.

Homer G. Moore, '41geol, is a partner in the firm Dunnan and Moore, Houston, Texas. Moore is both a geologist and independent oil operator.

A. T. Slagle, Jr., '41eng, Wichita, Kansas, is assistant division superintendent, production department, Phillips Petroleum Company.

Robert E. Tidrow, Jr., '41eng, Ponca City, works as an insurance agent for Great Central Insurance Company. The firm's home office is in Peoria, Illinois.

Robert Womack, Jr., '41eng, is presently a self-employed consulting geologist. Located in Jackson, Mississippi, he is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and the Mississippi Geological Society.

Dr. Charles B. Overbey, '41med, was appointed clinical director at Kalamazoo (Michigan) State Hospital November 27. Overbey, who has been with the hospital since 1946, will be in charge of medical and psychiatric treatment of patients and the development of the hospital's residency training program and research.

Stratton Brooks Cralle, '41eng.phys, is president and general manager of Concho Concrete, Inc., in San Angelo, Texas.

John R. Crain, '41geol, is senior partner in the firm of Crain & Deisenroth, consulting geologists, in Tulsa.

Melvin R. Bullington, '41eng, is the owner of the Bullington Buick Company, Richardson, Texas.

Charles C. Loveless, Jr., '41eng, is a partner in the Plateau Oil Company, Roswell, New Mexico.

DEATHS: Porter H. Stovall, '43pharm, '47m.pharm, died October 27 in Cox City.

David R. Day, '45eng, Lodi, California, was killed in 1956 in a rock slide while working on a construction job in Colombia, South America.

1946-50

Frank Chuck, '48eng, and Mrs. Chuck returned to Cabimas, Venezuela, in January from a three months vacation which took them to Europe and the U. S. After nine weeks of touring 11 nations in Western Europe, they returned to the States for four weeks, then to South America, where he works for Creole Petroleum Corporation.

Geneva R. Bolerjack, '49ed, Joplin, Missouri, is teaching American children in the Army Independent Schools System in Europe. One of 1,300 such teachers, she instructs grades six, seven and eight in the Fulda elementary school in Germany.

James V. Evans, '49eng, '50m.eng, has been promoted to the directorship of American Oil Company's asphalt research laboratory, Baltimore, Maryland. Evans, who has been with the firm since 1950, succeeded Merritt C. Hewett, '32eng, '33ms, when the latter was made assistant manager for the company's asphalt sales in New York City.

Gene T. Kinney, '49journ, has received a promotion in his work with the *Oil and Gas Journal*. Formerly Tulsa district director for the publication, he now is assistant pipeline editor in the Tulsa office. Kinney also is a veteran of six years as an Associated Press staffer.

George M. McKown, '50eng, has been transferred from Oklahoma City to Chanute, Kansas, by Big Chief Drilling Company. He will do engineering work on shallow water flood properties purchased by the firm.

Charles E. Lanham, '50bus, has accepted the position of assistant cashier with the Union National Bank, Bartlesville. For the past two years, he had been an assistant national bank examiner with headquarters in Clinton.

BIRTH: Irving Trachtenberg, '50journ, and Mrs. Trachtenberg, Whitestone, New York, have chosen the name William Isaac for their son born December 6. He weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

DEATHS: Robert Walker, '48-'49, Leandro,



Vice President Richard Nixon and House Speaker Sam Rayburn forget political differences as they present All-American Jerry Tubbs with more trophies for O.U. Nixon presented Washington Touch-down Club trophy in honor of team's national championship. Rayburn presented Knute Rockne Memorial Trophy to Tubbs as outstanding college lineman of year. Picture by Wide World Photos.

California, was killed December 20 when a helicopter he was piloting crashed into San Francisco Bay. Walker had just flown Mary Gray, an opera singer, and Robert Lachenback, a *Life* magazine photographer, from International Airport to the San Francisco Ferry Building. The accident occurred when he started to move the plane so that Miss Gray could be photographed against the Ferry Building.

William Robert Folsom, '50eng, Ardmore, was killed in December when the pickup which he was driving was struck head-on by another vehicle near Tatums, New Mexico. Folsom, 29, was working at the time as a General Electric representative on a construction job in nearby Lovington. Three people were killed in the accident.

1951-55

Victor E. Lee, '51pharm, is a new representative of Eli Lilly and Company, a pharmaceuticals firm. His territory covers several counties in southern Mississippi and eastern Louisiana. Lee is a registered pharmacist in both Oklahoma and Louisiana.

Capt. Daniel L. Vaughan, '51ba, '55med, Oklahoma City, has completed a company level officers course at Army Medical Service School, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He was last stationed at the Madigan Army Hospital, Tacoma, Washington.

Capt. James G. Billingsley, '52bs, '55med, has been assigned to the staff of Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver, Colorado. He has been with the army since July, 1956.

Pvt. Alan K. Lilley, '52eng, Redondo Beach, California, is assigned to the Army's ordnance climatic test detachment at Fort Churchill, Canada. He is a petroleum laboratory technician.

Charles E. Stiles, '52eng, has been employed by the University of California's Los Alamos (New Mexico) Scientific Laboratory. He works as an engineer in the "N" Division, where nuclear reactors are studied as a means of rocket propulsion.

Allen N. Keegan, '53ba, now works in Cities Service Oil Company's land department in Bartlesville. He formerly was with the Baroid Corporation.

Herbert V. Abrams, '53eng, recently was employed by Temco Aircraft Company, Dallas, Texas.

Charles W. Gullikson, '53ms, '56fa, and Mrs. Gullikson are now located in Littleton, Colorado, where he is employed by the Ohio Oil Company as a research technologist.

Navy Lieut. Jerry Bullard, '55bus, Norman, recently received his wings in a squadron pinning ceremony at Corpus Christi, Texas. Afterwards he reported for flight duty at Quonset Point, Rhode Island.

BIRTH: Lieut. Col. Robert W. Schafer and Mrs. Schafer (the former Helene Louise Hurd, '52ba), Falls Church, Virginia, have selected the name Helene Louise for their daughter born December 21. They also have a son, William Richard, 20 months.

DEATH: Joe R. Leguene, Jr., '51bus, died recently in Tyler, Texas, following a six months' illness. He was 30. A former O. U. football player, he went on to work as an oil scout for Amerada Petroleum Company. Leguene's family asked that memorials be in the form of contributions to the American Cancer Society.

1956

Mrs. Charles Rambo (the former Suzanne Riley, '56ba), Long Beach, California, has won a \$500 award in the Oklahoma Golden Jubilee essay contest. She placed second in the contest which she entered while still a senior history student at O. U.

Elmer L. Davis, '56, Tulsa, has received word from the Carl Fischer, Inc., music company, New York City, that his song, "Chillun" has been accepted for publication and now is being printed. Davis is studying toward a master's degree in music at O. U. Before entering college, he was a vo-

calist with Benny Carter's orchestra in Los Angeles, California.

Ensign Delmas L. Northcutt, '56bs, Willis, recently qualified as a Navy carrier pilot after completing landings aboard a carrier in the Gulf of Mexico.

Ralph F. Ellinger, '56, Oklahoma City, has been assigned to the Michael P. Massad Insurance Agency for three years of field work. Ellinger recently completed the home office phase of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company's sales management training program.

Pvt. Joel M. Bagby, '56ba, Oklahoma City, has been assigned as an information specialist in the public information office of the Army's Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Navy Ensign Joe L. Vowell, '56bus, Frisco, Texas, has graduated from the pre-flight school at Pensacola, Florida. He is now assigned to Saufley Field, Pensacola, for primary flight training.

Lieut. John E. Long, '56ba, Madill, recently was graduated from the officers basic course at Fort Lee, Virginia.

BUSY AND ALIVE

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Walker. "My company of men really did make it tough on me—to leave them."

The year 1948 was his sixth with the Army. Soon after he entered service, he had married Erma Lee, a graduate of Oklahoma A&M. Their first child was a son, Bobby. They were happy, and things seemed to be going just fine.

Then one day Walker hemorrhaged. He was rushed to a hospital, checked, and found to have ulcers.

"You might say they sort of knocked me low," he said. "I was retired, of course. Last Christmas (1955) I spent in a hospital. You see, I almost lost half my stomach, and I may lose it yet—if I ever hemorrhage again."

There is a formidable line of hospitals in his memory, those at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and Brooks Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and others. Suddenly inactive for the first time in his life, he now had to learn to slow down.

He and the Missus chose to settle down in the part of the country where they'd grown up. (She is from Hugo, and he was born in Stamford, Texas.) San Antonio holds a strong attraction for settle-downers. The beautiful, historical old city starbursts out from the nucleus Alamo, symbol of Texas independence. Dissected by the wandering San Antonio river which gives to it the nickname "Venice of the Southwest," the city also cradles sections which look like nothing so much as Mexico City and can be approached only by streets narrow and meandering like the river. And the military is there, four air bases and an army post, to remind Walker of six satisfying years of his life.

"I began to operate a little business on the south side of town," said Walker, and

talked of his play park featuring an M. K. & T. junior railroad. He likes children, and he and Mrs. Walker have three of their own now. "There's Bobby, 11," he said. "He's sick today. I'm raising a Boy Scout in him. Then there's Doak, 7; he's going to be a football player, and we named him for Doak Walker. And there's Sally—"

"I'm five," volunteered Sally, seated in a brown leather reclining chair in the corner of the room.

"Say, come over here and take a look at my Christmas present," said Walker, unseating Sally and coaxing the visitors to try the chair. "Like it? You fellows wait 25 years and that chair'll come in handy."

Erma Walker, a strikingly pretty woman, had been sewing during the interview. Now she rose and hurried toward her back door. "I'd better see what's causing my dog to make so much noise," she smiled. However, she paused long enough to point out that the interview room had been built by Walker during the previous summer. A large, pine-lined recreation area, it had become Walker's special project when a seizure of restlessness came upon him.

"I got tired of playing too much golf," he said, "so I hired a carpenter to help build the room, and I worked side by side with him, kept up with him all the way. While I was at it, I built Bobby a dark-room under the stairs and both the boys a room of their own upstairs."

But the restlessness wasn't quite abated. When, about three months ago, one of the local school districts needed a history teacher, Walker gladly took the position and enjoys it to the hilt.

He still follows football closely, and of course his favorite team is the Big Red. He and other alumni gather for TV parties when one of the games is on the air, and he gives Texans the devil about their Cotton Bowl losses to the foe from the north.

A newer interest is his Hammond electric organ. In a tiny room which seemed built around the instrument, Walker seated himself, switched the organ alive and, waiting for it to warm, put on his spectacles. Green tropical plants brushed his elbow and a brightly painted Indian totem hung above his head.

Sally clambered up the staircase, plopped herself down near the top and watched the crown of her father's head through a glass partition backing the organ.

Everything grew quiet. Then Walker raised his face and grinned. "Won't those O. U. football players laugh when they hear about this!" He waxed serious: "This is something every man should have. I didn't know a note of music, and

yet I learned, just playing this thing. One of our friends is coming over tonight to listen to the organ, and to sing with us. She wants to try and talk her husband into buying one."

He played a soft "Silent Night," then "La Golondrina." Obviously both seemed appropriate. Then he insisted the visitors attempt his "easy method" of playing, which consisted of following illustrated scale formulas in a special songbook. "It's like shooting fish in a rain barrel," he said.

There are nights when Walker has trouble sleeping. On such occasions he comes down into his tiny room, switches on the organ and one light above the music, and he plays for half the night. The feel of the music does something for him.

But he's no brooder. He thinks about himself harnessed around a dangerous stomach, and he talks about it, but he keeps the talk light. "Come out some night and have a bowl of chili with us," he'll say. And he'll chuckle: "I'll drink soup."

His philosophy is blunt, exactly what one would expect from such a straightforward person as Ab Walker:

"I'm trying to stay busy, alive, and out of trouble."

L. N. MORGAN

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ter which had cluttered them for years. When the *Sooner Magazine* included an "Oklahoma Quarterly" section for five years, Morgan edited it.

For more than 40 years' service he was made a Regents Professor in 1955. Only two events had ever seriously diverted him from his job. The first consisted of military service in World War II; the second came about five years ago, when he developed a heart condition.

Though his illness brought with it two bad attacks, Morgan kept working. Then, on December 15, the hardest attack of all came. He died at the age of 66.

This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of Nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of . . . grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.—George Bernard Shaw.

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