

Sooner Scene

By R. BOYD GUNNING

Executive Secretary
O. U. Alumni Association

Paul Reed, Jr., was elected President of the Alumni Association at the meeting of the Executive Board held during the commencement weekend. He is a partner in the newly organized firm of Reed and Dodson, Inc., a ready-mix concrete firm in southeastern Oklahoma. Paul graduated from O.U. with a B.S. degree in Geology in 1950.

Elected Vice-President for the coming year was Don Walker, Class of 1916, of Tulsa. Don has been associated with the Noble Drilling Company for many years. He has an outstanding record of service at the University and has been an active leader in the affairs of his fraternity, Sigma Chi.

The spring elections to select six new members for the alumni executive board attracted the largest number of votes of all time. These men were elected for three-year terms: Robert J. Emery, '44ba, '49Law, attorney in Oklahoma City; Joe Curtis, '20ba, '22Law, attorney and banker in Pauls Valley and a past president of the Alumni Association; Jack Patten, '49ba, '51Law, banker of Norman; Don Barnes, '49Law, Superior Judge of Okmulgee; Ward G. Lynn, '35bus, building and loan businessman, Seminole; Charles Engleman, '33ba, publisher and editor of the Clinton Daily News, Clinton.

One of the impressive features at commencement was the presentation of Distinguished Service Citations to five outstanding Oklahomans in recognition of public service. Awards were presented by the University of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma Association, jointly. Recipients are named by a secret committee. Honored this year were George L. Cross, President of the University of Oklahoma; Edward K. Gaylord, publisher, Oklahoma City; John Kirkpatrick, patron of the arts and civic leader, Oklahoma City; T. Howard McCasland, Chairman of the Board of the University of Oklahoma Foundation and past president of the Alumni Association, Duncan; Paul A. Walker, former Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Norman.

The class of 1909 received special recognition at the reunion luncheon. William J. Cross of Norman organized the Golden Anniversary party for his class. Those who attended the meeting were Dr. Robert Calvert, '09ba, '10m, Scarsdale, New York, professor, author, director of research and inventor; Dr. J. C. M. Krutum, '09ba, '10m, '36ph.d, Norman, professor and educational administrator; Blanche Patton Flickinger, '09pharm, Lawton, pharmacist

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and housewife; Elva McFerron Gittinger, '09fa, '12ba, Tulsa, former O.U. instructor in piano; H. H. Force, a former student with the class of 1909 who received his degree from the University of Wisconsin, Norman, an engineer; Charman Cross, '09 geol, coach and business manager, retired from O.U. in 1957. There were thirteen members of the class who were unable to attend the meeting.

Success of the class meetings was due to excellent work by the chairmen. Those who did an outstanding job were William J. Cross, 1909; Leonard Logan, Norman, and Charles Memminger, Atoka, 1914; Web Glidewell, Helena, and Fayette Copeland, Norman, who were most ably assisted by Fanny Inez Bell Norris, Riverside, California, 1919; A. H. Richards, Oklahoma City, 1924; Eleanor Tracy, Beaver, and Mex Rodman Frates, Oklahoma City, 1929; Tom Ashton, Oklahoma City, 1934; Panthea Evans Freeman, Norman, and Kenneth Harris, Oklahoma City, 1939; Robert J. Emery, Oklahoma City, and Richard L. Virtue, Oklahoma City, 1944; Clee Fitzgerald, Stillwater, and Jack E. Black, Norman, 1949; Martha Plummer, Bixby, and Jay Poynor, Norman, 1954.

There is some misunderstanding about scholarships at the University of Oklahoma. To help set the record straight here is a review of the student aid situation.

The competition for scholarships is keen. There is never enough money. Each year several hundred applicants are turned down, even though their records indicate they are deserving of financial assistance. All undergraduate scholarships are administered by the office of the Dean of Students. Inquiry should be directed to that office and applications filed there. Graduate students should apply at the Graduate College Office. March 15th is the deadline for submitting applications. This early date is necessary so that all applications may be evaluated and winners notified before school is out in the spring, giving all applying students three months in the summer to make plans for the coming year.

Among the entering freshmen for next fall the big winners were Robert Rossa of Oklahoma City and Jan Morgan of Ardmore, both of whom won Alumni Fund Distinguished Scholarships for four years. These scholarships, along with some others which are noted on Page 26, are awarded on the basis of test scores, local recommendations, and personal interviews conducted by the University Scholarship committee.

In addition, there were 62 graduating high school seniors, freshmen next year,

who received the highest possible score by the Scholarship committee in terms of their scholastic achievement and financial need; and 48 upper classmen at O.U. qualified in this top category.

Each year it is possible for the University to offer scholarship aid to approximately 400 students including freshmen, upper classmen, and graduate students. In addition to this type of assistance the University has considerable money available in various loan funds. Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of the students hold part-time jobs while at the University.

In spite of all this, the best information available indicates that not more than one-half of the graduating high school seniors in the top ten percent of the high school classes enter college. The reason for this is in some cases the lack of motivation, but all too often, it is the lack of financial backing. Surely no one would question the fact that it is greatly to the national interest that the best talent among these young people be developed to the fullest extent of their abilities.

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