



H. G. Allphin practices what he preaches in his long career in physical education.

## *When the Last Class Is Over*

**R**ETIRING professors are very much like graduating seniors. They have many ideas for the future but few definite plans. The five University professors leaving their classroom careers this spring, armed with a total of 169 years of O.U. experiences, are no exception. They are looking forward to lighter, less demanding years ahead, but none seems vaguely interested in many idle hours.

The five are Richard B. James, '18eng, professor of theoretical and applied mechanics; Dr. W. A. Willibrand, professor of modern languages; Miss Susan E. Millier, professor of home economics; Dr. Johannes Malthaner, '31ma, professor of

modern languages, and Herbert G. Allphin, associate professor of physical education for men.

Professor James was one of those who once rashly vowed that he would never be a teacher. He has given 42 years of teaching service to the University.

James finished necessary work for a degree in civil engineering at O.U. in 1918, but by the time commencement arrived he and many other 1918 graduates were on their way to Europe and World War I.

In February 1920, he returned to Norman to become an assistant professor in a school that boasted fewer than 2,000 students. In 1938 he became a full professor

of theoretical and applied mechanics and has seen O.U.'s enrolment grow to 11,523. His own field of engineering has shown a proportional growth from its 300 students in 1920 to 1,600 upperclassmen today.

In spite of his former scorn for teaching, James reflects on his life in that profession as an enjoyable and rewarding one. "Probably my greatest pleasure has been in watching former students do well with their chosen life's work," he says. That sentiment is echoed by the feelings of those former students toward James. They have found him eager to help—a man who would go out of his way to aid his students.

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*although their careers have been varied, the retiring professors have a common bond of service to O.U.*

Like all good professors, James is interested in the growth of the University. He has seen the curriculum updated through the years, and he believes the programs are somewhat more difficult now than in the past. The students, however, remain the same for him. Because he is so interested in his students, he is a strong supporter of high school counseling programs as an aid to students in selecting their courses of study.

James will leave the classroom in May, but he is not a man to sit around with nothing to do. First on the list of his projects for tomorrow is a little work around the house like painting the kitchen for his wife. He also owns a farm and is planning to look for another acreage in the Norman area. He plans to devote more time to his

church, Methodist, and numerous organizations of which he is a member, including the Masonic Lodge.

Mrs. and Mrs. James have two children, Richard, Lubbock, Texas, and a daughter, Rhoda Jane Singleton, who lives in Wichita, Kansas. There are also two grandchildren in Wichita who claim a share of attention from the professor and his wife.

Dr. W. A. Willibrand has a rich storehouse of memories, but he won't dwell on them as the retirement period of his life comes around. Instead, he plans to devote a major portion of his hours to research.

Sometimes called the little man with the gigantic vocabulary, Dr. Willibrand has been on the University of Oklahoma faculty since 1924 when he came here from Iowa State. Aside from three sabbatical leaves, he has been teaching Sooner students since that time. Those students include a variety of people in a variety of professions including several distinguished University professors: C. E. Springer, '25ba, '26ma, Spencer Norton, '28ba, Lowell Dunham, '32ba, '35ma, Besse Clement, '25ba, '28ma, and John Alley, '33ba, '34ma.

Dr. Willibrand was born in Westphalia, the oldest German settlement in central Missouri. As a farm boy he first spoke the low German dialect of his parents and neighbors. In the nearby rural school he got his first exposure to standard German and English, and it was there that he first began thinking of becoming a teacher. Not until he was nine years old, however, did he actually move into an English environment, the town of Freeburn, and there through association with playmates, townspeople and teachers he soon became fluent in English.

At 15 the early yearning to teach vanished, and he quit school to become a newspaperman, learning everything connected with publication of an eight-page weekly. But by the time he was 17 the teaching bug had returned, and after qualifying for a county teaching certificate, he began his career. He received his first two-year diploma from Central State Teachers



Richard James takes his greatest pleasure in following the successes of former students. He has taught O.U. civil engineers since 1920.

College in Warrensburg, Missouri, before World War I took Dr. Willibrand away from Missouri to the countries of his ancestors—France and Germany. In 1919 he qualified for a program which sent soldiers to French universities, and later he enrolled at the University of Chicago, earning his master's degree in French in one year. During the years that he taught in a private boys school in California, he enrolled at Stanford University, studying French, German and Spanish.

Never a man to stop learning, Dr. Willibrand attended summer school at the University of Heidelberg in Germany in the summer of 1930 and the subsequent school year was a student at the Universite de Strasbourg in France. During four summer semesters he studied at Stanford and in 1940 took his doctorate from the University of Iowa.

In 1942 he married Rosa Louise Stimptert, now a language supervisor at University High School. In 1954-55 he and his wife and two daughters went to Mexico where he compiled research and the girls attended a Mexican boarding school.

Now in the year of his retirement, Dr. Willibrand says, "I've enjoyed teaching immensely. Now I just want to enjoy the carefreeness of retirement and continue my research."

For Miss Susan E. Millier her career in



Susan Millier has never been willing to accept less than best from home economics students.

home economics has been an embodiment of what she teaches. One of Miss Millier's specialties is teaching furniture renovation. She trains her students to build from a solid framework. One loose tack weakens the whole project. So, Miss Millier's teaching career has been built on a solid foundation of vital interest in her work and in her students. Her instruction is as sound as the finished projects of her pupils.

Her interest in furniture renovation is personal as well as professional, and she has done extensive work on the home she purchased some years ago. One year she decided she needed more living space, so she had the garage converted into a room. Another year her project was adding storage closets, and still later new built-in cabinets increased the kitchen's efficiency.

Miss Millier has a keen interest in people, and after retirement she looks forward to having time for more community work and church work. Although she has no definite plans for travel, Miss Millier thinks it will be fun to be able to pick up and go at any time of the year rather than waiting for summer months as she has had to do in the past.

As a home economics teacher Miss Millier is naturally adept with a needle. She enjoys sewing both for herself and for her nephew's children. In addition to her homemaking interests, Miss Millier belongs to a writers' group and plans to devote more time to her writing.

The years since Miss Millier joined the University faculty in 1927 have been rewarding ones. Her dedicated interest in her students has led her to continuing professional training. A native of Tarkio, Missouri, she received her first degree at Tarkio College and later did additional work at Kansas State, Iowa State, Oregon State, Mexico City, Guatemala, and at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, where she studied crafts.

Dr. Johannes Malthaner, who spurned a career as a bank apprentice in Germany to become a teacher, is looking forward to research work as well as a return visit to his homeland when his duties as a language professor at the University come to an end.

Dr. Malthaner was born in Wiernsheim, a small German town in the Black Forest where his father operated a dry goods store and served as a bank director. After grammar school, he attended high school in Esslinger and then left school to become a bank apprentice. In 1911 he was called to compulsory military duty and was discharged in 1912 as a corporal. He again turned to banking.

In 1913, however, he again abandoned the bank and entered Baptist Theological Seminary with the hope of doing mission-

ary work, but he was forced to discontinue his studies as war loomed over Europe. As an infantryman, he was in the second wave of German soldiers who went into Belgium, then later transferred to the Russian front. During the war Malthaner was seriously wounded and later was taken prisoner, remaining a captive until 1920.

In the officers' camp Malthaner and other Germans organized classes conducted by intellectuals, and for this study there, the Hamburg Seminary gave him three years' credit.

After the war Malthaner was determined to preach and see the world, so he struck out for Argentina where he was pastor of a small German mission. There he met his future wife, an American missionary and teacher.

After their marriage they moved to Wagoner, Oklahoma, and Malthaner began work toward becoming a teacher. He received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and in the fall of 1929 became a graduate assistant at O.U. In 1931 Malthaner received his master's degree in German and was naturalized a United States citizen on the same day.

Dr. Malthaner left O.U. only once when he took a leave of absence to study for his doctorate at the University of Heidelberg, graduating magna cum laude.

He is a deeply religious, warmly personal

man who still clings to the German custom of hat-tipping and handshaking. He has been beloved by many students over the years not only for his classroom influence but also for his deep concern for post-war refugees. One of his former students commented, "I am sure the shoe repair shops in Norman remember him . . . as the professor who spent a large part of his salary to redeem unclaimed shoes to send to needy refugees."

In addition to his work with refugees, Dr. Malthaner devotes a large portion of his time to work with the Baptist church. He has taught Sunday School classes since coming to O.U. and has given many hours to help students at the Baptist Student Union.

The University's outstanding athletic program and its appeal for sports lovers will keep Herbert G. Allphin as close to Norman as possible after his retirement. It is only natural that the veteran associate professor of physical education for men should maintain a proud interest in sports.

Allphin joined the faculty in 1941 as instructor of physical education, but swimming instruction has been more or less his specialty. In addition to the classes he taught at O.U., he has traveled for the area office of the American Red Cross in the interest of first aid and water safety. At one

continued on page 18



Although born in different countries, Dr. W. A. Willibrand (left) and Dr. Johannes Malthaner both come from German families, both have devoted their lives to teaching modern languages at O.U.

# Collegiate Storm Is Brewing

(continued from page 12)

to take his place when a vacancy occurs. Our concern for the system and the schedule never should be given priority over our concern for the individual and his right to be an individual.

In summary, there are some steps to be taken to lessen the impact of the storm:

We can be honest about education's value and not insist upon its social necessity for every individual.

We can cease our senseless competition, whether it is between public and private colleges or among the private.

We can provide room and encouragement for the necessary diversity in form and function among colleges and insist on diversity within all colleges in order to avoid a homogenized campus culture.

All of us together can work to be sure that American education is truly democratic because it does give equal chance to the student of abilities devoid of false preselection by class and caste.

We can establish new criteria for judgment by parent and student. In turn, we must then be ready to meet the new standard of student interest and ability.

The national admissions crisis, in which the individual student is often tragically forgotten, must be solved by the colleges and the secondary schools working together in the short time that is left. The storm warnings are up, but few of us are ready to evacuate. The colleges will do well to

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keep repeating to themselves Gilbert Highet's admonition that the students "have no faults, except the very ones they are asking you to eradicate: ignorance, shallowness, and inexperience . . . It will be useless . . . to wish that there were only two or three, or that they were all more mature. They will always be young, and there will always be lots of them."

And to this we should respond with enthusiasm: Thank God.

## When the Last Class Is Over

(continued from page 9)

time he was president of the Big Six Swimming Coaches' Association.

Allphin has been a devoted worker in physical education. In 1951 while working on a special project with a graduate student, he surveyed 48 states and found that only 14 granted credit for physical education courses and that the average daily time spent in physical education in elementary and secondary schools was only 30 minutes. As a result of these findings he recommended that all states require four years of physical education in secondary schools, that state laws regarding physical education be specifically stated and that academic credit be offered in the courses.

Allphin was born at Sterling, Kansas, and came to Oklahoma Territory two years later when his father made the run at the opening of the Cherokee Strip. He received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Kansas in 1930 and his master's from the University of Iowa in 1935.

He and Georgia Caroline Burditt were married at Independence, Kansas, in 1926. He has been a member of the Methodist Church, Masons, Consistory, Lions Club, Oklahoma State Association for Physical Education, and served as chapter counselor of Beta Theta Pi.

Allphin makes travel a hobby. In addition to his frequent trips teaching swimming safety, he also took a physical education travel tour through European countries in 1936. On top of his many activities and teaching duties, he has found time to write some 35 articles on physical education, recreation and swimming.

Having followed such a vigorous schedule, it is understandable that upon retirement he plans to "just rest" awhile—but only for a while. Once he gets his second wind he expects to do recreation work on a part-time basis.

bears the title of data accumulation and communications, was effective January 1. Mr. and Mrs. Harder have two daughters, Melanie, 3, and Kathryn Ann, 1.

John E. (Jack) Heaney, '50journal, recently was named by the North American Aviation, Incorporated, to head the public relations operations of the firm's new Tulsa division. Heaney is a former *Tulsa World* reporter and later joined United Press International's Oklahoma City bureau. He later became an industrial writer for Shell Oil Company in the New York office and was transferred to the West Coast in 1958 to handle employee publications. He joined North American in 1960.

MARRIAGE: Randall Stanley Risdon and Mrs. Risdon (Evelyn Elledge, '50ba) have established a home at Lancaster, California, where both are with the Lancaster school district and Risdon is working for a doctor's degree at the University of Southern California. The couple was married in December at Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Risdon's hometown is Dallas, Texas.

BIRTHS: Maurice G. Duncan, '50bus, and Mrs. Duncan have announced the birth of a daughter, Nancy Lynn, on March 29 at St. John's Hospital, Tulsa. She is their first child.

Jack M. Graves and Mrs. Graves (Rosemary Champlin, '50ba) have given the names Laura Owen and Claire Marie to their twin daughters born March 2 in Oklahoma City.

Charles H. Johns Jr., '50, and Mrs. Johns, Denver, Colorado, have chosen the name Julie Marie for their daughter born March 22. She is their third daughter.

J. O. Scott, '50eng, and Mrs. Scott, have chosen the name Susan Lianne for their daughter born March 8 at Hillcrest Medical Center, Tulsa.

DEATH: Daryl Hopkins, '50 geol, died February 16 in Tripoli, Libya, where he was employed by an oil company. Survivors include his mother, Mary Hopkins, Norman, three brothers and seven sisters.

### 1951-1952

William J. Alley, '51bus, '54Law, has been elected to the board of directors of the Pioneer American Insurance Company at Fort Worth, Texas. He is also vice president and agency director of the company. He is married to the former Marilyn Walter, '51ba, and the couple has four daughters.

Don Bullock, '51bs, Ft. Worth, Texas, is employed as an electronic data processing programmer at General Dynamics Corporation in Ft. Worth. He and his wife, Naomi, have one daughter, Donna Carole, 5.

Dr. Stanley Coppock Jr., '51ms, has been appointed entomologist of New Mexico State University's extension service at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dr. James A. Dyal, '51ba, Ft. Worth, Texas, has joined the faculty of Texas Christian University as an associate professor of psychology. He was formerly at Southern Methodist University. Dr. and Mrs. Dyal (Earlene Russell, '52bus) have one child, Jack, 4.

James A. Peabody, '51ba, '53Law, Oklahoma City, and William G. Paul, '52ba, '56Law, Norman, have become partners in the law firm of Crowe, Boxley, Dunlevy, Thweatt, Swinford and Johnson in Oklahoma City.

Wayne C. White, '51journal, Tulsa, recently became assistant to the advertising manager of Kerr Glass Manufacturing Corporation of Sand Springs. White has previously been with the Tayloe Paper