More Eds

The two guest editors this month represent "a span of life" in the history of the University. E. M. DeWeese, '21a, is the outstanding publisher of The Southeast Oklahomaan, "down in little Dixie," Hugo. While Mary Evelyn Smith, whose home is in Lawton, is the present "madame editor" of the Oklahoma Daily. Their editorials are indeed "food for thought." Here they are:

Put First Things First

By E. M. DeWeese, '21a
Publisher, The Southeast Oklahomaan, Hugo

In the years immediately prior to World War II there was a definite trend toward renewing emphasis on the humanities in college curricula. It was an overture reaction to over-emphasis upon specialization.

An alarming proportion of university professional school graduates, well equipped as to technical information and method, but had bare acquaintance with cultural subjects. Educated for the purpose of making money, they were ill-equipped for a full life.

DeWeese:
The University of Oklahoma was one of the institutions where this lack was recognized and policies were under consideration or actually inaugurated to meet the need.

Doubtless the exigencies of war-intensive specialized training provided and technical facilities made available for the armed services—halted down this program. Surely, it will be re-newed.

The need is greater than ever. Back from war, many young men and women have and will come to ours and other universities, seeking "that something." Attaining professional proficiency will not alone meet their need. Only a well-rounded education can do that.

The primary purpose of education is, or should be, teaching people to live full, satisfying lives—conducive not only to personal happiness, but directly beneficial or at least not adverse to the best interest of society. All things else should be secondary.

Education without inculcation of rational ethics is worse than futile. But, to a great extent, that has been the practice, not only in our own land, but all over the civilized world. In that lies the source of many global ills.

Wars without number have resulted from materialistic concepts, of people as well as leadership. This made easy acceptance of the doctrine that the end justifies the means. Nations followed that policy more than any other since the dawn of history. Now that science is a bond servant of Mars, the policy is even more insidious.

What is the answer? More scientific advance-ment, a better day would dawn forthwith.

People cannot be educated except as individuals. If it were possible to achieve a plurality in improved individual morality—not morality in a narrow sense, but from a standpoint of rigid intel-llectual honesty, a desire to do right for right's sake and not for hope of reward or fear of punish-ment, a better day would dawn forthwith.

Traditions and Landmarks

By Mary Evelyn Smith, '46
Editor, The Oklahoma Daily, O. U.

The University of Oklahoma has returned to a peacetime tempo. The small wartime enrolment has dwindled to more than 3,000, and University officials are expecting a still larger increase second semester. This figure includes 1,400 freshmen and about 600 veterans.

These new students and most of the veterans know little or nothing about O. U., its heritage or traditions. They are not yet familiar with campus activities. Many do not yet feel that this is their University and their campus. It is the task of all "old" students to unite these heterogeneous groups

The Cover

Sooner Magazine proudly presents—cowboy, scholar and gentleman, the distinguished Dr. Edward Everett Dale. His multiplication years of service for the University of Oklahoma and the state, are recognized by multiplied thousands. Here he is as he appeared in "Frontier paraphernalia" on Dad's Day at O.U. in 1945.
into a spirited student body, with common ideals and purposes.

But even the "old" students are not equipped for this task. Like most of the youth today they are beginning to realize the important role they will play in the uncertain future of a world not yet at peace. They have reached the age at which they are impatient with anything of the past. They are living in the present and are eager for the future.

There is a feeling that they have been cheated of something by an older, bumbling generation.

There has been a repeated cry that the University has no "school spirit," no traditions, nothing to remember after college days are gone but a few dull classes.

So the students have sought to establish traditions. Some are good ideas, and maybe there is a definite need for them. Frontier Days, for example, covers a weekend. Students wear western garb, have big programs and convert the Student Union Building into a "Frontier Town." Although this celebration was started in 1942, it is already called a "tradition.

This is all well and good. But O. U. has plenty of traditions—the students simply do not know them. And they differ vastly from the present-day "tradition" concept of a week of fun and frolic.

Few even notice the large limestone rock which sits in the north oval. If you mention the '06 rock to them, they only stare blankly.

Where did it come from? In the young days of the University when class rivalry was high, members of the class of 1906 found the rock near Moore where it had fallen from a Santa Fe train. They brought it to the campus with a mule team.

The '06 class guarded the rock zealously, but couldn't prevent rival classes from burying the rock. There's much more to the story—how, years later, the Deep, Dark, Mystery Club took up the buried ceremony, and how Dr. Guy Y. Williams, member of the class of 1906 and a professor of chemistry on the campus, did his best to protect the '06 rock, which had become a symbol of the class.

Present-day students do not know what the spoonholder is. They have no idea that the class of 1910 spent a Saturday night excavating and pouring concrete in the north oval to leave a memorial on the campus. Nor do they know the details of a "shotgun" guard which protected the spoonholder from rival classes until the concrete hardened. And, incidentally, why is it called the spoonholder?

There are other memorials on the campus which doubtless have stories behind them—stories which would make this campus mean more to its present students. Where did the tomato pole come from? Did the sun dial? the fountain between the Union and the Law Barn? the one between the Art Building and the Geology Building?

Students pass these every day, without thinking that students, like themselves, established the landmarks.

How could these stories be made available to present day students? What about a booklet prepared by the Alumni Association? It could be rich with campus lore, stories that haven't been written anywhere but have been kept in the memory of thousands of alumni all over the country.

Such a booklet wouldn't solve all of the problems of unifying O. U. student body. But a knowledge of the campus would show how students of many years past have cherished it. It would be a step in the right direction.

Alumni would not be disappointed in the students of the University of Oklahoma. They are essentially the same young Americans who have been attending this University since its founding. If they are a little lost, a little bewildered, that will soon find itself. They've come through a war splendidly. They are ready to start building the University of Oklahoma into a greater institution than it has ever been, but they will need the help of the vast majority of alumni who have gone before.

MARY EVELYN SMITH

50th ANNIVERSARY...50th ANNIVERSARY

Dear Friend:

You cannot imagine how disappointed I am that I cannot be with you on November 10, your 50th anniversary. My heart is heavy and my soul is sad, for God knows it would be the proudest moment of my life to visit you and see the long, long way you have traveled since 1895.

I have been some of your wonderful photos of the University and its environs. I can only imagine how far you have traveled since that first football game just north of the Art Building in 1896. At that time we lived on concrete in the north oval to leave a memorial '06 rock, which had become a symbol of the class.

My heart is warm and I love the memories of those days in Oklahoma.

Sincerely,
MARY EVELYN SMITH

50th ANNIVERSARY...50th ANNIVERSARY

On Armistice Day in a note from Captain William Hillyer Freedland, "38A from his Command Headquarters in Manila came, in part, the observation listed below:

"The other day I attended a session of the Yamashita trial. It was most interesting. If I can get another ticket from a friend I want to go again. The other day Lt. Col. Ben Burdick was up from Mindoro Island. I got him a ticket also. We had a real chat along with Major Tom Bryan. (His wife is one of the Owens girls, I think.)"

"We have been overworked of late. I can't figure where it comes from. There are too many general around asking for reports is the main trouble."

"Dale Vliet expects to get in orders November 20, so he will soon be home."

Sincerely, Hillyer"