A President Stops in Norman

Three faded Confederate flags flew listlessly above the heads of weary spectators. The September 28 sun beamed as merrily as in mid-July. Standing two blocks deep, a throng of nearly 20,000 had congregated at the intersection of Norman’s Main Street and railroad tracks to witness the arrival of a president of the United States.

As the 2:20 p.m. arrival time of the Presidential Special ticked by and still no train, the crowd began to jostle and jockey into more advantageous positions. Then thirty minutes later, the Norman fire sirens sounded the alert. Eyes turned to the southward. Several posters bearing the portraits of Thomas E. Dewey and Earl Warren went up, and in the distance—the Presidential Special.

The city schools and the University had dismissed classes, and bands and pep organizations of the two schools swung into their best pre-game warmups.

As the trains slithered into the station, The Big Red Band struck up the “Missouri Waltz.” Representative Mike Monroney, ’24ba, stepped out of the train and addressed the crowd. Senator Elmer Thomas, Senate candidate Bob Kerr, ’16, and Roy J. Turner were introduced in turn by the affable Mike.

Governor Turner stepped to the speakers stand and introduced the subject of the day’s interest—Harry S. Truman. President Truman made a brief, informal address and then introduced Mrs. Truman and Margaret. They received bouquets of red roses as did Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Kerr.

Margaret at an interview with an Oklahoma Daily reporter said of the reception in Norman: “If I got out of class to meet the train, I think I’d come even if I were a Republican.”

As the special began its trek northward, the Big Red Band swung into action with “Oklahoma” and the crowd took up the lyrics.

Norman would long remember that a president had passed this way.

Former Editor Visits O.U.

Are there any 1933 alumni reading this page? If so, then they must remember Christine Squire, ’33 ba, ’33 ma. She was the first feminine editor of the Oklahoma Daily, student newspaper, and a recent visitor to the University campus.

During her short but interesting visit with Paul McClung, present editor of the Daily, she was wearing a black dress and had a greenish-gold scarf around her waist and was wearing earrings that matched. She was a knockout.

This amazing woman is employed with the Schwimmer-Scott Advertising Agency in Chicago and is engaged in the production of audience-participation radio programs. She described radio advertising people as “maybe not as screwball as newspaper people, but, yes, screwball in their own way.”

She’s been in radio news, United Press, was the second woman ever to cover the Illinois Statehouse and has worked with a couple of University presses, including our own.

Following her graduation, Christine helped nourish the infant University Press. Later she went to the University of Minnesota Press.

When she covered the Illinois Statehouse, she had the problem all women with nerve enough to compete with men run up against. The men didn’t trust her. But she soon won their confidence and respect.

The big event of the year that Christine was editor of the Daily was the beating up of the Daily Oklahoman’s campus correspondent by the D.D.M. C. Members of the Deep Dark Mystery Club were challenged to meet the editor in the Union Building, but for some reason the clubbers didn’t show. They were later discovered, however, and expelled, but reinstated by executive order of Governor Murray.

Christine returned to the University after a few years experience in the journalism field to work on a Master’s Degree in government, which she received in 1940.
Chemical Engineering Grad Reminisces the 'Old Days'

The second man ever to receive the Bachelor's Degree in chemical engineering from the University was a recent visitor on the campus.

Roy C. Mitchell, '19bs, '19bs, '18chem.eng, who came primarily to visit his mother, Mrs. W. M. Norman, stated, "It is hard to imagine the changes that have been made in the University since that September morning in 1911 when I first registered. There were four buildings then, and a student body of around 1500."

The Terre Haute, Indiana, engineer has had a lot of experience in the field of chemical engineering since graduating from the University. He is now employed as superintendent of the process department of the Commercial Solvents Corporation. He has been a department head for eight years.

Immediately following graduation, Mitchell was employed by the du Pont Company, and, after three years of work, wrote a thesis on the evaporation of weak brines from electrocloric chloride cells—a work which entitled him to a third degree from the University. During 1920-21, he attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received a Master's Degree.

In reminiscing, Mitchell remembered how small the 1911 classes were. They ranged from 10 to 20 in the School of Engineering, and never over 40 in classes such as English in which the whole student body enrolled. He was quite surprised to learn of the classes of over 400 that were held in Government last year.

"We were licked both years in the freshman-sophomore class fights," he stated, "but it sure was a lot of fun."

Mitchell, who has that Will Rogers look and manner about him, had two sisters and one brother who graduated from the University. While a student he was a member of Phi Delta Chi, honorary pharmacy fraternity; president of the Chemistry Club, and an active member of the Edison Club and the Engineers’ Club. During 1913-14, he served as assistant in the pharmacy dispensing stand, and, the following year, ran the stand by himself.

He is married and the couple have three children, Roy C. Mitchell, Jr., 29; William S. Mitchell, 24; and John M. Mitchell, 22.

Alumna Returns from Finland

Mrs. W. H. Cleveland, formerly Lorraine Ketchum, '33bs, recently returned from Finland after spending nine months directing the work of the American Friends Service Committee. Her enthusiasm for Finland and its people was unbounded.

"I’m afraid I contracted a bad case of what might be called ‘Lapland fever,’" she stated, "Before I had been away from Finland for a day, I was homesick for it. And now that I’m back in America, I’ve been searching high and low for some of the delicious dark bread that was part of our daily diet."

In speaking of clothing conditions, Mrs. Cleveland said they were most difficult, but added, "They’ve improved greatly since I arrived there, and they’re not nearly so bad as in many European countries. People in Finland take extraordinarily good care of things, and they always manage to look nice in what they have."

Textiles contributed by American manufacturers have been the most helpful gifts sent to Finland. The people are learning to sew at the various handcraft schools and are turning out their own clothing, she reported.

Mrs. Cleveland had an apartment in Helsinki and conducted her business from there. Her home is at George School, Pennsylvania. Besides being a graduate of the University, she holds a degree from Tulane University School of Social Work. Prior to working with the Service Committee, she was assistant director of the Oklahoma State Department of Public Welfare, Oklahoma City.

Barton Is Chief Engineer

Chief engineer of the manufacturing department of Sun Oil Company refinery in Toledo, Ohio, is Paul D. Barton, '19bs. Since 1934, at which time Barton joined the company, he has been responsible for the design of all light hydrocarbon recovery and fractionation plants at Sun’s refineries.

Barton, who holds 15 patents, among them patents held jointly with others on the original hot contact fractionation process for the manufacture of lubricating oils, graduated from the California Institute of Technology. Following his graduation in 1920, he joined General Petroleum Corporation, Los Angeles, where he engaged in research and development on lubricating oils.

In 1923 Barton became superintendent of natural-gasoline operations for United Oil Company in Signal Hills field. He resigned three years later to become a consulting chemical engineer in the design and construction of natural gasoleine extraction plants both in the field and in refineries.

Barton, who is author of the section on gas stabilization and recovery in the textbook Science of Petroleum, published by the Oxford University Press, was the first president of the California Natural Gasoline Association.

Alumna Teaches Kindergarten

How many of the socially mal-adjusted people of the world today were made that way through a lack of careful direction in the pre-school age? Lucyle Haskins, '25, asked herself that question and decided it was time to give the youngsters a much deserved break. So, in 1946, she opened the Lucyle Haskins Kindergarten.

Located in Miss Haskins’ home, the kindergarten provided a morning period for the four to five age group and in the afternoon the five to six group of children were trained. Thus began one of the most useful and complete kindergartens to be found anywhere.

Today the work is continuing with all facilities pointing toward making today’s tiny people tomorrow’s useful citizens through education.

Cutter Receives Schlueter Award

Paul R. Cutter, graduate student, Goodwell, has been named the first recipient of the William Schlueter research fellowship in chemistry recently established in honor of a Tulsa naval pilot killed in World War II.

The fellowship, which carries a cash stipend of $1,000, was created by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Schlueter, Tulsa, parents of the hero who was attached to the carrier Bunker Hill at the time of his death, April 10, 1943.

Cutter began his work here in September. He is studying corrosive and non-corrosive surface films on metals. Cutter has five years of industrial experience in finishing of metals and studying corrosion. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Panhandle A. & M., a Master’s Degree from Oklahoma A. & M., and is working toward his Doctor’s Degree in physical chemistry at the University.

FM Station at O.U.

Along with the general trend to improve things and make the University of Oklahoma the best educational institution in the country, WNAD, University radio station, will begin operation of new AM and FM transmitters November 15. John Dunn is director of the station.

The present WNAD tower is to be moved from the golf course, and the new tower base will be in place near the new transmitter building, six miles northwest of Norman. The FM antenna will be installed on top of the new tower which will be 405 feet high when completed.

During the move, an emergency antenna system is to be used and reception in Norman will not be affected.

The feature program of the station, “School of the Air” will be riding the air waves now on WNAD-FM. Contemplated in the new setup are night broadcasts of symphony concerts and faculty recitals, as well as important broadcasts of short course sponsored by the extension division.

The old equipment in the east wing of Owen stadium will be used for laboratory work of electrical engineering students.

Dr. Sherman Lawton, co-ordinator of radio instruction at the University, is the author of five books concerning speech over the airways.

Dr. E. Harold Himman, director of the University’s newly created public health program, will co-ordinate the training of sanitarians, public health nurses and educators at O.U.