The "Dull" Season

Pre-enrolment, summer session and faculty changes kept University administrators and teachers moving at a good clip during campus' "dull" season.

By BILL SPOHRER, '53ba

Opening of the 1953-54 class sessions gave University officials a taste of how the storied "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" might have felt.

Main reason: Bottom of the depression baby slump seems to be past, and this September's bumper crop of freshmen may be only a forerunner of the swelled enrolment expected in the next few years.

Housing office personnel maintained a rapid pace all summer passing out dormitory space. Other staff members who stayed around found more than enough to keep them busy with the new students who took advantage of pre-enrolment to get entrance preliminaries out of the way early.

Literally up to their necks in placement tests and enrolment forms were Dean of Admissions and Registrar John E. Fellows and University College Dean Glenn C. Couch, '31bs, '37ms.

Pre-enrolment rolled along smoothly side by side with the 1953 summer classes. More than 3,000 prespiring students kept the University's education machinery in high gear during June, July and August. As usual for the summer session, biggest slice of the enrolment (more than a third) was made up of students in education courses.

Commencement ceremonies were held August 10 in Owen stadium with Dr. Allen E. Shearer, president of Southeastern State college, Durant, as special guest.

Graduate College Dean Laurence Snyder granted degrees to 612 students, an increase of almost 15 per cent over the number graduated at the end of the 1952 summer session.

The summer of 1953 saw a reshuffling in University personnel and some new faces in old places. Replacing Carl Mason Franklin as executive vice president is Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter, 43-year-old University of Mississippi faculty dean and professor of English.

Franklin, who held the veep post for the past five years, resigned July 1 to become professor of law at the University of Southern California.

The new vice president, whose appointment became effective September 1, will also teach English at O.U. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Mississippi and his M.A. and Ph. D. from the University of Wisconsin.

Another new face in the University's trio of vice presidents is Dr. Lloyd Swearingen, who came from a job as director of basic sciences research in the general staff of the U. S. army to become O.U.'s veep in charge of research and development.

A research professor of chemistry, Swearingen fills the post left vacant when Verne H. Schnee went to Washington, D. C., in 1951 as executive director of the Metallurgical Advisory board.

Three losses in top faculty members came through retirements. F. G. Tappan, David Ross Boyd professor of electrical engineering; J. L. Rader, librarian emeritus and professor of library science and bibliography, and S. W. Swenson, associate professor of government, ended teaching careers that together totaled 115 years of service.

Tappan served as chairman of the School of Electrical Engineering from 1918 until 1947. In 1935-36, he was acting dean of the College of Engineering. A holder of B.A. and M.A. degrees from Washington and Jefferson college and an M.E. from Cornell, he is also a recognized linguist and has contributed many reviews of foreign books to Books Abroad, literary quarterly.

Rader was the University's head librarian from 1900 until 1951, during which time the library's book list grew from 5,000 to 341,000 volumes. One of the founders of the Oklahoma Library Association, he was among four state librarians whom the Association honored in 1950 for "distinguished service to the profession and the people." In 1929 he founded O.U.'s nationally-known School of Library Science.

Swenson has been a member of the University government faculty for 34 years. A native of Iowa, he attended Jewell college two years, then went to the University of Minnesota where he received his B.A. and M.A. degrees. A veteran student of international law and world politics, Swenson was one of the founders of the O.U. International Relations club.

Other shifts in the University's top posts: History Professor William E. Livezey replaced Education Professor James G. Harlow, '31ba, '33ms, as acting dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Harlow has been granted a year's leave of absence to complete work on his doctorate at the University of Chicago.

Succeeding Miss Vilona P. Cutler as head of the O.U. School of Social Work is 44-year-old Dr. Chester S. Clifton, Texas...
Christian University sociologist, Miss Cutler had asked to be replaced in order that she might devote more time to teaching.

Professor of Law Olin L. Browder, Jr., just named David Ross Boyd professor, resigned to teach law at the University of Michigan. An O.U. faculty member since 1946, he had previously served two years in the Tennessee Valley Authority legal department and two years as an FBI special agent.

Dr. Joseph H. Marshburn, Boyd professor of English, and H. H. Herbert, Boyd professor of journalism, were reappointed to the professorships for another five years, and Dr. Simon H. Wender was appointed research professor of chemistry. In both cases, the honors are bestowed only when the professor has demonstrated vigorous performance and leadership in his field.

Taking the post of president of the O.U. chapter of the American Association of University Professors is economics professor Jim E. Reese, replacing government professor Joseph Pray.

Students returning to the campus for the fall semester may have to look twice to recognize some of their old classrooms—there have been some changes made.

Work has been underway all summer on remodeled quarters for the School of Drama in the Old Science Hall. Besides renovated classrooms and offices, the drama students will find a complete new practice theatre that will seat 250. Basement of the same building will house new darkrooms and offices for the University Photographic Service.

Art students will find a new home in the Old Geology Building, recently renamed Carpenter Hall in memory of the late Paul S. Carpenter, former dean of the college of fine arts. When remodeling work is completed, the School of Architecture will take its place in new classrooms on the second and third floors of the north end of Owen Stadium.

The newly-completed facilities in the north end of the stadium already house the lower division library, athletic business office and "O" club. Other space in the older part of the stadium houses the University band offices and practice rooms, handball courts, wrestling rooms and a rifle range. All in all, officials estimate the stadium space as equivalent to that of a $750,000 utility building.

Ever think of your nose as being a barometer for your emotional problems?
That's the discovery that recently won for a University of Oklahoma faculty member and a Seattle, Washington, doctor a $1,500 psychiatric prize.

Co-authors of the book, "The Nose," published in 1950, are Dr. Stewart G. Wolf, head of the medical department at the University of Oklahoma Medical School, and Dr. Thomas H. Holmes, of the University of Washington Medical School.

Their work is winner of the Hofheimer prize, an award given for research work which advances understanding of the relation of emotions to disease.

The two doctors, working in laboratories at Cornell University, discovered that such nasal afflictions as hay fever can become aggravated if you are disturbed emotionally. Experimentation was carried out with hay fever sufferers who were placed in a room in which pollen was circulated.

At first only a mild reaction was noticed, but as the psychiatrists talked to them about their personal problems, the sniffing and sneezing symptoms became worse.

Dr. Wolf explained that an individual under stress puts his protective mechanisms to work. Thus the nose acts as though it were protecting the body from irritants and the hay fever symptoms develop.