**Genesis in Geology**

**Dr. C. N. Gould Tells of Establishing that Department Here**

*By Ed Mills, '30*

In 1900 Oklahoma’s annual income from minerals has increased from $4,000,000 to $570,000,000. This tremendous growth in output covers only twenty-eight years, and yet it is a long history. It is a history, not written in books, but marked by the growth of cities; the making and breaking of millionaires; the transformation of corn fields into oil fields; the digging of zinc mines where Indians once roamed. In short it has been a major factor in the history of the building of an empire.

That history has changed the lives of many men. It has made some famous. It has ruined others. But there is one man who knows more of that history, probably, than any other. He has not been made rich by the flow of black gold. His is not a ruined life, driven to despair by a lost hope of fortune. His is the lot of a scientist who has seen a specimen he knew in its early stage blossom into a plant producing much for mankind.

That man is Charles N. Gould. He is associated with the Oklahoma Geological Survey, and in that capacity, with the University of Oklahoma.

He came to the university when it was the educational center of a young territory. The university has grown in that time in proportion to the growth of the state. Its growth like the growth of the state’s mineral value is mirrored in Doctor Gould.

The history of Doctor Gould’s coming here starts in 1898. In that year David R. Boyd, president of the university, A. H. Van Vleet, professor of biology, and Henry E. Asp, president of the board of regents, drew up a bill providing for a geological survey of Oklahoma.

By the able engineering of these three men this bill was passed through the territorial legislature. This group of benevolent gentlemen allotted the enormous sum of $200 for this purpose, and put Doctor Van Vleet in charge.

Seeing the need of supplies, Doctor Van Vleet spent his first year’s allotment for the purchasing of supplies, including a wagon and team of horses. With these in hand there came the problem of getting a geological expert to take charge of the survey.

There was connected with the university at that time a certain George A. Bucklin, now in the United States consular service. Hearing of the need of a geologist, Bucklin said he knew a fellow by the name of Gould who was ‘daffy over rocks,’ and would be willing to work for his expenses.

This “fellow named Gould” happened to be taking post graduate work at the University of Nebraska at the time. Doctor Van Vleet suggested that he come down to Norman and see him during the Christmas holidays and talk over the proposition of conducting the field work of the geological survey.

It was in the dead of winter, just at that time when the nineteenth century was about to die, and the twentieth was about to begin. The campus of the university to which young Gould came was not a prepossessing sight.

There was only one building standing on the campus. It was that one which had its stand behind where the present chemistry building now stands, and which was destined to burn a few years later.

The campus was not barren of trees, but the elms set out by Doctor Boyd were not the stately shade trees we see today. They were no higher than a man’s head, and must have presented a rather weather beaten appearance to the young geologist from Nebraska.

Gould, however, was interested in his science, and the hardships of a wagon trip with only his expenses paid were not considered when compared with the opportunities of such a trip. Gould accepted.

His acceptance probably seemed a minor consideration to the university as a whole, but it was the beginning of a history making epoch. It was the first step that augured the placing of

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**THE SOONER MAGAZINE’S QUARTER CENTURY CLUB**

All of the faculty members above have been connected with the University of Oklahoma for more than a quarter of a century. They are, upper row, left to right, Dr. James W. Sturgis, professor of Latin, Dr. Charles N. Gould, director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, and Dr. Roy Gittinger, ’02 arts-sc., dean of administration; and lower row, left to right, Dr. Roy Hadsell, ’04 arts-sc., professor of English, Dr. James S. Buchanan, vice-president of the university and Dr. Joseph Francis Paxton, head of the department of classical archaeology and professor of Greek.
WHEN BRACES AND WHISKERS WERE WORN BY UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

From left to right in the photograph above are Dr. Roy Hadsell, now professor of English, Paul J. White, now teacher in the John Brown school, and Dr. Charles N. Gould, now director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. This picture was made in 1900 when Doctor Gould, then in charge of the infant geology department of the university, was making a survey of the state's resources. Hadsell was cook. The food stores are visible in the wagon. The camp was in Blaine county.

the university school of geology among the best in the nation.

Early the next summer Gould returned to Norman to take up his duties. With him he brought two friends from Kansas. One was Roy Hadsell. He was to act as cook, and little dreamed that he might some day become an English professor in this same university. The other was to act as botanist on the trip. He was Paul J. White, who has since become a teacher at John Brown college at Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Early in June a lumber wagon rattled out of Norman, bound on a history making voyage. On the front seat of the wagon were Gould and Hadsell. Behind were seated White and Doctor Van Vleet. They were destined to spend the major portion of that summer camping out. Sleeping under the wagon, cooking their own meals, and letting their whiskers grow. This was to be their life, but they were exploring the fields they loved—provided Hadsell loved camp grub.

The first day's journey carried the explorers as far into the north as Britton, a journey of well over 25 miles, and not to be scorned in the days before the automobile invaded our life. The second night found the little group camped on the Cimarron north of Guthrie.

Disaster stalked into camp on the third night, when a typical prairie wind blew into their camp near Orlando and scattered pots and pans for a half a mile over the surrounding plains. It was at this same camp site, however, that the party found the vertebrate fossil locality, since that time a magnet for paleontologists.

FROM Orlando the trip proceeded to Perry and then to Stillwater (not yet noted either for cattle or Ab Wright). From there they went to Ingalls where they camped in what was later to become the Ingalls oil field. Turning back west again, the party went through Perry and Enid into the Glass mountains where Gould first saw the Gypsum hills. From there they proceeded to the Salt Plains of the Salt Fork then into Alva. Back they came through Woodward and Taloga, where they crossed the Canadian.

Still advancing at the rate of some twenty miles per diem, the party went through Weatherford and out into the land of the Caddo County Buttes. They again crossed the Canadian at Bridgeport, then went through Watonga, on to the Blaine County Salt Plains, back east to Kingfisher, then through El Reno and back to Norman.

Here Doctor Van Vleet left the party and it went east to Shawnee, then to Okmulgee, a thriving city of 200, and on to where the famous Glenn Pool oil field now stands. Leaving there they went to Sapulpa and on to Tulsa, where they were forced to ford the Arkansas river which was up. From Tulsa, they proceeded to Pawhuska, then to Winfield, Kansas, and on south into Norman. They first left the university city in June. It was late August when they returned.

Last summer, with the aid of an automobile, Doctor Gould and Professor Hadsell again made that same trip. It took them slightly more than a week to travel through the thickly populated state which was the pioneer's paradise they had explored less than thirty years before.

Back to the university, Gould was offered the position of teacher of geology at the salary of $400 a year. He took it. A man couldn't afford to turn down money like that when he could follow his chosen science at the same time.

Doctor Gould was seriously handicapped in his early efforts. He had no books, no laboratories, no classroom, no apparatus and no students. He soon

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Solving Sooner Employment Needs

O YOU remember those anxious days back in the 'year one' when you were about to enter your last semester in the university and were wondering how, when and where you would begin your life's work? This is indeed a critical point in the career of every Sooner. This year there are approximately nine hundred men and women in the University of Oklahoma who will complete the academic requirements for degrees.

These Sooners are adequately prepared to take their places in the economic life of the state and nation. They have been prepared through four, five, or six years of collegiate training for their chosen vocations and are well qualified for employment. Included in this group are chemists, geologists, journalists, teachers specialized in a variety of subjects, athletes, coaches and physical training directors, accountants, bank cashiers, salesmen in the wholesale business, investment bank employees, office managers; minor business administrators for oil companies, public utilities, and other business organizations; traffic managers; engineers—architectural, chemical, civil, electrical, mechanical and petroleum; musicians and teachers of music, artists and teachers of art, lawyers, physicians, and pharmacists.

Some of these seniors have already perfected plans for their future employment. A few have relatives or friends to assist them but by far the large majority are dependent on their own efforts. This is perhaps as it should be, for few of us really appreciate that which is handed to us on a silver platter.

We do believe in helping those who help themselves and the University of Oklahoma Association, with the individual co-operation of all its members, is the agency which can be of most assistance. The association office will serve as a clearing house for employment opportunities. Complete information concerning qualifications will be secured from seniors who desire assistance in securing employment. Scholaristic records will be consulted when making recommendations to employers.

Your part in the program is to help find the employment opportunities. If you are an employer, not only will you be assisting a worthy fellow Sooner but will be assured of a well selected adequately trained employee, one with the Sooner stamp of approval. If you are not an employer but are engaged in or familiar with the business or professional life of your community, you can be of assistance just the same. You frequently know when there are to be vacancies in your community for employment which requires college training. When you learn of such opportunities write the association office about it and we shall be pleased to help get the right person for the job.

Why not make this service to Sooners continuous? It is most important of course to help graduates get their first positions but frequently we can help others by reporting to the association office all worthwhile employment opportunities. This office maintains records of the employment and addresses of all graduates. If a position requiring more experience than this year's graduate has had, is found, we can usually find someone who can meet the requirements.

Don't wait until June to send in your employment needs but write the association office giving all you know about the requirements for the job anytime you know of a worthwhile position which you think some Sooner should have.

Don't Remain Unknown

The association office will be glad to assist you in locating classmates whose addresses are unknown. Address your letter to the person whom you desire to reach, in care of the University of Oklahoma Association, Norman, Oklahoma, with the notice 'please forward.' This office will forward promptly all such mail to the last known address. A strenuous effort is being made to keep our address records current. You can help by notifying the association office promptly of any permanent change in your address, or of other Sooners who move into or out of your community.

More Life Members

Life members of the University of Oklahoma Association in addition to those who were announced in the October and November issues of The Sooner Magazine are:

- Harry J. Brown, Tulsa
- Jerome Samuel Byers, Oklahoma City
- Floy Elliott, Tulsa
- J. M. George, Quanah, Texas
- Robert Keenan, Tulsa
- L. W. Kitchens, Seminole
- Emil R. Kraettli, Norman
- Pierce Larkin, Tulsa
- David Logan, Okmulgee
- Maurice H. Merrill, Lincoln, Nebraska
- Marion Northcutt, Walters
- Ralph Records, Norman
- Winifred Robey, Frederick
- Lloyd Swearingen, Norman
- G. S. Tebbe, Perry
- Fred Thompson, Norman
- M. L. Wardell, Norman
- Laurence Williams, Norman
- A. C. Wright, Coleman, Texas
- E. M. Vanderslice, J. A. Ferguson, C.
- C. Roberts and Ray Crow
- Charles T. Kirk was the first geological graduate.

Genesis of Geology

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scraped together a few of the latter and began building the geology school.

Among the students of his first class Doctor Gould recalls Bucklin, Lellie Miller, John T. Helfrey, Kate Barbour, E. M. Vanderslice, Jay Ferguson, C. C. Roberts and Ray Crow. Charles T. Kirk was the first geological graduate.

The growth of the geology school was not rapid. Oil men had not yet learned that geologists could be of any help to them. The school was not troubled by men quitting to take jobs with big oil companies, but there was difficulty in interests men in a school in which there seemed so little future.

It grew, however, and the present geology building, the school of petroleum engineering, and the prominent geologists who have gone forth from the school are all its outgrowths.

In 1907 when the constitution was being formed, Doctor Gould had strong friends among members of the constitutional convention, especially Dr. J. S. Buchanan of the university. Through his influence a provision for a state geological survey was incorporated into the constitution. Oklahoma is the only state in the union to have such a provision in her constitution.

In 1912, because of poor health, Doctor Gould was forced to resign as head of the survey and to become a consulting geologist. Thirteen years later he came back to the university as head of the Oklahoma Geological Survey.

He returned to a geology school that had twenty times as many men enrolled as were enrolled in the entire university when he first came.