Nine New Life Members

Nine new life members were added to the Alumni Association roster last month, bringing the total number of living life members to 445.

The new life members include a Sooner couple living in Washington, D. C., Edward A. Evans, '12, and Mrs. Evans (Grace Millar, '11).

Mr. Evans is editorial writer for the Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance. Since leaving the University he has served as reporter for the Oklahoma News, reporter for the Denver Express, reporter for the Oklahoma News, and editor of the Columbus (Ohio) Citizen. He has been editorial writer for Scripps-Howard papers for the last five years. As a student at the University of Oklahoma Mr. Evans was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity, Peet, and was assistant editor of the student newspaper and the yearbook. He was initiated as an alumni member of Sigma Delta Chi in 1926. He is the son of Dr. A. Grant Evans, president of the University from 1908-1911.

In sending in his application for life membership Mr. Evans wrote: "Now that I'm a member of Paul Walker's committee for the District of Columbia, I really should join the University of Oklahoma Association. I can't rightly call myself an alumus, since I had to quit and go to work just after starting my senior year, but the University played a very large part in my life and, through all my wanderings, which have been sometimes very far from Norman, I have always retained a very great affection for it."

Mrs. Evans was a member of Kappa Alpha sorority at the University.

Another Sooner couple added to the life membership list is Elbert Vance Winningham, '33ba, and Mrs. Winningham (Lo- tte Belle Shankz, '33nurse) of Oklahoma City. Mrs. Winningham has been head x-ray technician at Wesley Hospital in Oklahoma City for the last seven years. He had formerly done laboratory work at Cimarron Valley Wesley Hospital, Guthrie, University of Oklahoma Infirmary, at Norman, the Bacteriology Department of the University School of Medicine at Oklahoma City and the State University Hospital at Oklahoma City. Mr. Winningham has been taking work at Oklahoma City University and is scheduled to receive a business administration degree there this spring.

Mrs. Winningham, in addition to her degree from the University of Oklahoma, has a postgraduate certificate from the University of Chicago, where she took special training in obstetrical nursing.

Also new on the life membership list are Cleo C. Ingle, '24ba, and Mrs. Ingle (Helene S. Eakin, '17), of Tulsa. Mr. Ingle is secretary-manager of the Tulsa Federal Savings and Loan association. He has served as president of the Tulsa Real Estate Board, president of the Tulsa Institute of Government Research, is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Masonic lodge, Shrine, Society of Residential Appraisers, and the Officers' Reserve Corps. As a student Mr. Ingle was a member of Pi Kappa Phi, Alpha Kappa Psi, Sooner and Whirlwind staffs, and was a cadet major in the R.O.T.C.

The List of Life Members Is Growing Fast — Help Raise The Total to 500 This Year!

The List of Life Members is growing fast, and we need your help to raise the total to 500 this year!

The following changes in alumni advisory council membership have been announced by Executive Secretary Ted Beard.

Miss Jane Wilder, '34ba, of Cherokee and Lee Sommers, '31 of Helena, have been appointed to the Alfalfa County council.

Dr. Paul G. Sanger, '31med, has been added to the Craig County council because of moving to Fort Sill for army duty.

Two new members of the Delaware County council are Mrs. Nola Mae Carpenter, '36ed, of Jay and Christian A. Vammen, '40med, of Oakes.

Randolph Earl Wright, '38geol, has resigned from the Effingham, Illinois, council, because of moving to Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

New council chairman at Seattle, Washington, is Charles K. Ittner, '30eng. Dr. Ray E. Bullard, '24med, has succeeded I. F. Bingham as chairman at Waco, Texas.

Alvan Muldrow, '33ba, has resigned from the council at Lubbock, Texas, because of moving to San Antonio.

David St. Clair, '33ba, '35eng, formerly chairman of the council in Cuba, has moved to Reno, Nevada.
A century ago in Hawaii an Oklahoma industry was born. A number of scientists sent out by the United States Government, while visiting the crater of Kilauea, the world's largest volcano, discovered a soft, wooly substance blanketing the side of the mountain.

"Pele's hair," was the response of the natives when questioned about it. "When the Goddess Pele becomes angry, she pulls out her hair by the handfuls and casts it out of the crater."

The scientists smiled, then frowned, then investigated. They found that the fibrous substance was created when strong jets of steam blew up through the molten lava. That was information enough.

Back in the United States, they went to their laboratories and simulated the process. Research men tried variations of method and variations of material until they brought forth a product that found its way into commercial manufacture under the name "rock wool." An industry made up of small units appeared. Centralization was not practical. The finished product was too bulky to be shipped cheaply and it could not be compressed into a ready market throughout the region.

Mr. Dott pondered. It is his job to recognize the part that undeveloped natural resources may play in the future of the state; to consider the possibilities of establishing new industries that will make use of those resources; to examine geological deposits in the state and investigate their potentialities.

By 1935 a plant had been erected in Texas. Its owner, in the course of business, sought to locate nearby sources of "woolrock." A railroad interested in finding suitable rock in the area served by its lines aided in the search.

It was with this prelude that J. D. Kerr, Jr., natural resources development agent for the railroad, in the summer of 1935 came to the offices of the Oklahoma Geological Survey in Norman. Robert H. Dott, newly appointed director of the Survey, welcomed him.

"Is there any rock in Oklahoma suitable for the making of rock wool?" Mr. Kerr asked the geologist.

Mr. Dott had scarcely more than heard of rock wool. As an insulator it was a new thing. In fact, the building insulation idea itself was still rather uncommon.

Mr. Kerr explained that the kind of rock needed was impure limestone, the impurities consisting principally of sand or other forms of silica. Pure limestone, he said, when heated forms only crumbly lumps. With the impurities in it, it melts and can then be blown by steam into tiny fibers or "wool." Pure silica, on the other hand, forms glass. A proper mixture of silica and limestone is necessary to produce the flexible, wool-like fibers.

Visions of the answer to a great problem of Oklahoma and the Southwest gradually took shape in Mr. Dott's mind. The area is subjected to extremes of both heat and cold that effect living comfort, especially in homes of low-cost construction. There is particular need for a moderately-priced, efficient insulating medium. Rock wool produced locally would find a ready market throughout the region.