Three senators

WILLIAM G. STIGLER

The first Sooner to be president pro tempore of the Oklahoma senate is William G. Stigler, ex '16, of Stigler. Mr Stigler is a “hold-over” from the twelfth legislature. He is a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and was active in student affairs while in school. His election to the presidency of the senate took place January 5, on the opening of the thirteenth legislature.

CHARLES MEMMINGER

Four Sooner senators were in school at the University of Oklahoma at the same time—Charles Memminger of Atoka, George H. Jennings of Sapulpa, Mr Stigler and Harry Jolly of Carnegie. In a measure, the meeting of the thirteenth legislature is a class reunion for them. Over in the corporation commission is Paul Walker, also a fellow classmate.

Mr Memminger, who is a member of the class of '14, has the distinction of being the first son of a senator to be elected to the state senate. He shares the honor with Morton Rutherford of Tulsa, whose father sat in the senate with the elder Mr Memminger. Charley Memminger was a page in the first Oklahoma senate, in which his father sat. His father served in the first, second, third, fourth, ninth and tenth senates. Last summer the son defeated the man who four years ago won over his father.

When senators were seated at the opening of the thirteenth legislature, Mr Memminger was assigned the seat his father had occupied. Mr Memminger will also probably have the pleasure of calling the senate to order with the gavel presented him by the president of the senate when he was a page. He was president of the pages' club.

Mr Memminger has had a varied and interesting life. He is at present enrolled in the second year of the law school, temporarily interrupting his business interests to gain a law degree.

He entered the university as a preparatory student in the fall of 1909 and as a freshman in the university in 1910. He took his bachelor of arts degree in 1914, completing a half year of law also. He was active in student affairs, being a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, Phi Delta Phi, Webserian and Forum debating societies, Teutonia, D. D. M. C. and the Chess club. He played class basketball, football and baseball, was a member of the publication board in his senior year, and assistant business manager of The Sooner in his junior year. He was cast in the German play in his sophomore year, in the faculty burlesque in his junior year and in the senior play.

Upon graduation from the university, he began as bookkeeper for the Atoka State bank, and in February, 1929, when he retired from the bank, he was vice president and cashier, owning a controlling interest in the bank. During his connection with the bank, it never fore-
closed a mortgage and was neither the plaintiff nor defendant in any action before a court. It weathered financial storms that brought closure to three other banks in the community and was the only bank to remain open.

Mr. Memminger was active in the life of Atoka. He was the president of the Atoka Building and Loan association, the president of the Atoka Lions Club, the only business men's organization in the county, county chairman of the Democratic Central committee, service officer and county commander of the American Legion. He was named a colonel on the governor's staff.

Three weeks after war was declared, Mr. Memminger resigned as cashier of the bank and enlisted in the army. He attended the Officers Training Camp at Fort Roots, Little Rock, Arkansas, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the quartermaster corps on August 15, 1917. He was on duty at Camp Pike, Little Rock, until December, 1917, when he was transferred to the army finance school at Camp Johnston, Jacksonville, Florida. He sailed for France in April, 1918. He received promotion to become a first lieutenant and was stationed at La Rochelle, France most of the time. He was in service a total of twenty-six and a half months, fourteen months being overseas service.

In March, 1919, he was one of a detachment of 2,000 from the army assigned to English universities. He attended the University of Edinburgh until June, 1919. During his first month in England, he travelled over the country, and was presented to King George V in Buckingham palace. Other interesting experiences of this pleasant period were a tea with Princess Alice at Windsor castle and tea with Marie Corelli at Stratford-on-Avon.

Mr. Memminger was discharged at Camp Dix, New Jersey, July 26, 1919. He is present holds the rank of major in the officers reserve.

It was natural that Mr. Memminger should enter politics. His father had a long and honorable part in the making of Oklahoma. He himself had been a page in the first senate of the state. In the university he had helped organize the Oklahoma League of Young Democrats, and was state treasurer for the organization in 1917. In 1926, he was a member of the platform committee of the state democratic convention. In the primary campaign last summer, he was nominated and elected senator for Atoka. Bryan and Coal counties. His primary majority was 2,500, his final majority was almost eight thousand.

Mr. Memminger makes his home at Atoka with his mother and sister.

GEORGE H. JENNINGS

George H. Jennings, '16 law, is a newcomer to the state senate, but he has long been a leader in Creek county, where he practices law. He is the senator for the eleventh district, embracing Creek and Payne counties.

In the university, he was the president of the second year law class, in 1915 and won the Callagan law scholarship prize that year. He was president of the Soon er bar, and was elected to membership in Phi Delta Phi, honorary legal fraternity. He is a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity.

Mr. Jennings holds one of the highest averages of any graduate of the law school.

In addition to the practice of law in Sapulpa from 1917 to 1918 he served as justice of the peace. During the war he served as a Four Minute Man and as a member of the Creek county exemption board. He was secretary of the Creek county election board for four years.

HIGH STANDING, HAVING FOR ITS CHIEF AIM THE PROMOTION OF BETTER TEACHING IN PHYSICS

Several organizations of physics teachers have existed among secondary school and junior college teachers but never with the full approval and co-operation of the research physicists and of the great organizations devoted to the promotion of research in physics. What evidently was lacking was the able leadership of a man who knew and appreciated the viewpoint of both the teacher and the research physicist. It has turned out that the man who is equipped to fulfill this need is here at the University of Oklahoma.

A few weeks ago a group of men met in Chicago to talk over the possibilities of forming a society for the teaching of physics. These men knew of the work of Doctor Dodge and it was an acknowledged fact among them that if they could get him actively interested in the formation of the proposed society, the venture would be a success. Dean Dodge was therefore asked to preside as chairman of an organization meeting to take place in Cleveland, Ohio, during the recent annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He accepted and the meeting resulted in the formation of the American Association of Teachers of Physics.

This society, of which Dean Dodge has been made the first president, fills an unique place, not only because it is the only national organization of teachers of physics but because it is devoted primarily to the betterment of both graduate and undergraduate teaching in colleges and universities. There is something refreshing in the assumption involved here, namely that teaching can be improved in all ranks, including that of the graduate school.

There is little doubt but that the organization will have the co-operation that it deserves from physicists in general and from the American Physical Society, the research organization. Doctor Dodge has seen to that by having the officers and executive committee include such men as Dr. K. T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. F. K. Richtmyer, dean of the graduate school of Cornell university, Dr. Ralph S. Minor, professor of physics in the University of California, and Dr. Paul E. Klopteg, president of the Central Scientific Company.

There are between fifteen and twenty thousand teachers, research workers and industrial physicists in the United States and Canada who are eligible for membership in the American Association of Teachers of Physics. This infant which our Oklahoma teacher-dean is guiding bids fair to become an exceedingly important factor in science education in America.