Fine Arts Get New Dean

New dean of the University of Oklahoma college of fine arts is Harrison Kerr, New York composer and chief of the music and art unit of the U.S. Army reorientation branch. He will start his duties September 1.

For the past two years, Kerr has traveled in Austria, Germany, Japan and Korea in connection with his army music and art assignments. He has served as director of music at Greenbrier college, Lewisburg, West Virginia, and the Chase School, Brooklyn, New York. Kerr has been editor of Trend, a magazine devoted to the fine arts, and since 1940 has served as executive secretary of the American Music center.

His compositions include several symphonies, other orchestral works, chamber music and many shorter pieces. He is active in the National Music league and the National Music council. The college has been directed by a faculty committee since last January, when Dean Paul S. Carpenter died.

Dr. Rister Uncovers Oil Records

When was Oklahoma's first commercial oil well? Dr. Carl C. Rister, research professor of history, has uncovered records which trace the date to 1889.

Rister, who is completing a two-year study of southwestern oil under a $30,000 grant made by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, says the well was located near Chelsea. It was drilled by Sam Francis for Edwin Byrd, a Cherokee citizen, about May 6, 1889, to a depth of 32 feet. It produced about one barrel of oil in 25 hours with 52 gravity, records reveal.

Byrd installed a small pump and tank at the well and pumped the tank full of oil, which "I sold to common for $6 per barrel as a cattle dip." Other early commercial wells include Bartlesville's, 1897, and Muskogee producer in 1895. However, a non-commercial well was brought in at Grand Saline, now Salina, as early as 1859.

Rister said by the spring of 1890 that Francis, who was associated with the Cherokee Oil and Gas Company, had drilled a total of four wells near the first. The fourth well produced 12 barrels every 24 hours.

"There are tax receipts from the Cherokee treasury which show that Byrd and his associates did a thriving business," the historian points out. "Oil was sold to nearby ranches as cattle dip and to others for axle grease."

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Rister has covered approximately 30,000 miles since September, 1945. He visited Arkansas, Louisiana, Kansas, New Mexico and Texas, besides covering much of Oklahoma. He talked with many pioneer oil men and examined countless non-commercial oil leases and records. His work, Oil Titan of the Southwest, will be published soon by the University Press.

Faculty

Briefs

- Carl Mason Franklin, executive vice president, attended the faculty consultation on Religion in Higher Education in Dallas April 30.
- Fern O. Bean, professor of social work, attended the Conference of Social Work in Cleveland, Ohio, June 11-17.
- S. M. Salzer, professor of English, will be in Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts, this summer doing research, investigation and compilation of materials for a biography of Lydia Maria Child.
Waves' barracks on the North Naval Base to the use of women, and later we experimented with housing women in the Bachelors' Officers Quarters at the South Base. Neither the young women nor the parents were satisfied with these arrangements, and we realized that it would be better to construct some houses for women on the main campus.

In the meantime, enrollment of women at the University of Oklahoma had gradually declined until during the fall of 1946, there were 9,600 boys and only 2,480 girls. This ratio of girls to boys was a little greater than three to one girl to one boy, but it had become common knowledge that if a young woman planned to go to the University of Oklahoma she must have good knowledge that if a young woman planned to go to

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Phi Kappa Psi, in distinct contrast to other fraternities, which normally grew from local clubs, was originally founded for the purpose of becoming a national brotherhood of educated men interested in cultivating the humanities.

It was founded on February 19, 1852, by Charles P. T. Moore and William H. Letterman in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, at a college then called Jefferson. The origin of the fraternity lay in the common bond which grew between Moore and Letterman as they watched and nursed sick friends during a typhoid fever epidemic.

Following this, Phi Psi began its greatest period of expansion which lasted until 1880, with a general interruption for the Civil War. It is interesting to note that the Fraternity's tradition of service was carried on as 452 of the 600 members enlisted to fight for the causes of their localities. The original chapter at Jefferson College was itself listed to fight for the causes of their localities. The chapter is still active in school affairs, and Phi Psi retains its old feeling of interest in and friendliness toward the personal accomplishments of its pledges and members.

Phi Psi has, of course, been gravely hurt and concerned by the late war as well as those before it. The lost brothers and pledges, the strain placed on members on the campus have left their mark on the members of the chapter. New pledges and members, however, strengthened, matured, and united, as was Phi Psi as a whole, look forward to stronger and newer things developing from the war experiences. The old feelings and traditions continue.

attended a conference on application for NATTC equipment April 18 in New Orleans.

► William B. Lewis, assistant professor of electrical engineering, escorted a group of senior students on an inspection of the Network Calculator at Texas A&M College April 17.

► Allan Rodgers, assistant professor of geography, presented a paper at the Southwestern Social Science meeting at Fort Worth April 14-16 on "Taconite and the Steel Industry."

► D. R. Kinney, '40ba, director of purchasing, was in Boston May 10-15 attending the national convention of the National Association of Educational Buyers.

► Glenn G. Couch, '31ba, '37ms, dean of University college, represented the University at the faculty conference on Religion in Higher Education at Dallas April 30.

► Dr. J. J. Rhyne, chairman of the board of social work, has been studying social agencies in Little Rock, Arkansas, to determine suitability as field centers for students.

► F. C. Fowler, professor of chemical engineering, and R. L. Huntington, '17ba, chairman of the board of chemical engineering, were in Fort Worth, Texas, April 21-22 attending the annual meeting of the Natural Gasoline Association of America. They had a conference with the Richardson Oil Company in regard to a proposed research project on catalytic.

► E. D. Meacham, '42ba, dean of the college of arts and sciences, attended the faculty conference on Religion in Higher Education held April 30-May 1 in Dallas.

► J. L. Sollenberger, professor of finance, attended the second annual Educational Conference sponsored by the Committee on Education of the National Association of Real Estate Boards April 28-30 in Chicago.

► William H. Lemmon, associate professor of psychology, attended the Midwestern Psychology Association meetings April 26-May 1 in Chicago.

► Mary A. Warren, assistant professor of home economics, attended the faculty conference on Religion in Higher Education April 30-May 1 in Dallas.

► Alfred B. Sears, chairman of the department of history, attended the faculty conference on Religion in Higher Education April 30-May 1 in Dallas.

► Gaston Linton, '34ba, '40ms, University archivist, was in Washington, D.C., April 26-May 5 to orientate one of the Rockefeller Foundation fellowship grantees in the details of his assignment at the National Archives in Washington.

► E. Lee Hoffman, 48ba, graduate assistant in psychology, has been notified of his acceptance as a research fellow to study psychology and mathematics at Princeton University next year. He will assume his duties in July.

Phi Kappa Psi

Founded at O.U. in 1920

Sooner Magazine