Sooners at Home and Abroad

RECENTLY a newspaper in the Texas Panhandle published a picture of Jay Taylor, '26, of Amarillo, and the caption was: “From Truck Driver to Vice-President.”

That describes briefly and bluntly the story of the rapid rise of a Sooner graduate with the Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company, a firm whose progress has been spectacular in itself.

In 1923 Mr. Taylor was employed to drive a cementing truck for Earle P. Halliburton, founder of the company that bears his name. This year, he was elected vice-president of the Halliburton Company and also was appointed a director of the Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas. He is the youngest Federal Reserve Bank director in the United States.

After he had been working as truck driver for a year, Mr. Taylor was sent by the Halliburton Company to the University of Oklahoma to obtain technical training to meet the requirements of a rapidly expanding business.

Upon finishing a petroleum engineering course in 1926, Mr. Taylor was made local superintendent of the Halliburton Company at Amarillo. In the latter part of 1927 he became superintendent for West Texas, New Mexico and the Panhandle. Two years later, the Rocky Mountain district and Kansas were added to his territory and he was given an airplane to use in covering this far-flung area.

He learned to fly and now has about 5,000 hours in the air to his credit.

In 1936 he became general superintendent for the Halliburton Company, and this year he was elected vice-president. Though the demands of his position are exacting, he finds time to carry on farming and ranch activities. In 1943 he was elected president of the Panhandle Livestock Association, an office that he filled for four years. He was one of three cattlemen who wrote the present Range Conservation Program for Oklahoma and Texas. He is also affiliated with the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, and was elected vice-president of that organization in 1936.

He is married and has a son and two daughters. While in the University he became a member of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Mr. Jenkins has been with the Real Silk Company since his freshman year in the University, and has advanced through the positions of college supervisor and branch manager, and now has one of the most important sales positions with the company.

He has been a sales leader in every position he has held with the Real Silk Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins are now making their home in Oakland, Calif.

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National fraternity president

Errett R. Newby, '07, '36, Oklahoma City businessman, was elected Regent, or national head, of Sigma Nu social fraternity at the recent grand chapter meeting held in New York City.

Mr. Newby, who served as vice-regent of Sigma Nu during the last year, is secretary of the Buttram Petroleum Corporation, Oklahoma City.

He served as secretary of the University of Oklahoma from 1908 to 1920 and was registrar for a large part of that time. During the World War he was field director of special vocational training work under the general staff, being stationed at Washington.

He has served on the Board of Trustees of Phillips University, and has maintained his interest in education since going into the oil business.

A life member of the University of Oklahoma Association, Mr. Newby has always been a loyal supporter of the University and has been active in alumni affairs. He served as president of the Alumni Association in the year 1927-28.

Jenkins is promoted

R. C. Jenkins, '31, has been promoted to the position of assistant regional sales manager for the Real Silk Company, in charge of California, Nevada and Arizona sales.

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A compliment to “Bud” Gentry for the efficient manner in which he has organized the state highway patrol was warmly praised by Walter M. Harrison writing in the Oklahoma City Times. Said Mr. Harrison:

Here’s a compliment to “Bud” Gentry for the efficient manner in which he has organized the state highway patrol and put it to work.

Although the department has been functioning for merely three months a complete force of trained men is in the field, the state is handled by districts, headquarters is running like a military field center and the public is beginning to realize that an important safety arm has been put to work.

It is no unusual thing to hear fine things said of the patrolmen by autoists who have been checked up. There is a general feeling that there is no politics in the department, that tickets will not be destroyed for the favorites, in short that the unit is out to enforce the law without favor.

All of this speaks volumes for the head of the department and we give him a bouquet now with the hope that he will persist in his present endeavor to give Oklahoma a state highway patrol that will not be hampered and finally destroyed by politics.

So long as the public feels that everybody gets the same treatment from the state police, the public will support the most drastic campaign to improve travel conditions on state highways.

Errett Newby, '07, is now national Regent of Sigma Nu, social fraternity.

Jay Taylor, '26, new vice-president of the vast Halliburton company.

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