They Turn Rotary’s Wheel

Rotary International is a world-wide organization of community and business leaders. But even leaders must have leaders. For this demanding job, the service club has elected six University of Oklahoma alumni.


Duffy, who will govern the northern Oklahoma area from his home base in Ponca City, is senior partner in the law firm of Duffy and Johnson. He is past president of the Ponca City Rotarians and a member of that club since 1941.

Attorney Evans, a partner in the firm of Otey, Johnson and Evans, Ardmore, will serve in the same capacity in southern Oklahoma. He joined the Ardmore club in 1941 and is also a past president.

Native-born Tulsan Pedrick will head up Rotary activities in the eastern part of the state. A Sand Springs Rotarian since 1947, Pedrick served as president of the club. Pedrick Laboratories, animal foods manufacturers, of which he is a partner, is located in Sand Springs.

During the 1959–60 fiscal year, each District Governor will visit each of the clubs in his district to offer advice and assistance in Rotary service activities and administration.

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Just what constitutes beauty in a building is a moot and subjective question. Beauty is not attained by novelty, the bizarre or the quaint.

Mr. Estes also states that in his opinion designing a home is “a relatively artless matter.” Contrary to this, my architect colleagues and I find the design of a house for an individual client as much a problem as the design of any other building and far from the “simple kind of challenge” that he says it is.

We also find that in relation to the amount of work involved the financial compensation is less than for other types of building. Some architect’s offices will not accept a commission for a dwelling for that reason. On the other hand, many architects find the design of a house a challenge they enjoy taking, even though their financial compensation is relatively less.

Mr. Estes takes our schools of architecture to task for “soft-pedaling” such basic considerations as building codes, selection of appropriate materials and staying within a budget. We “do not get down to earth” he says.

He apparently knows nothing of our curriculum here at the School of Architecture of the University of Oklahoma, nor how it is taught. Had he taken the trouble to inquire, he would have learned that we start our beginning classes in structure with the use of the National Building Code.

We begin with elementary structure in the freshman year, and continue through indeterminate structures in the fourth year. We discuss costs and budgets and practical construction methods and details. Individuals were brought up under the set pattern, and it may take them longer to adapt.”

A lack of talented personnel prevented Parrack from employing the free lance at Oklahoma for five years. “Poorer material must have a regulated play to give them something to do that they can’t do on their own,” Parrack reasoned.

Oklahoma’s defense this year will be basically the same as in the past—a sinking man-to-man. “But I hope it’s better,” Parrack grinned. “I feel in practice so far that our defense is farther along than our offense.”

Across the hall in another office, freshman coach and chief recruiter Paul Geymann was buried behind stacks of mimeographed play patterns to be used in Oklahoma’s first annual high school coaching clinic.

Asked how he felt about Oklahoma’s freshman crop this year, Geymann leaned back clasping his hands in front of his chin and beamed, “I’m real pleased. We got everybody we were trying to get except maybe one boy.”

By then it was time for practice to get underway. Whistles swinging from their necks, Parrack and Geymann sauntered onto the gym floor for a talk with the squad.

Oklahoma may bear out Parrack’s prediction and not improve a great deal on last year’s record. There are those who don’t agree. But one thing is certain—the Sooners are well on their way to becoming a basketball power in the Southwest.