'Fledgling' Leland Gourley 'Fesses

Revealing the "Confessions of a Fledgling" at a recent meeting on the O.U. campus of Sigma Delta Chi, professional men's journalism fraternity, Leland Gourley, '40, editor-publisher of the Henryetta Daily Free-Lance, is shown above as he addressed members and guests of Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalistic fraternity, at a recent dinner. With their backs to the camera are Gene Gregson (left), former sports editor of the Oklahoma Daily, and Charles Brown (right), assistant professor of journalism at O.U. Gibers are from left to right, Frank Spence, '41, jorn, Oklahoma City; Charley Wright, senior engineering student from Oklahoma City, a guest; Gourley, and Charles Ward, editor of Oklahoma Daily.

Furrow Visits Soonerland

An alumnus who recently visited the University's campus for the first time in 25 years was Dr. C. Lee Furrow, '21ba, '22ma.

Dr. Furrow, who is professor of biology at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, left Norman in 1922 to continue his studies at Princeton University. He described his brief return here as "a very pleasant three hours ... visiting a few of the old timers left on the campus."

Among the alumnus guests was the Furrows' son, Lee Furrow, '216a, '22ma.

Dr. Furrow is the author of many published works and is highly regarded as a lecturer. Recently he wrote the following to Ted M. Beaird, Alumni Association executive-secretary:

"During the past two years I have had a unique opportunity in the form of a visitation program to a group of colleges and universities in the 20 states of the North Central Region. I have learned a great deal from first-hand contacts, and my associations with the administrators and faculties of these institutions has led to the formation of many new friendships. I hope that my visitations program will bring me back to O.U. again in the near future."
Paul Reed succeeds Gentry
As State Safety Commissioner

Nominated recently by Governor Turner for the state commissioner of public safety post was Paul W. Reed, '16, Sulphur automobile dealer, veteran of both World Wars, and active alum of the University of Oklahoma.

He succeeds J. M. Gentry, '15ba, of Enid, founder of the safety department.

Reed was born in Shawnee and before his high school days was active in athletics. At the University he played freshman football, belonged to the glee club, men's quartet and Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Even after enlisting in the Navy during World War I, he retained his old school connections and loyalty. He is now serving on the O.U. Athletic Council, Board of Governors and the Alumni Nominating Committee.

Following the war Reed attended Oklahoma and Michigan Universities a while then went to Stillwater, where he entered the hardware business. At 21 he was elected president of Stillwater's Chamber of Commerce and became the youngest such official in the state. In 1925 he went to Sulphur to open a Ford automobile agency. He now owns and operates the Paul Reed Motor Company there and for years has been active in civic and church activities.

Entering the second world conflict as a enlisted man, Reed rose to the rank of major, serving as chief of motor transportation of the San Francisco port and bay area. He was attached to the First Marines on Guadalcanal. For action on Guadalcanal and the southern Solomonas he is entitled to wear the Navy presidential citation and two battle stars.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Reed, Paul W. Reed, Jr., is a sophomore at the University.

Gentry, whom Reed replaces, was named to the state highway commission as member-secretary, a job once held by his pioneer father, French Gentry.

The younger Gentry galvanized the public's growing demand for warfare against the highway death scourge into a huge safety meeting called by Governor Marland in 1937. Legislation creating the state safety department and the Oklahoma highway patrol followed, and Marland named Gentry to tackle the job.

With the creation of the safety department, the state obtained its first registration of drivers as a result of the license law. Despite having to use outmoded equipment, the first highway patrol greatly slashed traffic fatalities in the state.

In 1938 Gentry bowed out of the safety department, but with the election of Governor Kerr in 1942, his return to office was assured.

Several months ago Gentry announced his desire to retire. "Any real job is just like flying an airplane—when it becomes routine then it's time to quit," he told an Oklahoma City paper reporter recently as he crawled behind the steering wheel of his car and headed for his Enid home.

Like his successor, Gentry failed to sever school ties upon leaving the University. Long active in University affairs, he belongs to the Athletic Council and the Alumni Executive Board.

Fischer to Talk at O.U. June 8

John Fischer, '32ba, whose book "Why They Behave Like Russians" is on a Book-of-the-Month Club choice for May, will speak at the opening session of the annual Institute of International Relations at the University of Oklahoma June 8.

Fischer, now one of the editors of Harper's Magazine, was a Rhodes scholar and for several years held administrative posts with the Farm Security Administration in Washington. A former Oklahoma City newspaperman, Fischer obtained a leave-of-absence from his post on Harper's to go to Russia on a government mission.

New State Businesses Increase

New businesses increased in Oklahoma during the last few months. A total of 90 charters were issued in December, compared with 71 in November and 66 in December, 1945. In November there were 1,068 new firms starting businesses and 851 leaving business. The greatest activity as to births, deaths and changes in ownership was in the food and motor vehicle groups.