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Medical Alumni News

A national authority on cancer, Dr. J. Samuel Binkley, '30, of New York, this month will complete a lecture tour of frontier cities of Oklahoma. His discussions, for both laymen and doctors, were planned "to give the public the latest in scientific knowledge of a disease that is curable if properly diagnosed and treated in time."

The course is under the immediate sponsorship of the Oklahoma State Medical Association's committee on cancer, of which the chairman is Dr. W. F. Keller, '28, '31 med., in cooperation with the Women's Field Army of the American Society for the Control of Cancer, and the State Public Health Department.

Dr. Binkley is assistant chief of the chest department, Memorial Hospital, New York City. He received his medical degree from Harvard. Before going to New York, he practiced in Oklahoma City. Several years ago he attended cancer clinics at Berlin, Munich, Zurich, Budapest, Paris, London, and a number of the other Old World medical centers.

Dr. Clyde V. Kernek, '37 med., who is now a resident at the Fitzsimmons General Hospital, Denver, Colorado, and Dr. Charles McArthur, '38 med., of Seattle, Washington, visited the Medical School recently.

Dr. Richard Adama, '24, formerly health officer of Ada and Pontotoc County, has been appointed health officer for the city of Tulsa.

Dr. W. Keiller Haynie, '33 med., of Durant, has been appointed health superintendent of Pittsburg County.

At the December meeting of the Seventh Congressional District Medical Society in Hobart, Dr. Harry Cushman, '28 med., of Clinton, was elected vice-president. Dr. William Finch, '31 med., of Hobart, was elected secretary-treasurer. Speakers at the meeting were Dr. W. F. Keller, '31 med., Dr. J. F. Kuhn, Jr., '31 med., both of Oklahoma City. It is interesting to note that according to the roster of officers of the county medical superintendents in the state, that nineteen of the presidents and twenty-eight of the secretary-treasurers are graduates of the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine.

The office of Dr. Grady F. Mathews, '25 med., state commissioner of health, has announced appointment of the following county health superintendents: Dr. Haskell R. Anderson, '34 med., Choctaw County; Dr. C. M. Bloss, Jr., '37, Okfuskee County; and Dr. Charles Haygood, '35 med., of Frederick, appointed assistant director of health in Seminole County to succeed Dr. T. T. Beeler, '37 med., who resigned to enter private practice in Norman.

New chief of staff at the Ponca City Hospital is Dr. Ralph G. Obermiller, '32 med.

Dr. Wallace B. Hamby, '28 med., of Buffalo, New York, is author of a book, The Hospital Care of Neurosurgical Patients, published by Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois. The book is a manual for the house physician or nurse in charge of neurosurgical cases. Dr. Hamby is associate professor of neurology and instructor in neurological surgery at the University of Buffalo School of Medicine, Buffalo, New York.

Dr. L. P. Smith, '25 med., of Marlow, has been elected president of the Stephens County Medical Society.

University history recalled

Wallace Perry, '07, editor and publisher of the Las Cruces Sun-News, Las Cruces, New Mexico, is conducting through his newspaper a campaign against political domination of educational institutions in New Mexico.

In a recent issue he recalled some of his experiences at the University of Oklahoma:

"The time I finished school at the University of Oklahoma, that institution also was being made a political football. Dr. David R. Boyd, who had pioneered the school from its infancy, and who stood for the highest in educational standards, had been fired. Dr. A. Grant Evans had been elected in his stead and he, in turn, was scheduled for the tobaggon. Oklahoma politicians were attempting to dictate the employment of faculty members.

Regency appointments were being passed out as political favors, and honorary degrees—doctors of one variety and another—were being handed to the Democratic faithful.

Within a year after I was graduated, the alumni association held a special meeting in Norman, decided to ask for the appointment of an alumnus as regent, and picked upon me as its first victim. My appointment, which followed, didn't get far—at the time—toward the elimination of politics; for, two years later, the politicians figured out an easier way to control all state schools, than through separate boards of regents, and enacted a law which placed all of them under a state board of education.

But Oklahoma University's alumni didn't let it go at that.

A few years later, I served on an alumni committee which presented an argument to state legislators for a restoration of the regent system. Backed by persistent support from alumni and former students scattered over the state, the restoration became effective, and the alumni association renewed its demands for representation on the recreated board.

By that time, the university's alumni were strong enough to get more definite results. They not only got one member of the board, but, within a comparatively few years, had a majority of its membership. And, with the exception of a few years during the administration of Bill Murray as governor, the University of Oklahoma has been comparatively free of adverse political influence.

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