Hats Off To

Dr. Ray M. Balyeat '12 arts-sc. (M.D.'18), right, because he is an internationally known authority on asthma and its cure, because he is one of the most distinguished graduates of the school of medicine, and because he represents in the highest sense the unselfish service of science to humanity. He was born in 1889 near Arkansas City, Kansas, one of twin brothers. Enrolling in the university, he helped pay his expenses as a waiter and as a drug store clerk. He was a member of the board of control of the Umpire, the university newspaper. After successively having charge of the science departments of Sculpia and Oklahoma City high schools, Balyeat returned to the university to take his master's degree and his B.S. in medicine and later his M.D. Doctor Balyeat succeeded Dr. Edwin DeBarre as state chemist. Through the aid of Dr. L. J. Moorman of Oklahoma City, Doctor Balyeat was made an intern at the Peter Bent Brigham hospital, controlled by the Harvard medical school. He studied hayfever and asthma and on returning to Oklahoma City devoted himself to a study of allergy. Doctor Balyeat is vice president of the Oklahoma Academy of Science, vice president of the American Association for the Study of Allergy, and author of "Hay Fever and Asthma." He is a member of Phi Beta Pi and Phi Beta Kappa fraternities.

Dr. Chester A. Reeds '05 sc. (left), because he is the curator of geology and invertebrate palaeontology of the American Museum of Natural History of New York, because he is a distinguished American scientist, and because he represents the finest traditions of Soonerland. He was born July 20, 1882, at La Cygne, Kansas, and entered the university preparatory school February 1, 1898. He represented the prep school in territorial field meets at Guthrie and Oklahoma City. Doctor Reeds entered the university in 1901, when there were only 400 students. He was president of his senior class, varsity fullback three years, and a track letterman. After teaching geology in the university, he became a lecturer at Bryn Mawr college, leaving in 1912 to join the staff of the American Museum of Natural History as assistant curator. Since 1921, he has had charge of the museum's seismograph. Since 1925, he has been editor of division 1 publications of the museum. Doctor Reeds was vice president of the New York Academy of sciences in 1925 and 1926, and has published numerous scientific treatises as well as maintaining an international reputation as an editor. He is a member of Sigma Xi (Yale) and Sigma Nu (Oklahoma). He was editor of Natural History for the September-October number, 1916, and contributes to that and other scientific journals.

Joseph Benton, '20 arts-sc., '21 fine arts (right), because he has won recognition in Europe as a tenor, and because since his debut in February in the opera La Traviata he has created a noteworthy place for himself in the European operatic world. He is a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, of Phi Beta Kappa and of Phi Mu Alpha. He studied music in France with Jean de Resseke for two years from 1923-25, until the old music master died. In the fall of 1925 he went to Milan, Italy. He recently signed a two years' contract with the operatic troupe of Zuccari. In July the young tenor, "Giuseppe Bentonelli," appeared in a performance with Kiva, Europe's greatest Madame Butterfly. In addition to Madame Butterfly Benton has sung La Traviata with Kiva. "The papers have given him more praise than any other male artist," says Il Gazettino, Venice Italy, July 27. The king and queen of Italy and their two daughters attended the opera in which Benton sang last spring in the Italian provinces in Africa. Benton was a member of the fine arts faculty at the University of Oklahoma from 1921 to 1923.