Faculty

New Men’s Counselor Named

Oscar D. Roberts, member of the faculty at Oak Park (Illinois) High School, has been named counselor of men at the University of Oklahoma. He holds a B.S. in education from the University of Illinois and an M.A. in educational guidance counseling.

He has been named the University’s new counselor of men.

Robert H. Rucker Resigns, Will Open Business in Norman

The resignation of Robert H. Rucker, resident landscape architect and assistant professor of plant sciences at the University, was announced last month by President Green. Rucker left O.U. March 1 to enter the floral and landscaping business in Norman.

The landscape expert came to the University in June, 1945, from Waco, Texas, where he supervised campus planting for the centennial celebration of Baylor University.

A graduate of Texas A. and M. College, where he received both Bachelor and Master degrees, Rucker worked with the Texas highway department and taught at San Antonio High School landscaping class before entering the Army in 1942.

An infantry captain, he lost a leg in the Tunisian campaign in North Africa in 1943, and was discharged from O'Reilly General Hospital in Springfield, Missouri, in November, 1944.

Rucker supervised all grounds and landscape planning at O.U., including the landscaping of Sooner City, since joining the staff, and only recently finished plans for several parking areas on the campuses.

The elimination of parking along University sites is the outstanding phase of the new parking formula. The plan is to be considered by the Board of Regents.

Rucker is president of the Norman Rotary Club, and has been active in garden club projects. In addition, he is a contributor to the American Rose Society.

Radio Authorities Confer

Everything from hillbilly music to legal phases of broadcasting was discussed by nationally known speakers at the annual radio conference held at the University of Oklahoma February 26 to 28.

"The New Look in Radio" was the theme of the three-day gathering which attracted radio and advertising personnel from all parts of the nation.

In charge was Dr. Sherman P. Lawton, professor of radio at the University.

Some of the program’s subjects included frequency modulation, advertising agencies, continuity writing, promotion, independent stations, public relations, litigation and radio law.

Faculty Notes...

Lila Walsh, professor of home economics at the University, attended the annual Southern Regional Conference for Home Economics Education which was held jointly with the Atlantic region in Washington, D.C., February 16 to 20.

Dr. John Hervey, '23, a lawman, Norman, who has been named adviser to the section on legal education and admissions to the bar for the American Bar Association, will work with deans of law schools throughout the nation for improvement of legal education. Dr. Hervey formerly was

Q. Williamson, state attorney general; J. M. Thaxton, assistant safety commissioner and "Boos" Reed.

Receiving certificates were Vernon Ray Anderson, Lawton; Richard P. Adams, Hastings; John J. Divine, Goodwell; Vernon A. Butler, Coalgate; Charles E. Branch, Altus; Ralph E. Fromme, Alva; Bennett M. Guthrie, Tahlequah; Bert M. Grigg, Pryor; W. F. Griggs, Marietta; John A. Haworth, Enid.

Billy H. Howell, Miami; William M. Lancaster, Claremore; Charles C. Liddell, Marietta; Squire O. Lowry, Comanche; Jack McKenzie, Ponca City; James B. Fowlers, McAlester; Earl C. Stewart, Ada; J. C. Turner, Westville; William W. Young, Norman, and Albert B. Zoller, Oklahoma City.

‘Miss Grace’ Put Life into O. U.

BY MRS. MARILYN DAVIS INGLER, '43BA

Oklahoma’s growth as a state and the rise of a young University is reflected in the story of Mrs. James D. Maguire, who as a 16-year-old girl joined the University of Oklahoma faculty in 1896.

Today, in her work in the Sooner library newspaper department, she vividly remembers the days charmed University and Norman audience.

Following the concert, the regents offered Miss King the position as head of the School of Music. But before she could accept, the 16-year-old girl had to return to Emporia to ask her mother’s permission.

An activity which early endeared the new professor to students was her supplying music each noon hour for those who wanted to dance the newest waltz, the schottische and the tango. Frommke, hearing the dances in the chapel, asked Dr. Boyd to stop it. The understanding president instead decreed that it be moved to a "wholesome amusement", and that the chapel housed the only piano on the campus.

The tunes "My Kentucky Babe" and "Little Alabama Coon" still recall to Mrs. Maguire the early days of the O. U. Glee Club. After her organization of the group, Miss King requested that the glee club be allowed to tour the state. Their first appearances, made via train and stagecoach, were at Luned, Kinzir, Hennessey, Newkirk, Shawnee and Purcell. The tour was so popular that it became a yearly event.

By the second year of “Miss Grace’s” career, the University’s growth required a large appropriation which was to be asked of legislators then in session. It was decided that a banquet and musical program might convince legislators of O. U. merits. Cerebral planning brought about a dinner featuring southern cooking and decorative smilax and roses.

"Legislature attended a man," Mrs. Maguire happily recalls. "We began with many toasts and then gave them beaten biscuits, baked ham and roast pig. Then our musical program started, and my, but it was grand!"

At the end of the program, the well-known "Miss Grace" sang a few songs.

"The climax came when the House’s speaker wanted to know if I could sing "Just One Girl." The song that time was considered as jazz is now, and everyone waited to see if I would do it. Well, I sang the song and received the largest applause I had ever heard. The legislators then sang the chorus and the appropriation was in the bag."

Remarkable on the spirit of fellowship which characterized early O. U. days, she said: "We were so happy and so poor in those days. Our greatest fun were either marvelous hunts or school picnics. And always there was singing. We even sang ‘I’m Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage’ and ‘Just as the Sun Goes Down at football games.’"

"Miss Grace" married Regent James D. Maguire in 1901 and established their home in Lawton. It was after his death that she returned to the University.

At the present time, she’s leading a small rebellion against long skirts and the "new look." For according to the fancy "Miss Grace," the new fashions are the same she wore in her day. “And that,” she concludes, "was a long time ago.”

FEBRUARY, 1948

Mrs. Grace K. Maguire
A Colorful Past.

Uncovering certificates were Vernon Ray Anderson, Oklahoma City; Charles C. Liddell, Marietta; Squire O. Lowry, Comanche; Jack McKenzie, Ponca City; James B. Fowlers, McAlester; Earl C. Stewart, Ada; J. C. Turner, Westville; William W. Young, Norman, and Albert B. Zoller, Oklahoma City.

Mrs. Grace Put Life into O. U.