The PALIMPSEST

OXFORD — TOWN AND UNIVERSITY

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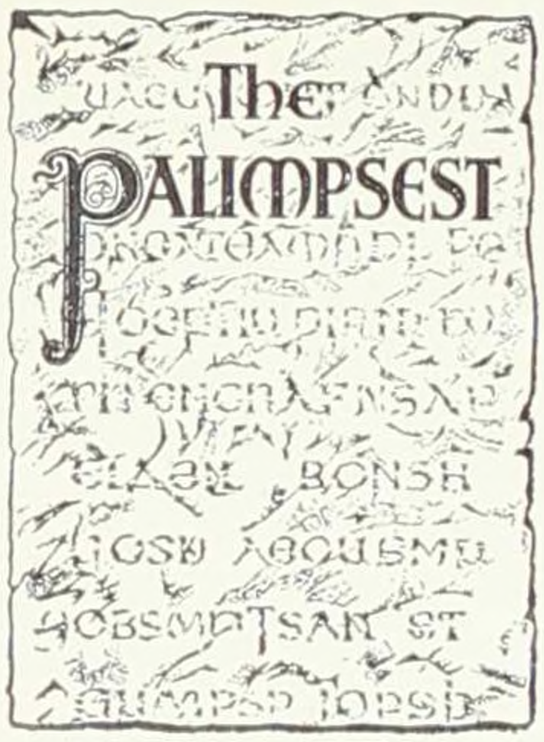

The Meaning of Palimpsest

In early times a palimpsest was a parchment or other material from which one or more writings had been erased to give room for later records. But the erasures were not always complete; and so it became the fascinating task of scholars not only to translate the later records but also to reconstruct the original writings by deciphering the dim fragments of letters partly erased and partly covered by subsequent texts.

The history of Iowa may be likened to a palimpsest which holds the record of successive generations. To decipher these records of the past, reconstruct them, and tell the stories which they contain is the task of those who write history.

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THE PALIMPSEST

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Student Life at Oxford

[This is a portion of a paper read by Virgil M. Hancher before the Legal Club of Chicago, December 16, 1929. It was printed in the *American Bar Association Journal* of August, 1930. — THE EDITOR]

Oxford is a city of sixty thousand inhabitants located on the banks of the Cherwell and the Isis (the upper Thames) sixty-three miles from London in a generally westerly and slightly northerly direction. It is surrounded by a natural amphitheater of gentle hills which contribute, along with sluggish streams, flooded meadows, and overcast skies, to provide it with a damp and somber climate from October to May of each year.

The origin of the town is lost in the antiquities of Anglo-Saxon times. Even the origin of the University is shrouded in uncertainty. It appears that the first gathering of masters and scholars, not attached to monastic establishments, took place in the twelfth century and that by the beginning of the thirteenth, Oxford ranked with the first universities of Europe and had as many as three thousand students in attendance.

Not until the establishment of the first collegiate

foundations, Merton, Balliol, and University, in the latter half of the thirteenth century, does the authentic history of the University begin. Of the twenty colleges in the University, three were established between the years 1260 and 1285. Five were established in the fourteenth century and eight in the fifteenth. Half of the colleges were established before 1516 and all but four were established before 1600. Thus both the appearance and traditions of the place justify it in being called "the last enchantment of the Middle Ages."

The collegiate foundation is the most distinctive physical feature of Oxford. The casual visitor, unfamiliar with the Oxford system, sees only a number of such foundations scattered at irregular intervals through the town. Eventually he is prompted to inquire: Where is the University? Then he learns that the University, as a physical institution is practically nonexistent. It has no campus. Its buildings—the Examination Schools, the Bodleian Library, the Ashmolean Museum, the laboratories — are few. The University is really an intangible affair, a governing body, a loose confederation of colleges establishing rules for the government of the University community and giving direction and uniformity to the instruction provided in the "Schools." These Schools, such as the School of Jurisprudence, the School of Modern History, the School of Modern Languages, and the School of Theology, provide the

nearest Oxford equivalent for our Colleges of Law, of Arts and Sciences, of Medicine, and of Commerce, but they are by no means identical.

The Oxford college, on the other hand, bears no resemblance to the American college. It is in no sense an educational subdivision of the University. With its own buildings and grounds, its own administrative organization, its own fellows and scholars and commoners, interested perhaps in every branch of human learning, it constitutes a separate, semi-autonomous community. Its quadrangular buildings of gray stone are usually built in some variation of the Gothic style. These college buildings contain a chapel, a library, a Master's lodge, a Senior and a Junior Common Room, a few small lecture rooms, a great dining hall, a kitchen, a buttery, and not least — in the opinion of many — a cellar, where the college's favorite vintages and brews are kept. By far the greater part of the college buildings is given over to undergraduate living quarters.

Barred windows and high walls, the latter surmounted with iron spikes or broken glass set in cement, protect the college enclosure, recalling the days when it was less important to keep undergraduates in than it was to keep thieves and marauders out. Usually there is a garden within the walled enclosure. Frequently it is landscaped and always it is set with flowers and shrubbery. Within the enclosure or at a distance, the college

has a playing ground for its various teams, and it keeps a barge on the river for its crews, since rowing is the principal sport.

In the congestion immediately following World War I, the undergraduate was fortunate who obtained a separate living room and bedroom for himself in college. More often two men were allowed three rooms, each having a bedroom and sharing a common living room. Not infrequently the college would be full and it would be necessary to take lodgings in the town.

The undergraduate's living room serves as living room, dining room, and study. Breakfast, lunch, and tea are served there at his order by the "scout" or college servant, and every item received from the kitchen, even to a piece of butter, is separately charged on his "battels" or account. The undergraduate supplies his own linens, dishes, and silver. Central heating is unknown, and the living room fireplace provides the only heat. Baths and toilets are often inconveniently distant, while bedrooms are furnished with pitcher and bowl and other assorted pieces of crockery which the modern generation of Americans has either never seen or has long since forgotten.

It may be helpful to an understanding of the Oxford mode of life to describe an undergraduate's typical day. He is awakened between seven and seven-thirty by the scout. He bathes and shaves—the latter is never omitted—and dresses

for the day. His clothes may not be pressed, and it is better form not to have them pressed too neatly, but his shoes are always shined. At eight o'clock on three days a week he attends the college chapel, or, if he has been excused from chapel, he signs the college register. About eight-thirty breakfast is served. This is usually a large and leisurely meal and there is much entertaining. Afterwards there is the daily paper or study until lectures begin.

Most lectures are given between ten and one, though in rare instances they begin at nine. A vacant hour may give an opportunity for morning coffee at eleven. Lectures are optional, but the attendance is surprisingly large. However, poor lecturers get short shrift and usually see their audiences completely disappear by the third day.

From one to two lunch is served. This is a light meal since it is to be followed by games from two to four. Because of the damp, enervating climate, most undergraduates participate in some form of exercise every day. At four there is a bath and the business of dressing again, and at four-thirty comes tea. Like breakfast this provides a social hour, and tea is seldom taken alone. After a light lunch and strenuous exercise, tea is needed, for dinner is still more than two hours away.

Tea over, the time until the dinner hour may be spent either in conversation, bridge, or study. At seven o'clock comes dinner in the Great Hall. As

the dinner gong is sounded, the undergraduates in academical gowns assemble outside the hall door. With almost clocklike precision the Provost and the fellows, also in their academical gowns, appear from the Senior Common Room and march into the hall to the high table at the farther end. They are followed by the undergraduates, who move to the respective tables to which they have been assigned and remain standing while a Latin prayer is read by one of the scholars of the college. Immediately after, all are seated and dinner is served.

The Englishman attacks his food with a great gusto and accordingly dinner is customarily a short feast. After dinner there may be coffee or liqueurs in someone's room, followed by conversation or bridge or perhaps study.

At nine-five the bell in Tom Tower at Christ Church sounds one hundred and one strokes and the gate of the college is closed. No undergraduate member of the college is permitted to go out after that hour. If he is already out, he need not return until midnight but he is automatically fined for the privilege. If he returns before ten o'clock the fine is a penny, between ten and eleven two pence, between eleven and twelve six pence. Failure to return to the college by midnight is a most serious offense. Two such offenses mean expulsion from the University. However, the secret is that Oxford is such a dull place after eleven

o'clock that no one would care to be out of college, and the rule works no hardship. Most of the undergraduates keep fairly regular hours, and by eleven o'clock the majority of them have retired to bleak bedrooms which have not been warm since the days of Henry the Eighth.

This is a typical day, and it will appear that serious work has scarcely been considered. That is not the fact, however. There is opportunity for study either after breakfast or after tea or after dinner, and except on rare occasions there will be a creditable number of hours of study every day. The effort will be carefully concealed. The Oxford undergraduate is essentially a serious creature, but he often keeps it disguised behind a frivolous exterior. Whatever the opportunities for study may be during the term, it should be remembered that the terms are short, not exceeding eight weeks, and that there are three terms a year, a total of twenty-four weeks in residence. Normally the vacations, six weeks at Christmas, six weeks at Easter, and four months in summer, offer considerable opportunity for such study as has been neglected during term time. Vacations may be, and often are, periods of uninterrupted study, while term time affords a combination of study and social life.

As already stated, attendance at lectures is entirely optional. No record of attendance is ever taken and some undergraduates never attend.

Certainly no one attends unless he is convinced that he is obtaining information more readily and more easily than in any other way. Economy of effort is the ultimate consideration. The lectures are purely formal. No preparation or participation is required of the student. The Socratic method of instruction is not in vogue. The lectures are carefully prepared, many times they are delivered from manuscript, and it is possible in most cases to take very full notes. Often they are the fruit of years of research. For example, W. S. Holdsworth's lectures on Legal History were so concise and so accurate that the equivalent information could not have been obtained in any other way without an extraordinary expenditure of time and effort. Needless to say, his lecture hall was always crowded.

Tutors, of course, endeavor to get their men to attend the better lectures, and the average student probably attends a total of ten or twelve hours per week.

The relation between tutor and undergraduate is the second feature of the Oxford method of education. The tutorial period consists of one or more hours each week spent at the home of the tutor either in the college to which he belongs or at his residence in the town. Many times two undergraduates share the same tutorial hour. The relation between tutor and undergraduate is quite informal. Usually they will be seated comfortably

before a cheerful grate fire during the tutorial hour, and the tutor's tobacco jar will be close to his elbow.

The relation of tutor and undergraduates seems to be the one feature of Oxford life which, more than any other, has attracted attention in this country. Like all other relations, its success depends upon the abilities of the parties to adapt themselves to it. It is not a panacea for all educational ills and it is successful only to the extent that it attracts men of unusual scholastic ability, who possess in addition an understanding of and sympathy for the problems of students.

In the main the Oxford tutors are men of that type. My experience at Oxford of course was limited to one tutor, but I was familiar with the reputations of most of the others. In rare cases they neglected their men, and some were quite frankly intolerant of those who showed little promise. While it appeared that their greatest interest and greatest helpfulness were reserved for the brilliant student, nevertheless anyone who showed a willingness to apply his ability to the best advantage received faithful cooperation. In addition they were thoroughly familiar with most of the students' problems and often anticipated them. And almost always they listened sympathetically to any individual scholastic problem and helped, if they could, in its solution.

Notwithstanding the undoubted merits of the

tutorial system, it has always seemed to me that the most distinctive feature, and at the same time the most dangerous and desirable feature, of the Oxford method of education is the almost unlimited opportunity for independent work and study given each undergraduate. Of course all reading is, in a sense, done under the general supervision of the tutor, but that supervision is always general and oftentimes very remote. Certainly it is not in any sense a restraint upon the way in which the undergraduate shall spend his time.

To an American who is accustomed to definite class periods, to definite assignments from day to day, and sometimes to definite periods for preparation of current assignments, with no thought of the ultimate goal to be attained, the Oxford system is chaos indeed. Often it takes him at least a full term to become accustomed to this newfound freedom. Then it suddenly dawns upon him that no one cares whether he works or not, that whether he succeeds or fails is his own business and no particular concern of the University. When this realization has had time to sink in, he suddenly puts his house in order, makes definite plans, and begins some conscientious work.

The merit of the system is that there is sufficient supervision, through the tutor, so that no student of ordinary ability need fail for want of it, while the able student may adapt the system exactly to his needs. No time need be wasted on subjects

with which he is familiar, and time may be apportioned between those subjects which are difficult and those which are easy. He may move as rapidly or as slowly as his needs require. There is no general average to which he is weighted down. He has it within his control to see that every hour of study is put to the best advantage. Above all, no one else has the power to waste his time.

This complete control which the undergraduate has over his time has the added advantage of giving him, if he is so inclined, ample opportunity for serious thought. It is an often uttered complaint of intelligent students in this country that they are so occupied with routine assignments from day to day that there is little opportunity to do any thinking not immediately related to the task at hand. No such complaint can be made at Oxford. There is practically no pressure from current assignments and there is very little of the stress and furor which seems so much a part of our university life. The opportunity for discussion and reflection is always at hand. The only limitation lies in the innate capacity of the undergraduate to take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded him.

Of course there are grave dangers in such a system. There are those who, without restraint or coercion, will fail. But isn't it better for them to fail, and know they have failed, than to get their little learning under watch and guard and imagine,

as they sometimes do, that they are educated men?

In conclusion, it should be pointed out that in the opinion of those who have studied there, Oxford is both a pleasant and a profitable place to study. My readers must readily admit the charm of Oxford, and will understand, I hope, how the recollections of this "last enchantment of the Middle Ages" linger on in the memories of those whom she has once gathered within her fold.

VIRGIL M. HANCHER

Cecil John Rhodes

Cecil John Rhodes, a parson's son, was seventeen years old in 1870 when he was forced to seek refuge from the English climate by joining one of his eight brothers on a farm in South Africa. The discovery of diamonds at Kimberley had lured so many adventurers that Rhodes himself was engulfed in the rush, starting out with an oxcart carrying "a bucket and a spade, several volumes of the classics, and a Greek lexicon."

Immediate success in the diamond mines revived Cecil Rhodes's dream of attending the University of Oxford. He was admitted to Oriel College in October, 1873. His plan was to spend the usual three years taking examinations leading to the pass B. A. degree rather than try to meet the more difficult requirements for the honors degree. His enthusiasm to get on with the job was cut short after a few months, however, when his physician told him his heart and lungs were no match for the unfavorable Oxford climate and he had better return to the bracing air and sunshine of South Africa — with "not six months to live."

Fortunately, Rhodes and his dream were not stifled; he staged an amazing comeback. During the next eight years he alternated between attend-

ing Oxford summer terms and exercising his business talents in the diamond fields. During this period he developed his ideas on such problems as the unification of the Dutch and English people in South Africa, the consolidation of the British Empire, closer ties among English-speaking peoples, and the promotion of world peace.

Two results flowed from such activities. First, Oxford conferred upon him B. A. and M. A. degrees in 1881 and the D. C. L. in 1899, after his rise to political prominence. Second, Rhodes incorporated his ideals in a series of six wills. He died near Cape Town on March 26, 1902, and was buried two thousand miles away in the Matopos Hills of Rhodesia. His last will and testament revealed a project for scholarships to Oxford for students chosen from British colonies and dominions, American states and territories, and the German Empire. Rhodes hoped through these educational scholarships to develop an "understanding between the three Great Powers" that would "render war impossible." To the successful outcome of the experiment Rhodes dedicated the bulk of his fortune — £2,000,000, an endowment which had almost doubled by 1952.

JACOB VAN DER ZEE

Election by College Presidents

1904-1917

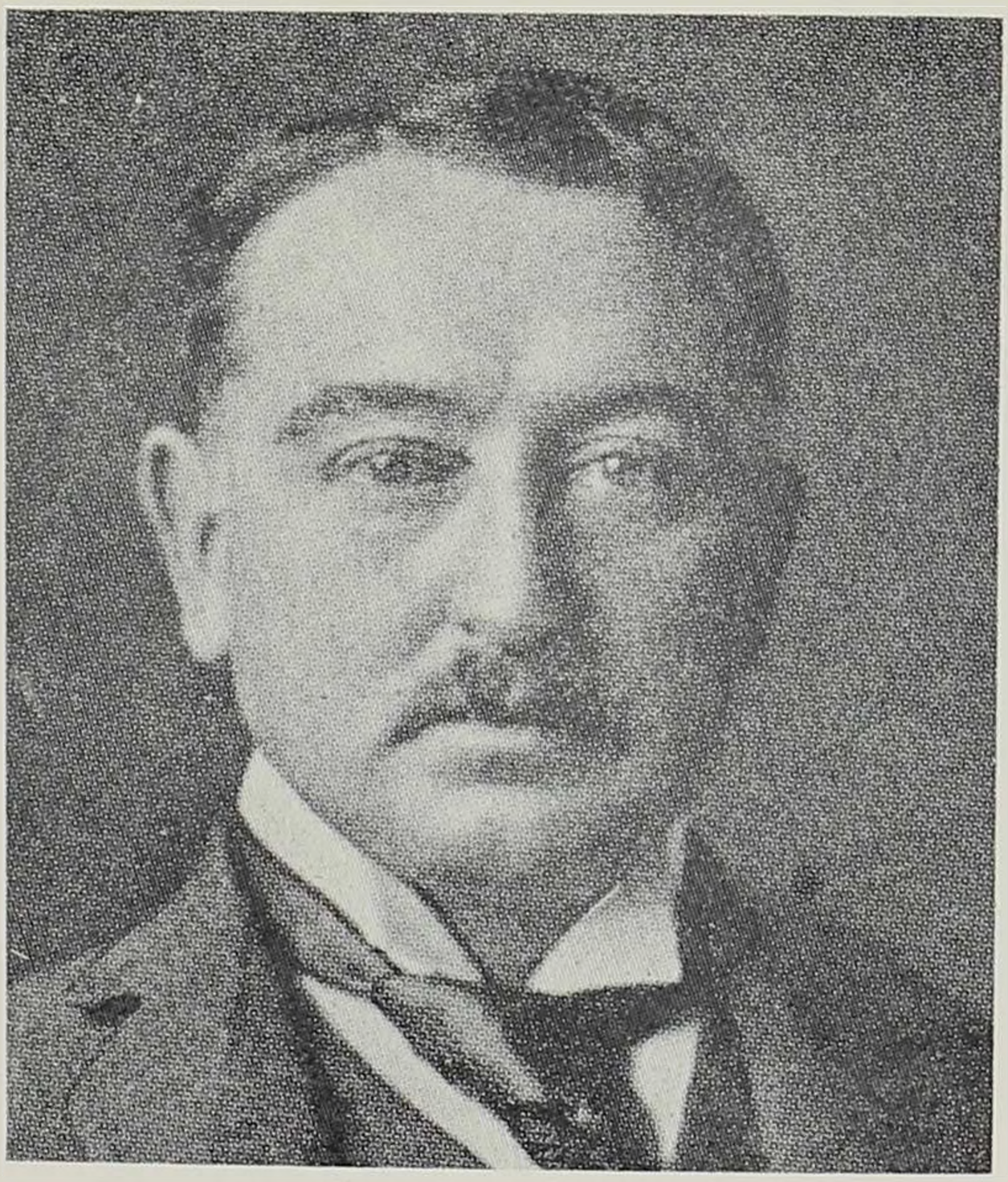
The executors of the Rhodes will requested Joseph H. Choate, American ambassador in England, to bring the scholarships to the attention of Secretary of State John Hay; and the latter then communicated with governors throughout the union. In letters dated July 15, 1902, Governor Albert B. Cummins of Iowa asked R. C. Barrett, superintendent of public instruction, and George E. MacLean, president of the State University, for suggestions on how to select Iowa's Rhodes scholars.

At the annual meeting of the National Association of State Universities, Dr. MacLean, its president, read a paper on the Rhodes Scholarships and urged that scholars be chosen from colleges rather than from secondary schools. After extended conferences with Dr. George D. Parkin, general secretary of the Rhodes Trust, several recommendations were adopted by the association, one providing that in every state the president of the state university and representatives of colleges with standards at least equivalent to those of the university should base the selection of Rhodes scholars upon rotation among institutions or open competition among candidates.

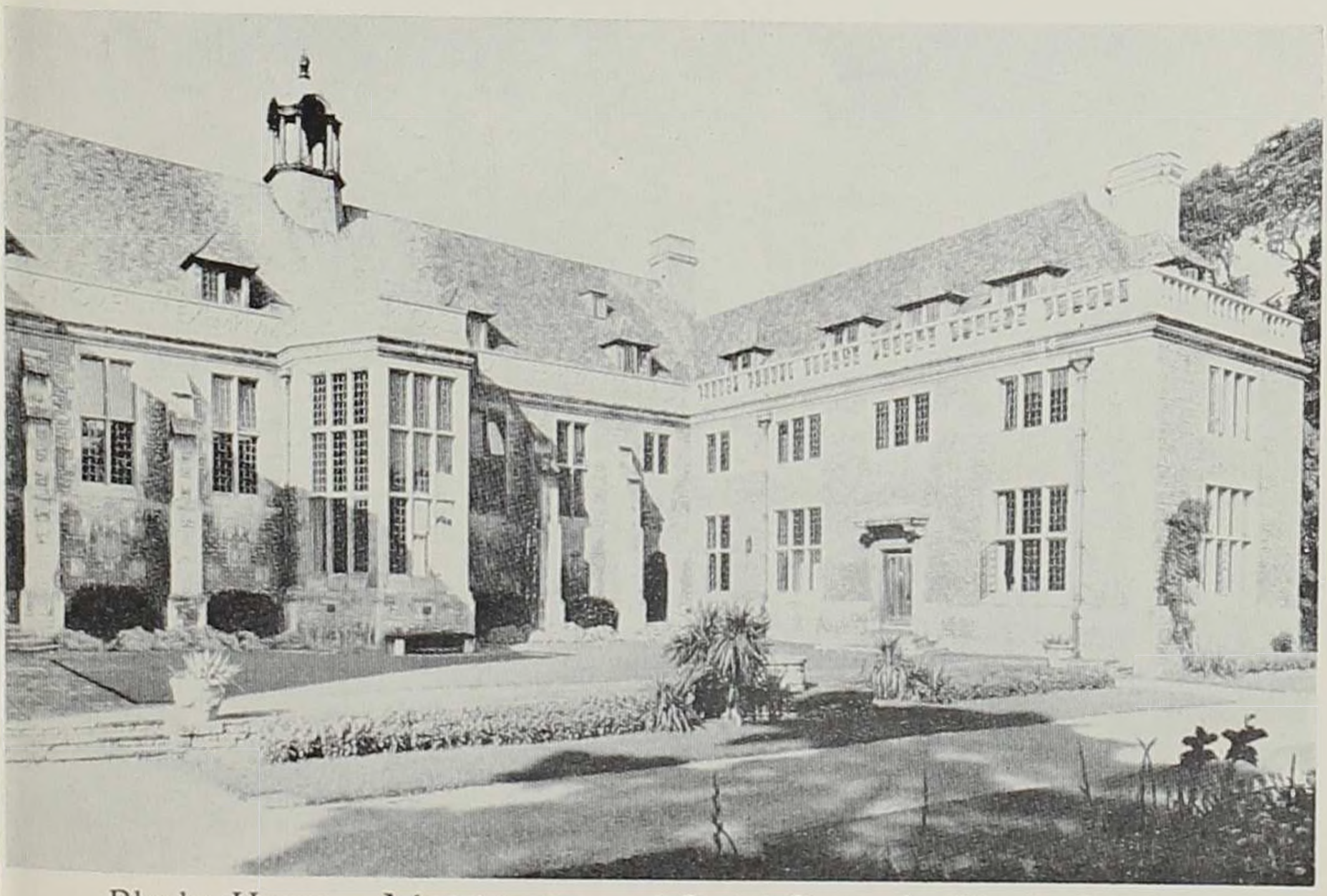
The committee which put the scholarship scheme into operation in Iowa consisted of the heads of five colleges: George E. MacLean of the State University as chairman, Dan F. Bradley of Grinnell, Hill M. Bell of Drake, William F. King of Cornell, and A. B. McCormick of Coe. In June of 1903 circulars of information were distributed to all Iowa colleges announcing that the state's two scholarships would be awarded in 1904 and 1905 — each for a term of three years with an annual stipend of £300, the intention of Cecil Rhodes being that each state would have two scholars in residence at Oxford in perpetuity.

So great was the interest of Iowa college students in the scholarship that twenty-two asked for application blanks, but only six had courage enough to file returns. The sudden dashing of hopes is accounted for by the discovery that candidates to be eligible for appointment had to prove their academic fitness by passing certain written tests. The Rhodes trustees prescribed a qualifying examination equivalent to the Oxford University entrance examination, because doubt existed in England about American standards of higher education.

Only five students gathered in the office of the superintendent of public instruction at Des Moines in 1904 to wrestle with questions forwarded from Oxford. Two hours each were allotted to papers covering Greek and Latin grammar, translations

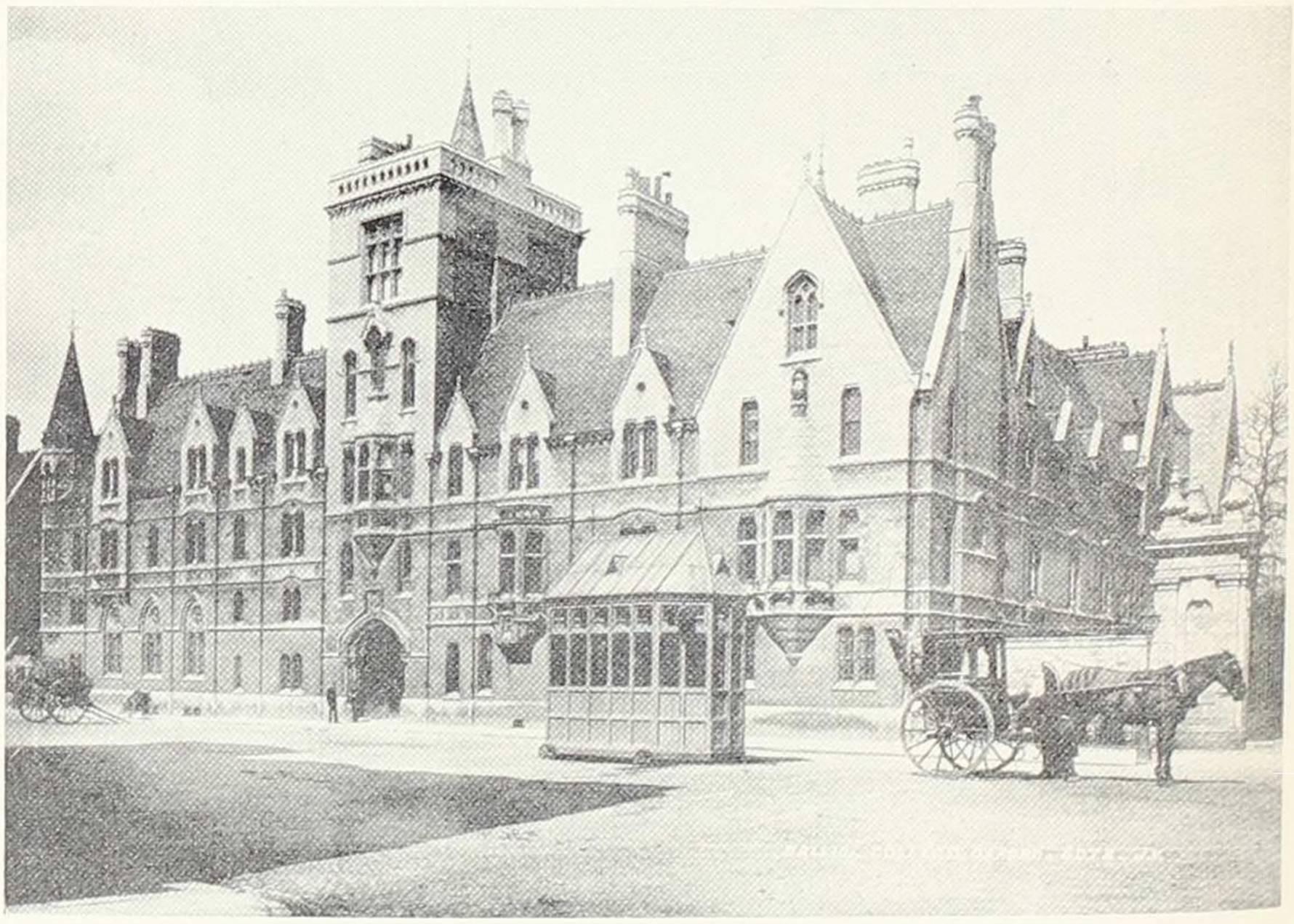


Cecil John Rhodes

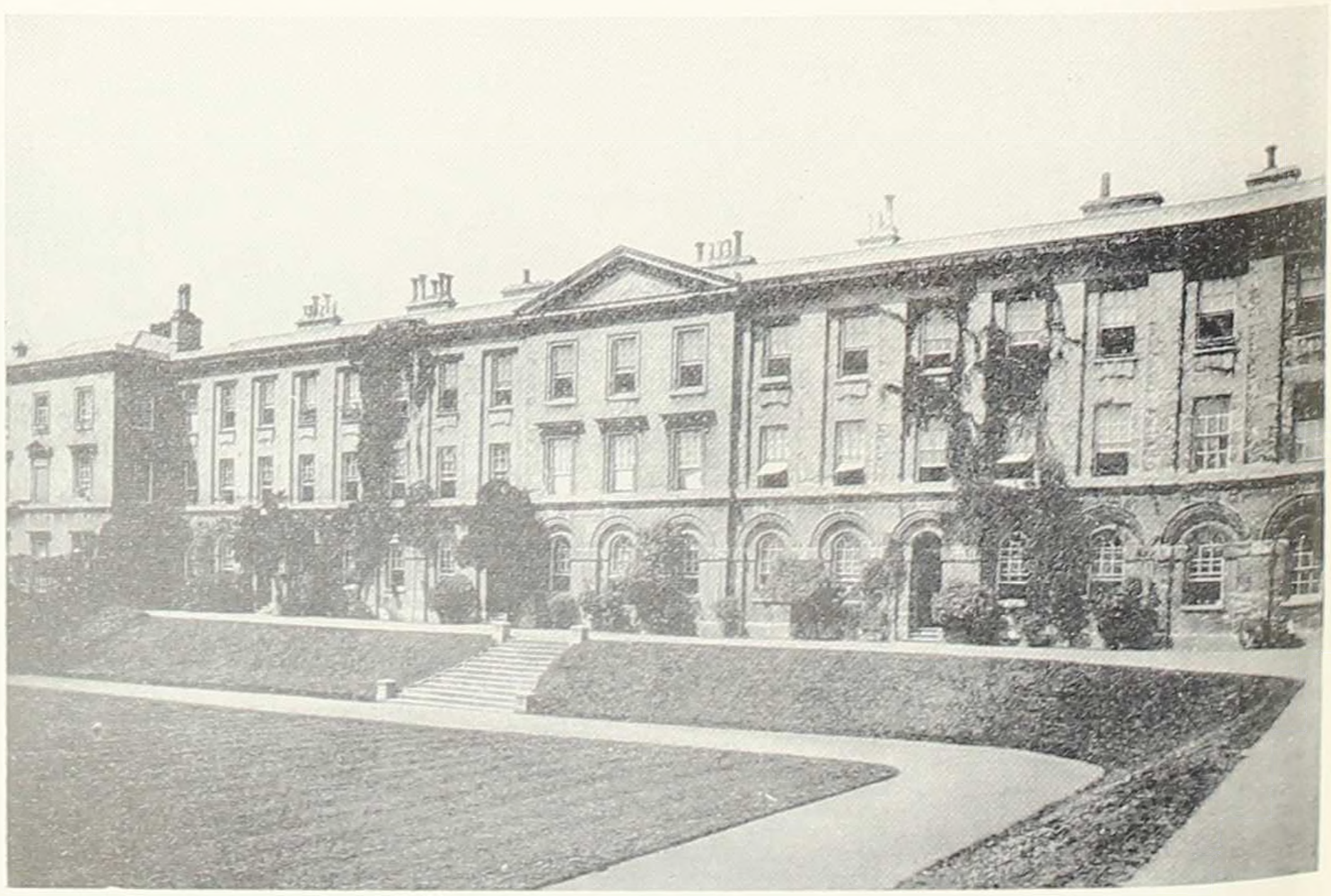


Rhodes House — Administrative and Social Center for Rhodes Scholars

OXFORD COLLEGE SCENES



Balliol College



Worcester College, New Building

from Greek and Latin authors, Latin prose composition, arithmetic, and algebra or geometry. The examination papers were packaged, sealed, and dispatched to Oxford.

The Iowa committee then required faculties and students of the five colleges which had candidates for the scholarship "to cast a fair and secret ballot answering in detail the questions printed thereon" relating to such nonscholastic qualifications as athletics, personality, and character. This peculiar procedure caused a good deal of wasted effort, because word soon arrived that only two of the candidates had survived the examination ordeal.

The committee assembled at Iowa City to pass upon the claims of the two successful examinees who represented the State University of Iowa and Iowa College at Grinnell. They canvassed campus ballots, compared scholastic records, examined official recommendations, and subjected the candidates to a thorough inquisition. It may be noted that for half a century the Iowa and other state committees have been under strict obligation to observe the terms of the Rhodes will, especially its insistence "that the students who shall be elected to the Scholarships shall not be merely bookworms."

Joseph Garfield Walleser

The winner of the first Rhodes scholarship in Iowa, Joseph Garfield Walleser, was born at

Nashua on September 26, 1881. Walleser was the son of Henry Walleser, a blacksmith of German ancestry, and his wife Anne (Dichman) Walleser. He graduated from Nashua high school and received his A. B. from Grinnell in 1903, majoring in Greek and minoring in Latin. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 1907. Walleser, a Roman Catholic, never married.

Walleser's venture into Old World life began with his admission to his benefactor's old college, Oriel, where he was assigned "sitter and bedder" in October, 1904. Like other "semi-savage" Americans then and later, he soon discovered that some twenty-three colleges supplied meals and rooms, scouts (men servants), social atmosphere, tutorial or other instruction, chapel services, and discipline, while the university gave the examinations, conferred degrees, and enforced more discipline. There were both varsity and college sports, most of them strange to Americans. He found that first-year Rhodes scholars were two to four years older than English freshmen.

American college graduates had for many years bypassed Oxford on their way to continental universities for research degrees. When the Rhodes scholars arrived they received little more recognition for their academic achievements than boys from English public schools. Harvard, Wisconsin, Princeton, and Michigan were the first to gain such recognition, the former being the first Amer-

ican university placed on the list of affiliated institutions in 1904. Graduates of an affiliated college received the privilege of senior status, exempting them from Oxford's first public examination and the examination in Holy Scripture.

Walleser had to be satisfied with junior standing which compelled him to spend much of his first year disposing of examinations in mathematics, Greek, and Latin, besides two of the gospels in the original Greek and the Acts of the Apostles. Having surmounted these hurdles, Walleser entered upon his favorite field of study — English language and literature. A Rhodes scholar not qualified to study for an advanced degree was required to choose one of the fifteen honor schools with its week of final comprehensive written and oral examinations instead of the less formidable pass school with its periodic tests on parts of the course (the practice so common in the typical American college).

Besides getting adjusted to a tutor and countless other unfamiliar conditions, Walleser (and his successors) had to get used to the idea of serious study in vacation time. Three eight-week terms of residence per year separated by vacations totaling twenty-eight weeks do not really mean that the Oxonian leads a life of ease. Rhodes scholars, to be sure, have never been allergic to travel, but final examinations and limited funds have generally delivered them from the tempta-

tion to neglect their studies too much. Walleser completed the work for his B. A. degree in 1907 and, by keeping his name on the books for a certain number of additional terms and paying further dues and fees, received the M. A. in 1911.

Walleser began his professional career by teaching history at Fargo College; served the Grinnell department of English until 1925; taught French and English at Cicero Junior College; and retired as professor of English at Quincy College (1939-1946). Meanwhile, he had been a member of the Student Army Training Corps in 1918; had done extension work for the University of Indiana; and had acted as tutor for the Keewaydin Club in Naples, Florida. Besides contributing verse and articles to a number of publications, Walleser composed the words of a libretto. As class poet he helped celebrate the fiftieth reunion at Grinnell in 1953.

Jacob Van der Zee

In 1905 six Iowa college men sat down to the examinations — one at Princeton and five in the regents' room of the Old Capitol at Iowa City. Only two satisfied the examiners. As the defeated candidate of the previous year again applied for appointment, and since two of the three were seniors at the State University of Iowa, it became necessary to eliminate one of the University's candidates. President MacLean appointed three pro-

fessors to investigate their scholastic records and directed the seniors to ballot on the nonscholastic merits of the candidates. Jacob Van der Zee was favored on both counts. The state committee convened at Iowa City in April; canvassed the procedure alluded to above; interviewed the two representatives of Iowa and Drake; and, after a close informal ballot, cast a unanimous vote for Van der Zee. That anyone could survive such a harassing experience was almost a miracle.

The second Iowa Rhodes scholar was born at St. Anna Parochie, Friesland, The Netherlands, February 9, 1884, the son of Bauke and Janna (Van der Weg) Van der Zee. Young Jacob was brought to the United States in 1890. He was educated at Sioux Center high school and Northwestern Classical Academy at Orange City before attending the State University of Iowa, where he majored in Greek and Latin with a history minor. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received his A. B. in 1905. In 1913 he married Ethel A. McKnight to whom two sons were born. He is a Presbyterian.

Admitted to membership in Merton College, a freshman once more, Van der Zee first cleared the public examination in pass and divinity moderations. He then did the final honor school of modern history with its elective but mostly required subjects covering recent European and every phase of English history besides Mill's dismal

political economy, political science (gathered around Aristotle's *Politics*, Maine's *Ancient Law*, and Hobbes's *Leviathan*), and the German language. His experience attending lectures at various Oxford colleges and writing weekly essays for his tutor disclosed the essence of the Oxford idea: "in the long run a student cannot be taught — he can only learn and what he learns for himself is doubly valuable."

After receiving the B. A. degree from Oxford in 1908, Van der Zee began research work for the State Historical Society of Iowa but soon turned to the study of law at Harvard. He returned to Iowa for the LL. B. in 1913. Oxford conferred the M. A. in 1913 and Iowa the J. D. in 1924.

In 1913 Van der Zee became instructor in political science at the State University of Iowa, advancing to the rank of professor in 1929. On leaves of absence he compiled indexes for the Iowa Codes of 1919 and 1924 and taught in the University of California at Los Angeles. In the summer of 1926 he accompanied a Carnegie Endowment party of fifty professors to observe the operation of international organizations in Europe. Van der Zee's writings on Iowa history, law, and government were published by the State Historical Society as were two books — *The Hollanders of Iowa* (1912) and *The British in Iowa* (1922). He enlisted in the S. A. T. C. at Fort Sheridan in 1918, served six years as alderman in Iowa City,

and was secretary of the Iowa Rhodes scholarship committee for nearly thirty years. In 1949 the Van der Zees retired to a rural homestead in Barnstead, New Hampshire.

Jay Walter Woodrow

Of the five Iowans who took examinations at Iowa City in 1907, only two survivors appeared before the selection committee, and Drake's Jay Walter Woodrow won over Grinnell's representative. Woodrow was born on a farm near Luverne, Minnesota, April 3, 1884, the son of Joseph and Della (Kennedy) Woodrow. He was a graduate of Drake Academy and University, majoring in language and minoring in science. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received his A. B. in 1907. In 1915 he married Flora B. Williams. The couple had one daughter. Woodrow was a member of the Christian Church.

Woodrow attended Queen's College from 1907 to 1910. He studied physics and obtained the B. A. degree. He won the Oxford half-blue in the 100-yard dash. The following two years he was an instructor at the University of Illinois and a fellow at Yale, where he was awarded the Ph. D. After serving the Western Electric Company as research engineer, Woodrow moved on to the University of Colorado in 1914. He left Colorado as full professor to join the Iowa State College physics department in 1921. On a Guggen-

heim Memorial Foundation fellowship he studied at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Liverpool and returned to teaching at Ames, acting as head of his department from 1930 to 1947. Drake honored him with an LL. D. He served on Rhodes scholarship committees for thirty years and published numerous articles on physics. The war years put such a heavy strain on Woodrow that he developed an irreparable heart condition. He died on June 29, 1951.

William Burt Millen

When the examination of five candidates in 1908 produced three eligibles and the defeated man of 1907 again applied for appointment, competition for the scholarship became so keen that the state committee took seven ballots before a decision was reached in favor of William Burt Millen. Born on December 10, 1884, Millen was the son of a Greeley banker, Horace Greeley Millen, and his wife Emma (Robison) Millen. A staunch Methodist, Millen attended Epworth Seminary and Cornell College, receiving his A. B. from Cornell in 1906 with a classics major and an economics minor. He was a Phi Beta Kappa. Millen married Marjorie Carlyle in 1915; the couple had one son.

As a member of Pembroke College (1908-1911), Millen studied modern history for the B. A. degree. After an instructorship at Princeton, Mil-

len worked as associate editor of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* and was employed for eleven years in the foreign department of the Merchants National Bank of the same city. He became European representative of G. L. Ohrstrom and Company, investment bankers, in 1927. Since 1940 he has been institutional representative of Stroud and Company, investment bankers of New York City, incidentally helping the United States Treasury as New York examiner of foreign funds control and the Alien Property Custodian during World War II. While in attendance with four hundred Rhodes scholars at the Jubilee Reunion on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Cecil Rhodes and the 50th of the scholarships, Millen and others took advantage of the occasion to have the M. A. conferred upon them by Vice-Chancellor Lowe.

William Alexander Ziegler

In order to give the Oxford secretary of the Rhodes Trust more time to get scholars-elect admitted to the Oxford colleges, the trustees wisely set an earlier date for the qualifying examinations in 1909. A more important innovation was the announcement that examinees would no longer be required to have a knowledge of Greek, though this concession did not exempt anyone from meeting the university's Greek requirement after arrival in Oxford. In other words, examination

questions on Greek became optional in the hope that more American students would compete for the scholarship.

Of five aspirants in Iowa in 1909 only William Alexander Ziegler satisfied the examiners and he won over two eligibles of the year before. Ziegler was born at Rock Rapids, March 28, 1889, the son of a leather goods dealer, William A. Ziegler, and his wife Ida (Arends) Ziegler. He attended Goldfield high school and Grinnell College, majoring in Latin and history. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received his A. B. in 1910. Ziegler married Sally Cootes in 1923. The couple have one son. Ziegler is an Episcopalian.

Ziegler was admitted to membership in Wadham College and obtained the B. A. in chemistry, besides winning his varsity half-blue in the shot. The next four years he taught at Grinnell College and St. Mark's School. In World War I he became a major in the infantry. After three years as a chemist with the Casale Ammonia Company in Rome, he turned to real estate development in New York City (1922-1934). Then followed thirteen years of employment with the National Recovery Administration, the Home Owners Loan Corporation, the Federal Works Agency, and the Defense Homes Corporation. Since 1947 Ziegler has been general manager of the Fairmac Corporation which owns housing developments in Washington, D. C., and Bremerton, Washington.

Jakob Aall Ottesen Larsen

Since four college seniors took the Rhodes examinations in October, 1910, and not one survived the experience, three successful examinees of previous years once more presented themselves before the Iowa selection committee. Jakob Aall Ottesen Larsen won the appointment. Born at Decorah, March 1, 1888, the son of the distinguished Luther College president, Peter L. Larsen, and his wife Ingeborg (Astrup) Larsen, Jakob attended the Luther preparatory department before entering Luther College. He received his A. B. in 1908, majoring in the classics. He won his A. M. in Latin at the State University of Iowa in 1910. He married Clarice Grindeland in 1917.

Larsen was admitted to Queen's College and completed the work in Literae Humaniores (at Oxford called "Greats" and recognized as the most difficult avenue to the B. A. degree). The M. A. was awarded in 1920. He taught classics at Luther and Concordia (1914-1918). During World War I he enlisted as a private in the 62nd United States Pioneer Infantry, was commissioned first lieutenant, and assisted the military attaché of the American legations in Norway and Denmark. After another year of graduate study at Harvard, he taught ancient history at the University of Washington (1921-1926) and Ohio State (1926-1930), where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1928 he obtained a Ph. D. in history

from Harvard. At the University of Chicago he was professor of history (1930-1953), retiring as professor emeritus. Vermont conferred the LL. D. in 1953, and Larsen has recently been visiting professor at Northwestern and California. He has written a great deal in the field of Greek and Roman history and philology; was managing editor of *Classical Philology* (1939-1951); and was on the editorial board of *The American Historical Review* from 1948 to 1952. As president of the American Philological Association, Larsen attended historical and classical congresses at Paris in 1951.

Paul Graves Williams

In the Oxford report of Iowa examination results in 1912, Paul Graves Williams was awarded exemption from responsions (the university's entrance examination); another Iowan was given the same exemption except in Greek; while three others failed altogether. Williams was born June 13, 1894, at Bureau, Illinois, the son of Mark Williams, a Presbyterian minister, and his wife Anna A. (Graves) Williams. From high school in Madison, South Dakota, he went to Grinnell, where he majored in Latin and Greek and was active in athletics and debate. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received his A. B. in 1913. Unlike his father, Williams was a Congregationalist.

Entering Oxford at the age of nineteen, he was

the youngest American Rhodes scholar in residence. Granted senior standing, Williams escaped preliminary examinations and immediately launched upon the study of Literae Humaniores. He was a member of Lincoln College, where he coxed the crews both in the spring races ("torpids") and eights. At the close of his first year there, he and James N. Keys of Kansas went to the continent for the long summer vacation. While mountain-climbing in the Swiss Alps above Lake Lucerne, they became separated. Williams kept climbing with the express understanding that he would rejoin his companion by taking an easier return route to the starting-point, while Keys descended safely and waited in the rain and darkness of July 22, 1914, for the reunion that never took place. Thoroughly alarmed, Keys sought help from a mountaineer without result and next day called out the Alpine Club and rescue station. For five days from seven to a dozen men scoured all parts of the mountain, and for another ten days smaller companies kept up a systematic search. Just as Keys was leaving Switzerland on August 30, "the accidental discovery of a coat in a quantity of rubble washed down by the heavy rains which continued for a week after the tragedy, led to a careful search of the bed of the current," and further investigation led to the body of Williams and the spot where he had plunged over the cliff. The remains were carried to the local chapel and

held until funeral arrangements were completed. The outbreak of World War I made it impossible for Keys to attend the funeral.

James Hamilton St. John

Of the seven Iowans who ventured to submit to examinations in October, 1913, two succeeded in all subjects; two others in all but Greek; and three failed completely. The winner was James Hamilton St. John, a native of Muscatine, where he was born November 21, 1890, to James H. St. John, a grocer, and his wife Agnes L. (Hatch) St. John. From Muscatine high school young St. John went to Grinnell, where he majored in Latin and minored in mathematics. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received his A. B. in 1914. His marriage to Naomi Wylie in 1918 was dissolved and in 1941 he married Martha B. Trossen. He had one daughter by his first wife. St. John is a Congregationalist.

At Merton College (1914-1917) St. John read modern history and helped live part of it amid the alarm and confusion incident to England's participation in the war. In 1918 he served as a private and cadet in the United States Air Force. After six years of banking experience at Arlington, Iowa, St. John turned to graduate study in modern European history at Iowa leading to the Ph. D. degree in 1927. Since then he has been professor of history and assistant dean at Miami

University, Oxford, Ohio. He has published a book on Edmund Dummer and his West India packets.

Norman Dunshee Scott

Four men competed for the Rhodes scholarship in 1915, but two failed in the examinations. The winner was Norman Dunshee Scott, who was born at Maxwell, January 6, 1894, to Dr. Elisha C. Scott and his wife Josie D. (Dunshee) Scott. He attended Grant high school in Des Moines and Drake University, where he majored in chemistry and science, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received his B. S. in 1916. He married Myrtle E. Jobse in 1923. They had four children. Scott was a Presbyterian.

His residence in Merton College and study of Chemistry was interrupted by the war; in 1917 he enlisted in the 30th United States Engineers which later became the First Gas Regiment of the Chemical Warfare Division, and he served for about two years in France. He resumed work at Oxford in the autumn of 1919 and completed requirements for the B. A. (with distinction), the M. A. in 1920, and the B. Sc. in 1921.

Scott taught chemistry at Wisconsin (where he obtained his Ph. D. in 1924) and at Middlebury and Harvard, and was research fellow under Professor (later President) James B. Conant. He then began distinguished research in the chemical

industry by joining a firm which was absorbed by the Du Pont Company in 1930. The extent of his contributions at the Niagara Falls plant until his sudden death on December 30, 1948, may be gauged by the fact that he assigned forty-five patents to his employer in the field of electrochemicals and the reaction of sodium with organic compounds. Numerous published articles testify to his profound knowledge of organic chemistry.

The selection of Rhodes scholars by college presidents from candidates determined by written examinations ended with the appointment of Norman Scott in 1915, because five aspirants in 1916 and 1917 failed their examinations.

JACOB VAN DER ZEE

To the Warden & Fellows of Merton College this Plate is, by their permission Dedicated by the Artist.

K HENRY III

P EDWARD

DE CLARE

See of ROCHESTER

Here is CORPUS CHRISTI College

Merton Street

The Warden's Ho

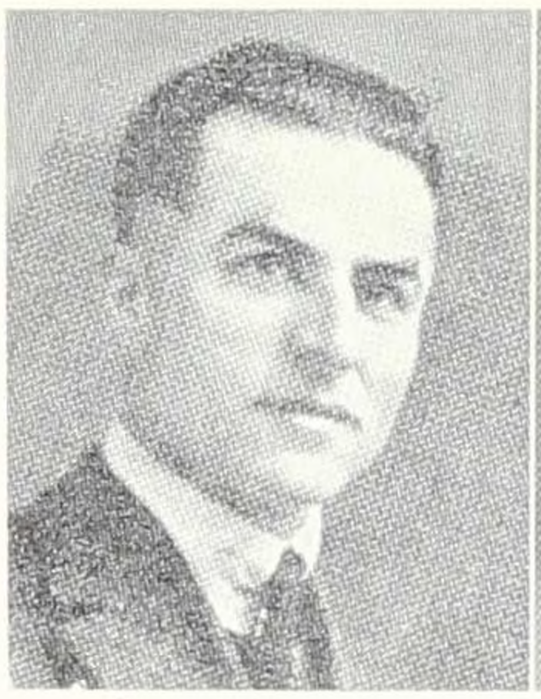
MERTON COLLEGE OXFORD
BISHOP of ROCHESTER and

Founded by WALTER de MERTON
CHANCELLOR of ENGLAND A.D 1264

Published by Edmund Hort Newett 17 Worcester Place, Oxford June 1st 1912.

Engraved by Emery Walker

IOWA RHODES SCHOLARS, 1904-1927



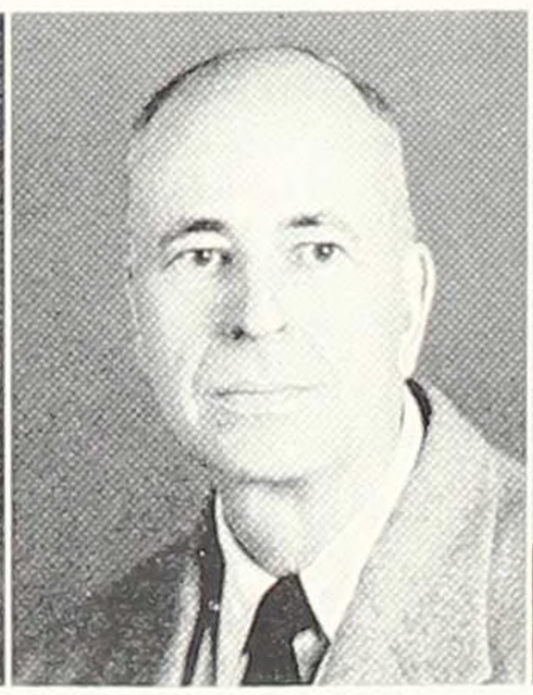
J. G. WALLESER
Oriel

W. A. ZIEGLER
Wadham

N. D. SCOTT
Merton

C. C. BOWIE
Merton

J. VAN DER ZEE
Merton



J. A. O. LARSEN
Queen's

V. M. HANCHER
Worcester

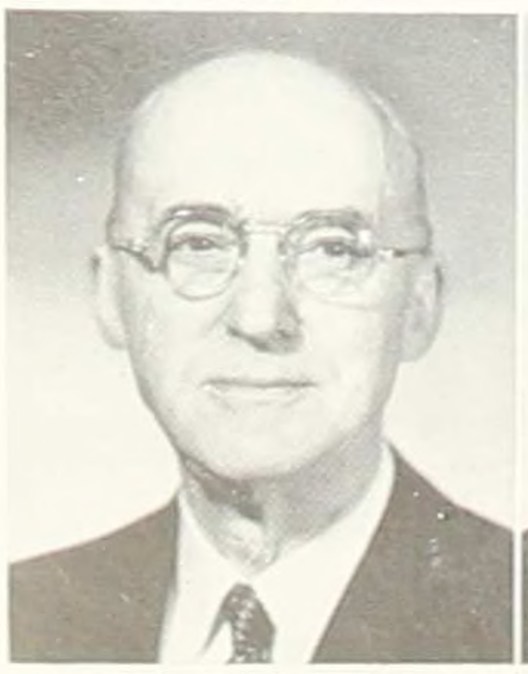
C. W. STROM
Queen's

J. W. WOODROW
Queen's

P. G. WILLIAMS
Lincoln

M. H. HERRIOTT
Oriel

N. L. CRONE
Merton



W. B. MILLEN
Pembroke

J. H. ST. JOHN
Merton

W. D. NUTTING
Keble

R. B. PATRICK
Exeter

IOWA RHODES SCHOLARS, 1928-1954

A. W. READ
St. Edmund Hall

E. W. TIMM
Trinity

E. C. FREUTEL
Oriel

R. E. SHEPHERD
St. John's

C. G. SIEFKIN
St. Peter's Hall

J. R. NELSON
Wadham

W. M. KLUSS
New

G. C. MOHR
Hertford

P. H. ENGLE
Merton

C. C. SMITH
Merton

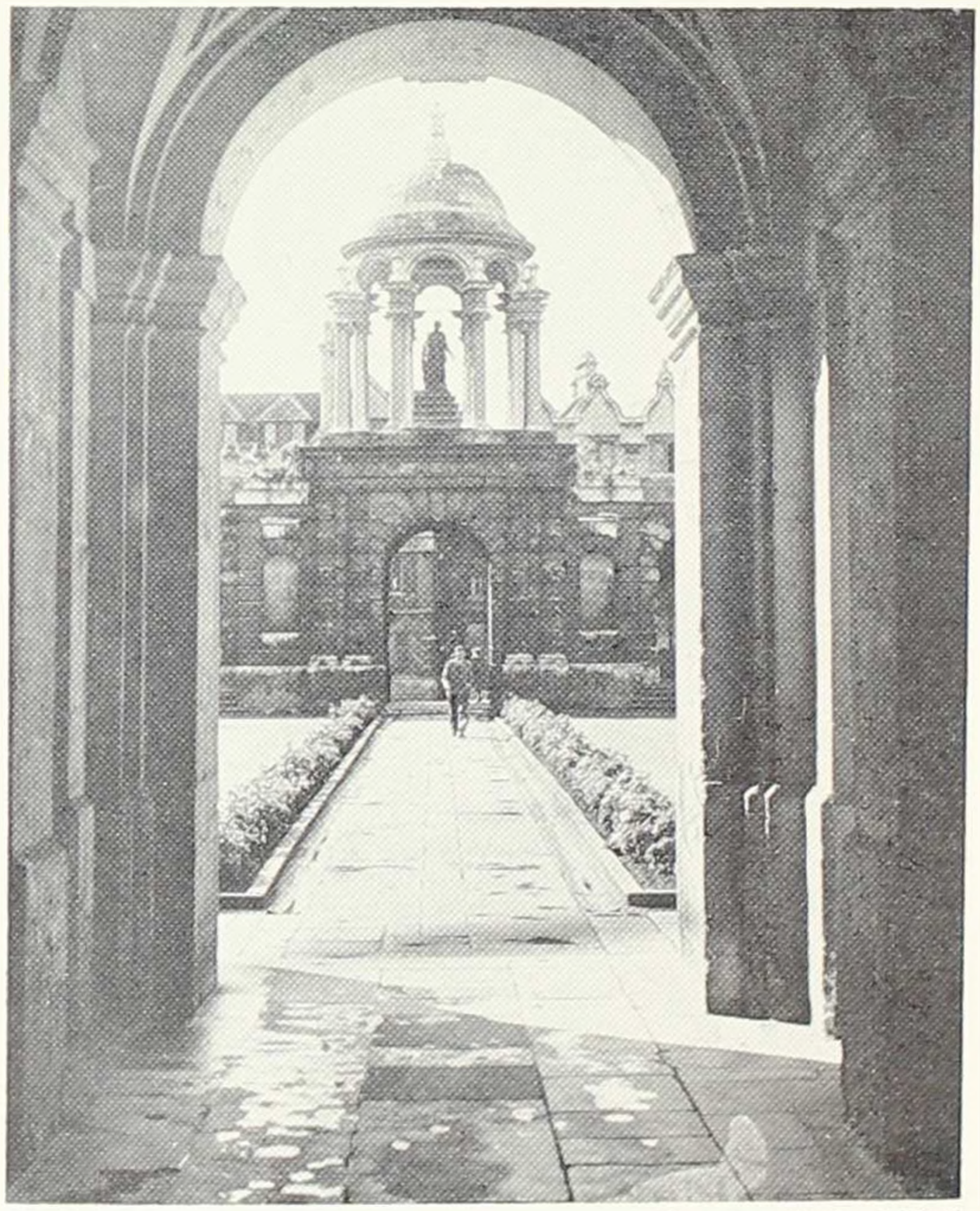
J. B. ENGLE
Exeter

T. A. BROWN
Balliol

S. R. DUNLAP
St. Edmund Hall

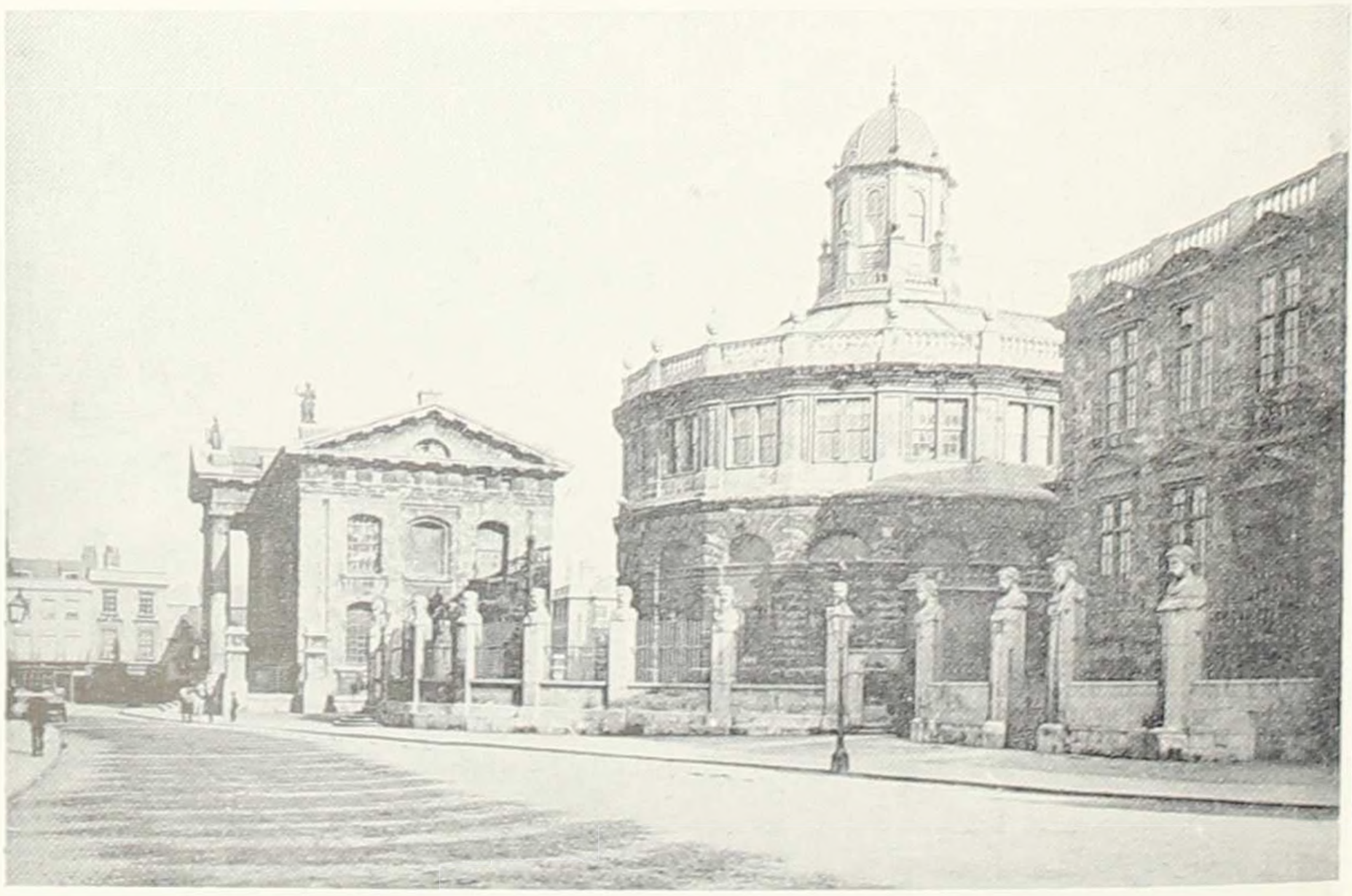
E. R. WEISMILLER
Merton

D. H. RIVKIN
Merton



Courtesy Oxford *Mail*

Queen's College Quadrangle



Old Clarendon Press on the left, Sheldonian Theater on the right

Election by State Committees

1919-1929

After the close of World War I, the American Secretary of the Rhodes Trust announced some very important changes. First of all, to generate more interest in the scholarships, qualifying examinations were abolished and the Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations was relieved of its screening function. Secondly, on the theory that Oxford graduates were probably best qualified, each state selection committee was to consist of four Rhodes scholars with a fifth member as chairman — all to be appointed by the American Secretary. And thirdly, one of the committeemen was to be state secretary in charge of scholarship publicity, distribution of application blanks, assembling of credentials to be filed by candidates, correspondence involved in the collection of letters of recommendation, preparation for annual committee meetings, and other details.

The new Iowa selection committee started out with President Walter A. Jessup of the State University as chairman, J. G. Walleser, J. H. St. John, President Milton J. Hoffman of Central College (Michigan and Exeter 1910), and Jacob Van der Zee, secretary. At least a dozen other Rhodes men have served on the committee at one time or

another, and the presidents of Grinnell and Iowa State have acted as chairmen. The committee has continued in existence to the present time although its function has changed: for ten years it had full authority to elect Iowa Rhodes scholars, but since 1930 it has exercised only the power to nominate two Iowa candidates for annual district elections.

The first meeting of the committee occurred at Iowa City in October, 1919, to review the applications and credentials of twenty-four candidates from ten colleges. After personal interviews with all and special consideration of a half-dozen superior men, Virgil Melvin Hancher was chosen for the vacant Iowa scholarship of 1918-1921 and Maxwell Haines Herriott for 1919-1922, both to go into residence at Oxford in October, 1920.

Virgil Melvin Hancher

Virgil Hancher was born at Rolfe, September 4, 1896, the son of a farmer and livestock breeder, Melvin P. Hancher, and his wife Priscilla (Hanlon) Hancher. From Rolfe high school he went to the State University where he majored in political science, made the debating team, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1918. After serving in the United States Naval Reserve Forces, Hancher attended the Iowa Law School in 1919-1920. In 1928 he married Susan Jane Cannon by whom he had three children. He is an Episcopalian.

Hancher was a member of Worcester College and for two years read jurisprudence for the B. A. degree. On his return home, he completed the law course at Iowa leading to the degree of Juris Doctor in 1924. The Oxford M. A. was conferred in 1927. He practiced law in Chicago with the firm of Butler, Lamb, Foster, and Pope and later as partner in the firm of Pope and Ballard (1936-1940).

As president of the State University of Iowa since 1940, Hancher has been honored with doctorates from Grinnell, St. Ambrose, Northwestern, Southern California, Coe, Cornell, Beloit, and Florida. He has published a wide range of articles on higher education in the arts, the sciences, and the professions. Along with service on Rhodes scholarship committees and the committees of the American Council of Education, and as secretary-treasurer of the Association of American Universities, Hancher flew to Delhi, India, in 1949 with five other university presidents as delegates to a conference on Indian-American affairs; sailed to Hawaii in 1951 with other guests of the navy on board the *U.S.S. Iowa*; and joined the pilgrimage to the Oxford reunion of 1953. He is a vice-president and a director of the Association of American Rhodes Scholars organized in 1928, since when it has published *The American Oxonian* (a quarterly begun in 1914). Hancher's most recent air activity resulted from his appointment to Sec-

retary Talbott's commission to inspect locations for the proposed Air Force Academy. He was president of the National Association of State Universities in 1952-1953.

Maxwell Haines Herriott

Herriott was born at Des Moines, April 21, 1899, the son of Professor Frank I. Herriott and his wife Mary (Haines) Herriott. From West Des Moines high school he went to Grinnell where he majored in history, made Phi Beta Kappa and received an A. B. in 1920. In 1918 he was in the United States Army at Fort Sheridan. He married Ruth G. Hewitt in 1926. The Herriotts have one daughter. He is a Presbyterian.

As a member of Oriel College (1920-1923), Herriott completed the honor school of jurisprudence, obtaining the B. A. in 1922 and the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law in 1923. The M. A. was conferred in 1925.

Herriott continued the study of law at Wisconsin, receiving his LL. B. in 1925. After being secretary to a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice and teaching in the law school, he began the practice of law in 1927 as a member of the firm of Lines, Spooner and Quarles in Milwaukee. He is the author of miscellaneous law review articles.

Willis Dwight Nutting

Of the scholarship contestants in Iowa in 1920

the number thirteen brought luck to Willis Dwight Nutting. Born March 10, 1900, at Iowa City, the son of Professor Charles C. Nutting and his wife Eloise (Willis) Nutting, he attended Iowa City high school and the State University, where he majored in history, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1921. He married Eileen Barry in 1934, by whom he had three children.

Nutting was admitted to Keble College where only members of the Anglican Church and the Protestant Episcopal Church were eligible for membership. He read theology for the B. A. and B. Litt. degrees and was ordained for the priesthood in 1924. After serving a number of American parishes he became a communicant of the Roman Catholic Church in 1930. Graduate work in history at Iowa led to the Ph. D. in 1933. After teaching at the College of St. Teresa in Minnesota, he transferred to the University of Notre Dame where he has been associate professor of history since 1936. He is the author of two books.

Charles Caldwell Bowie

So great was the flood of scholarship applications in 1921 that the selection committee agreed on eliminating fourteen of the thirty candidates on the basis of their credentials. Of those who were summoned to meet the committee, Charles Caldwell Bowie was judged the best. Bowie was born on February 20, 1898, at Ayr, Scotland, the son

of John S. Bowie and his wife Elizabeth (Caldwell) Bowie. The family emigrated to Cincinnati, Iowa, where the father was a coal miner. Young Bowie attended the State University where he majored in political science, with time out for service in the United States Navy. He received an A. B. in 1921 and attended Harvard Law School for a year. In 1925 he married Leona White in Stoke Poges church near Eton. They have two children. He is a Presbyterian.

At Merton College (1922-1925) Bowie read jurisprudence for the B. A. and received the M. A. in 1931. After a year with Dodge Brothers in London, he hung up his shingle as attorney-at-law in San Benito, Texas, and opened another office at Brownsville in 1946 with the firm name of Bowie and Scanlan. He was Cameron County attorney from 1933 to 1938. As assistant United States District Attorney (1942-1954) for the Southern District of Texas, Bowie prosecuted cases along the Mexican border.

Carl Walther Strom

Twenty-eight contenders filed for the 1923 scholarship. Fifteen were excused from personal interviews on the basis of their credentials. The others included several of exceptional ability. One candidate, Carl Walther Strom, was especially worthy of attention because he had appeared before the committee on three previous occasions and

had piled up a record of achievement since graduation from college. It is doubtful whether anybody anywhere has equalled his persistent determination to win a Rhodes scholarship.

Carl Strom was born December 22, 1899, at Albert Lea, Minnesota, the son of a Norwegian Lutheran clergyman, Eimar I. Strom, and his wife Helena (Nedrud) Strom. From Watson high school in Minnesota he went to Luther College where he majored in classics, receiving an A. B. in 1919. In 1918 he was a second lieutenant in United States Army. After teaching at Luther from 1919-1923 he received an A. M. at the State University of Iowa in 1924 in mathematics and Greek. He married Camilla Sperati in 1931. They have two children.

At Oxford, Strom was admitted to Queen's College, receiving his B. A. in 1927 in mathematics. The M. A. was conferred in 1950, the same year Luther honored him with the LL. D. He taught mathematics at Luther College, the University of Iowa, and the University of Illinois, where he was elected to Sigma Xi and received the Ph. D. He is the author of articles on higher mathematics.

From academic pursuits Strom shifted to the United States Foreign Service in 1935, being stationed as consul in Vancouver, Zurich, and Mexico City. From 1941 to 1948 he spent most of his time in the State Department at Washington, having a good deal to do with the drafting and ad-

ministration of the new Foreign Service Act. In 1948 he became consul-general and first secretary of the embassy in Mexico. Since 1951 he has been on a three-year tour of duty flying about the world inspecting American consulates and embassies.

Neil Louis Crone

Topping twenty-one contenders in 1924 was Neil Louis Crone. He was born at Marshalltown, May 10, 1903, the son of Charles F. Crone and his wife Agnes M. (Pendleton) Crone. After high school Neil Crone attended Grinnell where he majored in chemistry, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1925. He married Katherine Griswold in 1930. They have three children. Crone is an Episcopalian.

As a member of Merton College (1925-1929), Crone first completed the work in physiology with a B. A. first class in 1927 and then won a senior scholarship at Magdalen College in biochemistry and physiology. He received the D. Phil. in pathology and an M. A. in 1929.

Crone received his M. D. from Harvard medical school in 1931. He then spent six years as intern, resident, and chief resident physician at Massachusetts General Hospital. Besides engaging in private practice he was instructor in medicine at Harvard (1937-1941). During World War II he served overseas in the United States

Medical Corps, and subsequently as chief of medicine in Walter Reed Hospital. He is still a colonel in the reserves and consultant to the Surgeon General in medicine, education, and training. Since 1945 Crone, who is the author of a number of articles in medical journals, has been actively engaged in the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, where his title is Professor and Physician.

Robert Beatty Patrick

Of the twenty-four scholarship applicants in 1926, Robert Beatty Patrick emerged victorious. He was born July 9, 1906, at Nevada, the son of a hardware merchant, Rolfe S. Patrick, and his wife Anna (Beatty) Patrick. From North high school in Des Moines, Patrick went to Drake University where he majored in mathematics, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received his A. B. in 1926. In 1927 he received an A. M. in mathematics from Columbia University. He married Josephine D. Sikkema in 1932. They have two children. Patrick is a Congregationalist.

Patrick gave his attention to the honor school of mathematics at Exeter College (1927-1930). Upon his return to Des Moines he joined the Bankers Life Company and he is now financial vice-president in charge of investment operations. In recent years Patrick has served as chairman of the financial section of the American Life Conven-

tion, chairman of the investment research committee of the Life Insurance Association of America, member of the technical advisory committee on housing statistics of the Federal Reserve Board, and member of the board of regents of the Life Insurance Seminar which conducts an annual two-week course of instruction. Not long ago he was commuting between Des Moines and Washington, D. C., to serve on the president's advisory committee on housing and home finance. And yet he finds time to be secretary of the Iowa Rhodes scholarship committee.

Allen Walker Read

First choice among twenty applicants in 1927 was Allen Walker Read. He was born June 2, 1906, at Winnebago, Minnesota, son of Professor and Mrs. O. B. Read. His high school and college years were spent at Iowa State Teachers College where he majored in English and received an A. B. degree in 1925. He obtained an A. M. in English at the State University of Iowa in 1926, and taught English at the University of Missouri from 1926 to 1928. In 1953 he married Charlotte Schuchardt. He is a Baptist.

Admitted to St. Edmund Hall, Allen Read devoted his efforts to the research degree of B. Litt. (1928-1931). After resuming his position at Missouri, he became research scholar at the University of Chicago where he held a Guggenheim

fellowship from 1938 to 1941. He had three years of service in the United States Army. Read has been closely identified with *American Speech,* the American Dialect Society, the New York Society for General Semantics, and the American Folklore Society. He has written articles on lexicography and semantics and done editorial work on dictionaries. He is now associate professor of English at Columbia University.

Charles Gordon Siefkin

Charles Gordon Siefkin won over twenty-four competitors in 1929. He was born at Rolfe, January 6, 1908, the son of Dr. Charles W. Siefkin and his wife Hortense (Ratcliffe) Siefkin. After high school he attended the State University, where he majored in political science, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1930. In 1940 he married Roberta Orcutt. He is a Presbyterian.

Siefkin was a member of St. Peter's Hall from 1930 to 1933, and obtained the B. A. in the honor school of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (called P. P. E. or "Modern Greats"). He joined the faculty of Southwestern University at Memphis in 1933, a connection which was interrupted by two years of graduate study in economics at Princeton on a General Education Board fellowship. After four more years at Southwestern, he rose from lieutenant to lieutenant-colonel in the

United States Army Air Force. He served in the office of Air Staff-Training and as head of the economics department of Shrivenham American University in England. He received the commendation medal. M. A. degrees from Oxford and Princeton came to him in 1945. Since 1946 he has been with the School of Business Administration of Emory University in Georgia, first as professor of economics and since 1948 as dean.

JACOB VAN DER ZEE

Election by District Committees

1930-1953

As the result of a persistent belief that state boundary lines played too large a part in the election of Rhodes scholars and that the Rhodes Trust might obtain scholars of higher caliber, a bill was introduced in Parliament in 1929 to change the Rhodes will. The Rhodes Trust Act abolished elections by states and substituted elections by eight districts of six states each.

Since 1930 each state committee has nominated its best two candidates to appear before the district committee of Rhodes scholars, who then elect from the twelve nominees so chosen the best four to represent their states as Rhodes scholars at Oxford. Thus, any state might have none or as many as two of its candidates elected each year instead of having two scholars every three years as in the past.

Under this novel arrangement Iowa was grouped with Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Had the old plan of election operated for the years 1931-1954 (omitting 1940-1946 when elections were suspended due to war), Iowa would have sent eleven men to Oxford, while under the new plan Iowa has ac-

tually had thirteen, South Dakota six, Nebraska ten, Kansas twelve, Minnesota thirteen, and Missouri eighteen. Iowa has, therefore, fared slightly better and Missouri much better — at the expense of other states.

Iowa failed to place in the district elections of 1930 and 1931 but succeeded in winning an appointment in 1932. One Rhodes scholar in three years out of a crop of 49 aspirants was rather bitter medicine for a hard-working state committee. Surely state elections had never demanded the labor, futility, and frustration which have accompanied the new plan of selection in some states.

Paul Hamilton Engle

The first Iowa Rhodes scholar under the new system was Paul Hamilton Engle, who was born October 12, 1908, at Cedar Rapids, to Thomas A. and Evelyn (Reinheimer) Engle. After high school Engle went to Coe, where he majored in English and received an A. B. magna cum laude in 1931. At the State University of Iowa he received an A. M. in English in 1932. He also attended Columbia for a year. In 1936 he married Mary N. Nissen. They have two children.

In Merton College (1933-1936) Engle finished "Modern Greats" for the B. A. degree. His M. A. was conferred in 1940.

Since 1937 Engle has been professor of English and head of the creative writing program at the

University of Iowa, a project glowingly described in *The Times* of London. He holds honorary LL. D. degrees from Coe and Monmouth and has been visiting lecturer at Illinois and Louisiana. Besides six published volumes of poetry and numerous poems, articles, and reviews in various periodicals, Engle has had one novel published and two more accepted. In the last two years he has held Ford and Guggenheim fellowships and has become editor of the annual collection of O. Henry prize stories.

Samuel Rhodes Dunlap

Iowa came away empty-handed in the district election of 1933 (twenty-two candidates) but saw one of its nominees elected in 1934 (thirteen candidates). Samuel Rhodes Dunlap was born March 11, 1911, at Bryan, Texas, the son of a building contractor, Samuel H. Dunlap, and his wife Edith (Rhodes) Dunlap. From San Jacinto high school in Houston he went to Rice Institute where he majored in English, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, received the A. B. in 1931 and A. M. in 1932. He did further graduate work at the State University of Iowa. He is unmarried.

As a member of St. Edmund Hall (1935-1938) he pursued graduate study in English literature for the B. Litt. and obtained the D. Phil. in 1939. Except for active duty in the United States Naval Reserve, where he rose from lieutenant to lieuten-

ant-commander, Dunlap has been with the English department at Iowa since 1938, becoming full professor in 1953. Research work has taken him to England and the Folger Library in Washington. Besides writing articles for periodicals, he has edited the poems of Thomas Carew. The warden of Rhodes House at Oxford once praised Dunlap as "the finest amateur pianist" he had ever heard. He was one of the four fortunate Iowans who attended the reunion festivities at Oxford in 1953.

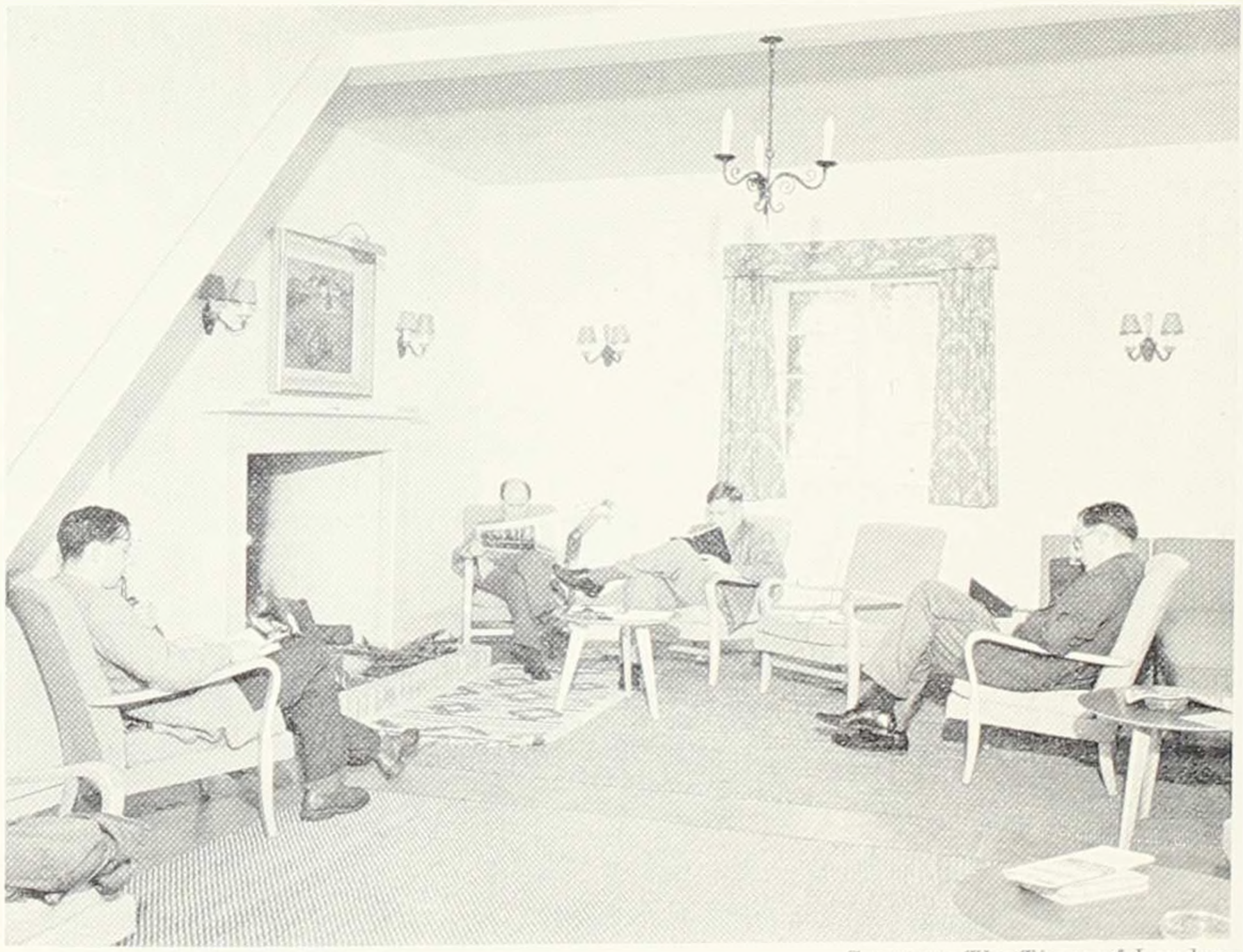
James Rodney Nelson

Two of the twenty-eight Iowa candidates in 1935 had the good fortune to win the district election. One was James Rodney Nelson, who was born June 7, 1915, at Bisbee, North Dakota, the son of a businessman, Edward L. Nelson, and his wife Jessie (Uhl) Nelson. From Newton, Iowa, high school he went to Oberlin College, where he majored in economics, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1936. Nelson married Jane L. Elwell in 1941. They have two children. He is a Congregationalist.

Nelson's superior work at Wadham College in "Modern Greats" brought not only the usual B. A. degree in 1938 but also the George Webb Medley fellowship for graduate work in economics. His teaching career began with instructorships at Harvard and Oberlin. The next three

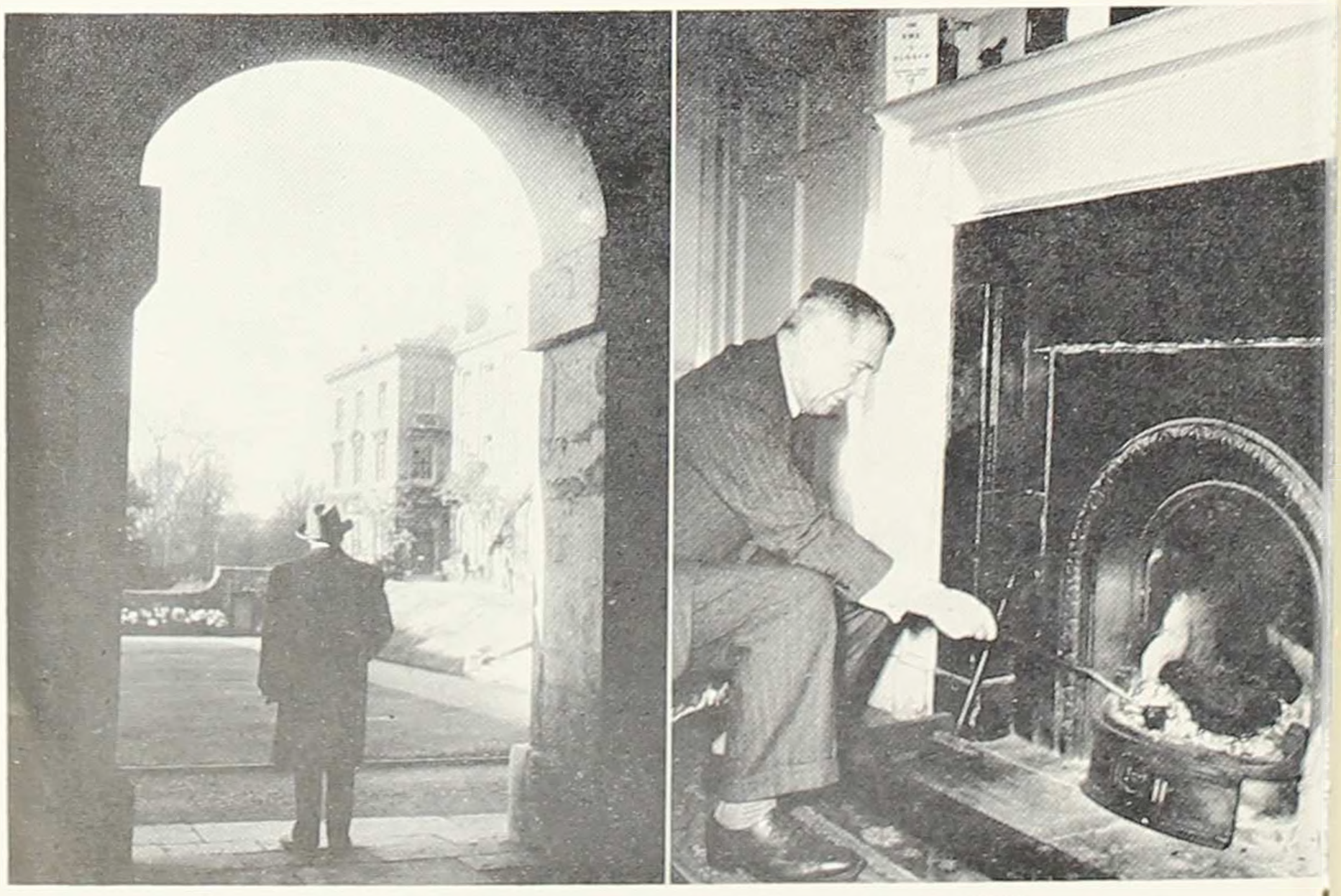
A view down High Street from Queen's College in the Horse-and-Buggy Era

High Street at the present time — "the basic patterns remain"



Courtesy *The Times* of London

Student Quarters at Oxford. Iowa's Tom Brown is seated at the right.



Virgil M. Hancher revisits Worcester in 1953.

years he was connected with the OPA and the FEA. After employment as economist with Scudder, Stevens and Clark, investment counsel in Boston, he resumed instruction in economics in 1946 first at Amherst, then at Oberlin, and back again in 1950 at Amherst where he has been Merrill Professor of Economics since 1951. Meanwhile Harvard had conferred the Ph. D. in 1948. Nelson is the author of various articles and pamphlets.

Edgar William Timm

The other successful candidate in 1935 was Edgar William Timm, who was born July 11, 1915, at Muscatine, the son of a farmer, Carl M. Timm, and his wife Barbara (Weiss) Timm. From Muscatine high school he went to Iowa State College, where he majored in chemical technology, won numerous honors and awards and received a B. S. in 1936. In 1940 he married Helen T. Waldron. Timm is a Lutheran.

Timm obtained the B. Sc. at Trinity College for research in physical chemistry, biology, and genetics, on the basis of which he collaborated on three papers on reaction kinetics published in the *Journal* of the English Chemical Society. He played lacrosse for Oxford against Cambridge. Timm returned to Ames for graduate work in the genetics department, working especially on bacterial genetics as related to corn. Quoting from *The Ameri-*

can Oxonian: "At this time, when Timm's Ph. D. research was practically complete, he was appointed as full-time Research Assistant on a Rockefeller Foundation project. . . . He was blazing new paths in critical studies of bacterial variation and mutation when without warning he was stricken at the end of a day's work." He died of a cerebral hemorrhage on March 26, 1942.

Courtney Craig Smith

Iowa's nineteen candidates in 1936 failed to produce a winner, but of the eighteen aspirants in 1937 two came out on top in the district competition. One was Courtney Craig Smith who was born December 20, 1916, at Winterset, the son of a lawyer and banker, Samuel C. Smith, and his wife Florence (Dabney) Smith. From Roosevelt high school in Des Moines he went to Harvard where he majored in English, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1938. He married Elizabeth B. Proctor in 1939. They have three children. He is a Presbyterian who attends Quaker meetings.

At Oxford, Smith was admitted to Merton College. The outbreak of World War II interrupted his research for a B. Litt. in English. Returning to the United States, he was teaching fellow, tutor, and graduate student in English at Harvard (1939-1944) leading to A. M. and Ph. D. degrees. War service (1944-1946) saw him rise

from ensign to lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve. Returning to teaching, this time at Princeton, Smith advanced from instructor to assistant professor between 1946 and 1953. On January 1, 1953, Smith was appointed American Secretary to the Rhodes Trust and in April was elected president of Swarthmore College. He attended the Rhodes reunion at Oxford. The author of articles on literary subjects, Smith is also a director of the Association of American Rhodes Scholars, a trustee of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, and a director of the Markle Foundation.

Edward Ronald Weismiller

The other successful candidate in 1937 was Edward Ronald Weismiller, who was born August 3, 1915, at Monticello, Wisconsin, the son of a farmer, Jacob Weismiller, and his wife Georgia (Wilson) Weismiller. From Appleton high school he went to Swarthmore and later Cornell College where he majored in English, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received an A. B. in 1938. He married Frances M. Power in 1941. They have four children.

War ended his stay at Merton College (1938-1939) but he returned to Oxford to receive the D. Phil. in 1950. Harvard conferred an A. M. while he was a teaching fellow (1940-1943). Thereafter he served as lieutenant in the Marine

Corps Reserves in England, France, and Germany. Guggenheim and Ford Foundation fellowships have enabled him to devote a good deal of time to creative writing since the war. Since 1950 he has taught English at Pomona College.

Edward Charles Freutel

Edward Charles Freutel, one of Iowa's two nominees from nineteen candidates, was successful in the district election of December, 1938. He was born July 22, 1917, at Chicago, the son of a realtor and farmer, Edward C. Freutel, and his wife Kathryn (Scott) Freutel. From Los Angeles high school he went to the State University of Iowa where he majored in history, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received an A. B. in 1939. In 1941 he married Gene M. Baker. They have two children. He is an Episcopalian.

All American Rhodes scholars appointed in 1938 were accepted by the colleges at Oxford, but only one took up residence just after World War II had broken out, staying for one year. Fourteen others saw fit to activate their scholarships after the war, eleven of them getting degrees. Edward C. Freutel (who had been accepted by Oriel) and sixteen others never felt justified in taking advantage of the Oxford opportunity after seven years of interruption. Freutel did, however, complete three years at Harvard Law School for the LL. B. in 1942. Then followed

three years as ensign and lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve, on the *U.S.S. Cleveland* in the South Pacific, and in the office of general counsel of the Navy Department. In 1946 he entered the Los Angeles law firm of O'Melveny and Myers, becoming a partner on January 1, 1954.

Wilfred Martin Kluss

When the election of Rhodes scholars was revived in 1946, after a lapse of seven years, Iowa had thirty-two applicants and, like every other state, was permitted to nominate two for "war scholarships" and one for a regular scholarship. Both of the former were appointed by the district committee.

One of these was Wilfred Martin Kluss, who was born at Waterloo, June 19, 1921, the son of a high school principal, Fred J. Kluss, and his wife Harriet (Slippy) Kluss. After high school in Cedar Rapids he attended Harvard, where he majored in psychology, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and received an A. B. in 1942. During the war he was a lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve with a fast carrier task force in the Pacific. He received a veteran's certificate from the Harvard School of Business Administration in 1947. In 1950 he married Doree H. Congwer, by whom he has one son. Kluss is a Presbyterian.

At New College (1947-1949) Kluss studied

international relations and the economics of underdeveloped societies, receiving the B. A. and the M. A. in 1953. After leaving Oxford, he was employed by the ECA, part of the time in Paris. Later he was with Morgan Stanley and Company, investment bankers in Wall Street. He was operations officer of the Asia-Middle East department of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Washington (1951-1954). At present he is working on problems of Middle East oil for the Socony-Vacuum Overseas Supply Company.

James Bruce Engle

The other recipient of a "war scholarship" was James Bruce Engle, who was born April 16, 1919, at Billings, Montana, the son of a railway machinist, Bruce W. Engle, and his wife Verbeaudah (Morgan) Engle. After attending Burlington high school and junior college he went to the University of Chicago, where he received his A. B. in political science in 1940. He was a State Department liaison officer in Mexico and Central America (1941-1942) and vice-consul at Quito, Ecuador (1942-1944). Entering the navy he became a lieutenant j. g. (1944-1946). Engle was for a time a military government officer in Japan and was vice-consul at Rio de Janeiro in 1947. He married Priscilla J. Wright in 1950. They have two children. He is an Episcopalian.

Engle was a member of Exeter College (1947-1950), receiving the B. A. He then held a Fulbright scholarship in Italy for study with Benedetto Croce and in the University of Naples (1950-1951). He obtained a diploma at the University of Perugia in 1949. He was vice-consul at Naples (1951-1953) and was then transferred to the American Embassy at Rome.

Donald Herschel Rivkin

In 1947 the Iowa committee was again permitted to nominate three of its twenty-six candidates to run the gauntlet of the district committee, and Donald Herschel Rivkin turned out to be one of the six winners. He was born on May 24, 1924, the son of a dry cleaner and Russian-born citizen of Davenport, Samuel W. Rivkin, and his wife Florence (Fryer) Rivkin. After high school in Davenport, Rivkin attended the State University of Iowa for one year. After three years in the United States Army, Rivkin went to Yale, where he majored in economics and minored in English, graduating with Phi Beta Kappa and the A. B. in 1948. He married Lois Berwick Herman in 1953. He is a Hebrew.

Rivkin was the ninth Iowan to become an "old Mertonian": Merton is the only Oxford college which has been partial to the admission of Iowa Rhodes scholars. Its chapel is described as "the oldest part of the oldest college of the oldest uni-

versity in England." Amid such mediæval surroundings (1948-1950) Rivkin applied himself to the study of jurisprudence for the B. A. and then attended Yale's law school, receiving the LL. B. in 1952. He is employed in the law firm of Cravath, Swaine and Moore in New York City.

George Carl Mohr

Of the nineteen Iowa hopefuls in 1948 and seven in 1949 not one of the four nominees was chosen. Better luck attended the nominees from fourteen candidates in 1950: both were elected by the district committee. George Carl Mohr was born on March 27, 1929, to a Cresco salesman, Carl F. Mohr, and his wife Martha (Atzen) Mohr. From Cresco high school he entered Luther College, majored in chemistry and biology, minored in mathematics, and emerged with an A. B. summa cum laude in 1951. He is a Lutheran. At Hertford College he successfully passed examinations in preclinical medicine and finished the honor school of physiology for the B. A. degree.

Robert E. Shepherd

The other successful candidate in 1950 was Robert E. Shepherd, who was born on March 11, 1927, at Garden City, Kansas. His father was a businessman. He completed high school at La Grand, Oregon; spent two years at Eastern Oregon College of Education; and transferred to the

State University of Iowa, where he graduated with an A. B. in history in 1950. Entering St. John's College in 1951, Shepherd began working on a dissertation on trade union problems for the B. Litt. degree, but after five terms he interrupted the scholarship to take a teaching appointment with the University of Maryland extension program for the American Air Force. It is not known whether he will return to Oxford.

Thomas Andrew Brown

During the last three years Iowa's ten candidates in 1951 and eleven in 1953 saw their efforts to reach Oxford doomed to failure, but one of the six candidates in 1952 placed among the victors in the district election. Thomas Andrew Brown was born on July 24, 1932, to an Iowa City theater manager, Charles V. Brown, and his wife Mary (Proestler) Brown. He finished high school and college courses on the campus of the State University of Iowa. He majored in mathematics and minored in philosophy, winning election to Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa. He received the A. B. degree in 1953. He was president of the national congress of Delta Sigma Rho and is affiliated with the Unitarian Church.

At Balliol (generally regarded as Oxford's highbrow college) Brown concentrates on higher mathematics. Of his experience there he writes: "The environment here is not so strange as I ex-

pected, and I feel I'm learning a great deal as well as having a good time. I find the main advantage of the Oxford system is that you are able to go at your own pace, but a great many students here seem to think this means go as slowly as possible."

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How many Rhodes scholars elected to represent other states were born or temporarily reared in Iowa it is impossible to state with certainty, but a number can be mentioned. Arthur H. Marsh (Nebraska '05) was born to English parents who conducted an Episcopalian mission at Calliope in Sioux County in 1883. Marsh was a chaplain when killed in action by German gas in France. Cecil K. Lyans (Oregon '10) once attended Simpson College. Esper W. Fitz (Wyoming '11) graduated from the Guthrie County high school and attended the State University of Iowa for some time. Paul T. Homan (Oregon '14) finished high school at Indianola. Marshall N. Fulton, a graduate of Keokuk high school and Brown University, won the scholarship in Rhode Island for 1919, although he could have stood for election in Iowa as his home was still there. Clyde K. M. Kluckhohn, a citizen of Le Mars until 1932, but educated outside the state, won the 1928 scholarship in Wisconsin. The latter two have made enviable records — the first as a doctor in Providence and the second in anthropology at Harvard.

Robert M. Muir (Wyoming and Lincoln '38) has been teaching in the botany department at the University of Iowa. David T. Nelson (North Dakota and New College '14), professor of English at Luther College since 1921, has served on the Iowa Rhodes scholarship committee for almost thirty years. Robert H. Norton (Prince Edward Island, Canada, and University College '25) has been history professor at Grinnell since 1930. Nicholas V. Riasanovsky (Oregon and St. John's '47) teaches history at the University of Iowa, and Edward N. Roberts (Wyoming and Exeter '10) resides in Des Moines, research chemist for the Standard Oil Company.

Of the thirty-one Iowa Rhodes scholars, eight originally applied for and received advanced degrees; sixteen took the honors school for the B. A. — receiving two first classes, seven seconds, six thirds, and one fourth; six, owing to death, war, or other reasons, obtained no degrees; and one is still in course. Sixteen are now or were at the time of their death engaged in the field of education; five in business; four in the practice of law; one in medicine; two in government service; one died in course; and two others are still students in college. Ten have their names in *Who's Who*. In that connection it is fitting and proper to quote the editorial judgement of England's most famous newspaper: "Some have creditable records but the majority of them — like the majority in any

large group of mortal men, on whatever principle selected — have made honourable but not dazzling careers. It was not Rhodes' intention that these men should achieve more. He would be content with what they have done."

Compare these moderate reflections with the recent fantastic allegations of the "World's Greatest Newspaper": "Many American Rhodes Scholars [about 1,300 living] are working assiduously to make the dream [to return the United States to the British Empire] of their imperialist patron come true."

Cecil Rhodes never expected them to become conspirators and subversives: their sojourn in England, he hoped, would "not withdraw them or their sympathies from the land of their adoption or birth," but Rhodes did see too many walls and not enough bridges in the world of nations.

JACOB VAN DER ZEE

Return to Oxford, 1953

In the summer of 1953 four hundred former Rhodes Scholars from all parts of the world assembled at Oxford for a Centenary and Jubilee Reunion. Four of those present had been scholars from Iowa — W. B. Millen (1908), Virgil M. Hancher (1918), S. R. Dunlap (1935), and Courtney C. Smith (1938).

It had been a hundred years since the birth of Cecil Rhodes, and fifty years since the first Rhodes Scholars matriculated in Michaelmas Term, 1903. At that time, according to all accounts, the prospect of such an annual invasion from overseas left the ancient University by no means happy ("I won't say horrified," recalls Lord Elton, "but certainly very much startled"). Some of the scholars themselves may have been dubious as to what they might expect. But almost at once it became clear that such misgivings were unjustified. And the welcome which the returning scholars received in 1953 left no doubt of the success — in Oxford eyes, at least — of the first fifty years of the scholarships.

In awarding honorary degrees to five of the scholars, the Vice-Chancellor declared that "they typify what other Rhodes Scholars have done, in

government, in law, in learning, in science, in industry, in education, in all the many activities which civilization needs for its maintenance and its survival." And the *Oxford Magazine* commented: "Rarely has a dream come to life with the majesty of that of Cecil Rhodes; the jubilee is a very great event."

Each returning scholar, where possible, was assigned to his old rooms in college. In not many cases would the familiar walls have shown much change; when a building is already several centuries old the passage of a few, or a few dozen, years is not likely to leave much of a mark. The way of life, too, seemed to persist, and at some moments at least I could imagine I was myself a student again. The "Good morning, Sir" of my scout, as he brought in a typically hearty English breakfast, was for me like a voice straight out of the 1930's. Actually it was more truly a voice from the past than I at first realized; since the war (as I later learned) students have not been served breakfast in their rooms.

The city had been untouched by enemy action during the war. Meanwhile the population had grown from about 60,000 to well over 100,000. The traffic problem must be one of the most nearly insoluble in the world. But miraculously the University seemed not to have been overwhelmed by the mushrooming city. The authorities, having prevented an unsightly expansion of a gas works,

were now busy investigating whether they ought to forbid the erection of a new — and perhaps too garish — Woolworth's.

As for the University itself, it was clearly alive and growing. Just after the war its numbers had been doubled by an influx of veterans, many of them with wives and children, and housing for them had had to be erected on some of the famous playing fields. Now — as in American universities — there were fewer veterans, but the enrollment remained at about 7,000 as compared with 4,000 before the war. Everywhere change was visible, even though the basic patterns remained. New scientific laboratories encroached on the green expanse of the University parks. In "Duke Humphrey," the oldest section of the Bodleian Library, heating pipes were at last being installed after several frigid centuries. There was a New Bodleian to supplement the old Library. Several of the colleges had acquired new buildings. There was even a new college just getting under way — St. Anthony's, founded by a wealthy French merchant. It would be junior to some of its sister colleges by seven centuries, but it seemed destined to make no important break with cherished traditions. Its planners were reported to be giving special attention to the amenities of the dining hall and wine-cellar.

The events scheduled during the four days of the Reunion left not nearly enough time for talk.

But along with the receptions, the ceremonies, the dinners, and special services at the Cathedral, there was a General Conference on problems relating to Oxford and the scholarships.

But the keynote was that of celebration and of paying tribute. And not only at Oxford were the returning scholars made welcome. The British government itself, taking note of the Reunion, invited us to proceed by motor launch down the Thames to the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, where we were received by the First Lord of the Admiralty. And perhaps the most memorable occasion for many of us came when we gathered in Westminster Abbey, still splendid in its Coronation trappings, to hear a special performance of Handel's "Messiah."

Such pomp and circumstance, though fully appropriate to the ambitious design of the scholarships and to the important achievements which they can truly claim, implied a standard of accomplishment which many of us individually, in whatever field, could hardly say that we had yet fully satisfied. And the entire Reunion, so intimately bringing together the past and the present, was an occasion for individual stock-taking. Many of us, I think, went away feeling very humble, but with a renewed regard for the excellent and lasting things which Oxford and the scholarships had helped to set before us.

RHODES DUNLAP