OKLAHOMA today

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THIRTY-FIVE CENTS

IN THIS ISSUE—

"I Remember Dad"
by Will Rogers, Jr.
BY-LINES...

Twenty-one years ago—August 5, 1935—the world was shocked by the report that Will Rogers, Oklahoma's great humorist-philosopher, had plummeted to his death in a plane crash in icy Alaska. Victim in the same fatal mishap was Rogers' close pilot-friend Wiley Post—also a well-known Oklahoman.

Since that tragic day, Rogers' name has become legend. Many writers have penned books about this man who frequently said, "I never met a man I didn't like."

In this issue of OKLAHOMA TODAY is a warm, nostalgic story about Oklahoma's noted ambassador of goodwill by his son, Will Rogers Jr., whose friendly television show is viewed weekday mornings over CBS-TV.

Other by lines in this issue belong to The Daily Oklahoman's Imogene Patrick; The Tulsa Tribune's Joe Howell; Marcel Lefebvre, Okmulgee glassworker-writer who has made many friends among Oklahoma Indians of many tribes since adopting the Sooner State as his home 15 years ago; Walter M. Harrison, veteran Oklahoma editor.

As OKLAHOMA TODAY continues to grow and its circulation spreads across the nation and throughout the world, it is our sincere hope that more and more Oklahoma by-lines will find their way into its pages.

—J. McW.
"Whenever I'm tempted
to give anybody
a false impression . . .

I
REMEMBER
DAD"

By Will Rogers, Jr.

My Dad is very "live" in my memory.
It may come as a surprise to many of our old
neighbors, but I've learned a lot about Will Rogers, Sr.,
in recent years.
Folks assume that physical similarities between Dad
and me must mean we're a lot alike. Actually, there are
many differences . . . Maybe the differences have contrib-
uted to my respect for the man who was my father.

Like most kids, I never really knew my Dad when I
was young. To me, he was mostly un-understandable.
Though I didn't realize it until after his death, we had
a raft of common interests. They included a love of the
outdoors, fierce pride in our Indian heritage and a real
"at home" feeling on a horse with a rope.
Most people's view of Dad is almost as distorted
as mine was when I was younger. Particularly, modern
youngsters are mistaken in their impression of Dad.
Time and again, youngsters tell me. "Gee! Your Dad
was funny. A real riot!" They've read some of the things
he said.

My father's humor was hardly riotous. It was rather
subtle and deeply thoughtful . . . penetrating's as good
a word as any. Dad was well read on current events, de-
spite a mighty sparse formal education.
He was basically a practical, slow-spoken cowboy. He
turned vaudeville entertainer only in that people learned
to love his introspective, philosophical humor. He just
did what came naturally, twirling his lasso and comment-
ing on the life around him.

After the plane crash that ended his life, I began to
know my Dad better than ever. His biographers began
to assemble his anecdotes and his philosophies. I'd always
known them . . . never seen them for what they were.
Continued on next page

The Author, son of the noted Oklahoman, says he's
"not very much" like his father.
COLOR PHOTO, COURTESY OF CBS-TV NEWS
I REMEMBER DAD
Continued from preceding page

After I graduated from Stanford University, he’d introduce me to all his friends as “the college boy.” It used to infuriate me. I guess I always figured he looked down on my education. It’s become clear to me since that all he mocked was my education’s impracticality. Dad was always unimpressed with “know-how” and deeply moved by its application. “If you can do the job,” he used to say, “it doesn’t matter much whether you know how.”

He made a few other acute observations on that subject, too, including the famous “There is nothing so stupid as an educated man, if you get off the thing that he was educated in.” In this age of ever-growing specialization, many people are growing aware of the system’s shortcomings. But it took most of them a whole lot longer.

As to humor, he had a lot to say. With all his sharp criticism of phoniness, he was always sensitive to somebody’s hurt feelings. Constantly aware of people’s ability to laugh at his mocking of America’s leaders, Dad often reminded us, “Everything is funny as long as it is happening to someone else.”

He was honest! Insultingly straightforward sometimes. That, I guess was his outstanding trait. Others will say his wry humor was more characteristic, but they’re not his sons.

Life presents an awful lot of temptations to people, in one form or another. I feel lucky to have known my Dad. It’s helped me to resist a lot of them.

Dad was pretty critical of us kids, just as he was critical of everything else. In the same way, we always had the feeling that his criticism was backed by a love of us and life.

We rode together, and he taught me to handle a rope. Life in the West was hard but easy-going. Dad talked slow and thought fast. He could teach all subjects, seeming to know a little bit about everything. And yet he was a real human being.

Very un-funny when any of us misbehaved, he demanded strict obedience. In return for this and a lot of respect, he gave us the companionship of a rare personality.

While growing up, I got to meet the world’s great personalities because I was Will Rogers’ son. It entitled me to a lot of traveling, too. More than that, though, it gave me a chance to know Will Rogers and to appreciate his humanity. Even if it took me a while to learn that appreciation.

Dad’s biographers gathered scads of material and memorialized a thousand things that seemed pretty commonplace to me at the time. Since that day in 1935, when Dad crashed with Wiley Post a few months after I graduated from college, a lot of them have become almost sacred to me.

People always ask me how much I’m really like my Father. I’ll tell you. Not very much.

He was a natural analyst, seeing through everything he came in contact with. I’m a commentator with a comparatively limited range. Only thing I hope is that a little of Dad’s basic honesty and wry viewpoint has rubbed off.

I’ve followed a number of vocations during my life. Through soldiering, a term in Congress, editing and reporting for newspapers, acting in movies, and now entertaining on television, I’ve thought a lot about Dad.

Whatever he was, I’m convinced he was always himself.

Whenever I’m tempted to give anybody a false impression ... and sometimes the occasion presents itself on television, then I remember Dad.
Water, electricity and natural gas form a potent triumvirate that’s providing the “gimmick” for new industries to locate in NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA’S...

LUSH GRAND RIVER VALLEY

BY JOE HOWELL
Tulsa Tribune Writer

The little city of Pryor, Oklahoma, provided the setting for a very significant luncheon one day in the early 1940s. It was a day of celebration. The government had just announced it was going to build a great munitions plant southeast of Pryor near the Grand river.

Most impressive of the speeches that day was made by George C. Smith, then head of the industrial department of the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co., a man who had played a major role in winning the plant for the Pryor area and for his line.

Smith told his excited audience that he had recently visited the site of Old Hickory, a World War I ordnance works in Tennessee, and that in the 25 years since that conflict Old Hickory had been transformed into a peace-time plant employing 12,000 persons.

The speaker went on to say that the same kind of development had been experienced at other World War I ordnance plants and could be expected to happen at the Oklahoma Ordnance Works after World War II. The folks at the luncheon were thrilled by this prophecy and went away believing.

The plant was to be built a few miles downstream from the recently completed Grand River Dam, and it came as a surprise that the cheap electricity available at the dam was not the reason for the choice of location, that in fact OOW would have its own steam generating plant and even make excess electricity as a by-product. Close proximity to rail and highway transportation, coal and water were mentioned as controlling factors, but no one grasped the full meaning of the part water was to play in the fulfillment of the railroad man’s prophecy.

The first firm to build a big plant in Grand Valley was the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co., and the Oklahoma Ordnance Works had nothing to do with its coming. But water did, and ever since civic-minded citizens have become increasingly aware of the part water plays in attracting industry to a state.

Continued on page 18
If it's scenic beauty you're looking for—try this one...

A Leisurly Lap Through Lapland

By Kent Ruth

Although it is a hundred years old, this old mill at Bitting Springs, near Stilwell, is still making stone-ground corn meal.

Be a stickler, if you like. Call it a vacation. But in the latest Eastern Oklahoma jargon, it's really a lake-ation.

And lake-ation is a most proper (if un-Bostonian) word for fun-and-frolic in this watery Lapland section of the Sooner State, this far-eastern slice of old Indian Territory where the highly touted Ozark-Ouachita play areas of Missouri and Arkansas "lap" over into Oklahoma's own hills and forests, sprawling lakes and eminently fishable streams and lakes.

A water shortage hereabouts? Don't you believe it. What with one dam thing after another, the Army Engineers—like the Marines—have the situation well in hand. Grand, Spavinaw, Fort Gibson, Greenleaf, Tenkiller, and Wister. Those are just the bigger lakes.

The whole area is now so water-logged odds are 50-50 a parachutist would need a Mae West to reach dry ground. Or a rope ladder with which to climb down from the top of a lofty pine or oak. For hill-carpeting woods blanket the water-free areas from the Neosho river bottoms near the Kansas line south across the Cookson Hills and the Winding Stair Mountains to the Red River thickets along the Texas border.

Predictably enough, with water and trees providing the one-two scenic punch, the vacation activities hit parade follows much the same pattern. The birth rate of Eastern Oklahoma fishing fans is currently pressing that of rabbits. Signs for minnows and red worms now exceed those for Burma Shave three to one. And non-angling
water sport enthusiasts are converging on the area like ants at a Sunday School picnic.

As for the woods, they boast more spring foliage tours than Howard Johnson does ice cream flavors. The fall deer kill (of deer, not hunters) is nearing the 1,000 mark. The coon dog market is stiffening. And there is even an increasing number of those hardy souls who feel the urge to climb to the top of one of the region's fire towers, just to see how beautiful the horizon-to-horizon vista of undulating forest can really be.

Admittedly, though, this Eastern Oklahoma charm is the sum of a lot of little things. Lakes and forest rightfully head the list. But there are also industrial installations to inspect, ranging from Miami's huge Goodrich Rubber plant on the north to the Dierks lumber mill out of Broken Bow to the south. And at the opposite end of the sightseeing ledger, there are virtual ghost towns like Cayuga and Park Hill, ancient cemeteries to poke through, and isolated hill-country cabins—complete with dog-trot, and dog—that epitomize a way of life changed hardly a whit in the past 100 years.

There are a half-dozen scenic state parks, too, offering comfortable accommodations running from simple to lavish; fascinating historical shrines by the score; off-trail forest roads with more curves than Marilyn Monroe (and a topography almost as exciting); any number of old schools, missions and courthouses built by the Cherokees and Choctaws long before their “civilized” white brethren had put together their first sod huts on the plains to the west; throbbing water-driven generators (Pensacola and Fort Gibson) and even an anachronistic water-powered mill (at Bitting Springs) that still turns out tasty, stone-ground cornmeal.

It all adds up to a sprawling and supremely variegated vacationland. But how does one go about getting a representative sampling of its scenic and recreational offerings? There, alas, is the rub. For no single highway—for reasons given below—does complete justice to this 250-mile-long stretch of Oklahoma’s Lapland. Using US 59, however, as his basic route—and combining it with one or more of our suggested secondary highways—will give the unhurried motorist a pretty fair inkling as to what this Eastern Oklahoma charm is all about.

For a staging area let’s use Miami. The hub of the tri-state mining section, it is also focal point for most of the federal highways entering this far northeastern corner of Oklahoma. US 59, 69 and 66 from Kansas and US 60 from Missouri all join briefly below Miami at the elaborate Northeast Oklahoma Turnpike interchange now under construction. Serving Miami too is Oklahoma SH 10, perhaps the state’s No. 1 scenic byway.

The area’s attractions are headlined by the lead and zinc mining operations around Commerce and Picher. Sprawling man-made mountains of dirty gray waste rock provide a kind of doorstep-to-hell atmosphere. But deep underground money is still being gouged from the earth’s vitals.

For a look at those vitals (no longer vital to Eagle-Picher and hence leased to private operators), try a tour of an abandoned shaft. The Nancy Jane northeast of Commerce and the Oklahoma mine south of Baxter Springs both offer tours at $1.25 for adults, 65 cents for children. The Eagle-Picher Central Mill off US 69, north of Commerce—one of the world’s largest and most modern—also admits visitors.

Below Miami begins the big-lake half of our Lapland tour. Hardwoods cover the rolling hills. And these hills slope away gently to the south, pouring their waters into the Grand and Illinois rivers, which in turn flow finally into the generally sluggish Arkansas river. Big dams back octopus-like reservoirs up these streams, filling every forested cove and inlet with fish-carrying waters. And along the fringes of these newly created lakes vacation-minded towns and resorts cluster like small boys around a freezer of home-made ice cream.

Grand—officially Grand Lake o’ the Cherokees—is, appropriately enough, the grandest in size. Formed in 1941 by the 6,565-foot-long Pensacola Dam (world’s longest multiple-arch structure) between Disney and Langley, it backs up waters of the Grand virtually to Miami itself. Also on the Grand is the Fort Gibson Dam above Muskogee. The Illinois’ contender for size and scenery honors is Tenkiller just north of Gore. Greenleaf, Upper and Lower Spavinaw, and Frances are still other lake-ation specials.

There is no room (nor need, actually) to attempt cataloguing of sport and recreation facilities offered by these giant fish ponds. Accommodations range from the lavish new Western Hills Lodge at Sequoyah State Park, through good hotels in the larger towns, to fine (and for the most part) new motels and fishing camps in the other popular vacation areas. Activities range from fishing...
new hospitals and health centers dot Oklahoma from border to border, and set the stage for the return of...

BY IMogene Patrick  Daily Oklahoman Writer

In a darkened room in one of Oklahoma’s big bustling hospitals, a 4-year-old girl lies impassively while a team of doctors threads a tiny plastic tube through a vein in the arm and guides it into her heart.

They are performing a cardiac catheterization, probing for detailed information about a malformed heart that, without repairs, marks the child for invalidism or early death.

Days later, with these findings, surgeons are able to make an incision between the girl’s ribs, seal off a passageway between two arteries and give the child a chance to grow up and lead a normal life.

The life-giving procedure would not have been possible in Oklahoma five years ago.

The parents would have had to shop outside the state for medical care. Today it is commonplace.

Oklahoma’s health program is catching up and keeping pace with other areas on many fronts—in hospital and public health facilities, in treatment, in research, in medical education. Horse and buggy doctoring is over.

Residents of Oklahoma City and Tulsa have only to look at their efficient and rapidly expanding medical centers to see the symptoms of growth. New buildings and additions keep cropping up, changing the landscape.

But what is happening over the state?

Since 1947, Oklahoma has built the equivalent of a 3,648-bed hospital.

The added beds, however, were in a total of 81 separate building projects strategically located over the state in order to properly serve all segments of the population. They cost a total of $31,839,673.

Drive to any corner of Oklahoma and you see evidence that citizens have demanded and, with the help of government agencies, secured improvements in health facilities.

You might visit new Cimarron County hospital at the tip of the Panhandle in Boise City, a 20-bed combination hospital and public health center costing $249,300.

Or, down southeast in Idabel, you can inspect the $309,621, 24-bed McCurtain County hospital.

In the northeast, Pryor boasts a 32-bed unit, the $464,525 Grand Valley hospital.

Serving the southwest at Lawton, you find one of the...
state's larger hospitals, 100-bed Comanche County Memorial, a $935,714 institution. New hospital and health center construction dots the state. A better distribution of doctors goes hand in hand with it.

If adequate services "at home" for the acutely ill plus regional medical centers to offer more specialized care are a major talking point in attracting industry into the state, chambers of commerce can add another argument to their repertoire.

When the Hill-Burton federal hospital construction program started nine years ago, Oklahoma's health and medical care program was in anything but a healthy state. We had only 56 percent of the hospital beds needed to meet minimum standards. There was an acute shortage of doctors in rural areas.

Now, roughly 95 percent of the people of Oklahoma have to go no farther than 25 miles to an acceptable hospital, according to the state health department's hospital division.

Dr. Grady Mathews, state health commissioner, says that 74 percent of Oklahoma's need for general hospital beds—as measured by the Hill-Burton yardstick—has already been met. Construction now proposed will raise this to 82 percent.

Since 1947, the number of new hospitals and additions for general medical and surgical care either built, under construction or in the final planning stage totals 2,052. Total costs runs in excess of $26 million, with nearly $16 million financed by Oklahomans and the rest by Hill-Burton funds.

Physicians are settling in smaller cities, a rare occurrence 10 years ago.

The metamorphosis didn't "just happen". A painstaking diagnosis of Oklahoma's health service ills was made by several agencies concerned.

When the Hill-Burton hospital bill was passed, an exhaustive survey was made of the gaps in the hospital network. Beds available for general use, chronic disease, mental illness, tuberculosis and so on were tallied.

The prime purpose was to build hospital and health facilities in order to serve the greatest number of persons and in areas with the least financial resources and the greatest need, explains Paul Snelson, the health department's hospital division chief.

At the same time, officials realized it would be useless to "pyramid beds" unless there was personnel to run the hospitals.

"We saw that unless we assisted the teaching hospitals at the same time, and made it possible for them to turn out more doctors, it would be pointless to expand hospitals," Snelson adds.

Simultaneously, the medical profession worried about the doctor shortage outside the larger cities and made an effort to encourage medical school graduates to consider a small town practice.

The trend away from over-specialization and back to family doctoring was given a push by the organization.
of the Oklahoma Academy of General Practice, which requires its “family physician” members to keep abreast of medical advances by making continuing postgraduate study a requirement for holding membership.

The University of Oklahoma medical school meanwhile set up its successful “preceptorship program” under which doctors in smaller cities take senior medical students under their wing for a specified period to give practical training in administering to a community.

Dick Graham, executive secretary of the Oklahoma State Medical association, reports that it is not unusual now to have young doctors select “towns of 1,000 to 1,500”.

Expansion of both medical teaching and research efforts make the state more appealing to young physicians who want to be alerted to and actually “take part in” scientific advances.

In 1945, the medical school reported 17 research projects on which it received $2,257 in outside financial support. Contrast this with last year’s total of 86 projects backed by $262,577 in research grants from various health and governmental agencies.

The size of entering medical school classes has risen from 49 in 1954 to 100 last year. There is a vigorous postgraduate training set-up to keep practicing physicians throughout the state on their toes.

It was six years ago that the Oklahoma Medical Research foundation opened its laboratories and drew top-ranking scientists from the nation to begin studies in the fields of cancer, heart disease, endocrinology, the aging processes, psychosomatic medicine and others.

Unique, in that it is a non-governmental organization built by “the citizens of Oklahoma”, it works closely with the medical school and the Oklahoma City Veterans hospital, providing another stimulus for improved health care for the state.

Prior to 1945, there was a dearth of “board men” or specialists outside Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Now the physicians with extra years of specialized training in such fields as pathology, ophthalmology, pediatrics, radiology are spotted around the state in cities such as Lawton, Ardmore, Enid, Bartlesville, Muskogee.

Ina E. McConnell, director of the Oklahoma Commission for Crippled Children, points out that “We now have a ring of places where children can go for orthopedic care. None have to go a great distance.”

Orthopedists, qualified to correct deformities in children, are practicing in Ellis, Garfield, Comanche, Pontotoc and Muskogee counties, he said.

Following a policy of close-to-home care for acutely ill children, pediatrics departments were set up under the Hill-Burton plan at Comanche County Memorial in Lawton, St. Mary’s at Enid, Stillwater Municipal hospital, Washington County Memorial at Bartlesville, Memorial Hospital of Southern Oklahoma at Ardmore and Oklahoma Osteopathic hospital in Tulsa.

In a number of smaller community hospitals, where population did not justify a separate pediatrics ward, isolation facilities were provided for children with communicable disease.

The Crippled Children’s commission looked to southeast Oklahoma for an example of how its patients benefit from “hospitals at home”.

“Before the new hospital (52-bed LeFlore County Memorial) was built, we had to bring the children from that area into Oklahoma City,” McConnell said. “Now, except for severe plastic or orthopedic cases, we can take them to Poteau.”

Improvement of convalescent care and chronic disease facilities has been concentrated in the larger cities, in the belief that a child farther along the road to recovery can weather the separation from home better than the critically ill.

Additions to increase outpatient capacity at the Junior League Convalescent hospital for children in Tulsa and at Children’s Convalescent hospital at Bethany are under way.

In several cases, at the community’s request, small hospitals, too tiny to give adequate service, have been abandoned and replaced by one large unit big enough to offer varied and specialized care.

This happened at Poteau, where two units that could handle 28 patients between them gave way to the new 52-bed hospital.

Five 10-to-12 bed hospitals at Altus were abandoned by that community in favor of up-to-the-minute 47-bed Jackson County Memorial hospital.

“The Woodward tornado pointed up the need for a new facility there,” Snelson recalled. The old building, obsolete by hospital standards, has been remodeled and converted into a nursing home and the community, with Hill-Burton aid, has built a 50-bed hospital of reinforced concrete.

“They wanted to be sure it would stand up under the next blow,” Snelson said.

Beaver has shown how a community can cash in on the construction program.

The city built a 25-bed community hospital and public health center adjacent to its old 15-bed hospital. The latter structure then was converted into a nursing home and is operated by a non-profit civic organization. It is attached to the new building, so that the public health program, general hospital and chronic disease unit are “under one roof.”

It was in the early Hill-Burton days that the mental hospitals began to take on a new look physically and that additions at the tuberculosis sanatoria enabled them to start making a dent in the waiting list for admissions.

Mental hospitals have gotten $6,764,966 worth of construction, adding 1,581 beds.

Tuberculosis hospitals—Eastern Oklahoma sanitorium at Talihina and Western Oklahoma sanitorium at Clinton—have had five building projects totaling $1,764,672 and adding 247 beds.

Federal funds were matched with state moneys to enlarge and improve tuberculosis and mental hospitals.

New centers for the operation of local public health programs have gone up at Wewoka, Ponce City, Muskogee, Miami, Sand Springs, Collinsville, Bixby, Broken Arrow and Skiatook. More are in the building process.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
July 15 through September 15

JULY
July through August........................................... Indian Festivals, Watonga
After July 1 and Sept. 1....................................... Green Corn Dances, Henryetta
July 5............................................................. Indian Festivals, Walters
July 12-15....................................................... Pawnee Indian Homecoming; billed as "world's largest free Indian Powwow." All performances start at 8 p.m., Pawnee
July 12-14....................................................... Annual Rodeo, Walters
July 17-20....................................................... Rodeo, Chickasha
July 26............................................................. 6th Annual Square Dance Festival, Pawhuska
July 26-28....................................................... Roundup Rodeo, Yukon
July 27-29....................................................... Cheyenne-Arapaho Indian Powwow, El Reno
July 27-29....................................................... 10th Annual International Roundup Club's Cavalcade, Pawhuska
July 28............................................................. Ardmore's Birthday Celebration, Ardmore
Each Thursday through July and August............. Pro & Semi-Pro Sooner Outdoor Variety Show, Drumright

AUGUST
Aug. (usually).................................................... Green Corn Festival, White Oak Area, near Claremore
Aug. (usually).................................................... Seneca's Peach Seed Dance, Turkey Ford Area, near Claremore
Aug. 1-3............................................................ Rodeo, Duncan
Aug. 5-9............................................................ Rangers' Rodeo, Lawton
Aug. 11-12....................................................... Negro Rodeo, Drumright
Aug. 11-18....................................................... American Indian Exposition, Anadarko (Throughout the year, Indian ceremonial activities may be found at the new Indian City, U. S. A., near Anadarko)
Aug. 14-18....................................................... Rodeo, Ada
Aug. 17-21....................................................... Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo, Vinita
Aug. 25............................................................. Sucker Day Celebration (All day and night), Wetumka
Aug. 29-31....................................................... Rodeo, Enid
Aug. 30............................................................. Snug Harbor Water Festival, Wagoner
Aug. 30 through Sept. 1................................. Free Fair, Wallston
Aug. 30 through Sept. 2................................. Amateur Rodeo, El Reno
Aug. 30 through Sept. 3................................. Panca Indian Powwow, near Ponca City

SEPTEMBER
Sept. 3............................................................ Labor Day Celebration & Rodeo, Henryetta
Sept. 3-5............................................................ 18th Annual Rodeo, Elk City
Sept. 3-6............................................................ Ottawa County Fair & Race Meet, Miami
Sept. 6............................................................. Cherokee National Holiday, celebrating Cherokee Nation's founding in Oklahoma, Tahlequah
Sept. 6-9............................................................ Prison Rodeo, McAlester
Sept. 7-9............................................................ Formal Dedication Riverbank Power Plant #3, O&G&E, Muskogee
Sept. 9-12........................................................ Southwest Regional Baseball Tournament
Sept. 11-15...................................................... "Little World Series," Cushing
Sept. 12-15...................................................... Tri-State Fair, Guymon
Sept. 12-15...................................................... Free Fair & Old-Timers' Reunion, Pawnee
Sept. 12-15...................................................... Annual Osage County Free Fair, Pawhuska
Sept. 12-15...................................................... County Fair, Wewoka
Sept. 12-15...................................................... County Fair, Woodward
Sept. 13-14...................................................... Payne County District Fair, Stillwater
Sept. 13-15...................................................... Amateur Rodeo, El Reno

Sept. 13-15...................................................... District Fair, Cushing
Sept. 13-15...................................................... Choctaw County Fair, Hugo
Sept. 14-15...................................................... Tri-County Fair, Geary
Sept. 15-23...................................................... Oklahoma Free State Fair, Muskogee
Sept. 16.......................................................... Cherokee Strip Celebration, Perry

Throughout the summer months, in various sections of Oklahoma, members of different Indian tribes gather for their annual pow-wow festivals, and the like. Some are well-established and the dates set well ahead of a particular celebration. While other dates are "static," depending upon crop ripenings, etc. Because of these variations, the above listing involving Indian events cannot be considered complete. The information has been compiled for OKLAHOMA TODAY by Chambers of Commerce in the respective localities. Only those events reported for specific dates, and those controlled by seasonal conditions, are hereby published. Any reader interested in events in other areas of the state and not listed because of undecided dates are urged to contact Chamber of Commerce officers for exact dates that may have been set since this issue of OKLAHOMA TODAY went to press.—Editor.

Frank Boskin, 93-year-old Pawnee Indian, sits stoically by his teepee in Indian City, U. S. A., near Anadarko. Indian City is an authentic reproduction of where and how Plains Indians lived 100 years ago in the country that now is southwestern Oklahoma. Opened to the public a year ago, the village rapidly is becoming one of the state's main tourist attractions.

COLOR PHOTO BY KAZIMIR PETRAUSKAS

JULY-AUGUST 1956
When the early Spanish explorers first saw the Indians play stickball they called it the fastest and roughest game ever conceived by man.

Of all American sports played today, none is comparable to this, the oldest Indian game of them all. Indian stickball is still being played in Oklahoma as it was when first seen by Fernando De Soto and his followers when they trekked from Florida to the Mississippi in 1539.

When the red-skinned athletes march onto the playing field they never know whether they will suffer a mere skinned knuckle or be carried off the field with a cracked skull.

No better description can be given of the game than that written by early American explorers and historians. One of these, Dr. John R. Swanton, an authority on Indian social life, recorded in his 42nd Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, (pp. 456-466):

“One of the favorite pastimes of the Indians was the Indian Ball Game. The sticks used in the game were made by trimming a stick, usually a hickory, very thin on the smaller end so that, when the end was bent back over the handle, a cuplike depression would be formed of the thin part. The cup was flared in front and laced with thong at the back.

“With two of these sticks the Indians could catch and throw a small compact ball made of deer's hair covered with deerskin and sewed tightly with sinews. Two towns, clans, or moietyes would play each other. Two upright posts were set up at each end of a long rectangular field. The players were equal in number and the aim of each side was to throw the ball between their goal posts.

“The ball was tossed up in the center by a referee. The players on each side sought to secure it and toss it toward their goal, but they had to handle the ball with the sticks, not with their hands.

“They had no rules forbidding personal roughness. The participants played with a breech cloth on and the opposition frequently brought blood from their bodies by striking them with the playing sticks. The players might be crippled or even killed but the game went on to completion. At the end of the agreed period, the team which had thrown the ball between the posts most times won.”

The Arbeka Creeks are the last of a long line of stickball players. They still play it as their forefathers played when Columbus discovered America. However, it may soon join the dodo bird in extinction.

Although the full-blood Creeks of the Canadian valley are training some of their more devoted youngsters, there is no assurance that the game will continue to be played once the present older generation passes on to the Happy Hunting Grounds.

No one dares predict whether the younger generations of the atomic-age will continue to observe their fathers' customs and beliefs; whether they will willingly undergo the sacrifices of fasting, drinking of the black drink,
stomp-dance all night around a blazing bon-fire, and then
march out to the ball field at sun-up for the strenuous,
and bone cracking game their ancestors have kept alive.

The game must be seen to be fully appreciated. Very
few people, other than members of the tribe, have seen
the real game: the climax to days and nights of dancing
and penance. Deep in the wood hills overlooking the
winding Canadian river, in southeastern Okmulgee
County, the clan gathers once each year for the Green
Corn Ceremonies. A period of Thanksgiving to the Spirits
for the bountiful crops. The period of cleansing individual
bodies of all impurities, and the time when all misdeeds
are forgiven. A new year is begun wholesomely, cleanly
and friendly. With that sort of atmosphere permeating
the campgrounds, forty or more stalwart Indians line up
for the game at dawn.

With a 32-inch hickory stick in each hand, a light
heart and an empty stomach, they play to win.

The ball is very elusive and difficult to handle with
the cuplike depressions at the end of each stick. Since the
player must not touch the ball with his hands, he must
manage to get it inside the two sticks to throw it, or
prevent his opponent from doing so.

Almost all sticks used by the Arbeka team are stained
with blood; pure Indian blood drawn from friend or foe
over the years. Some of the sticks are generations old, hav-
ing been handed down from father to son. Whether they
were made in Georgia or Alabama, before the removal, or
made yesterday by a young brave recruit, all are the same
pattern and weigh approximately two pound each.

The existing team has many members who speak little
or no English. They were all reared in the old traditions.
They are made of honor, brawn and guts. Their devotion
to their beliefs, clan and families is unparalleled. No
better combination has ever stepped out on a field of
sports.

They are nearing the end of the trail now, but surely
all the Indian athletes who have played the game from
time immemorial deserve to go down in the annals of
American sports, as the most rugged of them all!

The referee chants traditional plea for a sportsmanlike
conduct of all participants while playing on the field.

The really mean battles between players occur when
opposing players assail each other with their sticks as
they attempt to recover the ball.

Young Creeks get their training in actual combat, without
hindrance from the older players. They learn the game
the hard way—all the way!
WOOLAROC MUSEUM, far back in the hills of Northeastern Oklahoma, continues to attract an amazing number of visitors—over half a million the past five years and each year showing an increased total—this without any form of advertising and with none of the usual bally-hoo typical of tourist attractions.

The story of the man with the better mousetrap holds true in the case of Woolaroc. From a modest beginning in 1929 as a building to house and preserve the Woolaroc airplane, winner of the Dole flight in 1927, the museum has grown in size and scope to what is now considered the outstanding collection of Southwestern art and historical material in the United States.

It is difficult to pinpoint any one particular cause for the attraction this unique exhibit gallery holds for the casual visitor—perhaps its isolation in the middle of a 4,000-acre wild animal preserve, 14 miles for the nearest city—perhaps the strange but somehow logical blending of art and artifact to weave a broad pattern of thought through numerous and diversified stories. Without a doubt the carefully evented atmosphere of order and relaxation plays a large part in overall public acceptance of the museum.

The present museum is a large 300-foot-long modern building, completely air-conditioned the year around, with ample rest room facilities, large parking lot, and a permanent display of some 50,000 items.

A fitting introduction to the marvels within the museum is the impressive front entrance which depicts in glass mosaic of vivid hues ceremonial costumes and dress from the five Indian Cultural Areas of the United States.

The first room of the museum is a large circular foyer, used as an informal lecture room and serving as a transition from outside light to inside artificial illumination. Displayed in this room is a bronze of the late Frank Phillips, founder of the museum. Ever-changing colors in the intricate domed ceiling hasten the adjustment of sight and has, it seems, a psychological effect upon the average visitor, a kind of restful "Say, this is something—let's get going!" feeling.

PAGE TWELVE
From this room one enters the museum proper and finds that the entire gallery tells a story, a story starting with the earliest known man in the New World and unfolding in chronological order right up to the present day.

Woolaroc is noted for its priceless archaeological collection, for its superb collection of Western paintings and sculptures, and for the finest collection of Indian blankets in the world.

Artifacts and ornaments representative of seven different and distinct prehistoric cultures of the Southwest—among them material from the Great Temple Mound near Spiro, Le Flore County, Oklahoma—comprise an archaeological display which also includes material from early Alaskan and South American cultures.

The names of the "famed triumvirate" of Western painters, Remington, Russell, and Leigh, will be found on a number of the original paintings at Woolaroc, as will other well known names such as Frank Tenney Johnson, Sharp, Couse, Balink, Berninghaus, and Bert Phillips.

Woolaroc sculptures include the twelve original models from which the Pioneer Woman at Ponca City was chosen and the original model of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington.

In the blanket collection exhibited on walls and in cases is the fascinating story of Indian weaving—from original stripes to intricate patterns, from handspun and vegetable dye products through Bayetta and Germantown wool mixtures to later Aniline dyes.

Woolaroc Museum is located 14 miles Southwest of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, on SH 23; it is owned and operated by The Frank Phillips Foundation, Inc., a charitable institution established by the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Phillips and dedicated to "... the boys and girls of today, the fathers and mothers of tomorrow ..."
Restored to its original appearance, Fort Gibson Stockade—between Muskogee and Tahlequah—is a historic place. Built as a frontier outpost in 1824, it also was occupied during the Civil War.

BLACK AND WHITE ILLUSTRATIONS BY KAZIMIR PETRAUSKAS

Unequalled scenery in Beaver's Bend State Park and the roaring rapids of Mountain Fork River make a combination that gives the Oklahoma tourist a never-to-be-forgotten thrill.
Lap Through Lapland Continued from page 5

(crappie, black bass, channel cat, and many others) to scenic boat cruises (Southern Belle and Cherokee Queen on Grand Lake) to just plain or fancy loafing.

These services and recreational offerings, however, hold true for virtually all of our Lapland Tour. So in the space remaining let's trace our routes and indicate some of the more rewarding things-to-see along the way. One final word of summary and we're off.

This whole section is moving forward. You'll see gleaming new factory buildings, heated fishing docks (equipped with theatre seats and TV!) and other atomic age modernities. But it remains Indian Country from top to bottom, as you'll quickly realize as you stop to read the many roadside markers erected by the State Historical Society. So expect too to see old forts, battlefields, missions, schools, agency buildings, and many other century-old reminders of the Sooner State's first citizens, the highly developed Five Civilized Tribes who were "dumped" into this wooded wilderness during the first half of the 19th century.

US 59 arches across upper Grand Lake into Grove, center of the popular Honey Creek arm of the playground, crosses Upper Spavinaw Lake south of Jay, and loops through the almost virgin woods of the Kenwood Indian Reserve Area. Veering east toward the Arkansas line near Siloam Springs, it drops south again through Watt (popular jump-off point for 100-mile-long Illinois river float trips), the lumber town of Westville, and Stilwell, (self-styled "Strawberry Capital of the World").

Crossing the Cookson Hills (legendary outlaw hide-out), the highway comes within eight paved miles of Sequoyah's Home State Monument. (A stone building protects the crumbling cabin of the famed inventor of the Cherokee alphabet.) At Sallisaw and the junction with US 64 out of Fort Smith the halfway point is reached.

Two other state roads—circuitous, but largely paved now—also serve this northeastern Oklahoma lakeland, join US 64 close to Sallisaw, from where one can continue his US 59 tour. Each deserves a paragraph. Both are highly scenic, extremely rich in history.

Oklahoma SH 82 from near Vinita (on US 60) to Vian (on US 64) might well be called the History Special. True, it comes within a few miles of such scenic attractions as Pensacola Dam, Spavinaw Hills Park and Tenkiller Lake State Park. But it also touches such important early-day points as Salina (where Major Jean Pierre Chouteau established an Osage Trading Post in the early 1800's), Tahlequah (made the permanent capital of the Cherokee Nation on July 12, 1839, today the home of Northeastern State College), and Park Hill (first Cherokee capital, now offering the beautifully restored Murrell Mansion).

Oklahoma SH 10 manages to wind to within a few miles of all the area's five big lakes: Grand, Upper Spavinaw, Fort Gibson, Greenleaf, and Tenkiller. For scenery it also offers a 25-mile-long stretch of the bluff-lined Illinois river valley above Tahlequah. And for history it provides Old Fort Gibson State Monument with its restored stockade.

From Sallisaw south the choosing of a representative route is more difficult. The Kiamichi and Winding Stair Mountains together give Oklahoma some of its most rugged and most beautiful scenery. They also provide the

Continued on page 17
Lap Through Lapland  Continued from page 15

highway department with perhaps its greatest single chal-

lege. As a result there has until recently been no road, in
the strictest sense of the word, over this forest covered
east-west barrier. And US 59 has long been forced to
detour into neighboring Arkansas after traversing the
pleasantly scenic, modestly industrial stretch through
Poteau and Heavener.

But there have been several encouraging develop-
ments of late. Roads have now been pushed tentatively
across the mountains and it is hoped that before too long
US 59 can be given an all-Oklahoma routing. For this
reason we are going to continue our Lapland tour with
two byway suggestions. Those who like mountain scenery
and aren’t too adverse to driving middling gravel roads
to enjoy it will, we think, thoroughly appreciate either or
both of them.

US 59-to-be drops south from Stapp to Big Cedar,
crosses Kiamichi Mountain to Smithville, then follows
Oklahoma SH 21 into Broken Bow and Idabel, two of
Southeast Oklahoma’s most important cities. Along the
way are Ouachita National Forest recreation areas, the
scenic Narrows between Smithville and Bethel (where
traces of the old wagon road from Fort Smith can still be
seen under the Boktuklo Creek bridge), and idyllic
Beavers Bend State Park above Broken Bow.

The second route skirts the new recreation facilities
of Lake Wister State Park southwest of Poteau. It crosses
the beautiful Winding Stairs on US 271, perhaps the
most impressive single mountain road in the Sooner State.
And then, below Talihina (home of the Eastern Okla-
homa Tubercular Sanitarium and the Talihina Medical
Center, for Indians), it follows the new, scenic Indian
Service Road over the Kiamichis to Oklahoma SH 21 at
Bethel.

Well, there it is: a leisurely lap (or brace of laps, if
you will) through the lake-and-forest covered strip of
Eastern Oklahoma that is the Sooner State’s contribution
to the long famed Ozark-Ouachita playground. It was
a frontier at the end of a “Trail of Tears” for the refugees
of the Five Tribes almost a century and a half ago. It was
a frontier for white settlers and railroad builders some
three-quarters of a century ago.

It is still a frontier today. With its abundant natural
resources, it has many advantages to offer the nation’s ex-
panding industry. And with its lakes and forests, it has
become one of the nation’s fastest growing vacationlands.

Try US 59—with our suggested detours—and see for
yourself. Take one week. Better yet, take two weeks and
give Oklahoma’s Lapland a really thorough inspection.

Unexcelled scenic beauty abounds in many sections of
Oklahoma. This romantic spot is in the southeastern sec-
tion of the state, near Beaver’s Bend State Park.
GRAND RIVER VALLEY  Continued from page 3

Goodrich, in a move to reduce distribution costs, decided to build a plant in this area to serve its mid-America market.

Miami was chosen as the location, partly because of cheap power offered by GRDA, and partly because a supply of good, cold water was available there. The Goodrich people looked first at Grand Lake, but subsequent studies developed that the job could also be done with deep wells. Today the company supplies its $20,000,000 plant with 1,000,000 gallons of water daily taken from its own well. Originally, the plant used four times that much, but recycling arrangements have reduced the amount required even though the concern is now making its fourth major expansion since coming to the state.

With the fall of Japan, OOW was shut down, and most of its 15,000-acre reserve leased to farmers. DuPont, which had operated it, was not interested in converting it to peace time use. A little of its equipment was sold, but the cold war and the Korean fighting produced a change in U.S. military thinking. At the beginning of each of the last two world wars the country had to build a munitions industry. Next time, the defense experts decided, America should already have its munitions industry established and ready for action.

Consequently, 34 munitions plants, instead of being dismantled, were placed under the supervision of the Ordnance Ammunition Command. Twenty-six were placed in operation; eight, including OOW, were assigned standby status.

"Reaction of the Oklahoma Ordnance Works is included in mobilization planning," spokesmen for the Army explained. "If a shooting war starts, it will be cranked up again as in the last war."

But while conversion of OOW has been stymied, the great plant has not been prevented from giving birth to the industrial development George Smith foresaw.

Industries have sprung up around it, much like sprouts which force their way through the earth from the roots of a tree that has been pruned back to a stub.

The Grand River Dam Authority needed a steam generating plant to firm up its hydro-electric power, and when the OOW steam plant was offered for sale as war surplus, GRDA bought it for $3,500,000.

In the sale GRDA acquired the water pumping facilities of the big plant, and its steam making equipment, as well as its power generators. This put the state in a position to sell not only electricity, but water and steam, three items all vital to certain types of industry.

First takers were two paper companies, National Gypsum Co., and Certain-teed Products Corp. National Gypsum's initial investment was $4,000,000. Certain-teed started out with a plant costing well over $1,000,000 and since has been doubled in size.

Waste paper is a major raw material in each plant, and in the processing National Gypsum uses 750,000 gallons of water daily, Certain-teed 1,500,000 gallons.

GRDA pumps the water from Grand river, and supplies the steam and electricity. Last year Certain-teed paid $250,000 for these three utilities.

The paper plants had hardly been completed before GRDA landed its third prize catch, a $20,000,000 Deere & Co. chemical plant which makes anhydrous ammonia and fertilizer, and which uses water, air and natural gas as its principal raw materials.

The Deere plant consumes more than 2,000,000 gallons of water daily, 140,000 pounds of steam per hour, 7,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day, and has a connected electric load of 13,000 kilowatts. GRDA supplies the electricity, water and steam. Oklahoma Natural Gas Co. built an 18-inch pipeline capable of delivering 75,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day in the area, a supply big enough to serve still more industries expected to come into the area.

North and east of the Deere plant, two more industries have sprung up, both of which promise to play their part in an expanding industrial region although neither is a heavy water user. Midwest Carbide Co., built a $3,000,000 plant to make calcium carbide, the basic ingredient in acetylene gas, and Ozark Portland Cement Co., established a $500,000 cement plant. Midwest was attracted by the possibilities of selling its product to nearby chemical industries and by the opportunity to obtain dump power from GRDA during flood periods "for a song."

Big names in the industrial world are keeping tabs on this Grand river development, and one of the most interested is American Cyanamid.

Chemical Construction Corp., an American Cyanamid subsidiary, is designing and is expected to build a $28,000,000 plant on the eastern edge of the OOW property to make nitroguanidine, a shell propellant developed in the late stages of World War II.

Security restrictions still cover most of the details about a $35,000,000 "high energy fuel" plant the Navy has announced that it plans to build a little further down the valley near Muskogee, but it is known that the requirements include 1,300 acres of land, and supplies of water and gas which could ultimately be called upon to produce 100,000,000 gallons of water and 100,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

The multi-million-dollar B. F. Goodrich Co. plant, Miami, Okla., employer of 15,000 Oklahomans.

PHOTO BY ORRICK SPARLIN
What They're Saying About OKLAHOMA TODAY.

From Norway!

"The articles (in Oklahoma Today) are informative, and give a vivid picture of life and history in your state . . . Readers of your magazine will undoubtedly feel inclined to partake in the pride you feel for your state and your community."

—Johan Waage
Drobak, Norway

Yes, Oklahoma pride is contagious.

"Oklahoma Today has been the subject of much favorable discussion in the Ad Club since the first issue hit the stands. As advertising and promotion minded people we have long recognized the need for some truly effective way to sing Oklahoma's praises to the nation. Our state's really fine selling points have been obscured too long in the dust storm of such things as Steinbeck's 'Grapes of Wrath.'

I am pleased to send you the congratulations of our entire membership on the great job you and your staff are doing. Your magazine is outstanding in every respect. You also have our sincere hope that your splendid beginning is an indication of even greater accomplishments to come."

—Lynn Martin
President, Oklahoma City Ad Club.

We're sincerely grateful to you, gentlemen!

"We feel that this magazine (Oklahoma Today) will greatly enhance our great state in the eyes of all the people of our nation. We feel that this magazine is another step in selling Oklahoma and its assets to the people of Oklahoma, the nation and the world. We deem it a pleasure to have Oklahoma Today in our lobby for our customers to see and read."

—Pat Moore
First National Bank
Clinton

Thanks, Mr. Moore—for the nice letter, and the two subscriptions.

From an Arkansas Neighbor

"I'm not in a habit of writing sage and not-so-sage comments to magazines, but in this case I'm compelled to. I just bought your May-June issue of Oklahoma Today and if I were able to put down my full reaction, it would sound like a promotional stunt for Oklahoma's Semi-Centennial Celebration in 1957. So, I will say simply that I think it is a terrific magazine, superbly written and very colorful.

Enclosed find $2 for a year's subscription."

—Van Coffman
Route 2
Arkinda, Ark.

Thanks for everything!

DEAR READER—Again we ask you, Let your Oklahoma pride show! Subscribe now to Oklahoma Today. Mail your subscriptions to OKLAHOMA TODAY, P. O. Box 3331, State Capitol Station, Oklahoma City 5, Okla. $2 in the U. S. A., $3 elsewhere.
OKLAHOMA OPENS
Two More Deluxe Resort Lodges

Structures Represent $4,000,000 Investment in Texoma and Sequoyah State Parks for vacationers' accommodations.

Two more luxury resort lodges have been completed, dedicated and opened to the public in as many Oklahoma state parks, thus providing additional, ultra-modern facilities for vacationers in the Sooner State.

The newest are located in Texoma and Sequoyah State Parks, and brings to five the total number of such projects now completed under the state’s plus-$7,000,000 park improvement program. Previously new lodges were dedicated in Quartz Mountain State Park, in the Hobart-Mangum-Altus vicinity in Southwestern Oklahoma, and in Roman Nose State Park, seven miles north of Watonga.

Gov. Raymond Gary, Oklahoma’s chief executive and enthusiastic booster of “Oklahoma Pride,” headed dedication ceremonies at all lodges. Earlier, the pioneer lodge at Lake Murray State Park, between Ardmore and Marietta, had completed a plus-$1,000,000 expansion which includes a new 500-capacity auditorium, a new swimming pool, several new cabins, and a new wing on the old lodge built in 1949.

At the time of the Texoma dedication, a special ceremony saw the lighting up of Roosevelt bridge, which crosses the lake a short distance from the lodge on US 70—the coast-to-coast route that crosses southern Oklahoma. The lights are for fishermen who do their angling from the bridge at night. Director Dave Ware of the Oklahoma Game and Fish Department, the state agency that will pay the electricity bills for the lighting, did the light dedication honors.

Architect Dow Gumerson, Enid, designed the Texoma project, and Charles M. Dunning Construction Co. built it.

The Sequoyah project, known as Western Hills lodge, was designed by Black and West, Tulsa architectural firm; construction was by Dickmann-Pickens-Bond of Muskogee.

Both areas have spacious, ultra-modern swimming pools.

Besides providing the finest of modern, completely air-conditioned living facilities in the new lodges and cabins, the state park lakes involved furnish excellent fishing, boating and water sports activities.

Next on the agenda is construction of a 47-room, $600,000 lodge at Lake Tenkiller State Park, northeast of Gore in eastern Oklahoma.
These are bird's-eye views of Oklahoma's two largest luxury lodges recently completed and dedicated. Top photo shows Texoma lodge in Lake Texoma State Park, between Madill and Durant and just south of US 70, showing Roosevelt bridge in the background. Left is an aerial photo of Western Hills lodge in Sequoyah State Park, near Wagoner and Tahlequah in eastern Oklahoma. Built at a cost of $2,029,042, the Texoma lodge consists of 106 rooms, 30 duplex cabins, 20 duplex fishing cabins, one 20-room fisherman's lodge, plus a spacious, all-modern swimming pool. Western Hills cost $1,600,000, consists of 104 rooms in the main lodge, plus a 20-room fisherman's lodge, 19 new cabins with 50 living units, swimming pool, and numerous other facilities. Both resorts are under Western Hills, Inc., management.
ADA Construction on a new addition to Hazel-Atlas Glass Co.'s plant at a cost of some $300,000 is well under way. Hazel-Atlas first established a plant at Ada 30 years ago... And a new steel plant, a division of Forster Manufacturing Co., is destined for completion in Ada inside two years.

ALVA Woods county has a new courthouse, built at a cost of $495,000.

CUSHING A new industry—Oil Field Service, Inc., specializing in engineering reports, is moving to this city. It became the fourth new industry to locate here in the past eight months. The new plant will boost Cushing's annual payroll by $50,000.

MUSKOGEE Construction of a $2,500,000 ten-store shopping center here is under way. Formal opening is slated for November.

McALESTER Elseing Manufacturing Co., makers of custom-made blouses who established here in 1946 with one machine and one operator, is building a $75,000 plant to meet its expanding needs. This will mean a substantial payroll increase, company officials say.

NORMAN By autumn, 1957, students at the University of Oklahoma will have a superfine new $2,700,000 library on the campus. Work on the building, an addition to existing library facilities, is scheduled for a July, 1957, start.

TULSA Jiffy Corp., a grocery chain, expects to build 25 new stores here in the next two or three years, says Vice President David Hall of Hall Investment Co. The corporation is new and owned by Tulsa and out-of-state investors.

STILLWATER Otis Otto Fox of this city, a recent graduate of the geology school at OU, has won a Fulbright fellowship for a year's study abroad. He's enrolled in September at Albert Ludwigs university, Freiburg, Germany, where he will continue geological studies.

OKLAHOMA CITY Fidelity National Bank & Trust Co. will occupy ground floor space in the new skyscraper being erected in downtown Oklahoma City. The building, to bear the bank's name, is due for August, 1957, completion at an estimated cost of $4,400,000. It is to be 18 stories high.

Mickey Mantle, the Commerce (Okla.) flash who's the Soonerland's sensational representative in the major leagues, poses doing what comes naturally. During the off-season, Mantle engages in the highway construction business. He's vice president of Youngman's Southwest Chat Co., Inc. of Baxter Springs, Kan. Mickey's baseball uniform with the New York Yankees is numbered "7," his Oklahoma car license tag number is 7-7777, says admirer Carl Held, Oklahoma Highway Commission.

Famous Oklahomans, wherever they are, are joining the Oklahoma Ambassador-of-Goodwill Corps, to help publicize the 1957 Semi-Centennial Celebration in Soonerland. Here, Miss Mildred Redman, secretary to Gov. Raymond Gary's press secretary (Martin Hauan) is pictured mailing certificates to new appointees to the Governor's Semi-Centennial Commission, wherever they are.

A steady out-of-state booster for Oklahoma is music maestro Vincent Lopez, long a favorite band leader in New York and way points. Here he's interviewing Oklahoma Glenda Farrell (former Enid gal now in the movies) while he plugged the recent Southwest American Exposition held in Oklahoma City. Throughout the Oklahoma City event, Lopez interviewed Oklahomans who have become "big names" in show business, etc., over his radio and television shows.
Oklahoma's employment in manufacturing continues to show steady increase. Non-farm employment for January and February, 1956, shows a seasonal drop in January and an increase in February. Although the decrease was substantial, the decline was still the lowest in the history of the state.

Retail trade for 1956 did not reach the seasonal low of 1953 and is showing a steady increase with the usual seasonal fluctuations. Construction has not reached the high of 1955, but continues to show increase over 1953 and 1954. Manufacturing and minerals production continues to show a steady increase and a gain over last year.

The general economy of the state shows a steady increase in new production, new employment and general economic well being. Although this is reflected in the national economy as a whole, there is every indication that Oklahoma on a comparative basis is pushing ahead of some of the neighboring states.

In the first three months of 1956, approximately 30 new industries and expansions were reported. This is keeping pace with the expansions revealed in 1955. Prospects for new industries have never been more favorable. It is likely on the basis of present developments that 1956 will be one of the healthiest years in terms of new industrial development.

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### INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 1955

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These charts prepared by W. E. Butler, Research Director, Oklahoma State Department of Commerce & Industry.
COLOR PHOTOS:

COCK CARDINAL BY NATIONAL AUDUBON (E. J. DAVIS)
CICADA BY NATIONAL AUDUBON (HAL H. HARRISON)
Visitors to Oklahoma are entertained by a sextette which has served as the southwest's Summer Symphony since Coronado's Conquistadores roamed the trackless great plains in search of the Seven Golden Cities of the Cibola.

In morning twilight the soft, low cooing of the turtledove awakens the light sleeper.

As the first rays of the onrushing sun push streamers of pink through the gloom of night, that versatile, handsome clown, the cock mockingbird, launches his orgy of song.

The monarch of the day is greeted by the sprightly, cheerful call of the cock cardinal in his gay red coat and crimson cockade.

When shadows fall the meadows echo the clear, crisp, solo of the Bob White quail.

Paging the corridors of night, seeking that fugitive known as sleep, the rhythmic stringed ensemble of the cicada chorus relaxes taut nerves and rings down the curtain on another day.

—Walter M. Harrison