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Harding

Reflector

and Alumni News



"PREACHER" ROE

Fall 1949

Harding College Honored at Valley Forge

The Freedoms Foundation, with headquarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, on Monday, November 21, honored Harding College "for outstanding achievement in bringing about a better understanding of the American way of life." General Dwight D. Eisenhower personally made the awards which went to a considerable number of individuals and corporations. Harding College, however, was the only college in America to receive an award on this occasion.

The award consisted of a beautifully engraved gold medal four inches in diameter and a cash award of \$750.00.

Freedoms Foundation has also officially announced that Harding College will receive a second presentation which will be made on its own grounds in February. This will consist of another gold medal and a \$400.00 cash prize.

This is a very fitting recognition of the influence of Harding College through its National Program which reaches into every State in the Union.

More than ten years ago Dr. Benson recognized an urgent need for creating a better understanding of the advantages enjoyed under our American way of life and a better understanding of what makes our economic system tick so well.

The program which he initiated at that time has had a phenomenal growth. His lectures which then were heard in his own State are now being heard in the major centers of the nation.

The radio program which he started by invitation on two local stations is now being heard weekly on 268 radio stations located in 47 states of the Union.

The newspaper column which he started by request in six local county newspapers is now being carried in approximately one-third of the county newspapers of the nation and approximately 1,000 company publications. The animated colored cartoon films which Harding College produced for educational channels have been accepted for theatrical distribution and are being shown before a total estimated audience of 25 million people.

In presenting to Dr. Benson the Harding College award at Valley Forge, General Eisenhower said "I only wish that other colleges and universities were doing what Harding College is doing for our American way of life."

"Preacher" Fulfills Prophecy

by B. Frank Rhodes, Jr.

Came the annual fall baseball classic, and the Harding campus was crackling with electricity. It has even been reported that Dr. Benson sneaked in a radio to his office, and while talking to an important industrial leader on the phone, said "You are thinking of writing a chick for \$50,000? Well, don't bother me now—you're making me 'noivuss'—wait until I hear the last out of this ball game."

For it was the World Series of 1949, and "Dem Bums" were tangling with the Yankees, and the greatest "Bum" of them all, the ex-Harding moundsman of 1936, '37, and '38—"Preacher" Roe—was shutting out the Bronx Bombers with six hits in an artistic conquest. It may be that Manhattan was mystified at the mastery that Roe exercised over them, but it was no matter of astonishment to old Hardingites.

The calendar turns back to a day in the spring of 1937, with Arkansas Tech and Harding being the antagonists in another diamond struggle. "Preacher" went the route in a 13-inning game, striking out 26 men. The ball game ended in a 4-4 tie, but Roe's future career was not so much in doubt. Big league scouts at once became interested in the long, lean Arkansas pitcher who could put the ball right where he wanted it and could make it "cut up" a little.

During the season of 1938, "Preacher" won every game that he hurled for the Harding nine, with a strikeout average of 16-plus per game. In his victory skein were three one-hitters, in one of which the only safe was a "bleeder" to the third baseman.

Signing with the St. Louis Cardinals that year, the Harding star finished out the season with them, and the next year went to Rochester. He was sold to Columbus, where one year he won the strikeout crown of the American Association. He then went to Pittsburg, and later was traded to Brooklyn, where he has spent three seasons.

The past year has been "Preacher's" best. He had a won-lost record of 15-6, and was the "old reliable" of the Dodger staff. Time after time he pitched when it was "win-or-else" for the Bums, and he nearly always produced. On several occasions he handcuffed the Cardinals in crucial games. Your present writer saw him strike out Musial and Slaughter in succession, with a man on base, and this was typical of his efforts under pressure.

Again the calendar reverses, this time to the spring of 1936, and we see our hero enrolling in Harding. He did not win all of his games that first year, but he hurled some fine games and showed great promise. After all, he had come here knowing a great deal about the pitching business, having been instructed in the art by his father, Dr. C. E. Roe.

After losing a 13-inning, 6-5 game to Arkansas State Teachers, in which "Preacher" fanned 15 (a loss incidentally directly traceable to three errors) Gene Pace, Sports Editor of *The Bison* that year, wrote: "It is my opinion that he is one of the best pitchers in collegiate circles in Arkansas and will go far in organized baseball with a little more experience." Well, the See "PREACHER" ROE Page 7

New Chapters to be Established

John Mason has a heavy schedule before him between now and Christmas. The successful completion of his program will be in a large measure up to a number of you, and I am sure you are all anxious to do what you can to help; that is, all of you in certain sections.

According to present plans John will try to make the rounds of the following towns where he hopes local chapters of the Alumni Association may be established: Wichita Falls, Texas, Blytheville, Kennett, Missouri, Paragould, and Jonesboro. The chapters at one or two of these towns have been organized, at least on a temporary basis. Jonesboro is one. There Troy Blue is temporary Chairman, and Mrs. Larry Buffaloe (Jaunita Trawick) is their temporary Secretary. The ones that have begun working with the group so far include also Mrs. Troy Blue, Larry Buffaloe, Mrs. Fay S. Holt, Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Bradley of Walnut Ridge, Mrs. Wesley A. Sparks, Opal Jackson Keith and James McDaniel.

Very recently the group at Blytheville organized, taking much of the initiative themselves. A letter from Jane Shelton, the newly elected President, gave the list of officers which, in addition

C. W. and Roberta Brandon Bradley, '44 —Perhaps there is no need to write anything about C. W., since he is such an important part of the Alumni organization anyway. But since some of you have more or less lost contact, we might mention that he spent a year at Syracuse, New York, preaching there. After that year he and Bert were married at the West End Church of Christ in Nashville. The two of them went to Rockingham,

to herself, included Vice-Pres. Mildred Chambers; Secretary, Betty Dodds; Treasurer, Gail Overton of Manila; Song Director, Frank Blue; Reporter, Mrs. Frank Blue. It looks like they put nearly everyone to work at Blytheville. I hope that spirit lasts and grows.

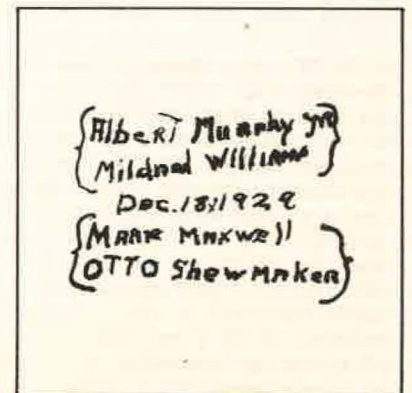
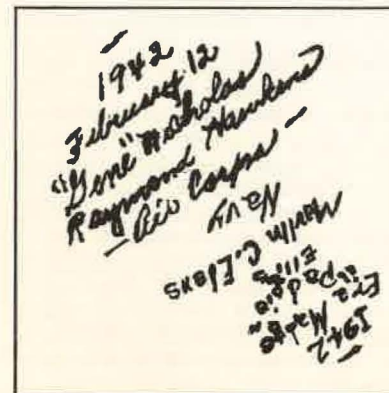
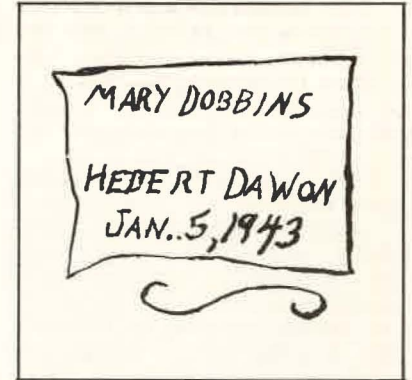
A few days ago John was on a trip for the school for other than alumni purposes, but he found the time after his full working day to contact various former students where he went; however, many he tried to call could not be located in the short time he had available. All those he saw seemed interested in the formation of chapters near them. These included Elizabeth and Earline Franklin at Clarksdale, Mississippi, the people up at Blytheville who have just started their chapter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lawyer and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Burrow and their new baby boy at Kennett, Missouri, Delbert Harper, Cyril Hendrix, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith at Caruthersville, Missouri, Guy Thompson and Emmett Smith at Paragould, and Dr. and Mrs. Norman Smith and their new baby girl at Pocahontas. All these people have their names recorded here, so they do not dare lose interest now.

North Carolina, to take up work with a little group of Christians there. They hadn't intended to stay very long, but realizing the church was small and weak in the Carolinas, they decided to continue there. Their work has been difficult but interesting; a part of it has been a weekly radio program. For the past two years Roberta has been teaching physical education and health at a school about ten miles from there.

Shades of Ozymandias

All of us from the least to the greatest, from the monarch to the peasant, from the teacher to the student, want to be remembered. I have collected several artifacts which I believe bear this statement out in its entirety. Not long ago while doing a bit of house-cleaning in the chemistry laboratory, I came across a number of small pieces of plate glass; cover glasses they are called. Many of these had previously been used in the experiment on the etching of glass by the use of hydrofluoric acid. The etching was almost invariably a name. Sometimes there were names, plural, and in a few cases there was definite evidence of art talent.

All men wish to be remembered for the great things they have done, and to many students the successful completion of a course in chemistry is worthy of undying remembrance.



Former Harding Student Her Own Genealogist

by Kern Sears

A few days ago an aunt of Kay Melville's handed me a letter to read. It was written by her grandfather, Kay's great grandfather, to his brother in Ireland many years ago. I decided then I would see Kay the next time I was in Little Rock and find out the work she had done in finding that letter and collecting other bits of her own family history.

When Kay left Harding, she went to work for the A.A.A. in her home town, Newport. But two years later the army was building their big air base there, so Kay switched ever and began working for the Army Engineers. After that job was finished, she went with the Engineers to Little Rock headquarters to work as a stenographer. That was in 1943, and she has been with them ever since, working under Colonel Lane in the Correspondence section.

For some time she took courses in shorthand at Commercial College a few blocks away from her work with the Engineers. The time for this further study came from her lunch hour.

On Saturdays when the Engineers had been playing golf or dreaming up bigger and better dams to flood more and more of our beautiful Ozark valleys, Kay had been working at Blass's. There she had about her only contact with Harding, as she would see an occasional student or teacher wander in. Now that the Alumni office has found her again, we hope to improve that situation.

She quit working for Blass's some time ago; two bosses were about to work her to death. And when I saw her, I had the feeling she would not be with the Engineers much longer, since a

friend of hers, Dan Scott, was coming home from Germany in a few days. Kay mentioned that she had been buying furniture. That sounded optimistic. She also asked about a church in Ogden, Utah. That sounded very far-sighted and wise. We hope that the changes that must inevitably come in a man in three years have been those that make him even surpass the memory she kept alive throughout their separation. And now that she has left the Engineers to become Mrs. Scott, we wish them both a world of happiness.

But about her genealogy studies. When she became interested in finding out about her people of the past, she wrote to the editor of a newspaper in Belfast, since she knew her people had come from Ireland. She wanted to know how much it would cost to advertise to get in touch with some of the Melvilles there. The editor's reply was that it would be 20 shillings, but before she could find out how much of what 20 shillings was, she received a letter from a fourth cousin in Belfast, saying there was no need to advertise, that he could give her all the information she could get there. With his letter was the original letter from her great grandfather mentioned above, and which would have been printed here but for lack of space.

Through this correspondence, she was also able to locate another fourth cousin, Agnes Melville McKnight, a teacher in a girls' school in Parisville, Penn., who is now in her seventies and remembers much of their family history. So one thing has led to another, and bit by bit the pieces are being fitted together until she not only knows who she is, but from where she came,

Scott-Melville Vows Exchanged At Fourth and State in Little Rock

Miss Lena Kathryn Melville, daughter of Mrs. Elsie McMinn Melville of Little Rock and L. D. Melville of Newport, Arkansas, became the bride of CWO Daniel Joseph Scott, son of T. J. Scott of Concordia, Kansas, in a double ring ceremony performed in the presence of immediate relatives at eight o'clock Sunday morning, November 13, 1949, in the Fourth and State Street Church of Christ. The church was decorated in white chrysanthemums and the minister, Cleon Lyles, officiated.

The bride wore navy blue and a bridal white orchid. Miss Pauline Hughes of Searcy, Arkansas, was her maid of honor and wore grey with a purple orchid. The bride's mother wore a deep purple suit and a pastel orchid. LeRoy Scott of Little Rock served his brother as best man.

After a wedding trip through the southwest, the couple will be at home in Ogden, Utah, where Mr. Scott is assigned to the Engineer Section, Utah General Depot.



Mrs. Daniel Scott

PHOTO BY WILLIAM HUGHES

Correction

The last Reflector carried the statement that Brother Clyde Hance had baptized 18,000 people. It seems we were off by a factor of ten; the number should have been 1,800. Brother Hance states that he does not want credit for more than he has done.

"PREACHER" ROE

"Preacher" acquired that experience, and on that October afternoon, 1949, when the mighty Yankee bats were silent in that 1-0 thriller, former Sports Editor Pace could have well applied for the prophet's mantle. Roe had gone far. Stan Bumgartner, in *The Sporting News*, called his victory "an epic of courage, control and confidence."

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Bulletin HARDING COLLEGE

IMPORTANT

If the address below is not correct or will soon be changed : please drop a card to Alumni Association, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, giving the correct information. Or, if you know an alumnus or an ex-student with whom we have lost contact, please send us the correct address of such a one. We want to keep in touch with all, but we need your help.

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