



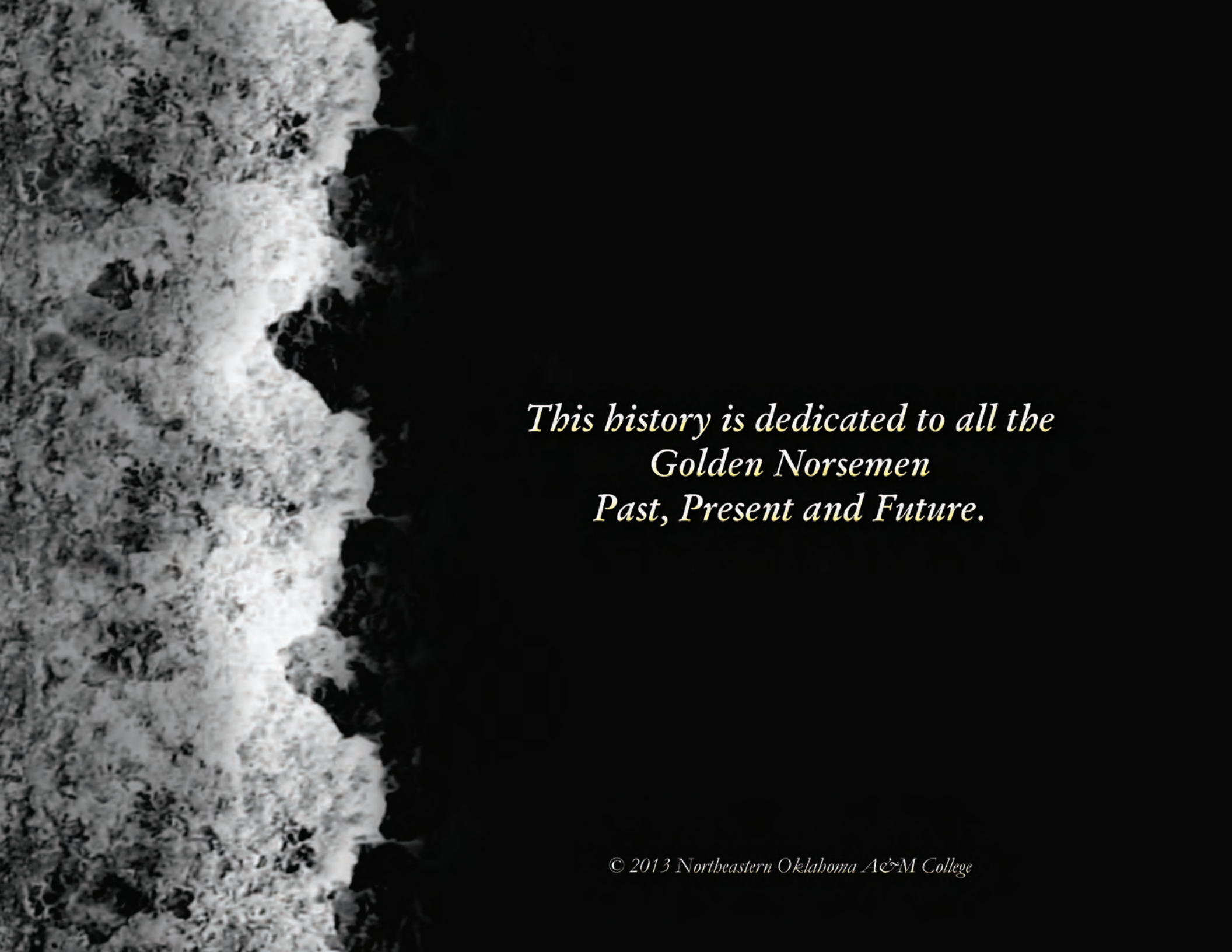
**FROM LEAD & ZINC TO**

*Blue & Gold*

*THE FOUNDING OF  
Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College*

*VOLUME I: 1919-1943*





*This history is dedicated to all the  
Golden Norsemen  
Past, Present and Future.*



As NEO approaches its centennial, it is with great pride that we recall almost 100 years of excellence in education.

When NEO A&M College first opened its doors in 1919 as the Miami School of Mines, Oklahoma had been a state for only 12 years. At that time, US Route 66 had yet to pave the way for progress across the nation, but in the northeast corner of the state a determined group of visionaries understood that the roots of tomorrow were growing in the rich earth of Oklahoma, and the hard-working spirits of the young men and women whose vision for greatness inspire us still today.

At NEO we recall that vision as part of our Norse Tradition. Our collective story begins in the mining fields of Oklahoma, but it extends to the boardrooms of industry, through the corridors of political office, into athletic halls of fame, and across the globe, where our graduates are recognized for outstanding achievements in art, music, literature, science, and athletics. Alumni everywhere are proud heirs to a legacy forged, tempered and refined into blue and gold greatness.

The priceless Blue & Gold story we share is a legacy that enriches not only our students, but everyone who shares the common bonds of the Golden Norsemen. For almost 100 years we have lived this inspiring legacy, and it is with great pride that I begin to share our story with you. It is my wish that each of us find our place in NEO's history.



Jeffrey L. Hale  
President, NEO A&M College



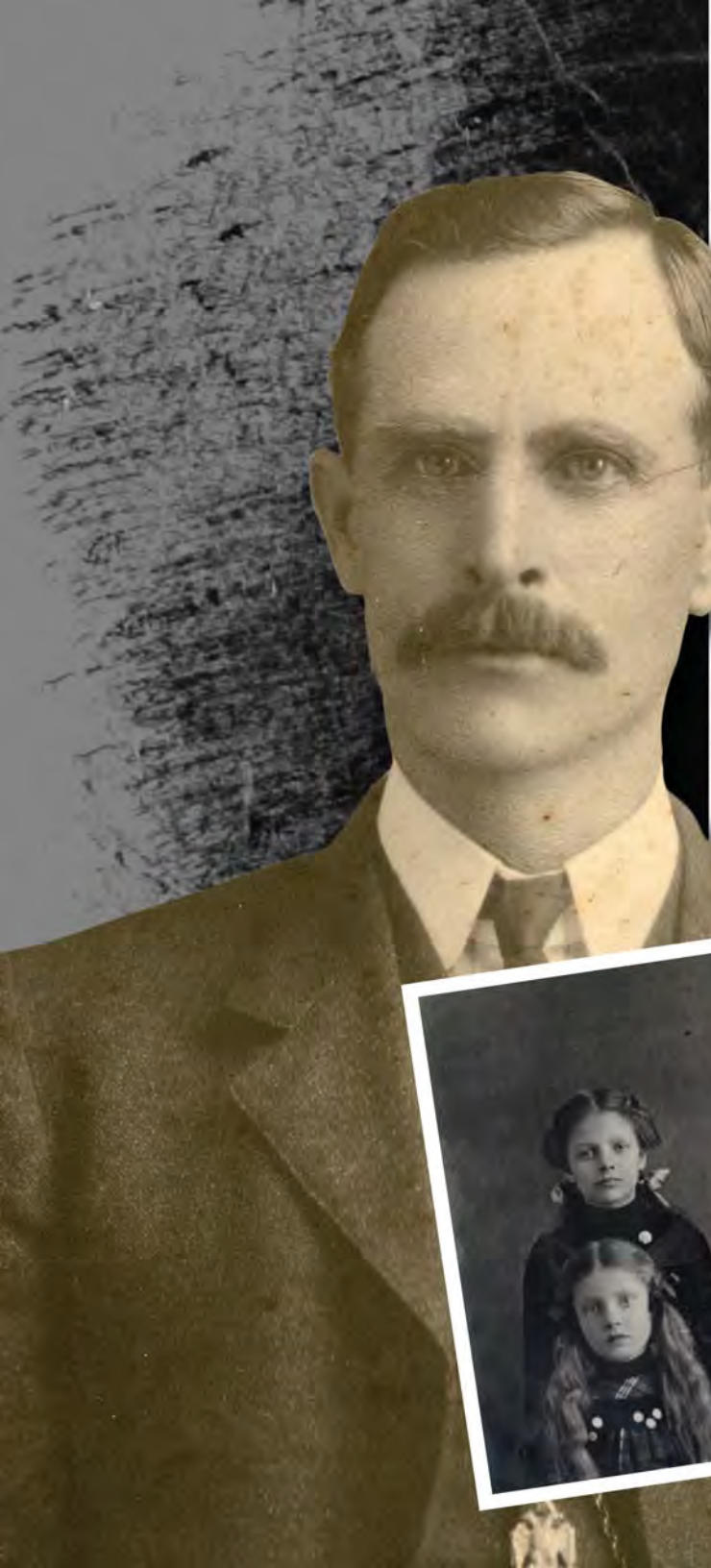


# Miami School of Mines



On March 17, 1919, the Miami School of Mines was created by the passing of Senate Bill 255 in the Oklahoma Legislature. The creation of the college was the brainchild of State Representative James S. Mabon who understood there would be a need for trained workers during the mining boom years to come.





# Mabon for Legislature

The News-Herald takes pleasure in presenting a brief sketch of Hon. J. S. Mabon, republican candidate for representative to the next legislature from Ottawa county. Mr. Mabon has had legislative experience and has made good. He served in the lower house with distinction and with unusual efficiency for his people. He was the author of...

...authorizing towns and municipalities to... of bridges, a b... scope but local in... and application. \$5,000 for the Sche... Extension work in C... ty, providing oppo... miners to get special... along lines of expert... mining. He secured... tion from examination... and zinc miners, in th... requiring mine w...



who trust him with their money for investment and the rest he brings to them by his successful investments.

He is a gentleman by instinct and training, one whose services the people should avail themselves of for it is seldom men enter the public service who are men of large affairs... industrial fac...

**WHY** You Should Vote

**J. S. (JIM) MABON**

REPUBLICAN Candidate for

**SENATOR**

ago, and had and helped laying ghest

**SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE**



use... 5.0... t) ...rough th... is, he is... or at... well... r. Ma... the... of

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES OF  
**JAMES S. MABON**  
WHO AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING 1913 - 1925 WAS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COLLEGE, KNOWN THEN AS THE MIAMI SCHOOL OF MINES.

...cure more effect... in getting needed legislation... his constituency, than any other man in it. He makes and holds friends. He gets their confi...

...in the city. Mr. Robands is a Christian gentleman of unblemished...



To gain support for the establishment of the school, citizens greeted visiting lawmakers with a parade. Children waved flags and people lined the streets as state officials were driven to inspect the mines.

In a news report in the Miami Record-Herald dated Feb 28, 1919, Senator Frank Carpenter spoke of the enormous contribution to the wealth of the state coming out of Miami, while other lawmakers expressed amazement at what they had learned during a visit to the mining field.

The lawmakers proclaimed their support with votes and a state appropriation of \$125,000.

## State Senators Express Themselves Unqualifiedly For Mining School Here

Members of the State Senate, who were guests of the Miami Chamber of Commerce Saturday were practically unanimous in favor of a measure appropriating \$125,000 to establish the State School of Mines in this district.

## LEGISLATORS WERE HERE ON TOUR OF INSPECTION FOR SCHOOL OF MINES

Members of House Appropriations and Buildings Committees, Headed by J. S. Mabon, Tour District Today.

Delegations of Citizens From Various Parts of County Meet Representatives to Urge Establishment of Institution; Dinner is Planned Tonight for Visitors.

James S. Mabon, Ottawa County's representative in the legislature, arrived in Miami Wednesday morning with 34 visitors, who are members of the House of Representatives and Public Buildings. They left Oklahoma City Tuesday night and came to Miami upon the invitation of Representative Mabon.

The trip was made for the purpose of obtaining a first hand view of the wonderful Miami Mining District, in view of the fact that a bill introduced by Mr Mabon and Senator Smith asking that the State School of Mines be located here.

**LEGISLATORS HERE**  
Members of the House Committee on Appropriations who arrived are: Representatives Nesbitt, Phillips, Jackson, Hendon, Newman, Galt, Stewart, Street, Har-

**Many Afton Boosters**  
Among the throngs here Wednesday in the interest of the State School of Mines proposition the following Afton visitors were noted: P. Smalley, Fred Lamm, J. P. Thomson, Wm. Palmer, J. F. Irby, Dr. W. Trout, J. C. Tucker, J. L. Cunningham, A. H. Dawson, G. W. Johnson, Frank Victor. Others who could not

to come here. I never realized that comes to be my father Warr City, ex- had

**MINING SCHOOL FUND AVAILABLE SOON, IS BELIEVED**  
Confidence is Expressed Here That Governor Will Sign Measure.

**MABON FELICITATED**  
Chamber of Commerce Sends Message to Representative, Who Obtained Passage of Measure in House Against Odds.

That Governor Robertson will sign the School of Mines bill, which passed the House late Monday afternoon is generally believed here and at Oklahoma City. The measure carries an emergency clause, which makes the \$125,000 appropriation immediately available.

The measure provides \$100,000 for buildings and \$25,000 for biennial maintenance. Under the terms of the bill, a 40-acre site is to be furnished "in or near Miami." The bill is signed and the money available, it was indicated here.

Mabon Congratulated  
Upon the passage of the bill, the Chamber of Commerce sent a message to Representative James S. Mabon congratulating him upon his securing the measure passed in the House.  
The message follows:  
Miami caused by the passage of the bill, which precludes your best congratulation.

bring the bill to vote again." Will "Cut the Cloth."  
"If the cloth, as Senator Snyder calls it doesn't go far enough, to allow us to comply with your request," said Senator T. F. Hensley of Elberton, "we will cut the appropriation for the Corporation Commission two and give you half of it."  
"If there is any place in the State where there would be any justification for an appropriation for a county has the

Davidson, Tulsa counties, Sen. K. Snyder, C. Fleming, P. Lattimer, F. Hensley, Oklahoma counties. Sen. Harry B. Corder, Wm. Jackson, T. B. Hogg, Shawnee, Pottawatomie counties, W. T. Clark, Kay and Osage counties, Frank Carpenter, do and Garden counties, Senator S. L. Johnson, have an interest in the county where they are. Frank Carpenter, do and Garden counties, Senator S. L. Johnson, have an interest in the county where they are. Frank Carpenter, do and Garden counties, Senator S. L. Johnson, have an interest in the county where they are.



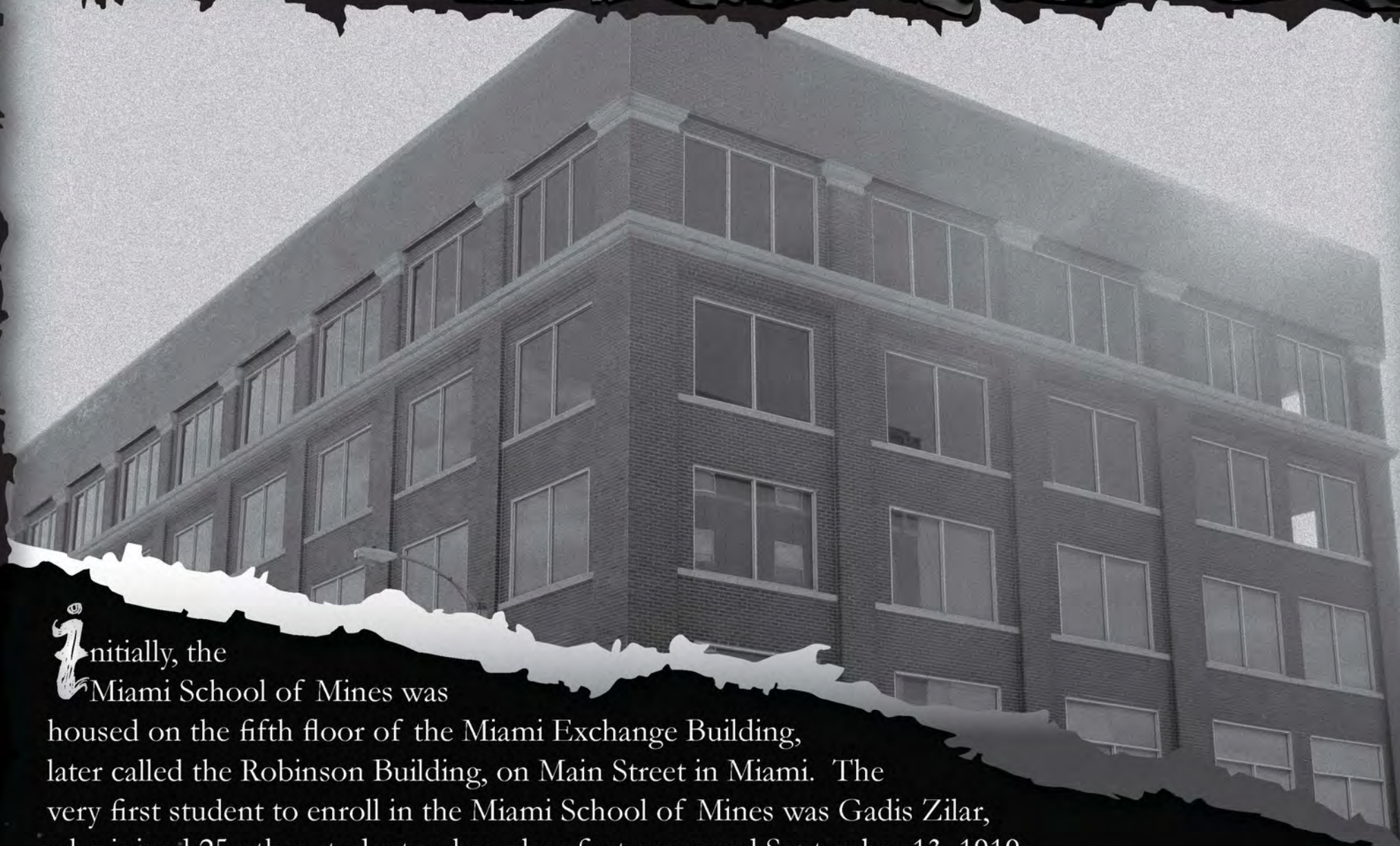
MINUTE BOOK  
MIAMI SCHOOL OF MINES.

During these first years, the college was served by a series of Presidents, all of whom shared a desire to see the college thrive in the green country of northeast Oklahoma. Under their administrations, the college grew into a cornerstone of the community, an important part of Oklahoma's higher education system and a valuable partner of both industry and economy.



College Presidents (left to right) Lloyd B. Drake [1920-1921], W. C. Crattle [1921-1923], George W. Moothart [1923-1924], Milton Floyd [1924-1931], Lloyd B. Drake [1931-1933], Earle E. Emerson [1937-1938], and Sabin C. Perceful [1939-1943]. (John E. Holcomb [1933-1937] not pictured)





Initially, the Miami School of Mines was housed on the fifth floor of the Miami Exchange Building, later called the Robinson Building, on Main Street in Miami. The very first student to enroll in the Miami School of Mines was Gadis Zilar, who joined 25 other students when class first convened September 13, 1919.



It was clear right from the start that the school Senator Mabon started would grow beyond the training of miners and engineers. Almost immediately students began to organize athletic teams, social clubs, academic societies, and civic organizations.



**STUDENT ENTERPRISE TICKET**  
 STATE SCHOOL OF MINES  
 MIAMI  
 No. 13  
 ISSUED TO *Zelia Donohue*  
 ADMIT BEARER TO ALL ATHLETIC CONTESTS,  
 LECTURE COURSE NUMBERS, AND ENTERTAINMENTS  
 STATE SCHOOL OF MINES FOR SEMESTER ENDING  
*July 21* 1922  
*W. O. O.*  
 PRESIDENT

**HARVEST PAGEANT**  
 RED CROSS BENEFIT  
 NORTHEASTERN STATE NORMAL  
 ADMIT ADULT 25 CENTS

ING YOU IN

**The Miami School of Mines**

CELEBRATE  
 In Honor of  
**St. Patrick**  
 WHO  
 ALSO WAS AN ENGINEER

March 17, 1922

THE S. T. OLSON P.B. & SEAL CO., MIAMI

9/26 1922  
*Zelia Donohue*  
 Dollars  
*2.00*  
*W. O. O.*

There was a groundswell of student and community support for all the expressions of the college experience.





**A**fter a generous donation from the citizens of Miami of more than 40 acres of land, fields on the edge of town were cleared and a new Administration Building, later re-named Shipley Hall, was constructed. Classes moved to the current campus for the first time in February of 1921, when 67 students were enrolled for the spring semester.



**M**ining and geological engineering courses were among the first offered. But English, history, mathematics, botany, home economics, Spanish, French, Latin, government, chemistry, sociology and design classes were also available.



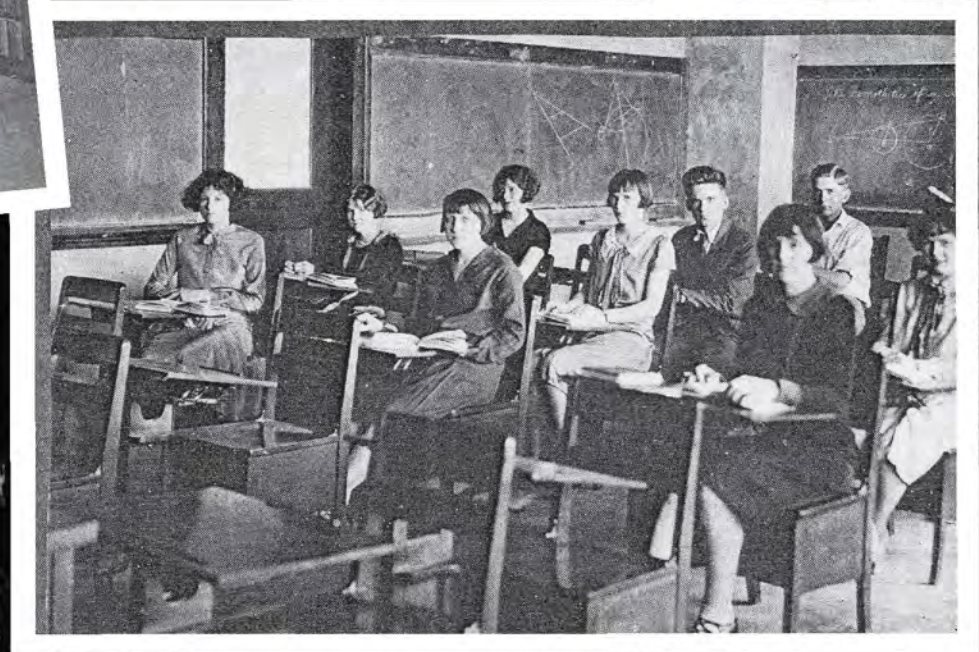
**M**ost faculty members taught at least two or three subjects in addition to other duties.



The Administration Building housed offices, classrooms, and a library. Students eager to learn convened study hall on the floor outside the classrooms.



It was clear that something very special had taken root when the college was created.







State  
School of Mines  
Miami Okla.,

1920



Photo by  
MONROE





T

he college's first graduating class included three students: Zella Donohue of Miami, OK; Willet Warne of Picher, OK; and Loren Van DeGriff, also of Picher, OK.

*(Photo also includes students completing certification programs.)*



# Miami School of Mines

Miami, Oklahoma

This Certifies That Zella Donohue  
being of good moral character and having completed the Junior  
College Course as prescribed by the Board of Regents is  
hereby awarded this

## Diploma

In Testimony Whereof, witness the signatures  
hereunto affixed.

Given at Miami, Oklahoma, this 30th day of May, 1922.

R. H. Wisaw  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF REGENTS

U. O. Bralle  
PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE

R. J. Tutthill  
SECRETARY, BOARD OF REGENTS

Lloyd B. Drake  
DEAN

CLASS OF 1922

Commencement took place on May 29th, 1922, at the Miami Christian Church and included a musical tribute by the Girls Chorus.

Miami School of Mines

Zella Donohue

Class of 1922



# School of Mines

## Commencement Program

Monday, May 29, 8:00 p. m.

Selections by Mr. Cravens' Orchestra

Organ Prelude by Kinder—Mrs. L. B. Pursley

Invocation—Rev. A. P. Cameron

Chorus, "A Maying."—School of Mines Girls Chorus

Violin Solo, "Le Deluge"—Mrs. Grimes, accompanied by Mrs. Pursley at the organ and Miss Helen Rice at the piano.

Commencement Address—Dean J. H. Felgar, College of Engineering, University of Okla.

Presentation of Class to Board of Regents—President W. O. Cralle

Presentation of Diplomas—Mr. R. J. Tuthill, secretary of the Board of Regents

Vocal Solo "To A Hilltop"—Mrs. R. F. Cannon.  
Benediction

Class of Nineteen Hundred Twenty Two  
Miami School of Mines  
Commencement Exercises  
on Monday evening, May the twenty-ninth  
at half after eight o'clock

## THREE GRADUATES IN 1922 CLASS OF SCHOOL OF MINES

Program of Exercises at New  
State Institution Now  
Practically Complete

The first graduation exercises for

held Monday evening, May 29, 1922, at the Christian Science Church. The graduates were Lloyd B. Drake, mechanical engineering, and Loren Van DaGriff, civil engineering. The members of the class will deliver their addresses at the exercises.

The engineering department of the University of Oklahoma, will present the address. Dr. Cameron, president of the engineering department, will preside at the exercises.

Its first graduates were three students: Donahue, mechanical engineering; Drake, civil engineering; and Van DaGriff, civil engineering. They will take

are C. L. Willett, former civil engineer of Mines, will take

a course in chemical engineering at Oklahoma.

resident of the University of Oklahoma will preside at the exercises. The members of the class have accepted

the invitation of local Lions club and will attend the banquet given at the Methodist church in their honor and to the seniors of the high



Oil Painting by Aretha Soule depicting the first class of the Miami School of Mines





'24



*The "Its"*



*Roy E. Burt*



*Elva Dowins '26*

'24



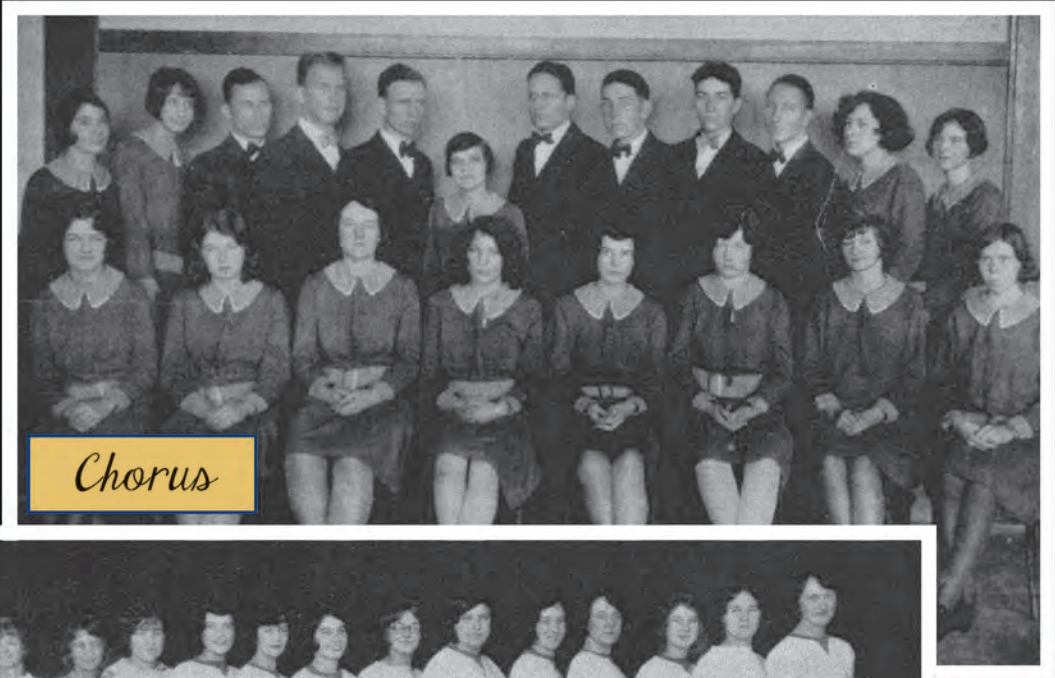
# SENIORS



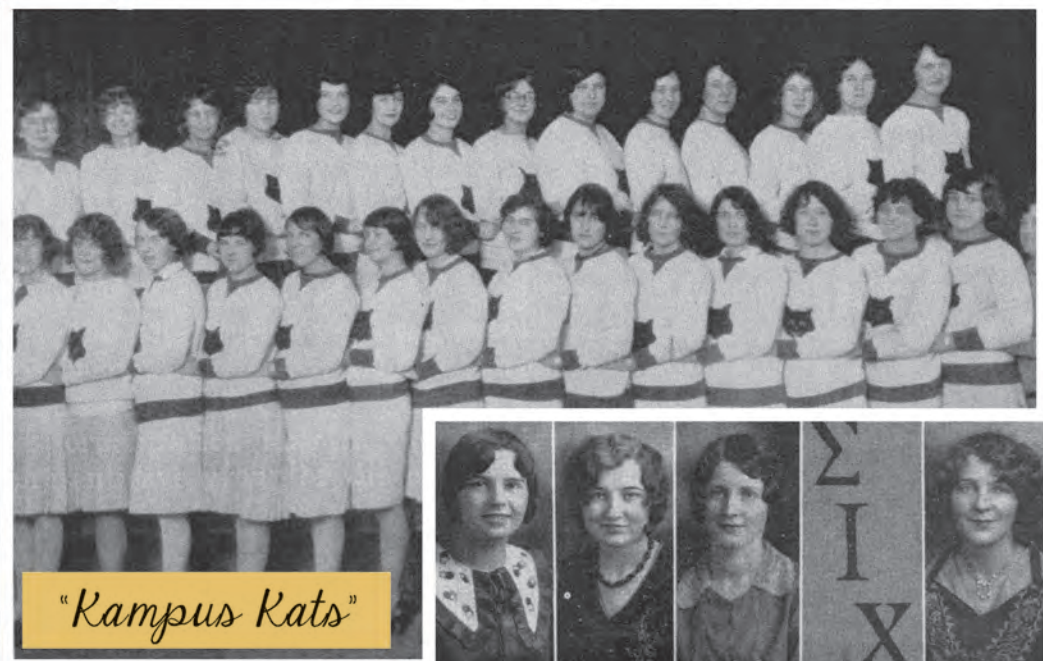


The outpouring of enthusiasm for college life, both academic and social, was unmistakable. In 1924, the college expanded its mission and the school's name was formally changed to Northeastern Oklahoma Junior College by the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural & Mechanical Colleges.





*Chorus*



*"Kampus Kats"*

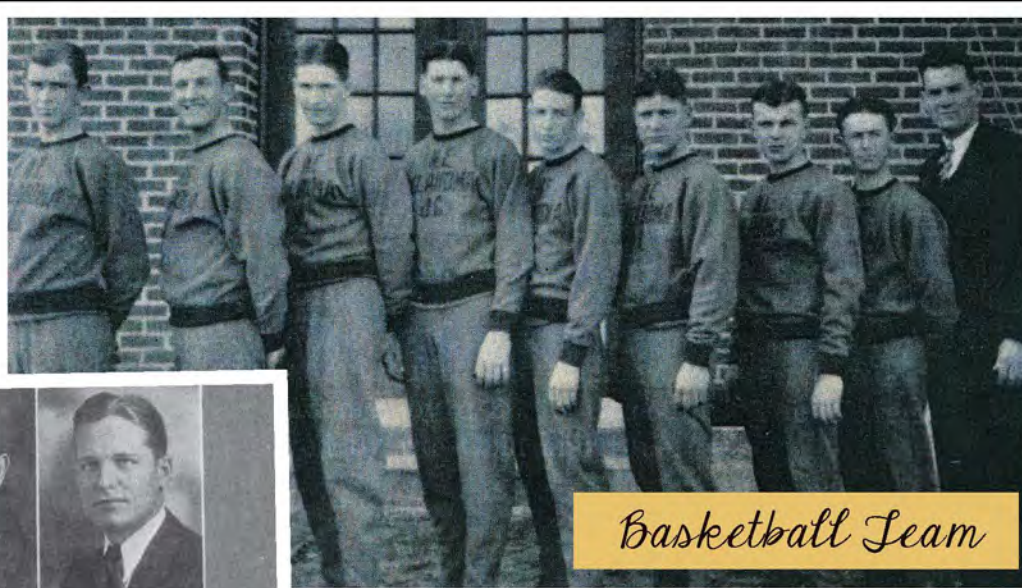


*Sigma Iota Chi*

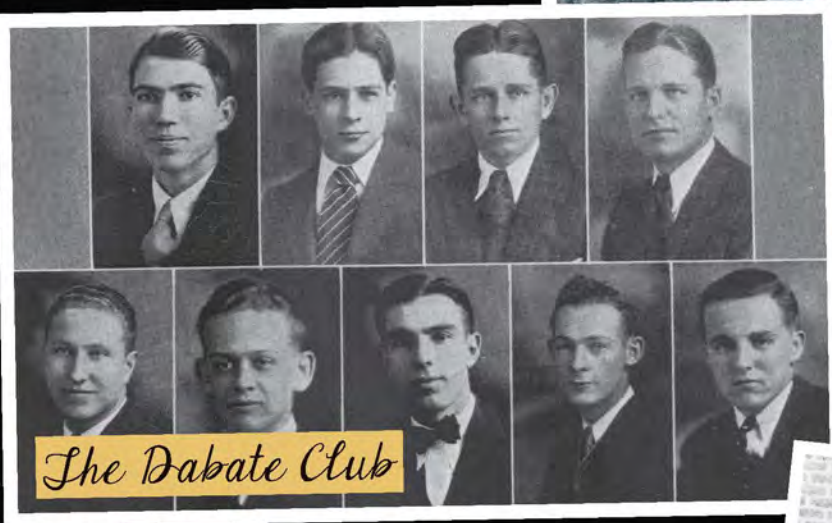
Each semester social mixers, parties and dances gave students the opportunity to get to know one another and make friends.

If it was surprising that a young lady was among the first graduates of the mining school, she was certainly not the last. Almost from the beginning, young women enrolled in courses and participated wholeheartedly in campus life.





*Basketball Team*



*The Debate Club*



*Football Team*



Not to be outdone, the gentlemen started athletic teams, fraternities, and student social organizations to “perpetuate and maintain enthusiasm within the school and to assist and direct the lower classmen to their proper station.”





The first school annual was published in 1926 and named the "Jay-Seer", a play on the initials for Junior College. Faculty, students, classes, sports, social functions and campus activities were all featured.





FOREWORD

Bearing in mind that a college annual is to throw light upon the activities and spirit of the institution from which it emanates, it was definitely decided at the first of the second semester this year, that this school should and would have an annual.

To derive a name for this publication the abbreviation of our junior college which is J. C., was modified to Jay-See. Not only was this found to vary the abbreviation but it created a new species of birds, now known as the Jay-Seer, around which the theme of this book is woven.

This is not intended as an apology but it is hoped that you will not be too harsh in your judgment of this first generation of its species. We also sincerely hope that this initial attempt will result in a bigger and better annual each succeeding year.

THE  
JAY SEER

MAY

N.E.D.  
J.C.

1929

The mascot, a Jay-Seer Bird, and the school annual named its honor.



One Sweet Girl  
 ("Smitty" recites for us)

She left re--and agony reigns in my breast,  
 My heart is too heavy to laugh or to jest.  
 She left me a curl to remember her by;  
 I found it last night when I cut up the pie.

Dirty Ber  
 reciting to "Big")

at that trips, love,  
 the maze of the waltz;  
 your lips, love,  
 heart is not false.  
 y and white, love,  
 usly fine,  
 -but not quite, love,  
 be mine."  
 ttening fear, love,  
 to speak.  
 sand a year, love,  
 week.

Northeastern  
 Junior  
 College



	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	1-2
Colley		Debate Daily 3 HRS	Math III M.W.F.	Adv. Pub Speaking M.W.F.	Mech. Draw II T.F.W.
Bruton	Econ II Daily	English II M.T.Th	English II M.W.F.	English IV T.W.F.	English II M.W.F.
Kirby	English II T.Th.F	English II M.T.Th.	English II M.W.F.	French II Daily	French II Daily
Vann	French II Daily	French IV M.T.W.F.	Food II M.W.F.	Food II M.W.F.	Food II M.W.F.
Montgomery	Home Ec II M.T.Th	Home Ec II M.T.Th	Health Ed. W.F.	Hist I M.W.	Hist I M.W.
Lindsey	History II T.Th.F	Hist. III Daily	Hist. IV M.W.F.	Psychology M.W.F.	Psychology M.W.F.
Steed	Govt I T.Th.F	Sociology I Daily	Gen. Chem M.W.F.	Organ. Chemistry T.Th.F.	Organ. Chemistry T.Th.F.
Tisbury	Chemistry III M.W.F.	Physics II Daily	Gen. Chem M.W.F.	Short hand Daily	Short hand Daily
Towry	Govt. Law M.T.Th.	Accounting M.T.Th.F.	Typing II-III Daily	Math IV M.W.F.	Math IV M.W.F.
	Geology I	GEO. II	Botany I M.W.F.	Agri. II M.T.W.Th.	Botany LAB M.W.

Being a man you think that all  
 You ever have to do is call  
 And I see if I could be inside.



Phi Theta Kappa established the first Oklahoma chapter of the honor society in 1926 at NEO Junior College. There were five charter members and 13 elected members.

There was also a Greek system for a short while at NEOJC, including Eta Upsilon Gamma and Sigma Iota Chi sororities and the Eta Iota Tau and Phi Sigma Nu fraternities.



# Phi Theta Kappa

To all to whom these Presents shall come  
Greeting:

Be it known that a charter for the establishment of a chapter of the Society of Phi Theta Kappa at Miami, Okla. to be known as Mu Chapter, is hereby granted to the following persons as charter members thereof, conveying to them and to their duly elected associates and successors all the rights and privileges appertaining to all duly constituted Phi Theta Kappa societies.

To Conrad C. Caldwell

Georgia A. Long

Helen Wilson

Sally L. Price

Troy O. Morgan

**Charter Members**

In Testimony Whereof, the signatures of the President and Secretary of the Grand Council and the seal of said Society are hereunto affixed. Done this 11th day of December 1926. at Columbia, Mo.

Opal Montgomery President

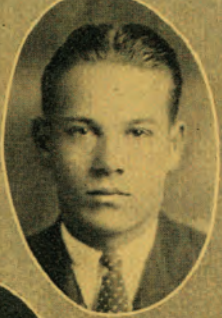
Opal Milligan Secretary



### School Reception.

The Miami School of Mines offered a unique and interesting St. Patrick's Day reception and entertainment for the benefit of its many friends Friday afternoon. The school building had been very effectively decorated appropriately to the occasion. Mrs. W. O. Cralle and Mrs. Nora Garth were the gracious hostesses to receive arriving guests. A thorough inspection of the different rooms and departments of the school occupied the first part of the afternoon. At 3.35 p.m. was

"Rat Day Rulers"



### TREASURE HUNT

New members of Seven-Eleven entertained Friday night, November 14, with a treasure hunt. The group assembled at the home of Miss Alma Lee London and followed 16 clues which led them over a wide area of territory and back again to the starting point where the treasure was hidden. Neva Lee Neff and Bob Pinnell won. A delicious supper was served the guests.





RULES FOR FRESHMAN WEEK  
OCTOBER 13-17

1. Freshman boys must part their hair in the middle and wear a bowtie all freshman week. Until 4 p.m.
2. Freshman girls will not be allowed to wear any make-up or ribbons, or combs in their hair during freshman week. Until 4 p.m.
3. All freshman boys are required to enter & exit the administration building at all times during freshman week through the front door only through the front door.
4. All freshmen girls are required to enter & exit the administration building at all times during freshman week through the back door only through the back door.
5. All freshmen are required to wear freshman green caps while on or off the college campus, with the exception of Sunday.
6. All freshmen are required to get off the sidewalk & button remain standing by the side of the walk while the sophomore walk.
7. Freshmen are not permitted to use the front walk from the gate to the administration building at any time.
8. Freshmen are required to carry the books of a sophomore, or other reasonable or similar task when asked to do so by a sophomore.
9. Freshmen are required to care for the dishes of sophomores at the dining hall after each meal when requested to do so by a sophomore.
10. Whenever a sophomore passes a freshman or is in the presence of a freshman and says "Button," the freshman must kneel immediately reach up and touch the button on his freshman cap.
11. All freshmen are required to say "Howdy", preferably, when they meet on the campus every time they meet them.
12. All freshmen must sing the alma mater when requested by a sophomore.
13. Mr. Elliott must wear a bowtie (green if possible) to all classes during freshman week.
14. Miss Arrington must wear a green cap during freshman week.
15. Both sponsors must address all sophomores as Sir and Madam in class and on the campus.
16. Sophomores must wear sophomore caps before they can address freshmen to do any of the above.

EACH AND EVERY VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE RULES WILL BE CONSIDERED GUILTY FRESHMAN TO THE WELL KNOWN PENALTIES



FIRST ANNUAL RAT DAY

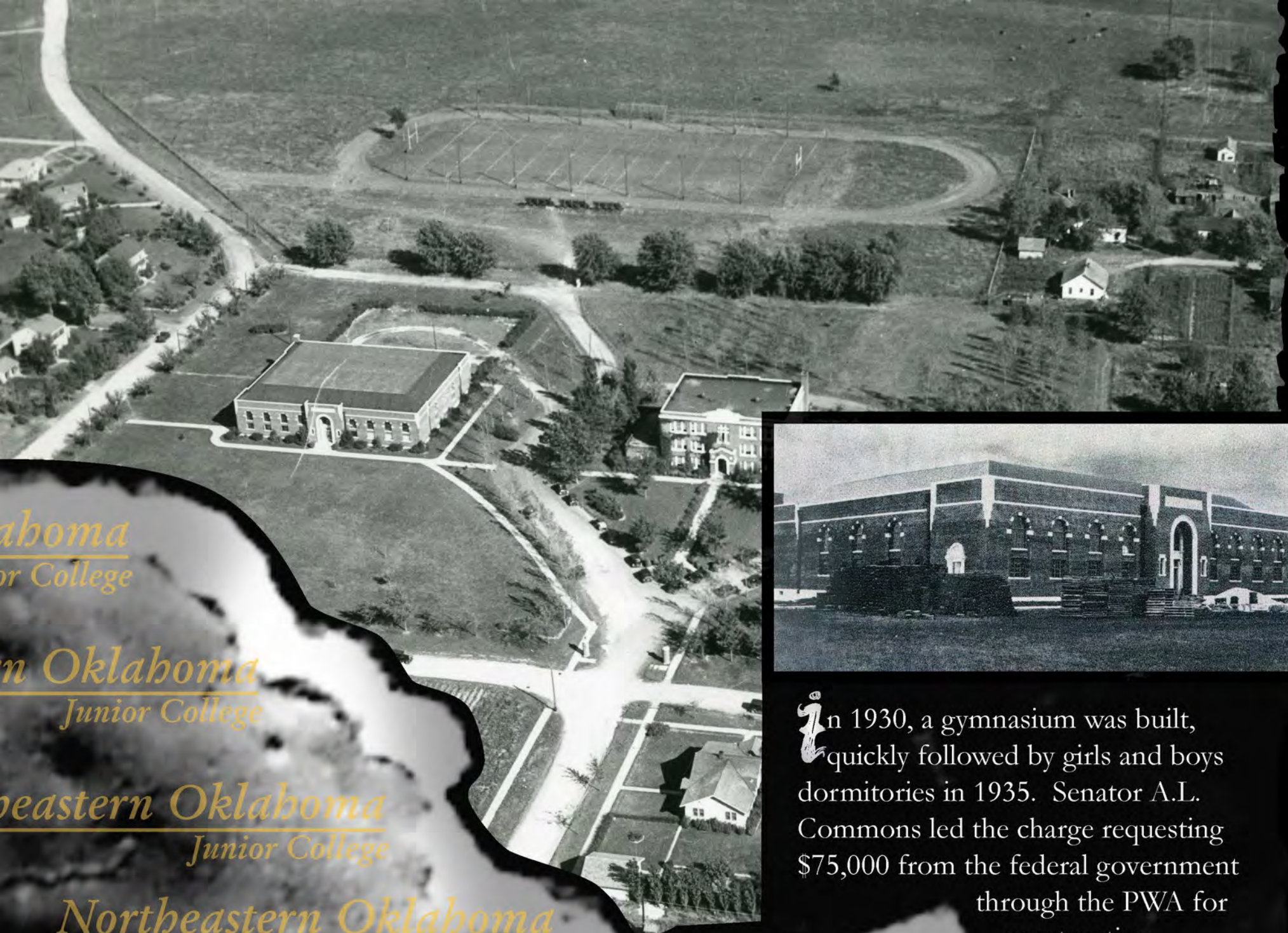
Lucille Hubbard, Queen

March 17, 1924



RESOLVED: "..... All men shall wear no other cap or hat but the regulation Freshman Cap at all times while in the city of Miami, Oklahoma, from the opening of school to Thanksgiving day, except on Sundays and while filling dates after six p. m. ...."





*Oklahoma  
Junior College*

*Central Oklahoma  
Junior College*

*Eastern Oklahoma  
Junior College*

*Northeastern Oklahoma  
Junior College*



*I*n 1930, a gymnasium was built, quickly followed by girls and boys dormitories in 1935. Senator A.L. Commons led the charge requesting \$75,000 from the federal government through the PWA for construction.





## DORMITORY BILL GOES IN TODAY

### Senator Commons to Introduce Measure for PWA Project at College

State Senator A. L. Commons told the News-Record in a telephone conversation today that he would introduce a bill before the Senate this afternoon embodying the construction of both boys' and girls' dormitories for Northeastern Oklahoma Junior college.

Senator Commons said the bill would permit the board of regents of the Junior college to issue bonds to build dormitories for students at the institution at a total cost of approximately \$75,000. He explained that the plan would ask the federal government to furnish sums through the PWA. The money then could be repaid, he said, through rentals of students. The buildings would be constructed on the campus.

Commons has been named to a series of important Senate committees for the present session, including membership on revenue and taxation, commerce and labor, appropriations, public health and insurance groups.

Asked about whether he had decided to become a boxing referee when the story was released today of an alleged fiery scramble between two senators in an executive session, he humorously replied: "I know nothing about it."

In 1935, the college named the new dormitories Commons Hall and Ka-Ne-You-Ah Hall, (the latter in honor of the senator's mother-in-law, using her traditional Cherokee name) in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the school.

The campus had now grown to encompass 3 buildings, more than 100 students and 20 faculty.





*Estah Belle Johnson*  
*Mrs. Johnson*  
*Faculties*  
*N.E.O.J.C.*

BITS

OF

THIS

AND

THE

*Commerce*  
*Department*



THE CONSTITUTION  
of the  
STUDENT COUNCIL  
of

NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE JUNIOR COLLEGE  
Miami, Oklahoma  
1937

PREAMBLE  
the need for student government in our school; the  
mouthpiece to express the student opinion and to let  
tion know the desires of the students on the campus,  
ministration can provide for the welfare of the students,  
officially ordain the following rules for our government.

ARTICLE I

Name of the Organization

Name of this organization shall be the Student Council of  
Oklahoma State Junior College.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section I, Clause I. The presidents or representatives of all  
organizations on the campus, including the freshman and  
classes, shall be members of this council.

Clause 2. Each organization  
represents only that organization

freshman and sophomore classes shall each elect  
council.

Student Council shall





With Europe embroiled in war, another school was established in Miami, OK. The British Flying Training School was formed so British servicemen could participate in aeronautical training exercises far from enemy action and foul weather. The blue skies of Miami, Oklahoma became home to the #3 B.F.T.S., where more than 2000 Royal Air Force cadets earned their wings.



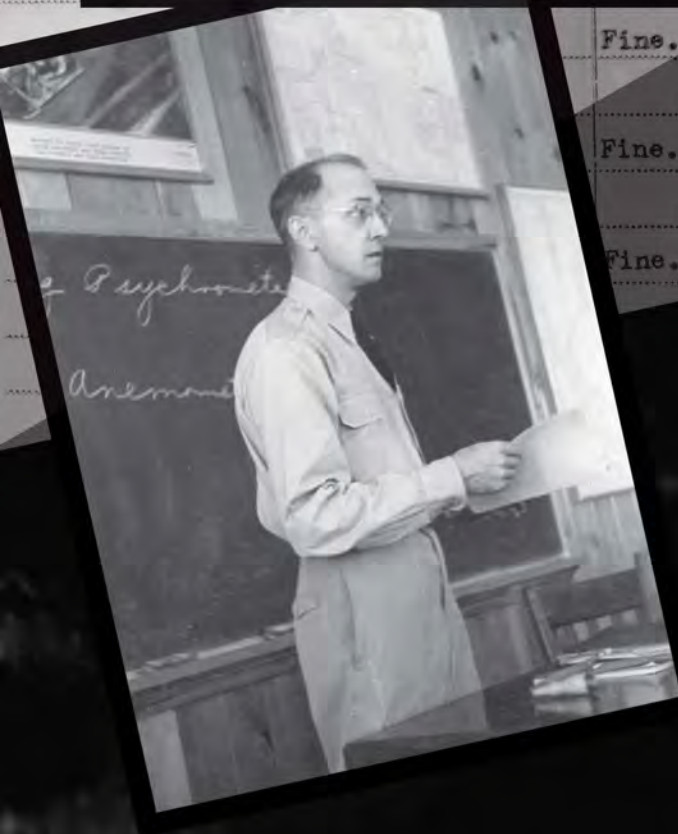
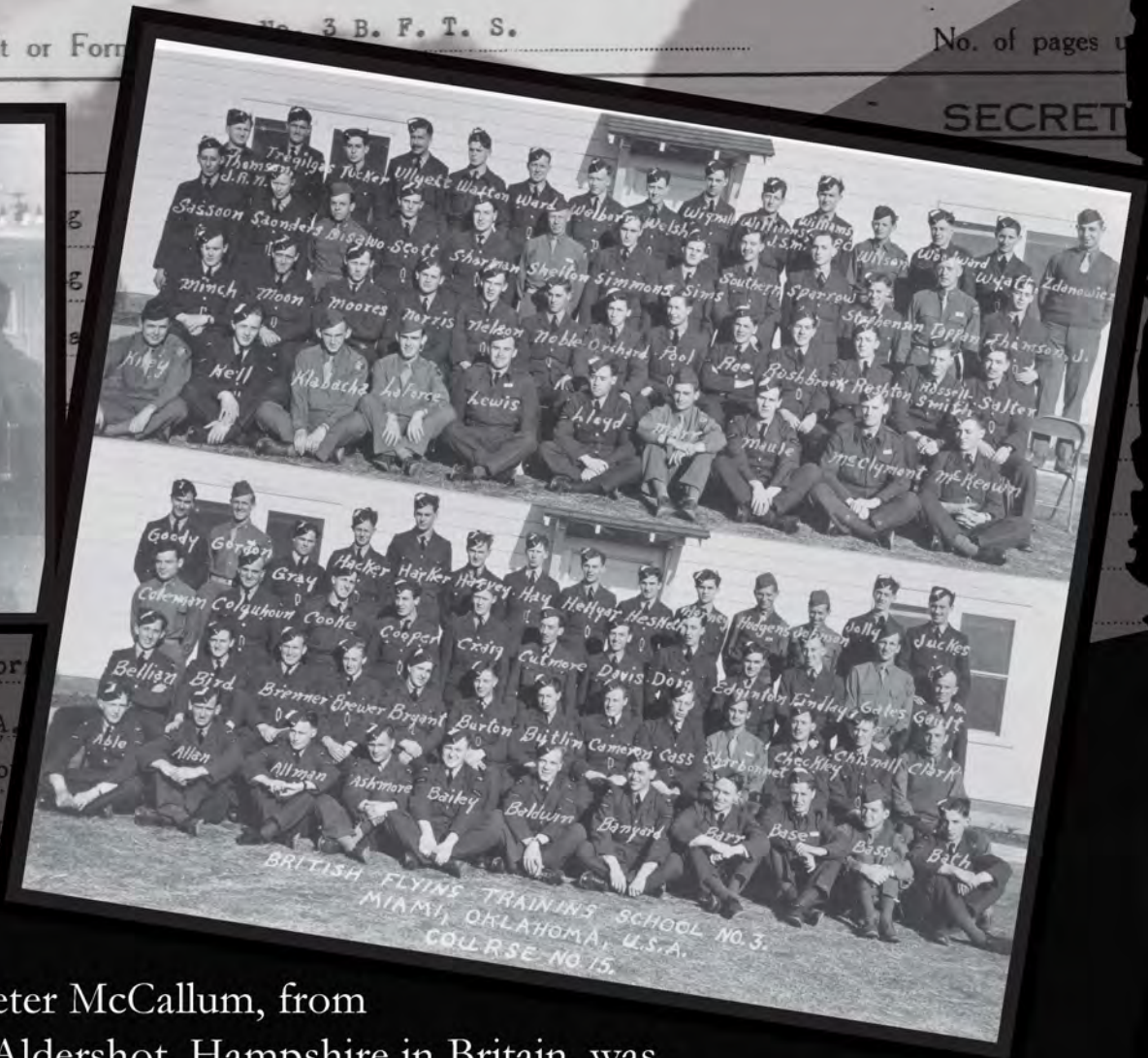
# OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

of (Unit or Form

No. 3 B. F. T. S.

No. of pages u

SECRET



Fine. Flying mor  
 1332473 L.A.  
 Fine. Flying mo  
 W/C D. H. I  
 Fine. Flying m

**P**eter McCallum, from Aldershot, Hampshire in Britain, was one of the young men who trained at the #3. In letters home to his mother, Peter wrote about his training, his appreciation for American food, the "American rugby games" he and his mates watched at the local college, and the always-friendly people of Miami, OK.



No. 9

Mr. Peter McCallum  
No. 3 B.F.T.S.  
Spartan School  
Miami, Oklahoma

27th September, 1941.

Dear Mum and all,

At last I have heard from you - three letters have been forwarded from Ottawa. I was very pleased to hear from you at last and very glad to know that you are all fit and well. Thank you Lynda and Dad for your letters - the snap of Dad was missing when I opened the letter - I expect you forgot to put it in.

I had several letters from Kay, at the same time - all forwarded from Ottawa. Kay says that she had a very good time with you all.

I am still feeling fine and having a good time. There is plenty of hard work to do and sleeping is my principle passtime after work is over. The time is flying along - I have already got over 40 hours flying time in and more than half of that is solo. Just lately I have been doing aerobatics - spins and loops. I soared myself a bit when I first tried them solo but after the first time I felt quite at home. Low flying is grand fun - turning round trees and chasing cows across fields.

Eight of our fellows have been 'washed' out now - all because they couldn't catch on to flying. I am very thankful I wasn't one of them. Actually there is no disgrace in not being able to fly because it is something which you can or cannot do - there is no happy medium with it. Some can and some can't - the latter are just unlucky. Up to now three of our boys have crashed - no casualties though.

My American friends whom I told you about are giving me some fine times at weekends. They asked me to find two more fellows to fill up the car when we go out and so I took two of my pals with me.

They take us all over the place and treat us to everything. I am getting on fine with my riding and I am going to start jumping tomorrow.

Another course arrived here on Wednesday - the fourth and last for this school. This makes nearly two hundred fellows here now.

I am enclosing one or two snaps - the writing on the back will explain them.

The American rugby football season opened on Thursday and we were invited to the opening game down here between the local College team and another team from Kansas. The game isn't a bit like our rugby and we found it very amusing much to the disgust of the Americans.

We shall be getting a weeks leave at the end of Primary in five weeks time. My two pals and myself are saving up to fly (by air line) to New York. Travelling by air is far more popular than trains or cars out here and also much cheaper.

Well, off to lunch now and so cheerio for now and I hope I get some more letters soon. Remember me to everyone,

Love to all,  
Peter.

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Deeply regret to inform you that your son 1199099  
MCCALLUM died on 13th November 1941  
injuries received in an air crash  
date no information  
being obtained  
profound sympathy

+1199099 13

Please write on the



Although postal service was difficult, Peter's letters were steady until October of 1941, when they abruptly stopped.

According to his sister, Peter had fallen in love with an American girl who lived on a large

farm near Miami, OK, and become engaged to her prior to the fatal crash that ended his young life. He is buried today in the GAR Cemetery, Miami, OK. with 14 of his fellow servicemen who died training to serve their country, so very far from home.



# Northeastern Oklahoma Junior College Passes Its Twentieth Anniversary

## Campus View Shows Improvements Effectuated in Two Decades

### ACT CREATING SCHOOL SIGNED MARCH 18, 1919

#### From One-Building Institution, Growth to Present Size Has Been Steady

Twenty years ago, yesterday, Gov. J. B. A. Robertson affixed his signature to the bill creating the Miami School of Mines. From this beginning two decades ago has arisen the Northeastern Oklahoma Junior college of today.

Its true beginning dates back to 1913, when it was but an extension school of the Wilburton School of Mines. J. S. Mabon, who still lives in Miami and who was state representative from here at the time, had offered an amendment to the appropriation to the Wilburton School of Mines for the sum of \$5,000, which was passed. The amendment stated that extension work was to be carried on at Miami for the furthering of the Wilburton school. From that crude beginning more than 25 years ago, the junior college really developed. A member of the House, who fought the amendment, said that in time the extension school would develop into a state school, which soon came true.

Mr. Mabon, again a member of the House of Representatives in the 1919 session, had as his co-worker in attempting to pass the School of Mines bill State Senator J. J. Smith of Miami. It was through Mabon's efforts that the bill was passed. Senator Smith, in a letter to the Miami Chamber of Commerce, following the final approval of the bill by Governor Robertson, stated that entire credit belonged to Mabon. The bill passed the Senate first on Feb. 26, 1919, by a vote of 23 to 14. Senator Smith said, before the passage of the bill, "This bill is one in which



View of Northeastern Oklahoma Junior college campus.



Girls' Dormitory

The building was financed and partially equipped by a special grant from the governor's office directly to the junior college. The building, the work benches, and the machinery are the property of the college.

Courses are being offered in engineering drawing, architectural drawing, bench work, machine work and wood turning. The progress of the school may be summarized as follows: 1913—Extension work from Wilburton School of Mines. 1919—Passage of School of



Boys' Dormitory



College Gymnasium

"The next question in connection with this institution will be the site. Forty acres of land will be required, but thus far no one has suggested a location other than 'somewhere between here and North Miami.' The site is to be donated to the state, under provisions of the act. The bill makes an appropriation of \$100,000 for the necessary buildings and \$25,000 a year for maintenance."

Finally, on Tuesday, March 18, 1919, the School of Mines bill was approved by Governor Robertson, who signed the bill at 10 a. m. In July, 1920, after classes had been held for one year in the Mining & Exchange building, construction began on the present administration building. For 10 years this

finished administration building Mrs. McBrien, who is taking post-graduate work at the junior college now, said that they considered 13 good attendance at college assembly in those days.

It was near the last of the legislative session in 1923 that friends of Mabon passed the bill changing the name of the School of Mines to Northeastern Oklahoma Junior college. Mabon, who was in Chicago at the time of the passage, did not know about it until almost three months later, he said recently while reminiscing. Mabon, who had prepared the bills for changing the name, gave a copy of the bill to Senator Smith to present in the Senate simultaneously with the presentation in the lower house.

Football has been the most popular sport since the school's inception. Thirteen years ago, o'possum hunts were a popular sport with the junior college students. At least one big o'possum hunt was staged for the students each fall.

**First Library Donated**  
The first library at the School of Mines in the present administration building, was composed of about 2,000 books, most of which had been donated by Miami citizens. Some of these books are still in use in the library.

The library today consists of approximately 6,000 volumes. The present trend in reading is away from sets of books and more toward modern novels and biographies.



By the time the college had reached its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1939, it was already a cornerstone of the community. In just two decades NEO had progressed from a small school of mining to an important part of Oklahoma's higher education system.



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### 1942-1943 College Calendar

1942

- September 7 (Monday)—Freshman Classification and Registration
- September 8 (Tuesday)—Sophomore Registration.
- September 9 (Wednesday)—Class Work Begins.
- December 18 (Friday)—Christmas Holidays Begin at 4 P. M.
- December 28 (Monday)—Class Work Resumed at 8 A. M.

1943

- January 11 to Jan 15—First Semester Examinations.
- January 15 (Friday)—First Semester Examinations.
- January 18 (Monday)—Second Semester Closes.
- January 19 (Tuesday)—Second Semester Registration.
- May 16 (Sunday)—Second Semester Begins.
- May 18 (Tuesday)—Commencement Sermon.
- May 21 (Friday)—Second Semester Closes at 4 P. M.

**B**y the authority of the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, the college once again expanded it's mission, and in 1943 the name of the college was changed to Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College.





**A**s war raged in Europe, a new day dawned at NEO as Bruce G. Carter accepted the position of the college's 10th President, in March of 1943. Dr. Carter had big plans for both campus and curriculum, including the acquisition of a 200-acre college farm for a new academic program in agriculture.





Over the next 25 years the college would grow into an educational institution the mining school students might not have recognized but would have been proud to call home. Those students mission to find their future and fortunes in the mines of Northeast Oklahoma was about to strike blue and gold.



