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University of North Dakota Alumni Association

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Ohio Man New President of U

Starcher Will Be Ninth President of University

When Dr. George William Starcher is inaugurated as president of the University of North Dakota he will become the ninth head of the 71-year-old state institution.

Dr. Starcher, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Ohio University, has been appointed to the post to succeed Dr. John C. West, who will retire June 30.

Six of the University presidents were formally appointed administrators, while two served as acting president.

Opened in 1884

The legislative act creating

the University of North Dakota was passed Feb. 23, 1883, and on Sept. 8, 1884, the school opened its doors to students.

William M. Blackburn assumed the presidency in June, 1884, and served until May, 1885. At that time the school was more of an academy, lacking the divisions common to a University and with a student body small in number.

Henry Montgomery served as acting president from May, 1885, until 1887, being succeeded by Homer B. Sprague, who held the position until March, 1891.

Merrifield No. 4

Webster Merrifield believed by many to be the University's first president, assumed the position March 12, 1891, serving until June 17, 1909.

A classical scholar from Yale University, Merrifield was instrumental in expanding and organizing the University into the various colleges and schools. A member of the faculty when Blackburn was president, Merrifield is credited as the University's pioneer and its guiding hand in the early days.

Succeeded by McVey

Frank L. McVey succeeded Merrifield on June 19, 1909, and remained as president until October, 1917.

Earle J. Babcock was acting president from Oct. 15, 1917, until April 8, 1918, when Thomas F. Kane assumed the presidency. Kane headed the University until July 1, 1933.

Dr. West, the only living former president of the University, took the office on Kane's retirement after being superintendent of Grand Forks public schools.



DR. GEORGE STARCHER
New University President

Report From The Campus

By J. LLOYD STONE

One of the cleverest announcements of an alumni gathering I have ever seen was recently sent to me from the Southern California alumni group. It was prepared by Jack Fields, president, announcing the UND banquet for Friday, May 14. It was in the form of a large map of the United States. In bold lines the states of North Dakota and California were outlined. Jack pointed out that the artist took a few liberties in locating Grand Forks around Valley City and also stated, "He had trouble with Flickertails. The hyphen is purely gratuitous, inasmuch as the artist somehow could not conceive of an un-hyphenated Flickertail."

(Continued on Page Four)

Dr. George William Starcher, a 48-year old Ohio educator, will succeed Dr. John C. West as president of the University of North Dakota upon the latter's retirement June 30.

Dr. Starcher, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, has 27 years experience in university teaching.

His selection, announced April 30 by the State Board of Higher Education, was from a field of five prominent educators. All five applicants for the post were interviewed here by the board.

Dr. Starcher said he was "enthusiastic" over the opportunity the appointment afforded him.

Here by July 1

He said he and Mrs. Starcher would move to Grand Forks in the early summer, at least by July 1. They have one son, George Starcher Jr., who is in his senior year at Yale University.

Dr. West, whose retirement comes after 21 years service marked by considerable expansion of the University's physical plant and its educational functions, expressed pleasure over Dr. Starcher's appointment.

"I consider Dr. Starcher's selection a most happy one," he said. "He has a splendid background in educational work and I am sure he will meet completely the great opportunity and challenge that awaits him here.

Assured of Co-operation

"We will all welcome him cordially, both as a University and as a community, and I know all faculty members and the student body will give him the fullest co-operation. For my own part, I will do whatever I can to aid him."

Here Dr. and Mrs. Starcher will occupy the University president's residence on the campus, which has undergone extensive remodeling and refinishing this spring.

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ROTC Head Assigned to War College

Notification of the selection of Lt. Col. Paul T. Clifford, Inf., University professor of military science and tactics, by the Department of the Army to attend the War College class commencing in August has been received by John C. West, UND president.

Col. Clifford has been on duty at the University since August, 1952, in charge of the Army ROTC detachment.

About Col. Clifford's impending departure, West said, "Colonel Paul Clifford leaves a host of friends on the campus of the University of North Dakota. They congratulate him on the choice appointment to the War College and look forward with pleasure to the continuance of what already is a

(Continued on Page Two)

News Notes of University Alumni

John L. Gardner, ex 1952, is sales representative for the U. S. Gypsum Company in Chicago. He covers the Williston Basin area in North Dakota.

Patricia L. Flint, ex 1952, is teaching fourth grade in East Grand Forks, Minn., and is elementary music assistant.

Arlene B. Dippe, ex 1952, is a senior at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. She has been selected to "Who's Who" on the campus.

Lt. Loren H. Devine, 1953, has been transferred to the 31st Infantry Division at Camp Carson, Colo. He had formerly been stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, with the 10 Infantry Division. **Lt. Arthur B. Halpin, 1953**, has also been transferred from Fort Riley to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Mary J. Ewen, 1950, is doing graduate work in drama at the University of Washington in Seattle. She has performed in two of the University productions.

Harold W. Anderson, ex 1952, is the factory representative for the Hoover Co. Vacuum Cleaner Sales located at Herbst Department Store in Fargo.

Eleanor M. Solstad, ex 1952, is employed as cashier at the East Grand Forks Federal Savings & Loan Association, East Grand Forks.

Naval Aviation Cadet Merle A. Merkel, ex 1953, is qualified as a carrier pilot after six successful landings aboard the light aircraft carrier USS Monterey in the Gulf of Mexico.

Naval Aviation Cadet James H. Leonard, ex 1953, recently graduated from the U. S. Naval School at Pensacola, Fla.

Dewayne Domer, 1953, is filling out the superintendent's term at Berthold, N. D., public schools. Domer has been principal at Berthold for the past six years. He has been hired as superintendent for the next year also.

Rev. Rolla C. Currie, 1893, will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Wesley College at commencement exercises June 5.

Owen F. Eide, ex 1941, has been connected with the East Bay Municipal Utility District in Orinda, Calif., as an engineer, for the past six years. He is married and has three sons.

Delmar A. Martinucci, ex 1952, is property control clerk for Bureau of Reclamation and lives in Bismarck, N. D.

P. H. Throdahl, ex 1932, is associated with the Nash-Finch Company in Minneapolis in the department of railroad sales.

Mrs. Ray Truscott (Alice May Carter), 1941, is living in Redwood City, Calif. Her husband is Circulation Manager of the Redwood City Tribune.

John H. Maloney, 1950, is living in Bell Gardens, Calif., where he is employed as an engineer at Northrop Aviation corp.

John B. Jardine, 1937, of Fargo is president of the Concrete Sectional Culvert Company and vice president and general manager of the Jardine Bridge Co., Inc., having been associated with both firms in various capacities since 1938. He is also vice-president of the National Society of Professional Engineers for the North Central Region.

Ted Blanding, ex 1923, of Santa Ana, Calif., is the International Executive Secretary for Toastmasters International.

Dr. Leo P. A. Sweeney, 1922, of Palos Park, Ill., was recently elected a trustee of the Illinois Medical Service—the Blue Shield Plan.

● ROTC Head

(Continued from Page One) brilliant military career. His work at the University has been outstanding and he has set a high mark of accomplishment."

The War College, located at Carlisle, Pa., is the top Army officers' school. The 40-week course is designed to train selected officers with between 13 and 21 years federal service, for duty as commanders and as general staff officers within the headquarters of Army group, theater armies and the Department of the Army.

University of North Dakota

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President Henry Lykken

Vice-President Armin Rohde

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To 1956—Dr. E. L. Grinnell, Mrs. Reinhold Jacobi, Henry Lykken, George Soule, Jack Stewart.

To 1954—Chester Fritz, John A. Hutcheson, Mrs. Helen McClure, Armin Rohde, Loyde C. Thompson.

To 1955—Durdward E. Balch, Daniel F. Bull, Mrs. Milton Kelly, George Longmire, Edward J. O'Connor.



At the Honolulu U.N.D. Alumni Club meeting were these former University students: front row, left to right: Vernon Saiki, 1948; Miss Mabel Davies, 1918; Miss Gertrude Dwire, Mrs. W. H. Witherstine; Mrs. George Dwire (Agnes O'Connor), 1918; Miss Burness Wenberg, 1949; kneeling, left to right; Jean Bostian; Mrs. Katsuki (Betty Henry) 1935; Mrs. Albert Ishii (Faith Saiki), 1948; Mrs. Jack Withers (Mamie Lund), 1933; Dr. Min Hin Li, 1920; Dr. George Dwire; Mrs. Vernon Saiki; standing, left to right: Mrs. Millard White; Dr. Sanford Katsuki, 1927; Mrs. Sanford Katsuki; Mrs. Min Hin Li; Dr. Albert Ishii; Dean H. E. French; Dr. Robert Katsuki, 1932; Jack Withers, ex-1933; Dr. W. H. Witherstine; Dr. Stanley Saiki, 1942; Judge Millard White, 1921; and Miss Pearl Saiki, ex-1949.

News Notes

George F. Strickling, 1925, has been named "Citizen of the Year" in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The citation was in recognition for his promotion, arranging, and directing of a European tour last summer by the Cleveland Heights High School choir.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Prenevost, 1948, of Red Lake Falls, Minn., are the parents of a daughter, Pamela Jean, born March 31.

Elrose Hope Lofthus, ex 1949, and **John A. Banik, 1950**, exchanged nuptial vows recently in Grand Forks. Banik recently received his army discharge. His wife has been employed in a St. Paul hospital. They are now living in Denver, Colo.

Lt. Boyd L. Erickson, ex 1951, was killed when his jet plane exploded in the air and plunged 5,000 feet into Cape Cod Bay near Orleans, Mass. Lt. Erickson's body was recovered about a mile and a half from the crash scene. He was flying out of Otis Air Force Base. He entered the Air Force in February, 1951 and was commissioned in September, 1953. He is survived by his widow, his mother, four sisters and two brothers. His home was in Grand Forks.

Word has been received here that **Miss Anne H. Farrington, 1927**, died last fall. A memorial fund has been established to honor her memory by a committee of librarians in Milwaukee. The fund will be used for training in library extension work.

Dr. Chester Fritz, 1912, and **Vera Baylin** announced their marriage on March 19, 1954, at the Baurau Lac Hotel in Zurich, Switzerland.

W. V. Misslin, 1948, has been named city editor of the Bismarck Tribune. He has served for the past five years as sports editor and general assignment writer for the Tribune. Misslin is married and has three sons.

Mrs. C. V. Thomas (Lois Hallen) 1946, will attend a centennial convocation at Lincoln University in Oxford, Pa., as a representative of the University of North Dakota. Mrs. Thomas lives in Wilmington, Del.

Gordon A. Plum, ex 1952, is employed by the Napoleon Homestead as the associate editor.



Attending a recent Williston U.N.D. Alumni meeting were these former students. Front row, left to right: Comart Peterson, 1950; Ralph Nienas, 1952; Ray Schramm, 1952; Phil Thoeny, 1952; Ray McIntee, 1943; LaVern Neff, 1951; and Jim Carrigan, 1953; second row, left to right: Mrs. Arley Bjella, 1942; Mrs. Phil Thoeny; Amanda Hanson, 1921; Mrs. Mabel Dahlen, 1929; Mrs. Eloise Halverson, 1939; Mrs. Donna Nevill, ex-1937; Joan Borsheim, 1952; Mrs. Jim Key, 1949; and Mrs. Ray McIntee; third row, left to right: Deane Wiley, 1923; Norman Tweet, 1950; Cecil Ralph, 1950; Mrs. Arnold Stromstad; Arnold Stromstad, 1943; Mrs. Cam Gillund, 1943; Wesley Westrum, 1948; Al Hackenberg, 1947; Mrs. Harry Polk; Duane Liffrog, 1951; Mrs. Clarence Olness, 1932; Mrs. A. D. MacMaster, 1929; Everett Palmer, 1933; and A. D. MacMaster, 1930; back row, left to right: Chet King, 1951; Cam Gillund, 1949; Jim Key, 1949; Ray Milner, ex-1952; Dean Winkjer, 1946; Jerry Stenehjelm; and Harry Polk, 1917.

Dr. William H. Hulet, 1949, has been appointed chief resident in medicine at the Geisinger Memorial Hospital in Danville, Pa., the appointment becoming effective in July. Dr. Hulet received his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania and served his internship at Geisinger Hospital.

Joseph G. Bradac, 1947, was conferred the Ph.D. degree in Geography from the University of Michigan in February, 1954. He was appointed assistant professor of Geography at Central Michigan College in Mt. Pleasant last September. Mrs. Bradac (Mary Marinelli) was a librarian at the University of North Dakota from 1945 to 1947. They have two children.

Lt. Leonard J. Kraft, ex 1952, was inducted into the army September, 1952, and completed Officer's Candidate School at Fort Sill, Okla., on October 20, 1953.

Robert G. Broad, ex 1952, is employed in the advertising department of the Grand Forks Herald. He was recently married to Sally Wilson of Grand Forks.

Alfred F. Sowl, 1936, of Duluth, Minn., was one of eight victims who lost their lives in a fire at Crookston which destroyed the Northwood Hotel. After his graduation, Sowl taught at Alvarado, Minn., and Fosston, Minn., and at the time of his death, was employed by the American Bridge Co. Sowl played football for the University in 1933, 1934, and 1935. He is survived by his widow, eight children, his mother, one brother and four sisters.

Dr. Charles C. Rand, 1929, has been appointed superintendent of the Grafton State School in Grafton, N. D. Dr. Rand has been practicing medicine in Grafton since 1939 in the Drs. Tompkins and Countryman Clinic. He is a native of East Grand Forks.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Highness, 1952, (Donna Westley, ex 1952) are living in St. Paul. Highness works at West Publishing Co., and attends the St. Paul School of Law.

Ronald O. Evenson, ex 1952, is serving with the army in Korea. He was married in June, 1953. His wife lives in Manvel, N. D.

Dr. Carl F. Kraenzel, 1930, professor of rural sociology and agricultural economics at Montana State College, has been granted a leave of absence to accept an assignment in Iran for the Near East Foundation. In his foreign assignment, Kraenzel will be engaged in working with community groups in the fields of health, rural cooperatives, and credit.

Frederick R. Montgomery, 1947, is residing in Huntington Park, Calif., where he operates his own accounting service.

Mabel S. Davies, 1918, is now living in the Hawaiian Islands. Miss Davies spent last summer in Europe, where she attended the International Festival at Llangoffen, North Wales.

Pfc. Don B. Sollom, ex 1952, is on a Korean entertainment tour as a vocalist. Sollom took his basic training at Fort Ord, Calif. He is in the 25th Infantry Division.

U.N.D. Commencement
June 4 and 5

● Starcher

(Continued from Page One)

Born in Ripley, West Virginia, on Jan. 14, 1906, Dr. Starcher was one of the younger applicants considered by the state board for the University post.

The new president has specialized in mathematics and besides his classroom work, he won wide attention by several publications on that subject, as well as on two publications on teaching methods.

A graduate of the high school in Cheshire, Ohio, he received an A.B. degree from Ohio University in 1926, and A.M. degree from the University of Illinois in 1927 and a Ph.D. degree from the same University in 1930.

At Ohio 24 Years

After serving as assistant in mathematics at Illinois from Sept. 1927 to June 1929, Dr. Starcher went to Ohio University as instructor in mathematics in 1930, and has since been associated with that institution except for a year at Harvard University, 1945-46.

At Harvard, as a Fellow in Human Relations, Dr. Starcher studied the methods of instruction in the different colleges, but especially in the graduate school of business administration, where the case method of instruction was quite generally employed.

Made Dean in 1938

Dr. Starcher became assistant professor of mathematics at Ohio University in 1931, continuing in that capacity until 1935, when he became an associate professor of mathematics, serving as such until 1940, when he was made professor of mathematics.

In 1938-39, he was associate dean of men, and from Feb. 1, 1943, until Feb. 1, 1945, he was acting dean of the graduate college and the College of Arts and Sciences. He was made dean of those colleges in 1951, the position he now holds.

In the meantime, in 1946, Dr. Starcher was appointed acting dean of the University College, which is the college for all freshmen, and the following year was made dean of that college, serving in that capacity until 1951.

Praised by Associate

The state board was told by one of the top faculty members of Ohio University that "in all his work—as teacher, as dean of the University Col-

lege, and more recently as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, he (Starcher) has been eminently satisfactory and successful."

Academic honors held by Dr. Starcher include: Scholar in Mathematics, Illinois, 1926-27; Fellow in Mathematics, Illinois, 1929-30; Phi Beta Kappa (past president, Ohio University chapter); Kappa Delta Pi; Pi Mu Epsilon (national mathematics honorary fraternity); Sigma Xi (honorary scientific research society); Phi Eta Sigma.

Affiliations Listed

His club and association memberships include the Athens Rotary club, of which he was president four years ago; the Tuesday club (president 1945-47); Theta Chi; Mathematical Association of America; American Mathematical Society; American Conference of Academic Deans; North Central Association of Academic Deans.

Dr. Starcher was accompanied to Grand Forks by Mrs. Starcher. She was Margaret Shaver when they were married June 5, 1928. She also is a graduate of Ohio University and is active in the management of social functions about the university.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Starcher have been very active in civic, church and university organizations in the many years they have resided there, and he is at present an elder in the First Presbyterian church in Athens. Her hobby is flowers.

Is Effective Speaker

He is termed "an effective speaker, able, clear, and forceful," and as a "man of tact who handles difficult administrative problems with great skill and effectiveness."

Both the Starchers were from farm families and schoolmates reported they were "outstanding" in school, where the present Mrs. Starcher specialized in home economics.

Ohio University faculty members said Dr. Starcher's departure from that institution "would be a great loss to students and faculty alike; the vacancy left there will be difficult to fill."

Members of the State Board of Higher Education expressed confidence in the ability of Dr. Starcher to serve as president of the University with an assurance of "outstanding results" from his administration.

● Campus Report

(Continued from Page One)

The Flickertail Follies were presented again this year April 26, 27 and 28. The acts were up to standard and plans are already being made for another gala affair next year.

x x x

We shall join in extending a sincere welcome to our new president, Dr. George William Starcher of Ohio University. I hope that within the next few months, he will be able to visit many of the communities in North Dakota to meet our alumni. I shall extend an invitation to him to participate in our alumni gatherings wherever they might be held.

x x x

The following letter from Al Hackenberg tells of the Williston meeting: "Forty-nine alumni and former students of U.N.D. had a grand ol' time at Williston's 8th annual reunion banquet on April 21 at the Plainsman Hotel. J. Lloyd Stone furnished the necessary Sioux spirit as special guest speaker.

"Dean Winkjer keyed the alumni gathering as M.C. Mrs. Arley Bjella won the prize for the alumnus having attended the most previous reunions; Ralph Nienas won the trophy for coming the greatest distance. Harry E. Polk admitted to being the oldest alumnus present, figuring from the time of his graduation.

"Eleven alumni volunteered to inaugurate a new feature in alumni banquets with a lively table-top discussion on questions concerning the University. Each speaker was limited to 2 or 3 minute comments on suggestions for improving facilities or the program at the U.N.D. Some of the recommendations were: (1) The University should make greater use of pictorial advertising of campus scenes, activities and athletic events in promoting the U to high school seniors. (2) An annual should be sent to every high school in the state so that high school students can see for themselves what goes on at the University. (3) More publicity should

HAWAIIAN MEETING

The Hawaii Alumni group met at the Shuncho-Ro Tea House Wednesday, March 24. Officers for the coming year include Vernon Saiki, 1948, president; Dr. Raid Chappell, 1942, vice president; and Miss Burness Wenberg, 1949, secretary. There were 25 present from the island and the mainland. Dean French of Grand Forks, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Witherstine of Grand Forks, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Withers of Glendale, Calif., Dr. and Mrs. George Dwire were the mainland people visiting Hawaii at the time of the meeting.

PROFESSOR TO LEAVE

Prof. Keith B. MacKichan, head of the electrical engineering department of the University of North Dakota announced his resignation at the end of the school year to make his consulting engineer business a full-time occupation. He came to the University in 1947.

Dr. C. M. Burgess, 1930, was elected president of the Honolulu County Medical Society recently. Dr. Burgess is a member of the American Board of Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and is associated with the Straub Clinic in Honolulu.

be given on U. N. D. athletic events, and the A.P. should be requested to give better service on the scores of each game. (4) Local alumni should be encouraged to sell the University to local high school students and parents. (5) The Medical Center and similar advancements in the U's facilities should be heartily backed by alumni (6) The University should play one or more of its games in Williston, such as a basketball game between Montana State and the U.

x x x

The Dickinson alumni meeting was held on April 20. I hope in the next issue to have a picture of the alumni and former students in attendance