

From Purdue, Cass came to the University of Oklahoma in September of 1945. He met and married Dorothy Lyne a little more than four years ago. She is a native of Wisconsin, and was doing graduate work in drama at the University of Wisconsin when Cass met her.

The professor now teaches courses in drama as well as directing university playhouse productions. Among the plays he has directed in the O.U. playhouse are "Kiss and Tell," "My Sister Eileen," "Alice Sit by the Fire," the summer production of "Merchant of Venice," "Uncle Harry," "Paolo and Francesca" and "You Touched Me." In addition, he has directed two Spanish fiesta plays for the Spanish club on the campus.

This once aspiring actor grew to manhood in a small town in the southeastern part of Minnesota. His grandfather settled the little town of Dakota where he was born. Born of Scotch and English ancestry, Cass was one of three boys. His father was a contract farmer and his mother was a former schoolteacher.

Upon his graduation from high school, the eager youngster joined the old Chautauqua circuits. He tramped with this traveling entertainment group from 1921 to 1925. With these Chautauquans, the young man was both actor and manager of his own company. But his ambitions aimed at a more stable job, so he became stage manager of the Stork company in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dissatisfied with this position, the roving dramatist decided to make a stab at acting in Chicago. There he performed as a radio actor in the early days of the radio profession. But his yearning for more and better things drove him to the University of Minnesota, where he earned his BA degree in 1927. Three years later, he received the Master of Philosophy degree from the University of Wisconsin. In 1936 Cass received his doctor's degree from the University.

Since his arrival at O.U., Cass has given several demonstrated lectures on theatrical makeup. He and his wife together present a program "350 Years of Love Making on the Speaking Stage," in which plays of five different periods of love making in history are illustrated.

Cass is an avid sports fan, is fond of bridge, golfing, and fishing, but doesn't find much time for these things. He has made numerous lectures on theatrical makeup, modeling, and mask-making. He has written articles which have appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, high school *Thespian* magazine, and the *Player's* magazine. At the present time, he is working on a book, *Development of the Speaking Voice*, a private book for the use of his students. He hopes to have it completed within two years.

He is a member of the National Collegiate Players and Theta Alpha Phi, both of which are national honorary dramatic fraternities.

President Cross Salutes . . .

In his regular weekly broadcast over University station WNAD, President George L. Cross salutes an outstanding O.U. faculty member or employee of the University who has served the school for many years. The following excerpts are from recent broadcasts:

"One day in 1941, a tall, elderly, dignified man laid aside his green eyeshade, locked up his old-fashioned roll top desk and strolled across the campus to his Norman home. The same ritual had been performed many times before, but on that occasion it was different. He paused, as he reached the edge of the campus, and looked back on the beautiful white stone building named in his honor. There it stood in the soft evening sunlight, a monument to his great vision, indomitable courage and steadfast purpose. He must have felt a tinge of pride in the noble structure that his handiwork had created. Certainly a warm glow of satisfaction surged through him as he mentally reviewed the struggles and accomplishments of the past years. There was also a little touch of sadness, for that day marked the end of 32 years of distinguished service to the state and to the University of Oklahoma.

"That man was the founder and guiding genius of the University of Oklahoma School of Law. He had just been elevated to the rank of Dean Emeritus and he had turned over the reins of the law school to younger hands.

"Julien Charles Monnet was born October 4, 1868, in Keosauqua, Iowa. He did his common and high school work in his home town, standing at the head of his class. He completed the four years' course in three years and received his A.B. degree from the University of Iowa in 1892. He received his law degree one year later. He taught school for a year, and then began a lucrative law practice with a North Dakota lawyer who later became chief justice of the supreme court of his state. Mr. Monnet soon became a leading member of the bar, served as state's attorney, and enjoyed twelve years of rapid growth and brilliant success.

"He returned to the University of Iowa, and took his master's degree in Political Science and History in 1905. He then moved to Cambridge and took the three-year course at the Harvard Law School, winning his LLB degree with the coveted words "cum laude" in 1908. Upon his graduation, he accepted a professorship at George Washington University.

"Professor Monnet settled in the national capitol with his family and lived there until he was offered the opportunity of organizing and establishing a school of law at the University of Oklahoma. . . . He once said in that regard, 'My idea was that Oklahoma was the last chance to organize and form a state university law school from the ground up

in what was destined to be a rich and powerful state.'

"Dean Monnet was already a seasoned lawyer and a brilliant scholar, 40 years of age, when he first reached the campus. The prospect at the University was primitive in the extreme. . . . He began the careful selection of faculty members that has marked the law school through the years. It was just six years after the Law School's founding when the beautiful classic law school building was dedicated with elaborate ceremonies and named Monnet Hall.

"During his 32 years as Dean, Professor Monnet inspired the growth of the law school into one of the largest in the country, with a strictly grade-A standing. At the time of his retirement he was, in length of service, the senior law school dean in the entire United States. At that time, also, he was the only dean who had organized the law school over which he presided. Many institutions tried to lure him away, among them Stanford and Texas. Moreover, there never was a time when he could not have contracted law partnerships which would have been far more lucrative than his salaried position. And then, he could easily have gone upon the bench, for he has every quality and equipment for the ideal judge. But when he made up his mind back in North Dakota that he would become a university law teacher, it was an irrevocable decision.

"Upon the completion of his 30th year of service, the alumni staged a great demonstration in his honor and presented him with a magnificent platinum watch, studded with diamonds. At the same time, the students presented a bust of him, made by an eminent sculptor, to the library. A later graduating class presented him with an enormous tooled-leather album containing congratulatory letters from former students all over the world.

"Dean Monnet not only established and developed the law school, but he also served as acting president of the University in 1910-1911. His eminence in the legal profession and as a scholar is indicated by his membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Phi, the American Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association, and the American Law Institute. He is a former editor of the *Harvard Law Review* and is a contributor to many leading law journals.

"Few men have rendered such conspicuous service to any institution as Dean Monnet has rendered to the University of Oklahoma during his long and notable career. Today, it is a real pleasure for me to salute the founder of the University of Oklahoma School of Law, Dean Emeritus Julien Charles Monnet."

Oliver Preserve Is Dedicated

A 60-acre tract of land located on the banks of the Canadian river just south of the south campus was formally dedicated May 8 and named the Oliver Biological Preserve.

The preserve was deeded to the University several months ago by Fred Oliver, Cleveland County farmer.

President Cross presided over the ceremony which featured talks on the importance of the area for botanical and zoological studies by Dr. Glenn C. Couch, '31bs, '37ms, dean of the University College, and Dr. Arthur N. Bragg, '37ph.d, assistant professor of zoological sciences.

Dr. Bragg Wednesday related the incident which brought about the deeding of the land to the University. A year ago Bragg was collecting lab specimens on the land when the farmer approached him and showed unusual interest in the specimens and work. During the conversation Oliver mentioned that he had been thinking of giving a tract of the land to the University. Later President Cross welcomed the offer and the deed was signed over to the University.

Dr. Bragg said the tract was once a swampy plain and has by deposition been built up until it is now a dry prairie region.

This transition from a swampy flood plain to dry prairie land resulted in a wide variety of plants and animal life forming a veritable paradise for botanists and zoologists.

Following Dr. Bragg's talk, Oliver was presented books from the plant sciences and zoology departments.



Fred Oliver, Cleveland County farmer, points out the boundaries of the Oliver Biological Preserve to Dr. Arthur N. Bragg, '37ph.d (center), and President George L. Cross. The Preserve is a 60-acre tract of land which was given by Oliver to the University several months ago. Formal dedication was held recently.