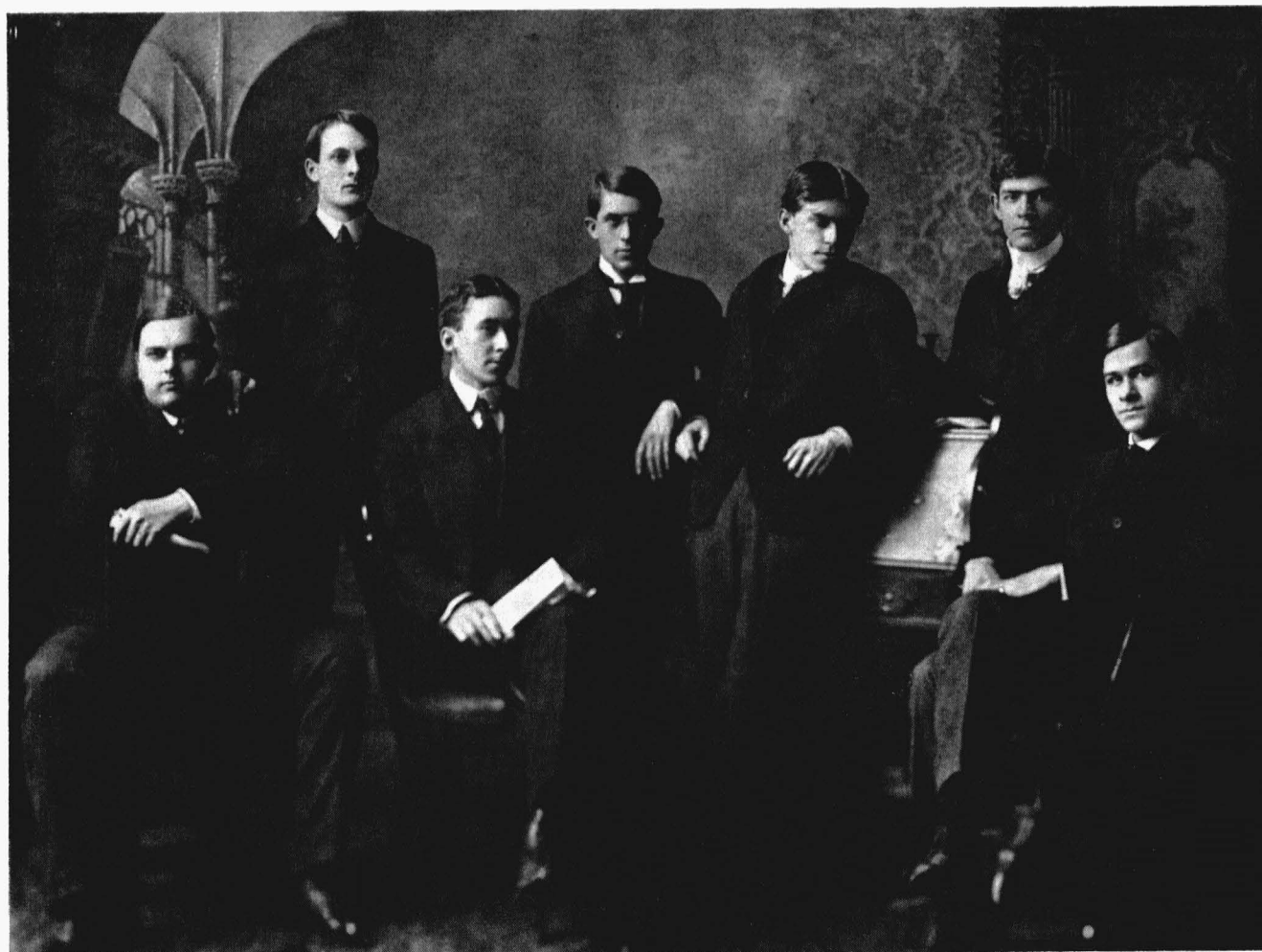
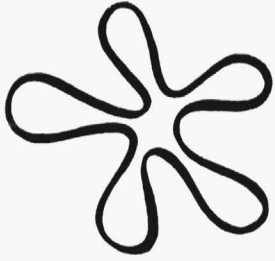




EIGHT YOUNG MEN OF 1904-05



Photographed in 1905 were, left to right, Robert Jones, Homer Croy, Daniel McFarland, Carl Crow, Harris Lyon, James Craig and Charles Ross. Pryor T. Scott, above, was one of the original six.



There were asterisks beside their names

AN ASTERISK is a mark of distinction by names in the 1904-05 *Savitar*s. Not only did it designate the members of a self-formed club of "original writers," but also it was prophetic of the futures of eight young men whose footnotes today record personal successes in the annals of literature.

* PRYOR TEMPLETON SCOTT of Phoenix, Ariz., is the only living member of the group that banded together in 1904 as The Asterisk Club, to promote higher literary standards at the University. "Harry Lyon was the organizer," he recalls, "and there were six of us that year. After my own graduation in June, two more were admitted." Beside Scott's name in the yearbook, the editors noted that "he keeps a collection of rejection slips," indicative of a prolific writer. Interested also in education, he became a teacher and was principal of an Arizona grammar school. At the time of his class' 50th anniversary, he wrote a blank verse tribute to the University, "The Columns of Old Mizzou."

* HARRIS MERTON LYON, during his short life, had two books of short stories published, "Graphics" and "Sardonics." His career began in Texas as a newspaper reporter, continued in Kansas City, and finally took him to the East coast, where he became European correspondent for Theodore Dreiser, editor of *Broadway* magazine. Dreiser, in his book, "Twelve Men," calls him a "De Maupassant, Jr.," who, had he lived 10 more years, would have been a durable figure in American letters. Lyon died in 1916.

* CHARLES G. ROSS was best characterized by his colleagues as a "kind, gentle, sentimental newspaperman." He started as a reporter on the *Columbia Herald*, from which he went back to the University as an original faculty member of the School of Journalism. In 1918, he joined the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as chief Washington correspondent and editor of the editorial page. A boyhood friend from Independence, Mo., claimed him as press secretary when he became President of the United States, and he died in 1950 while serving Harry S. Truman.

* HOMER CROY, editor of the *Savitar* in 1906, left

school without a degree (he failed English) but was awarded an honorary Doctor of Literature in 1956. Credited with writing more novels about Missouri than any other author, he hit the literary jackpot in 1928 with "West of the Water Tower." Will Rogers, whose biography he later wrote, made his first talking picture in the screen adaptation of Croy's book, "They Had to See Paris." Books and scenarios dotted his long literary career that ended in 1965.

* HERBERT CARL CROW brought the world to Americans through a series of books including the best seller about China, "Four Hundred Million Customers," published also in six other languages. His career began in partnership with the late Walter Williams on the *Columbia Missourian*, continued on the *Fort Worth Telegram* until 1911, when he went to Shanghai as an editor of the *China Press*, later founding the *Shanghai Evening Post*. He spent the major part of his life living in and writing about China, Japan, the Philippines and South America, publishing books and magazine articles about these countries until his death in 1954.

* JAMES H. CRAIG was keeping a tryst he made with his college roommate, Homer Croy, when he wrote his first novel, "Kettle Drums and Tom Toms." Like Croy, the settings for subsequent books were the rural communities he knew best, but novels were extra-curricular to the business he avidly pursued—advertising.

* ROBERT W. JONES became a journalist's journalist. Editor of the 1905 *Savitar*, he also received an A.B. degree and later an LL.B. degree from Missouri. He worked for St. Louis newspapers and wire services until 1920, when he went to teach journalism at the University of Washington, being also thereafter a visiting professor in journalism at Missouri. He wrote many technical articles and books, including "Journalism in the United States," and "Law of Journalism." He died in 1951.

* DANIEL HOUSER MCFARLAND was also a protégé of Walter Williams while in school but after graduation turned his attention to business. He died in 1949. □