

Miss LEOLA M. WHITE, BS Ed, has retired from teaching in the Los Angeles city schools.

HAROLD J. WILLIAMSON, BJ, has become a member of the University's Jefferson Club. It is the Development Fund's highest gift level club. He is a Columbia, Mo., civic leader, who has long been active in the Boy Scouts, the Salvation Army, and the Big Brother program.

'33

Maj. Gen. JACK N. DONOHEW, BS Eng, has retired from Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, ending a 35 year career in the United States Air Force. During the ceremonies he received the Distinguished Service Medal, the nation's highest award for meritorious service. He and his wife, the former DOROTHY HARMAN, BS Ed '38, live in Montgomery, Ala.

'34

Mrs. NADYNE MADOLE McDonald, BS Ed, has retired from teaching in Versailles, Mo. She taught the first grade there for 39 years.

'35

JOE PENNER, BS Agr, is now employed by the MFA Milling Co., Springfield, Mo. He and his family live in Ozark, Mo.

FRANKLIN PUGH, BJ, was recently awarded a special Blue Pencil Award. The award was presented by the Federal Editors Association in "recognition of his long-standing concern for and commitment to better government writing and editing. He has recently retired as publications director of the Federal Highway Administration.

'36

A. D. SAPPINGTON, LLB, has been named to the Missouri Citizen's Committee for State Reorganization by Gov. Warren E. Hearnes. Sappington is president of the MFA Insurance Companies, Columbia, Mo.

'37

R. A. "RED" GRAHAM JR., Arts, recently took an early retirement from IBM. He has bought the Minute Man Travel Agency and will produce travel shows. He also has accepted a 3 year term on the President's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped.

'38

Dr. HAROLD E. GIBSON, AM, EdD '46, has retired as director of the Bureau of Appointments at Illinois State University, Bloomington-Normal. He has been a member of the ISU staff since 1950.

Who Put Up The Green Flag?

University Missourian (March 29, 1916): "Students on their way to 8 o'clock classes this morning craned their necks to see a huge green flag waving from the top-most point of the dome of Academic (Jesse) Hall. All day the mystery of the emerald-hued pennant has been the topic of discussion on the ground. Who put up the flag?"

Now more than 56 years later, that question has been answered in a letter from Vernon G. Cox, BS EE '16, EE '17, of Fort Worth, Texas.

"As one of the participants in the prank, I can assure you that it was a hazardous undertaking. The risk taken by one of the men, Robert M. Walker, BS Eng '16, BS EE '17, who later lost his life as an aviation pilot cadet in WWI, was very great. Besides Walker several others including the late George E. Luke, BS Eng '16, Clarence O'Daniel, AB '16, BS Eng '16, Richmond Heights, Mo., and myself assisted in the operation. The green flag was made by a Columbia coed Cecil Rundle, BS Ed '17, AS of '16, whom I subsequently married.

"In those days the small circular observation platform above the dome was accessible to those who dared to climb to it for a view of the surrounding campus area. The climb to the top was by way of a steep ladder which reached the cylindrical neck of the dome. A slender person could crawl upward and through an opening storm cover reach the platform. By leaning backward when standing on the outer rim of the platform one could, in daylight, see the dome's conical cap topped by a winged ornament.

"Naturally advance preparations had been made by our group and the necessary items and tools were taken to the platform in dead of night. A small rope was thrown over the U-shaped end of this line and, assisted by others at the return end, Walker scrambled to the pinnacle. The flag-staff was passed to him and with a wrench he tightened the nuts which held a board clamp on the bottom of the flagstaff thus fastening it securely to one of the wings. Fortunately the structure was strong enough to support Walker in this hair-raising and suspenseful operation.

"We knew that unless precautions were taken to prevent it, the flag would be removed by the building maintenance crew the following morning. A few feet above the opening hatch in the dome a number of structural steel rods crossed as they fanned upward to anchor the conical cap to the building. At that point we suspended a 2x4 carefully cut to length so that the lower end would, when released, swing in the closed position and it could not be raised and re-opened from below. This proved very effective and the maintenance crew had to resort to other measures to gain access to the pennant. This they did by cutting an opening in the lower part of the dome roof in order to reach the platform from the outside.

"Following the flag removal the wings of the ornament were taken off, no doubt to discourage some student in the future from trying a similar prank.

"So far as I know this is the first release of this inside story. □

'40

Mrs. RUTH CRISMON Vogelgesang, BS Ed, has retired after 45 years of teaching, 33 years of which have been at the Meta School, Meta, Mo.

Mrs. DIXIE EBERSOLE Reynolds, BS Ed, BS HE, MED '54, has retired from teaching at Louistana, Mo., high school. She has been a teacher for 31 years. She will reside in Fulton, Mo.

ZELL W. THOMPSON, BS Agr, has been named food distribution supervisor for the 18 county Northwest Missouri District, State Division of Welfare. He and his wife, the former NADINE LEAZENBY, Agr, live in Maryville.

'41

ROBERT S. BURNS, AB, AM, has been appointed to the legal department of Peoples Gas Company, Chicago. He formerly was associated with the law firm of Ross, Hardies, O'Keefe, Babcock & Parsons.

ALEX GAY, BJ, was recently elected to the El Centro, Calif., City Council. He is a marketing consultant and public relations director for the Imperial Valley Press and the Brawley News.

'42

HARRY E. HAMMER, BJ, has been named assistant vice president-public