Distinguished Alumni

Four graduates of the University received Distinguished Alumni Awards at Homecoming this year. They were Jack R. Gage, BS '24, in the field of the humanities; Dr. Ernest Gould, BS '36, in the professional and scientific field; Winston Howard, LLB '30, in business and industry; and Lawrence Meeboer, BS '26, in education. The awards were presented to these distinguished alumni following the Sing.

A native of Wyoming, Gage is the first UW alumnus to hold state office. He has served as state superintendent of public instruction, secretary of state, and governor.

He is the author of two historical Wyoming books and two textbooks covering the history and geography of Wyoming. The two historical books are “Ten Sleep and No Rest,” which won the Wyoming Historical Society Award in 1958, and “Wyoming Afoot and Horseback,” which was published about a year ago.

Gage is widely traveled. While he was serving as district governor of Rotary International, he received a Crusade for Freedom award and made extensive tours behind the Iron Curtain in 1957. In 1964 he spent eight months in Australia conducting research among the aborigines.

He was elected secretary of state in Wyoming in 1958 and took over the governorship of the state in 1960 when Gov. J. J. Hickey resigned. He was postmaster in Sheridan for a number of years.

While an undergraduate he was a charter member of Theta Alpha Phi, dramatics honorary, and Iron Skull. He was also active in Future Farmers of America, an agricultural honorary fraternity and an educational honorary. His social fraternity is Alpha Tau Omega.

Well known as a wit and public speaker, he has toured the state many times to deliver presentations on the early history of the state and his experiences in the Soviet Union and Australia.

He and Mrs. Gage (Leona Switzer, BA '24) are the parents of two sons, Jack, Jr., who graduated from the University in 1951, and Dick, who took his degree from UW in 1954.

Dr. Gould is senior attending surgeon at the Washington, D.C., Hospital Center where he was president of the medical staff in 1964 and 1965.

A 1939 graduate of George Washington University Medical School, he took his surgical training at Garfield Memorial Hospital and the Lahey Clinic, Boston, prior to entering into private practice in Washington.

Dr. Gould is a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and is a member of numerous other professional organizations.

Chairman of the Department of General Surgery at the Washington Hospital Center from 1950 to 1961, he is currently assistant clinical professor of surgery at George Washington University Medical School and associate in surgery at George Washington University Hospital and the District of Columbia General Hospital. In 1965 he received the St. George Medal, awarded by the American Cancer Society. He is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society at George Washington University.
Alumni President Bob Gish presents Winston Howard, LLB '30, prominent Denver lawyer, with his alumnus award.

Dr. Gould served as a major in the U. S. Army Medical Corps (1942-46) and is the author of over 20 medical publications, many of them concerned with cancer.

During his student years he was editor of the 1933 Wyo, president of the student body in 1934, and was active in Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

He and Mrs. Gould are the parents of three children.

Howard, who received his UW law degree with honors, is currently senior partner in Denver's well-known firm, Dawson, Nagel, Sherman, and Howard.

Born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1907, he grew up in Douglas and practiced law in Big Horn County (1931-35) before moving to Denver. He was admitted to the Wyoming State Bar in 1930 and to the Colorado Bar in 1935. His social fraternity at UW was Sigma Nu.

He is president of the board of trustees of Temple Buell College (formerly Colorado Women's College) in Denver; chairman of the board of directors of the Continental National Bank of Englewood; director of the Denver Union Stock Yard Co., Boulevard National Bank, Mine and Smelter Supply Co., and Imperial Coal Co., and several other corporations, all in Denver.

He served as vice president of the board of trustees of Swedish Hospital, Englewood; is on the executive committee of the advisory board (former president) of the Salvation Army, Denver; and is a Fellow, Royal Horticulture Society, London, England.

A member of the Denver and Englewood Chambers of Commerce, Howard is active in Kiwanis (former Denver president); and St. John's Cathedral (former vestryman and junior warden).

He was a lieutenant commander in the U. S. Navy, 1944-46.

Mrs. Howard is the former Marguerite Blair, BA '29, of Laramie. They have two children, Alan (Ph.D., Stanford) a professor of American literature at the University of Virginia; and Joan, a merchandising assistant for Glamour Magazine, New York City.

Lawrence Meeboer, BS '26, was honored to receive his award from his son Bob, Thermopolis, alumni director.

Meeboer, an employee of the University since his graduation in 1926, served in a variety of capacities until last spring when he retired as executive assistant to the president for business and plant affairs, a post he had held since 1962.

A native of Iowa, he graduated from Uni Prep and entered UW as a commerce major in 1922. Upon graduation he joined the UW staff as cashier and later served as auditor of student accounts, UW auditor, purchasing agent, assistant comptroller, and business manager-deputy treasurer for the UW Board of Trustees.

In 1959 he was appointed building program coordinator and assumed the monumental task of organizing the details connected with UW's greatest period of growth. He handled the bidding, bonding, plans and specifications and worked closely with the architects and others involved in the continuing multi-million dollar project.

Active in civic affairs, Meeboer has served for eight years on the Laramie city council and was vice-mayor for four years and chairman of the city finance committee for six years during his terms of office.

While a student he was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, national scholastic honorary, Beta Gamma Sigma, commerce and industry honorary, Phi Gamma Mu and Sigma Nu social fraternity. In 1961 he was named the College of Commerce and Industry's distinguished alumnus.

During his campus service, Meeboer was chairman of the five-man permanent campus planning committee and served on such groups as the UW administrative council, Wyoming Union management committee, student residence classification committee, and the superior student scholarship committee.

He and Mrs. Meeboer are the parents of two sons, Robert M. and William K., who graduated from the University in 1953 and 1957, respectively. His hobbies include hunting, fishing and rose growing.