

George I. Redhair, telephone company executive



C. H. "Okie" Blanchard, friend of youth

Wyo's Special Alumni

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD recipients ranged from a novelist to a former football coach this year. Altogether four people received awards: Mrs. Peggy Simson Curry, BA '36, a novelist; C. H. (Okie) Blanchard, BS '25, the coach; George I. Redhair, BS '27, a retired vice president and general manager of Mountain States Telephone Co. in Montana; and Dr. John C. Bellamy, BS '36, director

of the Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) at UW.

The wife of William Curry, MA '30, a head of the English department at Casper junior college, Mrs. Curry, has written three major novels, *So Far From Spring*, *Fire in the Water*, and *The Oil Patch*; a long poem, *Red Wing of Wyoming*, and a non-fiction book, *Creating Fiction from Experience*. The long poem deals with the Johnson County wars.

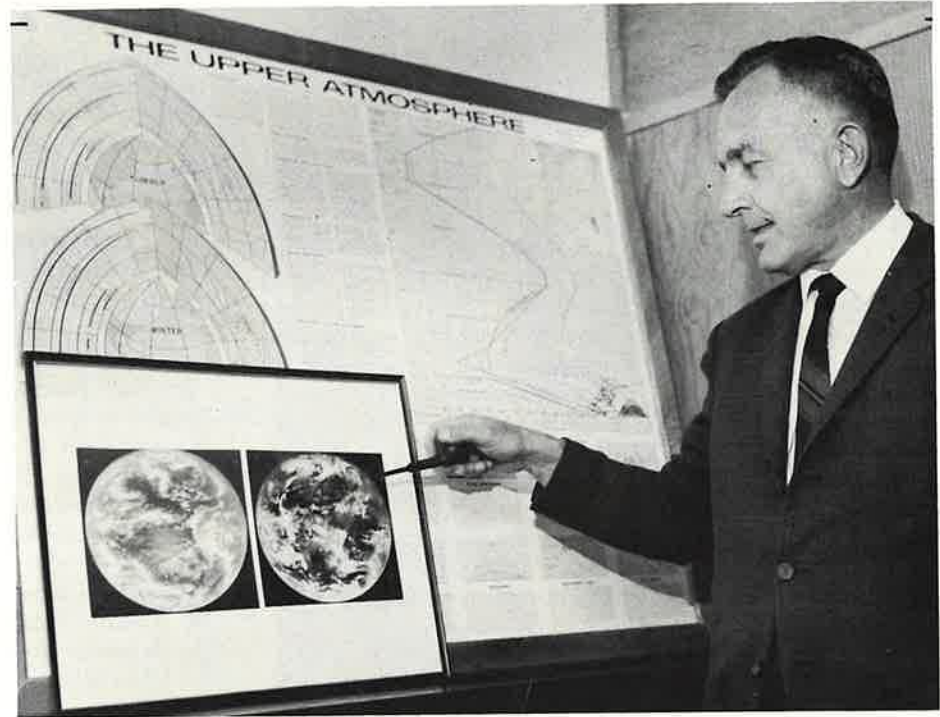
In 1957 Mrs. Curry received the Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for the best western short story of the year. In 1964 she received the Kappa Kappa Gamma National Distinguished Achievement Award. Listed in *Who's Who in American Women*, she teaches creative writing at Casper junior college and has written numerous articles, short stories, and poems.

"Okie" Blanchard, whose nickname derives from the fact that he arrived in Wyoming to attend the University straight from Oklahoma, has been associated with Wyoming schools, and particularly athletics in those schools for 43 years. He coached in Cheyenne high school and was athletic director from 1942 to 1958, retaining the directorship until last year when he retired. During that period he chalked up an enviable won-lost record and became noted for his influence on high school boys under his tutelage.

Not content to twiddle his thumbs in retirement, he is this year superintendent of schools at Hillsdale. He and Mrs. Blanchard (Jeannette Gale, ND '25, BA '50) continue to make their home in Cheyenne. They are parents of two adult sons.



Peggy Simson Curry, author, nature lover



John C. Bellamy, scientist extraordinary

Redhair, an employee of Mountain States Telephone Company for over 40 years, was Montana vice president and general manager for the company at the time of his retirement last summer. He had been manager in Santa Fe, N. Mex.; Wyoming manager in Cheyenne, Montana manager in Helena, Colorado commercial manager in Denver and assistant vice president for operations in Denver.

An active force in his state and community, Mr. Redhair is a past director of the Montana Chamber of Commerce, a past member of the advisory councils of both the Montana State Planning Board, and of the School of Business Administration of Montana University. He is a member of the Council of 50, Montana University, Missoula, and the Advisory Board, Montana State University, Bozeman.

He and Mrs. Redhair (Arletta Wyant, BS '27) live at 1335 Highland, Helena.

One of the nation's leading meteorologists, Dr. Bellamy has been director of NRRI, the research wing of the University's engineering college, for eight years. Although he is a Wyoming native and a member of a pioneer family, he had been associate director of the Cook Research Laboratories in Chicago for some years. He received his doctorate degree from the University of Chicago, had taught there and at the University of Puerto Rico's Institute of Tropical Meteorology.

Dr. and Mrs. Bellamy (Josephine Johnston, ex '40) have four children and make their home in Laramie.

All four awards were presented at the Homecoming Sing by members of the Alumni Association board of directors.

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Officers Magazine and the Republican paper Trunkline, as well as writes for the Buffalo Bulletin. Clyde Douglas, ex '69, is a staff writer for the Army in Europe, a monthly magazine for the military forces.

Dean Conger, BS '50, is another ace photographer who gets in a lot of travelling. Now on the staff of National Geographic, he has taken pictures in such out of the way places as Outer Mongolia, the Grenadine Islands in the Caribbean Sea, and the route travelled by the Biblical Patriarch across present day Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Israel and Egypt. Conger was a staff photographer for the Denver Post before he went with National Geographic and has won numerous awards for his pictures. He also has been on loan several times to the National Aeronautical Space Agency for pictures of space flights.

In public relations work are Richard Bohrer, BS '57, and Glen Dalrymple, BS '49, both with Armstrong Cork Corp. in Lancaster, Pa.; Lew Bates with S&H Green Stamps; Gene Bryan with Wyoming Travel Commission; and Keith Rounds, BS '64, with the Wyoming Highway Department. Bob Smith, BS '55, is president of a Wyoming public relations firm, Kostka Brooks in Cheyenne.

Frank Norris, BS '50, is director of the Wyoming Travel Commission, essentially a public relations position; George Johnston, BA '41, is managing editor of the Denver Post; Bill Stall, BS '59, is with Associated Press in the Sacramento, California bureau.

There is no doubt that graduates from the University journalism department have proved the department successful by the positions they are able to hold.