



Left, Eldon Spicer presents the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Robert Barnard; center, Ray Hunkins makes presentation to



Wilhelm Solheim II; right, Theodore Olson accepts award from Dave Bonner. Men making presentations are board members.



Distinguished Alumni

THREE UW GRADUATES received Distinguished Alumni Awards in three different fields at Homecoming, Oct. 5. They are Robert D. Barnard, BS '37, in business and industry, Theodore Olson, BA '20, in the humanities, and Wilhelm G. Solheim II, BS '47, in the scientific field.

Barnard is an associate scientist for Dow Chemical Co. He holds this second highest professional position in the Western Division Research Laboratories for Dow in Walnut Creek, Calif.

He joined the research department of Dow in 1939, and since that time has improved a number of the company's products, has pioneered new ones and has been especially adept at licking persistent design problems. He is recognized as an expert in the field of large scale electrolytic cells, which are one of the most complex chemical reactors to design.

He perfected a new method of making phenol, a basic raw material for nylon, Bakelite, disinfectants and preservatives. This process is now used in commercial plants in Canada, Holland and the United States.

He had a hand in the development of a hollow fiber artificial kidney which Dow put on the market in 1972. He

found the solution to the problem of making the fibers permeable so poisons in the blood could escape.

He and his wife have six children. The older ones have attended UW.

Olson, who is a native of Laramie, was in newspaper work as a reporter, copyreader, city editor and news editor from 1921 to 1941. He worked in Oakland, San Francisco, Denver, Casper, New York City, and was on the staff of the Laramie Republican Boomerang for more than a decade.

From 1941 to his retirement in 1959 he was in the U.S. Foreign Service with various agencies. From 1941-45 he was with the Office of Coordinator of Information and Office of War Information in New York and London. From 1945-50 he was director of the U.S. Information Service in Norway. From 1950 to 1953 he was with the Department of State, first as officer in charge of information, Bureau of German affairs, later as a foreign service inspector in Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Korea, the Philippines, HongKong and Indo-China. In 1953-57 he was director of the U.S. Information Service in Athens, and ended his career as Deputy Chief of Mission in Iceland.

Since his retirement he has engaged in freelance writing and editing. His latest book, "Ranch on the Laramie," dealing with his childhood on the Laramie River, was published by Atlantic Monthly Press—Little, Brown and Co. in 1973.

Solheim (Bill) professor of anthropology at the University of Hawaii, has made a number of significant discoveries in the field of anthropology.

Among his latest finds are remains of people and their artifacts that may upset the whole historical theory that the foundations of civilization were laid in the near East. He found evidence in Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines which indicates man there was cultivating plants, making pottery and casting bronze as early as or earlier than it was done in the Near East.

The anthropologist found many valuable items in excavations in northeastern Thailand, in southeast Asia, before portions of that area were flooded. He excavated in Borneo under a Fulbright Senior Research Grant.

A son of Dr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Solheim of Laramie, he has two children who have attended UW. He holds his master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1947 and his doctorate from the University of Arizona. He was a research assistant for a time at the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the University of the Philippines.