

Otterbein University

## Digital Commons @ Otterbein

---

Towers Magazine 1926-1999

Archives & Special Collections

---

11-4-1939

### Otterbein Towers & Inauguration November 1939

Otterbein Towers

*Otterbein University*, TowersMagazinePrint@Otterbein.onmicrosoft.com

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/archives\\_alumnitowers](https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/archives_alumnitowers)



Part of the [Digital Humanities Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

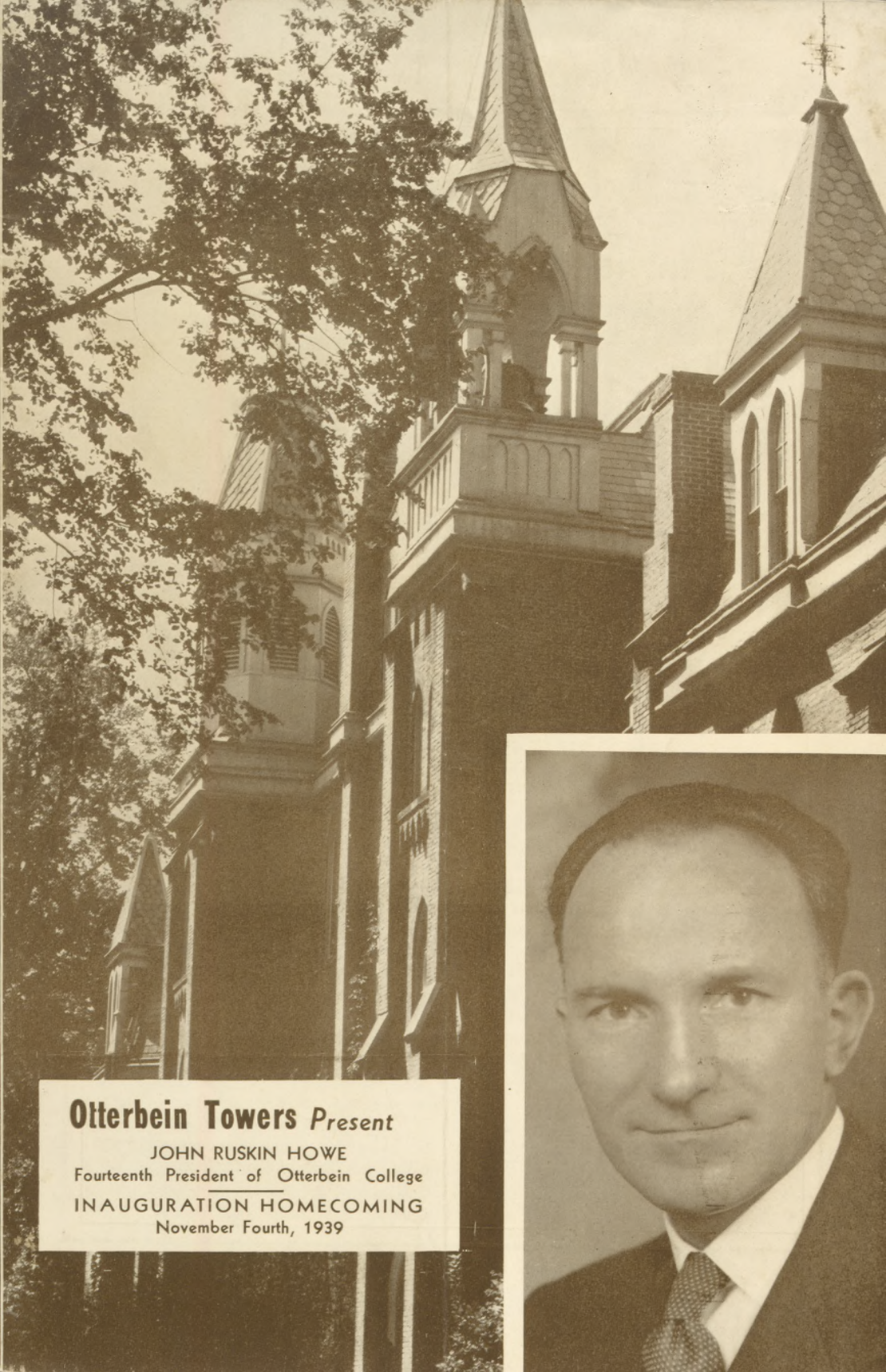
---

#### Recommended Citation

Otterbein Towers, "Otterbein Towers & Inauguration November 1939" (1939). *Towers Magazine 1926-1999*. 69.

[https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/archives\\_alumnitowers/69](https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu/archives_alumnitowers/69)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives & Special Collections at Digital Commons @ Otterbein. It has been accepted for inclusion in Towers Magazine 1926-1999 by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Otterbein. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons07@otterbein.edu](mailto:digitalcommons07@otterbein.edu).



**Otterbein Towers *Present***

JOHN RUSKIN HOWE  
Fourteenth President of Otterbein College  
**INAUGURATION HOMECOMING**  
November Fourth, 1939





# An Invitation to The Inauguration



DR. DENNIS D. BRANE

*To the Alumni and Friends of Otterbein College:*

Otterbein's Towers are still standing serene amid the treetops of the campus. The bell still tolls the hours, peals its pronouncements of victories and summons students to class. The ivy is creeping upward and the walls continue to mellow with age. There are canoes on the creek and strollers on the highways and byways. We trust that these reminiscent aspects of the campus and village will never suffer an injury or interruption. But every institution should have new adventure as well as rich memories, and now we begin a fresh epoch in our history.

We extend our hearty greetings to the new President of the College, Dr. John Ruskin Howe. Very soon we honor him formally at the ceremonies of his induction into office. All who have been in Otterbein's family and have been at home on its campus should come back at this Homecoming of all Homecomings, for it will indeed be not a Homecoming primarily, but chiefly the inauguration of both a new President and a new era. We trust that the traditional hospitality will warm the celebration of every occasion on our campus, but for this event of events, it is the desire of the Dean of the College, on behalf of the administration, to assure all members of the Otterbein family that a particularly vigorous welcome awaits those who come to celebrate.

*Dennis D. Brane*

*Dean of the College.*

# Dr. A. H. Compton, University of Chicago, Will Address Inauguration Assembly

THE members of the inaugural committee take great pleasure in announcing Professor Arthur H. Compton of the University of Chicago, as guest speaker at the ceremonies honoring Dr. J. R. Howe, fourteenth president of Otterbein College.

In bringing Dr. Compton to our campus the committee has obtained a national figure, one renowned as both speaker and scientist. As this article is written, temporary plans have been made to send all or a part of his address over one of the radio networks.

The name of Arthur Holly Compton, Charles H. Swift distinguished service professor of Physics at the University of Chicago, and Nobel Prize winner, is virtually synonymous with cosmic rays.

Distinguished son in a distinguished family, Dr. Compton is probably the foremost experimentalist in his field, the analysis of radiant energy from matter.

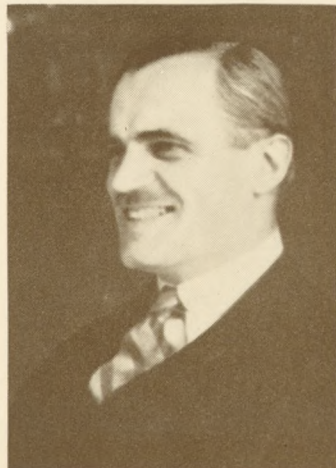
The "Compton effect," demonstrating that light is a form of matter, won him the Nobel Prize in 1927 when he was 35. Since then, he has directed the world's chase of the cosmic ray, a form of radiation fifty times more penetrating than any other known.

It was early experiments on the properties of X-rays that led to the discovery of the "Compton effect" itself. In this work, he determined the index of refraction of X-rays, the absolute measurement of wavelengths with ruled gratings, and measurement of the intensity of rays reflected from crystals.

X-rays, colliding with electrons in their path, Dr. Compton found, impart energy to the electron, their wave length increasing while the ray and the electron angle off from the point of contact.

In 1931, Dr. Compton concentrated his attention on cosmic rays, discovered to exist a short time earlier. These rays, 1000 times shorter than X-rays, and thus far

more penetrating, come from far outside the earth's atmosphere, and cannot be produced experimentally. Geographical analy-



DR. A. H. COMPTON

sis of their intensity, however, is believed to offer a fruitful means of throwing light on the origin of all radiant energy.

Born September 10, 1892, Dr. Compton, at 10, took issue with other leading authorities in a monograph on three-toed elephants. He was married in 1916 to a Wooster College classmate, Betty McCloskey. At 27 he abandoned a promising career in commercial research for the comparative poverty of pure science. In 1923, at the age of 31, he was invited to the University of Chicago by Professor A. A. Michelson, and four years later, Dr. Compton won the coveted Nobel Prize. Since that time many honors have come to him, some of which he has refused, preferring to serve in that field where he feels he can make the greatest contribution to the world. Otterbein is proud to have Dr. Compton grace her platform on such an auspicious occasion as that of inaugurating her fourteenth president.



What Can I Say So That  
You'll "Come Home"



EARL R. HOOVER

WHAT picture can I draw that will draw you? What word will touch off the spark, excite memories you can't resist? The Towers? Alum Creek? The Bell? Cochran Hall? The Crow's Nest? The bower of trees that's College Avenue? That elm-canopied, green-carpeted campus? Otterbein! These tug at your heart, call you back.

Wouldn't you like to roam these scenes again, mingle with those with whom you mingled then? It is only natural that you would. That's why every effort is being made to have *all* present. Others are coming because we're promising them that *you* will be here. This time, let's *all* come home, have our *most memorable reunion*.

Dean Brane is allowing a "cut" only if you have an ocean to cross. Staying home to enjoy California weather won't suffice.

We have three major drawing cards: (1) You, (2) President Howe, (3) Dr. Compton. The latter two have accepted. Will you?

"Only That Day Dawns To  
Which We Are Awake"



HOMER B. KLINE

THIS is written at seven o'clock on a beautiful October morning in Westerville. The sun is shining. The air is crisp. The leaves are turning color. One of those superb Autumn days, which all of us remember, is breaking over the campus.

And in a very real sense a new day is dawning for Otterbein College. There's an atmosphere on this old campus that's inspiring. One feels a sense of confidence in the air. There's co-operation, too. Faculty, students, trustees, and alumni are being welded into an effective whole under the leadership of an administration with fresh vision and new vigor. A new Otterbein is in the making.

As alumni we belong in this picture. In fact, the part we shall play in the "new Otterbein" is limited only by our alertness to the opportunity. With Thoreau, watching the sun rise over Walden Pond, but with our own eyes on the rising destiny of our beloved college, let us remember, "Only that day dawns to which we are awake."

# Inauguration and Homecoming Program



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1939

CROWNING OF THE HOMECOMING QUEEN

7:30 P. M. ✓

FRESHMAN BONFIRE AND SNAKE DANCE

8:00 P. M. ✓



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1939

## PROGRAM OF INAUGURATION CEREMONIES OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

REGISTRATION OF OFFICIAL DELEGATES 8:30-9:30 A. M.

FORMATION OF PROCESSION 9:30-9:45 A. M.

ACADEMIC PROCESSION 9:45 A. M. ✓

INAUGURAL SERVICES 10:00 A. M. ✓

*Guest Speaker*—PROFESSOR ARTHUR H. COMPTON

INAUGURAL LUNCHEON 12:30-2:00 P. M. ✓

RECEPTION BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. HOWE 4:00-6:00 P. M. ✓

ALUMNI BANQUET

6:30 P. M. ✓

HOMECOMING PLAY

- *no*.

8:30 P. M.

OPEN LITERARY CLUB MEETING

10:30 P. M.



# Dr. J. R. Howe and His Family

## A Story of Success and Happiness

**I**NTRODUCING John Ruskin Howe '21, B.D., Ph.D., D.D., Mary Elizabeth Brewbaker Howe '24, A.B., M.A., Charles W. '53, and Johnny R. Jr., '57, Otterbein's fourteenth president and family, in whose hands the destiny of the college now lies!

The Howes are "regular" and already have captivated the student body with their genuine interest in all things vital to campus life. With little more than four weeks in which to get acquainted "J.R." is now calling everyone by first name. Whenever the duties of the office permit, he may be found out on the field watching football practice or in the gym playing handball. They are one of the "gang," and yet command the respect and esteem of faculty and students alike. One of their pleasures is to have students and other friends visit them in their home and share experiences and problems.

Dr. Howe was born in North Manchester, Indiana, where his father founded and served as first president of Manchester College. The family moved near Weston in northern Ohio where John later graduated from high school and spent four years teaching in a country school before entering Otterbein. War having been declared in the spring of his freshman year, Sergeant Howe

spent fifteen months with the 83rd Ohio Division at the front in France. The war ended and the doughboy returned to Otterbein to resume his college work. Many were his activities and by the time he became a senior he had won letters in baseball and football, and captained the debate team three of his four years, thus earning the key of Pi Kappa Delta, national honorary forensic fraternity. As editor of the *Tan and Cardinal*, member of YMCA, Varsity O, Philomathean Literary Society, and as president of the then very young Student Council, he, along with others, was instrumental in making possible a greater degree of self-government for the students and the long sought recognition and sanction of the college for the fraternities and sororities, previously sub-rosa campus organizations.

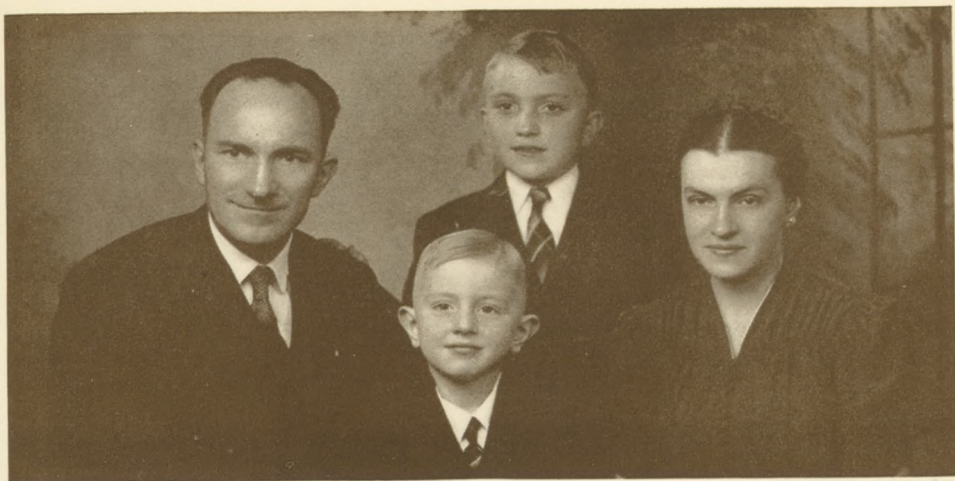
Armistice Day, 1920, has a special significance. For weeks Senior Howe had been casting an admiring eye toward Freshman Mary Elizabeth Brewbaker, talented daughter of Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Brewbaker of Dayton, but it was not until November 11 that he drummed up courage enough to ask for a date. Needless to say she accepted and with that first walk about the snowy streets of Westerville on Armistice night a new chapter of our story begins. "Betsy"

was an ardent tennis player, so John Ruskin learned the game and has played ever since, this summer emerging as finalist in the Westerville Tournament which was won by Ray Pilkington '29.

Graduating from Otterbein in 1921, Dr. Howe continued his studies receiving the B.D. degree from Yale in 1924. Meanwhile, Miss Brewbaker had completed her A.B. at Otterbein and had



THE PRESIDENT'S HOME AT  
47 NORTH GROVE STREET



DR. J. R. HOWE      JOHN R. JR.      CHARLES W.      MRS. J. R. HOWE

done graduate work in Religious Education. In college she had been active in music, appearing in recitals on piano and organ and being one of the first Otterbein students to broadcast programs. She was prominent in Y.W.C.A. and Philalethea Literary Society, and became the first president of the Tau Epsilon Mu, or Talisman, sorority, when it was reorganized in the spring of 1922, after being inactive since 1918.

On September 5, 1925, at Dayton, "J.R." and "Betsy" took their vows, honeymooning to Washington and New England where later they stood together to receive the Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from Yale University. From that time to the present year they have lived in Dayton where Dr. Howe has served as Professor of Systematic Theology and Philosophy of Religion in Bonebrake Theological Seminary. Mrs. Howe continues her interest in young people's work, serving at one time as National Children's Director for the United Brethren denomination. She has been a leader in the Leadership Training School of Dayton and regularly contributed to religious articles and publications. She held membership in the College Women's Club, the Dayton Sorosis and the Otterbein Alumni Club of Dayton. She also directed the Elementary Study Club. She joined the A.A.U.W. upon moving to Westerville. Dr. and Mrs. Howe were members of the exclusive Discussion

and Nomad Clubs of Dayton, and in the summer of 1929 enjoyed a much-needed vacation motoring through Europe.

In 1935 "J.R." was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by his Alma Mater. Through the years he has been busy in civic leadership, in youth camps and conventions and has remained active in athletics, playing regularly with the Seminary tennis and baseball teams and carrying off trophies in handball and squash racquets in the Dayton tournaments.

The Board of Trustees could not have made a better choice to succeed our honored retiring president. The future is indeed bright, and with the alumni's cooperation under "J.R.'s" personable and vital leadership, Otterbein will progress toward greater achievements.



AN INFORMAL NOTE



# A Welcome to Otterbein

## *Fellow Alumni of Otterbein:*

My very first words to you as your new president must in all good conscience be words of gratitude and appreciation for the enthusiasm and loyalty you have already manifested toward Otterbein and her future. It has been inspiring to have from hundreds of you the personal assurance of your readiness to help and serve in whatever way you can. May I thank you very simply but very sincerely and may I assure you that your interest is deeply treasured and that you are going to have the most unqualified cooperation of the new administration in translating into reality the hopes and dreams we all cherish for a greater future for our common alma mater.

But your assurances of loyalty have already gone beyond mere words. Your Alumni Council has, by its support, encouraged the Trustees to authorize the modern broad-gauge program of recruiting and admissions which we now have. I have no hesitation in saying that Otterbein stands now in the front rank of Ohio colleges in this very vital respect.

The results of this forward step are already on record. With the new plan under way for only a part of the summer we have a class of 171 freshmen which is 43 more than at any time for the past thirteen years. As a consequence, our income from tuition and fees alone stands more than \$6,000 ahead of the same date last year, a return of three dollars for every dollar of increase in the publicity budget.

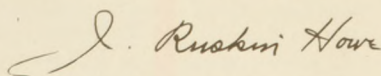
Vastly more important, of course, than

the more adequate budget made possible by this increase of students is the new life and vigor which these students will bring to our entire college program. They are a fine group. In scholarship, in musical talent, in public speaking and in athletic ability our new class is outstanding. It will bring distinction to every phase of our college life in the years ahead.

Space forbids my mentioning in any detail the help you have given us in many other ways,—in personally directing fine students to our attention,—in assisting needy students through the Emergency Scholarship Fund and in the time and energy a number of you have already freely given to the work of our Advisory Committees. The new Health Center, the revitalized publicity program and the coming of Coach Selby and a new day in Otterbein athletics are only the beginning of the fruit of the work of these Committees.

I am looking forward with pleasure to meeting many of you again on November 4. The presence of Dr. Arthur Compton as guest speaker will in itself make this occasion a notable one. May I bespeak for "our loved Otterbein" your continuing enthusiasm and loyalty as she goes forward on new levels of achievement in her service to society, to the church, and to the youth of tomorrow.

Gratefully and cordially yours,



*President, Otterbein College.*

THE CO-OP COTTAGE



OUR NEW HEALTH CENTER



ALEXANDER COTTAGE



# Homecoming Banquet in U. B. Church

## Literary Societies to be Revived For One Night

AS has been the custom for the past few years, the alumni will hold their annual banquet in the basement of the College Church. An informal program has been

of Otterbein comradeship. Don't pass up an opportunity which, after November 4, will be gone forever. Make your reservations for the alumni banquet now.



GERALD RILEY  
Director of Public  
Relations



VIRGINIA HETZLER  
Director of Admissions



ROBERT WHIPP  
Director of Newspaper  
Publicity

planned with none other than our own Alumni President, Mr. Earl Hoover, serving as toastmaster for the occasion. In this hour you will have the opportunity of a decade to meet old friends, relive your college days with classmates, and bask in the warm glow

But this is only one of the attractive programs prepared for your pleasure. No longer shall an Otterbeinite say he has no place to meet his friends because he came to our school too early in its history to become a fraternity man. At 10:30 P. M., immediately following the play, familiar voices will be heard in the old literary halls. It has been decreed that members of all societies shall sit together in

peace and shall listen and participate in an abbreviated old-time program. Traditional decorum and procedure shall be observed, so come prepared. A social hour will follow with light refreshments being served. This is your program! Be there!

---

## ATTENTION ALUMNI!

### Make Reservations

You are welcome to attend the inaugural luncheon. *Reservations must be in the hands of Prof. Gilbert E. Mills by Nov. 1st.* The price is one dollar and a quarter per plate. Reservations for the alumni banquet should be mailed to Gerald B. Riley, alumni secretary. Your tickets at fifty cents each will then be available at the alumni office when you arrive on the campus.

Miss Hetzler is compiling a list of homes where overnight accommodations may be obtained. You can get this information by calling at the Office of the Director of Admissions. All alumni attending the inauguration-homecoming program are requested to register in the office of the Alumni Secretary.

---

## In Appreciation

Do you like this issue of the Towers? If you do, and several have been kind enough to so express themselves, we should like to direct your applause to one whose cooperation, experience, and talent have been invaluable in its preparation—Wayne V. Harsha, class of '27. In appreciation of the time and energy so cheerfully given, we should like to announce Mr. Harsha as co-editor of the inaugural issue of "Otterbein Towers."

---

## Otterbein Towers

Otterbein College, Westerville, O.

Published by the Alumni Council  
in the interest of alumni and friends

GERALD B. RILEY, WAYNE V. HARSHA  
Co-editors

---





## Homecoming Activities

### The Game

**O**UT on the striped turf the Homecoming visitors will find Otterbein opposed by Marietta, an ancient rival who has given the Cards reason to respect their pig-skin prowess. Of the six games played in the last ten years, Marietta has taken the honors three times, and has amassed a total of 54 points to the Cards' 32.

This year finds a Cardinal squad with good men, good coaches, and plenty of fighting spirit bucking a suicide schedule. They have met Case, Wittenberg, and Waynesburg, schools which in turn have met Carnegie Tech, Fordham, and Duquesne. An outstanding improvement has been noted with each game.

The outstanding weakness of the squad has been a lack of experience and reserve power. Playing against schools in their own class, we expect our team to show winning form. Marietta appears to be such an opponent and we feel that all alumni and friends, returning for the Homecoming game, are assured of seeing a fighting Otterbein team give all they have to the school and the game.

### The Play

**N**O Homecoming at Otterbein would be considered complete without attending the play in the evening. This year the speech department of the college takes a great deal of pleasure in announcing the presentation of "Peg o' My Heart," under the auspices of the Cap and Dagger organization.

The play is no doubt familiar to many of you, having had a long run on Broadway. It centers around "Peg," an American-born Irish girl who is chosen by her uncle, Nathaniel Lathrop, to inherit his large estate. The many scenes and situations which develop in the process of making "Peg" into a lady constitute the major portion of the action.

Arrangements have been made to use the Westerville High School auditorium for the presentation of this production. Prepare to complete Homecoming in a care-free manner by ordering your tickets in advance. For choice seats write to Cap and Dagger, Otterbein College, care of Prof. J. F. Smith. Please indicate in which section you would like your tickets.



MARY ALICE KISSLING  
Homecoming Queen

## Introducing Otterbein's New Coaches



SAM T. SELBY

**S**AM T. SELBY, new athletic director and head coach, is the product of an Otterbein graduate, Elmo Lingrell, '17, of Middletown, Ohio, high school. He attended Ohio State University and was awarded three football letters, being captain in 1930, his senior year. Based upon his splendid performance as Ohio State guard, Sam was chosen on the 1930 all-east team and given honorable mention on the All-American.

Otterbein is happy to welcome Mr. Selby as an important cog in her "new era" program.



JOHN K. COX

**J**OHAN K. COX, Colgate University captain and center in 1929, is the new assistant football coach. He graduated from Steubenville, Ohio, high school in 1925 and attended Adrian College where he was varsity tackle and a member of the basketball team. He went to Colgate on a full scholarship and played center in 1927-1929 without missing a game. He was a member of the all-east team that defeated the western group 19-7 on January 1, 1930.

Mr. Cox comes to Otterbein from Alfred College and Martins Ferry High School.





## *The Retiring President and His Lady*



DR. AND MRS. W. G. CLIPPINGER

**I**T is fitting that a page of this publication, created to announce a new era and to honor a new president, should be dedicated to those who have served us faithfully and untiringly for thirty years.

In this picture, so revealing, we see again those qualities which have made Dr. and Mrs. Clippinger the beloved and respected leaders of Otterbein College. In his face we recognize calm, quiet dignity; in hers, poise, graciousness, and a serenity of soul. In his posture we see the assurance of one who has successfully handled great administrative responsibilities; in hers, the un-

assuming, but conscious pride of a true first lady. The book that each holds symbolizes the "Grail" of educational and spiritual achievement which both have incessantly sought for themselves and their friends. We rejoice with them in the atmosphere of relaxation shown, now so deservedly theirs, and wish for them continued years of health and happiness.

From the Towers which you have helped to build, from those whose lives you have helped to mold, come these words of respect and love: "God Bless You, Dr. and Mrs. Clippinger."