

Henry W. Grady Owens
(1892 - 1985)

Papers, 1911-1972

- I. Biographical data
- II. Correspondence, 1911-72
- III. Topical files
 - A. Bob Jones University, 1948-57
 - B. Certificates and School Transcripts
 - C. Furman University, 1945-50
 - D. Martha Matthews Owens (Mrs. Henry W. Grady)
 - E. Military Records, 1917-32
 - F. National Council of Teachers of English, 1925-29, 30-37
 - G. North Carolina Council of Teachers of English, 1920-32
- IV. Writings
 - A. Articles
 - B. Book report forms
 - C. School assignments
 - D. Speeches, General
 - E. Thesis: The Social Thought and Criticism of Paul Green
 - 1. Articles and speeches
 - 2. Background material
 - 3. Correspondence
 - a. General, 1940-45
 - b. Paul Green, 1934-52
 - 4. Musical dramas
 - a. "The Common Glory"
 - b. "The Lost Colony"
 - c. "Texas," "The Highland Call,"...
 - 5. Notes
 - 6. Outline, abstract, text
- V. Teaching materials
 - A. Library Science
 - B. Literature
 - C. Miscellaneous
- VI. Miscellaneous

[Collection is at Furman University,
Greenville, SC]

Henry Grady Owens (1892-1985) was professor of English at Furman University from 1945-1960 and was also very active in national and regional professional organizations. He was born February 3, 1892, in Shelby, North Carolina into a family that would soon number three children: Richard H., Grady and Ella. As early as 1911, Owens was working in the educational system, having accepted a position as mathematics teacher at Philadelphia High School in Red Springs, North Carolina. At the close of World War I, with his father dead, his brother married, and his mother and sister unable to work, Grady Owens received an honorable discharge from the army. Returning to care for his mother and sister, he resumed his career in the field of education and was soon employed at Washington High School as Director of Military Science, Director of Athletics, and Coach of football and basketball. He married Mary Martha Matthews, June 16, 1920, and they raised one child, James H.

Grady Owens had made a name for himself long before coming to Furman University. In 1923-24, he was appointed Chairman of the Committee to review the North Carolina High School English Course and undertook most of the rewriting, himself. He was president of the North Carolina Council of Teachers of English 1927-28, and second vice-president of the National Council of Teachers of English, 1929-30. His national involvement included membership on committees dealing with curriculum and life memberships, chairmanship of the committee on grammar and membership on the Executive Board. From 1923-27, Owens edited The English Forum - the official publication of the North Carolina Council.

A Baptist deacon and Sunday School teacher, a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award for service to the Uwharrie Council of Boy Scouts, an appointee to the North Carolina Governor's Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation - Owens' life confirmed his strong religious and moral convictions. After 25 years as a Professor of Education and Director of the Summer Session at Furman University, Owens retired in June, 1960. He remarried after Martha's death and was living in Franklin, North Carolina when he passed away, October 26, 1985.

This small collection (1½ linear feet) focuses on Grady Owens' early career. It consists of six series: The Biographical File includes a number of newspaper clippings documenting his accomplishments. The Correspondence Files reveal a man of energy and determination. Owens' philosophy of leadership and self-control is best expressed in two letters to his son: September 10, 1939, and July 24, 1941.

Of particular interest in the Topical Files are: correspondence between Bob Jones University and Owens as Director of Furman University's Summer Session, descriptions of family members in the Military Records, and the extent of his involvement in the North Carolina and National Councils of Teachers of English. (Several letters relating to one of the Councils may be found in the general Correspondence Files.) Also included, are the high school English composition papers of Martha Owens.

Owens' long sought for Ph.D. was awarded in 1945, from New York University. His thesis explored the thought and criticism of Paul Green (1894-1981) - a musical dramatist and professor at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The Writings Section is dominated by programs, magazine articles and newspaper clippings written by or about Green and his plays, and correspondence between Owens and Green or New York University.

Henry Grady Owens (1892-1985)

Only a few literary bibliographies and library science lessons remain as evidence of Owens' long teaching career. Among the miscellany are a copy of The English Forum, a history of High Point High School, and the constitution of the Wilsonian Literary Society.

Public School Administration;
 School Organization and Management;
 Teaching the Social Studies in the
 Teaching Reading and Language in the
 Teaching of English in the Secondary School;
 Techniques of Teaching in the Secondary School;

INFORMATION CONCERNING
 HENRY GRADY OWENS
 209 UNIVERSITY RIDGE
 GREENVILLE, S. C.

EXPERIENCE

High school teacher of mathematics, Philadelphus High School (a farm-life school),
 R.F.D., 2, Red Springs, Robeson County, North Carolina-----1911-1912.

Principal, Barnesville High School, Barnesville, North Carolina-----1912-1914.

Assistant in Library, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, North Carolina-----Fall-1914.

Acting Librarian, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, North Carolina-----Spring-1915.

Assistant to the General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer, Saluda Lumber
 Company, Saluda, South Carolina-----1915-1916.

Assistant in Library, University of North Carolina Library-----1916-1917.

Supply-Sergeant, 55th Pioneer Infantry, Army Service Corps, etc.,
 United States Army, American Expeditionary Force, France-----1918-1919.

Principal, Linwood High School, Linwood, North Carolina-----1917-1918.

Director of Military Science, Director of Athletics, Coach of Football
 and Basketball, Washington High School, Washington, North Carolina -----Fall-1919.

Assistant Principal in Charge of Counseling; Director of Athletics;
 Director of School Publicity and Publications; Head of the English
 Department, High Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina-----1920-1922.

Assistant Principal, in Charge of Counseling; Director of School
 Publicity and Publications; Head of the English Department, High
 Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina-----1922-1933.

Principal, High Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina-----1933-1937.

Specialist in the Teaching of English at State College, University of
 North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, giving the following courses:

Teaching English Composition in the Elementary School;
 Teaching English Composition in the Secondary School;

Teaching Reading and Literature in the Secondary School;

Advanced English Grammar for Teachers; Public Speaking.
 SUMMER SESSIONS-----1927-1930.

Visiting Professor in Education and Psychology-Lake
 Junaluska Branch, Duke University Summer Schools, Durham, North Carolina.

Courses Given: Educational Psychology; Teaching of Reading and
 Language in the Elementary School; School Organization and
 Management. SUMMER SESSIONS-----1937-1939.

Psychologist, Winston-Salem Child Guidance Clinic, Winston-Salem,
 North Carolina. (Not now operating - war casualty)-----1937-1941.

Professor of Education, Salem College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina-----1937-1945.
 Courses given: Some were given every semester; others, every other
 semester; still others, in alternate years:

Principles and Philosophy of Education;
 History of Education;

(Continued on next sheet)

Public School Administration;
 School Organization and Management;
 Teaching the Social Studies in the Secondary School; High Point, 1922-1923.
 Teaching Reading and Language in the Elementary School; 1923-1924.
 Teaching of English in the Secondary School; Mary Principals 1923-1924.
 Techniques of Teaching in the Secondary School; Line Education
 Educational Psychology; Principals and Teachers 1924-1925.
 Psychology of Adjustment - Mental Hygiene; 1925-1926.
 General Psychology; North Carolina Teachers' Club 1925-1926.
 Psychology of Human Relations; Principles, Organization, and Admin- 1926-1927.
 istration of Educational and Vocational Counseling; Personnel; 1927-1928.
 Measurement and Evaluation - Tests and Measurements; 1927-1928.
 Directed Teaching. National Council of Teachers of English 1927-1928.
 Member of Steering Committee - Curriculum Commission of National
 Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, 1929-1933.
 Director of Summer Sessions, Associate Professor of Education 1945--
 Courses: undergraduate and graduate: English 1929-1933.
 Child Psychology; Board, National Council of Teachers of English 1929-1933.
 Adolescent Psychology; Membership-National Council of Teachers of English 1929-1933.
 Psychology of Adjustment - Mental Hygiene; 1929-1933.
 Advanced Educational Psychology; Public Instruction, Raleigh, North
 Measurement and Evaluation;
 Philosophy and Principles of Education;
 Educational Organization and Administration; Areas of Study in English
 Principles of Secondary Education; State Course of Study 1923-1924.
 Curriculum Construction; State High School Course of Study
 Development of the English Curriculum. 1928-1929.
 Consultant - Problems in Curriculum Construction in North Carolina
 EDUCATION 1924-1933.
 Fruitland Institute, Hendersonville, North Carolina. (Diploma). 1908-1911.
 Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, North Carolina. 1914-1915.
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (A.B. Degree). 1916-1918.
 College Majors: English and Education; Minor: History. Summer
 Sessions of 1914, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1925. Education
 Woman's College, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina 1922-1923.
 Extension in education and psychology.
 High Point College, High Point, North Carolina, Summer: Latin Drama 1930.
 Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina. Extension-History of Art 1925-1930.
 LaSalle Extension University, Chicago, Illinois -- Certificate in
 Higher Accountancy and Office Management 1933-1934.
 New York University, New York 3, New York. Higher Education - English 1933-1945.
 Master of Arts in 1935; Doctor of Philosophy in 1945.
 Subject of Ph.D., thesis: The Social Thought and Criticism
of Paul Green. 1937-1942.
 Boy Scouts of America, Greenville, South Carolina 1946-1947.
 (Continued on next page)
 Recipient - Silver Beaver Award for Distinguished Service to American
 Boyhood - Ubarrie Council, Boy Scouts of America 1934.
 Editor - The English Forum 1933-1927.
 Deacon, First Baptist Church, High Point, North Carolina 1903-1927.

POSITIONS OF LEADERSHIP - This Class and Ours Bible Class, First

President, Local Unit North Carolina Education Association, High Point, North Carolina-----1925-1937.
 President, Local Unit North Carolina Education Association, High Point, North Carolina-----1922-1928.
 Secretary, North Carolina Association of Secondary Principals-----1933-1934.
 Vice-President, Northwestern District North Carolina Education Association, High Principals and Teachers-----1924-1925.
 Secretary, Northwestern Schoolmasters Club-----1925-1926.
 President, Northwestern Schoolmasters Club-----1941-1942.
 Vice-President, North Carolina Council of Teachers of English-----1926-1927.
 President, North Carolina Council of Teachers of English-----1927-1928.
 Delegate, National Council of Teachers of English-----1927-1930.
 Vice-President-Second, National Council of Teachers of English-----1929-1930.
 Member of Steering Committee - Curriculum Commission of National Council of Teachers of English-----1929-1935.
 Chairman of Committee on Grammar of the Curriculum Commission of National Council of Teachers in English-----1929-1935.
 Member of the Executive Board, National Council of Teachers of English-----1929-1930.
 Member Committee on Life Memberships-National Council of Teachers of English ---1929-1930.

Appointments - State Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, North Carolina.

"Valid Criteria for Judging Children's Books"
 Chairman of Committee on Revision of the State Course of Study in English in the High Schools of the State (Wrote State Course of Study)-----1923-1924.
 Chairman of Committee on Revision State High School Course of Study in English-----1928-1929.
 Consultant - Problems in Curriculum Construction in North Carolina Schools-----1934-1935.
 Member on Teacher-Training in North Carolina -- Three subcommittees assignment-----1940-1944.
 Member, State Department and Southern Association of Secondary School and Colleges Evaluative Committees at various institutions in North Carolina-----1943-1944.

Appointments - South Carolina State Department of Education

National Education Association, Department of Higher Education
 Member of Committee on Professional Education for Teachers-----1946.
 Member of Committee on Standards for Teacher Preparation
 Preparing Higher Education Institutions in South Carolina-----1948.
 Representative of South Carolina Education Association at Atlanta Meeting on Professional Standards, N.E.A., Department of Higher Education,-----1948.
 Phi Delta Kappa - Eta Chapter - New York University.
 Secretary - North Carolina College Teachers of Education 1942-1945.
 Member, North Carolina Governor's Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation-----1932-1937.
 Chairman, Leadership and Training Committee, Uwharrie Council of Boy Scouts of America, High Point, North Carolina-----1933-1937.
 Chairman, Leadership and Training Committee, Winston-Salem Council, Boy Scouts of America, Winston Salem, North Carolina-----1937-1942.
 Chairman, Leadership and Training Committee, Old Indian Council, Boy Scouts of America, Greenville, South Carolina-----1946-1947.

Recipient - Silver Beaver Award for Distinguished Service to American Boyhood - Uwharrie Council, Boy Scouts of America-----1934.

Editor - The English Forum -----1923-1927.

Deacon, First Baptist Church, High Point, North Carolina -----1925-1937.

Teacher, Farris Men's Bible Class and Owens Bible Class, First Baptist Church, High Point, North Carolina-----1925-1937.

Teacher - Kerr-Wesley Men's Bible Class, Ardmore Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina-----1943-1945.

1947 Directory American Psychological Association
SPEECHES- dealing with educational subjects - delivered before national bodies in New York, Baltimore, Cleveland, Kansas City, and in cities between those listed, as well as in many places in North and South Carolina.

What's Who in American Education
Publications and Writings What's Who in the World

- "Come, Let Us Adventure! Collateral Reading for High School Students"
- "Reading - Book Reports"
- "Units in English Grammar"
- "High Point High School Library"
- "What Is Service?"
- "An Adequate Program of English Instruction in the Schools of North Carolina"
- "Units in the Use of Books and Libraries"
- "The Teaching of Milton's Shorter Poems"
- "Valid Criteria for Judging Children's Books"
- "Some Aspects of North and South Carolina Folklore"
- "Studies in Children's Reading Interests - An Investigation in Pertinent Research"
- "A Program of Mental Hygiene for the Schools of North Carolina"
- "Suggestions for the Reorganization of the Curricula in Salem College"

And many other articles and stories in various newspapers and magazines.

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Member

- South Carolina Education Association
- South Carolina Mental Hygiene Society
- National Education Association, Department of Higher Education
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Society for the Study of Education
- National Geographic Society
- Society for the Advancement of Education
- American Association of University Professors
- National Committee on Mental Hygiene
- Phi Delta Kappa - Rho Chapter - New York University.

MEMBERSHIPS IN LEARNED SOCIETIES

Member

- North Carolina Literary and Historical Society
- North Carolina Academy of Science
- North Carolina Mental Hygiene Society

Associate

- American Psychological Association

Fellow

- American Association for the Advancement of Science

(Continued on next page)

BIOGRAPHY LISTED

INFORMANT-5 - WORKING
HENRY GRADY OWENS
AND UNIVERSITY RIDGE
SMITHVILLE, S. C.

Who's Who in Rho University of North Carolina Alumni

- 1948 Directory American Psychological Association (a four-life school).
1948 American Association for the Advancement of Science 1911-1912.
R.F.D. Proceedings and Directory of Members 1912-1914.
High School, Sarrasville, North Carolina 1912-1914.
Prize Leaders in Education
Who's Who in American Education Fall-1914.
Assistant International Blue Book: Who's Who in the World North Carolina Spring-1915.
Assistant to the General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer, Saluda Lumber Company, Saluda, South Carolina 1915-1916.
Assistant in Library, University of North Carolina Library 1916-1917.
Supply-Sergeant, 15th Pioneer Infantry, Army Service Corps, etc., 1918-1919.
United States Army, American Expeditionary Force, France 1917-1918.
Principal, Lenoir High School, Lenoir, North Carolina
Director of Military Science, Director of Athletics, Coach of Football and Basketball, Washington High School, Washington, North Carolina Fall-1919.
Assistant Principal in Charge of Counseling; Director of Athletics; Director of School Publicity and Publications; Head of the English Department, High Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina 1920-1922.
Assistant Principal, in Charge of Counseling; Director of School Publicity and Publications; Head of the English Department, High Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina 1922-1923.
Principal, High Point Senior High School, High Point, North Carolina 1923-1927.
Specialist in the Teaching of English at State College, University of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, giving the following courses:
Teaching English Composition in the Elementary School;
Teaching English Composition in the Secondary School;
Teaching Reading and Literature in the Secondary School;
Advanced English Grammar for Teachers; Public Speaking. 1927-1930.
Visiting Professor in Education and Psychology-Jake
Juncoski Branch, Duke University Summer Schools, Durham, North Carolina.
Courses Given: Educational Psychology; Teaching of Reading and Language in the Elementary School; School Organization and Management. 1937-1939.
Psychologist, Winston-Salem Child Guidance Clinic, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. (Not now operating - war casualty) 1939-1941.
Professor of Education, Salem College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 1937-1943.
Courses given: Some were given every semester; others, every other semester; still others, in alternate years:
Principles and Philosophy of Education;
History of Education;
(Continued on next sheet)