

# Dorothy Canfield Fisher to Speak

## Charter Convo Presents Noted Writer Tuesday

Former Nebraskan Returns to Receive LL.D. Degree As Celebration of University's 69th Anniversary Gets Under Way.

The days when Dorothy Canfield Fisher was a fencing student under Lieut. John J. Pershing, and James H. Canfield, her father, then chancellor of the University of Nebraska, was advising drouth bitten residents of this state that "If they couldn't earn they could at least learn," will be recalled when the distinguished authoress returns to Lincoln in the role of principal guest and speaker at the university's 69th birthday celebration. The university will be observing its 69th anniversary Tuesday and alumni, the faculty, students and friends will once more join in a series of programs which will recall the events of the past and rededicate the program of the future.



Dorothy Canfield Fisher. Lincoln Journal.

Because of Mrs. Fisher's recognized literary attainments the university, through Chancellor Burnett, will confer upon her an honorary doctor of letters degree at the Tuesday morning program in the Coliseum.

### CONCERT OPENS CELEBRATION.

In bringing the famous author to Lincoln the university will be host to one of the most widely read American novelists, whose books have been translated into the languages of many countries. Her visit here Tuesday is being looked forward to by not only her many friends and childhood playmates, but by the Nebraska public in general who have long admired her many writings.

The anniversary festivities officially get under way Sunday at 3 o'clock in the coliseum with the annual mid-winter concert of the ROTC symphonic band, under the direction of its conductor, Don A. Lentz. This newly organized ensemble will present a brand new program that will satisfy every taste. This will be the first appearance of the symphonic band this year. This, plus the fact that many alumni have already arrived in Lincoln is enough to insure a capacity crowd for the program that afternoon.

### DISMISS CLASSES TUESDAY.

The second item on the Charter Day Calendar is the basketball game between Nebraska and Iowa State college at the coliseum Monday evening at 8:00. Charter Day exercises proper will lead off with the annual public convocation in the field house Tuesday morning at 10:15. Classes have been dismissed from 10 o'clock till noon that day.

At the morning program Mrs. Fisher will speak on "Pioneering and Education" and the University of Nebraska symphony orchestra will play "Overture Euryanthe" by Von Weber, "Two Slavonic Dances" in A flat and C major, by Dvorak, and "Phedre" by Massenet. Tuesday noon the trustees of the University foundation will have a luncheon at the University club and at 6:30 that evening will be the charter day dinner for alumni, students and faculty. Mrs. Fisher will be the guest of honor.

### STUDENT UNION THEME.

While it is to be regretted that the university's new student union activities building is not completed in time for the celebration this year, Chancellor Burnett and the committee in charge of the charter day program have nevertheless centered the general theme of the observance around the new edifice. The latest report to the regents set the date of its completion some time in March.

Judge Louis Lightner of Columbus, a member of the class of 1904, will be toastmaster at the charter day dinner. The student union building and its service to the students will be the subject of

several talks by Kenneth Van Sant, the newly appointed director; Robert Simmons, jr., representing the student body, and John Latsener, jr., of Omaha, the Nebraska works progress administrator. Chancellor Burnett will review the university's progress and Dr. Louise Pound of the English faculty will introduce Mrs. Fisher. Governor and Mrs. Cochran have been invited as honor guests at the Tuesday evening dinner.

At the trustees' meeting Tuesday noon new officers will be elected. L. E. Gunderson, finance secretary, will announce the number of gifts received by the foundation during the year, which, by the way, amount to many thousands of dollars. E. P. Brown is the retiring president. There will be an amendment offered at this time to enlarge the membership of the organization.

### KNEW DROUTH OF 1893.

Mrs. Fisher's coming recalls the days when her father, James Canfield, was appointed chancellor of the university in 1891. An aggressive individual, with the experience as a railway superintendent and legal as well as academic training, Chancellor Canfield found his resources taxed to the limit during the black days of 1893 when dust storms and drouth ravaged the state from one end to the other. In spite of these hardships, the university enrollment under his four years of guidance almost tripled. Dr. Canfield resigned in 1895 to accept the presidency of Ohio State university, but during his four year stay at Nebraska, Mrs. Fisher's brother, James A. Canfield, matriculated and graduated. Mrs. Fisher, then a girl of 14, was enrolled in the university's preparatory school.

She regrets that there is little to be said about the four years she spent in Lincoln. In a recent letter she confides that she was always sent back to Vermont as soon as the hot weather began in June and didn't return until late in September. She writes:

### I ADMIRER WILLA CATHER.

"I had been in school in Paris for a year before my father came to Nebraska as chancellor. When I arrived in Lincoln I think I went into the seventh or eighth grade of the public schools. From there I registered in the university's preparatory school, but left Lincoln before I was old enough to become a freshman in the institution. What I saw of the university life at Nebraska then was therefore seen as a faculty child sees it and thru the eyes of an older brother. Willa Cather was in my brother's class. I enormously admired her and she was always very kind to

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### ... CONFERS HONORARY DEGREE



Chancellor E. A. Burnett.

me. In the preparatory school Lieutenant Pershing taught algebra and geometry, and I remember I was in his class."

Several of the buildings, which in Mrs. Fisher's student days were the center of all common activity, are still in use today, including Grant Memorial hall, which was built in 1887; old University hall, built in 1870, which is now reduced to a one story structure; and Nebraska hall, built in 1887. There was the pharmacy building built in 1885, and the library, which came in 1891, and the astronomy building five years later.

### AUTHOR OF "BENT TWIG."

Mrs. Fisher took her A. B. degree at Ohio State university during her father's presidency there and later took work for her Ph. D. degree in Romance languages at the Sorbonne in Paris and Columbia university, receiving her degree from Columbia in 1905. In 1907 she married John R. Fisher and they went to live on one of the Canfield farms in Vermont where they now reside near the little town of Arlington.

Every reader is more or less familiar with the many books that she has written, beginning with her first book "Cornelle and Racine," followed by such popular fiction as "Squirrel Cage," "The Bent Twig," "Understood Betsy," "Her Son's Wife," "The Deepening Stream" and her more recent book, "Bonfire."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have been active in civic and educational work. During the World war they saw service in France and as the result of their extended sojourn there Mrs. Fisher, upon returning to her Vermont home months later, graphically described those trying days in a book entitled "Home Fires in France."

### TOP RATING AS CRITIC.

As a literary critic she rates at the top. Her ability in this field was recognized with her appointment to the board of five judges of the Book of the Month club.

She has received the honorary degree of doctor of literature from Columbia university, William College, Dartmouth, Middlebury, the University of Vermont, Ohio State university, and now she is returning to her former home to receive similar honors from the institution which so closely has been associated with her family.

Mrs. Burnett will be hostess at a luncheon Tuesday at 1 o'clock at the Cornhusker in honor of Mrs. Fisher. Only a small group will be present, made up of persons who have been intimately acquainted with the author or with her father and mother.

### Sentence Study Aids Cameraman, Weiland Reveals

The picture is the oldest method of recording thought, and strangely enough the least understood, says Prof. W. F. Weiland of the mechanical engineering department. Simplicity in the picture is as much to be desired as it is in the structure of a sentence, he says; for while the picture must be the modifying phrases, they must be present in the proper numbers so as not to complicate and lose the train of thought.

"The serious amateur studies page after page of discussions which eulogize pet theories and experiences of photographers," Professor Weiland writes in the Nebraska Blue Print. "There is the film which solves all problems, the filter which makes a peaceful sky look like a thunderstorm, the developer that brings out everything and even the correct printing and enlarging paper. But all this is only technique."

With all this aid, the individual still has the job of producing a good picture. The camera may be a simple box costing only a dollar, says the university engineer, who is also a recognized photographer, or it may be a beautifully finished device with many gadgets and worth several hundred dollars. The point is the kodak does not make the picture. It is merely a fine tool in the hands of a skillful operator. What, then, is a picture?

"A picture is just a simple sentence, pleasingly arranged to express an idea," he states. "You wonder thru a gallery when unconsciously you are attracted to a picture. It holds your attention; it does not irritate nor does it tire—a story in simple language, a masterpiece that will last thru the ages."

### PHI SIGMA IOTA PLANS NATIONAL AFFILIATION

Honorary Language Group Takes Action Tuesday Night at 7:30.

Phi Sigma Iota, honorary romance languages fraternity, will discuss the installation of the local organization into the national fraternity of Phi Sigma Iota, when they meet Tuesday evening at 7:30 at the home of Dr. Harry Kurz, 1125 So. 15th. Plans for the initiation into the national society of honorary, faculty, alumni and active members are to be made. The Nebraska group petitioned the national organization for membership in January and the request was granted. The nature of the discussion makes it important that all members attend.

### ... PRESIDES AT BANQUET



Judge Lewis Lightner.

### DR. MILITZER NAMED BARB CLUB SPONSOR

Council Lays Tentative Plans for Spring Festivities.

Barb Council members at their regular meeting Thursday afternoon elected as the new sponsor of the Barb organization, Dr. Walter Militzer of the chemistry department. Dr. Militzer will be the organization's first sponsor this year.

Other business of the council includes a unanimous vote to extend a "heartly approval of the action taken by the Student Council of the university in regard to encouraging the board of regents to accept the proposal of the Lincoln Cathedral choir in becoming affiliated with the university."

Plans for a spring party, a picnic, and a banquet were discussed and tentative arrangements made. No committees have as yet been appointed.

The council also made arrangements to fill the position left vacant by the recent resignation of Helen Severa as a member of the council.

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