

Journalist To Be ECU's Commencement Speaker

Ferdie J. Deering, retired journalist and syndicated columnist, is commencement speaker for graduation exercises at East Central University May 19.

Deering, a former Adan, was born in Texas and moved here when quite young. He attended Ada public schools and graduated from Horace Mann High School in 1928. He attended East Central before he became a reporter on the Ada NEWS in early 1931. He returned to ECU that fall, serving as sports editor of the college Journal and business manager.

In 1934, he was named night editor of the NEWS, which then published a morning paper as well as evening.

In 1937, he moved to Oklahoma City as associate editor of the Farmer-Stockman magazine. In 1942, he assumed the editorship, and later the management of the magazines. Coverage was expanded to include



FERDIE J. DEERING

Texas and Kansas, as well as Oklahoma, during his 30-year editorship. He promoted rural community development, soil and water conservation, crop and livestock improvement, helped or-

ganize the Flying Farmers, Farm Bureau and other farm groups, was active in the Chamber of Commerce, rural youth work and in other civic and community affairs.

In 1972, Deering retired as editor of the Farmer-Stockman but continues as Editorial Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Farmer-Stockman Publishing Company.

Deering has had a simultaneous career in newspapering. He has written regularly for both the news and editorial columns of The Oklahoman & Times for 40 years. In addition, he was a member of the Management Committee of Oklahoma Publishing Co., for 27 years, was a member of the Board of Directors for 18 years, and edited the magazine of the Sunday Oklahoman for eight years.

He has written books, including "USDA Manager of American Agriculture" and "Look At Oklahoma."