SEWARD ELLIS HORNER
(1906-1954)

Seward Ellis Horner was born in Abilene, Kansas, April 13, 1906, the eldest son of Charles Horner and Elma Biggart Horner. His elementary education was received in Abilene Public Schools, and in 1933 he graduated from Kansas State College at Manhattan with a B.S. degree in geology, the first student to be graduated from that institution with a major in geology. His untimely and unexpected death occurred at his home, 817 Lincoln, Topeka, Kansas, July 8, 1954, due to a heart attack. He married Leona Zoe Tibbetts, August 23, 1940, and to this union were born four children who together with his wife survive him.

Horner was a pioneer in the field of highway geology. He was the first licensed geological engineer in the state of Kansas after the professional engineering license act became a law. From 1939 to the time of his death, he was in charge of geology under the Department of Design of the Kansas State Highway Commission. He was given the title of chief