

Sooner MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

Volume 41, Number 2

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THE COVER: It would be regrettable, not to mention unforgivable, if OU's first presidential inauguration in over four decades were ignored by SOONER MAGAZINE. Well, don't worry. It isn't. E.g., note the cover by Mike Dirham from a Fields photo.

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Sooner Magazine is published bimonthly by the University of Oklahoma Association, Union Building, Norman, Oklahoma, 73069. 2nd Class postage paid at Norman, Oklahoma, 73069. Subscription is \$2 per year plus alumni dues. Total cost is \$5 a year for classes of 1962-67; \$7.50 annually for all other classes, or \$100 for lifetime membership and subscriptions to magazine, newspaper, and football letter. Single copies are 50 cents. Opinions expressed are those of the editor and do not necessarily represent official action of Alumni Executive Board. Member, American Alumni Council.

Sooner Scene

If you are really interested in the University of Oklahoma and if you would like to participate in the continuing dialogue about what it should be, what it should do, and how it can best achieve its goals, then I have a suggestion.

Order a copy of the University of Oklahoma "Plan for the Future." "The Plan" is being printed by the University of Oklahoma Press in paperback and hardback, and it will be available sometime after the first of the year.

The report is a summary of a year-long study conducted by six hundred interested people organized in twenty-three committees under the leadership of President J. Herbert Hollomon. The voluminous studies of the committees were synthesized and condensed by the executive committee of thirty-two members, with the Governor of Oklahoma, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives serving ex-officio.

President Hollomon has pointed out that the report has no force and effect in itself. It is only by implementation of the recommendations that it becomes vital. The executive committee has called for a clear implementing process that will deal with

the report's recommendations and will take into account those of the committees as well. It was further suggested that the implementing process involve faculty, students, administrators, staff employees, and the public.

You may ask, "Just what is the report and how will implementation affect the University?" No attempt can be made here even at a summary answer. You must read the report and draw your own conclusions.

The report consists of fourteen chapters, four of which deal with teaching and one with research and public service. Nine chapters are concerned with the relationship of the University with society and with its mission, how the University should be organized to accomplish all this and what resources will be required. The report is significant. It will significantly affect the nature and character of the future of the University of Oklahoma, and I predict of other universities as well. In its various parts it is original, innovative, idealistic, ambitious, challenging, and controversial. I invite you to read it, respond to it and be a part of the great transitional movement underway at the University of Oklahoma.

R. BOYD GUNNING

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