

feminine feature writer—take it from Beth Campbell, girl reporter No. 1 on the *Oklahoma City Times* staff and Zeta, 1929, of Theta Sigma Phi. And impressive indeed is the array of notables interviewed by Beth since she tucked a University of Oklahoma sheepskin under her arm five years ago and immediately walked in to the news room of the *Springfield* (Mo.) *Leader*, and a staff position.

"My most unusual adventure in interviewing was at Springfield with Anne Lindbergh," Beth related in a radio interview over WNAD at Norman, March 21. "The catch was she interviewed me. Each time I asked a question, she countered with another. When she boarded the plane to leave, she knew more about me than I did about her, but I had a swell story. My lead, of course, was that Anne Lindbergh had turned reporter."

This up-and-coming young reporter's list of great and near great also includes six bishops, three cabinet members, Arthur M. Hyde, Pat Hurley, and Frances Perkins; Ruth Bryan Owen; and Will Rogers, Al Jolson, and Richard B. Harrison topping the list of stage stars.

"But fliers have been my specialty," Beth laughed. "As aviation editor of my paper, I interviewed Amelia Earhart, Frank Hawks, Wiley Post, Bennett Griffin, Louise McPhetridge Thaden, Phoebe Omlie, and others. Max Schmeling and Babe Didrikson lead the list of sports elite, I suppose, Fritz Kreisler the musicians, and Ted Shawn the dancers. Vachel Lindsey, John Neihardt, Edna St. Vincent, Milay, and Lew Sarett were on my poet docket. There have been half a dozen college presidents and several senators and congressmen."

Since joining the *Times* staff last fall, she edited a weekly school page in addition to writing features and covering a regular run.

"My most recent interview obtained under unusual circumstances was when I played secretary to Madame Secretary Frances Perkins in order to talk to her in Oklahoma City," Beth recalled. "When she arrived at the hotel, she had about ten minutes to dress, and said she couldn't see me. I stuck around, and finally she said I could wait at her door and receive some flowers that were coming up. She then permitted me to come in while she finished getting ready and talked to me on her way down in the elevator.

And this young lady of the press has done her share in the business of creating copy. A "rash" criticism hurled at the inability of preachers to preach interestingly made in her column in the *Springfield* paper several years ago brought a challenge to Beth to do better, and she had her day in the pulpit, with an A. P. picture and the story flashed over the country. As a stunt reporting assignment, she demonstrated at Springfield, or demonstrated except for the loss of a few red corpuscles, that it was possible to live on a two-bit diet for ten days and get all the required vitamins for health building.

Three years ago Beth turned "hunger marcher" at Springfield and got an exclusive break on a story of state wide interest. "I dressed in old clothes and joined a bunch of 80 hunger marchers enroute to the Missouri capital in Jefferson City," said Beth. "It was necessary that my reporter's identity be concealed, so I could take no notes. I interviewed almost every member of the party on the 150-mile ride, remembering the information, and wrote it after I had slipped away and walked two miles to the capital late that night. We used a series of stories on the trip." The leader had decided in the meantime that Beth's powers of leadership should be enlisted behind the cause of the red flag and had divulged enough Communist secrets to her that she was able to break in her paper the fact that the march was incited by Communists.

But Beth thinks perhaps her most unusual assignment was a series of features on "Real Folks at Home." The stories were about people who never get in the day's news, picked up at random in different sections of Springfield.

## Centennial of Printing

THE centennial of printing and publishing in Oklahoma will be observed during the week starting October 6.

Special programs, addresses, services and displays will be held throughout the state during the week that marks the one hundredth anniversary of the publishing of *The Child's Book* at Union Mission in 1835. It was written by Reverend John Fleming and published at Union Mission by Samuel Austin Worcester, a New England missionary to the Cherokees, who brought a small hand press into the territory from the East.

Sponsoring the centennial is the University of Oklahoma Press and working in cooperation is the Oklahoma Press association.

Libraries and newspapers throughout the state will participate in the program and Governor E. W. Marland will issue a proclamation to open the week. Members of the committee in charge of advancing the program are:

Rev. C. W. Kerr, Tulsa, state ministerial alliances; C. M. Howell, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Educational Association; Ford C. Harper, Oklahoma City, State Chamber of Commerce; Vernon Sanford, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Press Association; Miss Florence Lundell, Tulsa, Oklahoma Library Association; Mrs. Cora Case Porter, Muskogee, Southwestern Library Association; Mrs. W. M. Van Di Vort, Nowata, Women's Federated Clubs of Oklahoma.

T. M. Beaird, Norman, Oklahoma Radio Broadcasting Stations; W. B. Bizzell, Norman, Colleges and Universities of Oklahoma; Grant Foreman, Muskogee, Oklahoma Historical Society; Joseph A. Brandt, Norman, University of Oklahoma Press; Savoie Lottinville, Norman, University of Oklahoma Press; F. R. Allsopp, Tulsa, Associated Booksellers of Oklahoma; Enoch Lusk, Oklahoma City, Graphic Arts Clubs of Oklahoma.

