

# Where Do They Go?

IF all of Oklahoma's graduates were collected together from the corners of the world and installed into a single village known as Alumniville, it would be an interesting and rather odd little town of some fifteen thousand population.

It wouldn't be anything at all like any other village of a similar number of souls for a number of obvious reasons. A survey of alumni professions made by *The Sooner Magazine* reveals that there would be an over supply of teachers if such a little city were made a reality.

As is it, the teachers, lawyers and physicians who have been graduated from the University are flung out across the state and nation and are leaders in their own communities.

But all brought together, it would be surprising to discover that one out of every four of the graduates was a school teacher, school executive or college official.

The school men and women, the homemakers, the attorneys and physicians would comprise a total of 61.8 percent of the entire alumni group. In other words, only 32.8 percent of Oklahoma alumni are engaged in all of the other professions.

The percentage of men graduates as compared with women graduates also offers an interesting study. Of the entire group, 62.7 percent are men and 37.3 percent are women. Of the women, less than half are married.

A close check of the whole group shows that 62.7 percent are men, 19.5 percent are single women and 17.8 percent are married women. Of the 17.8 percent, 16.8 percent list themselves as homemakers, while 1 percent are still engaged in a professional pursuit.

Engineering graduates, difficult to classify, break down into smaller groups, such as geologists, oilmen and company engineers. Often the engineers, go into the oil business, while often oilmen have a background of business rather than engineering training.

Since the University is a young school—still several years from the half-century mark—only 1.8 percent of the alumni are deceased. Among the sizeable professional groups are the pharmacists, businessmen, bookkeepers and accountants, nurses, salesmen, journalists, librarians, sportsmen and coaches, bankers and bank employes, ministers, chemists, farmers and ranchmen, and branch office managers. A hundred professions are included in the miscellaneous group which is comprised of a bare 1.6 percent of the entire alumni family.

It is significant, perhaps, that 20 percent of the student body of today comes from

farm homes. This percentage was even higher in years gone by, and yet only .6 percent of the alumni are farmers.

It is true that "they come in off the farm and never go back."

Geographically, the alumni family offers another interesting study. Should the entire group be brought together to form a single community, 76.9 percent of the alumni would not have far to go since they already live within the state. More than 10,000 are already residents of Oklahoma.

Texas, California, Kansas and Missouri also have many Sooner alumni but in much smaller numbers. The alumni files reveal that there are some graduates in every state in the United States and in most of the foreign countries.

Following are tabulations of alumni by professions, by places of residence and by the percentage of men and women:

## Distribution of Oklahoma Alumni by Professions

The following percentages give the number in the various professions per one hundred alumni. In other words, of every 100 alumni, 25.1 are engaged in teaching.

Teachers, superintendents, school executives	25.1
Homemakers	16.8
Attorneys, judges (many holding public office)	12.7
Physicians	7.2
Engineers, (private and corporation)	4.7
Pharmacists	4.2
Business (miscellany of private enterprise)	3.9
Bookkeepers, accountants, clerks, stenographers	3.7
Geologists (private and corporation)	3.6
Oil business (primarily employes of corporations)	2.6
Nurses	2.6
Salesmen	2.2
Newspaper work, editorial, advertising, business	2.0
Deceased	1.8
Librarians	1.2
Sportsmen, coaches, professional athletes	.8
Bankers and bank employes	.8
Ministers	.7
Chemists	.7
Farmers, fruit growers, ranchers	.6
Branch office managers	.5
Miscellaneous (including, social workers, dieticians, army officers, civil employes, research workers, abstractors, musicians, artists, writers, Scout executives, aviators, inspectors, etc.)	1.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Distribution of Alumni by States

State	O. U. Alumni Population	Percentage of Total
Oklahoma	10,811	76.9
Texas	1,063	7.6
California	285	2.0
Kansas	233	1.7
Missouri	225	1.6
Illinois	167	1.2
New York	129	.9
Arkansas	112	.8
Colorado	74	.5

New Mexico	71	.5
Ohio	61	.4
Foreign Countries	57	.4
All Other States	778	5.5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>14,066</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## Entire Alumni Group

Men	62.7
Women	37.3
(52.4% single, 47.6% married)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>WOMEN (37.3%)</b>	
Single Women	19.5
Married Women	17.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37.3</b>

## Whitehand's Play Next

FOR the third time in the history of the Playhouse, an original three-act drama by an Oklahoman will be presented on the repertoire of the University production society.

Robert Whitehand, '33as, former Tulsa, is author of *Precious Land* which will be produced April 17 and 18 by Director Rupel J. Jones. The play was written by Mr. Whitehand at the University of Iowa where he holds a fellowship.

*Precious Land* concerns an Oklahoma farm family and the effect the discovery of oil had upon members of the household. It is a story of the early twenties when oil booms were comparatively new in the state.

For his principals, Mr. Whitehand selected a family of four and a young hardened driller who takes room and board at the Hadley farm home.

The father of the family, Jason Hadley, refuses to lease his farm land to drilling companies because of his sentimental attachment to the piece of ground which his father and grandfather staked during the run.

Mrs. Hadley and the grown son and daughter, Charley and Laura, disagree with their father, but Jason Hadley refuses to lease the land even though the farms on all sides of him are being drilled. Although he is without money, he burns a check for twenty thousand dollars rather than part with the land.

The son and daughter are captivated by the spirit of progress and the excitement that accompanies the boom.

Jason is pictured as the pig-headed ignorant farmer who had refused to use modern machinery, have a telephone, subscribe for a newspaper or buy a radio. His characterization is well drawn and is easily the most convincing of the drama. The presentation should prove a happy selection for the Playhouse.

Other Oklahoma plays which have been produced were *A Certain Young Widow* by John Woodworth, '25as, Oklahoma City school teacher, and *Black Jack Davy* by Richard Mansfield Dickinson, Tulsa stage director.

## SPEECH LEADER NO. 1

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Other honorary members, the first ever named, chosen by the executive committee of the League were H. L. Ewbank, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Sylvester R. Toussaint, Monmouth College, Illinois; and Dean Ralph Dennis, Northwestern School of Speech, Evanston, Illinois.

*The Rostrum* explained that since the League was organized in 1924 there has been no way of honoring the national leaders who have given generously of their time, efforts and counsel to advance the program along sound educational lines. Just a year ago, however, the constitution of the League was revised to provide for the election of honorary members.

It was decided that the honorary membership, to keep it from expanding too rapidly, should be limited to one member for each 2,500 regular members admitted to the League. Since 13,000 regular members had been taken during the first ten years of the League, the executive council could elect five honorary members. Only four, those named above, were selected however.

In presenting its first honorary member, T. M. Beard, the executive committee declared in *The Rostrum*:

When it was decided to elect National Honorary Members of the National Forensic League and it fell to the Executive Council to designate the first national speech leader to be so honored, the unanimous choice of the group for the distinction of being National Honorary Member number one, was the League's long-time friend, Ted Beard of the University of Oklahoma.

Ted Beard has been at every one of our National Speech Tournaments and since the origin of these classics, his advice and assistance have been of inestimable value to the League. His vast field of experience in high school forensics secured in his capacity as

Director of the University of Oklahoma's extension service in this field and also as Chairman for many years of the National University Extension Association's committee on debate has given him a rich background from which to draw and his suggestions on tournament management and League administration have always been distinctly helpful. He is the originator of the Coaches Discussion Contest which now is a regular feature of our National Tournaments.

In 1932 he was the tournament banquet speaker; in 1935 he served as one of the judges of the championship debate. Mr. Beard is directly responsible for the first two demonstration radio debates for the benefit of high school debaters in the early part of the season in 1933 and '34, and has been extremely helpful in arranging for the annual broadcasts of the NFL championship finals. He is one of the men whose services have done most to develop the high school forensic program in America; NFL is proud to further honor him by awarding him the first National Honorary Membership of the organization.

It was a fitting recognition for the fine work done by Mr. Beard and the selection was one of the important ones during his career.

In the university organizations of forensic activity, Mr. Beard has been equally as prominent. Perhaps, the crowning event of his years in university work was the National Broadcasting company coast to coast debate in November, 1934.

Mr. Beard, as chairman of the debate committee of the National University Extension association, was active in having the debate given a nation-wide audience. Mr. Beard was chairman of the debate, presided in the studio and introduced the nationally known speakers. On one side were George McCarty, head of the speech department, South Dakota State college, Brookings, and Karl E. Mundt, head of the speech department, Eastern Teachers college, Madison, South Dakota, and on the other side were Roy C. Brown, head of the speech department, Virginia Intermont college, Bristol, and H. L. Ewbank, president of the National Association of Teachers of Speech, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Verbatim copies of the chairman's talk and his announcements and the text of the four debaters were published by the University of Oklahoma Press.

Mr. Beard has been active, likewise, in Phi Rho Pi, national junior college forensic society. Also, he has been a leader in the State Speech Teachers association.

For a time, he was executive secretary of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters.

He was forced to resign from active participation in several of these organiza-

tions last fall when he accepted an entirely different sort of assignment. When the Oklahoma Works Progress Administration was established, Mr. Beard's name was immediately proposed for the position of personnel director because of his wide acquaintance in the state and his dynamic leadership and organization ability.

Mr. Beard was given a leave of absence from the University and immediately tore into the huge task of finding the best qualified persons available to direct WPA projects. He did a remarkably fine job. But after six months as personnel director, he couldn't resist the urge to get back and continue his work with the youth of the state. The termination of association with Colonel W. S. Keyes, dynamic state WPA administrator, proved difficult because of the honest respect and intense loyalty he felt for the capable Oklahoma director. Mr. Beard, upon returning to the campus, remarked that "six months of work with Bill Keyes was worth six years of any man's life. Being associated with him and watching him handle administrative detail and satisfactorily solve difficult problems was a rare privilege."

But early this year, with WPA projects running smoothly under capable leadership, he stepped down and returned to his work on the campus. It was another triumph for the ability of Ted Beard.

Among the other organizations of which he is a member are Delta Sigma Rho, honorary college speech organization; Pi Kappa Alpha, social fraternity of which he is district fourteen president; Phantom Mask, honorary radio drama organization; Phi Beta Kappa, university scholastic fraternity of which he was named a member in 1931, his tenth year after graduation; the American Legion, in which he was for five seasons the field representative of the national children's welfare division and reviewed more than one thousand cases in several states and placed hundreds of orphaned veterans' children in schools as provided under the national endowment fund; Phi Delta Kappa, national educational fraternity; Phi Rho Pi, honorary speech organization; and Phi Alpha Tau, national dramatics organization.

Through Mr. Beard's efforts as manager of the University broadcast station, WNAD has developed into one of the best university stations in the United States. When it moves into its new studios in the tower of the Oklahoma Union in the fall, it will have one of the most modern and best equipped stations in the middle west, professional stations included.

While today Mr. Beard is closely associated with speech work, there was another distinctive phase of his career which is almost forgotten or completely unknown to his present associates. For a time, he was an instructor in government at the University and taught constitutional law. Shortly after his graduation from the University he was a school superintendent at Kiefer.

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