

Pinky Tomlin, '33ex, and Jack Davis, '36bus, are parked on the back of a truck between shots on a Hollywood movie lot. After visiting Tomlin for a couple of weeks at Christmas time, Davis came back with a glowing story of the "New Pinky." Both are members of the fraternity which recently has been called Delta Tomlin Delta or Davis Tau Davis.



A New Pinky

By JACK DAVIS, '36

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jack Davis, Sooner swimming star, spent Christmas holidays in Hollywood with Pinky Tomlin, University crooner who has just completed work on his fourth motion picture. Jack stayed with Pinky in his modest bungalow, went with him to the lot each morning and out with him during the evening. Here's the way Jack looks at Pinky's situation. Step up, Jack.

PINKY TOMLIN'S meteoric rise to success wasn't just a flash in the pan as many Oklahomans seem to think. In fact Pinky is just getting started. He has four fields open to him and he is proficient in all four: pictures, the radio, the stage, and song writing.

Pinky has done four pictures. In only one of these was he given a part which was at all suited to him. To quote *Time Magazine*, "Smart Girl is an entertaining show. Pinky Tomlin as the dumb son of Joseph Cawthorn shows promise. His owlish solemnity and jackass laughter are features." Pinky cheerfully admits that he can not act, but he doesn't have to. Pinky Tomlin is a character. He has personality, an infectious smile, and a naturalness which is worth far more to him than the ability to act. Hollywood is full of actors who can run the gamut of emotions from A to Z and back again without ever missing a one, but they have to content themselves with "bit" parts. Pinky is at work now on a picture tentatively titled "Tomorrow Is a Better Day," starring James Dunn and Sally Eilers and featuring Pinky. They were working on this picture when I was there and I didn't miss a single shot. Pinky manages to relax and be himself for the first time since he has been in the motion picture business and the results are certainly gratifying. It is mighty hard to be natural when all of the lights are focussed on you and everyone is watching while the camera records your

every action. All of this was new to him, which made it even harder. You must remember that a couple of years ago Pinky was singing for his meals and things have been happening pretty fast since then, so it is no wonder that he found it double tough to stay the same. He has his feet on the ground and his head above water now and you will see the results in "Tomorrow Is a Better Day" and future pictures.

Pinky is at home on the stage and that is where he has done his best work so far. He was at the Paramount Theatre in Los Angeles for thirteen consecutive weeks, which is the longest anyone has been there in the history of the theatre. During that time he broke all house records for attendance. He also has appeared at the Orpheum in Los Angeles, the Warfield in San Francisco, and the Spreckels in San Diego, to capacity crowds. He has a standing offer from Fanchon and Marco to tour the country at a salary which will provide for all of the little necessities of life with some left over for pleasure.

In the song writing field, he is rapidly nearing the top. Odd McIntyre predicted he would be another Irving Berlin and Odd McIntyre usually doesn't write things unless he believes them. He has already produced several hit songs and has seven new ones which will gradually be released. Pinky received word that he must have two songs to fit situations in "Tomorrow Is a Better Day" and he received it only four days before production started, but he had the songs. They were accepted and he was well paid for his time.

Pinky has held out for a coast-to-coast hook-up before he went on the air, and hasn't done in vain. The day I left, the representative of a large company was negotiating with Coy Poe, Pinky's manager as to the possibilities of featuring Pinky on just such a hook-up, so don't be surprised if there is a Pinky Tomlin hour before long.

Oklahomans would be proud of Pinky if they could see how he acted in Hollywood. People there have taken him to their hearts, and I can understand why, after being with him. He is so natural and unaffected that they just can't help liking him. Most people in his position are so wrapped up in themselves that they never see anyone else, but Pinky isn't like that. People on the street, instead of nudging each other and pointing, vell, "Hi, Pink," and get spoken to in return. This is something new in those parts and the people like it. While he was working on this last picture he would sit around on the set playing his guitar and singing between scenes instead of going to his dressing room and as a result the prop boys swear by him. He drives to and from the studio in a white Ford roadster and lets his Packard sit in the garage except when he has to go out and mingle with society. People out there notice things like that and they are having a hard time figuring Pinky out, but they are all for him.

Pinky doesn't do much gadding about at nights because he has to go to work at eight and work until six with an hour off for lunch, but while I was there he changed his rules in order to show me some of the night spots. One night we went to the Biltmore Bowl. Jimmy Grier saw Pinky and started playing "The Object of My Affection." Everyone began yelling for Pinky so he went up and sang the second chorus and brought the house down. Another night we went to the boxing matches at the Hollywood Legion Stadium and missed most of the first bout because people wanted Pinky's autograph and they got it. We missed the kick-off at the Rose Bowl game for the same reason. We went to the Century Club and as soon as the people saw Pinky they set up a howl for him to sing and he sang. The reason that things like this happen—and they happen every time he appears in public—is this: Pinky has gone up, but his head has stayed

down. Naturally he is well pleased with himself but he doesn't make it apparent to others.

Many people have asked me if Pinky is saving his money. He certainly is. His Christmas present to himself was a \$16,000 annuity paid up in advance and this is just one of several. He doesn't blow his money, but even if he did he could blow pretty hard and still save a little out of a salary

of \$1,000 a week besides his other sources of income.

I should like to clear up a lot of the misunderstandings about Pinky which seem to be more prevalent in Oklahoma than anywhere else. Just remember that they took Pinky out of Oklahoma but they didn't get Oklahoma out of Pinky and he is still the same easy going unaffected person that he was when he was in school.

Freshman Congressional Leader

UNIVERSITY students of two years ago call him "Our Josh Lee," head of the public speaking department, but, in the Congress of the United States, he's "The Hon. Josh Lee," and one of the leading figures in the current wrangle over neutrality legislation.

"Our Josh" is a "big shot" in Washington.

In less than one year since he laid down the gavel of the public speaking department at the University to go to the floor in the House of Representatives, the former University faculty member has skyrocketed to a place of eminence in Congress in a fight to secure strong anti-war legislation.

Washington newspapers and national radio chains made "top stories" of Josh Lee's fighting speeches on "Take the Profits Out of War," delivered during the last four months in almost every county of the state and every state in the Middle West.

Today, Lee is in the thick of the Congressional battle to put teeth in the neutrality legislation now up for vote.

Lee's platform for peace is a four-point program, which, he contends to the Congress, finally will find its place during this session in a permanent neutrality law for the United States.

1. Prevent the lending of money to warring nations.
2. Control the manufacture and sale of munitions by licensing manufacturers.
3. Adopt a policy of non-intervention into the affairs of any foreign nations. (For instance, President Roosevelt's handling of the nation's attitude in the recent strife in Cuba.)
4. Take the profits out of war by conscripting industry, management,

transportation facilities, communications, money and materials, as well as the drafting of man power.

Lee believes that the present neutrality law, which was passed by the last session of Congress, is a step in the right direction, but that, being temporary, its chief value has been only to declare to the world America's intention to remain at peace.

Speaking from the practical experience of an ex-private who spent ten months overseas in the last great war, Lee frowns on disarmament, so long as the other nations of the world continue their seeming endless race to outbuild armies and navies. For he says:

"To be unprepared is to invite attack. China was defenseless. . . Japan marched in. Ethiopia is weak, and now Mussolini is marching in."

Lee advocates, instead, a twofold program for the defense of the nation. A sufficiently strong army and navy to protect the nation, in case of an invasion, until a fighting army can be whipped into shape; and the passage of laws to eliminate a worse invader . . . the profit motive.

In a campaign which swept him into

office without a run-off election, Josh Lee promised to be the "noisiest freshman in Congress until we get a bill passed to take the profits out of war." In fulfilling that promise, Lee contributed notably to the anti-war measures passed by the last session.

When the 74th session—Josh's first—began last January, Lee learned that Rep. John J. McSwain, chairman of the Military Affairs committee, already had prepared a bill to curb profit-taking in time of war. Rather than "choke the hopper" with another bill, Lee, instead, introduced amendments to the McSwain bill which would alter it to conform with his own ideas of equalizing the burdens of war.

He helped guide the McSwain bill through a stormy passage of the House of Representatives, and, when it emerged, he was the author of one of its most important provisions, empowering the federal government to close the stock and commodity exchanges, thus preventing skyrocketing of prices, unrestrained speculation, and war profiteering.

Three of Lee's other amendments—which would have authorized the federal government to commandeer all financial as well as material resources in time of war; raised the pay of soldiers from \$1 per day to that of unskilled labor; and drafted the managers of industry, commerce and transportation during war periods—almost succeeded in becoming part of the finished measure, but were eliminated by a narrow margin of votes in the final passage of the bill.

The young Congressman's satisfaction was short-lived, however, for the United States Senate shelved the bill, and refuses to take action on it, despite pressure by House members.

Lee's speeches on "Keeping America Out of War" are being quoted throughout the nation. He is recognized in Washington as being probably the most able freshman member of the House of Representatives.



Looking west down the main reading room of the University library. Standing at the head of the south oval, the Library building occupies a position similar to that of the Administration building. Work will be started this month on the Biology building, the first to be constructed on the south oval.