

This month

WITH this issue, *The Sooner Magazine* closes its ninth year. During this year it has acquired a full-time editor and manager, it has been considerably enlarged, and more pictures have been used.

During the breathing space between this issue and the October number, the editor hopes that plans can be perfected for many more improvements to be carried out during the tenth year of the Magazine's history. There are many interesting possibilities in the air—but perhaps we had better quit counting chickens before they incubate, and let the readers judge for themselves this fall.



Alumni who sometimes have occasion to impress prospective O. U. students with the importance of good scholarship might be interested to learn that at least three big league baseball players—Burgess Whitehead, Moe Berg and Red Rolfe—are wearers of the key.

Stranger still, one of them owes his baseball career, to a considerable extent, to the key that is the emblem of his scholastic leadership.

Banta's Greek Exchange tells the story:

Five years ago this Burgess Whitehead was a young man just out of the University of North Carolina and trying to earn himself a bit of capital by playing professional baseball for a summer or two.

He was trying for an infield position with the Columbus team of the American Association, but the manager was not impressed, and when time came to cut down the squad, Whitehead was slated for a pink slip, which is baseballesse for "the air."

In fact, the papers were all made out and the bad news had already been communicated to "Whitie." He stopped in at the club office to collect the few dollars the club owed him.

This was the first time the club president had seen Whitehead except when Whitehead was wearing a uniform. The president was Larry MacPhail, now general manager of the Cincinnati Reds.

"Wait a minute," said Larry, after looking him over. "I think perhaps we're being too hasty about this. I think I'll change my manager's mind and have you around here a few weeks more."

Whitehead's face must have expressed his surprise.

"If you're smart enough to win one of those things," explained Larry, pointing to Whitehead's Phi Beta key, "you're smart enough to learn whatever it is that you need to learn to become a good ball player."

The sequel was that Whitehead, who had played shortstop at North Carolina, got a chance to try second base a few days later. From the start he was a success as a second baseman, but he might very well have passed out of baseball history that day in Columbus instead of hitting the high road to major league stardom on the strength of a Phi Beta Kappa key.



Two articles in this issue of the Magazine are especially designed to give alumni some factual data about the University which they can pass on to prospective students.

One is an article on the recent additions to intramural sports equipment which provide swimming and golf facilities for students of only moderate athletic skill. The other is a comprehensive article on student living costs—a subject close to the hearts of students and their parents as well.

These articles are worth reading and passing on to high school graduates who are trying to decide on what college or university to attend.

The Sooner Magazine

OKLAHOMA ALUMNI NEWS

A Monthly News Magazine for University of Oklahoma Graduates and Former Students

ROSCOE CATE, '26 _____ EDITOR AND MANAGER
 T. M. "TED" BEAIRD, '21 _____ ALUMNI SECRETARY

Staff writers: Harold Keith, Norman; Frances Hunt, Norman; Eleanor Lain, Norman; Dorothy Woodruff, Ponca City.

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