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A view of the front entrance of the Library Building.

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The SOONER MAGAZINE

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the University of Oklahoma*

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It's Our Job

The task of convincing the next Legislature that pressing needs of the University of Oklahoma require a substantial increase in appropriations is clearly a job that must be done largely by the alumni and former students.

True, it is the task of the Board of Regents to present the institution's needs in a formal and comprehensive way, and this undoubtedly will be done. Already the regents have approved a formal request for the Legislature to provide funds for an extensive building program to be carried out with the assistance of Public Works Administration grants.

But the Legislature will be receiving requests for money from many other institutions, departments, and organized minorities.

It is only the alumni who can take the University's case before the people of Oklahoma and secure the widespread support that is needed. Members of the Legislature can readily be expected to assume that if the University has any serious needs, the alumni will be active in seeking favorable action. If the alumni of the institution do not take enough interest to do this, who else can be expected to do so? Parents of students do, indeed, have a strong interest in the welfare of the University, but their interest is not as strong or as lasting as that of alumni, who are forever identified as part of the University "family."

State politics and finances being what they are, heads of institutions are expected by legislators to seek increases in appropriations, just as a matter of course. The custom is so general that when officials of an institution do what O. U. officials did two years ago and attempt to base their budget request on actual needs as shown by enrolment increases and other factual data, they are likely to fare poorly in comparison with other institutions and departments unless the request is strongly supported by alumni throughout the state.

Any alumnus who thinks that the alumni association program consists chiefly of sentimental gatherings and keeping a set of records and that it has nothing really important to do, is due for a rude awakening if he will look into the real facts.

O. U. alumni have a big job to do, and it's one we can't pass the buck on. It's our job.

If there's to be a really big campaign for adequate funds to take care of the University's vital needs—the alumni will have to carry the load.

For the next issue, we have been promised an article by President W. B. Bizzell explaining the University's proposed building program. The Board of Regents has decided to ask the State Legislature for a building appropriation that would be supplemented by a Public Works Administration grant. Dr. Bizzell has agreed to outline the proposed program and explain the serious need for additional buildings.

THE Sooner Magazine presents this month a list that we hope is a complete roster of all Sooner alumni and former students listed in the 1938-39 volume of *Who's Who in America*. The basis for the list was obtained from an alumni executive in an eastern college who had sponsored a comprehensive survey of the college background of all the persons listed in the previous volume, and was therefore supposed to be complete.

However, workers in the O. U. Alumni Office found that several names of prominent Sooners had been omitted from this list, and we therefore checked other sources of information in an effort to make the list as complete and accurate as possible.

Even so, we present it with a certain amount of fear and trembling, and hereby ask in advance the forgiveness of any Sooners who have been overlooked.

The Campus Review department of this issue of the Magazine is written by Jim Flinchum, '39, student from Comanche, who is the thoughtful and hard-working editor of the *Oklahoma Daily* this Fall. He has agreed to take charge of this department and give alumni the campus news from the student viewpoint.

The fairly large group of Oklahomans who journeyed to Houston to see the Sooners play Rice had a field day of vociferous cheering of the Sooners and ribald razzing of the ill-fated Rice Owls. It was great fun.

Which recalls a story they tell about Paul W. Updegraff, '30law, Norman attorney whose booming voice frequently admonishing the referee or players is known to all regular Sooner sport fans. Updegraff was on his way to the Sooner-Rice game when stopped by a boy trying to sell him a red-and-white O. U. arm band.

When Updegraff declined, the salesman put on some pressure and said, "You'd better buy an arm band so they'll know where you're from."

Updegraff replied with the deep confidence of the true artist: "THEY'LL KNOW!"

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