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# Belles Lettres and Bell Ringers

*Sequoyah*, by Grant Foreman. University of Oklahoma Press, 1938. \$1.50.

**M**OST Oklahomans know that Sequoyah was the Cherokee Indian genius who conceived and perfected an alphabet for his tribal language, but the full picture of this achievement and the illiterate person who performed it has never before been presented.

Grant Foreman, making use of newly discovered source material, has now written the story with all of the essential elements included in an attractive book, *Sequoyah*, published by the University of Oklahoma Press.

The fact that an untutored Cherokee Indian who could neither write nor speak

English could work out a practical alphabet that gave his people a means of written communication is truly amazing. He worked at his task for twelve laborious years, but so well did he accomplish his purpose that the other Cherokees were able to take the alphabet and master it within a very short time.

Some of the original type used for the first printing done in the Cherokee alphabet are used as decorations on the jacket of *Sequoyah*. The appearance of the volume is fully up to the high standards set by the University Press.

The names of some of the Indian warriors and statesmen are best known now, but few Indians appear destined for more lasting fame than Sequoyah, the illiterate genius who gave his people a means of writing their own language.

## IN THE MAIL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

I am with you one hundred per cent. I admire your aggressiveness and the stand that you are taking without compromise. That is the only way we can get anywhere and the policy you have adopted of being positive and fair is absolutely sound.

Boy, go to it!

LEONARD LOGAN, '14B.A.  
Norman, Oklahoma

Sir:

Check for \$3.00 enclosed. Thanks for continuing to send the *Sooner Magazine*. Don't want to miss an issue. Have just returned from Carlsbad, New Mexico, in the Guadalupe Mountains, where I have been superintending a copper, lead and zinc mine.

LEON H. BROWN, '16LAW  
Mission, Texas

Sir:

I have received this morning a copy of your magazine, *The Sooner Magazine*, which I am frank to admit is the best Alumni Magazine I have seen published in the United States. You are doing a wonderful job and I hope that you are enjoying your work.

FRED A. ANDERSON, JR.  
Gloster, Mississippi

Sir:

I received a copy of the *Sooner Magazine*, and while I am no judge of publications, will say that yours was read with a great deal of pleasure.

The material used in the publication, the workmanship and all is of the highest class.

It is then my pleasure to add sincere best wishes for the success of your publication.

G. C. HARSTON  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Sir:

Left my native state of Oklahoma with my conscience protesting but only because Tennessee had a particular job in adult education to be accomplished. The great TVA program has resulted in millions being poured into this section in funds, to accomplish a five-fold rehabilitation program. With a population of over three millions; a heavy rainfall to bring large crop produc-

tion, and climate that is most pleasant it's hard to keep from "falling for" Sunny Tennessee.

The two great medical schools in this state attract quite a number of our Oklahoma youth. The Quarter system has some advantages, for some of them. Several come into my office, just because there is a common bond of fellowship between Oklahomans.

The most interesting observation recently made however, is the progressive program of our own Oklahoma University Alumni Association, under the leadership of its new secretary, Ted Beard. It will go places, lift up the hands of higher education in Oklahoma, and eventually "clip the wings" of conniving, cheap politicians within the state who have during recent years, been a definite hindrance to the development of a great University in a new state. Here in Memphis we are taking steps to organize some twenty O.U. alumni to join in this forward movement, and twelve or fifteen more in Nashville.

L. W. KIBLER, '16  
Memphis, Tennessee

Sir:

In response to a series of notices, I hereby send my three dollars for renewing my membership in the University of Oklahoma Association. Please date this back to cover the four months lapse and thanks a lot for sending the Magazine during that time.

"Count me in—I am ready to join the fight for O.U.!"

DALE A. CAMP, '31  
Newkirk, Oklahoma

P.S.—I am teaching mathematics in the Newkirk High School. Seven or eight members of the Newkirk faculty are graduates of O.U.

Sir:

I look forward to the coming of the *Sooner Magazine* because of the interest aroused by seeing articles with the names of old friends such as yours and others. I see in the March issue before me now Dean Carson, Dr. Felgar, David Logan, Dr. Bizzell, Lowrey Harrell, Harold Keith, and many others.

I hope to get back to Norman for a visit at the University some time during the coming Summer vacation.

MAJOR WILLIAM E. CORKILL, '16  
State College, Arkansas