

Association Progress



A statewide radio broadcast, a teachers convention dinner with record attendance and an Executive Board meeting held on the same day as the formal opening of the new lounge and other new facilities in the Union Building, marked the Alumni Association's program during February.

The Executive Board of the Association, meeting February 5 in joint session with Trustees of the Stadium-Union Corporation, formally approved a tentative program for a four-year celebration of the University's semi-centennial anniversary.

The action was taken after Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University, and Dr. M. L. Wardell, his assistant, explained the general plan for conducting a four-year program seeking endowments and special gifts for the University, and culminating in the actual semi-centennial celebration in 1942.

Details of the plan are explained in an article elsewhere in this issue of the *Sooner Magazine*.

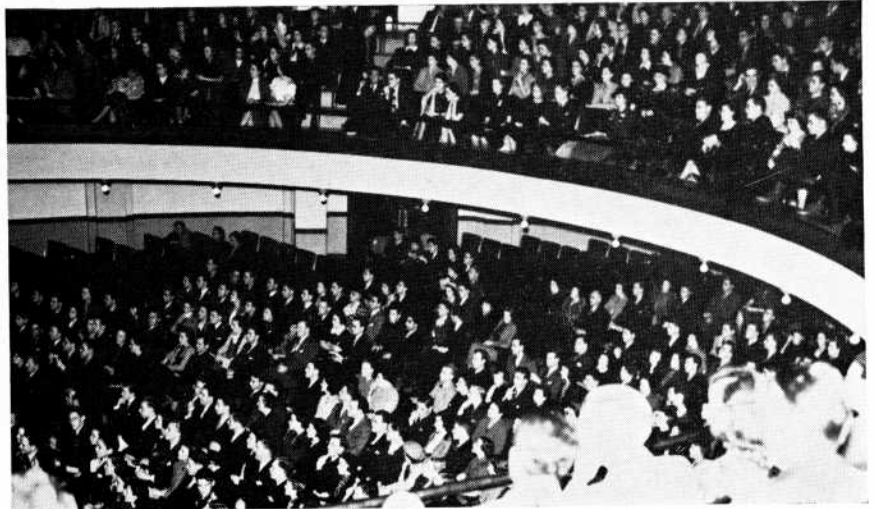
Broadcast is praised

An ambitious one-hour program sponsored by the Alumni Association was broadcast the night of February 9 over eight stations of the Oklahoma network. Fifteen hundred students, faculty members and Norman residents jammed the University auditorium to see as well as hear the varied program of informal talks and entertainment numbers.

The program went off smoothly, and although reception was somewhat spotty and a few alumni groups reported they had difficulty picking up the broadcast, it is probable that this program was heard by more Sooners than any previous alumni program.

Joseph W. Lee, '31, manager of the Oklahoma Network, announced the program. H. H. Leake, '37, production manager for WNAD, arranged the program.

Barre Hill's singing of *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* with accompaniment by the Choral Club was one of the most appreciated entertainment numbers of the show. Many compliments also were heard for the number played by the University Symphony Orchestra. And of course the



Scenes in the University auditorium during the all-University Alumni Broadcast February 9. Above, the University Symphony Orchestra has just completed its number and is moving off the stage while Announcer Joseph Lee introduces Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird and Alumni President Lowrey Harrell. In the middle picture, the Choral Club awaits its cue while Pete Smith and Coach Tom Stidham broadcast a conversation with Announcer Lee. The University Band can be seen in the orchestra pit. The bottom picture shows part of the crowd that listened to the program in the auditorium.

THE NEW REGENT

Complying with a strong recommendation from the O. U. Alumni Association that an alumnus of the University be appointed to the University Board of Regents to fill the seven-year term beginning March 29, Governor E. W. Marland has appointed Alumni President Lowrey H. Harrell to fill the position.

Mr. Harrell succeeds Malcolm E. Rosser, Jr., of Muskogee, on the Board of Regents. The new regent is an attorney at Ada, a graduate of the University School of Law in 1916, Life Member of the Alumni Association, well known in state civic and business life and an active worker in the interests of the University.

A committee representing the Executive Board of the Association conferred with Governor Marland before the appointment, and suggested the names of various alumni of the University as possible appointees.

The governor's appointment of Mr. Harrell was accepted by friends of the University as a strictly non-political appointment, with no strings attached, and one made for the best interests of the institution.



Lowrey H. Harrell

lovers of swing had their inning when the Ramblers dance orchestra played. Jack Wilson's original song was professional in caliber.

"The broadcast surpassed even the Pontiac show and I have heard nothing but praise of every phase of it," wrote Charles B. Duffy, '22law, Ponca City. "Joe Lee was a splendid master of ceremonies, and the clear reception over the Oklahoma Network stations made it thoroughly enjoyable... I thought the program was exceptionally well balanced and the alumni of Kay County are anxious to hear more of them. Your broadcasts have revived the interest of many former students in their University and have been well received by the public generally."

Preston Woodruff, '36law, sent this message from Stilwell: "Most hearty and sincere congratulations on well balanced and exceptionally well rendered radio program. Reception good. Will look forward to another such event."

Sooners at Amarillo, Texas, received the program in good shape, reported L. R. Hagy, '23, "We listened with much interest," he wrote. "We received it through the Enid station. I want to compliment you on the program, as it was very constructive, as well as entertaining. We had five or six Oklahoma graduates together and it made us feel very much at home."

Lowrey H. Harrell, of Ada, alumni president, reports that more than sixty persons were present at a meeting held in the Aldridge Hotel in Ada to hear the broadcast, and steps were taken at this meeting toward the formation of a permanent alumni group to work more closely with the Association office at Norman.

The newly appointed County Advisory Council for Pontotoc County "did a won-

derful work prior to the broadcast in getting in touch with practically all the alumni and former students located in and near Ada," Mr. Harrell reported.

"I want to take this opportunity again of congratulating you and all those assisting you in putting on the big broadcast," Mr. Harrell wrote Alumni Secretary Baird. "It certainly was a success in every particular."

"The broadcast was a glorious success in my opinion," wrote A. B. Carpenter, '27law, Shawnee. "The reception through our local station was excellent. The program was grand and the idea was a marvelous one. I dare say that there were thousands within the borders of the state of Oklahoma and the adjoining states, who are alumni of the University who have not recently had any personal touch or contact with the University and yet who listened in on the program. I can't keep from feeling that such contact through the air as was given last night over the radio will serve as a great force in arousing interest, which has heretofore wavered, in many of the alumni and former students of the University."

"I know this to be true by reason of the various remarks and exclamations of a group of alumni who were assembled here in Shawnee to listen to the program. There were twenty of us assembled, and as a result of the broadcast, resolves were made by numerous alumni present to keep in closer touch with the activities of the University from this time on. The expression from all of us in Pottawatomie County is, as a result of the broadcast, 'Power to you, and may we have more broadcasts like this one.'"

Charles W. Haxel, Ponca City, wrote that "We heard the O. U. program the other night and will say that was, I am

sure, the best bit of publicity the University has had in years. That program worked up more enthusiasm among the prospective students for the school as well as among the alumni than anything you could do, I am sure. I will say if you keep that good work going within a few years you should have things as you want them in the State Capitol.

"Say, the University officials carried out the wish of thousands of us by getting the O. U. football games on the air last year, for which we are thankful. A number of us would like to show our appreciation of this by attending more of the games but to make the drive from various points in the state by 2 o'clock is impossible. Why not use your influence in getting these games started at 2:30 o'clock instead, giving us the badly needed thirty minutes to make the run."

George D. Hann, '36ed.m, of Clinton, writes that home radio parties were held in Custer County to enjoy the broadcast program. "We thought it better to have a series of group meetings rather than to attempt to have one large meeting." Lucile Medbery, '37, called all of the local graduates and former students of the University in Clinton and vicinity. Mr. Hann estimated that a thousand persons heard the broadcast in Custer County.

S. L. Patterson, now manager of radio station KPDN at Pampa, Texas, wrote that he wished his station was included in the broadcast network. "This country out here is loaded down with Sooners, and all of us would naturally enjoy hearing this broadcast," he wrote. "Please let us hear from you if there is anything we can do for the Alumni Association in the Panhandle of Texas."

Elton B. Hunt, '13law, Tulsa, wrote that no special meeting was held in Tulsa to receive the broadcast as it was not on any local station "and we would not have any assurance that we could get satisfactory reception."

More than a score of Sooners assembled at Okmulgee to hear the program, but unfortunately, the radio receiver available did not bring in the program satisfactorily, David M. Logan, '16, reported. "With a better radio installation and in a different place than where we were it may be possible to catch one of those stations, but ordinarily it is a very difficult thing to do. I wish it were possible for you to get either KVOO or WKY some time when you have a similar broadcast. We voted to have another meeting the second week in May and I hope that you can attend and bring over some of the University talent available for such meetings."

Mrs. Sam Butler, Jr., reported reception unsatisfactory at Atoka and similar reports came from E. B. Anderson at Waurika and Eleanor Tracy, Beaver.

President Bizzell and Dr. Wardell in their talk discussed frankly some important matters such as the occasional charges

of "radicalism" directed at the University.

Their script was as follows:

BIZZELL: There are many misunderstandings and misapprehensions about the University. I believe that the University has the confidence of the citizens of Oklahoma. Every county, every city and town, almost every village is represented in the student body. But from time to time, people ask me all kinds of questions that cause me to think we should do more than we have done in the past to convey to the public the ideals and policies of the University.

WARDELL: Dr. Bizzell, in view of what you have said, compared with other universities with which you are acquainted, what do you think about the University's attitude toward what "Tooles" called "Rat-icalism"?

BIZZELL: Frankly, Dr. Wardell, I think the faculties and students of the University of Oklahoma are rather conservative. It goes without saying that in a large faculty group like this, there is a wide range of opinion on all matters affecting life and destiny. But I have never known anyone here who believed that any alien theory of government is better than our own.

WARDELL: Don't you feel that some of our faculty members, whom we regard as decidedly conservative, are sometimes misunderstood?

BIZZELL: I certainly do, Dr. Wardell, personally, I believe that we should teach in the University all the theories of government that have been practiced in the world.

WARDELL: And don't you suppose that people who are not intimately acquainted with the functions of the University sometimes mistake classroom information for propaganda?

BIZZELL: I am sure that is true.

WARDELL: I wonder whether or not Oklahomans really appreciate the contributions which the faculty of the University has made to the general fields of knowledge.

BIZZELL: Perhaps not. There is no way to appraise the influence of a good teacher or to estimate the significance of research.

WARDELL: You think, then, that faculty members who are themselves contributing to the store of knowledge make valuable friends and advisors for our students.

BIZZELL: I certainly do. As an example, Dr. Paul B. Sears, who has written *Deserts on the March* and *This Is Our World*, is both an eminent writer and an effective teacher.

WARDELL: And of course, Dr. Sears is only one of many examples.

BIZZELL: That's right. I believe fully a fourth of our teachers are engaged in similar work.

WARDELL: That brings up another question—the matter of scholarship. I think the more a student knows, the more he can learn from resourceful men.

BIZZELL: Of course, you know what we are doing to help our students make better grades. In our remedial program we are using the service of good students to tutor those who need help in raising their scholastic standing.

WARDELL: And, as I understand it, without cost to the student.

BIZZELL: Yes, the student gets his tutoring free.

WARDELL: That takes care of the student with a low standing, but it is my opinion that high ranking students, that is, the students capable of doing research, who are without financial support, haven't time to work their way through school.

BIZZELL: That is another problem. We need at least forty or fifty scholarships and fellowships by next fall, ranging all the way from \$200 to \$800 each. No institution in America has ever been able to develop its research work on the graduate level without them. The great foundations have been approached and plans devised for bringing the University's needs to the attention of public spirited men and women of Oklahoma.

WARDELL: Now here is another thing. Oklahoma is growing. More graduates are coming from our public schools every year. The Uni-



The O. U. rally at the annual convention of the Oklahoma Education Association in Oklahoma City brought out a record attendance of 150 persons.

versity is having growing pains because the consequent increased enrolment finds us short of buildings and equipment. What is to be done about that?

BIZZELL: Something, of course, must be done about this situation. Naturally, we must look to the legislature for relief. I believe our people want their children to have educational facilities equal to the best in the nation. The legislature has not done all that it should do to help us in the solution of this problem; but even if the state government does provide a building program during the next two or three sessions of the legislature, I doubt that we can keep pace with our increasing student body. I have been discussing the matter rather generally in recent months, and I think we must look to private benefactors for additional funds for buildings and equipment to help us meet the increasingly difficult problem of housing here at the University. The University of Oklahoma is far behind other universities in this matter. There is not a single building on this campus that has been erected from private funds.

WARDELL: Now, Dr. Bizzell, this whole program we have discussed points in one direction, doesn't it? That is, toward increased service to the student.

BIZZELL: You are quite right, and there is one thing I should like to mention in that connection—that is, student expenses. While the average expense of a student per month is only about \$43, I dream of a time when even that figure will be much lower.

WARDELL: We have now a small group of students living on a co-operative basis at \$14 a month.

BIZZELL: Yes, but we want to provide accommodations for at least a thousand students on the same basis. The burdens must be lightened for deserving students who are trying to get a college education.

WARDELL: Do you feel that the University has a bright future?

BIZZELL: In the thirteen years of my connection with the University of Oklahoma, I have never been more hopeful than I am today about its future and about the increasingly useful service that it will render.

Alumni President Lowrey H. Harrell, of Ada, and Alumni Secretary Ted Baird spoke informally, emphasizing the value of the County Advisory Council plan put

into effect by the Alumni Association last year.

Through this system of local units set up in all parts of the state, the Association can serve the University's interests better than ever before, Mr. Harrell declared.

Tom Stidham, Sooner football coach and athletic director, in a conversation with Announcer Lee, discussed the scheduling of an inter-sectional football game with Washington State next December in Norman.

Washington State, he said, defeated U. C. L. A. of Los Angeles, Idaho and Oregon State last year, although their team was younger than usual. Washington State lost a close one to Oregon, and was beaten by Stanford and by California's Rose Bowl champions, but came back to play tie games with Howard Jone's Southern Californian Trojans and Jimmy Phelan's University of Washington Huskies, the team that played Pitt in the Rose Bowl last year.

Stidham also pointed out that the coast team has finished in the first division of the Pacific Coast Conference ten out of the last eleven years, and won the Pacific Coast Conference championship in 1930 and 1934.

The broadcast program also included numbers by the University band; a dramatic sketch written and directed by John Dunn, assistant professor of drama; a sketch by Phyllis Markley, based on true facts, describing the experiences of a student making his own way through school; and a number by the Men's Quartet.

150 at convention dinner

The experiment of holding a dinner rather than luncheon for O. U. alumni attending the annual convention of the

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Association Progress

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Oklahoma Education Association proved a success, as a record attendance of 150 was achieved for the dinner program held Friday evening, February 11, in the Biltmore Hotel at Oklahoma City.

Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird presided and speakers included Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University; Dr. M. L. Wardell, assistant to the president; Hal Whitten, president of the Oklahoma City Alumni Club; and Earl Foster, former president of the University of Oklahoma Association.

Dr. Bizzell in his address discussed misconceptions about the University that were mentioned in his broadcast speech, and declared that he believes the faculty of the University to be more conservative than a cross-section of the people of the state.

"Of course faculty members have different ideas about many things, but I will never apologise for differences of opinion. Some of our faculty members are thinking about possible improvements in our social order, but there is nothing wrong in that. We do not subscribe to the theory that because we have a democracy we must have mediocre government."

Dr. Bizzell declared that the student body, for the most part, is earnest in its purpose and said that there are very few too socially minded. He asked alumni to aid the University by giving the people of the state the true picture of what student life on the campus is like.

Alumni Secretary Beaird introduced Dr. Bizzell as "the man who has kept the smirch of politics away from the University while the scholastic standards were going up."

Dr. Wardell discussed the remedial program of the University for aiding failing students, and also the Junior Honor Group program for helping good students.

He expressed conviction that the next five years will see the University of Oklahoma become the greatest institution of higher learning in the entire Mid-Continent area.

Dinner given in Tulsa

Dr. and Mrs. Bizzell and a group of University faculty members were honored by Tulsa alumni at a dinner given in late January at the Mayo hotel.

The University delegation was in Tulsa to attend a reception at the University of Tulsa marking the formal opening of the Spiro Mound Exhibit. Arrangements for the dinner were made by Elton B. Hunt, Tulsa attorney and chairman of the Tulsa Advisory Council of the Alumni Association. Other members of the Tulsa council, who assisted him, are C. H. Rosenstein, Dr. Hugh Perry, A. E. Montgomery and C. C. Ingle.

Tulsans present at the dinner were: Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Holleman, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. D. Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe E. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Bowen, Mr. and Mrs. Elton B. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Eagleton, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Rosenstein, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Arnold, J. L. Morehead, Dave Milsten, Dr. Frank R. Pauly, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn W. Barrett, Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Perry, Judge Harry L. S. Halley, Dr. and Mrs. A. Ray Wiley, Dr. and Mrs. John Perry and N. G. Henthorne.

Those present from Norman were Dr. and Mrs. Bizzell, Dr. and Mrs. M. L. Wardell, Mr. and Mrs. Savoie Lottinville, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Jacobson, Homer Heck, Dr. Forrest Clements, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brandt, Barre Hill and George Anson. Mr. Hill sang three vocal numbers accompanied by Mr. Anson.

Meeting at Clinton

A crowd of fifty persons attended an alumni rally held at Clinton in late January under direction of Buff B. Burtis, member of the Alumni Executive Board, and George Hann, chairman of the Custer County Advisory Council.

Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird, and Roscoe Cate, editor-manager of the *Sooner Magazine*, were present for the informal meeting which included the showing of campus moving pictures and a general discussion of University affairs.

Sooner graduates and former students from half a dozen surrounding towns, as well as from Clinton, were present for the meeting. Mr. Burtis, who is publisher of the *Clinton Daily News*, presided.

Secretary Beaird explained recent activities of the Alumni Association and invited the active support of Sooners in the Clinton area. He especially invited constructive criticism of the work of the Association and the University.

Los Angeles Sooners meet

W. E. Smith was elected president of the Sooner Alumni Club of Los Angeles at a dinner meeting January 24. He succeeds C. A. Cooley. Other new officers are Ray A. (Doll) Foster, vice-president; Mrs. R. Keith Miller, secretary; and Don Owens, treasurer.

Mrs. Eva Dungan, a former member of the University fine arts faculty, was present at the meeting and played the accompaniment for *Boomer Sooner* and other Oklahoma songs.

Plans were made for a picnic next August, and all alumni who expect to be in California at that time are invited to make tentative plans to attend.

Football rally at Cherokee

Web Wilder, Jr., '33law, and other members of the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce sponsored a football rally at Cherokee January 31.

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