



J. F. Harris, one of the Sooners who strayed far from home and decided to stay there.

Sooner Travelog

POET and hotel owner-manager is John Franklin Harris, '11, whose address is 2460 Koa Avenue, Honolulu, T. H.

Mr. Harris was in educational work in Oklahoma until 1920, and then spent two years in the real estate business in Los Angeles. During the next two years he organized the public school system of American Samoa.

Hawaii attracted him and in 1924 he invested in income property at Waikiki, Honolulu. He converted the property to a cottage hotel catering to tourists, and now he also takes time to write poetry that makes national magazines and anthologies.

His last visit to the United States was made in 1933 when he visited the World's Fair at Chicago and also visited the University campus during a tour of the country.

A daughter, Betty, recently graduated from the University of Washington, Seattle.

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"I've been here so long now that I can't even remember what one might find of interest to tell the folks back home," writes Gladys Kimbro Knox, '24ma, (Mrs. Rowland K. Knox), from Cristobal, Canal Zone.

"I don't mean to imply that it isn't very interesting down here at the 'crossroads of the world,' but I'd need to write a book to tell all about it.

"I came down here, supposedly for just a year, to teach English in the Cristobal High School in the fall of 1929; and here I still am, having taught for four years and then married.

"Perhaps the most outstanding advantage of life here is the amount of travel one does. I'd never seen the ocean before I headed for the Tropics—now I couldn't estimate the number of miles I've traveled on them. Before I was married I went a different place each summer and even now we get about quite a bit.

"There are very few Sooners who get down this way but the enclosed clipping will tell about one of them, to show that we do manage to stick together no matter how far we roam. You may already know that Forest Brown is married but if you didn't, then I at least have one bit of news for you.

"If any of you are ever coming this way, be sure to let me know, for there is nothing we so thoroughly enjoy as having company from back home to take around and show the sights to."

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Work as a specialist in industrial relations has taken Henry Wilson, '29eng, to Buenos Aires, South America.

Although he graduated from the University as a petroleum engineer he changed to industrial relations work several years ago. For a time he was with the Humble Oil & Refining Company, a subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, at Houston, Texas. In January, 1936, he was transferred to the Standard Oil Company of South America, Argentina.

Industrial relations work—a comparatively new professional field—consists of improving employe relations and building up a better understanding between employes and the company.

"Our company has engaged in this type of work in the United States since 1918 and no doubt this has contributed a great deal to the lack of labor trouble which the Standard Oil Company has experienced during the last year of labor unrest in the United States," Mr. Wilson says.

"In 1936 it was decided that because of the general trend of nationalism by the various foreign governments throughout the world, it would be well, in order to protect the company's interests in these countries, to start this type of work among the employes of our foreign operating units.

"Consequently, my mission to Buenos Aires was to start this type of work in Argentine, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia and Paraguay. Although the work itself has progressed rather slowly, it might be said that satisfactory results are being obtained. The difference in language and Latin temperament makes it a bit difficult for an Anglo-Saxon, especially in work covering human relations."

Mr. Wilson's headquarters are in Buenos Aires, capital of the republic of Argentina. Although the tempo of living in all of the South American capitals is more leisurely than in the United States the Sooner graduate finds it "most enjoyable and more conducive to good health."

"Though Buenos Aires is a very old city and still retains much of its European atmosphere, during the last few years a very modern trend has been in progress, which can be evidenced by the new apartment buildings, lovely parks, wide avenues, modern subways and other means of transportation," he writes.

"After visiting the interior of the Argentine and seeing the 'gauchos' and their horses, one can readily see how the polo teams from this country play so marvelously in tournaments in the United States. Over and above polo, this country is particularly sports-minded and everyone during the weekend plays golf, tennis or some other game.

"One of the most interesting events, from my point of view, that has happened here during my stay was the Pan American Peace Conference last December, when President Roosevelt visited Buenos Aires. It was indeed a stirring spectacle, and the reception accorded our president by the people of Buenos Aires far exceeded any imaginary picture which you in the United States might have had. Frankly, I believe that it has helped to form a better relationship and understanding between Americans and the average Argentine.

"I have rambled along at length trying to give you a picture of this part of the world, and would recommend it to anybody contemplating a tour as most interesting. For the last two years, particularly with the war scares in Europe, the American tourist travel in these countries has been extremely heavy."