

Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beaird

IN retrospect—a summer we hope well spent by Sooners following the 1939 trend! Varied interests, shifting opinions, and rapid fire moves, working in the interest of “others and self.”

Those September days of 1917 and '18 partially being reacted in the September days of 1939. In the September days of '17 and '18, whispered conversation, low mumbles, and organized discussion groups “doping out” just when the O. U. sons would start their trek toward Europe. In the September days of '39, sons of those '17 lads being brought to the campus to start their University career—but we wonder, will we get involved in this war?

With radios blasting—“Berlin on the air,”—London, Paris, and other foreign points giving us a cross section of the '39 episode, we must in reality glance back and in retrospect live through the September of '17 and the September of '18! How many changes down through those years! But all in all, the same University campus, located in Cleveland county, Oklahoma, indeed grown up to maturity, with the thousands of students struggling in enrollment lines, paying entrance fees, and beginning class work at their University!

L. W. KIBLER, '16, '17ma, Oklahoma City, down with son, Paul, to start the trek; O. A. “Dutch” BREWER, '17, '20law, Hugo, here with the young daughter who enters as a sophomore after making a fine mark for herself last year as a freshman; JOSH LEE, '17, snapping up a hasty shave at the Campus Barber Shop, discussing informally with the barber shop quarterbacks the proposed changes in the neutrality law, and then off to Washington for the special session; C. C. BUSH, JR., '23, '32ma, no longer one of the campus Joe College boys, but a dignified official of the University of Oklahoma campus; J. H. “Zeke” VAN ZANT, '23, '26ms, Enid, back as head geologist in his company, after a series of months spent in convalescence following a serious illness.

LUTHER “Boots” ATKINS, '26bus, Oklahoma City, dropping us a note of encouragement to keep the good work going in the Alumni Association; ARNOLD COURT, '34, supplying us an airmail letter advising he is South Pole bound with the Byrd expedition. Yes, and Arnold becomes the new chairman of the O. U. Alumni Advisory Council, South Pole (this world).

MAX CHAMBERS, '21, '29ms, Okmulgee, over to the University for special business, then back to his duties in Okmulgee as superintendent of schools. We did enjoy a fine noon lunch with Max and listened with interest about the accomplishments of his young daughter who established a fine mark for herself at Duke University; NOEL C. ROSS, '34ex, Fairbanks, Alaska, shooting us an airmail letter and becoming the first official chairman of the O. U. Alumni Advisory Council in Alaska. What a “whale of a territory” that boy has for the Sooners! HICKS EPTON, '32law, Wewoka, giving us a ring from Fort Worth with advance strategy on how to take the Longhorn football team into camp this year—we hope!

M. L. WARDELL, '19, hastily arranging his itinerary to join the crew of six other administrators from the various sections of the United States to do special work in studying educational administrative problems for the Carnegie Foundation of New York. He will be off October 2, and will meet Sooner groups in a number of states. The breaking of bread with LESLIE E. SALTER, '21, '22law, in the famous College Inn, Sherman Hotel, Chicago gave us a chance during that brief noon hour to glance back over a series of years we have enjoyed together as Sooner sons.

WES NUNN, '17ex, Chicago, keeping the wires hot and perfecting all details for the big College Inn party to be staged for the Sooners October 6 in Chicago; JOHN CLYDE MILLIKEN, '20eng, sharpening up the old bayonet for a repetition of years ago; CHARLES MEMMINGER, '14, '33law, sending us a hasty hurry-up for tickets to the O. U. game; GRACE WILLIAMS, '15, Chicago, transmitting a Sooner request from the twin cities to the Alumni office and seeking the addresses of certain graduates in the class of '10.

BETTY TEMPLE HOWELL, '35ex, taking excellent care of the Texas husband, Weldon U. and counselling with us to make the Howell home Sooner headquarters during the Texas-O. U. game; a weekend with J. F. “Maj” MALONE, '37, of Atlanta, Georgia at the Edgewater Beach in Chicago, including the hours of Labor Day, convinces us that the Sooner delegation is well represented in Atlanta; CLARENCE MUSSER, '34, '39law, Atlanta, dropping in to the Sooner campus to meet and greet his numerous friends.

CHARLES MILES, '22, manager of the Book Exchange, nursing a “spider bite” and enjoying the calls of his friends at the hospital; more especially, Dr. D. G. “Mike” WILLARD, '27, '29med, his attending physician; OWEN TOWNSEND, senior law student, performing his regular duties as a Life Member of the Association, after spending a summer at Boulder, Colorado, pursuing law courses missed while he performed his work as member of the Legislature; ELIZABETH MANSFIELD KEY, '20ex, turning favors toward the Alumni office by doing special work for us along with her duties as secretary to the president of the University.

EMIL R. KRAETTLI, '18ex, staying on the campus during the long hot summer months to do “odd jobs”; TOM CAREY, '08, Oklahoma City, serving the Alumni Association by getting a special ruling from the federal tax authorities for tax exemption for the Life Trustees' Fund of the Alumni Association; VIC MONNETT, '12, the “Head Poppa” of the O. U. Geology School, breezing in from a summer spent in Colorado with his family, feeling fit and fine; while the O. U. tradition, BENNY OWEN, helps in a special trustees' meeting in the Oklahoma Union.

R. W. HUTTO, '10, Norman, along with Mrs. Hutto, off to visit in the home of their daughter, recently married and living in Denver; DICK CLOYD, '19, '28law, Norman attorney, DEAN ED MEACHAM, '14, Norman, JOE BENTON, '20, '21fa, A. N. “Jack” BOATMAN, '14, '16law, Okmulgee, MIKE MONRONEY, '24 (the Congressman to you younger birds), all congregated at the foot of the stairs in the main lounge room of the Oklahoma Union swapping yarns, and in a few hours will be scattered to the four corners doing their bit.

FRANCES HUNT, '29, of the O. U. Journalism School, breezing in for a hasty hello to her former roommate, BRUNETTE SHANKLIN, '30, the Alumni office force and others; THOMAS LLOYD BROWN, '26bus, and family, along with his brother-in-law, CHARLES HAXEL, '28ex, of the Continental Oil Company, Ponca City, and his family, all drop in to Norman to visit and while away a few hours of their annual vacation.

With all of these cross sections of varied ambitions, should we, in this September of '39, pay particular attention to the blasts of the radio, to the screaming and screaming headlines of the metropolitan press advising us of war conditions in Europe?

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