

# Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beard

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JUNE—may be the month of roses, the hours for the brides and bridegrooms elect, but in the lives of Alumni workers it is just another commencement season with all of its activities on a night and day scale! June—may be the month for vacationists (who are fortunate enough to pull away from the daily grind), but in the four walls of the "laboratory" of the central office and clearing house of an alumni association, it is a month when new alumni file into the ranks—a month when the old grads come back—a month when proud fathers and mothers drop down to get "in the swim" and to observe their sons and daughters becoming full fledged sons and daughters of Soonerland. This June has been no exception to the routine run, but indeed there have been many exceptions in the run.

One notable exception was the introduction of the first radio chain broadcast released Sunday afternoon, June 4, from the main lounge of the Oklahoma Memorial Union. What an occasion! What an assembly of historical figures! What an hour in the life history of the 40-year-old "youngster" now grown to manhood, namely the University of Oklahoma Association!

JOHN W. BARBOUR, '97pharm, Norman, oldest living graduate in point of measurement of University years, along with C. ROSS HUME, '98, '00ma, Anadarko, J. L. HEFLEY, '99, Norman, all doing their "Walter Winchell act" before the mike. It was great to have these gentlemen back, giving early day history and tradition of the University.

Other outstanding alumni who participated in this history making event were: CHARLES B. MEMMINGER, '14, Atoka; A. N. JACK BOATMAN, '14, '16law, Okmulgee; RICHARD H. CLOYD, '19, '28law, Norman; RALPH V. MILLER, '24, Oklahoma City; W. MAX CHAMBERS, '21, '29ms, Okmulgee; JOE FRED GIBSON, '34, '36law, Oklahoma City. JOHN ROGERS, '14law, bearing the colors of the "local boy who made good," was back with a splendid "historical speech" for the radio broadcast and for the powerful address as commencement speaker the following day; and, too, HAROLD HENDERSON LEAKE, '37fa, Norman, as master of ceremonies in introducing the older and younger grads on the chain broadcast, really performed a fine piece of work.

Reunion class dinners were the vogue on Sunday evening, June 4. The class of '14, holding its silver anniversary dinner, came back to the tune of 71 strong. The classes of '19, '24, '29, and '34 were scattered throughout other divisions of the Union Building for their 20th, 15th, 10th, and 5th anniversary dinners respectively.

And—did hundreds of old and new grads file into the registration booth prior to and after commencement on Monday, June 5! Among the hundreds of registrants, we were privileged to meet and greet the following:

R. W. HUTTO, '10, Norman; BLANCHE BELT SHEAD, '10, Norman; Mrs. MARJORIE PAXTON LARIMORE, '11, Oklahoma City; EVA LEE, '12, Oklahoma City; VIC E. MONNETT, '12, Norman; RAMOND A. TOLBERT, '13law, Oklahoma City; W. J. ARMSTRONG, '14, Oklahoma City; FRITZ AURIN, '14, Fort Worth, Texas; MR. AND MRS. DON M. BRETCH (Don, '14law—the Mrs., '12), Oklahoma City; WILLIAM A. BUTTRAM, '14, Puente, California; ROY W. COX, '14, Oklahoma City; WILLIAM L. EAGLETON, '14, Tulsa; MRS. AGNES CHASE CLOYD, '14fa, Norman; MRS. FLORENCE VAN BUSKIRK GRAHAM, '14fa, Montebello, California; DR. A. C. HIRSHFIELD, '14, Oklahoma City; MRS. EUGENE P. LEDBETTER, '14, Oklahoma City; ELTON B. and OLIVE EAGLETON HUNT, '13law and '14, respectively, Tulsa; the Tom and Dick team—the Oklahoma City DR. LOWRY'S and wives ('14, '16med); MRS. RUTH MOORE MEMMINGER, '20fa, Atoka; JOHN F. PENDLETON, '14law, Nowata, and—what early day yarns that John can tell about the

days in '14 when two rooms of the old Carnegie Library were devoted exclusively to the University "Law School"; ROY SPEARS, '14, McAlester, and Roy still towers out head and shoulder above the assembly with that 6'6"; CHARLES B. STEELE, '15, Oklahoma City, the chap who is doing a marvelous job for the School Land Commission; LEWIS R. MORRIS, '15, that Oklahoma County attorney who gets the job done in short order and in an effective manner; RUTH TOLBERT, '17, from Amarillo, Texas, another staunch stomping ground for Sooners; DEAN D. B. R. JOHNSON, '18ma—the chief O. U. "pill roller" of the Pharmacy School, over from his building renewing old friends and making new acquaintances; ELAINE BOYLAN, '19, the Dallas, Texas, Sooner who really has performed some fine work in her recent book; RANDALL S. COBB, '19law, the boy who is the power behind the throne in the attorney general's office of Oklahoma down through these many years; CHARLES A. FAWKS, '19, the Snyder, Oklahoma, banker with whom we have been privileged to associate since we were "knee-high to a duck"; M. H. MERRILL, '19, '25law, outstanding law professor of the University of Oklahoma; CAPTAIN LANSON D. MITCHELL, '19, Oklahoma City, one of the "back-when grads" with whom we were privileged to be associated before he went into government work; DR. CLAUDE B. and wife, FANNIE INEZ BELL NORRIS, (Claude of the class of '14 and Fannie Inez of the class of '19), back with us the first time in years from the Youngstown, Ohio, retreat, and these two certainly saw a lot of their old friends and enjoyed the occasion. So—on and on—far into the night, hundreds and hundreds of others could be named, if space would permit, but indeed the young dean from Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, namely DEAN HARVEY A. ANDRUSS, '24, must be introduced in this column to take his bow because he, too, was back via rapid plane service to meet and greet old friends.

Not only for the 1,084 seniors was June 5 a commencement in 1939 at O. U. It was a "commencement" for five new board members of the University of Oklahoma Association, namely, ELMER FRAKER, '20, '38me, Chickasha; CY ELLINGER, '26, Purcell; O. F. "FISH" MULDRON, '22ex, Ardmore; DR. JOHN B. MILES, '26, '27med, Anadarko; and CARL S. FORD, '19. And with these five, as well as thousands of others, we will find interesting work, perplexing problems, and hills to climb in the various development programs to be sponsored while together We Ride the Sooner Range!

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## Homecoming date

The University Athletic Department has designated the Sooner-Iowa State football game as Homecoming Day for O. U. alumni during the 1939 football season.

The date is November 4.

Iowa State was runner-up for the Big Six Conference championship last year, losing only to the Sooners in its final game.

The Sooner-Kansas game at Norman October 1 will be Dad's Day, and the Sooner-Aggie game October 28 will be Band Day.

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## Yearbook queen

Pi Beta Phi sorority's Adelle Dillingham, junior student from Ardmore, had the distinction of leading the beauty section in the 1939 *Sooner Yearbook*. The yearbook queen was selected by George E. Hurrell, motion picture and magazine photographer.