

Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beaird

WHAT a range to ride! Indeed, it was a long long trail (yes, it even had its "turnings"—often on ice) before the end of the trail was reached!! Three thousand one hundred eighty-six miles during the '39 Christmas vacation season and New Year's days that followed is no small task for "any man's hired hand," when Dodging along, bumping into Sooners here, there, and everywhere along the pathway....

On this January 15, 1940, morning, let us glance in retrospect and visit "alums" along the way in covering this particular range....

It is high noon, December 27, 1939. The alumni of the University of Oklahoma are special guests today in the Civic Room of the Ardmore Hotel, with the Ardmore Rotarians paying their respects. The program of the day is "O.U.—Yesterday, Today, and—we hope—Tomorrow." As usual, Executive Board Member O. F. "Fish" Muldrow, '22ex, is the chairman of the occasion, doing his bit for the University—or should I say continuing his night and day work in the interests of the institution? It certainly is nice to have the pleasure of associating with so many dads, around this Rotarian-O.U. Alumni assembly, in Oklahoma's "Southern-City"—Ardmore. In the meeting are those who have sons and daughters at the University at this time. Over to my right is SAM P. HALE, whose daughter, MARY LOVE HALE, is now an active student at the University; while to my left, is J. R. DEXTER, whose son HAROLD G. DEXTER, is also a participant on the O.U. campus at the present time. Also FRANK S. GATES, the father of NORMA GATES, '27 ex, former student and faculty member at the University, is much in evidence. A proud dad, FRED O. BUTLER, whose son, MAX W. BUTLER, is pursuing the art of fine arts at the University, makes himself known to us. Immediately in front of me is L. H. LOVE, father of REBECCA LOVE ENTRIKEN, '27; while R. C. TATE told us confidentially, "I was there in 1902—was kicked out (?)," but still proud of the fact that he has a son, WILLIAM T. TATE, and daughter, RUDD TATE, '29ex, still loyal Sooners of O.U.! Dad EARL Q. GRAY, graduate of 1910 in law, whose son, ROGER GRAY, is now upholding the "old Gray" standards on the University campus, says, "Hi, there!"

In this assembly are other loyal board members and supporters of the University in general. O.U. Athletic Councilman, PAUL W. REED, '16 ex, "Ford-ed" (indeed, advertising is not allowed) over from his place of business in Sulphur to be present for the occasion. The blond-headed gentleman standing in the rear of the room is no other than the old stand-by, MORT WOODS, '13 ex, "owner—sponsor—advertiser" of the Primrose Dairy Farm of Ardmore. Mort is making us feel perfectly at home in the Carter County Capitol. J. G. SCOTT, '24, 31ed.m, Norman school man, is here as a special guest of the president of the club. Assistant O.U. Prexy, M. L. WARDELL, '19, MRS. WARDELL, and the two daughters have just braved the snows and ice to skid down Highway 77 from Norman for this particular assembly. J. B. CHAMPION, '38, now a law student at the University, is a special student guest on this occasion and is enjoying the breaking of bread with other Rotarians along with his Rotary dad. Sophomore HOMER TIPPS, of the O.U. Union Building dish-washing crew, protegee deluxe of Fish Muldrow (and I am happy to sponsor him as my protegee if he will permit) is present for the interesting O.U. meeting with the Ardmore Rotarians. All the above are merely a few that we might mention, and we would that we had the whole magazine to discuss this interesting assembly in detail....

It is 7 p.m., the evening of December 27. Cowtown (the City of Fort Worth, Texas)—the first

official O.U. alumni assembly for the City of Fort Worth is under way. This meeting is headed by FRITZ L. AURIN, '14, '15ma, who, incidentally, has put in three weeks of intensive work on this particular dinner! Yes, the O.U. Sooners of Fort Worth are under way—and how! To re-hash acquaintances with but a few in this assembly, we meet and greet consulting geologist, WALTER R. BURGER, '20, who is enjoying his old friends, some whom he has not seen for years. Mrs. Burger and Walter, Jr., are present with their husband and dad for the evening. Of course we are enjoying the long visit with the old "Duncan-ite" and the chap who has gone up the ladder in his chosen profession, H. B. "BABE" FUQUA, '19. "Babe" has been of untold assistance to O.U. graduates since he left the University and started on his professional career. C. R. HICKMAN, '17, and his wife, EURITH HOLT HICKMAN, '19, are very much in evidence in this Fort Worth parley. MARJORIE MASCHAL YOUNG, '32ed, teacher in the Fort Worth system is thoroughly enjoying this night.

Others "meeting and greeting" in this Fort Worth assembly are LEM BILLINGSLEY, '15ex; G. RICHARD CARTER, '35, the Gulf Oil Company "Rock Hound"; EDWIN A. DEUPREE, '28ex, along with wife, DOROTHY FAY DAVIS DEUPREE, '26ex; ARDELL M. YOUNG, '32, '36law; the C.P.A. CHARLES WOODWARD, '29bus; DOROTHY NELL WHALEY, '27—and what a textbook writer that Dorothy Nell has proved to be in recent years! Her textbooks on health education have been adopted throughout the nation! J. E. WEST, '27ex; MARJORIE G. SCOTT, '37phys.ed, an Oklahoma City teacher, along with JOHN A. SCOTT, '34, an attorney, is breaking bread in grand style and Fort Worth fashion with FRANCES MASCHAL, '37; CHARLES J. HOFFMAN, '15; J. W. HILSEWECK, '38; DR. WILLARD D. HOLT, '28med, who follows his profession in Wichita, Kansas. Yes, it is truly an O.U. scramble—and what a beef steak they feed these Sooners in Fort Worth, Texas! No wonder they carry the "cow-town" title, with meat of this kind to feed these Sooner sons and daughters!

The drive is over and now at this 7 o'clock hour on December 28 we are "viewing and reviewing" the Sooner gang in balmy Shreveport, Louisiana! Balmy, eh? Not much, with icicles outside! Nevertheless, the weather has not cooled the Sooner ardor of those assembled here in the Shreveport 40 and 8 Club for this O.U. barbeque. Among those present are E. B. DUNCAN, '25; the *Shreveport Journal's* WALDO MOORE, not an O.U. grad but really an O.U. supporter; LUTHER B. SMITH, '28; UDELL PRICE, '30, along with his Mizzou wife, OLIVETTE JETER PRICE, '27ex, M.U., (and Dell and Olivette are the co-chairmen and sponsors of this barbeque. What a barbeque!) BERNARD J. DOUD, '33 eng, who drops over to Shreveport from Vivian, Louisiana to enjoy O.U. barbeque for the evening and is properly chaperoned by the wife! CARL S. SMITH, '20, "the railroadin' Smith boy," with whom we have not been privileged to visit for some eighteen years, since the summer that he lived in my mother's home while a student at the University; DOUGLAS D. HOWARD, '36; DR. DEAN H. DUNCAN, '23, and his charming wife, ALSIE LEA DUNCAN, a Colorado University graduate—and are we enjoying the visit with Dean, since we were associated together in 1920 at the University of Oklahoma as students! WILBUR FUNDERBURK, '26; "Glassware" SAM JONES SMITH, '13, plus the wife, MRS. ALFRED LACK SMITH, are here giving us the latest news on CURTIS SMITH, '29bus, his youngsters, and his Houston, Texas, activities; while FORREST E. LOVE, '32eng, has made the swing

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over from Tyler, Texas for this special meeting in Shreveport to see his old friends and cronies. What an O.U. gang! What a barbeque!! What a night!!!

Early morning at the Heidelberg Hotel, Baton Rouge. It is indeed an O.U. assembly in its spacious breakfast room. Dozens and dozens of Oklahoma citizens spent last evening in Baton Rouge on their way to the Sugar Bowl game in New Orleans, and we are privileged to visit with GEORGE STROUD, '28ex, and MRS. STROUD (MARIAN BILLINGSLEY, '24) who are out for the lark of a holiday from their home in Oklahoma City. And just now, we are visiting with the famous Keys Quadruplets, Baylor graduates, but true daughters of the Sooner soil. Are they out for the lark of a holiday at the Sugar Bowl game? We'll say! But particularly have they been in Louisiana for the past four weeks engaged in the gubernatorial campaign of Jimmie Noe, with whom we are privileged at this time to visit, around the festive board of the dining hall, after having made his acquaintance some ten minutes ago. Yes, the "4-Keys" are going to do some tall rooting not only for Jimmie Noe, but for the Texas A. and M. gang, and they are eagerly asking me, "Are Uncle Mott and Aunt Dorothy on their way down?" (Uncle Mott in this instance is MOTT KEYS, '26ex, Oklahoma City, and DOROTHY HENSLEY KEYS, '24, his very charming wife.)

High noon—December 30. The place—Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Time to eat—and we are—in the Inn By The Sea. And here comes Oklahoma. With JOHN KEMP (dad of a whiz of a football player on the Norman High team a few years ago), of Oklahoma City, and his party, we exchange greetings of the hour, and then off on our trek for the Sooners down the coast line.

Late afternoon—December 30. Driving through the beautiful Gulf Port, Mississippi, reminds us that only a short time back ROY "DOLL" FOSTER, '20ex, was a citizen of this fine city, but has now moved to his new location, Newcastle, Oklahoma.

Mobile, Alabama—late evening of December 30. And a hurried up "Hello!" and "How are you?" with W. K. MULLINS, '14ex, and with the gracious E. PAIGE MULLINS, '36, of the Mexican Consul Office in this old old city of the live live oaks on (and around) Mobile Bay.

Early rush breakfast on this the last day of ole 1939—in the thriving city of Pensacola, Florida. And again, here come the Sooners! DOROTHY DEWITT, (not an O.U. graduate but an O.U. alumni supporter) of Oklahoma City, and her party join us at breakfast prior to their departure for little old New Orleans. These deep sea fishing yarns by the natives in this hustling, bustling city really get under one's skin, but I must "fish" via the telephone in the next few minutes for a hurried up conversation with the O.U. representatives in this spot. "Thriving and doing well, thank you!" ORVILLE O. DEAN, '36bus; MEDFORD CASHION, '38eng; and CAPTAIN SAMUEL K. BIRD, '24. This old U.S.A. spot of Pensacola—one of the leading naval air stations in the world—has attracted the three graduates above in U.S. Naval work.

The last lunch hour of 1939 is at hand—in fact, thirty minutes past due. In the capitol city of Florida—Tallahassee, we find it as quiet as the proverbial zero hour in Norman, Oklahoma after 7,000 students have departed "for the four corners" during a vacation season. So we must Dodge—along down the pathway to the next Sooner alumni center.

"Unusual weather in Florida"—Yes, that's what *they said!* And even though the frosts are nipping the citrus fruit even in the deep southern territory of Lakeland, Florida, the warm hospitality of the Maginnis household at Lakeland, home of the father and mother of our former secretary, ARTA MAGINNIS JAMES, '32bus, now of Fort Worth, Texas, removes "the chill."

Tampa plus St. Petersburg—yes, it has its glamour, and of course all the natives are telling us (and in this sense the Sooners by adoption, seemingly over night) that we must see such wonders of Florida as Silver Springs, the Fountain of Youth, the gorgeous gardens—and what have

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Advance Sale Of
FOOTBALL
SEASON TICKETS

Now Under Way

Athletic Director Tom Stidham has completed an outstanding five-game home schedule for the Sooners in the 1940 season and season tickets are already going fast! More than 2,000 have been sold as this is written. Season ticket purchasers of last season get first choice of seats. The price is \$9.00 for the five games, and you have the same seat for every game.

\$9.00

For FIVE Outstanding
Home Games

SOONER HOME SCHEDULE
FOR 1940 SEASON

- Oct. 5 Okla. Aggies at Norman.
- Oct. 19 Kansas State at Norman
- Nov. 2 Nebraska at Norman.
- Nov. 16 Missouri at Norman.
- Nov. 23 Temple at Norman.

BASKETBALL

IN THE HOME STRETCH

Bruce Drake's Sooner basketball team will meet a steady parade of worthy opponents on the Sooners' home court in February and March. See Oklahoma tackle Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma Aggies, and Kansas.

HOME BASKETBALL GAMES
IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

- Feb. 2 Kansas State at Norman.
- Feb. 9 Nebraska at Norman.
- Feb. 12 Missouri at Norman.
- Feb. 20 Okla. Aggies at Norman.
- Mar. 8 Kansas at Norman.

GENERAL ADMISSION

55c

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

you!! At any rate, the "Tampa-ites," PEARL YOUNG KEATING, '24; D. BERNARD KEATING, '21; and ELVA GOODEN, '20ex, along with the "St. Petersburg-ites," RUTH SUMNER, '24, and MRS. MARIE CAREY, '20ex, *really believe* in the oft-repeated-legends of Florida. (Incidentally, old 1939 and brand new 1940 came in the midst of fire crackers and Roman candles in this deep deep south territory.)

Four days and nights of work with student union managers and alumni secretaries at the University of Florida, Gainesville, is interesting indeed. More especially, with a portion of this time spent in working with LOUIE HARDAGE, known by thousands of University of Oklahoma sports followers as the former head football coach of the University of Oklahoma.

Hemmed in—literally ice-bound (yes, I mean *ice*—not snow—six inches thick on the streets of Atlanta, Georgia), but what a pleasant "hemmed-in-conclave" on this Sunday, January 7, (with a dinner meeting later in the day) with the O.U. standbys, Chairman J. F. "MAJ" MALONE, '37, and the O.U. Musketeers of the "balmy" ice-bound deep south city of Atlanta, Georgia.

The evening of January 8, and the all-Birmingham get-together of the O.U.-ites. Thanks to the work of a particular friend, ROY D. HICKMAN (University of New Mexico grad), the O.U. mailing lists of this city are perfected, and with "Oh's" and "Ah's" the beautiful color motion picture film of the University, its buildings and campus, is being viewed by the Sooner sons and daughters. ROBERT S. GREER, '23ex, along with the wife, FRANK SMITH GREER, Michigan University graduate, is the first to drop in and exchange notes with us on DICK CLOYD, '19, '28law, DEAN ADAMS, JIM POWELL, '21, '24 law, and of course, to re-hash incidents when the Mrs. of the Greer household was a "school marm" in Wagoner, Oklahoma. And here we have the Harris family, ELIZABETH HAMILTON HARRIS, '20, the wife and mother, along with MR. HARRIS, daughter, PEGGY, and son, NOEL. In the midst of the chatter in this assembly in Birmingham, we are learning that DR. VIRGIL D. SMITH, '32, '34med, is now located in Leeds, Alabama, that MILDRED DOWNEY RUSSELL, '25, RAY L. LANGE, '09, DR. WINSTON H. IRWIN, '37med, DR. E. A. HENDERSON, '38 med, as well as DR. RALLS M. COSTON, '29 med, and DR. LESLIE G. A. BROWNLEE, '12 med, are all "stationary citizens" of Birmingham and enjoying a fine reputation in their various professions in this southern city. And of course, I have just learned that the former "queen of queens" on the O.U. campus, namely, MARY ANNE RATLIFF, '38ed, is soon to jump from her school marm activities at a school in Birmingham to become the latest O.U. MRS. of this fair city. Thus, another evening's Sooner parley comes to an end in the wee hours!

Memphis, Tennessee, with its many graduates, is rather cold and bleak on this January 9 evening, and the spirits of all of us have been dampened to learn of the sudden death of the father of the O.U. Council Chairman, WALTER L. BERRY, '18ex. We are, however, enjoying exchanging of notes and learning of the activities of many many graduates. Such men as JAMES L. HIGSAW, '11, DEMPSIE B. MORRISON, '21, '23ma, and JUDGE WILLIAM C. BATEMAN, '33law, are doing more than their "bit" in O.U. work in the City of Memphis.

Indeed, it is always interesting—this City of Little Rock, Arkansas. And this January 10 of the new year '40 is no exception to the rule. Eighteen of our graduates who have selected this city as their permanent residence bear out the contention that it is always interesting in this the principal city of the grand old state of Arkansas. Life Member RAY G. ATHERTON, '23, is doing his bit as one of the leading "G-Men" with the Interstate Commerce Commission, and from his Little Rock office, works over the territory of the Southwest in directing the activities of his organization. JEROME M. WOLF, '39eng, is upholding the standards of the O.U. engineering training in the United States Engineers Office; while one of our "college day buddies," GLADYS HILSMYER NORTHROP, '16, is the efficient housewife

in this Arkansas spot. And of course, ORMAND B. SHAW, '31, is still the revenue specialist for the State of Arkansas, with offices in the state capitol. And so after a hasty group of greetings, we must be off and down the trail!

The Arkansas border city, Fort Smith, is the mecca for twenty-one graduates of the University of Oklahoma. Heading the list, as Advisory Council Chairman, is J. W. ANDERSON, '34, the "newspaper hound" of the Fort Smith *Times Record*, and closely associated with him as "O.U. Ambassador" is the "ole football specialist," ARTHUR JOHN "ART" PANSZE, '35, while others that often reminisce about their days at the University of Oklahoma are DR. JAMES L. NICHOLSON, '27, '29, '31med; HELEN A. MOORE, '28; VIRGINIA STORM FARMER, '36fa, plus her engineering husband, J. L. FARMER, '38eng.

On this cold, bleak January afternoon, we are nearing what is to the Beard household the "Mason-Dixon line." Yes, beyond that bridge at the west outskirts of Fort Smith lies the "Promised Land"—Sooner Soil! After fifteen days' and nights' ranging and roaming, isn't it good to have the car's wheels roll again upon Oklahoma soil? And do you notice how smoothly the motor runs—we are headed toward home!

Yes, the village we are passing through is Muldrow. DR. DICK FORD, '26, '28med, of Tulsa, was born in this old village, and for years we were associated not only with Dick, but sister, BETTY FORD, '24, of New Orleans, Louisiana. Can you imagine five of our graduates residing in Vian? I would that we had time to stop and say, "Hello!" to this group. They are WILLIAM R. HUGGINS, '37; GRETCHEN FRANCIS, '19 ex; MILDRED ARMSTRONG CARLILE, '34fa; GLEN ALFRED ARMSTRONG, '37bus; and CLAIR ARMSTRONG, '27ex. Yes, this calm and quiet little city we are breezing through is Sallisaw. Do I recall three hot days and nights with the temperature soaring to 105, while working here some years ago! But even though the summer temperatures on this section of Sooner soil mount, they do not compare with the warm enthusiasm of thirteen of our graduates who make Sallisaw their home. They are WILL WATIE WHEELER, JR., '33eng; BESS B. WESTMORELAND, '28; DR. WILLIAM H. NEWLIN, '30, '32med; GENE LEVY, '37; HAZEL MARIE LANDAN, '28ed, '33ma; EARL IVEY, '10ex; JAMES F. GREEN, '30law; MARY ELIZABETH FOREMAN, '34; JAMES H. CHEEK, '38eng; RUTH SMITH ARMSTRONG, '30; EDMUND J. ARMSTRONG, '33law; HORACE K. WESTMORELAND, '39ed; and "law-makin'" PAUL V. CARLILE, '39law.

And now that the heavy fog has closed out all vision "beyond the 50-yard line," we must direct our attention to directing this car through the haze and breeze on across the Sooner land, hoping to skid into Norman, Oklahoma, late tonight and complete the Riding of the Range that has been rough, rugged, but a lot of pleasure!

To the Alumni Secretary:

You know, I almost waited too long to send this final \$10.00 payment on our life membership, I had thought I'd wait until the end of a highly successful O.U. football season and then send a big bunch of congratulations also.

However, the wait almost backfired. Since my wife and I are fervent O.U. supporters and there are many Nebraska supporters (or anti-O.U. rooters—they aren't necessarily the same) we lost a few shekles on the game of last Saturday. However, we still maintain O.U. had the best team and you can bet that I was sitting right by the radio playing that Missouri game on November 18 with the boys on the field. That was surely a heartbreaker.

Well, here's betting on O.U. next year—we'll get our revenge then.

GAISER D. MADDOX, '33ENG
Maraçaiibo, Venezuela

To the Editor:

Congratulations on winning the national award—it really is an honor for Oklahoma University.

MARGARET MCKINNEY, '24
Cleburne, Texas.