

Football Fan

HOW many alumni have attended every home football game of the Sooners since the first wing of Memorial Stadium was completed in the fall of 1925?

There's at least one. He's Edwin T. Fleming, '14, Enid insurance man who ranks right at the top as one of the most loyal Sooner football fans. He's never missed a home game in the whole fifteen-year period. His record probably extends farther back than that, he believes, but he is sure that it has been unbroken since the present Stadium was built.

And besides coming to all the games at Norman, he has seen many of the Sooner contests on foreign fields. Last season, for example, he saw every game on the schedule with the exception of the Northwestern game at Chicago.

Bad weather has sometimes slowed up Ed Fleming on his drive from Enid to Norman, but has never really stopped him. The closest he ever came to having his record spoiled was a time when a terrific rainstorm struck as he was driving in the vicinity of Union City about 11 o'clock in the morning on the day of a game at Norman. But he managed to get to his seat in the Stadium before game time.

It looked for a time as though he might miss the Sooner-Aggie game this fall, as his daughter Phyllis had an appendicitis attack. However, the physician found the case a mild one and daughter and doctor together persuaded Mr. Fleming to go to Norman for the game.

Naturally, after such a consistent record of attending football games, he has some pretty definite ideas about where the best seats are to be found. He prefers to be fairly high, in order to be able to follow the pattern of play on the gridiron and see the performances of the linesmen and the blockers. And he likes to be four or five seats in from the aisle instead of on the aisle or in the middle of the row.

He's the kind of football fan who says you miss a lot of interesting play if you watch only the ball carrier. It's the developments up ahead that are likely to determine whether there is going to be any gain on the play.

Although he didn't play on the varsity, Ed Fleming can look at the game from the viewpoint of a participant because he played on class football teams and served as captain. He also played first base on the varsity baseball team, and was captain in 1911. He was also on the Sooner tennis team. A member of Beta Theta Pi, one of his recollections of student days is a trip as delegate to the 1912 national convention of the fraternity.



Ed Fleming . . . saw every game

The pleasure of sitting in Memorial Stadium and watching the Sooners drive is not an unearned one for Ed Fleming. He was chairman of the 2-5-0 Stadium fund drive in Garfield County, and both he and Mrs. Fleming have 2-5-0 tickets of their own. O. U. alumni of recent years perhaps should be told that a 2-5-0 ticket means that the bearer gave \$250 to the Stadium-Union building fund.

Mr. Fleming is now chairman of the O. U. Alumni Advisory Council in Garfield County, and has been active in alumni affairs.

Mrs. Fleming is the former Gertrude Buxton, '12ba. They have two daughters, Phyllis Fleming, '40h.ec, Enid, and Mrs. Robert W. Byerley (Ellen Fleming, '38 social work), Bismarck, North Dakota.

The rise of Sooner football to big-time heights in recent years is naturally pleasing to O. U. supporters like Ed Fleming. He is particularly pleased, too, over the fact that more of the good football players are staying in Oklahoma and going to school at O. U. instead of being lured away to glamorous schools in other states.

Because of his reputation as a football fan, Mr. Fleming runs a kind of informal "ticket agency" in Enid—his friends and acquaintances appealing to him to select and buy tickets for them.

When there isn't a football game to see, he likes golf, fishing and hunting. But on Saturday afternoons—look fairly high up in the Stadium around the center section, about four or five seats from the aisle, and there you'll find Ed Fleming.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT
RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this
issue is available at
call number LH 1 .06S6 in
Bizzell Memorial Library.