

SOONER MAGAZINE

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Back entrance of the Administration Building, viewed from the Sunken Garden.

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Professional Ties

ONE OF THE THINGS that makes a big state university so different from the ivy colleges of the East is the vastly greater size of each graduating class, and the consequent loss of class spirit.

When there are perhaps 1,200 seniors graduating in the same class, it would be most unreasonable to expect the members of so large a group to feel very closely tied to others of the class by the coincidence that they happened to march across the platform to receive degrees on the same date.

However, in the last few years, there has been a very noticeable and very interesting development which appears quite likely to be a thoroughly satisfactory substitute for class spirit—in fact, a much more constructive idea than class spirit alone.

This new trend is the organization of the graduates of various professional schools into divisional alumni associations.

Alumni of the Medical School first organized an association of their own several years ago. Each year the group has strengthened its organization and expanded its activities. This year, largely through the work of President M. M. Wickham of Norman and Secretary Wayne Hull of Oklahoma City, a bang-up reunion of medical alumni was held during the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Medical Association at Oklahoma City. This

group has appointed a committee for each medical class since the school was started, and is well organized to carry on a program of value to all medical graduates.

Although law alumni do not have a general association, four or five of the law classes have organized on a permanent basis and hold meetings at regular intervals. This probably will lead to formation of a general law alumni association eventually.

Graduates of the School of Home Economics organized several years ago, and hold an all-day reunion meeting each spring. This year it will be on June 7, the Saturday of Commencement weekend. Library science alumni also have organized and elected officers.

There seems to be a strong and lasting tie between graduates of a professional school, and this trend toward organization of sub-units of professional groups within the general alumni association is likely to continue.

It has occurred at other and older state universities, and it appears to be a healthful development, both for the alumni program in general and for the satisfaction of the individual alumni. There is no feeling of competition between the sub-units and the general alumni association, because their objectives and their interests are largely the same.