

Clearing the Desk

SURPRISE! Ted Beaird's Riding the Range department is moved to the front of the magazine this month, exchanging places with Clearing the Desk. There are various reasons for this. One is that clearing the desk obviously ought to take place at the end of the magazine, instead of at the beginning. Another is that the rider of the range will now have a little more room in which to gallop.

THERE WERE quite a number of letters this month from persons commenting about the election of Joseph A. Brandt to be next president of the University. The news was particularly interesting to John B. Gordon, newspaper publisher at Houma, Louisiana, who recalled the beginning of *Sooner Magazine* in 1928. Joe Brandt sat in the editor's chair, Frank Cleckler was the new alumni secretary, and Mr. Gordon was the first business manager of the magazine.

DOWN SOUTH in Tyler, Texas, Dr. Jesse Goldfeder expressed the sentiments of a great many alumni when he wrote "Please accept my heartiest congratulations on the appointment of Joe Brandt as president of the University. If I can be of any assistance, don't hesitate to call on me."

FROM CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, Jane Lee wrote Alumni Secretary Beaird: "I was particularly well pleased to learn that Joe Brandt had been chosen as next president. It seems to me that the Board of Regents made an excellent choice, and I'm sure that Mr. Brandt will do an excellent job of continuing to build the University."

AND THE University Dads Association wrote its approval through Walter Morris, of Anadarko, the Association's president. "I am not personally acquainted with Mr. Brandt, but I have known him by reputation for many years, and most favorable comments concerning him and his election to this position come to me from every source," Mr. Morris wrote. "The reaction on the part of the alumni is in the form of the highest praise of the Board of Regents for its excellent judgment in this selection. The University will continue to go forward with Mr. Brandt and this little message is to let you know that the Oklahoma Dads will give him every possible assistance."

JOHN CLEVIDENCE, who writes a column in the *Seminole Producer* and whose best friends have never accused him of being a shrinking violet, summed up his thoughts on the choice of Joe Brandt for O. U. president in a concise manner. "If I had been picking an O. U. president," wrote Clevidence, "I would have picked him. Of course, I could be wrong. But I don't see how the regents and I could all be out of step at the same time."

WE FEEL just a little hurt by a letter from Louis H. Hoskins, of Anaheim, California, who says that he is so far away from Oklahoma and gets back so seldom that he doesn't believe it worth while to fill out the biographical information form we sent him for the Alumni Office file. "If you don't mind," he says quite courteously, "we will just skip it." However, he does add a few essential facts and notes that he is postmaster of Anaheim and an orange grower on the side. He is serving his second year as president of the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce and is deputy district governor of the Lions Clubs. "I rejoice in the growth the University has made since I graduated in 1915 and find the magazine well done both as to form and content." Mr. Hoskins has a son Harley Louis, who graduates from Fullerton, California, Junior College in June, and a daughter Netilee, who is in her first year in junior college.

FORMER GOVERNOR W. J. Holloway happened to be in New York City just a few days after a demonstration debate presented over NBC, and contacted the NBC office in order to get copies of the speeches for his son, Bill, Jr., who is an outstanding debater himself. He was surprised—and pleased—to be told at the NBC office in New York that the best place in the country to get copies of the speeches was at the University of Oklahoma! "This showed to me very clearly again that you and other officials of the University are constantly on your toes," the former governor wrote Alumni Secretary Beaird. The Oklahoma High School Public Speaking League, of which Mr. Beaird is director, has sponsored the printing of the speeches of the national demonstration debate for the last several years.

SPEAKING OF being out of step, it seems we were when we announced that Dr. C. C. Bush had been appointed dean

of men for the University. His official status is that of acting dean.

FROM MAX CHAMBERS, superintendent of schools at Okmulgee, comes a suggestion for a special tribute to Dr. W. B. Bizzell upon his retirement as president. Mr. Chambers wrote to Alumni Secretary Beaird as follows:

"Dr. W. B. Bizzell will soon retire as active president of one of the nation's greatest universities. Oklahoma University has reached its place in higher educational circles by many contributing circumstances. The greatest of these contributing factors is the vision and administrative skill of the University's president, Dr. William B. Bizzell. Is there any plan under contemplation to establish or erect a fitting memorial in recognition of the president? If not, I would like to suggest a memorial museum library housed separately on the campus of our University. This building to be museum in type and utility with added facilities, suitable for a working library. I understand that Dr. Bizzell has a private library of more than 10,000 volumes including scores of rare and valuable books. A suitable office could be provided for Dr. Bizzell, who plans, I am told, to write books after his retirement as president of the University. This memorial museum library building would be attractive to hundreds of literary scholars. It would add considerably to the scholarly dignity of our University's campus and perform an act of gratitude for the contributions of a great university president. Oklahoma University will continue to develop her intellectual stature through the scholarly contributions of her students and faculty members. In my humble opinion this building project would contribute to such a development."

COMPLIMENTS FOR the quite successful first reunion of alumni of the President's Honor Classes, held during Homecoming, were received from many sources by Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird. "I'm beginning to realize that one can lead a pretty active life as a Sooner without going through the September formality of paying enrollment fees and finding a good dishwashing job," wrote John H. Tippit of Marietta in a typical letter. "So count me in, Ted, in any way in which I might be of aid to you and your organization down there."

—R. C.