Clearing the Desk

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ANYONE WHO thinks there isn't any class spirit among O. U. alumni should have been in our office on the afternoon of class reunion day. The extra help would have been welcome, too, for assistance in pulling down old year-books from the file to hunt for certain elusive information. The Class of '15 and the Class of '17 got into a little argument about which was built first, the Class of '15 arch or the Class of '17 arch. The two arches stand at the entrance to the North Oval, each bearing the insignia of its donors. The natural conclusion would be that the '15 arch was built first, and several '15ers present for the reunion insisted that such was the case. Nay, not so, replied O. A. (Dutch) Brewer, of the Class of '17, who hails from Hugo down in Little Dixie. "The Class of '15 planned one, all right," he recalled. "But for some reason or other after the plans had been prepared the actual construction was delayed. I was on a committee with some other members of the Class of '17 and we had some plans of our own drawn, raised the money and got our memorial arch-the one on the east side of the entrance to the Ovalactually built. Later, the '15 arch was constructed according to the same design we used." We don't question the honest recollection of the gentleman from Hugo, but if someone from the Class of '15 wants to offer a rebuttal, this alumni journal stands for freedom of speech and we will print any convincing statement on either side of the question. Which comes first, the chicken or the egg, the '15 arch or the '17 arch?

WE HAVE a letter from one O. U. alumnus who certainly has been displaying the old college try. It seems he was classified by the Selective Service in 4-F because of bad eyes. He tried to get into the Army as an officer . . . or in the Army as a private . . . or in the Intelligence Division, . . . the Quartermaster Corps, . . . the Air Corps ground division . . . the Navy . . . the Coast Guard . . . or the F.B.I. Then he tried to find civilian work in the Eighth Corps Area headquarters at San Antonio. At last reports he was still trying.

THIS IS a word of appreciation to Margaret Sangster, '41journ, who has been sending Sooner Magazine some fine news items about alumni down Houston way. What with many alumni going into military and government service, and families being shifted hither and yon, there is a lot of news about O. U. alumni everywhere. We appreciate the helpful Sooner spirit of those alumni who are willing to take a few minutes to send us a news item or two—

and it seems we are getting more of them all the time.

WE HAVE a card from some anonymous person in southwestern Oklahoma who asks that we publish the address of Louise Nell Glaze, '29fa, in the Magazine. It's Route 2, Fort Pierce, Florida. The absence of a signature on the inquiry card was somewhat mysterious, but we doubt whether there is a Japanese spy operating from Hobart, Oklahoma, and anyway the information requested doesn't appear to have any deep military significance.

LOYAL ALUMNI might be called on to lend the football team their bicycles if transportation conditions get much more difficult. Athletic Department Business Manager Bill Cross was puzzling last month over what to do to replace chartered buses—now unavailable—in reaching such off-the-main-line places as Ames, Iowa, and Stillwater, Oklahoma. Present regulations also mean that the University Band would have to pay full bus fare or train fare to go to Dallas, instead of getting a special low group rate by bus or special train. However, it's all part of the war situation, and athletic officials will meet the requirements cheerfully.

A POPULAR guessing game in Norman now is to speculate on whether the establishment of large naval training bases in Norman will cause more girls to want to attend O. U., or more parents to not let their girls come to Norman. There are several reasons why it shouldn't make much difference. One is that wherever a girl goes these days, there is likely to be an army or navy training unit of some kind. Another is that in training bases such as those being started in Norman, "shore leave" for the trainees is quite infrequent and quite short.

FOR THE first time in five years, we will not publish an alumni directory as the August issue of the Magazine. In past years we have published separate directories for alumni of the School of Law, School of Medicine, College of Engineering, and College of Business Administration. This year, because of the war, alumni are moving around too swiftly for a directory of any kind to be practical. We'll try to keep reporting news about changes in addresses and occupations in the news columns of the Magazine as fast as we get it, and forget about directories until some time when things are more stabilized. The August issue will be a regular news issue of the Magazine.

-R.C.