

Riding the Sooner Range

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By TED BEAIRD

IN LESS THAN a month from this date the five-year classes will be on hand at the Oklahoma Memorial Union for their class reunion activities. Sunday, May 31, will be their day! This year, of course, it will be different—different due to classmates, friends, and associates of former years from all these groups being in the armed forces of the United States or in kindred activities. But beginning with the Class of 1902 the classes of '07, '12, '17, '22, '27, '32, and the baby class of 1937, representatives of all these groups will be back.

These O. U.-ites—members of the reunion classes in 1942—well, they are scattered here and yon—in fact all over. In recent days a number of them have been in the Alumni executive offices.

The '02-ites? Yes, they are still interested in their University. Miss KATE BARBOUR, '02ba, '21ma, of Norman, acting as chairman for the Class of '02's reunion will be ably assisted by CLYDE BOGLE, '02ba, Norman, Dean ROY GITTINGER, '20ba, Norman; Mrs. FLORENCE WILLIAMS HADSELL, '02ba, Norman, and other class members in various sections of the state and nation.

A last minute notice from Mrs. NELL GOODRICH DEGOLYER, '06fa, '07ba, of Dallas, advises that she must pass the duties of the chairmanship of the reunion of the Class of '07 on to other comrades. But at that, there will be others from this class participating in reunion activities.

► VIC MONNETT, '12ba, Norman, Class of '12 chairman, just a day or so ago exchanged greetings with us at the back door of the Union and talked over mutual problems. JUDGE EARL FOSTER, '12ba, '13law, Oklahoma City joined us in a special dinner at the Biltmore Hotel one week ago. LOUIS ROARK, '12ba, Tulsa dropped by the office a few days ago to spin yarns with us. DR. EARL McBRIDE, '12bs, Oklahoma City, was just a few days back displaying his talents as song leader at a special gathering in Oklahoma City. Special notes have come our way from DR. PAULINE Q. BARKER, '12med, Guthrie; CHARLES R. BELLATTI, '12law, Stillwater, DR. HOWARD S. BROWNE, '11ba, '12pharm, '13ms, Ponca City; FRANK BUTTRAM, '10ba, '12ma, Oklahoma City; DR. RAY M. BALYEAT, '16ma, '18med, Oklahoma City, and others out of the Class of '12.

The Class of '17 has been most active in organizing its work for the reunion on Sunday, May 31. Under the able chairmanship of Mrs. ROSALIE GILKEY DALE, '17ba, Norman, many have already expressed their appreciation for the work performed. LAURENCE E. BEATTIE, '17ba, '20law, Ardmore; NORMAN BRILLHART, '17ba, Madill; NEIL R. JOHNSON, '15ba, '17law, Norman; LUTHER W. KIBLER, '16ba, '17ma, Oklahoma City; FRANK R. PAULY, '17ba, Tulsa, JUSTICE FLETCHER RILEY, '17ba, of the Oklahoma State Supreme Court have all joined in an exchange of "treks to the office plus correspondence and calls." From the "war zone," CAPT. ALBERT S. CLINKSCALES, '17ba, the prexy of the Class of '17 has written us in detail from his station in Florida giving directions and suggestions and offering his general recommendations for an "all out" reunion for the Class of '17.

RALPH H. RECORDS, '22ba, '23ma, Norman, chairman of the reunion class committee

for 1922 has been in and out of our office on several occasions perfecting his plans. Others who will assist him as a portion of his committee are SENATOR CHARLES B. DUFFY, '22law, Ponca City; DR. WENDELL LONG, '22ba, Oklahoma City; JAP HASKELL, '22geol, Norman; BILL RAGAN, '22ba, '28ma, Norman; TRAVIS I. MILSTEN, '22ba, Tulsa, and Mrs. FLORENCE MONNET McKOWN, '22ba, Oklahoma City.

► Today, we listened "attentively" to the very charming chairman of the Class of '27, namely, WILDA GRIFFIN, '27fa, '33fa, O. U. faculty "songbird," as she presented special musical selections to a Norman audience. She too, along with many members of her committee will be on hand for the reunion activities of the '27 group. Others to assist her include J. PHIL BURNS, '27ba, Fairview, with whom we were privileged to work in Oklahoma City a few days ago. BUFF BURTIS, '27ba, Clinton, and the Burtis family will be back. RUTH CHAMPLIN VAN ZANT, '27ba, of Enid hopes to be back renewing old friendships while LUCILLE FARMER SPRINGER, '27ba, of Norman will be one of the many Norman alumni from this class participating in the festivities of the hour.

The Class of '32 has signified its intention to return strong. ARTHUR HERRON, '32ba, '36ed, Beggs, will return to assist committee chairman GENE KENDALL, '32ba, '34ma, Norman, in the activities of their group. Other '32-ites who have signified their intention of returning for the reunion are BARKER SHIRLEY, '32law, Norman; SUZANNE LASATER, '23ba, '32ma; Norman; TATE FRY, '32fa, '34fa, Norman; and GERTRUDE CHILTON JENSEN, '32nurse, Norman.

MILDRED ANDREWS, '37fa, Norman chairman of the Class of '37 committee will ably direct her committee members and reunion-ites in their festivities. Among those who will return for the '37 parley are DR. CURTIS BERRY, '31bs, '37med, Norman; LONNIE D. HUDDESTON, '31ed, '37m.ed, Norman, and MARY JANE BASS McPHERON, '37ba, Tulsa.

Yes, in all the reunion class work up to the date we have felt the pressure of war problems. Many sons and daughters of O. U. will not be able to participate in their reunion class activities this season but dozens of them are sending greetings back to those who will be fortunate enough to assemble for this traditional event.

► It is interesting to note in this late spring season of '42 the shifts and changes that are coming due to the calls of the hour! No series of records can be studied in the offices of your Alumni Association unless the names of many called to the armed service appear regularly on the list. In the work on the trestle board as of today, the names of many—some who have served many months, others who have served merely a few brief days—appear on the lists under observation. Across the desk have trickled numerous address changes requesting that mail for certain well known alumni be sent to "A.P.O." addresses at New York or San Francisco, indicating that they have been assigned to foreign duty. Their various destinations are, of course, military secrets, but Sooner Magazine will be able to tell you above them after they have arrived safely at

their widely scattered posts of duty in Ireland, Australia, Iceland, and other points where American forces are being concentrated. NEIL KELLER, '33law, Norman, is off for the Army in less than a week. CAPT. JOE FRED GIBSON, '34ba, '36law, Oklahoma City moved again somewhere to the West Coast. LT. JAMES C. HAMILL, '36law, Oklahoma City, in special Field Artillery school with a change of address; ALFRED NAIFEH, '37ba, '40law, Norman, somewhere on the high seas after his commission in the East; LT. COL. HARRY L. S. HALLEY, '15ba, '17law, dropping the judicial robes in Tulsa and off to his new Army assignment in a camp in the deep South; a note from LT. HAROLD REEDY, '42, about his transfer from Camp Roberts back to Fort Sill and special school of instruction; LT. R. BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37law, Norman, in special instruction at Camp Roberts, California. A flash from the War Department announced that C. GUY BROWN, '23ba, has been advanced to the rank of major, United States Army Air Corps. There is a flash from the East Coast that CAPT. BRYAN RAKESTRAW, '33ba, '39law, Oklahoma City, is on his way. LT. COM. MIKE WILLARD, '27ba, '39med, is no longer to be the family doctor of Norman, but is on the West Coast awaiting orders to be out on the "high." MAJ. BEN COOLEY, '21med, is following his professional career in the armed forces of Uncle Sam's camps here and yon and away from his family and practice in the University city. LT. DICK DOWNING, '26, in a hasty get-away from his banking interests in the University city reports for Army service in Washington, D. C.

► Thus it goes, in every mail, changes and notifications on addresses of men who are serving. The shifting Army and Navy placing their men thousands strong into the strategic points throughout the world cause this "migration." O. U. plays its significant part in contributing man power as the calls come and our men go. Above are enumerated notifications of changes of address and advancements in rank that cross the Alumni hired hand's desk in the course of a few hours. More than 2,500 alumni of the University of Oklahoma are now in the armed forces of the United States. Those men are contributing their all in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and kindred branches of the service. Business and professional careers have been temporarily side-tracked and disrupted in order that they may answer their country's call and contribute this all-out effort.

Back on the sidelines and front lines of what a few months ago were American firesides, there are thousands of other sons and daughters of O. U. answering the calls of their country—contributing of their money and time and expending every effort in this war movement. The challenge of today, as will be the challenge of tomorrow, is "Where do we go from here?" Yes—back on the home front those thousands of Alumni who are not as yet in the uniform of the armed forces of their country are watching eagerly for instructions and advice as to the manner in which they can contribute in carrying World War II to a successful conclusion. The trails are not smooth. The effort expended is indeed great, but in this effort, O. U. Alumni shall not waver.

Some day (may we hope in the near future) the University of Oklahoma alumni along with the alumni from the other major colleges and universities of America will be marching home! They will be coming home to a post war era when again the educational background of poised men and women will be needed in solving the perplexing problems of the aftermath of war. The experiences they gain, the price they pay will help in solving the problems that arise. Then may we hope that the road will be smoother when again united *back home*, we start Riding the Sooner Range.

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