
Clearing the Desk

THE ARMY Specialist Corps hasn't had much publicity but is organized and open for business in the War Department at Washington. A letter to the acting executive of the corps brought us copies of the personnel placement questionnaire, and a set of tentative regulations. The plan is for the Army Specialist Corps to supply all echelons of the Army, even those in theaters of operation, with civilians skilled in professional, scientific and administrative work, and relieve military personnel from administrative tasks for combat duty. The corps does not plan to maintain an inactive standing force, but rather to make appointments only to meet specific needs or vacancies. Grades and ranks in the corps will be comparable with those of the Army, and pay schedules will be in accordance with the Civil Service Classification Act. As a matter of general policy, no appointments to the corps will be made of men in the "active selective service age classification." The plan is to enrol men of definite skill who would not otherwise be subject to the draft or available for duty with the military forces. To enrol in the corps, applicants must fill out a questionnaire which lists their abilities, qualifications, and experience. Alumni interested in the possibility of enrolling should correspond directly with the Army Specialist Corps, War Department, Washington.

THE YEARS may come, and years may go—but a man's love for the college he attended survives the vicissitudes of time. President Brandt's mail the other day brought a letter from Norman W. Paine, teacher at Pine Valley, who went to school at the University of Oklahoma when the entire campus consisted of only 40 acres, when the first building was still standing, and when there were only two dozen students in the college department. Most of those enrolled were preparatory students. The year was 1897. "I had classes with Dean Gittinger when he was an undergraduate there. I had General History with Dr. Sturgis the fall he first came," Mr. Paine writes. Though he "had to use scraps of time to go to college," he writes of his enduring feeling of loyalty toward the University. He sent four youngsters to school at O. U.

THE UNIVERSITY radio station, WNAD, is gaining a clientele of regular listeners, due to the excellence of its varied all-day radio fare of music, drama, instruction, and information—all programs of the public service classification. Homer Heck, station director, and H. H. Leake, production manager, have accomplished wonders since the station went on a full-time broadcasting schedule. They have in-

fused a quality of uniform high standards in the varied offerings of each day. But what we started to tell about is the sincere compliment paid by one regular listener who wrote in that the station could stop sending her the weekly program announcements as she was having to move and would not have a regular mail address. But instead of letting it go at that, she enclosed 50 cents in stamps. "I've enjoyed your programs so much," she explained, "that I want you to use these stamps to send program announcements to someone who hasn't been getting them."

THIS MAGAZINE erred some time ago in stating that Ruth Tappan was the only O. U. woman graduate working as draftsman for the U. S. Army Engineers. We have since learned that Junita Maxwell Taylor, '41fa, is employed by the U. S. Army Engineers, Cost Control Section, Construction Division, at Galveston, Texas. She is a junior draftsman and has work connected with military air fields.

SOMEWHAT PUZZLED about it all, Peggy Clay, '41journ, who joined the staff of the *Oklahoma City Times* last fall, reports that she has concluded this war is being fought with cookies. It started when she was assigned to get a story about a cookies-for-soldiers story for the newspaper. She got the story, but somehow in the confusion got signed up to make five dozen herself. No homebody by either training or inclination, she managed to provide the cookies. A short time later the city editor received a letter from a homesick Oklahoma soldier in New York, and blithely suggested that Miss Clay dispatch a cheery note and a couple of dozen cookies as a morale builder. After that, she became inevitably the *Times* cookie editor, and the desk, as a matter of course, refers to her all stories which develop in this highly specialized field.

SOME OF the best news items we receive these days don't get into the Magazine. Such as the story about an alumnus who is manufacturing hydraulic landing gears for war planes. The War Department says don't print items about sub-contracts for plane parts. Sorry.

LONG LINES of students and faculty members paraded slowly through the Union Lobby last month to register for sugar ration books. It doesn't prove anything, but it's curious to note that of the first 2,500 persons to register the only one who became angry over the numerous technicalities involved was a law professor!

—R.C.

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