

# Riding the Sooner Range

By TED BEAIRD

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**B**EING strong in simple composition BUT weak in simple arithmetic (meaning no effort has been made to figure it out) it's unknown on the Range the exact number of these Fridays falling on the 13th. But this Friday 13th, '42, is different! Many factors make it quite different! World War II is now nine weeks of age. How it has changed the pace in these United States—indeed throughout the world!

A hurried trip to Washington "in the District" and on to Baltimore last week, in the interest of a "salvage" of many phases of work at O.U. revealed a true cross section of a nation at war. Yes, revealed the part that thousands of sons and daughters of O.U. are playing in this "all-out" effort!

To mention the hundreds contacted directly and indirectly would be impossible, but let's check a few: NEIL JOHNSON, '15ba, '17law, Norman, "the ole man of the sage," the good Indian of long standing and the cattleman deluxe, along with 600 T. JACK FOSTER, '29, Norman Courts, the ambassador-at-large, plus SAVOIE LOTTINVILLE, '29ba, the O.U. book publisher, word designer, and Oxford student in action, and JOHN JOSEPH MATHEWS, '20ba, you know, "Book-of-the-Month Joe" from the deep seat of the Osage Hills, all breeze into the capitol together devoting time, energy and double effort in the interest of O.U. and the Sooner State at large.

Assisting them, and offering every constructive aid possible were many, many more Sooners—federal officials and District executives who owe allegiance to, are proud of, and swear by, Sooner Land! Some of 'em?—Well, let's check: The distinguished PAUL WALKER, '12law, formerly of Oklahoma City, (Commissioner Walker, in the circles of the federal government) but to us, Life Member Paul, and the chairman of the advisory council of the O.U. Alumni in Washington. Yes, a complete congressional delegation at the bat and hittin' the ball over the nation's capitol in the interest of mutual programs—an Oklahoma congressional delegation composed of such leaders as SENATOR JOSH LEE, '17ba, Norman; CONGRESSMAN MIKE MONRONEY, '24ba, Oklahoma City; WILL ROGERS, '30m.ed, Moore, Bessie and other "ports"; WILBURN CARTWRIGHT, '20law, McAlester and Krebs; JED JOHNSON, '15, Anadarko, plus the New York congressman, but one who was and is "a Sooner born and Sooner bred," namely, the HON. WILLIAM T. PHEIFFER, '19law, New York City. In fact, the whole Sooner delegation rallied to the defense (not civilian or war defense) of the University of Oklahoma at large!

Others in the capital city area, not legislatively inclined? Yes, many! They, too, were helping in the cause—expending energy and offering valuable counsel in the interest of O.U. Briefly and in passing, these were doing their bit: PAUL G. SINDERSON, '41journ—newspaper PAUL, now of the United States Senate office staff; G. B. "DEKE" PARKER, '08ba, the all-out newspaper man who has made his contribution down through the years; J. WES KITCHENS, '36ba, '37ma, formerly of Seminole, Cheyenne and Norman, who is still making his scientific contributions. Then, of course,

the glamorous and very efficient HELEN HADLEY, '38ba, Oklahoma City, the very efficient private secretary of COMMISSIONER PAUL WALKER, '12law, and formerly the confidential advisor and the "gal" who did all the work around your Range Rider's office.

ANNE McCOOL, '36ba, formerly of Los Angeles and Norman, until a brief fortnight ago, the efficient secretary of the now United States Army Officer, Lt. BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37law, of Camp Roberts, California, but today our ANNE is "the gal about town" in the nation's capital; EDWARD A. EVANS, '12, "DEKE" PARKER'S sidekick and associate; RALPH S. CLIFFORD, '41law, Norman, who, until June, '41, was a ranking student on the campus of the University but now the big "G" man in the District; JOHN H. CALDWELL III, '41ba, Oklahoma City, a short while ago he breezed away from Oklahoma City, the campus at Norman, and long-established friends in Oklahoma (and following student government reform at O.U.) to become the efficiency expert of the East.

CAPT. C. GUY BROWN, '23ba, O.U. faculty, plus wife FRANCES, '34, plus curly-headed daughter LINDA, recently of Camp Berkeley, more recently of Fort Sill, reporting on the morning that your Range Rider arrived in Washington, for the captain's new assignment—important one at that (reach him in care of Chief of Air Corps); MAJOR THOMAS LLOYD BROWN, '26bus, Tulsa, hastily parking wife and two daughters back in his Tulsa home, "scatting" away to Washington for his new army assignment to the War College School. The hard working U.P. boy, LYLE C. WILSON, '18, strutting his stuff and making Washington realize that an Oklahoma boy is at the controls; MARGUERITE BELLAH STEWART, '33ba, yes, once another efficiency expert in your hired hand's office, now the Madam Counselor in the nation's center. The Journalist (and whata journalist) MALVINA STEPHENSON, '36ma, who months ago breezed away from her Tulsa newspaper assignments, dashed to Washington, and since then has made many dents, was in there contributing her part for Oklahoma.

Yes, we could go on for pages upon pages naming 'em, commenting on their contributions, pointing out their successful activities, but since space will not permit, we merely give the Sooner "Hi-There" to others in Washington, who were contacted directly or indirectly in the interest of the all-out program. They are: BETH CAMPBELL SHORT, '29ba, formerly of Oklahoma City; EWING C. SADLER, '38ba, '38law, formerly of Sulphur; MAJOR HENRY D. RINSLAND, '20ba, '24ma, O.U. Faculty; LUCILLE HINSHAW POWELL, '38fa, '39m.fa, formerly of Butler and Norman; FRANCIS K. HUNT, '29ba, former O.U. Faculty Member; MILDRED COSTON HOSFORD, '34bus, formerly of O.U. staff; TOM M. HANSON, '36law, former El Reno lad; ELGIN E. GROSCLOSE, '20ba, Waurika and Europe, formerly on the O.U. Faculty; FRANK L. DENNIS, '29ba, from Oklahoma City; REX M. CHANEY, '35ba, Sulphur; WILLIAM C. BRINKLEY, '40journ, Oklahoma City. Yes, apologies are made that space will not permit the mention of the outstanding activities of those extended the ole Sooner hello!

Yesterday (that was February 12, '42) as has been the ole Sooner custom of the Rider of the Range for more than twenty years—another annual function was attended. The annual Public School Administrators' luncheon of the O.E.A. is always outstanding. This year this annual noon assembly was appreciated as never before. Men were there for the serious consideration of the war task ahead; men of proved vision, assembled to analyze from the cause to the effect—men of Oklahoma, who in many instances have been shaping and molding the destiny of Oklahoma since immediately past statehood, were answering the challenge of democracy!

More than two hundred graduates of O.U. were in the packed halls and among those with whom we exchanged opinions were: GEORGE HANN, '30m.ed, Ardmore; BEN OGDEN, '26ma, Ardmore; E. H. BLACK, '19ba, Bristow; EARLE

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and Delta Sigma Rho, forensic fraternity at O.U. In Washington, he served as president of the Sig Alpha Alumni Club in 1939-40, and last December was chairman of the annual dinner of the Sojourners, a Masonic organization. Mr. Walker is a retired lieutenant-colonel of the Oklahoma National Guard and a former judge-advocate general. He is a member of the board of elders of the historic Covenant Presbyterian Church in Washington and regularly attends the monthly board meetings.

The Walker marriage grew out of a campus romance. Mrs. Walker is the former Myra Williams, the sister of retired Circuit Judge Robert L. Williams. There have been five children, with four living. There are two girls, Mrs. Calvin Darlington Lynton and Virginia, and two sons, Paul, jr., and Robert William. The girls attended college in Washington, but the Sooner campus may draw at least one of the sons even though it means a jaunt of 1,500 miles. Someone should carry on the Walker family traditions at O.U.

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## Riding the Range

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EMERSON, '28, Cromwell; HERB WRINKLE, '22ba, '31m.ed, Oklahoma City; E. O. DAVIS, '29ms, Oklahoma City; MAX CHAMBERS, '21ba, '29ms, Okmulgee; ERTIS SASSEEN, '22, Cordell; "DOC" SANDERS, '24, Holdenville; BRUCE MYERS, '22ba, '34m.ed, Chickasha; MEL NASH, '19ba, '27ma, Chickasha; N. L. GEORGE, '26ed, '31m.ed, Oklahoma City; BENNIE McELYEA, '27ba, '36m.ed, Hobart; FRANK HESS, '25ed, Drumright; "RED" McLEAN, '38m.ed, Anadarko; ELBERT COSTNER, '29ba, '34ma, Poteau; J. M. MADDOX, '41m.ed, Altus,—these along with a score more all in there for serious consultation.,

But back to this Friday the 13th when this squib is being dictated—We broke the continuity just now to "cab over" from the Biltmore to Central High for an hour's work. We saw: E. E. BRADLEY, '39m.ed, Goodwell; MARY GRAY THOMPSON, '21fa, Oklahoma City; JOE JACKSON, '34ed, '40m.ed, Bristow; RUBY RUTH VINCENT, '24fa, '25ba, '36ma, Fort Sill; HERB SCOTT, '26ba, '26ma, O.U.; LOWELL BROWN, '37m.ed, Norman; C. E. "POP" GRADY, '30, Oklahoma City; CHARLES GREEN, '25ba, O.U.; CHLOE ARMSTRONG, '41, O.U.—and, well, many, many others with whom we should like to have spent time.

But an O.E.A. rush—well, it's an "onslaught" for this moving Sooner Crew. So back to the Biltmore for the two-hour O.U. Reception in the Mirror Room—reserved exclusively for an O.U. talk and gossip fest! Registration headed by Prexy and Mrs. O. F. MULDROW, '22, Ardmore and the venerable and vulnerable HERB SCOTT, '26ba, '26ma, of O.U., with the Reception Committee headed by MRS. ELAINE JOHNSON TUCKER, '29, Oklahoma City—the Sooners "poured in"—line after line for two hours! From all over, from all classes they came! Greeting faculty members of O.U.—greeting friends not in their picture for months or years before! An interesting and inspiring Friday afternoon the 13th!

Yes! But beneath it all every few minutes some Sooner father of a son with MacArthur—a close relative, a classmate, or intimate friend who experienced Pearl Harbor—indeed the mention of what the immediate future may bring forth for us in these changing trails in the months ahead while Riding the Sooner Range—*THAT* was the question of the hour!

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