

*NATIONAL ATTENTION* has been attracted by the University's plan of coordinating all its war activities through a War Council, and the supplemental idea of using an alumnus in each county of the state to act as local community representative of the War Council. The *New York Times* published a half-column article describing how the plan was set up. The American Alumni Council's committee on war activities is notifying its member institutions about the O.U. plan for spreading the University's war services throughout the state through co-operation of alumni.

*THE SOONER ALMANAC*, radio program for alumni which is broadcast weekly over WNAD (640 kilocycles) by drama students directed by John Dunn, has changed its schedule. The program is heard now at 5 p.m. each Tuesday. Main feature of the variety program is a dramatic sketch of the life of some O.U. alumnus. Make it a point to hear one of these programs, and we will bet a cup of coffee that you will want to hear more. Much more interesting and entertaining than soap operas and the other usual radio fare.

*NUMBER OF* Sooner alumni in the armed services is amazing. Reserve officers are being called to duty every day, many alumni are being inducted through selective service and many others are volunteering for service. In a new department in this issue, news of the men in the service is put together in a single feature because of the unusual news value represented. This department will be a regular feature for the duration. If some of the assignments reported sound pretty vague, remember that this is war and no publication wants to take the slightest chance of revealing any information of military value. Incidentally, your editor will appreciate a postcard or letter giving information about any Sooners going into the service, and reporting the new mail addresses. Reports received in the alumni office indicate that men in the camps and posts—or on ships at sea—like to hear about what's happening at O.U. and what's happening to their Sooner friends. So we want to keep *Sooner Magazine* going to subscribers in the service.

*MANY TRICK* birth announcements come to the Alumni Office, from proud parents who have devised something new and different to herald the big news to the world. Lawyers will work out an announcement based on the addition of a new member to the "firm." Engineers will think of something on the line of factory production (a seismograph expert even used a compli-

cated seismograph record chart with excellent results). Newspapermen are likely to get out a miniature newspaper. But Benton Ferguson, '31ba, and Mrs. Ferguson (Maxine Brown, '32), of Minneapolis, Minnesota, win the hand-embroidered diaper for the cleverest announcement to date. Benton, who is an advertising man, got out a broadside that has everything. It starts like this: "They Said It Couldn't Be Done! Defeatists decried American attempts to gain heir supremacy! Fifth columnists reported that Ferguson production facilities were limited! But they were wrong! NOW—just when the nation needs it most—the Ferguson firm has responded with all-out production. This is heartening news to the Allies, for with the first solo of this new sensation—America HAS Heir supremacy. Priorities?—Pah! Shortage of Raw materials?—Naw! The American way is to find a better way and the Fergusons have done it again!" After presenting a schematic drawing of the new model with appropriate labels, the broadside continues: "ANNOUNCING! A Great New Addition to America's Heir Power! America Needs New Heir Power, and this new model is the answer to that Challenge! It is a fitting tribute to the American way of life in general, and a specific tribute to the research, ingenuity, and facilities of the Ferguson Firm, who have been in the business for six years! It is scream lined, compact, and can be refueled from domestic sources. It has, at times, such lung power that you can scarcely resist the throttle! This recently assembled masterpiece will be known as Carole Shartel, Model No. 2." The broadside goes on into many more details, but that gives you a rough idea.

*DESPITE THE* lonesome feeling we sometimes have while writing this particular corner—like a radio speaker who wonders whether the microphone is really turned on—we are about convinced that people do occasionally read this stuff. Exhibit A: The item about someone wanting a copy of the 1921 yearbook brought in the name of a person owning a copy and willing to sell it. Exhibit B: Several persons have inquired whether the editor's new son ever acquired any name better than "Butch." After the last magazine went to press, Father and Mother really went into conference and came up with a proper name. (P.S. We still call him Butch).

*AS A SPECIAL SERVICE*, we have secured from military authorities a list of a score of military posts and camps where most of the Sooner reserve officers are being sent as they are called to active duty. We have put the Officers' Club at each of these

points on the every-month mailing list of *Sooner Magazine*.

*SPACE LIMITATIONS* don't bother a University faculty member with plenty of wire and gadgets and ingenuity. Clyde Farrar, who is teaching a new course this semester on a phase of electrical engineering that is vital to national defense, found that he had more students than he could get into one lecture room, and also found that the WNAD radio station transmitter crew wanted to take the course but had a conflict in working schedule. It turned out to be hardly any problem at all. Mr. Farrar just divided up his students in two groups, and ran a public address system into the second room. Then he hooked up the circuit to the radio station, and started lecturing to students in three different places at the same time!

*A LAST-MINUTE* flash from Paul Walker, chairman of the Washington, D.C., advisory council, reports that if war conditions permit, there should be another capacity crowd at the annual dinner for O.U. alumni in the national capital, scheduled March 21. "We expect President and Mrs. Brandt and hope to have Dr. and Mrs. Bizzell," he writes. "Ted Beard has promised to be present. Dr. Walter B. Emery, chairman of the O.U. council in Ohio, hopes to attend. We expect Frank Long of Roanoke, Virginia, Dr. Harvey A. Andruss, president of State Teachers College, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, the usual representation from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and other surrounding points, as well as the attendance of the Oklahomans in the armed forces who are located near enough to Washington for a Saturday night trip here, not to mention all the Sooners in the various branches of government service." Elden Magaw, administrator of the Temple University Law School, is rounding up the out-of-Washington group.

*PRESIDENT JOE BRANDT*, like other University presidents before him, finds the going pretty rough at times. But he is fortunate in having an unusually good sense of humor that he can fall back on. No matter how distasteful and distressing and uncalled for an episode may have been, he can drag a pun out of it. He gave a demonstration at a recent conference where he got up to speak after scribbling in his notebook with a fountain pen. Putting the pen in his pocket, he grinned that malicious smile that goes along with one of his puns.

"*JUST TAKING* some notes," he said, "in Carter's ink."