



Serving a Need for Alumni

University alumni visiting the campus will find the Oklahoma Memorial Union a convenient place to have meals. The Cafeteria serves breakfast, luncheon and dinner six days a week.

Oklahoma Memorial Union

University of Oklahoma, Norman

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Clearing the Desk

TWO ALUMNI at Pearl Harbor are among our favorite correspondents. Aside from keeping us informed about their own activities, they also send news about meeting Sooners in the mid-Pacific and other choice items. A letter via clipper from Ernie Hoberecht, '41journ, enclosed a page from the *Honolulu Advertiser* bearing a United Press story emanating from this office. The story quoted *Sooner Magazine's* figures on the number of O. U. alumni in service. Another frequent correspondent at Pearl Harbor, Lt. Willard E. Edwards, '29 eng, sent a card noting staff changes and making mention of the Edwards Perpetual Calendar, now being considered by Congress for possible presentation at the peace table. Through depressions, inflation, revolutions and wars, Lieutenant Edwards has never ceased talking about his calendar idea and has consequently made converts wherever he happened to be.

DESPITE THE NECESSARILY regulated lives they lead under the Army and Navy Training Programs, trainees who have been at the University for any length of time have displayed an amazing amount of *esprit de corps* and loyalty for the place. One of the advanced engineers who left the campus last spring for Camp Sibert, Alabama, wrote, "It's strange now that I've been here, everything I remember of my ten months at O. U. seems the most idyllic part of my Army existence. I believe too when I get overseas I shall feel this even more sharply. . . . There is something fine about college life that stays with you. . . ." He also reported that he and other men in his company at O. U. who went to Camp Sibert, considered the University their alma mater. When the company was split up for overseas assignment and the first group was loaded on trucks for departure, they shook hands, wished each other luck and someone called them together to sing a chorus of *Boomer Sooner*.

IN THE DAYS to come, organizations all over the country will be pushing money-raising projects to establish memorials for war heroes. It would be a fine thing if the money collected by various groups could be invested in what are known as "living war memorials," such as playgrounds, parks and athletic fields. Through the farsighted planning of someone, an agency to supervise this sort of thing, called the Living War Memorials Commission, has been set up in Washington. It is headed by George Trautman. The purpose of the commission

is to help communities all over the country establish athletic plants through local organization-sponsored drives. A memorial such as a swimming pool or a baseball park, which would bring greater enjoyment and improve the health of American youth, would be a better tribute to war dead than an expensive shrine or plaque.

FOR MORE THAN 12 years Dr. J. Willis Stovall, O. U.'s energetic paleontology professor and fossil collector, has stressed the value of having a museum to house the University's valuable collections. Sometimes he appeared to be talking into thin air but he continued undaunted to plan a visionary museum big enough to hold all the prized paintings, fossils and other collections which have been gathering dust in scattered obscure places around the campus for years. This summer Dr. Stovall's vision crystallized into a plan of action when the regents gave first approval to the museum-building project estimated to be a two-million dollar undertaking. If construction is carried out according to blueprints already drawn up, Oklahoma will have a museum which will house valuable collections in dire need of preservation, serve as a working laboratory for students in the University and contribute a great deal to research now under way for the betterment of the state.

SINCE THE WAR began, *Sooner Magazine* has published three lists of Sooners serving with the armed forces, according to service records maintained in the office. These were issued at six-month intervals, the last being in February of this year. According to this schedule, another should have been published in August. Because the number of alumni in service has passed the 8,000 mark and the office staff is limited, this was an impossible task. We can, however, help alumni keep track of each other through personal requests. If you want to know someone's address, write a card or letter to *Sooner Magazine*, University of Oklahoma, and we will send you the latest information in our files.

FOR THEIR OWN protection, alumni should train a skeptical eye and ear on the editorial writers and news commentators who are extraordinarily vocal these days. With all the misinformation floating about, it's advisable to read several newspapers and magazines representing different kinds of opinion before forming any conclusions.—E. W.