

SOONER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

Alumni Staff Members: Elmer L. Fraker of *The American Legionnaire*, '20, Fred E. Tarman of *The Norman Transcript*, '10, and H. Merle Woods of *The El Reno American*, '17, Guest Editors for the month of October; Catherine Robinson, '46, Assistant Editor; Ted Beard, '21, Riding The Range; Harold Keith, '29, Sooner Sports; Betty Jean McLean, '49, Roll Call; Jan Thomas, '49, War Records; Mrs. Mary Turnbull, Alumni Records; Beverly Howard, Medical School, and June Desper, '46, Mailing.

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Reconversion

This is not an editorial. It is an explanation. War over for Sooner Magazine and all other O.U. Alumni Publications? Not yet! The Editor-to-be, well, has points enough and it appeals to us a mighty lengthy tour of active duty out there in that now stilled theater of operations—BUT he is an essential to his government, and will be for a few weeks yet to come. So Sooner Magazine is in the process of reconversion. Slow process? Possibly so. But the "reconversion" is being met in accordance with the rules of the game.

As always, when this organization is confronted with changing situations making for temporary problems, old faithfuls come to the rescue. Until this process of real reconversion shall have evolved, SOONER MAGAZINE will be edited and its destiny directed by the Executive Board and a group of Guest Editors. For this October issue, three distinguished journalists and editors from business and professional life—sons of O.U., serve the clientele: Fred E. Tarman, '10ba, Editor-Publisher, *The Norman Transcript*; H. Merle Woods, '17ba, Editor-Publisher, *The El Reno American*, and Elmer L. Fraker, '20ba, '38ma, Editor, *The Oklahoma Legionnaire*. And—here they are. And here are their editorials.

T.M.B.

Educational Problems of War II Vets

By ELMER L. FRAKER,
Editor, *Oklahoma Legionnaire*

Many young men who have served in the recent war are now returning to the university and college campuses of America. Much has been written and much has been said concerning the educational problems of these youthful ex-service men. It was not, however, until the vanguard of these men had come to the campuses, that the real answers to the educational questions of these veterans began to take concrete and definite form. Much of the early planning must of necessity be thrown overboard, because anticipated attitudes and situations have not developed.

In the first place, it is being found that the desires and ambitions of the man who has seen war-time service are little different from those who entered college without having worn the uniform. Many assumed that the only thing veterans would be interested in was vocational training. Those who held to this viewpoint were overlooking the fact that the officer and enlisted personnel made up a cross section of the youth population of our country. True, many seek vocational training, but, on the other hand, many also wish training in liberal and fine arts. Merely because a man has seen service does not mean that his personality has been entirely changed. It will be found that the usual courses in the university are as worthwhile to veterans as they are to non-veterans. The classes veterans enroll



ELMER L. FRAKER

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Trouble on the Campus

By FRED E. TARMAN
Editor-Publisher, *Norman Transcript*

Many alumni over the state, and other citizens as well, wonder why the University should be plagued so often with controversies and incidents of one kind or another that reflect unfavorably on the school.

These things stem from a variety of causes, some of them having their roots on the campus, others outside.

Political interference is a typical example of trouble that has come from the outside in past years. It caused the University to lose its first great president, Dr. David R. Boyd, and later led to the transfer of Dr. Stratton D. Brooks to the University of Missouri. The faculty cannot be blame for those things.



FRED E. TARMAN

Lack of funds has caused the University to operate under severe handicaps for many years. It has been extremely difficult to either obtain or hold outstanding teachers and research men. We simply could not compete with the universities in wealthier states.

And when the University does get some additional

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University in an Atomic Age

By H. MERLE WOODS
Editor-Publisher, *El Reno American*

The great war which has just closed witnessed the incredible feat of armies, navies and air forces battling with strange new weapons and instruments of defense, all of which stemmed from the laboratories in which the greatest scientists of the age have assembled their inventive genius to forge devices far beyond the wildest dreams of Jules Verne or Buck Rogers.

The import of these developments is that no more are wars merely the assembling and use of brute strength, but rather the utilization of secret weapons developed from the scientific laboratories, and produced in the greatest mass.

The men who come home from the battlefields of land, sea and air are highly conscious of the part which science has played in putting the weapons of victory in their hands. They have a better realization of the usefulness of education and know that wars of the future will depend almost entirely upon the technicians, chemists, physicists and engineers of the great science laboratories.

A tremendous challenge thus faces the universities and colleges in producing the armies of skilled



H. MERLE WOODS

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The Cover

When the frost is on the punkin' and the fodder's in the shock—it's autumn at O.U. too! Just to prove it, here is Holmberg Hall as recently photographed by Richard Meek.

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