

# The University

## The "Keeper" of Landmarks

The telephone "dingles!" Oklahoma City calling. At the sending end, "Say, Ted—what's happening on the old North Oval? Well, whatever is happening, see that the Spoonholder of the Class of '10, the '06 Rock and THAT Memorial Sun-dial out there ARE NOT disturbed! I thought we settled that issue some years ago. All decided THAT those land-marks are not to be "tinkered" with. Tell 'em, 'Take my degrees, take my name off the Memorial Plaque, take all my personal contacts away from me on the old O. U. campus, BUT leave those land-marks—that mean more to us alumni of yesteryear than all the buildings and laboratories—STRICKLY ALONE! Thats ALL, get into ACTION!!!"

The telephone "dingles" again—yes, AGAIN and AGAIN, Tulsa calling, Purcell calling. Others calling. Same protest. And, here (as recorded by Ruth Kirkpatrick, '44, staff-writer for *The Norman Transcript* in an early December 1945 feature story) is what caused it all!! —T.M.B.

### LANDSCAPING AT O.U.

"Alumni who were visitors on the University campus last week may have been dismayed to see the results of three days labor of a team of horses and a turning plow on the north oval.

"Plowing up the University's front lawn was not the first "revolutionary" change which is in progress on the campus. It was preceded by removal of numerous groups of overgrown shrubs.

"Directing the renovation of the campus landscaping, is Robert H. Rucker, landscape architect, who was appointed to the position last summer.

"Mr. Rucker has a two-fold purpose in his campus changes—reduction of traffic hazards and steady beautification of the University campus.

"Most of the luxuriant shrubs which grew around the north oval and in front of the gate, have been removed for the former reason. To the drivers of automobiles approaching the Administrative building, students crossing from the Education building to the Science building on the sidewalk nearest the south end of the oval, were entirely out of sight behind tall evergreen trees planted on the north side of the walk, until they stepped into the street.

"Several times, cars have had to drive up on the west curb in front of the Science Hall to avoid hitting students," Mr. Rucker said.

"At the main gates to the campus, principally the gate into the north oval, the line of sight for a driver entering Boyd Street was zero, because of the large evergreens planted around the brick pillars. These have been removed and will be replaced with the low spreading varieties, Mr. Rucker explained.

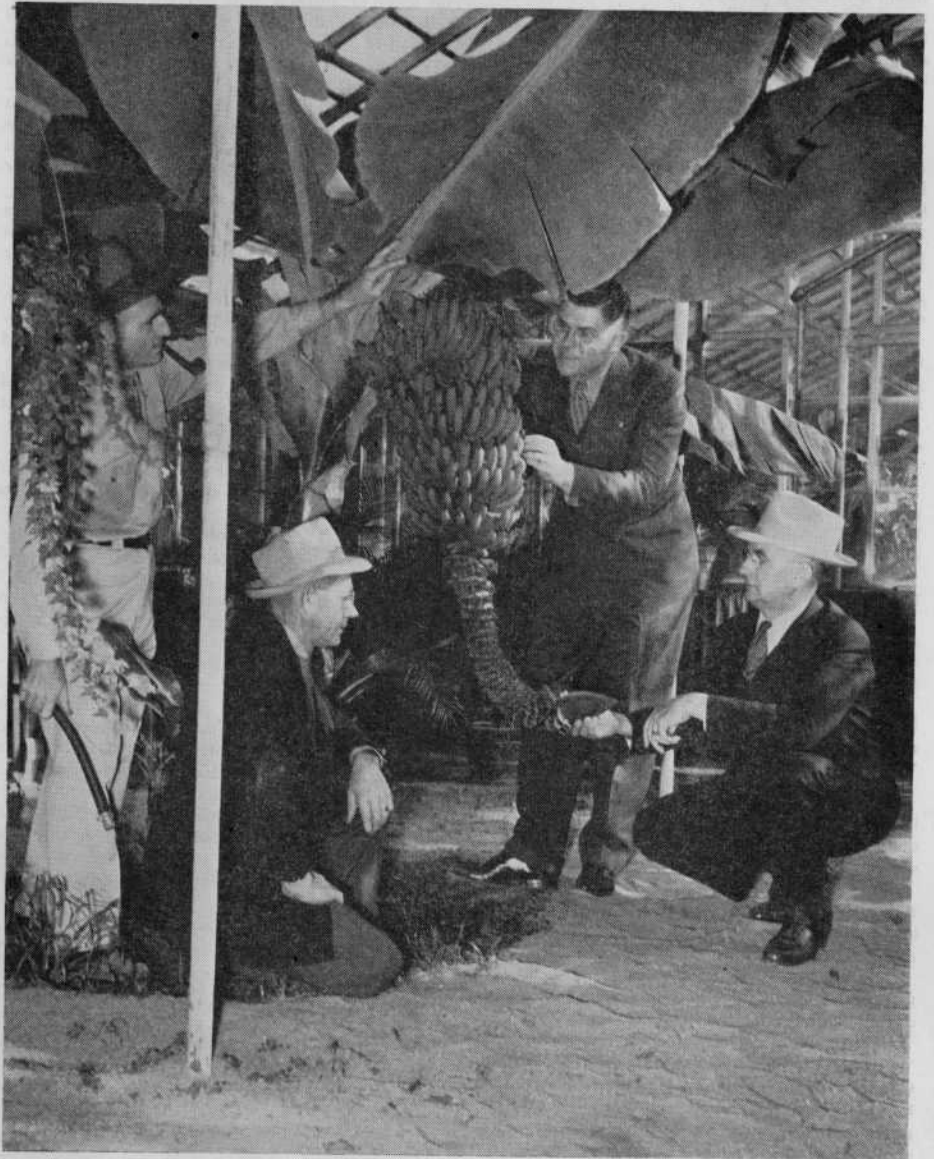
"An expanse of smooth lawn under the tall oaks and elm trees providing a vista across is Mr. Rucker's plan.

"The first two concrete walks on the south end of the oval have been removed because in rainy weather water stood on them.

"Grading on the oval was backward, as the edges were higher than the center and water did not drain off. Men worked last week with a team of horses and a plow turning over the ground. The second step will be disking and then the oval will be graded with a "crown" in the center like a football gridiron is graded, and resodded.

"The two walks will then be replaced and the flagpole set in the center of the second walk. More utility for the students will be introduced when diagonal walks are run from near Holmberg Hall to the Educational Building to accommodate the music students who must take courses in education in order to teach public school music.

"Another diagonal walk will be laid from the Science Building, where home economics classes are held, to the Art Building at the north end of the oval, to accommodate students of home economics who have work in the art school.



Captain Bob Rucker, O. U. landscape architect (standing and examining stalk of bananas), confers with Walter Kraft, superintendent of utilities (right hand holding stalk); his foreman, "Bud" Murphy (kneeling), and the assistant foreman, C. Van Ess (smoking pipe), in the central greenhouse on the campus of the University of Oklahoma.

"The diagonal walks will cross at the flagpole where a sundial of flowers will be developed. The lower part of the pole will cast its shadow on numerals made of dwarf flowers and shrubs.

"Since it is necessary for the students to cross the oval, we shall remove the unsightly barricades and fences, and give them walks to cross on," Mr. Rucker said. "If the campus does not suit the need of the student body, the landscaping has failed," he explained, "because the students spend much of their time on the campus."

"At the north and on the oval, the bed of plants forming the letters "O.U." are to be removed and replaced with a new bed, forming the name 'OKLAHOMA U' in seasonal flowers.

"Attention is being given to the use of color in the landscape, to harmonize with the buildings, keeping foremost the Oklahoma red and white.

"Among other new plantings planned in the long range remodeling, will be those around the 10 buildings of Woodrow Wilson center and Jeffer-

son house and commons, all on South Jenkins Avenue.

"Seeking safety and beauty at the same time, Mr. Rucker said that it was not his intention to willfully plant anything which would create a death-corner or other hazard to people.

"At the same time, he hopes to develop in the students, unknowingly to them, an appreciation for the beautiful.

"Basically we have a very beautiful campus and what we want to do is to accent the natural beauty to its maximum degree," Mr. Rucker said.

"Reduction of maintenance costs by reducing beds 30-feet wide, to about 12 feet, is also one of Mr. Rucker's goals.

"No matter what we do in design and construction, maintenance is the most important and most expensive part of landscaping," he said.

"Mr. Rucker has a staff of two men and a varying number of general assistants.

"Bedding plants for the campus are grown in

the greenhouse by Mr. C. Vanness, and W. I. Murphy is general foreman.

"Mr. Rucker, a native Texan, holds bachelor's and master's degree in landscape art from Texas A. and M. college. He has been employed by the Texas highway department to plan and supervise the roadside parks and highway beautification in eight Texas counties. Also he has taught landscape architecture in the Sidney Lanier High School of San Antonio, which position he resigned to enter the Army. He was in command of Company K of the 60th Infantry Regiment, Ninth Infantry Division when it landed in French Morocco in 1942. He fought across north Africa, through Tunisia, and in the Battle of Maknasse in 1943, Capt. Rucker's leg was blown off by a land mine.

"After he had recovered and learned to use an artificial leg, he re-landscaped the campus of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, before he came to Norman."

P. S. Yeah, the landmarks are still intact! —T.M.B.

## FM Radio Station to Be Constructed

The University has been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to construct a non-commercial frequency modulation radio station according to an Associated Press report.

The application for a 3,000-watt FM station which has been made by the University is one of approximately 1,200 now being processed by the Commission. This number includes applications for both FM and standard broadcasting stations.

If granted, the station will be operated in addition to the present activities of WNAD. According to information available, the station will have a coverage of only 45 to 50 miles, since FM carrier waves travel in a straight line as television waves do, not following the contour of the earth as in standard broadcasting.

The new station will be required to broadcast a minimum of six hours a day, with the greater part of the time devoted to programs designed to be of aid to schools in the coverage area.

## Newspaper Work Attracts State Veterans to O. U.

Returning service men and women who plan to train for newspaper work may take all beginning courses in journalism at the University during the second semester which begins January 14.

Ordinarily the first courses in journalism are offered only during the fall semester but because of the demand by returning service people and transfer students, complete programs for those entering the school for the first time will be given the second semester.

Enrolment of majors in journalism this year shows an increase of 75 per cent over figures of last year. With the return of several faculty members who have been on military leaves, the staff is prepared to care for the increased number of students.

## Model Drugstore

No longer confined to such a limited list of soda-fountain items as cokes and vanilla ice cream, the model drugstore of the School of Pharmacy at the University has expanded its "menu." "Tootie Fruite" or in non-drugstore lingo, fruit salad ice cream may now be purchased in the miniature store.

Hundreds of pharmacy students at the University have received practical training in the model drugstore by setting up window displays, working at the fountain and arranging inside displays.

## Outstanding Freshman Coed

Bobby Henry, sophomore from Bartlesville, has been selected as the outstanding freshman woman student by the Mortar Board. In addition to maintaining a high grade average she was vice-president of Alpha Lambda Delta, national honorary scholarship society for freshman women, a co-ed counselor, a member of the Engineers' Club and the U.W.C.A. and a member of the Delta Gamma sorority.

## Hikes or Art

Taking care of after-class free time at the University of Oklahoma are more than 100 non-social organizations ranging from hiking, swimming and tennis clubs to groups such as Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic fraternity and professional organizations. All of the organizations have been officially approved by the University.

## O. U. Officials Doing Utmost to House Vets

Staging a day and night battle against the Norman housing shortage, University of Oklahoma officials are doing their best to insure living accommodations for approximately 2,000 veterans expected to enrol for the second semester.

Application has already been made to the federal public housing agency for use of a 90-unit Hillcrest apartment south of the campus and permission to use surplus buildings at the north and south Navy bases has been secured. Necessary conversion of the Navy accommodations is now being planned.

Thirty trailer units will be available for use January 15 and it is hoped a 96-unit apartment dormitory for married students can be erected by the fall of 1946. University officials have appealed to Norman landlords urging them to give married war veterans enrolling in the University preference in renting apartments vacated by Navy personnel.

## Sorority Reactivated

Re-activation of Alpha Gamma Delta, international college sorority, was made in December on the University campus. The re-activation will restore the chapter its 1919 seniority date of the original O.U. charter.



DR. F. A. BALYEAT

*Dr. F. A. Balyeat, '11ba, '18ma, outline plans for the expanded Adult Education Program of the University. Through this department of the University thousands of state citizens are assisted each season by taking the O. U. campus to their "home grounds."*

## Adult Education Increased

Oldsters who want to receive specialized information in various subjects without receiving college credit may do so under the expanded adult education program sponsored by the University of Oklahoma.

Designed on the theory that the facilities and services of the University are available to all citizens, the new program will offer advance knowledge in many fields, Dr. F. A. Balyeat, director, has announced.

Hundreds of citizens are aided each year through the numerous short courses, extension classes, correspondence courses, radio broadcasts and other special services of the University.

## University of Oklahoma Foundation

Plans for a \$2,000,000 Bizzell Memorial Library Center at the University of Oklahoma, along with details of other specific needs of the institution, were recently presented in the first formal statement of plans of the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

"This is not a high pressure campaign for any over-all sum of money, but rather one step in a long-term program of presenting to friends of the institution the needs that can be taken care of only by gifts and bequests," said Dr. Cross, who is president of the University and also acting president of the Foundation.

The first general announcement to alumni and friends listed the Bizzell Memorial project as the No. 1 item, but also described the need for gifts and bequests to finance a museum building, dormitories, scholarships, special lectureships and professorships, research projects, special equipment, and endowments for the Medical School.

Under the title "Oklahoma's Endless Frontier," the booklet issued by the trustees of the Foundation developed the thesis that there is no end to "the frontier of knowledge" which has replaced the western frontier of range cattle days.

"Oklahoma's future is staked on the effective education of its young people for leadership in the postwar period of adjustment and rebuilding, and on effective research into the state's social, economic, and scientific problems," President Cross said.

"It is apparent that, even with the increased state appropriations provided by the last Oklahoma Legislature, the University will need additional income if it is to give the state adequate service. Laboratory equipment has worn out during the war and much of the present equipment has been made obsolete by war time technological developments. Buildings are inadequate for the postwar enrollment rush already under way, and high building costs partially offset the effectiveness of the recent building appropriations provided by the state.

"Instructional supplies cost much more than before the war. Competent teaching and research talent costs much more than in the past. In fact, the University faces increased operating costs in every phase of its program, just at the time when enrollment is heading toward a new high level.

"Following the example of most of America's great institutions of higher education, the University of Oklahoma now invites its alumni, parents of students, friends, and far-sighted citizens of Oklahoma to help meet the need."

President Cross pointed out that, in spite of Oklahoma's wealth from oil, minerals and agriculture, the total of private gifts and grants made to institutions of higher education in Oklahoma in the last year reported by the U. S. office of education was only 10 cents per capita of the state's population. This is less than a third of the national average, and it ranks Oklahoma fortieth among the states.

In terms of the amount of private gifts and grants per student enrolled, Oklahoma rates even lower—42nd among the states. This figure for Oklahoma in 1941-42 was \$8.88 as compared to \$30.33 in Arkansas, \$33.34 in Louisiana, \$13.09 in Texas, \$34.08 in Kansas, \$36.09 in Missouri, and a national average of \$32.82. The average for the New England states was \$59.25.

"We hope that when the University and the other institutions in Oklahoma do a better job of letting the people of the state know what the institutions are trying to do, and how greatly private gifts can widen the boundaries of achievement, the per capita giving in Oklahoma for educational purposes will become more in line with other states," President Cross said.

"I am sure we have many successful men in Oklahoma who have vision and imagination and who will give financial support to educational and research projects, provided they are convinced that those programs are dynamic, forward-looking programs geared closely to the needs of today and tomorrow."

The Bizzell Memorial Library Center is designed  
(Continued on page 21)

WILMUTH-HOWARD: Mary Elizabeth Wil-  
muth, '45bus, Norman, and Pfc. Thomas D. How-  
ard, '40-'43, Norman, were married October 27 in  
Norman. The couple have established a home in  
Oklahoma City where Mr. Howard is a student in  
the Medical School.

John H. Lattimore, senior from Lawton in the  
School of Architecture, has won the highest num-  
ber of awards in the Beaux Arts Institute of Design,  
New York sketch competitions. Mr. Lattimore won  
two first and four second place awards. This is the  
third time in five years that a University student  
has won the honor. William H. Wilson, '37-'41,  
won in 1940-41 and Dale C. Byrd, '44bs, in 1942-  
43.

## Riding the Range

(Continued from page 5)

LEE EMENHISER, '31med, and their Secretary-  
Treasurer, Dr. JOHN LAMB counseled far into the  
day with ROSCOE CATE, '26ba, on Endowment  
Corporation details and your Range Rider on ex-  
tension of Alumni benefits. A day well spent! Yes,  
a day well spent because it was little realized in  
that series of hours in pleasant association and  
work that it was to be the last contributions on the  
part of Doctor TOM. Less than sixty hours later,  
as your Range Rider was entering the O. U. Al-  
umni Meeting of the COMANCHE COUNTY  
(LAWTON) group, a priority L.D. call from  
Oklahoma City stated simply, "The Dean has just  
passed away. True to tradition, up to the hour of  
his sudden passing, he continued working in the  
interest of humanity." Thus, another fine son of  
O. U., an eminent physician and gentleman,  
dropped from the ranks.

And—this is another of those December Sun-  
day afternoons. "Flivverin'" this time over routes  
to the South—WALTERS, the destination for late  
night arrival. Via, CHICKASHA, DUNCAN AND  
COMANCHE.

In CHICKASHA it's a pause to "session" briefly.  
A hasty check-up on pending alumni business. Lt.  
RALPH BRAND, '33ba, '38ma, the county prexie,  
has a series of standing committees perfecting de-  
tails. Old cronies of Past President (Alumni)  
ELMER FRAKER, '20ba, '38ma, long since out of  
the Community, asks about his welfare. PREXIE  
DAN PROCTOR, '36ms, '43edd, of OCW in the  
CHICKASHA Community is spoken "of and  
about" quite highly. Expressions of sorrow are  
voiced over the loss recently of BRUCE MEYERS,  
'22as, '34ms, young son. Thus, another O. U. com-  
munity passes in review—and it's on down the  
highway to the East and South.

In WALTERS it's a distinct pleasure to visit  
with that "journalist Jim" (JIM COCANOUR)  
'40, who is now, and has been in recent years, doing  
a "bang-up" job on the local paper. Yes, Jim joined  
in that early morning work at checking on mailing  
lists and locating temporarily "lost" Sooner alums.  
Work over, reminiscing was in store for Jim and  
"yours truly." We ventured guesses on the O. U.  
football coach. We rehashed the *very active* tour  
of duty with the U. S. Army of "Brother" BOB,  
'42, who, just a few days before, had returned  
from the ETO. JOE MCBRIDE, '28bus, was "re-  
membered" as an old-time native of WALTERS.  
The brothers of the old Boardin' Table at our  
mutual Frat Barn on the O. U. campus were re-  
classified down through a series of years. It was  
agreed that soon the Ole Boardin' gang should  
assemble at an easily accessible point and "forget  
the worries, the wear and tear, and hustle and  
bustle" for a week-end. Then Jim "jotted" down  
an array of names to list on the call to the colors.  
Among those on that scratch pad were—CAPTAIN  
J. F. MALONE, '37ba, now en route to the states  
from MANILA; CAPTAIN BOB COCANOUR,  
'42, recently returned from ROME, ITALY. LT.  
COMMANDER HERB SCOTT, '26as, '26ma, re-  
cently reporting back to O. U. civilian duties on  
the O. U. campus from the PANAMA CANAL  
ZONE. CAPTAIN BOYD GUNNING, '37as,  
'37law, who, after those four, long years in the  
South Pacific, is again "extending" O. U. service  
and education. Lt. (Marine) THURMAN WHITE  
'41ms, en route from the Pacific to wife and  
daughter in LONE WOLF. Lt. (Navy) FRED

HARBER, '40ba, back from many advanced Pacific  
landings and searching for a "home" for wife and  
babies in Norman, "so I may go on through with  
that law". W. B. "Tommy" THOMPSON, '26ba,  
the big soft drink bottling magnet of PONCA  
CITY. MAJOR DALE VLIET, '38law, en route  
home from his MANILA duties as Provost Marshal  
General. Major WALTER "HEALTHY" SNELL,  
'24bus, now back "CPA-ing" in OKLAHOMA  
CITY after a long tour of Army duty. Captain C.  
O. HUNT, '38ed, '40law, the new "Insurance  
Czar" at the capitol building in OKLAHOMA  
CITY. All these plus dozens of others went down  
on Jim's mailing list AND there *will* be a day  
when that "gang" is called together!

From WALTERS it's down the trail again to  
WAURIKA, LAWTON, DUNCAN, RINGLING,  
SULPHUR, ARDMORE, PAULS VALLEY AND  
WILSON. In each center it's an O. U. assembly.  
Would that space might allow the pointing out  
and naming of dozens of your former associates  
and friends! BUT it's back to the O. U. office from  
this "tour of the south."

The parade at the office is on! In steps FRANCES  
HUNT, '29ba, from her WASHINGTON D. C.  
Headquarters to say "hello" and visit briefly. Cap-  
tain "BILL" THOMAS, '41ba, in to announce,  
"have just bought a home. Will be in O. U. next  
semester." Then COLONEL LEE B. THOMPSON  
'25ba, '27law, and brother-in-law Lt. Col. SANG-  
STER BIZZELL drop by to rehash old times and  
check on events of the past four years while they  
have been on Army missions in the Pacific!

Thus, they come—thus they go, ever on the  
march, these rovin', movin', alert O. U. Sooners—  
as together (in this Christmas period of PEACE)  
we continue Riding the Sooner Range.

## O. U. Foundation

(Continued from page 9)

to honor the memory of William Bennett Bizzell,  
president of the University for 16 years, who died  
in May, 1944. Dr. Bizzell secured from the state  
legislature the appropriation to build the present  
Library building, which was erected in 1929.

Plans have been drawn for extending the pres-  
ent building toward the back of the University  
Administration building so that the two structures,  
although not joined, would form a distinguished  
architectural unit.

"All state funds appropriated to the University  
for capital purposes in the immediate postwar years  
will have to be used to build unadorned classroom,  
laboratory, and service buildings, at the lowest  
possible cost, in order to meet urgent space re-  
quirements of the fast growing enrolment," Presi-  
dent Cross said. "Benefactions therefore provide  
the only feasible means of financing the construc-  
tion of a great library center in the collegiate  
Gothic style of architecture already adopted in the  
design of the Administration building and the  
Library."

The building is to contain large reading rooms,  
seminar rooms, graduate study cubicles, special  
collection rooms, additional book stacks, and a  
Bizzell Memorial Room. The plan calls for air-  
conditioning the reading rooms, since Oklahoma  
school teachers and administrators do most of  
their graduate research work in the Library in hot  
summer months.

While a gift of \$2,000,000 would permit com-  
pletion of the entire project in the name of a  
single donor, President Cross pointed out that the  
plan is divided into segments appropriate for  
smaller contributions. Gifts of \$10 to \$100 will  
pay for units of book stacks, \$1,000 will pay con-  
struction cost of a graduate study cubicle bear-  
ing the name of the donor, and \$50,000 to \$100,-  
000 will pay for large reading and study rooms  
suitable for identification as memorials to donors  
or their families.

## Hal Muldrow, Jr.

'28

Insurance of all Kinds  
Bonds

Security National Bank Bldg.

Norman

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A paper copy of this  
issue is available at  
call number LH 1 .06S6  
in Bizzell Memorial  
Library.