

# SOONER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

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## In Retrospect

These "grand old-young men of O.U."—our guest editors for April, 1946—look back (and to the future) in the life history of a great institution—and how!  
—T.M.B.

### Forty-Five Years After

By DR. JOHN T. HEFLEY, '01ba, '35d.ed  
*Assistant Professor of Education  
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Among the classes planning for reunions at the time of the May Commencement is the class of 1901. This class enjoys the distinction of being the earliest class of this year's reunion groups. When you think in terms of the present, you may be shocked to realize that the year 1901 goes back nearly a half century—45 years to be exact—and that is practically ancient history so far as the University is concerned.

Twenty-one names constitute the roster of this class. In this group, one was awarded a Master's degree—the first Master's degree earned in the University of Oklahoma; five were given Bachelor's degrees, and fifteen were pharmacy graduates. The pharmacy students received certificates or diplomas for the completion of two years of work and were entitled to the distinction of registered pharmacists in Oklahoma. At that time the School of Pharmacy had not been developed into a four years course. In this same 1901 class is listed the first woman student to receive a college degree from the University. At the present time, of this class of twenty-one, nine are deceased, five live in Oklahoma, two in Norman, and the addresses of two are not known.

If anyone is unable to visualize the changes in the University personnel in the past 40 years, it may be said that only one member of the regular faculty in 1901, no instructor, assistant, tutor, engineer, janitor or caretaker employed at that time, is now actively connected with the University. However, four members of the 1901 faculty still reside in Norman, and it is hoped that all of these may be present at the reunion. One was a member of the initial University faculty in 1893, when the University began its work in accordance with the founding legislation of 1892—an act of the first territorial legislature. Also one member of the class of 1901 was a member of the student body in 1893.

Members of the class of 1901 to whom invitations are being sent to participate in the reunion festivities this spring are Paul J. White, Pasadena, California; Mrs. Fantine Samuels Paxton, Burlingame, California; Milton James Ferguson, Brooklyn, New York; John Tillman Hefley, Norman; Henry Anderson Chandler, Edmonds, Washington; Wil-



JOHN HEFLEY

liam Solon Courtney, Roosevelt; Mrs. Evans Montgomery Hill, Modesta, California; John James McCartney, Kingfisher; Don Alonzo Northrup, Dover, and Thomas Arkansas Chesney, Norman.

### North Oval Reconversion

By DR. FRANK A. BALYEAT, '11ba, '18ma.  
*Director of Adult Education  
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The north oval is having its face lifted again. Plowed and re-set in Bermuda, and with rearranged shrubs, hedges, and flowers, it will have a somewhat changed appearance when you attend the reunions this spring. Just north of the spoonholder the transplanted flagpole stands at the intersection of three new walks.

Yes, this venerable structure still stands, as does its companion, the '06 stone. And stand they must. No longer protected by classmen armed with shot-guns, as both once were, they now have the protection of college tradition. Gone is the wine and canary paint, class colors of 1911, with which the spoonholder was adorned the night after being finished by the mighty men of nineteen-ten. But the memories of those hectic days when classes clashed still abide.

The flagpole is no longer greased, climbed, bent, or lassoed by rival classmen, for the "scraps" which characterized a smaller school are but memories. During the recent war this pole held aloft the government pennant which characterized O. U. students as among those doing their part in buying war bonds. Now Old Glory has the pole to itself.

Pe-et still lives and, with other honor societies, has a public initiation on the oval. But the old peace pipe initiation, held in front of the Carnegie Library (now Education Building) while daily chapel was going on inside,—this is discontinued. So is the chapel period. No available hall would any longer hold the student body, augmented as it is by veterans and others.

In the Memorial Union Building you may again read the names of those who participated in World War I. But the names of the veterans of World War II are legion. Long, too, is the list of those who have made the supreme sacrifice since the news of Pearl Harbor jolted us out of our routine.

Yes, time has made the north oval look a bit different, as it may have done you and some schoolmates of the vesteryears whom you will meet here in May. Some of them will have come to witness the graduation of their sons and daughters.

Many old landmarks are gone, as are many of our college customs. Come back to Norman and let us talk about the people and things and ways that were. And then, together, let us be glad for those that are.



FRANK BALYEAT

## The Cover

*Sooner Magazine* presents (April issue) Lt. Gen. Raymond S. McLain, recently returned to his home in Oklahoma City after commanding the 19th Corps in the European theater of operations. To the General's immediate left is Col. Hal L. Muldrow Jr. ('28bus), who recently returned to his Norman business after four and one-half years' service with the famous 45th "Thunderbird" Division in the European theater. Colonel Muldrow is checking war casualty records with General McLain and assisting the General in checking material on O. U.'s war casualties. General McLain will be the principal speaker Sunday afternoon, May 5, at 4 o'clock in the Field House, University of Oklahoma, in the coming Baccalaureate-Memorial services being dedicated by the University at that time to its war dead.

## Contents

RIDING THE SOONER RANGE . . . . .	4
<i>By Ted Beaird</i>	
THE UNIVERSITY . . . . .	5
CALLING THE ROLL . . . . .	7
<i>By Betty Jean McLean</i>	
FACULTY . . . . .	16
MEDICAL SCHOOL . . . . .	17
CORRESPONDENCE . . . . .	19
ALUMNI IN THE NEWS . . . . .	20
ASSOCIATION PROGRESS . . . . .	21
SOONER SPORTS . . . . .	25
<i>By Harold Keith</i>	

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