



Jack Redbird (foreground), Indian drum major, leads a group of O.U. pepper-uppers who were present to give the New York-bound Sooner football squad a hearty sendoff at Oklahoma City Municipal Airport. In rear, left to right, are Ruf Neks Harold Shafer, Kendall Garms, Joe Tackwell, Jack Johnston, Carroll McGowan (partly hidden); Patty Jayne, cheer leader; Ruf Neks Carl Thain and Dick Quisenberry; Pat Warren, Sequoyah (Indian) Club member; Ed Riddle, Ruf Nek; Jack Miller, cheer leader, and Rucy Haozous, Sequoyah Club member. Squatting are Ruf Nek James McGowan (partly hidden) and Phyl Brady, cheerleader.

Sooner Named 'Man of the Year'

Special release from SAN FRANCISCO EXPOSITION AUDITORIUM. Oklahoma—and one SOONER ALUMNUS, in particular—made a grand slam here during the National American Legion Convention attended by more than 100,000 veterans of World Wars I and II, in the winning of awards when Granville Scanland, past state commander was given the William Randolph Hearst Americanism award for the department of Oklahoma and ERNEST R. CHRISTOPHER, '20ph.g, BARTLESVILLE postmaster, was named the "man of the year" for his individual Americanism work. Christopher was given a \$1,000 check as the Lewis S. Rosentiel award.

The Hearst award was won by Oklahoma for its outstanding work during the past year in promoting youth activities such as junior baseball, oratorical contests and leadership in community affairs.

The award, a giant trophy, was taken back to Oklahoma and is on display in the state Legion office in the historical building.

Mr. Christopher was named "MAN OF THE YEAR" in recognition of his distinguished record during 1946 in advancing the principles of Americanism advocated by the American Legion.

Hailed by the commission as an "ideal American," Mr. Christopher was selected over ranking candidates from all other state departments of the Legion.

A veteran of World War I, Mr. Christopher is 49 years of age, and a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LEGION SINCE 1920, HE JOINED WHILE A UNIVERSITY STUDENT AT NORMAN WHEN THE O.U. STUDENT POST WAS

FORMED AT THE CLOSE OF WORLD WAR I.

He is a past post commander at Bartlesville and has served as chairman of the Americanism commission of the department of Oklahoma. He has been active in the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club and Parent-Teachers Association.

AS "MAN OF THE YEAR," MR. CHRISTOPHER WAS PARTICULARLY CITED FOR HIS ACTIVITIES IN ORGANIZING, INTEGRATING AND EXTENDING THE WORK OF THE AMERICANISM COMMISSION, DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA WHICH UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP WAS CONSIDERED TO HAVE ESTABLISHED ONE OF THE FINEST STATE RECORDS IN THE NATION.

Mr. Christopher also served in connection with the flag education program of the national organization, and was active in assuring the success of American education week support by the Legion.

He gave individual help in the promotion of American Legion highschool oratorical contests, served as a speaker and organizer, and delivered addresses to schools and civic clubs on patriotic days.

In addition, Mr. Christopher participated in old clothes, tin cans, and other salvage collection drives, and served in his post's war bond drive committee.

At the beginning of the year, Mr. Christopher found himself with an accumulation of vacation time he passed by during the war years and with 30 days of annual leave coming to him. He used his vacation and annual leave time to travel throughout the state promoting Americanism.

Cross Attends L.A. Alum Meeting

President Cross attended the first annual meeting of the Los Angeles County Alumni Club on September 16 at the Recreation Lodge, Elysian Park in Los Angeles, California. Graduates and former students of O.U. "mixed and mingled with the crowd and heard news of the University from President Cross."

He told the club about recent postwar developments on the O.U. Campus, such as, expansion onto the former North and South Naval Bases, now known as North and South Campus, the aeronautics program, the increased student body, the housing situation and athletics.

The Los Angeles Alumni Club was re-organized on February 12, 1945, after a lapse during the war years.



Accompanying the football team on its flight to New York were Air Hostesses Evelyn Brown, '43-'45, Anadarko, and Camilla Hunt, '40ba, Ranger, Texas.