

SOONER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

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NO. 8

Riding the Sooner Range

For TED BEAIRD
By JESS HECK

This "collection" of humanity, here assembled has been in a whirl and spew these thirty days past! For the nation at large it may have been (and still is) the taking of words out of the mouth (via silent telephones) due to picket lines and an ever paralyzing strike BUT not so in your O.U. Alumni Headquarters work-shop!

Here, in the midst of ever increasing production lines, the bells still tingle, telegrams continue rollin' in and out, the mail pouches increase in size and weight! In general, SERVICE to O.U. Sooners continues to "peak up" the scale as we plod on toward the first big post-war commencement season scheduled for June 1 and 2, 1947.

A glance back over chalks this past month a period of disaster, catastrophe and tragedy for many many O.U. sons and daughters. It has been an early spring month when the Range Rider has been forced to stand on the alert only to be whisked away via plane, car, or special transportation on none too pleasant missions—the searching for some O.U. Alumni family in need and distress.

Landing on the wreck strewn "strip" in WOODWARD a few brief hours after the death-delivering tornado there a few days back, the Rider of the Sooner Range went into a 40-hour period of check and re-check on the 71 O.U. Alumni families of that once prosperous and thriving western Oklahoma city of homes and fine Sooner families. As we go to press it is impossible to record the final records on O.U. Alumni of this storm tragedy. From the address records in this headquarters, however, we are listing below the names of the University of Oklahoma graduates who were in business and professional life—residing in WOODWARD when this death blow struck the city. The list is as follows:

LELA KATHRYN ADAMS, '40bs; CARL H. AMMERMAN, '28pharm; LIL AMMONS, '40soc. wk; MRS. EDNA M. AURELL, '28bs; W. EARL BAKER, '33; A. WAYNE BILLINGS, '25law; BRYAN BILLINGS, '28-'32; WALTER H. BOATMAN, '31law; JOHN R. BOYLE, JR., '38ba; MRS. MARY B. BURNS, '36ba; E. D. CAIN, '38bs; JOHN CHENEWETH, JR., '38bfa; RUFUS E. CLEMENT, '38-'42;

A. C. DAVIS, '00pharm; CHARLOTTE L. DELP, '40bs; DR. JOE L. DUER, '30bs med, '32m.d.; ETHEL A. DUNCAN, '24bs; MARGARET B. ENGLAND, '32nurse; DR. MYRON C. ENGLAND, '36bs med, '36m.d.; JACK E. ENGLEMAN, '34bs; MARY M. A. FROST, '41m.ed; M. LEONARD HART, '40bs; JENNIE L. HAYES, '29bs, '38ma; T. L. HIERONYMUS, '33law; INEZ L. HOLLINGSWORTH, '21ba, '24ma; J. C. HOLMES, JR., '41bs;

THOMAS C. KING, '40-'42; RALPH E. MILLER, '39-'40; DR. R. G. OBERMILLER, '28bs,

'31bs med, '32 m.d.; HATTY B. ORR, '31bs; JOSEPH E. ORR, '31bs; DOROTHEA P. PARIS, '43bs; EDNA C. PATERSON, '41ba; KATHRYN S. PATTON, '33bs; F. V. QUISENBERRY, '38bs; JAMES F. QUISENBERRY, '30ms; MRS. M. D. QUISENBERRY, '36bfa;

HAROLD F. ROBERTS, '31; GOLDIE A. RUSSELL, '20ba; MRS. MARY H. SHARP, '24ba; WILLIS JOE SMITH, '36law; LOUIS SOLLOWAY, '28, '30; MRS. M. S. S. SPARKS, '33ba; REUBEN K. SPARKS, '32law; MRS. P. S. STOKES, '35bfa; MRS. IRENE D. TAYLOR, '29bfa; WANDA D. TAYLOR, '42mfa;

M. IRENE WALKER, '30ma; MATTIE P. WALKER, '39m.ed; PAULINE WALKER, '36bs; MRS. RUTH F. WEBB, '36bs; LOREEN ALDA WELLS, '43nurse; OLLIE H. WHITCOMB, '35bs, '42m.ed; FLORENCE O. WHITE, '43m.ed; HAZEL T. WRIGHT, '32bs; THOMAS Z. WRIGHT, '34law.

The tension slightly over from the shock of the WOODWARD tornado—an interesting, enthusiastic and optimistic letter reached my desk (with an office memo from the Range Rider stating, "J. H.—this is an excellent report on O.U. grads of TEXAS CITY, TEXAS—use in full 'as is', correspondence section, May issue, SOONER MAGAZINE. T.M.B.") The letter reached my desk at 4:10 p.m. The processing of the report was begun the same night, pointing toward our establishing a Charter O.U. Alumni Club there in the course of weeks to follow. BUT the next day the series of explosions and the death blows following in their wake flashed out over the air announcing to a stunned world the tragedy of a thriving happy and prosperous industrial center of a few hours before. The letter? Here it is:

"3rd Avenue Villas
Apartment 8
TEXAS CITY, TEXAS
14 April 1947

"Dear Ted:

"As you can see by the above date, I was unable to return this on the date of receipt as you requested. At the time I was in the middle of rehearsals for the Texas City Little Theater production of 'Her Husband's Wife' which left me no time whatsoever for personal correspondence. With one day of freedom before we go into production and rehearsals on 'Arsenic and Old Lace', I wanted to be sure and drop you a few lines.

"Don't assume from the above that I am spending all of my time cavorting with the Little Theatre here. The truth of the matter is that I am a very busy retail merchant here in Texas City, just recently having been made the manager of the White House Department Store. This particular store is one of quite a few that compose a comparatively new and promising chain of department stores in this part of the country.

The Cover

Dolores Delly, University freshman from Oklahoma City, wears the crown presented her at coronation ceremonies naming her queen of the National Independent Student's Association Convention. Miss Delly, who plans to major in music, is an accomplished singer, and displayed her vocal talents in a farewell party program held for convention delegates at Hester and Robertson Halls April 12.

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UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

Officers: Maj. Wm. V. Cox, Ponca City, President; Mrs. June Baker Durkee, Mangum, first vice-president; Joe Curtis, Pauls Valley, second vice-president; Ted M. Beaird, Norman, executive secretary.

Executive Board Members: Hal Muldrow, Jr., Norman; Herbert Branan, Oklahoma City; Max Cook, Clinton; C. V. Nichols, Anadarko, and William F. Absher, Bartlesville, all members-at-large; Emerson Price, Vinita, District I representative; James L. Robinson, Tahlequah, District II; James C. Hamill, Madill, District III; James R. Frazier, Wewoka, District IV; Joe W. Curtis, Pauls Valley, District V; Grady D. Harris, Alex, District VI; Mrs. June Baker Durkee, Mangum, District VII; Maj. William V. Cox, Ponca City, District VIII, and George D. Hann, Ardmore, immediate past president.

Trustees of Life Membership Fund: Errett R. Newby, Oklahoma City; Tom F. Carey, Oklahoma City, and Neil R. Johnson, Norman.

1946-47 *Alumni Representatives of the O. U. Athletic Council:* Paul Reed, Sulphur; Neil R. Johnson, Norman; Granville T. Norris, Muskogee. *Sooner Magazine* is published the fifth day of each month by the University of Oklahoma Association, Union Building, Norman, Okla. Entered as second-class matter Oct. 13, 1928, at the post office in Norman, Okla., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Subscription \$3.00 per year, of which \$2.00 is for the magazine and \$1.00 for Alumni Dues. Foreign, \$4.00. Life, \$60.00. Single copies 25 cents. Opinions expressed are those of the editor and do not necessarily represent official action of the Alumni Executive Board. Member of American Alumni Council.

"Incidentally, in case you are in doubt, Texas City is an up-and-coming industrial city located between Houston and Galveston on the Houston ship channel. We have several large oil refineries, two immense chemical plants, a tin smelter and many industries on a smaller scale which would be connected with a fast-growing industrial center and sizeable seaport.

"Of course, in a promising and progressive community such as this, you will always find a colony of 'Sooners' and Texas City is no exception. MR. AND MRS. (VERA MAE SCHEIG, '42) TOM SHIRLEY, '42 and young Tom, Jr., are living here where Tom is connected with the tin smelter in an engineering capacity. MR. AND MRS. (MARY JO BROWN, '42) TONY LOGAN are also residing here where MARY JO is connected with the Texas City *Sun*, our enterprising newspaper. MR. AND MRS. (KAY POLK, '42) SHERMAN JOHNSON are also residents of Texas City. Hardly a week passes without some new 'Sooner' arriving to make this city his or her permanent home.

"We all speak many times of O.U., Norman and the nostalgic pre-war undergraduate days which we all enjoyed in 'Soonerland'. I send the good wishes of all the above mentioned Sooners and also sincere appreciation for the enjoyment which the SOONER MAGAZINE affords each of us.

"Sincerely,

Joe."

(JOSEPH W. HOPPE)

Here again we are unable to record for SOONER MAGAZINE readers the status of O.U. families of TEXAS CITY, TEXAS, but the records in the permanent files of your Alumni Association show the following as residents of TEXAS CITY the night before the disaster that stunned the world. The list is:

JOSEPH W. HOPPE, '37-'41; OLIVER FOWLER, '40bs eng; MARY P. GOODSON, '36ba; JAMES A. HAYES, '33bs; DR. D. J. HERRINGTON, '17m.d.; KATHRYNE P. JOHNSON, '40bfa; WILMA P. MIKESKA, '35bs; ROSCOE F. STAHL, '42eng.

Yes, April, 1947, has been a month of unpleasant missions, a month of disaster and a month to be recorded on the records as none too pleasant for many of our friends and associates who, with us, have been Riding the Sooner Range.

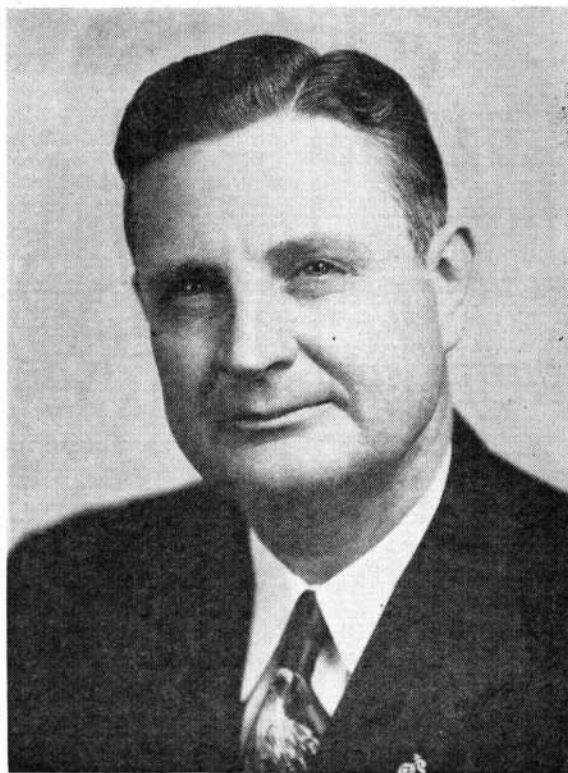
As this, the "30" is being written on April, 1947 (Wednesday, April 30) the Range Rider is "winging" his way to new—and may we hope more pleasant—assignments! Late tonight the American Airlines will deliver him into INDIANAPOLIS. Two days later to ST. LOUIS. Then to DETROIT (to charter that "baby" Sooner Club there on the evening of Monday, May 5). Then to CHICAGO. Then back to OKLAHOMA CITY to join Executive Board Member, MAX COOK, '39ba, '41law, of CLINTON and the two "Rangers" will on May 8, 9, and 10 visit Sooner assemblies in the following Southwestern and Western Oklahoma communities: SENTINEL, HOBART, HOLLIS, MANGUM, SAYRE, CHEYENNE, ELK CITY, CUSTER CITY and THOMAS.

Yes, he is Riding the Sooner Range (as usual)! In the immediate future issues of SOONER MAGAZINE, you will hear about those Sooner Alumni Ted Beard contacts on this swing out on the trail! —And now, to put this issue of SOONER MAGAZINE "to bed"!

The University of Oklahoma's annual news photography short course will be held in Norman May 1-3.

Over 450 students, faculty and alumni attended the Pharmacy School's 13th annual O.U. Pharmaceutical Association convention.

Dr. Sherman P. Lawton, co-ordinator of radio instruction at the University, is a member of the speech committee of the curriculum commission of the National Council of Teachers of English.



J. PHIL BURNS, '27ba . . . new District 124 Rotary governor.

J. Phil Burns Elected Rotary Club District Governor

Members of the Fairview Rotary Club responded to pressure from chapters throughout District 124 when they announced the candidacy of J. Phil Burns, '27ba, prior to his overwhelming victory in the district governor's race during the Enid convention held April 13-14.

Burns, a life member of the University of Oklahoma (Alumni) Association, has for many years been president of United Securities Agency and prominent in civic affairs in Fairview. He was graduated from O.U. in 1927, paying his way with proceeds from sales activities during the summer months. While attending the University, he took part in various student activities—particularly publications—and following graduation, he was chosen to be national supervisor for Pictorial Review Company, New York. He later was promoted to assistant sales manager and directed the founding of a national organization.

Burns was made northwest district manager for Pictorial Review in 1929 and later was transferred successively to St. Louis, Buffalo and New York City. In 1935 he left the magazine, accepting employment with Goodyear Rubber, but soon became affiliated with Selected Investments Corporation. Living at the time in Oklahoma City, he advanced to the vice-presidency of that firm in 1937. He resigned the following year, however, to form his own company with home offices in Fairview.

As a Rotarian, church and business leader, Burns has gained an enviable reputation. He belongs to the Christian Church, Masonic Lodge, numerous sportsman and athletic organizations, the Fairview city council, Chamber of Commerce in addition to the O.U. Alumni Association. He was a district governor candidate in 1942 and is an honorary member of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Burns is married. He and Mrs. Burns are the parents of Jay Roland, 15, and Beverly Jan, 12.