

# Correspondence . . .

## Two 'Sides' to Sooner Magazine

The following letters from two Sooner alumnae present the varying viewpoints on what the O.U. Association and Sooner Magazine mean to the respective writers. In the first letter, S. Deborah Haines, '13ba, Norman, is justified in expressing a disappointment in her University connections, since she has lost contact with her classmates. Therefore, Range Rider Ted Beard and Sooner Magazine are following Miss Haines' suggestion for bringing "Sooner oldtimers" together so that they may renew old acquaintances and take a more active part in University and alumni functions.

The second letter, from Mrs. Mary Adella Ingold Stanley, '08fa, Los Angeles, California, gives another side of the picture, the side on which Sooner Magazine wishes to be—that is, to be newsy and interesting, to bring back memories of college yesterday and as so many Sooner alumni during their armed forces days have termed it, to be a sort of "letter from home." Accompanying these two letters are the personal replies sent to Miss Haines and Mrs. Stanley by Ted Beard.

"Dear Mr. Beard:

"Your letter about joining the alumni Association was a splendid one. I thought maybe you would like to know why I do not belong. I paid my dues for 20 or 25 years and not once during that time did I have a chance to do anything but pay my dues! My class was the class of 1913. When the sample copy of *Sooner Magazine* arrived last week, I naturally looked for items about folks of 1911-'12-'13-'14—not one name or item about anyone I know or had known. (I know many of us are dead or dying so you are not to blame for that.)

"I did send the magazine on to my cousin in Richland, Washington, and I'll subscribe to it for him if you'll tell me how much a subscription costs.

"He has his M.A. from O.U. He is 25 years younger than I and he and his Oklahoma brethren found *Sooner Magazine* fine out there in Washington state. One time years ago my soul was refreshed by a wonderful speech that had been given here at the University, and which was quoted in the magazine. But I have not seen the magazine for the past 10 years—except for the one recent copy.

"This suggestion might help—Why don't you send a list of 25 names of people who were in our class and ask us to help you find out some of the things they are doing. At least it might prevent a blank spot from 1910-1916. Was it Ben Franklin who said the best way to win a friend is not to do something for him but to get him to do something for you?"

"Cordially,

"S. Deborah Haines, '13ba,  
"723 Asp Avenue,  
"Norman, Oklahoma."

April 11, 1947

"Miss Deborah Haines

"723 Asp Avenue

"Norman, Oklahoma

"Dear Miss Haines:

"Thanks sincerely for your most constructive letter of criticisms and suggestions received in this morning's mail. Indeed we are very happy to know the reason *why* after more than 25 years as a member of your O.U. alumni Association that you no longer hold membership. There is no question about it but that we are guilty, quite guilty in that you were merely permitted to pay dues all those years without having a chance to do anything else. But just now we are going to make amends (or try to) for being derelict in our duty down through all those years.

"Your suggestion about supplying the names and addresses as we have them listed for the classes of 1910 to 1914 inclusive is most timely. We are happy to comply by supplying you, attached to this letter, the address records on these five classes (50 names in all) as we have them estab-

lished in our records in our headquarters as of today. Naturally, many of these records are incomplete because some 30 to 40 years after (or even two, three and four years after in many cases) it is near impossible for us to get all of our good Sooner friends to send us their latest addresses, information, etc. If you will send us the names of others in these classes, we will secure their addresses, mail them to you and you can help us greatly by writing them and securing news notes about these people.

"It was a pleasure to us to know that you enjoyed the sample copy of *Sooner Magazine* we supplied you. In fact, since you did enjoy it, I am sending through our mailing division today a notice to send you under separate cover the December, January, February and March issues in order that you may have then on your reading table and enjoy the contents of these very excellent issues.

"Attached to this letter, I am also sending a pink biographical blank that I would appreciate your executing and filling, and if you will mail this back to us, we will have news items for *Sooner Magazine* for your class year. In a like manner, if you will correspond with your old friends shown on the class list addresses that we are sending you and urge them to send in news items, then we will have all these years represented in *Sooner*.

"We are enclosing an enrollment card as per request so that you may send us the proper address of your cousin in Richland, Washington, and in order that you may subscribe to *Sooner Magazine* for him. The membership-subscription rate is \$3 per year, and will be in effect so that your cousin will receive *Sooner Magazine* for 12 months from the date that we receive your check paying his dues.

"Again, I want you to know, Miss Haines, that we appreciate your letter above all others that arrived in the morning mail. Your association can grow only through the benefits of constructive criticism and suggestions made by our 75,000 alumni scattered to the four corners of the world. We pride ourselves in the fact that as your public servants in this work we solicit such constructive criticisms and suggestions in order to make the University of Oklahoma Association the leading alumni activity of America. Please correspond with us at any time.

"Cordially yours,

"Ted M. Beard."

1015 W. 21st Street  
Los Angeles 7, California  
March 7, 1947

"Publishers of *Sooner Magazine*

"University of Oklahoma

"Norman, Oklahoma

"Gentlemen:

"An unexpected gift received after writing you the other day enables me to send \$3.00 for subscription to *Sooner Magazine*. I have been thinking my subscription was paid from June to June. I may be mistaken.

"The *Sooner Magazine* for March was received today—a copy that was of real interest to me. I remember Everette Lee DeGolyer in Dr. Cole's psychology class, and his wife as a pianist and a B. A. graduate. I remember the outstanding musical ability of Erret R. Newby and his playing the organ at the Christian Church. President Cross' tribute to Dean Gittinger attracted my attention. I shall never forget his sympathetic understanding of some of my problems during the three years I was at the University.

"The pictures of these men and the editorials in regard to their achievements will surely be of much interest to all alumni who are no longer young, and a great inspiration to those who are young.

"Lonnie Vandever is making a good leader of the Alumni Association in Los Angeles. An outstanding event of our banquet last September was the address by President Cross who flew out here to be with us. Pictures were taken of different groups, the smallest group being the graduates before the year 1920. I have never seen any of the pictures.

"The last two years, I have been Church Visitor,

First Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles—a worth while and enjoyable work. I was 65 last December, and have asked to be relieved from this heavy task. I am taking a complete test during April, then will continue as teacher of Adult Bible Class, First Presbyterian Church. My husband was a Presbyterian minister and encouraged me to take a number of Bible courses. After his passing away I attended State Teachers' College, Conway, Arkansas, taught school two years in Arkansas and came to California in 1937.

"The March, 1947, copy of *Sooner Magazine* has caused my doleful musings to disappear. Enclosed is \$3.00. Please renew my subscription.

"Sincerely,

"Mrs. Adella Ingold Stanley, '08fa."

April 10, 1947

"Mrs. Mary Adella Ingold Stanley

"1015 W. 21st Street

"Los Angeles 7, California

"Dear Mrs. Stanley:

"Thanks kindly for your March 7 communication that reached us by airmail this morning. We appreciate your affiliating with your alumni Association and this letter will constitute a receipt for your check in the amount of \$3, enrolling you as a member-subscriber in the Association for the period of the next 12 months. Membership subscriptions in the Association are held from one year from date of receipt of payment of dues and not from June to June, therefore you are a regularly paid member until April, 1948.

"Unfortunately, the pictures made in the Los Angeles meeting when President Cross was with you some months ago were not clear enough for cut purposes to be used in the magazine. We regretted this very much because we were most anxious to have the Los Angeles pictures in the *Sooner Magazine*.

"In the morning mail that brought your communication from Los Angeles, we received another communication from Deborah Haines. These two communications coming from you people back in the 1908-11 bracket were highly appreciated and we are using both in the coming issue of *Sooner Magazine*, possibly in the June or May issue.

"Again our personal appreciation to you for your very excellent news report on Sooners of yesterday.

"Cordially yours,  
"Ted Beard."

## Miss Lasley Changes 'Status,' But Still Likes Sooner Magazine

"Dear Mr. Beard:

"I am enclosing a postal money order for \$5 as payment on my Life Membership. Will you, please, give it to the proper person?"

"This letter actually has a three-fold purpose: to give my correct address, to inform you of my change in status, and to tell you how I look forward to receiving the *Sooner*.

"The correct address is now Mrs. B. W. Fields ('44ba), 2515 Piedmont Avenue, Berkeley, California. And that brings us to the subject of change in status. I was graduated from O.U. in 1944 and received my M.A. in 1945 as Cornelia Ann Lasley. During the year 1945-46 I taught Spanish I at O.U., and in September of 1946, I came to the University of California at Berkeley to teach a similar course. February 12 (1947) I was married to Bill Wayne Field, himself a native Oklahoman, but a Californian by adoption. I am teaching again this semester, and both of us are enrolled in the Spanish department of the University of California.

"I hope this information will be of some help in filling out my alumni card.

"The *Sooner* is one of my favorite publications these days. It always is so full of news about the campus and people I know that I read it most avidly. I shall be looking forward to receiving the next one.

"Yours truly,  
"Cornelia Lasley Field."

## Long Reports from Goiania

Caixa 109, Goiania,  
E. Goiaz, Brazil.

"Dear Mr. Beard:

"I am neither lost, strayed, stolen nor have I forgotten my alma mater and old friends in Norman. I have been in such an unsettled state that correspondence has suffered greatly.

"A year ago my wife and I started back to Brazil for our last period of service, having obtained passage with no small difficulty. There were from one to two thousand candidates for passage at almost any time in those days. In New York, on the way out, we were informed that our work was to be in the very heart of Brazil—Goiania, the new capital of the state of Goiaz, from which state so much rock crystal was flown during the war. Here we were to build a church, parsonage and perhaps some chapels.

"On arriving at our destination in the middle of May, we found there was not a single building of the Methodist Church in the state, the congregations were small and scattered; financial strength weak. A fund had been granted for the church in this city, but only about two thirds of it came out, and one third of that had to be expended to buy a suitable and usable lot. The housing situation was and is critical, rents absurd, and no houses to be had easily. We lived in a hotel at full day rates for a month and a half before getting a cheap but costly (high rent) house, where we remained for some time. Cost of living is high; transportation poor. The one 128-mile railroad in the state passes us by 45 miles. We have highways, the kind Ford began breaking in; busses, for the most part truck chassis with boxes built on them with hard cushioned seats. . . .

"The tasks of building the church with about half of its cost available, without other ways of financing; of building parsonage out of rental allowances, which were inadequate for actual costs of rent, is not small. We decided to build a subsidiary building that would serve as a meeting place for the present, until the congregation grows, or outgrows it, and then for educational and social purposes. The margin left over will help get the residence built, rentals being used then to reimburse church fund for the loan. And that is what we are doing, at no small cost, effort and almost sacrifice. You should have seen the joy among the members when we got into the little hall, after being crowded into a shed room with no ceiling, poor lights and cement floor behind a garage.

"In November we had another unexpected adversity. My wife reported an abnormal condition that proved to be cancer, Adeno Carcinoma Infiltrante, and was advised to go to the U.S. for treatment at once. She took a plane in December and was operated on successfully in New York. She is now convalescing in Ada—our furlough address.

"With building in progress, the extra work thrown upon me, the fact that I am the only minister of my church in this state and that in addition I have been given the superintendency of the district as well as the charge—the district including this state, part of Minas and one charge in the state of Sao Paulo—you can see I have been busy and also that financial conditions these days have not been too flush.

"With best wishes and kindest regards to all, I am,

"Yours sincerely,  
"Charles Alexander Long, '05bs."

## Mrs. Suess Gets Sooner News

The following letter was received recently by Emil R. Kraettli, secretary to the president and Board of Regents:

"Dear Sir:

"I am writing in regard to obtaining a class (year 1940) ring. I was graduated in June, 1940—BusAd. (Faye M. Shirley). If you are not the person to contact about this matter, would you please turn the request over to the person who can send this information to me? Let me know the cost of ring, date of delivery, and how I can get on the mailing list of *Sooner Magazine* . . .

"I am a national member of A.A.U.W. and would like to know if anyone can tell me if there is a local branch in Beverly Hills or surrounding cities? I have gone to meetings of the local board of education and they didn't know what A.A.U.W. is. Thanks.

"Mrs. Charles W. Suess,  
"305 N. LaPeer Drive,  
"Beverly Hills, California."

A letter Mrs. Suess undoubtedly enjoyed reading was Kraettli's reply.

"My dear Mrs. Suess:

"I am sending your letter to T. M. Beard, secretary of the Alumni Association, and he will give you all the information about *Sooner Magazine* and also about the A.A.U.W. There is a local chapter in Norman, and I am sure we can get information about those in California. You will no doubt hear from him within the next few days.

"We have been placing orders for classrings through the University book exchange and I have asked J. C. Mayfield, the manager, to write you about this. For several years it was impossible to get rings, but I understand they are again available.

"I am sure you will be interested to know that our enrollment on the Norman campus is over 9,600 and with the Medical School and School of Nursing in Oklahoma City it is over 10,000. That is considerably more than when you were here.

"The Navy maintained a flying field and school north of Norman and also a machinists' school immediately south of the campus. Both bases were abandoned about a year ago and the University has taken over these properties for classrooms, laboratories, housing, etc. In fact, it would be impossible to take care of our students without these facilities.

"Right now we have two buildings under construction—one a press building which is going up on the parking lot just west of the Fieldhouse and the other a research institute building east of the women's dormitories. We are about to begin construction of a new classroom building and also an addition to the Engineering Building. The legislature is in session and there is every indication we will have considerably over a million dollars additional for building next year.

"We have about 6,600 veterans enrolled—more than half being married. You can imagine what our housing problem has been. The government is converting barracks on both the Navy bases into apartments and 525 will be turned over to us soon. We have 500 prefabricated houses (one and two bedroom type) and four buildings with 24 apartment units each are practically completed. We have 30 of the trailer type housing units.

"I could go on and on telling you about changes, but I suggest that you come back and see the campus for first-hand information. *Sooner Magazine* will be keeping you up-to-date on new developments in each issue.

"Sincerely yours,  
"Emil R. Kraettli,  
"Secretary."

## Stacy Returns to 'Civvies'

Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.

"Dear Ted:

"I'm sorry for not being prompt in sending my dues.

"You will notice that I am now back in civilian life after spending 64 months in the service, of which 63 months and 2 weeks were spent in Hawaii, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and a few other places in the Pacific. Oh yes, the two weeks not overseas represents a leave I spent in Oklahoma—1943.

"Captain Thomas Corey came through here not long ago on his way to Korea. Naturally we did not know him. I took him to see a few familiar spots that were not new to him as he was here in Hawaii with the Oklahoma football team in 1931.

"I am back on my old job at W. A. Ramsay, Ltd., as office service manager, and it is sure one hard job to get back in civilian life after 5 years in the Army.

"I expect to get a long vacation around June, 1948, and don't be too surprised to see the old Redhead pop up into your office.

"Yours very truly,  
"James W. Stacy, '35bs,  
"1033 2nd Avenue,  
"Honolulu 41, T. H.,  
"Hawaiian Islands."

## Wirth Speaks at Daniel Lecture

The University's Business Administration Auditorium was the setting for the two-day Institute of Community Planning held March 26-27.

Feature of the four sessions was the opening night's address by Dr. Louis Wirth, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago. Presenting the sixth Daniel lecture, Wirth spoke on the subject, "What Is the Best Form of Government for the Happiness of Man."

Other visiting educators and municipal government experts appearing on the programs included Walter Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials, Chicago; J. Franklin Bonner, director of the Monroe County division of Regional Planning, Churchville, New York; William Don Dow, assistant municipal counselor, Oklahoma City; Dr. McClain Rogers, president of the Oklahoma Municipal League; Clarence Burch, chairman of the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board; H. L. Schall, secretary, Ponca City Chamber of Commerce, and Bill McCalib, vice-president of the Oklahoma Association of Commercial Organization Secretaries.

University of Oklahoma personnel participating were Dr. Leonard Logan, director of the institute of community development and professor of sociology; Dr. Royden J. Dangerfield, administrative assistant to the president; Dr. H. V. Thornton, professor of government; Richard N. Kuhlman, assistant professor of architecture; W. K. Newton, professor of accounting; Dr. Cortez A. M. Ewing, associate professor of government, and John Freeman, director of the department of short courses, extension division.

## State J-Students Meet at O.U.

Young journalists from approximately 250 state high schools will gather April 26 at the University of Oklahoma for the annual spring meeting of the Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association. Truman Pouncey, secretary-treasurer, has announced.

Certificates of merit will be presented winners in nine different classes. Deadlines for entries by state high schools was April 15.

Student officers for the coming year will be elected in an open meeting. A special feature will be clinic groups for both newspaper and annual staff members and sponsors conducted by school newspaper sponsors.

## Barton Gets Retailing Post

One of a large number of ex-servicemen included in *Life Magazine's* Retail Representative Program is Calvin L. Barton, '40bs.

Discharge from the Army last year with a major's rank, Barton formerly was a member of *Life's* retail representatives operation in Oklahoma City. Barton, married, lives in Pauls Valley.

The principal objectives of the *Life* program are to give a large number of advertising-minded young men essential experience and to help national advertisers increase still further the efficiency of their advertising by giving dealers an understanding of how they can set national advertising to work for themselves. *Life* hopes to meet these objectives through a series of personal calls by its representatives on 15,000 leading dealers in the drug, food, department store, appliance and automotive fields.



CALVIN L. BARTON