

SOONER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

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NO. 9

Riding the Sooner Range

By TED BEAIRD

It gets in their *blood!* Sooners everywhere, come Spring, readily shift from low to high gear. Assembly calls are sounded, get-together invitations are issued and the O.U. Alumni fracasces, yarn swapin' and tall-tale-sessions are under way!

Prexie GEORGE CROSS has, in the month, made a couple of 'em AGAIN. Met with them, thus stimulating more and continued Alumni Continuity and interest. In NEW YORK CITY the prexie met 'em by the scads! BOB PARKER, '34ba; KEN ROBINSON, '38ba, '38law (and charming Mrs. KEN); BOB CALVERT, '09ba, '10ma—were a mere few of the leaders who sounded the gong and called all East Sea-board Sooners into that spring meeting. (See details of meeting in another section of SOONER MAGAZINE—this issue). Peddlin' on out of ole NEW YORK, the "Prexie" again greeted "the District" (WASHINGTON) O.U.-ites as he headed West and home. There again, the MADAME PRESIDENT—the human dynamo and gal about town, about the Treasury Department and about the World Bank—"PAT" LYONS MANNEN, '34bs—in her usual manner of graciousness plus efficiency, rounded up and dug out SOONERS by the dozens to break wafers *with* and to munch-Sooner-Select-Sirloins *with* Prexie and the SOONERS in the Nation's Capitol village.

More Sooner Alum Club doin's? Plenty and how! "That boy Bud" (BUD WILKINSON, the new Sooner Head Football Coach) made his first official "on the Range" appearances in the month. BUD Soonered over to the OKMULGEE and TULSA Clubs for "a one each, one night stand"—and they (and he) liked and enjoyed it! From OKMULGEE the reports flowed in from A. N. "JACK" BOATMAN, '14ba, '16law, on BUD'S appearance and a report of dozens assembled for the evening. TULSA was in fine form plus an excellent attendance for BUD'S initial bow. Headed by the Alum Club Prexie, FORREST DARROUGH, '21ba, '23law, TULSA, all was well as they gathered and settled, not only another BIG SIX Championship BUT ALSO another BOWL!!

While all the above goin'-ons were going-on, back in your Alumni headquarters in the OKLAHOMA MEMORIAL UNION BUILDING, rapid fire activities were under way in a dozen fields of work.

With bag and baggage near at hand to have HILLYER, '38bfa, and wife, DOROTHY GISH FREELAND, '41bs, on the alert to rush (via the NEW car—make and model?—no *plugs* allowed in this hour of *reconversion*), your Range Rider to the Eastward (and North) bound American Airliner—well, there were a few unfinished details to go over the board prior to departure. The basketball (coach-team) trophy committee was assembled on the right (and left—and all around), headed by PAUL UPDEGRAFF, '30law, as Chairman, his committee composed of JIM DOWNING,

'21ph.g; NEIL JOHNSON, '15ba, '17law; HORTON GRISSO, '30bs; along with "special consultants," TOM BENEDUM, '28law; JOE CHATMAN, '27bs; "BRAD" (GLENN) BRADLEY, '39-'43; BILL MATHEWS, HAL MULDRON, JR., '28bs; plus a couple dozen more "Sooner Specialists" were in final session to make the *new* car selection for Coach BRUCE DRAKE, '29bs, and to select suitable trophies for the fourteen National-ly recognized O.U. '47 basketball players.

That *little* assignment out of the way, BEN HEAD, '42bs, Chairman of the '47 Senior Class Committee along with his dozen or so committee colleagues are in to "finish last minute details on placing orders for senior announcements, perfecting plans for Senior day, to wire Congressman MIKE (this Sooner son, MIKE MONRONEY, '24ba, will deliver the '47 O.U. commencement address)—last minute instructions."

PHIL BURNS, '27ba, FAIRVIEW—the newly elected District Governor of Rotary "pushes in" in a hurry-up call to complete work on some educational assemblies planned for July consumption. ROSCOE CATE, '26ba, in for a business session on items of mutual interest but was forced to take time out to give details on the new son (recent arrival) in the CATE household. HOWARD BONEBRAKE, '23bs, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, enroute home from an oil session in Texas, "Just dropped in to say hi and express appreciation for the O.U. Alumni season ticket priority system adopted." EARL WESTMORELAND, '38ba, in to say, "Thanks for a break—am now back in Oklahoma and stationed at ARDMORE." BILL COX, '21ba, '24ma, PONCA CITY, Alumni Board Prexie called by to take care of a few unfinished items of business. A crew of the O.U.-Alums-in-the-making, officials of the kids American Legion Post (303) on the O.U. campus dashing in to issue last minute instructions, "Now when you arrive in INDIANAPOLIS—tell 'em etc., etc." Yes, Alums in the making. Outstanding O.U. students of today—Alumni leaders of tomorrow! Some of these student leaders? CLEE FITZGERALD, Junior Arts and Science, CADDO; PRESTON MOORE, Freshman, Law, BARTLESVILLE; JOHN SULLIVAN, Junior, Arts and Science, BARNSDALL; J. B. BEAIRD, JR., Junior, Arts and Science, NORMAN; WALT MAHONEY, Senior, Business Administration, HOUSTON, TEXAS; ED FERGUSON, Sophomore, Universty College, DODGE CITY, KANSAS; C. E. "GOLDY" GOLDSMITH, Sophomore, University College, NORMAN; ED BOATMAN, Sophomore, Arts and Science, OKMULGEE, and scads of others who guide the destiny of this very active and effective Army-Navy-Marine-WAC-SPAR-WAVE *now* civilian outfit (Post 303, The American Legion) always have "sumthin' cookin'!"

The bag, baggage and weather-beaten (plus flayed) U.S. Army briefcase being gathered and bundled into the FREELAND chariot—it's away

The Cover

Van Heflin, '32ba, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star, pins an orchid on Ida Z. Kirk, his former dramatic coach at O.U. to whom he attributes much of his acting success. The occasion was Van's recent appearance at the seventh Annual Career Conference held April 23-5 at the University. He spoke on careers in the motion picture industry.

For his supporting role in which he portrayed a drunken philosopher in "Johnny Eager," Van won the academy award in 1942. This summer he will undertake his most ambitious radio project when he occupies the Bob Hope spot during the summer months doing a presentation of the Philip Marlowe series. His latest motion picture is "Green Dolphin Street," in which he is co-starred with Lana Turner.

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UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

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1946-47 Alumni Representatives of the O. U. Athletic Council: Paul Reed, Sulphur; Neil R. Johnson, Norman; Granville T. Norris, Muskogee.

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from this headquarters to the OKLAHOMA CITY airport—to flit East (and North) to thousands of Sooners on the Range!

A one hour fifty minute delay at the ST. LOUIS airport gives occasion for a pleasant dinner session with the venerable and vulnerable G-Man, HERB SCOTT, '26ba, '26ma, of the Veterans Administration, ST. LOUIS headquarters. Here First Vice-President and Program Chairman SCOTT outlined plans for the St. Louis Alumni session to come two nights later.

At the meeting (on the Saturday night that followed) BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37law, O.U. Extension Division Chief, soared in from out of the blue while enroute to NEW YORK and ATLANTIC CITY "to bring 'em up to date" on O.U. and its many activities. A pleasant dinner hour in the home of HERB and BETTY PICKARD SCOTT, '29, was enjoyed prior to our assembling with the St. Louis O.U. Club in the home of PEARL PAXTON MORRIS, '32ba, '34ms. Among those in attendance were: IVAN RAINWATER, '38-'41, and wife (DOROTHY THORNTON RAINWATER, '40ba) who were meeting with their "home city Sooners" for the last session in many moons to come. The next day the Rainwaters departed for Hawaii where Ivan has accepted a two year assignment in his special field of work. No more than two meals will pass however until those RAINWATERS will be in Sooner assemblies in and on "the Islands" as a full reference list of Sooner grads Honolulu way was supplied these "travelers." FREDERIKA FITCH WOLTERING, '21ba, HELEN ARMSTRONG, '30ba, '40soc.wk, ROSA OSMOND MERRITT, '33, plus many more "hubbys-and-wives" assembled to enjoy the GUNNING running dialogue plus color motion pictures on O.U. campus capers!

In INDIANAPOLIS it's a swell luncheon (and late breakfast) the next morning (while Gunning is still air-bound-East in flight) with Sooner sons assembled in special work. Legislatin'-studyin' LONNIE BROWN, McALESTER, is, in the Sooner session at hand, cuttin' his Alumni-eye-teeth. ROY L. HICKOX, '35ba, is across the board (bread board) having flown in the previous hour from his WASHINGTON office. The ole *adopted* (and indoctrinated) SOONER SON Public Relations Director-Editor RAY FIELDS of GUTHRIE and INDIANAPOLIS was present in his usual good form and fetter!

INDIANAPOLIS—the interesting city of shrines, landmarks and memorials is always fascinating! It is the "Indiana Home" of other Sooners, namely: DR. J. D. GLISMANN, '44ba, '46med; DR. P. A. GREEN, '46ba, '46med; DR. M. K. LED-BETTER, '46med; JOHN W. LEE, '30pharm, '30ph.d.; ALBERT W. WALLACE, '46ba; MRS. ARLENE S. WILSON, '46hc; BILL M. AYCOCK, '39bus; GERALD K. BELLES, '38-'41; GRACE A. BROWNING, '25ba; S. B. CRALLE, '41bs; MRS. HERSHELL EMERY, '27; W. HERSHELL EMERY, '29m.ed; HOWARD R. W. HULPIEU, '24ma; MRS. JANE T. JANUS, '41ba; MRS. NELLIE C. MUNGER, '33ba; LAWRENCE D. REEDY, '36ma; LT. R. B. ROBERTS, '34ba; MRS. CORA S. SHAKE, '32m.ed; MARETA SMOOT, '40ma, '45lib.sci; MRS. FRANCES M. WICKIZER, '20bm; and WILLARD M. WICKIZER, '20ba.

It was a long trek (on the occasion a few mornings ago, quite damp and cold) limousinein' in from the landing field (WILLOW RUN) into the busy, crowded industrial city of DETROIT. Hustle, bustle, and crowds of mob proportions in DETROIT only lend added zest to the enthusiasm of the O.U. Sooners, as was exemplified in the chartering of the O.U. Alumni Club of Metropolitan Detroit on that cool and snappy evening of early May, 1947. Headed by NEAL MOSELY, '43ba, as Prexie No. 1, (and Neal is son of DR. RAY MOSELY, '18med, ALLIANCE, OHIO); ROY C. JENKINS, '31bus, as first Vice-President, and ANN RAUNIKAR STROMAR, '36bs, Secretary-Treasurer, the Club was chartered in due form! And, did those Sooners stack in from far (and near and not so near)! It was a pleasant and interesting evening (almost a full night) of chartering, chatting and christening!! Ole timers, *medium* timers, and more *recent* timers of DETROIT

and environs were assembled to recount experiences, question about "back when" or to venture a guess on the future ticker-tape of Sooners! Among the dozens present to witness their club's chartering, to plan summer activities and point toward the big O.U. day (and night) come September and the O.U.-Detroit football game to be played in "far north Mich" were: PAUL CAMPBELL, '21ba, '25ma; ALMA DOUTHIT CAMPBELL, '20ba; EARL BARTHOLOMEW, '21ba, '22bs, '23ms; JUANITA SNEDAKER BARTHLOMEW, '21bm; DR. MARJORIE E. MORRISON, '30med, and very much in evidence were the beautiful floral "displays" on all the tables from her personally collected jonquils out of her own home garden. FRANK A. BALCER, '23ba, '29ma, an ole time sidekick and crony back in the Class of 1921 days, who in the span of the next twenty-four months to come will have completed his tour of duty in the Detroit Public School System and as FRANK "put it," "Am just going to hie myself out down toward the outskirts of NORMAN to that farm of mine near MOORE and in my retirement grab my rocking chair and let the rest of the world go by." DR. L. H. CARLETON,

'17med; EARL H. GREENLEE, '39bus, '40ma; DR. E. BERT McCOLLUM, '29bs, '30bs in med, '32med, who in addition to acting as the director-surgeon-general of the conclave "swapped a few yarns" with your Range Rider on days at O.U.—Med School escapades—and rehashed his many and varied experiences with DR. WARREN T. "PETE" MAYFIELD, '18bs, '20med, NORMAN, our home town family physician and surgeon. RAY COURTRIGHT, '14ba; and TRAVIS "RED" CASH, '24bus, in for the shindig from over ANN ARBOR way, added to the party "that certain touch." So the Detroit-ites were duly chartered, set in motion and it was time to "fly back West" (and South).

It's another landing on friendly, fertile and welcome HOME SOIL! Why is it that the "four motors" (or twin) *always* fly more smoothly when piloted homeward to Oklahoma and Sooner Ports-o-air? Yes, a landing in the midst of activities. To a hurried "called session" Skirvin Tower, Oklahoma City, attended by "Aggie" JIM FINNEY, FT. COBB, (as the director-general of his special commission) and Sooners—all perfecting the final (Continued on page 32)



These Detroit "far in the North Countree" Sooners appreciate their O.U. Alumni Club charter! Reading from left to right: Roy Clifton Jenkins (Talihina Roy of 20 years ago), the first vice-president of the Detroit chapter; Ann Raunikar Stromar (the Ann of Hartshorne 10 years ago), secretary-treasurer, and Neal Joseph Mosely (the Neal J. of Lexington, Oklahoma, and Alliance, Ohio (of four years ago), president. This trio heads the enthusiastic Detroit Sooners as the first officers of the newly chartered club. The hundreds of Alumni who attend the O.U.-Detroit football game, come September 26, will see these three busy Sooners much in evidence.

Cotton to Sing in O.U. Series; 7 Other Performers Contracted

Larry Cotton, '36, Broadway stage star whose parents moved to Norman from Yukon in 1942, will be one of eight Celebrity Series artists to appear in the six-number 1947-48 program, Boyd Gunning, chairman of the Series committee, announced recently.

Cotton served nearly four years in the Army Air Forces including a tour of duty in the Pacific. After receiving his discharge from the Army as a major, he returned to the New York stage.

Other artists who have been contracted to appear on the 1947-48 Series are James Melton, Conrad Thibault and Margaret Speaks, all vocalists; Paul Draper, male dancer; Larry Adler, harmonica virtuoso, and Whittmore and Lowe, two piano team. The Oklahoma symphony will play at O.U. December 9.

Clee Fitzgerald, arts and sciences sophomore and present commander of the Thomas C. Reynolds Legion Post 303 on the campus, will be student manager for the 1947-48 series, Gunning said.

Thibault appeared on the Series recently completed. He will appear in Norman February 3, 1948 with Miss Speaks.

James Melton, whose tenor voice is heard over NBC each Sunday afternoon, will be the first Celebrity Series dancer on October 28. He will be followed by Whittmore and Lowe, the two piano team formerly associated with Rochester University. They recently appeared in Oklahoma City. Their date is set for November 18.

The following week, on November 25, Cotton will make his Norman appearance. He formerly was vocalist with the Horace Heidt band.

Following the Oklahoma symphony and the Thibault-Speaks concert, Draper and Adler will perform here March 11 in the series finale. Additional numbers may be added to the 1947-48 Series, Gunning stated.

E. C. Sprague, '33m.ed, superintendent of schools at Corning, Arkansas, has informed *Sooner Magazine* staff members that he has been chosen for the superintendency at Pawhuska, his tenure to begin July 1. Two sons, Benny Bryon and Billy Joe, are freshmen in the University College at O.U.

Eugene Kendall, '32, '34ma, Norman, attended the 100th anniversary meeting of the New York Life Insurance Company April 10 and 11 in New York City. Ranked second in the nation among all agents of the firm for 1946 on number of paid-for cases, Kendall was invited by New York Life as one of its centennial delegates.

Riding the Range—

(Continued from page 4)

details in the allocation of thousands of dollars from special funds to establish the Hearing Aid Clinic in the Crippled Childrens Hospital to enable medical and lay specialists to come to the rescue of hundreds of handicapped children of the state. Among the many other "delegates" in this final session were: O.U. Regent JOE McBRIDE, '28bus, ANADARKO; Rotary Governor-elect J. PHIL BURNS, '27ba, FAIRVIEW; CHARLES GREEN, '25ba, Head of the Department of Speech, O.U.; O.U. "Dad" JOE HAMILTON, OKLAHOMA CITY; DR. EARL McBRIDE, '12bs, OKLAHOMA CITY; DEAN JACQUES P. GRAY, O.U. Medical School; "Aggie" ARCHIE MARTIN, A. & M.'s Alum-hired-hand, STILLWATER—and many others making individual contributions in the establishing (and financing) of this institution dedicated to the handicapped child of Oklahoma.

Then it's an eighteen mile trek by flivver to Norman—and home! A brief "get re-acquainted session" with the two ladies of the household, the exchange of soiled shirts for fresh linens and it's off for the great Sooner Southwest! Off for the wide-open-spaces (and "short grass") with Executive Board Member MAX COOK, '39ba, '41law, CLINTON, to cover that Range on "tight schedule."

Yes—out in the short grass Southwestern Sooner Range with the old warrior, work-horse, MAX COOK. It is always pleasant working with this chap and what work we did cover in Rocky (even settled down for an evening meal in the senator's village of Rocky and exchanged yarns with the villagers about ole Josh's escapades including his most recent release—his new book "HOW TO HOLD AN AUDIENCE WITHOUT A ROPE"!)) Then it is on to SENTINEL, HOBART, MANGUM, SAYRE, CHEYENNE, ELK CITY, CLINTON and THOMAS. Sure we saw 'em by the hundreds, those Sooners in each of those spots while we were Riding the Sooner Range.

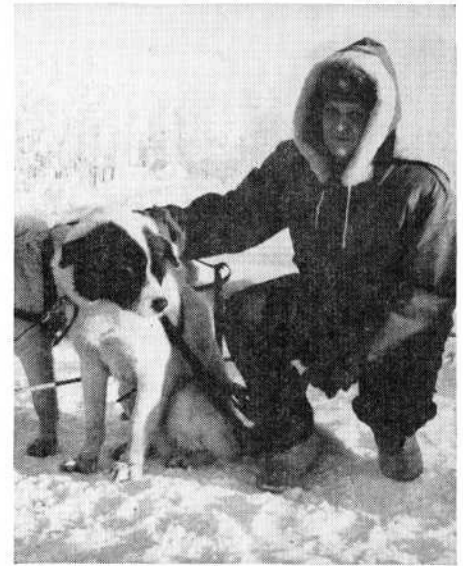
Robert Edward Lee, '39-'42, Oklahoma City, is now serving with the 63rd Infantry headquarters in the Asiatic-Pacific theater.

Thomas D. Davis, '38-'42, '46-'47, Muskogee, is now employed as general news and feature reporter for the *Altus Times Democrat*.

Joseph T. Kendrick, Jr., '40, Pryor, is now the American Vice-Consul to Russia and is stationed in Moscow.

Joseph Robert Coughlin, '40pharm, has recently purchased a drug store in Ada and is now managing it.

Maj. Jay Lee, '37-'40, is stationed at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, as control officer for the Air Transport Command.



Maj. William H. Witt, '32ba, Oklahoma City, above, recently became chief of the press-radio and pictorial branch of the Army Ground Forces' information section. Witt at one time was a special writer for *Sooner Magazine*, editor-in-chief of *Extension Division* publications.

Witt Enjoys Alaska Jaunt

17 April 1947
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Ted:

"It's been a long, long time since I've heard from you, so that now that I have a spare moment I'll let you know of my whereabouts. I'm still here at headquarters A.G.F. as chief of the press and radio branch of the information section. Honestly I've never had an Army assignment that I like as well as this one.

"I just returned, in February, from Alaska where I escorted a group of press, radio and photo service representatives to visit the A.G.F. task forces, "Frigid" at Fairbanks, where incidentally it reached 69 below zero while I was there, and "Williwaw" on Adak in the Aleutians. Quite a jaunt but enjoyed every minute of it.

"In January I was tendered a commission in the regular Army, as a captain, and accepted it on my return from Alaska. I like the Army, particularly Army public relations, and since I have spent so many years in it already I feel that my dream of a little newspaper of my own can wait until I retire, which won't be too many years from now.

"I've watched the affairs of the Association at a distance, and although not an active participant, be assured always that I am deeply interested. You are doing the same swell, bang-up job you've always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength of the Association, now greater than ever, is due in a large part to your untiring and devoted effort.

"Will appreciate hearing from you when you find the time.

"Sincerely, Maj. William H. Witt, '32ba, Chief of the Press, Radio, Pictorial Branch."

Dr. John A. Rollow, '40ba, '43med, physician at Ellison Infirmary, has resigned to enter hospital residence work at Wesley Hospital, Oklahoma City.

Hal Muldrow, Jr.

'28

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