

# BOOKS

## Russians Behave Like Russians—

WHY THEY BEHAVE LIKE RUSSIANS by John Fischer, '32ba. Harper and Brothers. \$2.75.

This book, from the first page to the last, is as exciting and absorbing as a mystery novel. It is an interesting, well-written account of—well, “why they behave like Russians.”

John “Jack” Fischer is one of the best informed men in America today on Soviet affairs. He met many Russians, big and small, while traveling with a UNRRA group throughout that country. Their activities provide 262 pages of entertainment and enlightenment and give the reader a better understanding of the USSR system as it affects the Russian people.

Mr. Fischer discusses intelligently the fear that pervades Russia, from the highest officials to the most lowly peasants—the fear of being attacked. Surprisingly enough the author concludes that, in his opinion, Russia could not possibly be ready for another large-scale war in this generation. He presents a clear picture of present and potential Russian power, as he saw it, despite the secrecy with which Russian activities are guarded.

This book is written in informal, narrative style. It is an unbiased report, neither a defense nor an indictment of the Soviet system. Mr. Fischer has his own ideas on how to get along with the Russians; they appear sound and well thought-out.

A reporter, civil servant, an editor of *Harper's* magazine and wartime official of the Board of Economic Warfare, Mr. Fischer is also a graduate of the University of Oklahoma School of Journalism and formerly was a reporter on the Oklahoma City *Times*.

*Why They Behave Like Russians* was a Book-of-the-Month selection. Some of the material was originally published as a series of articles in *Harper's*. It is a book that can be read, understood and enjoyed by any adult.—*Thellys Gill, '47bus.*

## Texans Honor Author J. L. Rader

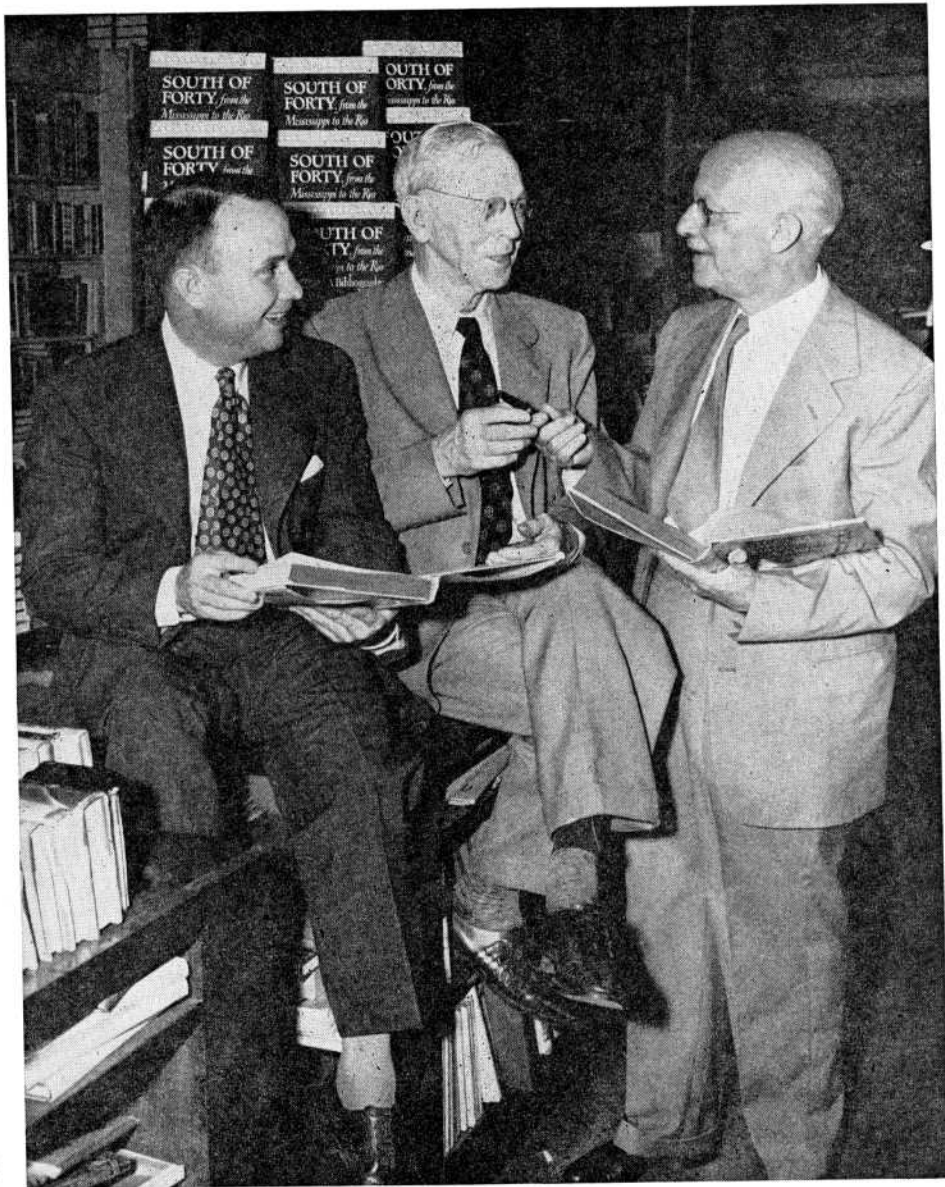
J. L. Rader, '08ba, '13ma, Librarian at the University since 1909 and the builder of the large book and manuscript collections used by thousands of students and faculty members, was roundly honored by Texans on June 28, when his new book, *South of Forty, from the Mississippi to the Rio Grande: A Bibliography*, was launched by Dallas booksellers.

Throughout the day he autographed copies of his book at McMurray's Book Shop, which is presided over by Elizabeth Ann (McMurray) Ellegood, '35ba, one of the most active of Texas booksellers. At noon he was entertained at a luncheon given by the Dallas *Morning News*, and in the evening he was the guest of honor at a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Everette L. DeGolyer at their suburban home. The reception was held in the DeGolyers' library, which houses one of the largest private collections of western America. Guests included literary editors, Texas friends of the author, and persons interested in Southwestern literature and history.

Mr. DeGolyer is one of the University's best known graduates. He received his BA degree in 1911. Mrs. DeGolyer is the former Nell Virginia Goodrich, '06bm, '07ba. During part of Mr. DeGolyer's undergraduate years, Mr. Rader was the assistant librarian of the University, a post he assumed in 1904.

The University was represented by President George L. Cross and Tom R. Benedum, '28law, recently elected member of the Board of Regents, both of whom flew down to Dallas for the occasion; Will Ransom, art editor of the University of Oklahoma Press, publishers of Mr. Rader's book, and Mrs. Ransom; and Savoie Lottinville, director of the University Press, '29ba, and Mrs. Lottinville, '28ba.

Interviews with the author and extensive re-



Autographing books can run into work, but it's an enjoyable chore for J. L. Rader, '08ba, '13ma (center), author of the bibliography, *South of Forty*. With him are Savoie Lottinville, '29ba (left), director of the University Press, publishers of Mr. Rader's book, and Will Ransom, Press art editor. They are shown in McMurray's Book Shop, presided over by Elizabeth Ann (McMurray) Ellegood, '35ba, in Dallas, Texas, where the author was honored recently.

views of his book were carried by both the Dallas *Morning News* and the Dallas *Times Herald* on Sunday following the events honoring Mr. Rader.

The author spent more than 25 years assembling the information contained in his book, which is a bibliographical listing of nearly 4,000 printed works relating to the Southwest, from the earliest period of discovery to 1939. It was published June 25 by the University Press in quarto format.

## 'Books Abroad' Is Praised

*Books Abroad*, a quarterly journal containing reviews of foreign literature and edited by Roy T. House, professor of modern languages at the University of Oklahoma, was praised recently in an article which appeared in the Hungarian weekly magazine, *Uj Magyarorszag* (New Hungary).

The article, written by Joseph Reményi, appeared in the May 10 issue. It is translated as follows:

“One cannot judge the United States of America fairly without taking into consideration the cultural characteristics of that country. It may be said that the highly developed technical status of the American republic at times affects adversely the soundness of public opinion there, but Americans do very generally strive for objectivity. This is not written to flatter the United States, but we should

not be fair to that country if we failed to mention certain meritorious activities carried on there. It is common to sneer at the childish silliness of Americans, but the silliest Americans are in Hollywood. It would be just as wrong to judge the United States by Hollywood as it would be to judge Hungary by its coffeehouse life or the barefooted misery of certain of our slums.

“America has blessed regions and blessed institutions. One of these admirable institutions is the painstaking quarterly journal *Books Abroad*. This review appears in the same state which American writers of farces and operettas choose as the scene of their absurdities, much as the libretto writers of Budapest used to locate their extravaganzas in the Balkans before World War One. It is rather characteristic that even so serious a writer as Franz Kafka refers to Oklahoma in one of his fantastic novels as a region where silliness and oddity are the comic relief which is all that lends color to a complete spiritual darkness. On the contrary, Oklahoma has every reason to be proud of her cultural life. It is a frank and free state whose contributions to literature and art are numerous and important.

“One of the most highly respected of these activities is *Books Abroad*. Its editor, Roy Temple

(Continued on page 17)

"How does it feel to be Layne's lackey boy?" yells a third.

Wall yields a walk, Joe Blake triples home the first Sooner run, then Wall walks three more in a row.

"What's the matter? Is that plate jumpin' on you?" Jimmy Mitchell taunts him.

It's amazing how college ball players can detect a pitching collapse. Blake, the big part-Choctaw Sooner third-sacker, had said one inning previously as he came to the bench after popping out:

"He's getting so tired he's just about ripe."

Blake's right. Soon the Texas lead is cut to 7-4. Falk pulls Wall, sends in Layne. The Sooner abuse from the dugout redoubles. A shower delays the game five minutes. Chyz socks a double driving in a run, and Zomlefer, corking Texas shorstop, runs in to re-assure Layne.

"Get back there, Spaghetti," the Sooners scream.

Layne pitches eleven balls in a row. Falk yanks him and rushes in Tankersley, his third pitcher of the game. He has only four.

"Where's your left-hander? He's the only one we haven't seen," the Sooners barber the Texas coach.

"Aw, he's gone to the Mexican league," cracks Bill Sims, Sooner sub catcher.

Oklahoma goes ahead 9-8. It's a magnificent rally. But in the top of the ninth Munson of Texas wallops a long double against the wall 388 feet away in left, scoring what proves the winning run. Neither of Texas' last two runs are earned off Watkins. Errors put them on.

"Hit the heck out of that one, didn't he?" Baer says as the desperate Sooners come in for their last bats, "That's all right! That's all right! We're gonna tie this up and win it." The Sooner coach exudes confidence in spite of the bad breaks.

#### BOUQUET FOR SOONERS

*"Personally—and we think a majority of the fans share our opinion—the best team here was Oklahoma, a club which lost a heart-breaker to Texas on opening day.*

*"Had the series been, as it should have been, and as we understand it will be in future years, a two-out-of-three-games-affair, we think the Sooners might well have gone on to win."*

*—Jack Carberry, sports editor, Denver Post.*

The fighting Sooners rally. Pugsley triples to right. Although the Texas fielder plainly touched and deflected the ball against the fence, Umpire Dave Brown chases Pugsley back to second. Blake walks and is later declared trapped off first. Both are bad decisions with the fans, and later the Denver newspapers, sustaining the Sooners.

Baer is instantly on the field protesting to the arbiter. As usual, he loses. The Sooners start to go out with him but he chases them back.

Avant's single which would have scored Pugsley with the tying run, now only moves Pugsley to third. Texas wins, 10 to 9 and the neutral Denver fans boo the umpire, surround him, jostle him, refuse to let him pass to his dressing room. Police have to rescue him.

Baer restrains the angry Sooners. They shake hands with the Texas players, then slouch to their automobiles and climb in. It's tough to overcome a seven-run lead and then see the umpires take it away from you.

Baer finds Falk, the Texas coach, in the center of the field and congratulates him.

"Jack, I don't like to win a game that way." Falk says.

Baer musters a grin and chews his wad of chewing gum twice as fast. What else can the losing coach do?

Students at the University of Oklahoma are occasionally invited to view the heavens through the observatory telescope, courtesy of the university astronomy department. A recent "trip to the stars" featured the appearance of Jupiter.

## 'Books Abroad' Is Praised

(Continued from page 9)

House, is a professor of Modern Languages in the University of Oklahoma at Norman. The 124 pages of each issue furnish rich and extensive information as to cultural events of all kinds. The tolerance and understanding of the whole journal bear witness to its absolute cleanness and honesty, to its tradition of fairness. The first number appeared in 1927, and in its pages the editor has proved his personal talents as an eminent literary historian, a brilliant translator, and a poet. The journal has been subsidized by substantial foundations, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Belgian American Educational Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Among the contributors are to be found the names of many distinguished scholars. The longer articles in the magazine deal with a variety of subjects, and each issue brings a large

number of short book reviews.

"Hungarians will be interested in learning that this is the only publication in America which reviews Hungarian books. It has carried longer or shorter articles on Michael Babits, Julius Johasz, Sigmund Moricz Ignatus, and other Hungarian writers and poets. *Books Abroad*, as a matter of fact, is interested in the most varied currents in the literary and intellectual life of all countries. Its columns give voice to the literature of China and the Argentine, France and Russia, Finland and Scandinavia. *Books Abroad* is a vigorous publication of incontestable vitality. The editor plays no favorites among the "small" and "great" literatures. He is just as ready to give generous space to the "minor" literatures as to the "major" ones. He judges books not by the place of their origin but by their intrinsic merit. He has not laid out a hierarchy of Hungarian, Finnish, Estonian, Croatian, Bulgarian literatures; he is interested only in what a book has to offer. His magazine is amazingly universal."



*Charles A. Ward, '48, Heber Springs, Arkansas, editor of the Oklahoma Daily for spring of '46, signs his name to "Eddie" in keeping with the School of Journalism's tradition. Looking on from left to right are other editors of the Daily, Quinton Peters, '48, Hominy, who will be the editor for the fall of '47; Joe Fleming, '48, Langley, summer '47 editor; Peg Marchant, '47ba, Oklahoma City, fall '46 editor, and Bill Epperson, '47ba, Tulsa, summer editor '46.*

## Capt. Herman Jones in Japan

Eighth Army Headquarters recently announced that Capt. Herman A. Jones, Jr., '36pharm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman A. Jones of Coalgate, is now serving with medical section, Eighth Army headquarters.

Captain Jones was commissioned a second lieutenant in field artillery reserve at University in 1936. He was not called to active duty until March 12, 1942 when he entered the Medical Administrative Corps at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Prior to his overseas assignment, Captain Jones served with various hospitals within the United States. Sailing overseas on December 13, 1946 he was assigned to the 172nd Station Hospital upon arrival in Japan, and was later transferred to Eighth Army headquarters where he now performs the duties of chief of the administrative branch, medical section.

Prior to entering the service, Captain Jones was co-owner of Bayless Drug Company, Ada.

His wife, Mrs. Mary Jones, resides at Ada.

## Alumnus Does Okay on Guam

Lt. Col. Victor L. Clines, '17, a veteran of World War I and World War II, directs a big business in Guam.

As director of the central exchange of Marbo, Colonel Clines operates a \$8,000,000 business. He deals in everything from pins to automobiles. In fact he has 28 machines of all makes on the way to Guam.

The Colonel was one of the first of 42 officers flown into China as a part of the mission of General Marshall.

He is a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. His family has joined him on the island of Guam.

Dr. Alice Sowers, family life institute director at the University of Oklahoma, collaborated with the Cornet instructional films in the production of "Shy Guy," a film designed to stimulate thinking of boys and girls on the causes of self-consciousness.