

charged with the responsibility of quartering and feeding a huge number of married couples, single men and women who attend O.U.

As the fall semester moves underway, the housing offices are besieged with demands, requests, and suggestions from students who live in the University controlled residences. The enormity of the work carried on by Collums and his staff becomes apparent with a close look at the student housing situation.

Married veterans and non-veterans are housed in 290 units on the North Campus, 220 units on the South Campus, and 696 units on the Main Campus—a total of 1,206 units. A married couple with no dependents or a couple with three or four children can be adequately housed in the different sized apartments.

Single men have unlimited housing space. Whitehand Hall, remembered by some grads as the old Masonic Building, now serves as home for 176 men. Wilson Center accommodates an additional 768 in its six dorms and provides a recreational and dining hall. The F.P.H.A. dorms on the South Campus serve as a shelter for 300 more men, and Jefferson House houses 82. In all, 1,326 single men can be housed in permanent type dwellings and dormitories with the overflow competently handled in the naval barracks while they await permanent type housing.

Single women, also, have space aplenty. Hester and Robertson Halls have undergone extensive face lifting operations throughout their interiors prior to the beginning of school. Seventy-six upperclass women are quartered in Franklin House

## From Shoe Black to Academy Prexy

It's quite a climb from shoe shine boy to president of the "West Point of the West"—Oklahoma Military Academy at Claremore—but Capt. Homer M. Ledbetter, '35-'36, handled the transition with an all-American's competence.

Captain Ledbetter's career sounds like and until completion of four new dormitories located just south of the South Oval, some women are at home in the women's dorms on the South Campus.

A special series of beautifully constructed and modeled buildings are being erected for use by single women. The buildings are to form a residential quadrangle of four large units complete with central dining hall, and will accommodate 848 women students—212 per house.

Collums was queried as to the housing prospect for the future. To this question Collums remarked, "We have and will have accommodations for all single students, men or women, but the housing for married couples is still critical. We are bending every effort to alleviate this shortage and hope to be able to place all applicants within a very short time."

If a further clincher is needed to prove the argument that the housing office has quite a row to hoe, approximately \$220,000 for raw food was expended to stock the six university controlled cafeterias throughout the past year, which does not include the food purchased for use in the Memorial Union Building dining hall. Room and board has become Big Business.

the great American success story. Born in Collingsville in 1914, he started work as a shoe shine boy when he was ten years old, graduating to the status of news boy for the *Muskogee Phoenix* two years later. He then held successive jobs as a "soda jerk," manager of a drug store in Allen, student at East Central State College at Ada, store owner in Ada, then back to East Central. In 1934 he was an instructor in the Vanoss Consolidated Grade and High School, but was quickly "kicked upstairs" to the principalship of Byars High School the following year. Then came a period of study at the University of Oklahoma followed by a teaching position with Drumright Junior College.

Nineteen hundred and thirty-seven saw Ledbetter emerge as head of the English and speech departments at Drumright High School and Junior College. Next came the opportunity to teach in Central High School, Tulsa, where he was "stationed" for three years prior to his entry into the Army.

Captain Ledbetter was a member of General Patton's Third Army and was released from active duty in 1945. He returned to Central High where he remained until he took office as president of O.M.A., July 1. Ledbetter secured his Master's Degree from Oklahoma A. & M. College in 1938 and is currently working on his Doctor's Degree which he expects to gain in 1949 from the same institution.

The personal record of Captain Ledbetter's achievements fits perfectly with the progressive record of O.M.A. Familiar to all Sooners is the Academy's band and precision drill team, but the training which equips these young men for military duty either in time of emergency or in time of peace can not be fully realized by the layman until he is informed of the work being carried on by the Academy.

O.M.A. offers four years of R.O.T.C. training—two years of basic to high school cadets and two years of advanced to junior college students—under direct supervision of the department of the Army. Cadets become eligible for second lieutenant's commissions in the reserve corps upon successfully completing their final two years in a senior college, with no further military training.

The military department is fully equipped as an armored cavalry platoon. Its armored equipment includes light tanks, self-propelled assault gun, armored car, half-track personnel carrier, trucks and jeeps. Most of these vehicles have two-way radios. The



Here's where a part of the \$220,000 worth of food was dished out last school year by University dining halls. This amount excludes the thousands of dollars worth of food served in the Oklahoma Memorial Union cafeterias. The above picture was made at a South Campus dining hall during enrollment week.

## King of Queens--What a Bees-ness



HOMER LEDBETTER—O.M.A. PRESIDENT

cadets also learn to use such weapons as .50 caliber, .30 caliber heavy, .30 caliber light and .45 caliber machine guns; 60 and 81 mm. mortars; bazookas, automatic rifles, M1 rifles, and .22 caliber indoor range rifles. Also practical exercises in the field are held under simulated combat conditions.

Such a schedule would seem to rule out any stress on academic work in basic high school and junior college courses, but Oklahoma Military Academy is ranked scholastically as one of the two leading junior college military institutions in the entire United States. This year, three years of high school instruction are available to entrants and two years of junior college work. The Academy—exclusive of its military training program—offers a wide selection of study courses. The three main fields are business administration, engineering and pre-medical courses in the junior college, with other branches of the curriculum including arts and sciences, pre-law, pre-journalism, and one year of animal husbandry.

One of the most excellent reasons for the continued growth and progression of O.M.A. is its faculty. Sixteen instructors are employed and all but one hold Master's Degrees. The lone exception needs but four hours before he completes his Master's. Col. R. H. King, a combat veteran of World War II, heads the military department and the Army has just assigned two new assistants—Capt. Robert B. Reppa and Capt. James W. Cavender—to O.M.A. for the coming school year. The military staff also

(Continued on page 29)

*Sooner Magazine* has discovered its own "Nature Boy!" He rivals both Sinatra and Johnny Weismueller in female attractiveness. This esteemed connoisseur of fine "women" is Louis Kirkwood of Bristow, the undisputed and official "King of the Queens" in Oklahoma.

Kirkwood, who attended the University during 1941-42, is engaged in the bee-raising business. His specialty, like King Solomon's of old, is raising magnificent queens and attiring them in the cloaks of perfection.

Starting as a hobby and pastime, Kirkwood has turned his avocation of raising queen bees into a vocation that pays well both in personal satisfaction and in money.

At present, his "harem" consists of 70 large hives of from two to five tiers each. Ten frames are suspended on each tier and it is on these that the industrious worker bees build the hexagon-like cells where honey is stored.

Kirkwood's ability for raising a superior type of queen was recognized during 1947 when he was the official supplier for Montgomery Ward's mail order house. He mailed more than 200 queens to customers of the firm during that season, and this year, he estimates that he will sell around 1,000 queens at the current market price of 90 cents each. This figure indeed makes one realize the true intrinsic value of some females.

The weekly output of queens on the bee ranch totals 70 with 140 small incubator hives in constant operation. The Three Band Italian strain of bee is the type grown. This is universally conceded the best liked and most used in the United States.

Orders have swarmed into the Kirkwood home from all sections of the country. Recently a special order was received from France. The queen bee, along with seven or eight workers as attendants, is shipped by airmail from Bristow in a small wooden

block which is especially drilled to accommodate the bees and an ample supply of food for about a week.

In learning the "A" "Bee" and "C's" of the bees-ness, Kirkwood learned a lot about women and even managed to get "stung" on an average of five times a day in spite of his protective clothing and screens.

"They don't hurt much now," he admitted, but they sure used to raise a whelp when they stung me several years ago. Guess I just got used to 'em."

Kirkwood has managed to use a little psychological trickery upon his winged friends and has somewhat pacified them. When handling the bees, he uses a smoke bellows to force smoke into the hives. The smoke enters the bees' breathing apparatus and makes them eat honey—the honey in turn makes them quite lovable and considerably more docile.

Throughout the bee season—from the middle of April through the middle of September—Kirkwood is on a seven day vigil tending his "honeys." The exacting skill and know-how required to raise queen bees was gained by the Bristow man through hours of work and use of the trial and error method.

During the off season the queens still occupy a great deal of Kirkwood's time. He makes new equipment and repairs broken fixtures which some angry queen undoubtedly threw at one of her many spouses. For this repair job he has outfitted a novel homemade workshop which meets the production needs of the bee season.

In discussing the work, Kirkwood stated that, "It's a grand hobby for people who work inside and like to get out (with nature) in the evenings." He also stated that "farmers will find bees both easy to care for and very profitable."



Louis Kirkwood, '41-42, has made the bee raising business a paying industry. He is shown here working with his bees at his Bristow home.

the University, Miss Alexander was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

### Ledbetter—

*(Continued from page 14)*

includes seven regular army enlisted men—four master sergeants, two technical sergeants and one buck sergeant.

Unusual in these crowded times is the emphasis O.M.A. places upon "individual instruction" for cadets. Under school rules no class can have a larger enrollment than 25 cadets.

"This fact alone allows the teacher to give individual instruction to each cadet," Ledbetter explains. "This also accounts for the very high scholastic rating attained by O.M.A."

Reams could be written about Captain Ledbetter and O.M.A. Ledbetter's principle interest is in seeing that O.M.A. lives up to its aim—"You send us a boy—we send you a man."

### Bud—

*(Continued from page 8)*

(and wife), Cambridge; Mrs. Jane L. Keddy, '33ba, Wakefield; Mrs. Rosemary (Hudson) Fitzgerald, '36ba, Cambridge; Mrs. Elizabeth (Patton) Du Bois (and husband), North Reading.

Alice Darner, '45fa, Boston; Marian Wright Radavich, '40ba, '42ma, (and husband), Boston; Robert S. Harper, '41ba, and wife (Marilyn Millard) Harper, '44ba, Somerville; Henry Lawrence Peck, '36eng, (and wife), Hyde Park; Mrs. Samuel (Ella Lee) Yaffe, '30ba, (and husband), of Brockton; Edward Gill, '40-41, Brookline; Dr. Morris E. Katz, '40bs, '41med, (and wife), of Malden; and Joseph H. Strain, '43, Suffolk University, Boston.

### Boston—

*(Continued from page 9)*

Mrs. Maude Staedelin Ewing, '12-'13; Mrs. Marian Wright Radavich, '40ba, '42ma, and Mrs. Ruth Sprague Nettleton, '26ba.

Third row—Alice Darner, '45fa; Mrs. Ella Lee Yaffe, '30ba; Mrs. Jenny Levy Breedveld, '24ba; Mrs. Mary W. Peck; Mrs. Jane L. Keddy, '33ba; Mrs. Rosemary Hudson Fitzgerald, '36ba; Elaine Anderson, '46journ; Marilyn Hoffman, '45journ, and Mrs. Morris E. Katz.

Fourth row—Robert W. Danielson, '43bus; G. B. Fulton, '22Law; Robert S. Harper, '41ba; Henry L. Peck, '36eng; W. G. Coleman, '38eng; Edward Gill, '40-41; Robert R. Cunningham, '44eng, and Dr. Morris E. Katz, '40bs, '41med.

**Hal Muldrow, Jr.**

'28

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