

# SOONER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

*Sooner Staff Members:* David A. Burr, '50, Editor; Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law, Managing Editor; John Wagoner, '51, Feature Editor; Helen J. O'Dell, '52, Roll Call and News Editor; Mrs. Mary Turnbull, Alumni Records; Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, Sooner Sports; Colbert Swanson, '50, and Glenn Copeland, '53, Mailing. Photography by University Photographic Service.

VOL. XXII

AUGUST, 1950

NO.12

## The Cover

Two young ladies who are preparing for teaching positions provided excellent material for this month's cover. On the left is Mrs. Sara Lois Mitchell, Chickasha, and on the right is Mrs. Mary Jane Bradford, Ada. In the background are the women's dormitories that house many of the teachers-turned-students. The women are walking through the south oval sunken garden.

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

*1949-50 Representatives on the O.U. Athletic Council:* Graville T. Norris, Muskogee; Paul Reed, Sulphur, ad Hal Muldrow, Jr., Norma.

*Sooner Magazine* is published on 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, \$80. 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.

## On The Sooner Scene

The staff and activities of the Alumni's home office are introduced and explained by the Executive Secretary. In his second month on the job, Gunning finds the "slack month" a little misleading.

By Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law

There are 100,000 Sooners scattered throughout the land and overseas. On the basis of these thousands, the Alumni Office in the Memorial Union Building on the campus is geared for service. And for those who are life members, or who pay the \$3 annual membership fee, numerous special services are provided. As a new hand in the office, I have been impressed with the wide variety of activities and the work that is done at alumni headquarters. Perhaps you, too, will be interested in reading about what happens here in a thirty-day period and about the efficient people who work for you.

**THE STAFF**—They make the wheels turn. The senior member of the alumni staff is Mrs. Mary Turnbull. If you have ever visited the office, you probably know Mrs. Turnbull, and I assure you that she knows you. Since 1930 Mrs. Turnbull has worked for alumni with executive secretaries Frank Clecker, '21ba, and Ted Beaird, '21ba. She is loyal and efficient and knows the names and addresses of more alumni than any other living person. George Cummings, '49bus, who just returned from a big meeting in Boston and all points East, is a dynamo of energy and imagination. As a student, George became Ted's right hand man, and carried on like a veteran after Ted became ill last winter. George wins the friendship of alumni at every stop. As they say in the army, "He's the right man to take along." David Burr, Editor of the SOONER MAGAZINE, came to the University as a student in September 1948, from Bruce Carter's ('32ma, '50d.ed) Northeastern A.&M. College at Miami, and has been working on the SOONER ever since. As you read this magazine, you have a chance to judge Dave for yourself. In my opinion, he improves the magazine with each issue. He always does a good job, yet is still driving himself toward higher goals. Dave will probably receive his master's degree in Journalism by next June.

Two new additions to the staff are Guy H. Brown, '42ba, '48ma, and Dixie Lee Talley, '36-'40. Guy is Field Director and Secretary of the Alumni Development Fund. Before assuming these duties a year ago, he was a member of the Speech faculty and Director of Interscholar Speech Activities at O.U. Guy is restless, loyal and a hard worker. He is the best visitor and the poorest fisherman in the office.

Miss Talley has been Administrative Secretary of the University of Oklahoma Foundation for three years and before that was secretary to Walter Kraft,

Director of O.U.'s Physical Plant. She took a year off to help General Clay occupy Germany, but is now back on the job counting money, keeping records, writing countless letters and doing all my worrying.

**THE SLACK MONTH**—According to Roscoe Cate, '26ba, Financial Vice President of the University and former alumni Acting Secretary and Editor, the summer is a slack period, and the time to get the alumni house in order before the fall rush begins. Thirty 'slack' days and nights went like this.

Alumni records for the 2,600 members of the class of 1950 were completed and a personal letter sent to each member telling him what service he can expect from the Alumni Association. All records, invitations and announcements were handled for the 700 graduating this summer.

The first directory of Law graduates in twelve years was printed and mailed to all members. Plans were laid for a fall printing of a Pharmacy directory with Dean Ralph Clark and Ralph Enix, '36pharm, Kingfisher, Chairman of the Pharmacy Alumni Steering Committee.

The Board of Trustees of the University Foundation held a quarterly meeting, and the Alumni Development Fund Board of Directors met to complete their business for the year 1949-50 and make plans for the year to come.

Bud Wilkinson's Football Letter, with a season forecast for 1950, was printed and sent to 26,000 alumni who have not paid their dues. All paid members can read the same forecast in this issue of the SOONER. During the regular season Bud's letter is mailed weekly to all paid members only.

Hicks Epton, '32Law, Wewoka, and his committee did constructive work on the Ted Beaird Memorial, and on July 29th had a chance to view the beginning sketches of Ted's portrait. The portrait is being painted by the distinguished artist, Dr. Joseph Sigall of Tulsa, and will be completed by next summer for the opening of the Ted Beaird Memorial Lounge in the Memorial Union Building.

Six hundred members of the Red Red Rose were entertained on the campus at their annual meeting, with all arrangements being made by the alumni office.

Plans are made for the biggest Sooner Party in

Continued on Page 24

## On the Sooner Scene . . .

years for Friday night, October 13, before the O.U.—Texas Game in Dallas.

Alumni meetings were planned or held in Boston, Amarillo and Denver—travelled on alumni business to such Oklahoma towns as Chickasha, Duncan, Enid, Ardmore, Pauls Valley, Tulsa, We-woka, Seminole and Oklahoma City.

The SOONER MAGAZINE came out as usual and on time.

Numerous meetings were held with the staff and others on plans for 1950-51. Voted twice.

Your alumni headquarters is a busy and fascinating place. Whenever you are on the campus, come by and see us. We are always glad to see a Sooner.

## Roll Call . . .

where Amdall is a student at the University school of medicine.

Sy Ramsey, '50journal, Cleveland, Ohio, has become a reporter for the *El Reno Daily Tribune*. While attending the University, he was a staff writer for the *Oklahoma Daily*.

Frank Costanza, '50pharm, and Mrs. Costanza are living in Weehawken, New Jersey, where he recently secured a position.

Alvin Boyd, '50Law, Tipton, was recently appointed assistant county attorney of Tillman County.

John Westervelt, '50eng, secured a military leave of absence from Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., where he is employed in Oklahoma City, for a tour of duty as ensign in the United States Navy for the summer. He was assigned to an electronics school at Treasure Island, San Francisco. While attending the University, Westervelt received the bronze Letzeiser award, the Tom Boyd award, was named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, served as president of Alpha Tau Omega, was a student executive officer in the naval R.O.T.C. and was a member of the Student Senate.

CONOVER-AMBROSE: Miss Louanne Conover, Oklahoma City, became the bride of Thomas Nathaniel Ambrose, Jr., '50geol, in an evening ceremony June 22 in Crown Heights Christian Church, Oklahoma City. While attending the University, Ambrose was a member of Pick and Hammer Club and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. After a ten-week European trip, the couple will make their home in New Brunswick, New Jersey, where Ambrose will enter Rutgers College to study for a master's degree in geology.

Frank E. Garner, '50ba, has accepted a position as teacher of English and psychology and as guidance counselor in the Ardmore high school for the coming school year.

ALLEY-DUGGIN: Miss June Alley, Woodward, became the bride of Thomas A. Duggin, '50ba, Woodward, on June 11 in the First Presbyterian Church, Oklahoma City. The couple is making their home in Midwest City. Affiliated with Sigma Epsilon fraternity, Duggin will return to the University this fall to begin graduate work.

SOTER-GALANIS: Kay Soter, '50ba, Oklahoma City, became the bride of Jerry Mike Galanis, Fon du Lac, Wisconsin, Sunday afternoon, June 25, in the Hellenic Orthodox Church in Oklahoma City. At the University, Mrs. Galanis was a member of Las Dos Americas Club. The couple is making their home in Fon du Lac.

BOECHER-JAMESON: Miss Carol Boecher, Kingfisher, and William Madison Jameson, '50journal, Norman, were united in marriage Friday, June 9, in the First Christian Church, Kingfisher. Jameson was commissioned an ensign in the United States Navy in June and was assigned to a

ship for active duty. The couple will make their home in Long Beach, California.

L. D. New, '50journal, and Mrs. June Sager, '50journal, have been named Oklahoma and Texas editors, respectively, of the *Texoman*, weekly publication devoted to Lake Texoma. Now the official publication of the Lake Texoma Sportsman Club, the *Texoman* maintains offices in both Madill and Denison, Texas.

Robert C. Kumler, '50journal, has been appointed editor of the *Carrier Courier*, semimonthly publication for carriers issued by the Oklahoma Publishing Co. While attending the University Kumler was editor of the *Covered Wagon*, campus humor magazine.

## Brandt . . .

reality. Just as President Bizzell had stood for an adequate appropriation for the library building, so I in turn made sacrifices in the building program to insure an adequate appropriation for the Institute. This was made by the Legislature but the war prevented the construction of the building until after I had left the campus.

As one who had lived under very adverse circumstances during by first years at the University, I was determined that whatever else I accomplished, I would not leave the campus without laying an adequate for dormitories. This had also been a cherished ambition of President Bizzell but I had the fortune that townspeople, who had consistently blocked dormitory plans, were sated with naval personnel. With the splendid aid of such men as Capt. John F. Donelson, Dean Arthur B. Adams, Walter Kraft, Savoie Lottinville, we secured a real beginning which I am happy to see President Cross carrying forward so magnificently.

It had been my aim to have all freshmen housed in dormitories under a house plan, by which they would receive tutorial help in learning study habits. Several such houses were instituted, like Franklin House, but of course, the changing character of the student body as a result of the war caused the program to be abandoned. I hope some day the plan

will be revived. The mortality among freshmen students is entirely too high and many of them can be saved under such a system.

Both President Brooks and President Bizzell had a clear idea of what the *University* (i.e., a center of research) of Oklahoma should be. President Brooks had to content himself with pioneering. President Bizzell in his inaugural called on the faculty to reach out toward the real University and his constant aim was toward that end. Yet, when he tried early in his administration to divide the undergraduate program into a lower and an upper division level, as had recently been done at the University of Illinois, he found adamant resistance in the administrative council, he told me. It was because of his experience that I was summary in the way in which the University College was introduced.

On the larger scope, however, because of the work already done, I was able to give increasing rewards for research, such as the Research professorships. I'm delighted that this plan has been extended to the great teachers of the University as well; too often we worship research to the exclusion of the good teacher whose role is moulding fine minds among undergraduates. President Cross, a wonderful teacher as well as scholar, is crystallizing the dreams and ambitions of his predecessors and adding to them his own rich contributions.

This is as it should be. A university is basically a conservative institution. Had I planned to spend the rest of my life as the president of the University, I would have sharply altered the tempo of reforms. On the other hand, had I done so, the danger would have been that most reforms would have been compromised into non-existence. My motives were through those of a loyal and devoted graduate to the University of Oklahoma who was impatient that the University take its rightful place with sister universities as a leader in education, an ambition not unique with me but one that had been shared by my two immediate predecessors. Perhaps I would have made no comment at all had not an able historian ascribed motives to me which I alone could know.

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