

## A Survey of Major Campus Happenings

*The Bands Were Missing***Political Heyday**

**On a Tightwire.** No hillbilly bands, girls in tights or jugglers were billed on the program, yet the crowd came, filling the Fieldhouse almost to capacity. An old American custom in the tradition of Lincoln and Douglas was the drawing card: All four top Oklahoma political candidates were to meet face to face in a verbal battle.

Several thousand students and visitors saw senatorial candidates Mike Monroney and the Rev. "Bill" Alexander and gubernatorial candidates Jo Ferguson and Johnston Murray step to the mike to defend their platforms. Each spoke 14 minutes with no holds barred. The night air was chilly outside (October 2), but the audience was soon warm from vigorous applause; coats and jackets were shed and shirt-sleeved listeners hunched forward almost as intent as when watching an O.U.-Aggie basketball game going into overtime.

Sponsored by the Norman Women's League of Voters, the program ran approximately two hours. The 14-minute speeches were broadcast to the state over

two radio stations; then with the radio mikes silenced, the throng fired questions at the candidates. Topics adhered closely to socialism, inflation, Oklahoma highways, and World Government. Answers ranged from direct statements to hedging platitudes.

It was nothing short of a political field day wrapped in the cloak of a Town Meeting. Everyone seemed to be having a good time except the speakers—they were walking a tightwire with no safety net below to cushion their fall if they lost their balance.

**International View.** While Oklahoma's top candidates bandied words about World Government, a campus expert looked at present conditions in the Asiatic hot spot and prognosticated concerning what lies ahead on the international horizon.

Dressed in the clipped-syllable speech of Dr. Percy Buchanan, prediction of a peace move on the part of Russia was tossed before the University International Relations Club at its opening winter lecture.

"I think there is an insidious move planned by the Russians—peace," Dr.

Buchanan told his tense-faced audience. "If we have peace, the American population will let down its support of a standing army. Mothers and fathers will want their sons home again; they will not want to pay taxes to maintain a large military force. If there is not another uprising like the Korean incident, it is possible that we would not bear up. I believe the Russians are counting on that; the next "Korea" will occur when we are again unprepared."

Director of the University Institute of Asiatic Affairs, Buchanan prefaced his prediction with background comment on the Orient. Born in Japan where his parents were American missionaries, he has spent more than 30 years in the Far East.

"We must cross the 38th parallel and move on to the Manchurian border," he said. "This move would unite Korea and probably would not produce a war with Russia—because the Russians do not want to fight a war." (Since Dr. Buchanan's speech was made U. N. forces have crossed the 38th parallel.)

If the United Nations forces move to the Manchurian border, a united Korea and prevention of a possible recurrence of war in Korea will result, Buchanan believes.

Drenched under a waterfall of Japanese propaganda during his 1932-40 stay in Japan, Buchanan detects a strong propaganda motive in the Korean incident: "The Russians wanted something more powerful than the atom bomb; they wanted to forge a powerful implement—the hate of a billion people."

An aggressive American act in Korea could be broadcast to a billion people in Asia. "And it has been broadcast," Buchanan said.

As a guide for U. S. activities in the Far East, Buchanan offered a 4-point program:

1. "We cannot work as Americans in the Far East. We must work with and through the United Nations."
2. "We must cross the 38th parallel. If we don't, it means a possible recurrence of the present situation."
3. "We must bear up at home. We must not become weak during a period of peace



Candidates Murray, Alexander, Monroney and Ferguson wait with Mrs. Ray Anderson, president of the Norman League of Women Voters, before taking their turn at the mike in the University Fieldhouse. No holds were barred when the debate began.

if such a period comes after the Korean hostilities cease."

4. "We must accept the people of other nations united with us as our equals, an expression of our own democracy."

Dr. Buchanan has called so many of the shots in advance that he is beginning to be looked upon as a prophet in his own country. Last April he suggested during a radio talk that the Korean incident was going to happen. He called it the "far eastern percussion cap."

## Cost of Living

**Saggy Sooner Days.** Even Texas A.&M. Cadets (in town for the O.U.-Aggie grid clash) gave passive support to the soapbox orators and picketers protesting a hike in cleaning prices charged by Norman cleaners. Washable clothes—blue jeans, khakis, cotton shirts and skirts—began to appear in profusion late in September when Norman cleaners submitted a service charge increase proposal to the State Board of Dry Cleaners.

Working like moths in a wool closet, University students organized to combat the increased prices. The student senate took up the battle, and other major campus organizations stepped behind the student legislators in an all-out effort to boycott Norman cleaning establishments.

Cleaning shops pledged they would make no increases in prices beyond those necessary to combat increased operating costs. But the students were firm in their stand: wearing signs saying "No more pledges—we want lower prices," jean-clad Sooners began picketing Campus Corner shops. The situation had all the earmarks of a cold war.

Four students started circulating a petition and collected more than 4,000 names in two days, the most names ever collected on a student petition in that length of time. The petition was deposited with the State Board of Dry Cleaners, but the organization allowed the Norman shops to up their minimum prices. State law permits the board to set minimum prices but establishes no maximum.

Feuding between the Norman Cleaners Association and the students is still going full blast as *Sooner Magazine* goes to press. The student senate announced it has a card up its sleeve: in case the local cleaners do not lower their prices, a student dry cleaning association will be proposed.

Old timers at the University recall a similar movement which occurred in the spring of 1920. Norman clothing dealers were the target then, but no one remembers just how it came out in the end.

**Vittle Hike.** Students this year are paying more for food in University-operated dining halls because of increased food costs.



Dr. Percy Buchanan, director of the University Institute of Asiatic Affairs, points a finger at the current Asiatic hot spot. Speaking to the International Relations Club, he predicted a peace move would be made by Russia when Korea is liberated.

Garner Collums, housing director, said the increase amounts to approximately 10 per cent and is due to "conditions over which we have no control."

Monthly meal tickets in University operated cafeterias cost the student \$40 this year, an increase of \$4 over last semester.

**Battle for Tickets.** Snakelike, the long line wriggled in slow movement toward the Fieldhouse door. The wriggles were so slow and far between that many standing in the line came at mid-afternoon and saw the sun set before they made it through the portals to the desk where Dallas tickets were being handed out.

It was one of the longest lines on the campus since 1947 when students slept on the ground overnight to be assured of Dallas ducats. The long stand taxed the conversational power of waiting students, but they could always gripe about the distance they were from the Fieldhouse door. Some of the more scholarly brought along books and caught up on their reading while they waited.

Ken Farris, business manager of athletics, explained the snag in what he had earlier heralded as a "most efficient" system of issuing the ducats. Most of the 7,000 students requesting tickets signed up with buddies, he said. When they came for

theirs, they came separately. It took hours to separate the tickets and file them. Meanwhile, the students waited.

Many, however, felt lucky to be standing in line. More than 700 applications for tickets could not be filled; there were not enough to go around. The board to which names of the banished were attached did double duty as a wailing wall. (Some of the 700 were able to get tickets before game time.)

**Money Troubles.** Sitting in the Cleveland County jail awaiting deportation proceedings, 25-year-old Ahmet Yasai Iplikci, Turkish national, said forlornly: "I guess all my troubles come from not having money."

Iplikci had been furnished with a passport into the United States by the Turkish government. He was allowed to enter on the condition that he enrol in a university and maintain his connections with the school.

On October 6 he was arrested and held by order of the U. S. Immigration Office for violating passport rules.

Iplikci was not allowed to work under the passport's regulations. Money he was promised by the Turkish government didn't arrive regularly. He was expecting a check from home and intended to pay his



debtors, but the immigration office stepped in and closed four cell walls around him.

Iplikci dropped out of O.U., had not re-enrolled, and thereby broke the passport regulations. University records showed that he attended the summer term but was not enrolled for the fall semester.

Asked if he plans to return to the United States when his trouble is cleared up, Iplikci replied: "No, I plan to work in Turkey." A former mechanical engineering student, he plans to work in his father's textile company.

## Questions & Answers

**Housing Tiff.** Some students delayed enrolment, holding out in hope that the University-operated dormitories and pre-fabs would be filled by the time they had to check in their enrolment packs. It was at first a passive resistance to the University rule that all undergraduates must live in University housing as long as units are available. But there was nothing passive about the cries of "socialized housing" which came from the Norman Household-ers Association.

On September 25 the squabble moved into Federal District Court in Oklahoma City. John Gayle Pettus of Searcy, Arkansas, a 22-year-old student filed a suit attacking the University's ruling. In his pleading, Pettus said he was a Marine veteran. He charged the O.U. housing rule is unconstitutional because it infringes on his personal liberties.

Speaking before the Norman Rotary Club, President Cross said "the University's dormitory building program—far from bringing ruin to householders—would instead eventually fill Norman private housing."

He described the situation as a transition period similar to that experienced at Oklahoma A.&M. College in the 1930's after that school started building dormitories.

Eventually, he said, the dormitories would bring increased enrolment that would fill Norman's private housing. President Cross said that building of the Women's Quadrangle had hiked women's enrolment to the point that all University housing and all but 12 private rooms for women had been filled this year.

Hope for a peaceful settlement of the difference between the University and the householders loomed on October 12 when representatives of the Norman house owners met with the Board of Regents. Lloyd Lockett, association spokesman, said he felt "any differences the University and the association have could be settled across the table."

Meanwhile Attorney General Mac Q.

Williamson submitted dismissal motions to the U. S. District Court in Oklahoma City where the Pettus case had been filed.

**For the Men.** Regents accepted a low bid of \$1,898,675 early in September for the construction of new men's dormitories. The new dormitory project is to be built south of Niemann Apartments on Jenkins Avenue and will be planned to harmonize in design with the University Women's Quadrangle on Lindsey Road. Four separate

buildings and a central dining room are planned.

President Cross announced the Regents had decided to go ahead with the men's dormitories so the University might be ready should it be asked to participate in the nation's defense program.

During World War II, the University assisted in training Army specialists and also had an expanded naval training program. The special students were housed in Woodrow Wilson Center which currently is being used to house men students at the University.

**Building Snag.** Work slowly ground to a halt September 11 on three University building projects as union laborers refused to work because the University was using non-union labor to build a heating tunnel. Buildings affected by the strike included the new geology structure, power plant and Memorial Union.

The "quickie" halt ended within 24 hours when the University announced that Union labor would be used on University projects when qualified laborers were available. Approximately 110 workers on the three jobs were affected by the walkout.

The new agreement between the University and the unions is expected to clear the way for future construction which is planned for the campus in the spring.

**Navy Question.** No one knows for sure but townspeople are working for it and there are rumors that the navy will open at least one of the two bases in Norman.

Vernon Schnee, vice-president in charge of University development, made two trips to Washington during September, and several others to the national capital during the summer. There was no official comment on his trips other than that it was on "University business."

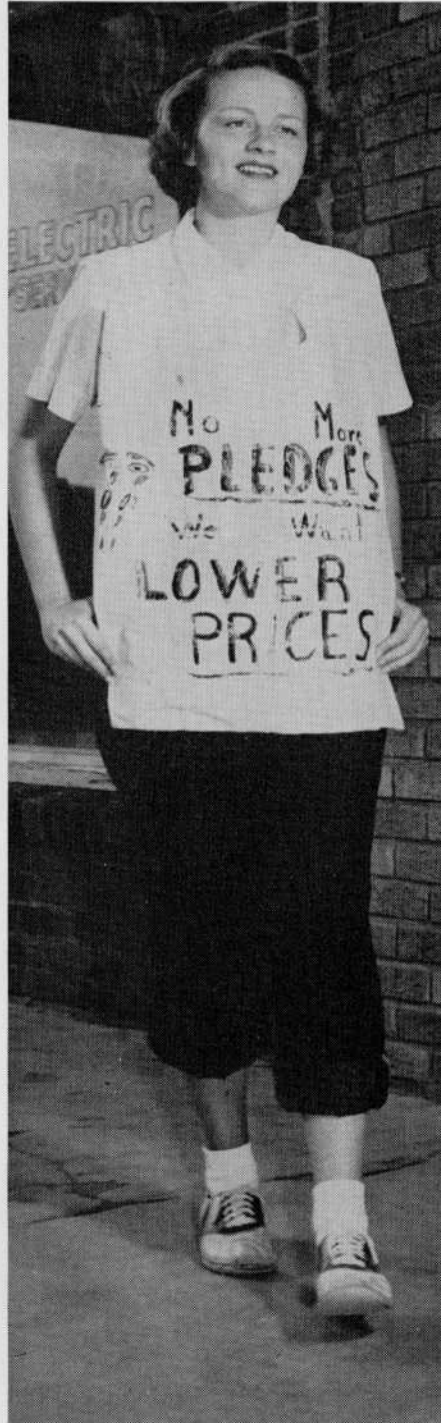
All students living on the former south navy base have been moved except for married couples who have children and can't afford prices in private housing. The University is now using only a few of the buildings on the former south base, including an art school and geology laboratory. Both could be moved on short notice.

President Cross has continued to spike rumors by explaining that it would cost the navy too much to get the base in shape. But Norman residents still have their ear to the ground, plugging for the navy's return.

## To Those Who Wait

**9,609 Students!** Predictions had been that the draft would cut enrolment to 8,000. So there were smiles all the way around when official University enrolment was announced as 9,609 for the fall semester.

The Korean situation had cut into the



Jean-clad Gloria Walbert, journalism junior from Miami, Oklahoma, joins the picket line protesting service rate hikes proposed by all Norman dry cleaners.



It wasn't easy, but Mrs. Goldie Cooper completed 32 highschool courses for her diploma from the University Extension Division. Daughter Edith listens while Mrs. Cooper (far right) explains the extent of her highschool work to Dr. J. E. Fellows, dean of admissions and registrar, and Mrs. Maude Kitchens, '23ba, Extension. Edith is a graduate student, and her mother is a freshman.

male enrolment, but Admissions and Records announced early in October that only a few persons had been called into active service due to their reserve status. University students showed an unusual eagerness to get in the school's reserve officers training corps. But Col. J. J. Waters, head of the University ROTC unit, said they were not draft dodgers. The unit received more applications than its quota, although it has been increased 30 per cent since the Korean war started. Students who managed to get in the Advanced ROTC unit will be exempt from the draft.

Waters explained that the men can now see how a commission will benefit them. "Before they couldn't." It's only natural for a college man to prefer to be an officer, he said.

Enrolment figures showed there is still

a shortage of women on the campus: 7,266 males; 2,343 women. Arts and Sciences has the largest enrolment with 1,907 men and 924 women, plus 462 graduate men and 125 graduate women. Business Administration has 1,399 men and 236 women.

Other figures showed:

College of Education—Undergraduates: 181 men, 300 women; Graduates: 254 men, 246 women.

College of Engineering—Undergraduates: 1921 men; 10 women; Graduates: 66 men.

College of Fine Arts—Undergraduates: 182 men; 309 women; Graduates: 23 men; 16 women.

Law—312 men; 8 women.

School of Pharmacy—Undergraduates: 290 men; 22 women; Graduates: 1 man.

School of Medicine—269 men; 11 women.

School of Nursing: 135 women.

Meanwhile, it was announced that members of the next class at the University Medical School will be chosen earlier than usual. Dr. Homer F. Marsh, associate dean, disclosed that the next class to be chosen will begin study in September, 1951. There will be 80 members who must be chosen from applicants who are expected to total more than 200.

Normally a student does not know whether he has been accepted by the school until sometime between February 1 and April 15. This year applications must be in by November. They will be processed as they are received.

The military situation and the large



## University . . .

number of applications expected were responsible for the move. A student will be deferred from military service after he has been accepted by a medical school. "We want to let them know just as soon as possible," Dr. Marsh said.

**Mom's a Coed.** After sending nine children to college, Mrs. Goldie Cooper, a 56-year-old mother, has decided to try it herself.

Sixteen years expended in raising her large brood of children, managing a 400-acre wheat farm and earning her high-school diploma by correspondence are all behind her. She's now an O.U. Coed.

When fall semester classes began, Mrs. Cooper, whose farm is at the bottom of Bow Mountain near Roosevelt, sneaked into her first college class just ahead of the tardy bell.

Older than some of her professors, she defies anyone to think she's old-fashioned. Red-headed Mrs. Cooper has the same fond attachment to events in Owen Stadium as her fellow students.

Born on an Ohio farm, Mrs. Cooper attended school only seven years. She walked through the prescribed highschool course by correspondence in two and a half years, finishing this year. She is carrying the average freshman study load and plans to major in home economics.

Like a lot of youngsters she says math is her toughest course. Treading with caution she commented: "I might flunk out."

**Trout and Redbud.** The Oklahoma Calendar—1951 is an all-Oklahoma product from cover to cover. It's about Oklahoma, and it was manufactured in Oklahoma for Oklahomans.

Published by the University Press, the 1951 Calendar is a daily record book for engagements, illustrated with 57 full-page pictures featuring outdoor Oklahoma. Edited by Dr. W. J. Bell, assistant professor of journalism, the calendar includes photographs representing nearly every section of the state.

The calendar is of loose-leaf design, bound with plastic. The front cover features a full-color picture of a trout stream in Eastern Oklahoma, and the back cover is a color photograph of redbuds in full bloom. First of a series of engagement calendars planned by the Press, the 1951 production is being distributed through book stores and gift shops in the state.

The Oklahoma City Altrusa Club, whose members are women business executives, are sponsoring the sale of the calendar in Oklahoma City as part of a fund-raising project for a nursery they are financing. And the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board has ordered 2,000 copies for distribution in other states as part of its advertising program.

There were orders for 6,500 copies of the calendar even before it was published. All of which indicates the Press has hit the jackpot with a new type of production.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this issue is available at call number LH 1 .06S6 in Bizzell Memorial Library.