



Mrs. Sally Beard Hignite unveils portrait of her father, the late Ted Beard, '21ba, at Dedication luncheon of the Union's Ted Beard Memorial Lounge.

Reunion time every year is the highlight of the Alumni year for 10 classes.

There's a time for catching up and seeing old friends. This year's was

## The Best Yet

Although the first weekend in June doesn't rival a football game as a crowd drawer, the period serves as one of the most important weekends in the school year. On Sunday and Monday Reunion classes meet for their 5-year get-together and the seniors-about-to-be-alumni attend baccalaureate and commencement exercises

Mrs. Kathryn Haxel Beard, '24, and Dr. Joseph Sigall were honored guests at dedication luncheon. Mrs. Beard is the widow of the late alumni executive secretary; Dr. Sigall painted portrait.



—their last official undergraduate activities.

This year's Reunions brought the classes of 1902, '07, '12, '17-18 (joint meeting), '27, 32, '37 and '42-'43 (joint meeting) back for a visit. In many ways the June 1 and 2 Reunion meetings were the most interesting and impressive ever held at the University.

Coupled with the traditional Reunion dinner this year was a luncheon to dedicate the Ted Beard Memorial Lounge in the Union Building. With all reunion activities taking place in the Union, the Sunday luncheon brought back to the University many prominent alumni who had worked closely with the late executive secretary.

Hicks Epton, '32law, Wewoka, chairman of the Ted Beard Memorial Committee, was one of those. Speaking at the close of the luncheon, Epton made an eloquent outline of why the 200-plus diners were there as he formally dedicated the Ted Beard Memorial Lounge.

"Only those who smell the honeysuckle know its fragrance, only those who hear the mocking bird and whipporwill know their magic music; only those who felt this (Beard's) warm handclasp—only those who drew from his well their own inspira-

tion—only those who saw his raw courage in action—only they—you—could truly know the real Ted Beard," Epton said. (Ed's Note: A complete transcription of Epton's address can be found on the following pages.)

With her mother, Mrs. Kathryn Haxel Beard, '24, and members of the family

Nadine Norton, senior class president, and Hicks Upton, '32Law, Wewoka, chat at dedication luncheon. Epton, chairman of Beard Memorial Committee, dedicated the new Lounge to his memory.



## Presenting the '52

The Classes of '02, '07, '12, '17-'18, '27, '32, '37 and '42-'43 gathered June 1 for a Reunion they had awaited for five years. Not since 1947 had the classmates met in formal Reunions and many were on hand to share in the cheerful nostalgia that is associated with such get togethers.



Class of 1902. Miss Constance Wolcott, Tulsa; Mrs. Florena Williams Hadsell, Norman; Clyde Bogle, Norman; Miss Kate Barbour, Norman, and Roy Gittinger, of Norman, celebrate 50th anniversary.

Class of 1907. Floyd Swank, Norman (holding marker); Nicholas Fox, Spalding, Neb.; Mrs. Swank, and Mrs. Fox. (Standing) Errett Newby, Okla. City.



Class of 1912. (F. R.) Mrs. Harry Diamond, Holdenville; Mrs. A. M. McMahan, Duncan; Mrs. Eva E. Dungan; Mrs. Bertha Oliver Holt, Oklahoma City. (B. R.) Dr. McMahan; Dean Lewis Salter, Norman; Diamond; Dr. Irving Perrine, Oklahoma City; Floyd E. Proffitt, Oklahoma City, Howard Holt, Okla. City.

Classes of 1917 and 1918. (Seated Mrs. B. P. Stockwell, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Neva R. Gahring, Lubbock, Tex.; Mrs. Theresa G. Graham, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Aline P. Christain, Shawnee, and Eugenia Kaufman, Norman. (Standing) L. E. Beattie, Ardmore; Stockwell; Mrs. Margaret A. Darrough, Oklahoma City; Corinne Breeding, Oklahoma City; Hedwig Schaefer, Norman; Dr. W. T. Mayfield, Norman; Mrs. L. B. Holland, Norman; Harry L. S. Halley, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Mayfield, Graham; Holland; Mrs. Lois Trueblood Walter, Norman; Frank R. Pauly, Tulsa; Mrs. Pauly; E. B. Wilson, Roswell, N.M., Mrs. Wilson.



# Reunion Classes

A part of Reunion activities each year is the spot when class pictures are snapped; a reminder of 1952 for those who come in 1957 and a permanent record of a campus visit. (Many graduates of the Reunion classes came early or late and missed their class photo. These pictures are good representations of the class meetings.)



Class of 1927. (Seated) Lois Nethery, Norman; Wilda Griffin, Norman, and Minnie Connolly, El Reno. (Standing) Joe Whitten, Oklahoma City; William R. Morgan, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Morgan; Mary F. Lawson, Okla. City, and J. Phil Burns, Okla. City



Class of 1937. (Seated) John C. Caldwell, Ardmore; Mrs. Richard L. Disney, Norman; Mrs. Emmette Jones Haddock, Norman, and John McReynolds, Norman. (Standing) Disney, Dean Glenn Couch, Norman, and Johnny Caldwell.

Class of 1932. (Seated) Mrs. Beverly G. Schadensack, Nicoma Park; Mrs. Caroline M. Bosworth, Norman; Mrs. Hammet Hough, Oklahoma City, Mrs. Marian McRae, of Madison, N. J., and Mrs. Mildred P. Colby, Madill. (Standing) Q.M. Spradling, Norman; W.O. Wetherington, Nash; W. J. Lampton, Norman; Charles Grady, Oklahoma City; J. Arthur Herron, Blackwell; Dr. Jim Haddock, Norman, Hough



Classes of 1942 and 1943. (F.R.) Shelby Green, and Mrs. Yvonne C. Green, Oklahoma City; and Mrs. Mima M. Smethers, Norman. (2nd R.) Mrs. Virginia M. Shirley, Crowell, Tex.; Mrs. Lillian Handley, Lake Charles, La.; Mrs. Betty Hall, Bellaire, Tex.; Mrs. Sue Starr Virtue, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Lavada Nacci, Norman; Mrs. Mary Ann Ray, Norman. (B.R.) Guy Brown, Norman; Joe Penick, Augusta, Kans.; Bob Lunsford, Ft. Sill; Jim French, Lake Jackson, Tex.; Mrs. Ethel O'Leary, Norman, Mrs. Mary Douglas, Norman

present, Sally Beard Hignite stepped to a raised platform behind the speakers' table and unveiled the portrait of her father that will have a permanent place in the newly dedicated lounge. Painted through the efforts of the Memorial Committee and friends of the late secretary, the portrait was the work of Dr. Joseph Sigall, Tulsa.

Five of the happiest people at the Luncheon were four members of the class of 1912 and their former teacher. In 1911 Mrs. Eva E. Dungan was hired to teach piano. The following spring her first four students—Mrs. Clara Belknap Jacobi, '12mus, Marietta; Mrs. Lena Trout Sapper, '12mus, '14ba, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Alma Watkins Dowd, '12mus, and Lewis S. Salter, '12mus, '17ba, Norman—graduated. Mrs. Dungan, who retired in 1934, recently returned from a tour of South America and Europe.

Unquestionably in the race for honors as the alumna having the best time was Mrs. Neva Rogers Gahring, '17ma, Lubbock, Texas, who is teaching at Texas Tech.

After the luncheon, a reception for all Reunion classes was held in the Beard Lounge. At the same time the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Memorial Union were holding their annual business meeting. While the grads remembered old times downstairs, the Board chose a new president to replace A. N. Jack Boatman, '14ba, '16law, Okmulgee, who had served in that capacity for many years and who asked to be retired from the office. Lee B. Thomp-



Members of 1942 Mortar Board held special Reunion June 2. Seen at luncheon are Mrs. Greta Carter Blanton, '42h.ec, El Reno; Miss Dora McFarland, '21ma, faculty sponsor; Mrs. Doris Jo Morrisette Howard, '42ba, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Mrs. Lillian Tarlton Handley, '42ba, Lake Charles, Louisiana; Mrs. Betty Bailey Hall, Bellaire, Texas; Mrs. Vera Scheig Shirley, Texas City, Texas; and Mrs. Joy Turner Stilley, '42journal, New York City. Group has kept circular letter going since 1942.

son, '25ba, '27law, Oklahoma City, formerly vice president, was named president and Harold Belknap, '25ba, Norman, was elected vice president. D. H. Grisso, '28geol, Norman, was selected treasurer, and W. H. Freeland, '38fa, Norman, was named secretary.

Following the Spring election, 12 new members of the Board were seated at the meeting. (All members of the Board were elected this year under a new constitution for staggered terms of 1, 2 and 3 years.) The new Board of Trustees includes: Dean E. D. Meacham, '14ba, Norman; Thompson; T. H. McCasland, '16ba, Duncan, and Joe W. Curtis, '20ba, '22law, Pauls Valley,

(3-year terms); Boatman; Belknap; W. Max Chambers, '24ba, '29ms, Edmond, and Grisso (2-year terms); Neil R. Johnson, '15ba, '17law, Norman, Milt Phillips, '22, Seminole, Frank S. Cleckler, '21ba, Oklahoma City, and R. J. Clements, '22ba, Oklahoma City (1-year terms.).

After the reception and Board meeting, the classes held individual class reunions and had their class photographs taken.

To wind up Sunday's activities, the Reunion dinner was held in the Union ballroom. Executive Secretary Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37law, served as master of ceremonies. He introduced Alumni President Herbert L. Branan, '32ba, '38law, Oklahoma City, who presented 50-year pins to five of the eight living members of the class of 1902. Those present to receive the awards were Mrs. Florena Williams Hadsell, '02ba, Norman; Constance Madge Wolcott, '02pharm, Tulsa, Clyde Bogle, '02ba, Norman, Kate Barbour, '02ba, '21ma, Norman, and Dr. Roy Gittinger, '02ba, Norman. Two graduates that beat the '02ers to degrees were also present. They were Mrs. Merty Cullom Smith Wadley, '99mus, and Jesse L. Hefley, '99ba, '30ms, both of Norman.

Special recognition was awarded to six people attending the dinner. Guy Brown, '42ba, '48ma, assistant executive secretary, presented gifts to Mrs. Marian Wooldridge McRae, '32ba, Madison, New Jersey, for coming the longest distance; Jesse L. Hefley for having the greatest number of O.U. graduates in his immediate family (seven); W. H. Freeland for having the youngest "Junior Sooner" (son, age, three months); Neil R. Johnson for having the youngest grandchild (grandson, age, one month), Lucy Tandy, '30ba, '32ma, Norman, for being Reunion chairman for the class (1932) with the largest number present, and Dr. Gittinger for being chairman of



The Class of 1943 views the statue of President William Bennett Bizzell that was their class memorial to University.

the class (1902) with the largest percentage of graduates present.

The first day of the weekend was completed by the baccalaureate service held in Owen stadium. The Rev. Anson Justice, '30ba, Oklahoma City, delivered the address.

Monday's activities included the annual Alumni Executive Board meeting (reported in *On the Sooner Scene*), a reunion of the 1942 Mortar Board members and Commencement. The Mortar Boarders have maintained a round robin letter since graduation, but must have missed a number of news items by the catching up that was done at their luncheon.

Those present included Mrs. Greta Carter Blanton, '42h.ec, El Reno, Mrs. Doris Jo Morrisette Howard, '42ba, Fayetteville, Arkansas; Mrs. Lillian Tarlton Handley, '42ba, Lake Charles Louisiana; Mrs. Betty Anne Bailey Hall, '42ba, Bellaire, Texas; Mrs. Vera Scheig Shirley, '42bus, Texas City, Texas; Mrs. Joy Turner Stilley, '42journ, New York City, and 1942 Board sponsor, Miss Dora McFarland, '21ma, Norman.

As the final ceremony of the weekend, degrees were conferred on 1,604 graduates representing 51 foreign countries and 37 states. The ceremony was held in Owen stadium before families and friends.

University President G. L. Cross spoke to the about-to-be-graduates.

"I hope that each of you will become an individual characterized by independence of thought, speech and action," he said. "I have been pleased with your tendency to criticize and even heckle the faculty and administration, even though most of the time it was of no avail. I like this tendency because freedom to criticize freely is basic in our American way of life—our country is one of very few remaining where freedom to criticize everything under the sun is still enjoyed by its people. This freedom must be cherished and exercised constantly if it is to be preserved."

As usual, it had been a big weekend for everyone. It was probably the biggest for the many graduates from out of state. Some had not visited Norman in many years but made a special effort to be counted in the Reunion numbers. Some of the out of staters not previously mentioned were Josh Lee, '17ba, and Mrs. Louise Gerlach Lee, '23, Washington, D. C.; Lois Nethery, '27fa, '41ma, '45ba, Artesia, New Mexico; Joe E. Penick, '42eng, Augusta, Kansas; Irwin S. Scheer, '52bs, New York City; Mrs. Virginia Minnick Shirley, '42bus, Crowell, Texas; B. P. Stockwell, '18eng, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Guy H. Williams, '32bs in med, '34ba, '34med, and Mrs. Florence Whitelock Williams, '31ba, Albuquerque, New Mexico; E. B. Wilson, '17ba, and Mrs.

# Dedicated to Ted

By HICKS EPTON, '32Law

(Speech Dedicating Beaird Memorial Lounge)

On April 15, 1950, Ted Beaird passed into the Great Unseen; to him it is no longer the Unknown. I find it hard to believe he is no longer here; that he has traveled to that Unknown Country from whose bourne no traveler returns. While he has gone yonder, there is a very real sense in which he is still here.

When Joshua led the children of Israel safely across the Jordan into the promised land, he commanded them to bring stones from the other side and build a monument in order that all who later came that way, would know God had there again protected Israel. Today we dedicate these bricks and stone and steel so that those who pass this way may know that here lived, labored and loved a manly man.

Had we the power or time to tell his achievements as a scholar, teacher, soldier and administrator, we would still tell little of the real man. Ted Beaird was a man statistics cannot describe. To catalogue his achievements is to tell little of the man. His real greatness lay—as it does with all men—in the intangibles that surrounded and motivated his actions; it lay in the realm of the spirit.

Only those who smell the honeysuckle know its fragrance; only those who hear the mocking bird and whipporwill, know their magic music; only those who felt this warm handclasp—only those who drew from his well their own inspiration—only those who saw his raw courage in action—only they—you—could truly know the real Ted Beaird.

We feebly try to honor his memory as we dedicate the heart of this building to the memory of him whose heart it was. Inadequate though our effort, we honor ourselves in trying to keep warm the afterglow of such a life. This lounge is the heart of the building. In it young men and women—the likes of which he loved—will meet and move.

They were always in his heart of hearts and when they view his portrait and enter this room, they will remember here was one who cared for them—and dared for them.

Long before the lines of this new edifice were on the draftsmans board, they were already etched deep and clear in the vision of Ted Beaird. Long before this new building grew from Sooner Soil, it had already grown tall and strong in his imagination. Even as the sculptor sees his masterpiece in the granite he could see the businessman, geologist, engineer, teacher, lawyer, journalist and preacher in the frightened face of the country girl or boy. Some of those were your faces.

No! His real memorial is not built by men, but in men. It is woven in the warp and woof of men and women, in the thousands of his boys and girls—now stalwart men and lovely women scattered throughout this broad land. The only real honor for such a man is emulation.

If we would honor him, we must capture a part of his amazing vision, some of his capacity for friendship, his courage to dream—a bit of his faith in the fundamental decency of man. May those of us who knew him best and loved him most, here and now rededicate ourselves to the high idealism for which he lived and died. His real monument then will be—as indeed it must be—in the palpitating softness of the Sooner heart.

Wilson, Roswell, New Mexico, and Nicholas Fox, '07pharm, and Mrs. Fox, Spalding, Nebraska.

Five years later—in 1957—many of the

Reunioners will return, a little older, a little grayer perhaps, but still anxious to be associated with their classmates and their University.