

The curtain opened. There was a silent rush of movement, and the voices boomed out, "Oh . . . klahoma, where the wind comes sweeping down the plain . . ."

People over the nation watched and listened as the thrilling notes of the University of Oklahoma Glee Club rose and fell. Off at the edge of the stage stood Chester L. Francis, the director, who was having trouble seeing enough of his chorus to lead it, because of the television cameras moving back and forth, and who played a continuous game of skip-the-rope over the lines of cables.

Behind him watched more than 1,000 persons packed into the theater, and out of sight, in little towns and big towns and on farms throughout the nation the main audience quietly absorbed the melodies.

After "Oklahoma" came "This Is My Country" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." It required perhaps 10 minutes, this triumph of 48 men and six women, their director and accompanist. What lasted so short a time had meant weeks of preparation for some and years for others.

That is just about the story of the Glee Club in its appearance on the Ed Sullivan show, *Toast of the Town*, February 7. It leaves out however the excitement of a trip to New York, a guest visit to Fred Waring's television program, the stage productions and the operas. It bypasses the satisfaction of rehearsing hurriedly for a new song in a last-minute change. It omits the confidence that members of the chorus felt when friends worked to gather most of the funds for their trip. It does not include the joy felt by Francis at this greatest



CHESTER FRANCIS, director of choral music, leads his glee club in a rehearsal for the *Toast of the Town* broadcast February 7. Glee Club was pictured by James Carey, photographer and member of the vocal group, as they rehearsed for producer in CBS studio in New York City.

success of the Glee Club in his eight years of directing.

And, it misses the thrill of an important job—well done. An important job because it offered another in a long line of triumphs that the University and the State have provided the nation.

As he introduced the Glee Club to his audience, Ed Sullivan declared that the chorus is "one of the finest in the country." Acknowledging this high praise and adding its congratulations, the *Sooner Magazine* extends a hearty Salute!

The Sooner Salutes

THE O.U. GLEE CLUB

THE BARTONS OF PHILADELPHIA

In December, two graduates kept faith with an understanding reached more than 30 years ago, with education and with their University. Paul D. Barton, '19bs, and Mrs. Rosetta A. Briegel Barton, '15ba, '16ms, Philadelphia, added a personal gift to the Delaware Valley Scholarship Fund of the Philadelphia Alumni Club. The gift represented stock presently valued at \$1,750.00. Barton is president of the Philadelphia Club.

(The Delaware Scholarship Fund was established by the Philadelphia group to aid worthy students coming from Dela-

ware and specified areas of New Jersey and Pennsylvania with their studies at O.U.)

In making the gift, Barton wrote ". . . this gift is made by Mrs. Barton and myself out of gratitude to the University, and partly as a result of a verbal agreement with President Stratton D. Brooks when I, myself, was granted a scholarship during my undergraduate days."

In expressing appreciation for the gift, Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37Law, executive secretary of the Alumni Association, wrote: "It is a very heart-warming experience indeed to receive a gift of this type from two

distinguished alumni, and I know that if Dr. Stratton D. Brooks could know of the action you have taken he would be most gratified . . ."

"Scholarships of this type do a tremendous amount of good and often a little financial assistance will mean the difference between some outstanding youngster being able to continue a college program or dropping by the wayside . . ."

For the Bartons' fulfillment of an agreement of 30 years ago and for their demonstrated affection for the University, the *Sooner* offers them a proud salute.