Riding the Sooner Range

For TED BEARD
By JESS HECK

This "collection of humanity, here assembled has been in a whirl and she spew these thirty days past! For the nation at large it may have been (and still is) the taking of words out of the mouth (via silent telephones) due to picket lines and an ever paralyzing strike... but not so in the nation at large..."

Here, in the midst of ever increasing production lines, the bell still tingle, telegrams continue rollin' in and out, the mail pouches increase in size and an ever paralyzing strike... but not so in the nation at large..."

A glance back over chucks this past month a period of disaster, catastrophe and tragedy for many O.U. Alumni families..."

Landing on the wreck strewn "strip" in WOODWARD a few brief hours after the death-delivering tornado there a few days back, the Rider of the Sooner Range went into a 40-hour period of investigation stores in this part of the country...

"As you can see by the above date, I was unable to return this on the date of receipt as you requested. At the time I was in the middle of rehearsals for the Texas City Little Theater production of 'Arsenic and Old Lace', I wanted to be sure and direct you a few hours before the letter..."

The Sooner Range was a popular university publication that covered events and happenings related to the University of Oklahoma. The issue mentioned here contains a section on the Sooner Range, with articles and news about the university and its students. The document provides a historical snapshot of the university's activities during the late 1940s.
"Incidentally, in case you are in doubt, Texas City is an up-and-coming industrial city located between Houston and Galveston on the Houston ship channel. We have several large oil refineries, two immense chemical plants, a tin smelter and many industries on a smaller scale which would be connected with a fast-growing industrial center and sizable seaport.

"Of course, in a promising and progressive community such as this, you will always find a colony of 'Sooner's' and Texas City is no exception. Mr. AND MRS. (VERA MAE SCHENGE), '42; TONY LOGAN, '42 and young Tom, Jr., are living here where Tom is connected with the tin smelter in an engineering capacity. Mr. AND MRS. (MARIJO BROWN), '42; TONY LOGAN are also residing here where Marijo is connected with the Texas City Sun, our enterprising newspaper. Mr. AND MRS. (T. J. POLK), '42; SHERMAN JOHNSON are also residents of Texas City.

"We all speak many times of O.U., Norman and the nostalgic pre-war undergraduate days which we all enjoyed in 'Soonerland'. I send the good wishes of all the above mentioned Sooners and also sincere appreciation for the enjoyment which the SOONER MAGAZINE affords each of us.

"Sincerely,
"Joe."

(JOSEPH W. HOPPE)

Here again we are unable to record for SOONER MAGAZINE readers the status of O.U. families of TEXAS CITY, TEXAS, but the records in the permanent files of your Alumni Association show the following as residents of TEXAS CITY the night before the disaster that stunned the world.

The list is:

JOSEPH W. HOPPE, '37-'41; OLIVER FOWLER, '40b; MARY P. GOODSON, '36b; JAMES A. HAYES, '33b; DR. D. J. HERRINGTON, '17m.; KATHRYNE F. JOHNSON, '40b; WILMA P. MIKESKA, '35b; ROSCOE F. STAHL, '42m.

Yes, April, 1947, has been a month of unpleasant missions, a month of disaster and a month to be recorded on the records as none too pleasant for many of our friends and associates who, with us, have been Riding the Sooner Range.

As this, the "30" is being written on April, 1947 (Wednesday, April 30) the Range Rider is "winging" his way to new—and may we hope more pleasant—assignments! Late tonight the American Airlines will deliver him into INDIANAPOLIS. Two days later to ST. LOUIS. Then to DETROIT (to charter that baby) Sooner Club there on the evening of Monday, May 5). Then to CHICAGO. Then back to OKLAHOMA CITY to join Executive Board Member, MAX COOK, '38ba, 41law, of CLINTON and the two "Rangers" will on May 8, 9, and 10 visit other associations in the following Southernmost and Western Oklahoma communities: SANTINEL, HOBART, HOLLIS, MANGUM, SAYRE, CHIEKENNE, ELK CITY, CLEVER CITY, and THOMAS.

Yes, he is Riding the Sooner Range (as usual)! In the immediate future issues of SOONER MAGAZINE, you will hear about those Sooner Alumni Ted Beard contacts on this swing out on the trail!—And now, to put this issue of SOONER MAGAZINE to bed.

The University of Oklahoma's annual news photography short course will be held in Norman May 1-3.

Over 450 students, faculty and alumni attended the Pharmacy School's 13th annual O.U. pharmaceutical Association convention.

Dr. Sherman P. Lawton, co-ordinator of radio instruction at the University, is a member of the speech committee of the curriculum commission of the National Council of Teachers of English.

J. PHIL BURNS, '27ba ... new District 124 Rotary governor.

J. Phil Burns Elected Rotary Club District Governor

Members of the Fairview Rotary Club responded to pressure from chapters throughout District 124 when they announced the candidacy of J. Phil Burns, '27ba, prior to his overwhelming victory in the district governor's race during the Enid convention held April 13-14.

Burns, a life member of the University of Oklahoma (Alumni) Association, has for many years been president of United Securities Agency and prominent in civic affairs in Fairview. He was graduated from O.U. in 1927, paying his way with proceeds from sales activities during the summer months. While attending the University, he took part in various student activities—particularly publications—and following graduation, he was chosen to be national supervisor for Pictorial Review Company, New York. He later was promoted to assistant sales manager and directed the founding of a national organization.

Burns was made northwest district manager for Pictorial Review in 1929 and later was transferred successively to St. Louis, Buffalo and New York City. In 1935 he left the magazine, accepting employment with Goodyear Rubber, but soon became affiliated with Selected Investments Corporation. Living at the time in Oklahoma City, he advanced to the vice-presidency of that firm in 1937. He resigned the following year, however, to form his own company with home offices in Fairview.

As a Rotarian, church and business leader, Burns has gained an enviable reputation. He belongs to the Christian Church, Masonic Lodge, numerous sportsman and athletic organizations, the Fairview city council, Chamber of Commerce in addition to the O.U. Alumni Association. He was a district governor candidate in 1942 and is an honorary member of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Burns is married. He and Mrs. Burns are the parents of Jay Roland, 15, and Beverly Jan, 12.