The Cover

No explanation is needed for this decorative cover idea which was developed by Harold Tacker, '40fa, University photographer.

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Sooner Paying the Price

If anything more is needed to bring home to O. U. alumni the fact that they are facing a period of sacrifice for national defense, it can be found in the news columns of this magazine. In less than a two-months period, four University of Oklahoma alumni have given their lives in defense activities. Three of the men were army fliers, the fourth a civilian flight instructor training students for army duty. They died in a series of airplane crashes. Though they were far from any fighting front, the sacrifice they made is just as great as though they died in actual combat.

Because of the large number of Sooner graduates who received commissions in the Officers Reserve Corps when they completed work at the University, the proportion of Sooners in military service is probably unusually high. There will be more casualties, because preparation for all-out war is a dangerous occupation in itself.

Not all of the sacrifices, however, should be made by those alumni who happen to have training for armed service. The O. U. graduates who remain in civilian life can accept the responsibility of using their general training in leadership to forward the cause of national defense.

Every community faces problems of organization and the rallying of all resources to help the nation's preparedness program. This work requires leadership, and the business and professional men trained at O. U. in days gone by are the men who can be called on in most Oklahoma communities to give the time and energy needed for the civilian phase of national defense.