27,000 for Homecoming

PERFECT football weather, a somewhat unexpected victory over a strong Missouri team, a spectacular parade with sixty floats, a hilarious pre-Homecoming dinner-dance in Oklahoma City, and numerous other side attractions combined to make the 1940 Homecoming at O. U. perhaps the most satisfactory one ever held.

In spite of the fact that the two football teams were in all probability playing only for second place in the Big Six Conference, a crowd of approximately 27,000 persons came to see the contest, and all except the small number of Missouri supporters went away thrilled and happy because the Sooners had clearly earned their winning touchdown, and they had effectively bottled up the usually brilliant passing attack of All-American Paul Christman.

The entire Homecoming celebration for alumni was enlivened by the fact that only the day before, the University Board of Regents had announced that Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, had been chosen Dr. W. B. Bizzell's successor as president of the University—the first time that an alumnus of O. U. has been called to serve in this position. Mr. Brandt will take office upon Dr. Bizzell's retirement August 1, 1941.

One of the highlights of Homecoming Day was the meeting of the Alumni Executive Board at which President Bizzell and Lloyd Noble, '21, president of the Board of Regents, discussed the University's needs for the next biennium.

The tentative plans for the budget request are outlined in a separate article in this issue of Sooner Magazine. Both President Bizzell and Mr. Noble, in speaking to the Alumni Board and the Alumni Advisory Council members from over the state who were present at the meeting, described Mr. Brandt's outstanding record as a scholar and publisher, and invited alumni co-operation to make his administration a success.

President Bizzell described how he brought Mr. Brandt to the University in 1928 to establish the University Press and declared that "Joe Brandt did a wonderful job for us here, and in those years I became very much attached to him."

"I can only ask for Joe Brandt," he said, "the co-operation and the good will and the loyalty that the alumni of the University have given me. If he has that, I think it will be well."

"The thing that is giving me the greatest joy as I retire," President Bizzell said, "is the memory of all the things that the Alumni have done for me in these past years. In quiet times and in the dark hours, I have had some of you come to my house, and at times the conferences have gone on after midnight as we consulted together on how best to meet difficulties the University faced."

Dr. Bizzell told the Alumni Board that he is always going to live in Oklahoma and is happy to continue working for the University after his retirement as president next August 1.

"This Board of Regents has made it possible to do a thing that is more congenial to me than anything in the world. I have always wanted to teach, and after all these years the Board has made it possible for me, in my closing years of active service, to do a thing that is close to my heart, and I promise you that I am going to do you the best job of teaching I can."

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Above Left, on This Page—The beautiful flag float entered by Alpha Chi Omega won the sorority trophy; the showboat float of the Playhouse won the organization trophy. Indian Princess Viren Saunthak made a striking picture on the Indian Club float. Best decorated fraternity house was Phi Kappa Sigma.

Top Row on Facing Page—The five alumni members of the Board of Regents enjoying the Homecoming Dinner-Dance in Oklahoma City: left to right, Joe W. McBride, Harry Wimberly, John Rogers, Lloyd Noble and Joe C. Louoney. Center, Toastmaster Lewis Morris introduces Coach Tom Sidlham and Coach Don Fawor. On the right, W. B. Bizzell receives a long ovation in his final appearance as O. U. president before a Homecoming crowd.

Second Row—On the left, Bennie Owen gets a big hand as he goes to the microphone to introduce his undefeated team of 1920. Center, the 1920 team members present at the dinner: left to right, Dutch Holl, Ross Morrison, Coach Bennie Owen, Roy Swatek, Paul X. Johnston, Myron Tyler, Dr. Phil White, Roy Snout, Ronald Colen, Elr Deacon, Dwight Ross. On the right, C. W. Hamilton, of Montclair, New Jersey, vice president of the Gulf Oil Corporation, and Mrs. Hamilton, enjoying the dinner-dance.

Third Row—On the left is the first reunion of alumni of the President's Honor Class, the meeting of the Alumni Executive Board, with a number of Advisory Council members as special guests. Speakers included Dr. Noble, president of the Board of Regents (extreme right in the foreground).

Fourth Row—The scene on the football field shows the between-halves peace pipe ceremony between O. U. and M. U. Seated, left to right, Dr. Claude S. Chambers, new honorary member of the Indian Club; Dr. M. L. Wardell, club sponsor, and Dr. John Knight, of the University of Missouri; standing is Chief Dick West with a century-old Pawnee pipe. On the right is a view of Dr. S. K. Hadwell at Homecoming registration headquarters in the Union lobby, talking with Arthur R. Wolfe, '08ba, '14ma, now an attorney in Kansas City.

Fifth Row—On the left, O. A. Brewer, '17ba, Paige Noble, is the guest of honor. Representatives to Martha Porter, '08ba, of Rome, Georgia, Center picture, five alumni of Oud and Triangle initiated into Mortar Board; left to right, Mrs. Zuma Studer, Mrs. Ada Dwyer, Wildman, Mrs. Mary To Fowler Vun Noy, Mrs. Ethel Maud Smith Lowrey and Mrs. Margaret Archedan Darragh. Right, new officers of Mortar Board Alumni Association; left to right, Mrs. Virginia Browning Pagburn, Alta Thomas, Mrs. J. Claude Monnet (the new president), Marcel Minnick, and Virginia Reincke.
Homecoming
1940
Mr. Noble told the Alumni Board that Joe Brandt is coming back to the University to become president in a spirit of humility and because he sees a challenging opportunity for service. He has turned down three offers of positions more attractive financially since becoming director of the Princeton Press, Mr. Noble declared.

“The Board of Regents decided that we should have an able, cultured man, one with a southwestern background, preferably from Oklahoma, and preferably an alumnus of the University,” Mr. Noble said. “A man answering these qualifications comes with his ‘spade work’ already done, because he understands the situation here. The board decided that Joe Brandt was the best man for the position.”

Mr. Noble expressed appreciation for the spirit of cooperation shown by alumni toward the Board of Regents during the period the board was surveying the field to find a new president.

He paid a warm tribute to Dr. Bizzell’s record as president, complimenting him as an “honest, straight-forward, cultured, Christian gentleman who for sixteen years has exerted his influence over the state of Oklahoma everywhere that he went, and everywhere that his students have gone.”

“I am happy that we can have Dr. Bizzell on the campus of this University to radiate the influence over the years to come, that it has been the privilege of this state to have during the last sixteen years,” he said.

Pointing out that the University this year held about thirty-five short courses which were attended by approximately 2,700 persons, Mr. Noble urged the Alumni Association to make a special project of spreading information about short courses to the people of Oklahoma.

“I wonder if the people of this state realize what we are doing with these short courses,” he said. “If they don’t, it is your fault and mine. I would like to see the Alumni Association really take the bit in its teeth and make this one of the association projects this next year.”

A resolution commending the selection of Joseph A. Brandt as next president of the University was adopted by the Alumni Executive Board, on motion of Fisher Muldrow. A committee composed of Mr. Muldrow, Hicks Epton, John Pearson, Mrs. Kitty Shanklin Rountree, and Elmer L. Fraker, prepared the resolution as follows:

Whereas, at the annual meeting of the University of Oklahoma Alumni Association held in Norman, Oklahoma, on June 6, 1940, a resolution was unanimously adopted memorializing the University Board of Regents for their action in regard to the selection of a successor to President W. B. Bizzell as president of the University of Oklahoma and whereas, the Executive Board of the Alumni Association as representatives of the organized alumni outlined their position with regard to the selection of the new
Cushing; Dwight Ross, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Musical entertainment during the evening included “Barber Shop Quartet” numbers by Dr. Tom Lowry and Dr. Dick Lowry, Oklahoma City physicians, and Justice Denver Davidson and Justice Sam Nefi, both of the State Supreme Court. The Oklahoma City Police Department's Flat Foot Four, national championship quartet, sang several numbers, and Lotte Lottin sang her prize-winning new song, “Oklahoma,” accompanied by the University Band. The band provided music at frequent intervals and kept the crowd's enthusiasm at a high pitch.

So many notables were present that Toastmaster Morris had difficulty trying to introduce them all. The guests included five members of the University Board of Regents who are alumni—Lloyd Noble, '21; Joe W. McBride, '28ba; Harrington Wimberly, '24; John Rogers, '14 law; and J. C. Looney, '22law. Also present were U. S. Senator Joe Lee, '17ba, Congressman Mike Monroney, '24ba, and Congressman Wilburn Cartwright, '20 law. Most of the crowd of approximately six hundred Sooners remained after the program for dancing on into the night.

The Homecoming parade Saturday morning in Norman contained sixty floats, and, in the opinion of many observers, was the best ever presented. Arrangements were in charge of the Ruf Neks, with Max Cook in personal charge of the organization work.

Alpha Chi Omega won the trophy for the best sorority float with a beautiful presentation of the American flag attended by Uncle Sam and girls in uniform of the Army, Navy and Marines, and carrying the inscription, “O. U. over M. U., and America over All.”

Second and third places for sorority floats went to Delta Gamma and Delta Delta Delta.

In the fraternity competition, Sigma Alpha Epsilon won the trophy with an elaborate float portraying “Homecoming” in England with its wrecked buildings and wounded soldiers, with Homecoming in America where alumni were shown enjoying a football game. Kappa Alpha placed second in the fraternity division and Acacia third.

University Playhouse again won first place in the organization division with its elaborate Show Boat float. Sequoyah Indian Club was second in the organizations, and the Women's Athletic Association was third.

Many of the other floats pleased the crowd with clever ideas, such as the Sigma Alpha Mu float which had a huge Santa Claus warning the Sooners to “Do your Christmas stopping early.”

The parade was heightened by high school bands from Ada, Seminole, Duncan, Altus and Lawton, and the bands of Oklahoma Military Academy and the Murray State School of Agriculture.

Trophy for the best house decorations went to Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity. The house display included the figure of a Sooner football player wielding a white wash brush on a discouraged Tiger. Alpha Phi won the trophy for the best decorated sorority house.

The Mortar Board Alumnae Association held its second annual meeting on the morning of Homecoming day. New officers elected were Mrs. J. Claude Monnet, (Jeanette Barnes, '23ba), Oklahoma City, president; Virginia Reinecke, Norman, vice-president; Alta Thomas, '30ba, Oklahoma City, vice-president; Mrs. Sam Pangburn (Verona Browning, '30ba), Lawton, secretary-treasurer, and Muriel Minnick, '37ba, Norman, historian.

Five members of Owl and Triangle, the local honor society which later became a chapter of the national Mortar Board organization, were initiated as members of Mortar Board. They were Mrs. Walter Van Noy (Marian Jo Fowler, '21ba), Wagoner; Mrs. G. S. Sanders (Zuma Weir, '24fa), Holdenville; Mrs. Tom Lowrey (Ethel Maude Smith, '16bm, '17ba), Oklahoma City; Mrs. Paul Darrow (Margaret Archdeacon, '21ba), Oklahoma City; and Dr. S. F. Wildman (Dora Doty, '22bs, '26med), Oklahoma City.

Three of the founders of the Owl and Triangle society were present at the meeting. They were Mrs. Leon C. Phillips (Myrtle Ellenberger, '12ba, and Mrs. Don Bretch, '12ba, both of Oklahoma City, and Mrs. Roy Woods (Eva Clifton, '12ba, '17ma), of Verden. They organized the Owl and Triangle in 1912.

Mrs. Dave McKown (Florence Monnet, '22ba), of Oklahoma City, who was president of Mortar Board Alumnae Club during the last year, presided at the meeting. Other alumnae and faculty members at the meeting were Evelyn Morton, '40bus, Bartlesville; Mrs. William A. Allen (Florence Dietrich, '38lec), Oklahoma City; Mrs. R. F. Anderson (Eula Lee Long), student; Mildred Andrews, '37ba, Norman; Mrs. Tom Wagoner; Mrs. G. S. Sanders (Zuma Weir), Norman; Virginia Clemons, student; Mrs. Raymond Dudley (Elizabeth Bearly, '33ba), Norman; Mildred Futur, '35ed, Oklahoma City; Patricia Hodges, student; Mrs. K. D. Mitchell (Helen Newman, '26fa), Guthrie; Mrs. Paul Powell (Lucille Hinshaw, '38ba, '39mfa), Norman; Virginia Reinecke, assistant women's counselor at the University; Mrs. Thomas Roach (Helen Hough, '35ba), Oklahoma City; Dr. Jewel Wurtzbach, University faculty member; Mrs. Don Bretch, '12ba, Oklahoma City; Patsy Peck, graduate student; Nell Guthrie, '24ba, '31ms, Oklahoma City; Patience Sewell, '38ba, Clinton; Mrs. Ernest L. Lippert (Dorothy Thompson, '25ba), Oklahoma City; Dr. Dixie Young, '21ba, '22ma, Norman, sponsor of Mortar Board; Helen Ruth Holbrook, University Y. W. C. A. secretary; Mrs. Margaret O'Ryan Pieck, '39ba, Law-
The first reunion ever held for alumni who have been members of President Bizzell's Honor Classes was thoroughly enjoyed by all the more than fifty persons who attended the meeting and luncheon session in the Woodruff Room of the Union.

The program included talks by President Bizzell; Dr. M. L. Wardell, assistant to the president, who spoke on "What the University Expects from the President's Class"; Dr. Edgar D. Meacham, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, "Should the President's Class Be Continued after 1941?"; L. N. Morgan, head of the English Department, "Why I Think the President's Class was Established"; George E. Wadsack, registrar, "Some Material Benefits Derived from the Establishment of the President’s Class"; Fay ette Copeland, associate professor of journalism, "From the Viewpoint of the Selection Committee"; and Ted Beaird, alumni executive secretary and manager of the Union, "Should the President’s Class Be a Separate Part of the Oklahoma Alumni Association?"

Following the talks, there was general discussion and the group unanimously expressed opinion that the President’s Honor Class should be continued. It was voted that at each Homecoming Day, a reunion of the five and ten-year alumni of the Honor Classes be held, and that others not members of these particular classes attend if possible.

It was decided that no formal organization was desired, but the group expressed a wish to be recognized as a unit for such purposes as having a section in Sooner Magazine at infrequent intervals.

The group agreed to assist President W. B. Bizzell in writing a history of the class, by filling out a comprehensive questionnaire to be distributed soon. The survey is expected to provide material of value in determining, at least partially, the practical value of the President's Class.

Honor Class members present for the reunion were:
Oliver Benson, '32ba, '33ma, Norman; Ray Parr, '32ba, Oklahoma City; Bob Clark, '36journ, Chickasha; Sam Abrams, '33ba, '36law, Guthrie; William J. Hils weck, '38geo, Fort Worth, Texas; Edwin N. Humphrey, '33ba, Chickasha; Jack Lutrell, '38ba, Norman; Thornberg Brock, '40letters, Norman; John H. Tippitt, '38ba, '40law, Marietta; Bob Harper, student, Norman; Richard L. Gilley, '38
School financial problems in Oklahoma were discussed by most of the speakers at the meeting of the Association of School Administrators held on the campus of Homecoming Day. The speakers on the program included Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University; James M. Statten, director of finances for the State Board of Education, who discussed "Strength and Weakness of the Present State Aid Law"; J. M. Maddox, county superintendent of schools, Altus, who spoke on "Variations in Abilities to Finance Education in the Rural Schools of Oklahoma"; Ernest Phillips, director of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Oklahoma, who spoke on the "Need for a Budget in Oklahoma State Finance."

Most of the speakers emphasized the need for stabilization of school finances, although they disagreed on methods. Dr. Weaver contended that there can be no satisfactory control of government finances until ear-marking of revenue is largely eliminated, and all funds placed in one general fund so that expenditures can be adjusted closely to revenues.

The Kappa Phi Alumnae Club, a Methodist society for women, held its annual Homecoming breakfast at the Spinning Wheel Tea Room. La Jeanne France, '36bus, Ada, was elected president, succeedling Mrs. Opha Boyd (Lois Rogers), '37ba, Norman. Bertha Qualls was named vice-president; Mrs. Boyd, secretary; Mrs. Van Endicott (Ruth Black), '24arch, of Norman, treasurer at the University of Oklahoma, who spoke on the "Need for Stabilization of School Finances," although they disagreed on methods. Dr. Weaver contended that there can be no satisfactory control of government finances until ear-marking of revenue is largely eliminated, and all funds placed in one general fund so that expenditures can be adjusted closely to revenues.

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New Mexico—Elmer C. Duggins, '38 eng, production engineer, Eunice; Mrs. E. C. Duggins (Cordell Reed, '38), Eunice.

Tennessee—Mrs. George M. Smith (Geraldine Steele, '37), Nashville; Walter Berry, '18, and Mrs. Berry (Clover Gorton, '18), Memphis.

Texas—Frank Jamieson, '35 eng, sales representative Hughes Tool Company, Wichita Falls; W. J. Hiseweck, '38 geol, Fort Worth; J. S. McCune, '30 eng, district petroleum engineer, Conroe; Paul M. Peters, '34 eng, Junior petroleum engineer, Nacogdoches; Dwight M. Ross, '21, oil producer, Wichita Falls; W. Miller Vernor, '36 eng, sales engineer, Houston; J. Monte Hayner, Jr., '29, insurance man, Tyler; Mrs. Maxine Shoemate Cunningham, '37 ba, Fort D. A. Russell, Marfa; Russell Houghton, '39 eng, seismograph observer, San Antonio; Mrs. Carl N. Chambers, Jr. (Grace Pitchford, '38), El Paso; Paul A. Jones, '25 pharm, drug salesman, Amarillo; Mrs. W. E. Bagby (Emelyn Miller, '16), Sulphur Springs; M. A. Trux, '09 ba, Dallas; Louis H. Mack, '36 eng, petroleum engineer, Wichita Falls; A. R. Douglas, '33 ba, accounting and secretarial work, Electra; Merrill Ellis, '40, band director, Lefors; Orion A. Daniel, '40 geol, consulting geol, Wichita Falls, Anne Hughston, '40, teacher, Dallas.

Final Homecoming event for all alumni was the reception and open house in the Union building immediately following the football game. Approximately five hundred alumni attended.

Mrs. Janet Langford was general chairman of the reception. Those who presided at tea tables included Mrs. W. B. Bizzell, and Mrs. L. E. Swearingen, of Norman, Mrs. Norman Brillhart, of Madill, and Mrs. Glenn Clark, Ponca City. The reception committee included Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Huntington, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. McDermott, Dr. and Mrs. William Schriefer, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Updegraff, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bruce Wiley, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Brite, Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Dale, Dr. and Mrs. Loyd Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Salter, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Swearingen, Dr. and Mrs. M. L. Wardell, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Y. Williams, and Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Fowler, all of Norman.

Herbert H. Scott, director of the University Extension Division, headed the registration committee which greeted alumni all day Saturday in the lobby of the Union building. Others on the registration committee were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morris, Dean A. B. Adams, Dr. C. F. Daily, Wilda Griffin, Boyd Gunning, Dr. Roy Hadsell, Ima James, J. F. Malone, and Dr. Maurice Merrill.

The parade committee which selected the winning floats was composed of Joe Taylor, Dr. Leonard Logan, R. W. Hutto, Phil Kidd, and Mrs. J. Ed Barbour. The committee of judges on house decorations was composed of Mrs. Frances Pendleton, Wilda Griffin, Helen Hamill, Dr. Cecil P. Langford, and J. F. Malone.