The University of Oklahoma will act as host for the twenty-fifth annual Oklahoma interscholastic meet held at Norman for the high schools of the state on April 25, 26, 27, 1929. The 1929 bulletin containing information as to what to do and what not to do in the various athletic, fine arts and curricular contests, has been printed and mailed to the principals of some seven hundred state schools. It was thought until a short time ago that this was the first interscholastic meet to be established in the United States, but I understand that one was started a year earlier than ours in one of the northwestern states, and this, though small, has continued until the present time.

There are a number of superstitions that have grown up with the meet, one of them being that it always rains during the celebration. During my eleven years of attendance it has rained but three times and we have never been rained out. Another superstition is that it is bigger and better every succeeding year, whereas actually the peak of attendance occurred five or six years ago, since when there have been very few changes in any of the contests, and the number of entries has decreased slightly. In 1919-1921, when Norman was much smaller than now and there were very few fraternity or sorority houses, it was difficult to find room and board for the visitors. During those years it was necessary to borrow a score or more tents from the Oklahoma national guard and erect these on the field now occupied by the engineering building. The Y. W. C. A. had a large circus tent where the union building now stands, where the thousands of high school visitors were fed. During one of those years a severe windstorm blew away the tent and took away all the profits from the Y. W. C. A. During some of the early years the medals and shields were presented to the winners from a wheel harrow on the athletic field, but several dozen of the medals disappeared during a rush of some of the students one year and the practice was stopped.

The early contests included only the track and field, baseball and tennis events, as in early life running and jumping and throwing the ball are of chief interest to the boy or girl. When the meet was nine years old, the first music contests were added and shortly thereafter the contests in drawing, dramatic reading, and public speaking. It was not until the meet reached its seventeenth year that it became interested in the high school curricular subjects, and in 1921, contests in practically every subject in the high school curriculum were added, including many contests in home economics.

Several years ago, before we began to hold preliminaries in track and field events on Friday afternoon, it was very difficult to run off all of the races on one Saturday afternoon. Sometimes we would have as many as 100 entries in class A 100 yard dash, and sixty or seventy of these would actually show up. Of course we had to have preliminary heats and lined the men up in eight or ten rows, one behind the other, a second row stepping up as soon as those in front were started. Sometimes the heats were run almost one per minute and then came the semi-finals. This prolonged the meet and it was decided to get the preliminaries in most of the contests out of the way the preceding Friday afternoon. Many of the runners in the earlier meets ran barefooted and had never seen spiked shoes and running rags. Some of the costumes worn as portrayed in the earlier bulletins look ludicrous now.

During one of these crowded times a high school teacher chaperoning five girls, arrived on the 12:40 midnight train, having stopped to see a show in Oklahoma City, and being unable to get rooms at a hotel here, or to rouse the Y. M. C. A., called the chairman of the interscholastic meet committee, who likewise could not find rooms at that time of the night. So he told them to take a taxi and come out to his house and he would put them up for the night. Putting his children on the floor, beds and cots were made up for the sextet. After breakfast the next morning the teacher was asked if she and the girls would be back for the night. She replied, "Oh, no, we have already made arrangements to stay with my sister here in Norman, but I didn't want to disturb her after midnight!"

A few years ago the wife of one of the principals mailed me an old 1910 model safety razor by special delivery, asking me to see that it would reach her husband as he had forgotten to pack it and would probably need it before he got back. The man could not be found, however, and on the following Monday morning I received a very irate note asking why I had not returned the implement and insinuating that I was trying to get away with it.

While the purpose in the early years was largely to give the high school students of the state a chance to get acquainted with their university and find out what educational advantages it offers for work and enjoyment in life, the emphasis has been placed elsewhere of late years. With the widespread use of the automobile, the radio and extension service, every corner of the state now knows what O. U. stands for. The emphasis, at present, is placed upon maintaining the enthusiasm of the students during the weeks of spring in mathematics and home economics as well as in art, music, and athletics, and the meet likewise affords a means whereby the students of the high schools in various parts of the state may be brought together to become acquainted with each other and learn of the activities and progress at other schools.

The prize winners' program on Friday night presented by winners in some of the music contests is a wonderful performance and much looked forward to by the people of Norman. The individual as well as group performances have become of exceptional merit.

The members of the university faculty who first organized the meet did such excellent work that very few adjustments have had to be made during the past ten years and dozens of other state universities and colleges have used this meet as a model.
THREE NEW FRATERNITY HOMES OCCUPIED LAST SEMESTER

Upper View: Phi Mu, designed and built by Harold Gineno, '17; center: Delta Tau Delta; lower: Alpha Gamma Delta. D. Harris is the Norman representative.

The McAlester Construction Co. of Columbia, Mo., erected the last two named houses, and the Delta Gamma house.
AND HERE ARE THREE MORE FRATERNITY HOMES IN THE UNIVERSITY CITY

Upper view: Beta Theta Pi, designed by Professor Gimeno, of erection when this picture was taken. All photographs on built by Tankersley Construction Co.; center: Delta Chi; this and page 188 were taken for The Sooner Magazine by boxer: Delta Gamma. The Delta Chi house was in process Truby Studio.