Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beard

Notes on special observations (who seen, why and doin’ what)—that’s a part of the Range assignment! The notes here listed have been recorded as we covered the path in an intensive series of travels working with various groups over a period of days and nights.

This particular Riding of the Sooner Range began at 8:10 p.m. on Wednesday night, May 13. The roamin’ began with a late evening meal with the household partner as companion in the Monterey at Norman, Oklahoma. To our left was a special dinner tangle of the Willard family. The Willard family was in a final bread-breaking tribute to Lt. Commander Mikel! Indeed it was the going-away party, if you please of DR. J. G. WILLARD, ’27med, ’29ns, who was soon to report to the West Coast and his Naval assignment in the field of medicine. To our right was TOM BENEDUM, ’28aw, Norman, DICK GRISSO, ’26sa, ’28aw, Oklahoma City, JAMES HARVEY VAN ZANT, ’23sa, ’26sa, Enid, and other Sooners who had breezed into the O. U. center checking on war moves, Army regulations, and Navy stuff.

The evening meal is over and we are off on the Riding of the Sooner Range. The dilapidated flivver (with its fast wearing tires—yes, they are no longer castings as they are down to that “fabricated point”) soon brings us into the village of Tecumseh as we are headed East. Tecumseh—the home town of FARRIS WILLINGHAM, ’37aw, the KLAPP tribe, (EMMETT ’07pharm, and others) who established themselves at O. U. in years past. On to Earlboro—a brief stop and a rash of the days “way back when”—when Uncle Alec (A. B. CARPENTER, ’27aw, now of Roswell, New Mexico) and the then youthful attorney, TOM BENEDUM, ’28aw, literally ran the place in the boom hours in a “booming fashion”! On to Seminole and the home of the GRISSE tribe—HORTON, ’30aw, BILL, ’37, DICK, ’26sa, ’28aw, “BABY SISTER”—not, of course, overlooking the head of the tribe, DOC GRISSO, who has down through the years made his contribution as a Dad’s Association official at the University of Oklahoma.

Yes, here in Seminole DR. JOHN G. MITCHELL, ’19ma, the school prexy of many years standing, O. D. JOHNS, ’33aw, the senior high school principal, OTIS BOURNS, ’37aw, who has claimed Seminole as his residence for these many years and JIM PIPKIN, ’27—all ably represent O. U. ‘s interest. Here in Seminole DR. CLAUDE CHAMBERS, “the Regents’ director”—the man with whom we have been privileged to work quite closely over a series of years in the development of the University of Oklahoma, claims his residence.

Soon we are on our way to Wewoka and here have a very pleasant hour in the late evening of May 13 in the home of HICKS EPTON, ’32aw, wife THELMIA, ’32aw, the two charming young daughters and son till—what an interesting home—what an inspiring family group in the scheme of American life! On to Holdenville, the hour is growing late now but we take time out for “cokes” and to learn that Soon O. U. San- ders, ’24, was earlier in the day privileged to be on his way to his duties as the new prexy of the Southwestern College, Weatherford, Oklahoma, hailed “the” work.

Past the midnight hour we arrive in McAlester, the O. U. center of Eastern Oklahoma. We were privileged, after sleep, to call at the offices, next morning, of H. E. DODD, ’15sa, BOB BELL, ’28sa, ’23ma, and many many other Sooners of this Eastern Oklahoma city. On to Hartshorne and a call at the office of JOE A. BROWN, ’20aw, who is away on official duties, caused us to beat down the trail to Wilburton which of course brought back “refreshed” memories of the days years ago spent in working with Dad C. E. FAIR, (now of Sulphur), LES M. DOUGHTY, ’23aw, now of Tahlihaha, and of course the many years’ work with CLAUDE DUNLAP, ’28aw, ’29ma, the Eastern Oklahoma College prexy, and FLORENCE MILLER, ’31ma, who has “mothered” one thousand and one kids through to their educational ambitions.

This wide spot in the road? No other than Red Oak, Oklahoma! Famous? By all means, yes! It is the original home town of the famous walking grounds of our long time associate, Lt. Col. FRANK CLECKLER, ’21a, formerly executive secretary of the Alumni Association, but now of Uncle Sam’s Army.

Out of Red Oak and on down the pike and the trail led us at 6:30 o’clock to the Lowry Hotel, Poteau. Here under the very able management of Superintendent ELBERT COSTNER, ’29aw, ’33ma, and HOLLAND MEACHAM, ’37aw, ’40aw, the high school big shot Sooner principal was in special dinner in honor of our passing down the trail to the East. Among those with whom we were privileged to visit during the course of the evening were MRS. E. L. COSTNER (Jewel, to us), ALPHEUS VARNER, ’30aw, MR. ’(18) and MRS. ’(29sa) GUY FINCHER, MR. ’(23sa) and MRS. HAROLD YEHRLY, MRS. IONE GREEN, ’40aw, MRS. MAE PRICE, ’38aw, MRS. EDITH HARRISON, ’30aw, ’38aw, MR. and MRS. HOLLAND MEACHAM, and DR. NEESON ROLLE, ’28aw, ’39aw.

Yes, the evening in Poteau is over and the trail is open before us—we are away! Indeed, as in early 1919 when your Range Rider was privileged to visit at the Kansas City Southern division of the army where rest may be sought prior to arrival in Oklahoma City. Even CLAUDE FRICK, ’18, (now the plutocratic merchant of Stigler—in 1918 the mere back private in the rear rank with us) is still expanding his business in this progressive Eastern Oklahoma town.

So we must be away from Stigler and on our trek to Muskogee, Bixby, Tulsa, Sapulpa, Beggs, and Okmulgee. Yes, all of that ground is to be covered by midnight tonight at which time we hope there is a spot on the Frisco for your Range Rider where rest may be sought prior to arrival in Kansas City at 7:40 Saturday, May 16, for a brief stopover and then on to Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington.

Hasty telephone calls in Muskogee revealed a response from Board member JEWEL RITTITCOM, ’31aw. We ventured the assertion that the same was due on the “stick on the track of Main Street” with his many problems incident to the construction of the Army camp nearby. Even U. S. Marshall GRANVILLE NORRIS, ’29aw, is of town on official duty so we breeze on for a brief pause at Bixby.

Here, A. M. WHORTON, ’22aw, ’24aw, O. U. graduate and the dad of two fine sons holding degrees from the University of Oklahoma, ’24aw, and RAY-
MOND, '21a, is still following the bent of his profession and looking in retrospect at the fine contributions he has made to his University and at the successes his sons have enjoyed since their graduation. In Tulsa a few days previous to our arrival and arranged a speaker's schedule of O. U. undergraduates for the Tulsa city school system. Today Elton B. followed his affiliation in his home city of Tulsa another assignment to the city of Tulsa gives the terse announcement that a fine son of O. U. has passed on. It announces the death of ROY BRAIDSHAW, '23ba, son of prominent educator and who for some twenty-five years had been connected with the public system of Tulsa. And so with this brief pause we must be off for Sapulpa.

In the Creek County capital, Sapulpa—Executive Board member DR. BILLY LONGMIRE, '34ba, is at the hospital on an emergency call. We were not privileged to visit with him. And so down the highway to visit the Oklahoma State University, where we were privileged to see old friends among whom were Superintendent J. ARTHUR HERRON, '32ba, and his wife, MRS. HERRON, '34ba, and brother of ROY G. ATHERTON, '23ba. Ray is now on special duty during the war emergency in Washington. Other Beggsites were the many old friends of HERB SCOTT, '26ba, and his family. If you are lucky to have even an upper in which one can relax. Now to sleep. Tomorrow morning it is Kansas City and more Sooneers—we hope!

It has been an interesting seven hours here in Kansas City. The Santa Fe is rushing! We are now on our way to Chicago for more Sooner participation. At the Union Station, Sooner LEONARD LOGAN, '14ba, wife and children, arrive for an introduction to their new home. Leonard, of course, is still following his professional work with the Federal Government. As we step into the streamlined Santa Fe the first two Sooneers to be seen are HERB SCOTT, '26ba, and HOMER HECK, '35, of the O. U. staff. These two educators are on their way for a parley with other national leaders at Pennsylvania State College beginning on the Monday to follow.

This Dearborn Station in Chicago—could it be a center of a national recruiting station? Sailors, marines, officers of the Coast Guard—such Uncle Sam's Army seems to be saw all to be stacked in the narrow aisles as we proceed to the station proper and taxi stands.

In this jam of humanity, a Sooner appears! IRENE SHAUL, HENRY, '36ba, '36ma, , and her husband, Illinois, former staff worker and our close associate at the University along with husband (now the distinguished DR. HENRY and professor at Northwestern University) give the Sooner high sign as we bump and stumble through this crowded station. Eleven hours in Chicago with most of the time spent with the Dean of O. U. Alumni Publications, ROSE CATE, '26ba, prove profitable hours. For four days now Roscoe has been in the Chicago "school of instruction" for magazine editors.

Chicago and other "lake ports" are now far to the West. For three fine days (and nights) work has been under way and completed in the nation's capital. The hundreds of Sooner students are in this rushing section of Washington, D. C. and the university. Hasty conference with HELEN HADLEY, '38ba—who a brief number of months ago left her Oklahoma City assignment to become the private secretary of Federal Comcommunications Commissioner PAUL A. WALKER, '12law—was most stimulating and it seemed like "back home in the office," as Helen worked with us in the alumni organization so long.

A hurry up trip to the Senate Office Building and interviews with outstanding alumni was preceded only by our visit in the home of MAJOR GUY BROWN, '23ba, and FRANCES, '34, and to see again the charming young daughter, LINDA. A noon luncheon with First Lieutenant C. O. HUNT, '34ba, '40aw, just a few hours ago the baby regent on the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, was most interesting. Now his Lieutenant Hunt of the United States Army Air Force, who was to report the next morning at Mitchell Field, New York. The "(all was very quiet)" 15-minute visit with niece JOLI HAXEL, '42, who in reality was anxious to see Oklahoma soil again, broke the run of the day. A dash to the Pennsylvania train to head back to Oklahoma was the final 5:15p.m. afternoon assignment.

So here we are back in the office. It is the run of a series of hours. It is the contacting, visiting, and working with a crew of Sooneers that has been interesting for the past eight days and nights. The question uppermost in all minds—when will we be privileged to come back in peace and calm to visit the campus of the University of Oklahoma—fall back in line of our chosen life professions and too, where will this Ridng of the Sooner Range lead us in the immediate future months of our dreams?

### A A A

**Political Neutrality**

President Joseph A. Brandt, taking issue with a newspaper story which stated that University people favored a certain candidate for governor and "wouldn't want" one of the other candidates, made a public statement last month declaring the University's neutrality in the political campaigns.

"We, of the University of Oklahoma, regret that such an abstract statement should be given any credence," he said. "It is the business of the people of Oklahoma to elect the governor they want.

"The University of Oklahoma has no candidate, could have none either under statute or under the law of common decency. Three of the candidates in both parties for governor, for instance, are alumni of the University and two have sent all their children to this University.

"If the University of Oklahoma is brought into politics in this election, it will not be the fault of the University. Faculty and administration have, at they should, an attitude of absolute neutrality among the candidates.

"Faculty members, as responsible citizens are entitled, of course, to vote their own convictions in elections."

**Brewer Collection**

The Brewer Collection of books, numbering approximately 750 volumes, has been catalogued by the University Library staff and is now ready for use. The books were given to the library in memory of the late Theodore H. Brewer, long-time head of the English department of the University, who served on the faculty from 1908 to 1940. A special book-plate for the collection was designed by L. N. Morgan, of the English department, and Mrs. Ruth B. Stith, sister of Mr. Brewer.
SWEET NEWS for Home Bakers

NU-CREST Sugarless Recipes

Nu-Crest Vanilla Ice Cream

2 eggs
1 cup milk
1 cup Nu-Crest white
1 tsp. vanilla syrup
1 cup whipping cream

Beat eggs until thick and lemon colored. Stir in syrup, then vanilla and milk. Whip cream to custard-like consistency and fold into egg mixture. After mixture has frozen about a one inch layer around sides remove from tray and beat until smooth. Return to refrigerator and freeze until firm.

Nu-Crest Yellow Angel Food Cake

(Without sugar)

1 cup flour
6 egg yolks
1 1/4 cups Nu-Crest white syrup
1 tsp. cream tartar
1 tsp. vanilla
6 egg whites
1 tsp. salt

Let Nu-Crest syrup boil 4 minutes. Pour slowly into egg whites, beating continuously. Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon colored and fold into whites. Sift together four times flour, cream tartar, and salt. Fold in small amounts at a time. Add vanilla. Bake one hour.

Nu-Crest Sugarless Icing

Let 3-4 cup of Nu-Crest white syrup boil five minutes. Pour slowly into whites of two eggs, beaten stiff, while beating continuously. Beat until of consistency to spread on cake.

STRETCH SUGAR RATIONING WITH CORN SYRUP AS SWEETENER

No need to give up sweet foods because of sugar rationing! Try your favorite recipes with Nu-Crest Corn Syrup as a sweetener! Here are proportions:

BAKING: In all types of yeast-raised doughs, use equal parts of sugar and Nu-Crest Light Corn Syrup.

IN CAKES: Nu-Crest Light Corn Syrup may be used to replace about one-fourth of the sugar in recipes.

ICINGS: In fudge, cooked icings, cold water icing and meringue, from one-fourth to one-third of usual quantity of sugar may be replaced with Nu-Crest Corn Syrup.

PIES: In all types of fruit pies, Nu-Crest Light or Golden Corn Syrup may be used to replace all or part of sugar called for in recipes.

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