THE beams of the Central Y. M. C. A. Building in Chicago rang the night of November 7 with the strains of Boomer Sooner and Joe Hicks’ new song Cheer Oklahoma. The occasion was the first official get-together of Sooner alumni living in Chicago held in recent years, and the dinner was given in honor of Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University, and Mrs. Bizzell.

With more than sixty loyal Sooners present, the meeting was voted a huge success. Credit for arranging the time meeting goes largely to Wesley Nunn, '17 ex, chairman of the Chicago Advisory Council, assisted by the four other council members, Joe Hicks, '23, Adelbert Brown, '17 law, Fred Ward, '21, and Leslie Salter, '22 law.

Highlight of the entertainment was the effort made by George Trosath, well-known entertainer of College Inn and the R. K. O. circuit. As things progressed and people started looking around, it was discovered that our own ranks were not without unusual talent. Esther McRuer, '22, field secretary of the Presbyterian missions in Chicago and an internationally known whistler, was induced to do some very lovely and fancy whistling for us. This was followed by the discovery of Blanche Morgan Webb, '05, who back in 1904 wrote the music to the original Oklahoma song we all know which starts out “Oklahoma, Oklahoma.” The words for this song were written by Roy Hadsell, '04, and believe it or not, it was heard for the first time in 1904 at the Chicago World Fair.

Well, by this time the talent was popping up from every corner, and Joe Hicks had to call a halt in favor of the chicken which was getting cold. The Sooners attending this banquet could have written a history of the University and never missed an incident, since they were so well distributed through the years that at least one would have been in school every year since the University opened.

Starting with the A’s, the group present included Vern E. Alden, '11, and Mrs. Alden (Jennie B. Dyer, '10), who now live out in Winnetka; Drewsilla Beams, '38 ec; Lawrence E. Bennett, '32 eng, and Mrs. Bennett, '33; whom we knew as Lucile Mann; Adelbert Brown, an attorney in Chicago, and Mrs. Brown; Priscilla Burch, '36 bus; and C. H. Butt and Mrs. Butt (Elizabeth Cate, '30 bus), who live in Evanston. Elizabeth said that she had heard her brother Roscoe was pretty busy these days, which surprised no one, and any number of people mentioned that they certainly hope Roscoe will keep right on turning out a Sooner Magazine that is second to none among the alumni magazines of the country.

Alton Crabb, '38 eng, is another of the recent Sooner grads who was present. Then there was Ada R. Crocker, a Sooner by adoption now connected with the Cook County Hospital; Joseph A. Diffendaffer, '26 eng, '27 ins, a designer and developer of X-Ray equipment, and Mrs. Diffendaffer (Elsa Kendall, '27 ec), who live in Berwyn; Harry J. Dean and Stella Garee Dean, '22, who came in from Tinley Park; R. E. Falls, '35 eng, of the Crane
Company Research Laboratory; Dr. H. Glen Gardiner, '35med, who is practicing in Chicago, and Mrs. Gardiner; Marguerite Giezentanner, '24, who is living in Oak Park; and Ada Hawkins, '28nursc, in Chicago, and Mrs. Gardiner; Mar- 
Glen Gardiner, '35med, who is practic-
Company Research Laboratory; Dr. H. 
ton, Illinois (Mrs. Littick was Nellie Jane 
commercial art in Chicago; Arthur and 
dall, '38fa, now doing graduate study in 
tertainment, lives in Winnetka with his 
Sooner song and provided the swell en-
X32, Cook County Hospital.

One evening before dinner several weeks ago, 
ales Nunn, chairman, 
called all kinds of confusion when he 
asked the “head” of each family to make 
the introductions. The husbands didn’t 
made nearly as good an average as Tom 
Stidham’s football team has, but it was 
about fifty-fifty.

More alumni at the rally: Kerr C. Mc-
Quown, '22, who lives in LaGrange; Har-
ry L. Rice, '19, a pharmacist in Chicago; 
Lorna Robinson, '20; Wimfred Robey, 
'20; D. D. Roseberry, '39eng, who last year 
performed for John Jacobs on the track 
team but now works for the Crane Com-
pány in chemical engineering; Leslie Salt-
er, '22, Chicago attorney, and Mrs. Salter 
(Maud Carroll Salter, '22), who live in 
Flommoor; Alice Smith, '33; Lee Stigler, 
'17ex, who comes from a whole family of 
Soomers and seemed to know as many 
present as the next fellow; Jeptha C. 
Stone, '15, and Katherine Smith Stone, of 
Evaston (he studied geology at the Uni-
versity and is now district manager for 
the Fuller Brush Company); Dr. J. L. 
Walther, '22ex, who lives, as most of these 
Chicago people do, in a suburb—Wilmette 
this time; Fred H. Ward and Mrs. Ward 
(Berenece Bush, '18), of Park Ridge; 
Robert P. Webb and Blanche Morgan 
Webb, '05; and Grace Williams, '15, said 
to be the first Sooner to graduate from 
the School of Journalism, who now writes 
ads for the Fair in Chicago.

Those who planned to attend but found 
it impossible to get to the dinner because 
of the rain, the pending election, or 
personal reasons included: Thompson Gene 
Hodges, '34hus, and Mrs. Hodges; R. L. 
McBrien, '33eng; A. H. Benjamin and 
Mrs. Benjamin (Ethel Byrd, '29ed); A. 
H. Schmidt, Jr., '36bus; T. O. Westhaver, 
'14; and Mrs. Westhaver (Adalce Maloy, 
'14); Dr. Ralph W. Rucker, '36med; W. 
H. Mothershead, '20; and Mrs. Mary Ford 
Waldrop, '35.

Judging from the number of regrets 
that Wesley Nunn received and the 
enthusiasm shown by those who attended, 
we have a feeling that the next meeting 
will be twice the size of this one. 
It seemed that practically everyone had 
lived to the Sooner-Kansas State foot-
bball game over the NBC network the 
previous week and was ready to hold an 
amateur quarterbacks’ session on a 
moment’s notice.

Dr. Bizzell, acting as the chief informer, 
was not to be outdone on a knowledge of 
Oklahoma football and could answer any 
question they put to him.

Plans are already under way for a vic-
tory dinner next year when the Soomers 
play Northwestern. Somebody said to tell 
Tom Stidham that they sure hope old 
“Charley Horse” (the freshman football 
character fictionized by Harold Keith in a 
newspaper series) gets to make that trip.

In the final talk that climaxd the meet-
ing, Dr. Bizzell discussed some of the 
hopes for the future of the University and 
pointed to some of the things already 
accomplished.

This dinner event was an example of 
Sooner spirit at its best. Dr. Bizzell’s 
strafoward and sincere discussion of 
the University’s problems aroused real 
enthusiasm among the Sooner group present. 

—Boyd Gunning, '37law.

‘29 Law Reunion

Members of the Law Class of ‘29 held 
a reunion Friday afternoon November 11, 
in the Wilson room of the Skirvin Hotel. 
After dinner, the group joined the general 
Homecoming Dinner-Dance held in the 
Silver Glade Room of the Skirvin Tower 
Hotel under auspices of the Oklahoma 
City Alumni Club.

Officers of the class are E. G. De Par-
rade, president; Walter D. Hanson, Mart 
Brown and Frank Chilson, vice presidents, 
and Frank Jones, secretary.

New Sooner song

A new Sooner song, "Cheer Oklahoma,” 
arrived on the University campus last 
month. It came from the piano of Joseph 
W. Hicks, '23, editor of a trade journal 
published at Chicago by H. M. Byllesby 
Engineering and Management Corpora-

In sending copies of the song to Lewis 
Salter, dean of the college of fine arts, 
and Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the 
University, Mr. Hicks explained the or-
igin of the song as follows:

During 1921 and 1922 I had the privilege 
of being a member of the University of Oklahoma 
Quartet and Glee Club, and occasionally at the 
end of a concert we would sing Boomer-
Sooner, an alumnus of Yale or some other un-
iversity would comment upon the use by Okla-
oma University of Yale’s famous Boodle-Boodle 
air with Boomer-Sooner words.

Since my graduation in 1923, perhaps someone 
have come through with something more original 
and apropos in the form of a University of Ok-
lahoma football song. If so, I tender my apol-
gologies for the subject of this letter.

One evening before dinner several weeks ago, 
I was attempting to entertain my two small 
daughters with some jingles at the piano and 
my wife inquired the name of the tune I was 
playing. I told her it was just something 
stumbled onto, but the more we played it over, 
the more it began to develop into a complete air.

Several days later I played it for a friend who 
is a composer and publisher and he recommend-
ed I write some words for it. He further sug-
gested it would make an excellent college or 
football song. I attempted some words, keep-
ing Oklahoma in mind and the attached printed 
professional copy is the result.

The publisher has agreed to furnish me with 
a limited number of the Air melodies for dis-
tribution and if by any chance the University 
would care to consider it as an O. U. song, I 
would be glad to have them do so.

I am not presuming to suggest that it be 
adopted as an “official” university song, but 
rather for such use as may be desirable, and I 
can assure you that any use that may be made 
of it by the University will be appreciati-

(please turn to page 32)
At Home and Abroad
(continued from page 21)

I have not considered this in any other commercial adventure and while I have had the song copyrighted, I shall be glad to waive such rights as might be necessary for a broad use by the University. The publisher, of course, reserves the rights for sale of copies in sheet music form as is customary under such circumstances.

I am sending a copy to the director of the University band and a four part quartet arrangement to the director of the Glee Club, and a few copies to some of my good Oklahoma friends.

The first reaction of Paul Young, '36ex, former Sooner football star who is now coach of the Ardmore team.

The delegation from Norman which attended the meeting also included C. O. Hunt, of the Extension Division staff, and Roscoe Cate, editor and manager of The Sooner Magazine.

Those present included Norman Brilliant, '17, of Madill, member of the Executive Board of the Alumni Association; and Lloyd Noble, '21ex, of Ardmore, member of the University Board of Regents.

Hugh Comfort dead
Alumni, faculty members and people of Norman were deeply grieved last month by the death of Hugh Comfort, '33, '35ma, the 24-year-old son of Dean and Mrs. E. N. Comfort. He was found asphyxiated in his room at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut on October 27.

The accidental death was caused by illuminating gas escaping from a partially open jet on a small gas plate in the student's room. Burial was in New Haven and a memorial service was conducted later in Norman.

Mr. Comfort had received a master's degree in English and had begun work on a doctor's degree at Yale. After his graduation from O. U. he taught two years at Central State Teachers college, Edmond, and was advisor in the boys' dormitory. He returned to the University last summer to teach an English course.

He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic fraternity, and was a Rhodes scholarship candidate while in the University. He was in an automobile accident in 1934, a few months before he was to take the test, and remained in a cast for several months.

His other activities at the University in-
eluded Phi Eta Sigma, national honorary fraternity for freshmen; Kappa Kappa Psi, national honorary band fraternity; Phi Mu Alpha, national music fraternity, and English Club. He played with the University Band and the University Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Comfort was a leader in campus affairs and was popular with the students and faculty members.

A large group of his friends gathered with his parents at the First Presbyterian Church of Norman Sunday afternoon, November 6, to pay tribute to his memory.

Dr. Homer L. Dodge, dean of the graduate school, praised Mr. Comfort as “student and campus citizen.” Dick Disney, ’37 jour, long-time friend to whom Hugh wrote his last letter, spoke to honor the memory of his friend.

Dr. John O. Moseley, ’16 ma, president of Central State Teachers College, and Dr. Jewel Wurtzbach, associate professor of English in the University, paid tribute to him. Musical numbers by ensembles of the University band and the a capella choir of Central State Teachers college were presented.

As these friends praised his memory in word and song, other friends continued their activities to raise a Hugh Comfort memorial fund for the Oklahoma School of Religion, of which his father is dean.

Survivors in addition to the parents include three sisters, Elizabeth, 18 years old, and Ann, 13 years old, of the home address, and Mrs. Tom Losey, Houston, Texas, and a brother, Richard, 20 years old, a student at Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater.

He was engaged to be married in the near future to Lucille McGuire, ’32 fa, who also was doing graduate work at Yale University.

Hall of fame awards

Two O. U. graduates and one former student were included in the list of nineteen persons by selection for the Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the annual Statehood Day dinner of the Oklahoma Memorial Association, November 16.

Sooners honored are:

Scott Squyres, ’24 law, Oklahoma City, former national commander-in-chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Dr. H. G. Bennett, ’24 ma, president of Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater.

Scott Ferris, ’19 ex, Oklahoma City attorney, national Democratic committeeman, political leader.

Reunion for ’30 law

About thirty members of the law class of 1930 attended a reunion luncheon at noon Homecoming Day, in Room 106 of the Union Building. The plans for the ten-year reunion of the class in 1940 were discussed, and Henry S. Griffing, of Oklahoma City, was appointed chairman of the committee on arrangements. It was agreed that the 1939 meeting of the class

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33
will be held at noon on Homecoming Day as in the past.
F. Leonard Sibel, of Oklahoma City, 
presided at the luncheon. Special guests 
include Dr. Victor H. Kulp, Dr. William 
B. Swinford, Dr. Floyd A. Wright 
and A. H. Huggins, of the law school 
faculty.
Class members present were: Fisher 
Ames, D. M. Bailey, S. W. Biggers, Louise 
Black, Clarence Black, Frederick H. Brigham, 
E. S. Champlin, A. David Erdberg, 
George J. Faggin, J. I. Gibson, Stephen 
D. Holloway, J. Harry Johnson, Albert 
Kidd, F. C. Love, Jr., R. R. McCormack, 
A. F. Nessaman, Farris M. Petree, Houston 
W. Reeves, Ralph H. Schaller, F. Leonard Sibel, Paul Updegraff, 
Lee Vernon and Richard L. Wagner.
Other guests were: Mrs. Richard L. 
Wagner and Roy J. Elam.

Accidently shot to death
Webb L. Campbell, '23ex, was fatally 
wounded by a fellow member of the 
Oklahoma City police force October 29 when 
they were chasing a prowler in the resid- 
tial district of the city.
Mr. Campbell was an engineering stu- 
dent at the University in 1922-23 and 
earned a letter that year in freshman foot- 
ball.
Survivors include a wife and three 
dughters.

Mills goes to Yankees
Bus Mills, '31ex, former Sooner foot- 
ball star, has been secured by the 
New York Yankees, world’s champion 
baseball club, in a trade with the St. Louis 
Browns. The Yankees traded catcher 
Joe Glenn and outfielder Myra Hoag to the 
Browns for pitcher Oral Hildebrand 
and outfielder Mills. The deal was re- 
ported by the Associated Press to be a 
straight swap with no money involved.
Mills is remembered by Sooner football 
fans for his spectacular ball carrying 
against Nebraska in 1930, the last game in 
which the Sooners had defeated the 
Huskies until this year.

Grant for research
Dr. Fred A. Barkley, '30, '32ms, fac-
ulty member at Montana State University, 
Missoula, has received a grant of $550 
from the American Fellowship Society of 
Philadelphia, for continuance of mono-
graphic studies in the sumac family of 
trees. Dr. Barkley wrote the first volume of 
the monograph, covering the clas-
cification, morphology and geographical 
distribution while at Washington Univer-
sity, St. Louis, Missouri.
The sumac family is rather poorly re-
presented in temperate regions but is of 
great economic importance, producing 
the finest grades of lacquers, pistachio 
and cashew nuts, various oils and most 
of the commercial supply of tannic acid 
used in the tanning industry.
Dr. Barkley started his research in this 
field while working at the University of 
Oklahoma on the Ray M. Balyeat Fel-
lowship. He expects to continue to as-
semble literature concerning the group 
during this year and spend next August 
and September in study at the New York 
Botanical Garden and the National Her-
parium of Washington, D. C.

Information by short wave
When somebody in the Philippine Is-
lands wanted to know about a certain O.
U. alumnus, the following things hap-
pened, as reported in the Norman Trans-
script.
Short wave radio, as a means of communi-
cating, quickly, was used by a department of 
agricultural official in the Philippines in an 
attempt to learn whether Fred Passmore was a 
grade of the University.
Interested in getting details about the youth 
as soon as possible, the official sent his message 
via short wave; it was picked up by a resident 
of California and sent to the University Regis-
trary air mail.
The message as received by G. F. Washack, 
the registrar, said: “Fred Passmore graduated 
from the University of California and the reply was sent via RCA.
Out of the whole thing rose the coincidental 
situation of the California resident living in the 
same town as Mr. Washack’s brother. Mr. 
Washack planned to notify F. M. Graver, Van 
Nugs, California, who relayed the message by 
mail, of the situation and also his brother, who is a 
engineer in Van Nugs.

Compliment to O. U.
Some kind words about the University 
of Oklahoma and the Alumni Association 
were printed in a recent issue of the Spec-
tator column in the El Reno American. 
The column is written by “J. L. C.,” who 
according to Merle Woods, ’17, the edi-
tor and publisher of the American, is one of 
the very few men he ever saw who 
can operate a linotype well and also write 
a good newspaper column.
J. L. C.’s comments about O. U. follow:
And by the way, it’s time folks who’ve ever 
been associated with our university at Norman, 
were taking on an extra load of pride and 
satisfaction in the achievements of “Ole O. U.”—not only on account of the fact that they’ve a 
cracker-jack football team that has licked the 
socks off all opponents this year, including Coach 
Biff Jones’ squad from Nebraska—but the school 
is rapidly becoming one of the greater institu-
tions of learning in the country. With an 
enrollment for the winter term of about 6,500, 
and an entire yearly enrollment of something 
near 10,000, Ole O. U. is bound to be playing a 
most important role in the life and progress of 
“Ole Oklahoma.”
And did you know that the University pub-
lishes a splendid big periodical, Sooner Magazine, 
devoted to the interests of the school and former 
students?... And you are urgently requested 
to send in your enrollment fee in the University 
of Oklahoma Association, which includes a sub-
scription to the monthly magazine. Address 
your letter to: Sooner Magazine, Union Building, 
Norman—and enclose three “bucks.”
And by the way again, if you were never 
regularly enrolled in the University, there is still 
a chance that your name appears on the list of 
those considered former students—if you hap-
pened to have been among those who were en-
listed in the army during the World War and sent to the University for training in the de-
tachment barracks there at that time. Moreover, your name may be found on the bronze tablets that grace the walls of the Memorial tower at the student union building on the campus. Look yourself up, and send in your dues to the Association.

'33 Law reunion

Thirty-two members of the law class of 1933 attended a reunion in the afternoon of October 21 at the Black Hotel in Oklahoma City. Paul Pugh, Oklahoma City, was elected president of the class; Murray Gordon, Oklahoma City, was elected treasurer, and Charles B. Kelly was elected secretary and placed in charge of some arrangements for the next reunion.


Those attending from out of Oklahoma City were: Hugh J. Adams, Guthrie; Joe Porter Ballard, Norman; Milton W. Hardy, Tulsa; Thomas L. Hieronymus, Buffalo; Neil Keller, Norman; Kermit Nash, Drumright; William E. Poteet, Commerce; Kenneth P. Reed, Perry; William Woodson Rodgers, Blackwell; Webster Wilder, Jr., Cherokee; William J. Williams, Ardmore; James M. Wilson, Enid; and Sam Whitaker, Marlow.

Library alumni dinner

During the meeting of the Southwestern Library Association October 19 to 22 in Oklahoma City, alumni of the University School of Library Science had a dinner in the Skirvin Hotel.

Those who attended the dinner were J. L. Rader, '08, '13ma, librarian of the University and director of the School of Library Science; James J. Hill, '15, '15ma, assistant librarian; and Ruth Jo Bandel, '34lib.sc, Rosemary Barnett, '33lib.sc, Hazel Beatty, '31lib.sc, Verna Benham, '33ed, '34lib.sc, and Nina Pearl Briggs, '31lib.sc, Opal Carr, '29h.ed, '33lib.sc, Mary Evelyn Potts, '30, Eunice Cockrum, '30lib.sc, Noma Ann Comstock, '30, '32lib.sc, Elizabeth Cooper, '30lib.sc, Winifred Cox, '37lib.sc, Theresa Crowell, '34lib.sc, Kathryn Dibbun, '36lib.sc, Eleanor Eocene, '34lib.sc, Mrs. Janet Greer Coleman, '35lib.sc, and Esther Grimes, '29, '36lib.sc.


First campus visit in 27 years

A Homecoming visitor who had the unusual experience of visiting the O. U. campus for the first time in twenty-seven years was J. L. Highsaw, '11, who is principal of the Memphis Technical High School, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. Highsaw took both preparatory and college work in the University. He recalls that every building now on the campus has been built since he first came to school on the O. U. campus in 1901. He was living close to the campus in 1903 when the Administration Building burned and believes that he was the first person to see the fire and report it to the city fire department. Along with other students whom he aroused, he helped save from the office most of the books and records of the late James S. Buchanan, one of the much loved, early day faculty members. Mr. Highsaw re-called that "Uncle Buck's" students made much of the report that their professor would have been hard put to recall his usual jokes if his lecture notes had been lost in the fire.

Mr. Highsaw was president of the University Press Club which issued the first numbers of the University of Oklahoma Magazine, and he was on the University debate team which met a University of Kansas team in 1911. The Sooner team's speeches that year were considered good enough to use as models in a national debate handbook.

Mrs. Highsaw is the former May Baker, '10. They have two sons, James L. Jr., a graduate of Princeton University, who is now in the Harvard Law School, and Robert B., who is now a senior in Princeton.

News letter for nurse alumnae

An eight-page mimeographed news letter was published in October by the Alumnae Association of the University School of Nursing. According to a message to alumnae nurses from Effie K. Smith Root, '23, Association president, the school now has 338 graduates.

The association was formed in 1931 for mutual help and improvement in professional work, for promotion of good fellowship and for advancement of the interests of the school of nursing.

Officers of the association this year, in addition to Mrs. Root, include Thelma Forbes, '37, vice-president; Mary Jo Kelly, '35, second vice-president; Ethel Garrett, '24, chairman of the financial committee; Julia Peace, business manager.

A new activity of the association is the presentation of an award each year to a member of the graduating class.