of using evidence in arriving at facts and of using facts. However, there is nothing mysterious about science or the scientific method. The methods of science are within the reach of all, and of course the scientist think that they have developed possible methods for determining facts and evaluating the evidence from which facts are derived. Perhaps all of us tend to use the scientific method to some extent in that we use it in arriving at our conclusions about facts. However, the scientist is much more careful than the average layman in evaluating his evidence and arriving at his facts. Here, I think, is another and questions concerning mysticism and the supernatural. Positive scientific evidence cannot be obtained about any of these. This list, however, does not include social and political problems. Most of our troubles are due, I think, to the fact that we have been careful to obtain our facts and use them properly. As a non-scientist put it, when speaking of the use of facts in solving our various problems, "we should find them, filter them, use them, and then arrive at our conclusions." In other words, with respect to each problem that may arise, we need to, first, get all the facts that have a bearing on the problem, second, study the problem in the light of these facts, third, choose the tentative solution which seems most likely to work, and fourth, make tests on a limited basis to determine if the prospective solution works.

But granting that all of this is desirable, what can be done to bring about the desired changes? Obviously it would be unreasonable to expect that any one individual or a small group of individuals could do much to affect the thoughts and attitudes of a state or nation.

Perhaps we can make a start by applying the elements of scientific reasoning to our own lives. This can be done, or at least begun, by developing a more critical attitude toward the evidence that we use in acquiring our facts. Most of the rumors that come to us daily would have to be discarded for lack of evidence, of course, and many choice bits of gossip would lose their validity, but out of all of this, a healthier attitude and a saner approach to the problems of the day.

I think that we would soon find ourselves more inclined to jump at conclusions. All of this would result in a decrease in prejudice and in less jumping to conclusions before we accept a statement as a fact. Tolerating of individual differences, which is a prime requisite for the success of a social organization at any level, and without which no one can validly make charitable attitudes toward our associates, immediate and remote. Propaganda cannot be used successfully on an individual who has been taught to reason scientifically, and who demands to see all of the evidence before he accepts a statement as a fact.

If this type of thinking, developed on an individual basis, could then be extended to the larger social units, the results might be surprising. At least this much is true, careful judgments based upon well scrutinized evidence, will not be made by groups of people who have not been able to use the technique on an individual basis; and therein lies the opportunity for each individual to make his own private contribution to more orderly group thought.

Hybrid Corn Up to Farmers

Most of the responsibility for the success of hybrid corn in Oklahoma will have to rest with state farmers, Dr. O. J. Eigsti, associate professor of plant sciences at the University of Oklahoma and developer of a "tailor-made" corn for Oklahoma, says.

Farmers must convince themselves that hybrids are different from open-pollinated corn and also which type is best for their soil, he adds.

Dr. Eigsti believes that hybrids will increase corn yield about 15 to 20 bushels per acre. And his tests in eastern Oklahoma seem to bear out this belief. Many farmers have reported substantial increases in their corn yield after finding a hybrid which is adapted to their particular soil and weather conditions.

Hybrid corn is specialized corn bred to make maximum yields under the soil and weather conditions existing at a given location. For this reason different strains have been discarded, others added—trying to find the right types for all parts of the test area.
WHEN THE University of Oklahoma conferred the B.A. (journalism) degree upon Miss Elsie Faye Newby December 23, a twelfth Newby name was added to the alumni file. The others are: Mrs. Frank A. Buttram (Merle Newby, '06dm, '12ma); Errett R. Newby, '07bn, '08ba; Mrs. E. R. Newby (Lola North, '14ba); Mrs. Cadwallader Jones (Ruth Newby, '37bus); Mrs. James Shepherd (Elaine Newby, '40 speech); David North Newby, '43eng; Mrs. D. N. Newby (Ruth Ann Hummer, '43ba); Jessie D. Newby, '10ba, '25ma; Jerry B. Newby, '12ba; Mrs. J. B. Newby (Edna Cash, '15ba); and Warner W. Newby, '21ba (deceased). This makes a total of 15 O.U. degrees in the immediate family. The latest Newby graduate, Elsie Faye, is the daughter of Warner W. and Faye Dougherty, '23.

DISTANCE DOESN'T seem to mean much any more. When Lt. Col. Hal L. Muldowney, 28bus, distinguished himself in battle at Salerno in Italy, an article on his valiant work was written for The Beta Theta Pi fraternity magazine by Col. Lee B. Thompson, '27law, who was stationed at approximately the opposite side of the globe in the Fiji Islands. The article, relating how Colonel Muldrow's artillery battalion stopped the spearhead of a German tank attack that threatened to split the hard-pressed Fifth Army line during the Salerno invasion, appeared in the January issue of the fraternity magazine.

FROM AUSTRALIA, Lt. Ed Ellinghamhausen, '41ba, writes to say that he and Lt. Bob Carter, '41bs, sang the O.U. songs one night while visiting an Australian home which had a piano—but they had a little difficulty remembering all the words of the glee club song Oklahoma Hall, and would please print the words in Sooner Magazine for their benefit. We will, Ed, and here they are:

From the hillsides, from the prairies
Comes a song that never wears,
Loyalty that never varies,
Oklahoma, Hall!

Jovied walls and stately towers,
Campus fair 'neath sun or showers,
All the love we bear thee flowers
And will never fail.

Shout the chorus loudly (loudly)!
Bear the emblem proudly (proudly)!
Army vast, we march at last
And lift our voices stoutly (stoutly)!

On we march for Alma Mater,
On we march nor ever falter,
Singing loud, each son and daughter,
Oklahoma, Hall!

Letters

(Continued from page 21)

and, of course, we all hope so. (Shirk has been reported a German prisoner by the War Department.)

It is muddy and nasty going over here at present, with lots of rain and fairly cool weather. Very uncomfortable at times, with some snow on the high ground. Slow, dirty work.

Hope this information will help some towards your records. With best regards to all,

W. K. Garnett, 37law
Captain, Field Artillery
Italy

Fighting Engineers

By way of bringing you up to date in my war experiences, I landed in North Africa with the—

Engineer Combat Regiment on the 26th of January, 1943. We did not get in on the actual fighting in North Africa, but did construction work such as the building of Prisoner of War camps, construction of hospitals and other military installations and roads. It was not until the Sicilian campaign that I got in the real battle.

As part of a Special Task Force and fighting as infantry, we landed with the initial landing of Allied troops on the beach at Gela, Sicily. Here our force fought and captured the city. I personally captured five Germans and assisted in the capture of 31 others. This was the proudest moment of my life.

Throughout the campaign we maintained roads and bridges, removed enemy mine fields and booby traps. The Germans are very clever in the use of their land and anti-personnel mines. These mines make it dangerous even for those in the rear and out of artillery range. However, the Engineers have become skilled in the handling of mines. After the campaign we enjoyed a rest period at Mondello Beach, near Palermo.

We landed in Italy on September 15, 1943, and have performed the same type of work as in Sicily. The crossing of the Volturno River was an experience that will never be forgotten, because the Engineers crossed in front of the Infantry. I'm still wondering who started this "Sunny Italy" stuff.

The Combat Engineers are very proud of the word "Combat" in their title and you will always find them right in the hottest part of the battle. They are expected to be able to fire the Bazooka gun as well as the Infantrymen and oftentimes they have to go out in front of the Infantry to clear mines.

Bill Hargus, '40
Captain, Engineers
Italy

France Decorates

I have just completed reading the August issue of the Sooner and sure did enjoy checking the list for friends in the service. O. U. should be proud of her contribution of sons and daughters.

For the archives, I have been decorated with the French Croix de Service and was promoted to major March 7. We have had a very interesting go of it so far—some good, some bad. Of course, we will all be glad to get back and see the campus again.

Best regards,

Walter O. Beets, '28-'31
Major, Field Artillery
APO New York City