Backlog

The classic story from the anecdote-dotted days that Eva Turner spent at O.U. has been told a hundred times. This is one hundred and one:

It seems that two old friends of the famed British opera star met in London.

"Where is Eva now?" the first asked.

"Why, she's in Oklahoma," his companion explained.

"In Oklahoma?" was the puzzled reply.

"Which role?"

The role which Miss Turner played in Oklahoma for ten years was that of voice teacher, prestige enhancer and legendary campus personality. Yet, as with most eminent persons, many of those who saw her daily or read her name in the local newspapers failed to recognize that this dynamic woman in old Holmberg Hall was probably the greatest contribution which England had ever made to opera.

In a similar vein, Oklahomans will be surprised to learn that the state has produced five of the top ballerinas in the world (see page 4)—perhaps more ballerinas than ballet-goers. It might come as a shock to realize that two of the brightest names in ballet, Yvonne Chouteau and Miguel Terekhov, have now been added to the O.U. teaching staff.

And how widespread is the knowledge that Violet Archer is considered one of the finest woman composers of the day, better known in Canada than within the state where she has taught since 1954—or that her fellow School of Music faculty member Sylvia Zaremba has received international acclaim as a concert pianist—or that Art Professor Emelio Amero is one of the greatest lithographers in the world?

Dr. George M. Sutton is listed in the faculty directory as research professor of zoology. Those in the field of ornithology look to him as an international authority, probably the most successful since Audubon in combining the study of birds with art.

An O.U. alumnus traveling Europe was amazed to find that the people he met in Germany had indeed heard of the University of Oklahoma—but identified it only as “the place where Gustav Mueller teaches.” Almost any philosopher in the world could have told him the same thing.

The study of histoplasmosis may hold limited interest for the popcorn buying public, but to scientists it is significant that the international authority on this subject is also chairman of the University of Ok-