Because of war conditions, the annual Homecoming celebration at the University of Oklahoma will be greatly simplified this year.

Officers of the Alumni Association decided after a series of conferences with alumni, student and faculty leaders, that the annual dinner-dance in Oklahoma City, the elaborate Homecoming Day parade of floats, and the usual after-game alumni reception in the Oklahoma Memorial Union should all be canceled this year.

Instead, there will be one big Homecoming event—a box lunch rally and informal program conducted in the Fieldhouse from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 14, the day that Missouri invades Norman for the Homecoming football classic. The box lunch will be available to all who make reservations in advance.

With the nation bending every effort to the conservation of transportation facilities, alumni officials do not feel justified in urging alumni to travel any considerable distances to attend Homecoming this year, Roscoe Cate, acting executive secretary, announced.

However, the general rally will be held in the Fieldhouse for the benefit of those who do get to Norman for the game, and it will give the visiting alumni, faculty members and students a chance for an old-fashioned get-together.

Alumni unable to come to Norman for the celebration can enjoy the two big features of the day by radio. Arrangements have been made to broadcast from the Fieldhouse at 1:30 p.m. a brief program saluting the thousands of alumni now serving in the armed forces. This will be broadcast over WNAD, the University radio station (640 kilocycles). WNAD also will broadcast the Sooner-Missouri football game, which will start at 3 p.m.

The salute to alumni in the armed forces, and a brief description of the way in which the University is participating in the war effort will be the only serious part of the Fieldhouse rally. Most of the time will be devoted to informal visiting.

Joseph A. Brandt, University president and an O. U. alumnus himself, will greet the visiting alumni. Coach Dewey Luster of the Soonerers and Coach Don Faurot of Missouri have been invited to say something about the forthcoming football game.

The University Band, directed by W. R. Wehrad, will supply music for the rally and student cheer leaders will be on hand to lead the crowd in the singing of O. U. songs and in football yells.

Student leaders were unanimous in agreeing that it would be unpatriotic to spend the usual amount of time and money on preparation of elaborate floats for the usual kind of Homecoming parade. Students are taking heavier courses this year and have less time for extra activities. Floats in many cases are quite expensive, and students believed this money might better be used to help the war effort in some way. Use of automobiles, trucks, gasoline, and rubber in a parade also would not be in accord with the nation's effort to conserve transportation facilities. For similar reasons, organized houses will eliminate the traditional Homecoming decorations this year.

The usual type of parade may be replaced with a "walking parade" of students and the band through the campus district just before the Homecoming rally starts.

As Homecoming Day will be the climax of the annual Frontier Week sponsored by the Union Activities Board for all students, a western atmosphere will be used in Fieldhouse decorations for the rally. Tentative plans are to have the box lunch served in chuck wagon style by co-eds dressed in cowgirl costumes.

Committees of Norman and Oklahoma City alumni will act as hosts and hostesses to greet alumni visitors at the Fieldhouse.

Vernon Cook, '26law, president of the Oklahoma City Alumni Club, will head the Oklahoma City delegation.

Tentative plans have been made for various student chapters and organizations to have headquarters designated in various parts of the Fieldhouse, where alumni members of each group can gather to meet friends.

The annual fall meeting of the executive board of the University of Oklahoma Association will be held at 10:30 a.m. Homecoming Day in Room 120 of the Union Building.

613 Life Members

Four additional names were added last month to the life membership roll of the Alumni Association, increasing the total number of living life members to 613.

All four of the new life members live outside Oklahoma. Henry M. Black, '40eng and Mrs. Black (Virginia Sutherland, '39 soc.wk) visited the Alumni Office in October and took out a joint life membership. Their home is in Memphis and Mr. Black is an engineer for the DuPont Company, engaged in war industry work.

Another new life member is Margaret F. Sangster, '43journ, of Houston, Texas. Miss Sangster is employed in the Shell Oil Company personnel department in Houston and has been an unofficial correspondent for Sooner Magazine in that vicinity.

The fourth new life member is Dr. Joseph D. Walker, '22med, physician and surgeon in Houston.

Payments on life memberships have been
coming in at an accelerating rate since the
treasurer of the life membership trust fund
announced that all receipts would be in-
vested in war bonds which become the
property of the life membership fund.

Life membership in the Alumni Associ-
ation, including life subscription to Soon-
er Magazine, costs $60.00 which may be
paid at the rate of $5.00 quarterly. All this
money goes into the permanent trust fund
and only the interest can be spent on cur-
cent expenses of the Association. If both
husband and wife have attended O. U., a
single life membership includes both of
them.

Dallas Breakfast

Nearly fifty alumni attended the annual
O. U. breakfast held in Dallas on the morn-
ing of the Sooner-Texas football game, Oc-
tober 10.

Dr. J. C. Karcher, '66ba, geophysicist and
oil executive of Dallas, who served many
years as the Alumni Association's vice presi-
dent for Texas, presided over the informal
program. Principal speakers were Laurence
Reid, associate professor of chemical engi-
neering, who brought greetings from the
University president, Joseph A. Brandt, and
Dale Arbuckle, '36ed, acting director of
athletics.

Mr. Reid gave a report on the Uni-
versity's participation in the war effort and
told something about the heroic achieve-
ments of alumni serving in the armed
forces. Mr. Arbuckle told the alumni group
about the emphasis which the athletic de-
partment is putting on physical condition-
ing of students and said that the two jus-
tifications for football in war time are the
physical conditioning of men and the value
of football games as wholesome recreation
for spectators during a period of stress.

Lt. Col. Frank S. Cleckler of Camp Polk,
Louisiana, O. U. alumni secretary and man-
ger of the Oklahoma Union from 1928-36,
was introduced to the crowd and spoke
briefly on the importance of maintaining
the alumni organization and its program
during the war period. F. A. Aurin, '15ma,
of Fort Worth, president of the American
Association of Petroleum Geologists, also
was introduced to the crowd and told
something about the important part geolo-
gists are playing in the work of the armed
forces.

Music was provided by the colorful O. U.
band, led by W. R. Wehrend.

Meeting at Mattoon

O. U. alumni at Mattoon, Illinois, met in
early October for a dinner and bridge party,
according to Mrs. Paul A. Duffield, chair-
man of the O. U. advisory council at Mat-
toon.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Philip
Wimbish, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Brunson, Mr.
and Mrs. Christy Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Paul
E. Romine, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Anderson,
Mr. and Mrs. Duffield, and Mr. John Fos-
ness.

NOVEMBER, 1942

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