Visiting Will Rogers

Sooners find his home is America's mecca

By George Copeland, '31

WELL, FOLKS, I guess we just didn't realize that there was so much to be seen in two short weeks between O. U. and Will Rogers. But then right there is where we missed our guess. We pulled out of here one balmy Saturday afternoon last month, just one day before the terrible "jake" epidemic struck everyone around Oklahoma, so I guess that was why we were able to stand on our feet while we were gone.

Really, though, it's surprising how many schools expected to see the two boys from Oklahoma come to town on crutches or with a walking cane.

Anyhow it wasn't long until we were well under way and as soon as we got out of Kansas we began to enjoy the trip. Along about noon Sunday there began to appear in the distance what looked like white clouds, but soon became the mighty Rockies. You know those Rockies make you think of these squabbles we have here in Oklahoma when we kick out a governor. They begin with practically nothing and just keep growing and growing until pretty soon there is Pike's Peak out there before you. But anyway Pike's Peak in the winter time, I believe, is really majestic. The snow covers the entire summit and makes it stand out above everything else, and you can still see it when all the other mountains fade away.

Well, along about dark we arrived in Boulder, and let me tell you, the atmosphere up there is certainly "shocking." Every time we would reach for the door knob or go to turn on the lights or touch anything metallic, a long spark would reach out to greet us. Before we left, we got to where we would flip a nickel to see who would open the door. Anyway, after we convinced a group of Quakers in their own church that the world should cease fighting it seemed as though we were quite successful.

So the next day we started through that world famous Royal Gorge. Somehow things like that are impossible of description. Down by the side of the train was flowing, sometimes over rapids and again smoothly, the river that had carved that great monument to the glory of Mother Nature. The train stopped and let us get out and look up and try to see the top of the Gorge if we could. After about two hours of traveling between those two huge walls of vari-colored rocks, night found us getting higher and higher until soon we were way up in the snow.

There was a beautiful moon that night and as it illuminated the mountains and snow all about us it seemed as though it would be folly to go to Alaska for such scenery.

The next day at noon we pulled into that famous city of many wives, Salt Lake City. Bob warned me not to get hitched up to a couple of wives, but I told him that it wouldn't make any difference, be-
cause we would be in Reno, Nevada, the next day, and I could easily get rid of them in no time. Well, we listened to some guide telling us about the wonders out there and he seemed to think the greatest wonder was how Brigham Young ever had so many wives and still did so well. He took us by a little old fashioned power plant and explained that there was where Brigham got all his power. He also told us that there was enough coal in Utah to furnish the world for years to come, and told him that there was enough gas in Oklahoma that the world wouldn't need coal for years to come.

But then we soon headed even farther west when our trip took us on out across the Great Salt Lake. I tell you I didn't know there could be so much salt water in one place, without calling it an ocean. It is thirty miles across and by the time the train was in the middle all you could see was water except the Rockies gradually fading in the west as the sun was setting and casting a golden reflection on their snow capped peaks. Before we knew it the next morning, we were in that city of "opportunity" Reno. The first thing we visited was the divorce court. As soon as we walked in, the judge wanted to know how long we had made our residence there, but finding that that wasn't our purpose, he offered to give us a divorce and place it on file for future use, if ever needed. They have a place out from town there that I understand Monte Carlo was modeled after. Fortunately we were nearly broke, so the temptation to try the roulette wheel wasn't very strong.

Then the next morning caught us in Stockton, California. At last we had reached that state of sunshine. We pulled our coats up high around our necks and ran through the rain and hail from the train to the station. While we were there, they showed us the canal which was cast as the famous Mississippi river in the picture, Show Boat.

But the morrow was to bring the greatest thrill, for then it was that the small band of Sooners finally broke through to the Pacific coast. Our train reached the ferry at San Francisco bay just about dawn and we got off and (Turn to page 293, please)
FOR MAY, 1930

and Harold Hopping, March 15 in Oklahoma City. Home, 722 East Eighteenth Street, Oklahoma City.

KEYS-ROLLOW: Miss Helen Keys, '29 arts-sc., and Tom R. Rollow, ex '27, March 12 in Reno, Nevada.


BIRTHS

Mr and Mrs John O. Beach of Norman announce the birth on March 28 of a daughter, Norma Jean. Mr Beach, secretary of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, is of the class of '23; Mrs Beach, formerly Miss Jessie Bullard, is ex '24.


James Eagleton, '24 arts-sc., '25 law, and Mrs Eagleton, a son, James Jr., in March. Home, 128 North COLUMBIA Place, Tulsa.


Mrs Margaret Harlow Elmore, '18 arts-sc., (M. A. '24) and LeRoy Elmore, '18 law, a son, Robert LeRoy, April 6. Home, 429 West Comanche, Norman.

Cecil E. Oakes, '25 arts-sc., and Mrs Oakes, a son, Cecil Jr., April 1. Address, Paden, Oklahoma.


Herbert J. Heiman, '18 law, and Mrs Heiman, a daughter, Barbara Jane, March 29. Home, 605 West Thirty-fifth Street, Oklahoma City.

Max C. Seton, ex '22, and Mrs Seton, a son, Max Dell, March 24. Address Pure Oil Company, Seminole.

VISITING WILL ROGERS

(Continued from page 287)

boarded it. As we were gliding softly through the water the sun rose and there ahead of us was the most beautiful sight imaginable. The entire city of San Francisco stood out in bold relief in the morning sun across the Bay. There we visited the well known Chinatown, the fishermen's docks, the Japanese gardens, and finally stood on that Sunday afternoon on the cliffs and viewed for our first time the Golden Gate.

Though the Golden Gate was beautiful then, it was breath-taking the next afternoon, when, at sunset we sailed out of the San Francisco harbor and saw it disappear in the distance, painted a beautiful gold by the far reaching rays of the sun which was then drooping into the sea far to the west.

The next afternoon after twenty-four hours on the steamer, we sighted in the distance, Wilmington, the outskirts of Los Angeles, and soon the boat was made fast at the dock and one hour later we were in the midst of the great city of beauty. There you can find almost anything your heart could desire. To the west is the rolling ocean; to the east rises a beautiful range of mountains, some covered with snow, and some as green as you will find in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia. On further out there are deserts that could not but please the loneliest Arab. There are orange groves at the

MABEL BASSETT
Democratic Candidate For
STATE COMMISSIONER OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS
Will continue to give efficient constructive service

S O O N E R A L U M N I

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

RAYMOND A. TOLBERT, '12
Embry, Johnson & Tolbert, Lawyers
1204 Perrine Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

DAVE M. LOGAN, B. A. '16
Consulting Geologist
Okmulgee, Okla.

THE RECONSTRUCTION HOSPITAL
For Diseases of Bones and Joints
Earl D. McBride, M. D. '12
717-723 North Robinson Street
Oklahoma City, Okla.

B. RAY HUNTER, M. D. '21
Physician and Surgeon
709 Med. Arts Bldg.
Phone 3-1920 Oklahoma City

CARL H. KUNSEMULLER, '20
Special Agent
National Life Insurance Co. of Vermont
303 W. Symmes St. Phone 753

TOM F. CAREY, '08
Certified Public Accountant
Income Tax Counsel
Brannie Building Oklahoma City

THE VILLAGRA BOOK SHOP,
Santa Fe, N. M., can supply that book you want. If it is an out-of-print book we'll hunt for it.

THE TOWN OF OKLAHOMA CITY,

E. P. DAVIS, M. D. '12
Diseases of the heart and lungs
432-33 Commerce Exchange Building
Oklahoma City Phone Office 3-4674, Residence 4-9261

Write Business Manager,
The Sooner Magazine
Union Building, Norman, Oklahoma

THE RECONSTRUCTION HOSPITAL
For Diseases of Bones and Joints
Earl D. McBride, M. D. '12
717-723 North Robinson Street
Oklahoma City, Okla.
foot of the mountains that, just looking at them, you get so thirsty you want to “Whistle.”

But if we had been enjoying this trip so far, we were soon to receive the most pleasant surprise of the entire jaunt. As we drove up to the University of California there debaters rushed out to tell us some great news. They asked us whom we suppose was in the auditorium waiting to hear us. Well sir, when they told us that Mr Will Rogers was there, I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still this one would have been enough to last me for a long, long time to come. We thisone would have been enough to last have missed all the other thrills and still to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still...

Well sir, when they told us that Mr Will Rogers was there, I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could hardly imagine such luck. Before we went on the platform, he came back to talk to us a little. You know I could have missed all the other thrills and still...
Rogers." You can imagine how important Bob and I felt walking in such a place under those circumstances.

While there, he pointed out several stars to us. We saw Irene Rich, George O'Brien and several others that I can't remember. Then he took us all over to the set and told the director he would be back in the morning and he put Bob and me in the front seat of his car with him, the vice-president and family in the back seat, and we were off to see Hollywood and everything there was to be seen. First he showed us some old familiar sights. He showed us the famous castle he used in his picture, They Had To See Paris. Then we saw the saloon that was used in the Lone Star Ranger, right next to which was a "bank" that had been robbed more times than any bank in the United States. Then we saw the famous Alaskan mountain that was used in Lenore Ulric's picture, Frozen Justice. They were just fixing to take it down. Then over in another part of the lot were the famous New York elevated railways, and so on indefinitely.

Soon he was taking us over through Beverly Hills. He pointed out where Mary Pickford lives. He used to live next door to her, and explained that Mary decided that she wanted another bath room but didn't have the space, so he explained that he had to tear down part of his home in order that Mary could have another bath. He told us how he had an architect come out and make a certain little change in his home and before the man finished he decided the whole house must be torn down. Will said "The architect found that the house was poorly put up. In fact, it was so poorly put up that it cost me $15,000 to get it tore down."

So he just sold the lots and is now living in a residential hotel until he gets his ranch in good shape.

Well, next he took us to a polo field where he was looking for his boy, Bill. Bill wasn't there so Will decided to play a period or two of polo, and man, can he play? He made those fellows out there look sick when he showed them some real Oklahoma cowboy riding. When he had all he wanted of that he took us on out to his ranch which is close to the ocean. But on his way out there he passed a place that was literally covered with oil wells. He pointed it out and said, "You know, when I was looking around for a place to fix a ranch, I decided this would be a good place. That was before

### Start your Fortune with a BOND . . .

Good bonds are not just a rich man's investment — they are everybody's investment, because their denominations, running as low as $100.00, are the beginning of most fortunes.

To encourage investment in bonds, we offer them on the installment plan, with the first payment as low as $10.00.

"Save Surely by Investing Wisely"

American - First Trust Company

Hales Building

201 West Main Oklahoma City

ARE YOU UNDECIDED AS TO YOUR LIFE'S WORK?

ROGER BABSON says:

"Next to the preachers, doctors, and school teachers, probably no persons do so much real good as honest and competent insurance salesmen. If I were a young man and for any reason could not be in the work I am now in, I would sell Life Insurance."

The MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL Agency in Oklahoma has many O. U. men in it who have made a success selling Life Insurance.

Although we prefer those who have become seasoned in business by a few years of activity, yet with our highly supervised Agency Department as well as the only fully developed Policy Auditing Department in the State, we are in a position to contract with a few graduates who are outstanding and make them succeed. Men with legal and engineering training are making outstanding successes with our Company.

If you are on the fence of indecision, why not talk to us about the possibilities of engaging in the greatest financial business there is?

GEORGE E. LACKEY, General Agent
J. Lester Sharp, Agency Supervisor

Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co.

1501 Petroleum Building
Phone 3-1456
Oklahoma City
In Business Since 1851
they struck oil out here. Well my wife found out that the last man who lived out there killed his self. So she decided we wouldn't take it. Now just look at it. Oil wells everywhere. If I could find where that man killed his self I'd go out there and do the same thing."

Pretty soon we came to his ranch, and, if you are ever in Los Angeles don't fail to drive out and view this ranch from the highway. He has white fences all over it and that makes it stand out very clearly. There is everything out there you could possibly imagine on any ranch, and lots that you couldn't. He has three polo fields in the finest condition. He has so many polo ponies I couldn't count them all. There is a corral built in order that his boys can rope steers and goats. He explained, "I've got goats around in these hills for the boys to rope, but I can't ever catch them to put them in the corral so the boys can rope them." Over a little further there is a kind of a circus pavilion in which Jimmie, his youngest son learns to do riding tricks. Then we go to his cabin, and it is some cabin too. Hanging from the roof is a chandelier. It is a big wagon wheel at the end of a chain. Where the hub fits is a light globe. Then all around the wheel are smaller lights. Over by the wall is a hand organ, which he played for us, and it was real music. There were animal skins all over the walls, and bear skin rugs in the floor. Over by his mantle, which covers a great open fireplace, hangs a picture of Benito Mussolini posing with Will himself. Then on the other side is a picture of Will and Lindbergh in an airplane. Will explained that the place was so durable that the boys could ride their ponies in if they wanted to. Then we saw the guest cottage, in which Fred Stone stayed not long ago, and in which I expect to hear of a great number of notables staying yet.

It being nearly dark, I called Bob off to one side and told him "Look here, Bob, you know you've been on that student council back at O. U. too long, and nobody will ever believe a word you say now, so we had better get a picture of the 'Great Triumvirate' for proof." So the vice-president of the Union Pacific became the photographer and we brought home the evidence.

But of all we shall remember from this trip, there will always be two things that will remain long after others are forgotten, and that is the real Southern hospitality shown us by our friends, the MeKinnons of Oakland, and the fact that if there ever was a man who is truly great in every sense of the word, that man is Will Rogers. He is a man who has a keen sense of understanding of human beings, a real love for his fellow man, a living desire to cheer his people, and is, without a doubt, one of the smartest men who ever lived.