Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beaird

It gets in their blood! Sooner everywhere, come Spring, readily shift from low to high gear. Assembly calls are sounded, get-together invitations are issued and the O.U. Alumni fraterns—yarn swapin' and tall-tale sessions are under way! Preezie GEORGE CROSS has, in the month, made a couple of 'em AGAIN. Met with them, thus stimulating more and continued Alumni continuity and interest. In NEW YORK CITY the preezie met 'em by the squads! BOB PARKER, '34ba; KEN ROBINSON, '38ba, '38aw (and charming Mrs. KEN); BOB CALVERT, '30ba, '30aw—were a mere few of the leaders who sailed the gong and called all East Seaboard Sooner's into that spring meeting. (See details of meeting in another section of SOONER MAGAZINE—this issue). Pediilin' on out of ole NEW YORK, the "Preezie" again greeted the "District" (WASHINGTON) O.U.-ites as he headed West and home. There again, the MADAME PRESIDENT—the human dynamo and gal about town, about the Treasury Department and about the world Bank—"PAT" LYONS MANNEN, '34ba—her usual manner of grandness plus gracefulness, rounded up and dug out SOONERS by the dozens to break waffers with and to munch Sooner-Select-Sirloins with Preezie and the SOONERS in the Nation's Capitol village.

"What's it cost?" and "What's it d'oin'?" and how! "That boy Bud" (BUD WILKINSON, the new Sooner Head Football Coach) made his first official "on the Range" appearances in the month. BUD worked over to the O.KMULGEE and TULSA Clubs for "a one each, one night stand"—and they (and he) liked and enjoyed it! From OMKULGEE the reports flowed in from A. N. "JACK" BOATMAN, '1ba, '18aw, on BUD'S appearance and a report of dozens assembled for the evening. TULSA was in fine form plus an excellent attendance for BUD'S initial bow. Headed by the Alumni Club Preezie; FORREST DARBOUGH, '21ba, '23aw, TULSA, all was well as they gathered and settled, not only another BIG SIX Championship but ALSO another BOWL!!

While all the above goin'-ons were going-on, back in your Alumni headquarters in the OKLAHOMA MEMORIAL UNION BUILDING, rapid fire activities were under way in a dozen fields of work.

With bag and baggage near at hand to have HILLIER, '38ba, and wife, DOROTHY GISH FREELAND, '31ba, on the alert to rush (via the \textit{FREELAND} chariot)—were a few unfinished details in this hour of reconversion), your Range Rider to the Eastward (and North) bound American Airline—well, there were a few unfinished details to go over the board prior to departure. The basketball (coach-team) trophy committee was assembled on the right (and left—and all around), headed by PAUL UDIEGRAFF, '30aw, as Chairman, his committee composed of JIM DOWNING, 21ba; Neil JOHNSON, '15ba, '17aw; HORTON GRISWOLD, '30ba; along with "special consultants," TON BENEDUM, '28aw; JOE CHATMAN, '26ba; BETTY (GLENN) BRADLEY, '30ba, 29aw; BILL MATTHEWS, HALL MULDRW, '28aw—and plus a couple dozen more "Sooner Specialists" were in final session to make the new car selection for Coach BRUCE DRAKE, '29aw, and to select suitable entries for the tourney Nationally recognized O.U. '47 basketball players. That little assignment out of the way, BEN HEAD, '42aw, Chairman of the '47 Senior Class Committee along with his dozen or so committee colleagues are in to finish last minute details on placing orders for senior announcements, perfecting plans for Senior day, to wire Congressman MIKE (this Sooner son), MURPHY, '28aw, the '47 O.U. commencement address—last minute instructions.

PHIL BURNS, '27ba, FAIRVIEW—the newly elected. District Governor of Rotarian "pushes in" in a hurry-up call to complete work on some educational assemblies planned for July consumption. ROSCOE CATE, '26aw, in for a business session on items of mutual interest but was forced to take time out to give details on the new son (recent arrival) in the GATE household. HOWARD BONEBRAKE, '25aw, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI; returned to his North Texas home—"Just dropped in to say hi and express appreciation for the O.U. Alumni season ticket priority system adopted." EARL WOODSMITH, '25aw, in to say, "Thanks, thanks, thanks"—now back in Oklahoma and stationed at ARDMORE!!

BILLY COX, 21ba, 21ma, PONCA CITY, Alumni Board Preezie called by to take care of a few unfinished items of business. A crew of the O.U.-Alums-in-the-making, officials of the kids American Legion Post (303) on the O.U. campus dashing in to issue last minute instructions, "Now when you arrive INDIANAPOLIS—be there, etc., etc., etc., Yes, Alums in the making. Outstanding O.U. students of today—Alumni leaders of tomorrow! Some of these student leaders? CLEF FITZGERALD, Junior Arts and Science; CLAEDO; PRESTON MOORE, Freshman, Law; BARTLESVILLE; JOHN SULLIVAN, Junior, Arts and Science; BARNSDALL; J. B. BEAIRD, Jr., Junior, Arts and Science; NORMAN; WALT MAHONEY, Senior, Business Administration; HOUSTON, Texas; ED FERGUSON, Sophomore, University College; DODGE CITY, Kansas; C. E. "GOLDY" SOUTHARD, Jr., College of Agriculture; NORMAN; ED BOATMAN, Sophomore, Arts and Science, OKMULGEE, and scads of others who guide the destiny of this very active and effective Army-Navy-Marine-WAC-SPAR-WAVE now civilian outfit (Post 303, The American Legion) always have "sumthin' coolin'"!

The bug, baggage and weather-beaten (plus flayed) U.S. Army briefcase being gathered and bundled into the FREELAND chariot—it's away
from this headquarters to the OKLAHOMA CITY airport—to fly East (and North) to thousands of Sooner sons on the Ranges.

A one hour, fifty minute delay at the ST. LOUIS airport gives occasion for a pleasant dinner session with the venerable and valuable G-MAN, HERB SCOTT, '26ba, '26ma, of the Veterans Administration, ST. LOUIS headquarters. Here First Vice-President and Program Chairman EMERY, '29tn.ed, outlined plans for the St. Louis Alumni session to come two nights later.

At the meeting (on the Saturday night that followed) BOYD GUNNING, '37ba, '37aw, O.U. Extension Division Chief, soared in from out of the blue white enroute to NEW YORK and ATLANTIC CITY—to bring 'em up to date on O.U. and its many activities. A pleasant dinner in the home of HERB and BETTY PICKARD SCOTT, '29, was enjoyed prior to our assembling with the St. Louis O.U. Club, in the home of PEARL PAXTON MORRIS, '32ba, '34ma. Among those in attendance were: IVAN RAINWATER, '38-'41, and wife (DOROTHY THORNTON RAINWATER), '40bs, who were meeting with their "home city" Sooner sons for the last session in many moons to come. The next day the Rainwaters departed for Hawaii where Ivan has accepted a two year assignment in his special field of work. No more than two meals will pass however until those RAINWATERS will be in Sooner assemblies in and on "the Islands" as a full reference list of Sooner grads Honolulu way was supplied these "travelers." FREDERIKA FITCH WOLTERING, '21ba, HELEN ARMSTRONG, '30ba, '40aw, and ROSA OSMOND MERRITT, '33, plus many more "hubbys-and-waves" assembled to enjoy the GUNNING running dialogue plus color motion pictures on O.U. campus capsers!

In INDIANAPOLIS it's a swell luncheon (and late breakfast) the next morning (while Gunning is still air-bound-East in flight) with Sooner sons assembled in special work. Legislation—studying LONNIE BROWN, MCATESTER, is, in the Sooner session at hand, cuttin' his Alumni-eye-teeth. ROY L. HICKOX, '35ba, is across the board (bread board) having flown in the previous hour from his WASHINGTON office. The ole adopted (and indoctrinated) SOONER SON Public Relations Director-editor RAY FIELDS of GUTHRIE and INDIANAPOLIS was present in his usual good form and letter!

INDIANAPOLIS—the interesting city of shrines, landmarks and memorials is always fascinating! It is the "Indiana Home" of other Sooner sons, namely: DR. J. D. GLISMAN, '44ba, '46ma; DR. P. A. GREEN, '46ba, '46aw; DR. K. L. LEDGETT, '46aw; JOHN W. LEE, '40pharm, '41pharm; ALBERT W. WALLACE, '46ba; MRS. ARLENE S. WILSON, '46aw; BILL M. AYCOCK, '42aw; JACOB W. WENZER, '43aw; FREDERICK R. ROGERS A. BROWNING, '25ba, '26aw; S. B. CRALLE, '41aw; MRS. HERSHEL EMERY, '27; W. HERSHEY EMERY, '27; W. HERSHEY EMERY, '27; HOWARD R. W. HULPFEU, '24aw; MRS. JANE T. JANUS, '41aw; MRS. NELLIE C. MUNGER, '33ba; LAWRENCE D. REEDY, '36ma; LT. R. B. ROBERTS, '34ba; MRS. CORA S. SHAYKE, '37aw; MAREA SMITH, '30aw; MRS. FRANCES M. WICKIZER, '30aw; and WILLARD M. WICKIZER, '30aw.

It was a long trek (on the occasion a few mornings ago) from this "home and cold" limousine in from the landing field (WILLOW RUN) into the busy, crowded industrial city of DETROIT. Hustle, bustle, and crowds of mob proportions in DETROIT only added zest to the enthusiasm of the O.U. Sooner sons, as was exemplified in the chartering of the O.U. Alumni Club of Metropolitan Detroit on that cool and snappy evening of early September by NEAL MOSELY, '43aw, as Prexy No. 1, (and Neal is son of DR. RAY MOSELY, '48aw, ALLIANCE, OHIO); ROY C. JENKINS, '31aw, as first Vice-President; and ANN HAJNIKAR STROMAN, '36bs, Secretary-Treasurer. The Club was chartered in the old form! And, did those Sooner sons stick in from far (and near and not so near)! It was a pleasant and interesting evening (almost a full night) of chartering, chatting and christening!! Ole timers, mediam timers, and more recent timers of DETROIT and environs were assembled to recount experiences, question about “back then” or to venture a guess on the future ticket-tape of Soonerisms! Among the dozens present to witness their club’s chartering, to plan alumni activities and point toward the big O.U. day (and night) come September and the O.U.-Detroit football game to be played in “far north Mich” were: P. C. CAMPELL, '27ba, '27aw; ALMA DOTHIT CAMPBELL, '27ba; EARL BARTHOLOMEW, '21ba, '21aw; JUANITA SNEDAKER BARTHOLOMEW, '21aw; MRS. MARJORIE E. MORRISON, '36aw, and very much in evidence were the beautiful floral “displays” on all the tables from her personally collected jonquils out of her own home garden. FRANK A. BALCER, '23ba, '29aw, an ale time sidekick and cronny back in the Class of 1921 days, who in the span of the next twenty-four months to come will have completed his tour of duty in the Detroit Public School System and as FRANK “put it,” “Am just going to hit my self out down toward the outskirts of NORMAN to that farm of mine near MOORE and in my retirement grab my rocking chair and let the rest of the world go by.” DR. L. H. CARLETON, '17med; EARL H. GREENLEE, '39bus, '40ma; DR. E. BERT MCCOLLUM, '29ba, '30aw in med, '32aw, who in addition to acting as the director—surgeon—general of the conclave “swapped a few yarns” with your Range Rider on days at O.U.—Med School escapades—and rashed his many and varied experiences with DR. WARREN T. "PETE" MAYFIELD, '18bs, '20aw, NORMAN, our home town family physician and surgeon. RAY COURTRIGHT, '14aw, and TRAVIS "RED" CASH, '24aw, in for the shindig from over ANN ARBOR way, added to the party “that certain touch.” So the Detroit-tics were duly charterd, set in motion and it was time to “fly back West” (and South).

It’s another landing on friendly, fertile and welcome HOME SOIL! Why is it that the “four motors” (or twain) always fly more smoothly when piloted homeward to Oklahoma and Sooner Ports’ o’air? Yes, a landing in the midst of activities. To a hurried “called session” Skirvin Tower, Oklahoma City, attended by “Aggie” IM FINNEY, FT. COBB, (as the director-general of his special commission) and Sooner— all perfecting the final

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Cotton to Sing in O.U. Series; 7 Other Performers Contracted

Larry Cotton, '36, Broadway stage star whose parents moved to Norman from Yukon in 1942, will be one of eight Celebrity Series artists to appear in the six-number 1947-48 program, Boyd Gunning, chairman of the Series committee, announced recently.

Cotton served nearly four years in the Army Air Forces including a tour of duty in the Pacific. After receiving his discharge from the Army as a major, he returned to the New York stage.

Other artists who have been contracted to appear on the 1947-48 Series are James Melton, Conried Thibault and Margaret Speaks, all vocalists; Paul Draper, male dancer; Larry Adler, harmonica virtuoso, and Whitemore and Lowe, two piano team.

The Oklahoma symphony will play at O.U. December 9.

Eugene Kendall, arts and sciences sophomore and present commander of the Thomas C. Reynolds Legion Post 303 on the campus, will be student manager for the 1947-48 series, Gunning said.

Thibault appeared on the Series recently completed. He will appear in Norman February 3, 1948 with Miss Speaks.

James Melton, whose tenor voice is heard over NBC each Sunday afternoon, will be the first Celebrity Series guest on October 28. He will be followed by Whitemore and Lowe, the two piano team formerly associated with Rochester University. They recently appeared in Oklahoma City. Their date is set for November 18.

The following week, on November 25, Cotton will make his Norman appearance. He formerly was vocalist with the Horace Heidt band following the Oklahoma symphony and the Thibault-Speaks concert. Draper and Adler will perform here March 11 in the series finale. Additional numbers may be added to the 1947-48 Series, Gunning said.

E. C. Sprague, '33m.ed, superintendent of schools at Owasso, is a member of the Oklahoma Education Association, now greater than ever, is due to me. I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the realization that the strength always done and I know that you can derive a lot of satisfaction from the 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