Riding the Sooner Range

By Ted Beard

There is not a ground hog on the Sooner Range, nationwide that could shed his shadow on this Friday, February the 13th! With sub-zero temperatures plus 50-mile-per-hour gales "outside" in many sections over the Sooner Range, there are other items not quite so sad and frosty "inside," taking place here, there, and yonder. So, let's gallop along and observe some of 'em!

Take out DENVER way for example. Those Sooner's have set up a new trail on their Mountain-top Range. The Denver boys tell me by long distance, wire and air-mail that they have had to shovel deep to get down to their path on that Range in sub-zero temperature! Yes, those Denver Sooner's have it into action. It's been a long tedious grind. It has taken a lot of pounding and pounding on theirs and our part to get that organization established. But the DENVER, COLORADO, O.U. Alumni Group is in a reality. They have set into motion a program that will bring the "mile high city" group into the national spotlight as are other Sooner gangs from coast to coast! (So let's take note-the Denver Sooners are on the march!) Yes, Denver is underway. They are getting set for our own Coach BUD WILKINSON to be the next Sooner "hot shot" to fly Colorado-way for visitation and participation. In the very near future Bud will be "hit the pale blue yonder" via Denver, up the Rocky Mountains, then to the nationallimelight. But, back to this baby outfit in Denver. They met, they saw, they conquered! The "chosen few" in their initial organizational meeting to head the activities and to get the Denver outing going strong are ROSECO WALKER, JR., '42aw, as prexie; ROBERT McWILLIAMS, '40journ, vice-president, and WILLIAM A. CLARKE, JR., '47ba, secretary-treasurer.

Now let's do a bit of observing on this trio in their initial organizational meeting to head up the activities and to get the Denver outing going strong are ROSECO WALKER, JR., '42aw, as prexie; ROBERT McWILLIAMS, '40journ, vice-president, and WILLIAM A. CLARKE, JR., '47ba, secretary-treasurer.

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Dear Ted,

We are now living in Electra, Texas. Earl has joined the Price Oil Company in Weatherford. I am still plant foreman at the Magnolia Gasoline Plant in College Station.

Our son, Walter E., Jr., is a student at University of Texas. He would have been there at Oklahoma had you allowed out-of-state freshmen to enroll his first year. He likes T.D.U. and is in the School of Business.

If you are ever down your way, we would be happy to have you visit us. It is always nice to see old friends — those days at Shamrock were a long time ago were they not?

We had been married thirty years the seventh of February, but we don’t think yet 70.

Best regards to you and your family, Maude A. Lowry, 21ba, and William E. Lowry.

BOQ Treasure Island
San Francisco, California
Dear Mr. Beaird,

It seems as though my luck is still holding out so far as meeting my old Sooner pals in Pacific ports.

Leaving for Japan — I’ll see you classmates at the Electronics Materiel School here at Treasure Island. We’re finishing the sixth week of a six-months’ electronics course. (And what a course! Very interesting, and pretty tough.)

By chance I ran into Ensign Ledgefield, ’46, and Ensign Cline Knowles, ’46, here on the base. Ledgefield was here long enough to get his arms around the good life, then back to sea for duty. Knowles has just returned from small craft duty in Japanese waters. His wife, the former Gloria Gommels, ’46, arrived by Navy transport from Japan to be married to him in Oklahoma City. Gloria’s a quite a sailin’ woman. After 11 hectic days on a pitching ship ploughing through the North Pacific, she was feelin’ fine and was ready to move to more land-locked quarters.

We had been married last August after he received his 30-day leave, and the prospects of seeing their folks in the East.

I had dinner with the former Covered Wagon editor, Lewis Thompson, ’47, and his wife, the former Ellen Cain, ’47, in their downtown San Francisco apartment recently. The dinner and visit, incidently, were wonderful. “Tom” and Ellen were married last August after he received his present position with the Globe Wireless Company, Ltd.

Saw Orville Harsch, ’46, in Los Angeles recently. He’s a psych major at Southern Cal....

Also met Ensign Lawrence MacKenzie, ’46, at San Diego. He’s stationed on the Carver Valley Forge.

Saw a grapevine I’ve learned that Marine Corps Lieutenants Harold Mackey and Don Dowlarow, ’46, are serving on Guam. Dick Lee, ’46, is now a Reno, Nevada, insurance man. Don Ledbetter, ’46, is a materiel salvage officer at Tsingtao, China. E. K. Davis, ’46, is a materiel salvage officer at Tsingtao, China.

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In another field of accomplishments (far removed from the “mile high city” and the gal baseball days) I have managed to get through a six-month course at Daily Journal-Capital. My editor suddenly left on a two-week vacation with Jane in complete charge of the paper. That was during the baseball season. Before the two weeks were up Jane had more than enough of wrestling over confusing box scores.

Jane is the second Jane to take baseball theory under Baer. Jane Wilson, ’47ba, took the course while she was sports editor on the Oklahoma Daily in 1944 during the man-shortage war years.

At the University Miss Steinhorst is a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority; Theta Sigma Phi, national fraternity for women, and Alpha Lambda Delta, national scholastic fraternity for freshmen women.

Her primary concern now is securing an athletic season ticket. She lost the one she had and can’t be issued another. How can she expect to pass baseball theory if she can’t get in her lab work?

Correspondence . . .

Eula, Texas

Dear Ted:

We are now living in Electra, Texas. Earl has joined the Price Oil Company in Weatherford. I am still plant foreman at the Magnolia Gasoline Plant in College Station.

Our daughter, Virginia, now Mrs. B. J. Collings lives at Eastland, Texas. Bill is with Texas Electric Company as company contact manager. Virginia is clerk for the county clerk of Eastland County. She went to O.U. but did not graduate there.

Sincerely, George Sours, ’47ba.

(Signed) is a former editor of Sooner Magazine, having left following his graduation last summer for a hitch with the Navy.

Dear Mr. Beaird:

This letter gives you my new address for mailing of Sooner Magazine. You may send future issues to the State Legislative Council offices, state capitol, Oklahoma City.

Although hope for a stable world seems to be dwindling rapidly, there are many bright spots on the horizon of state government. During a brief period of service for the state, I have come to have renewed faith in the future of government. Our newly-activated Legislative Council is

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Sooner Magazine
Association Progress

California Alumni Club Reports

Only a thick Los Angeles smog prevented Hu- 
watha Estes, '36bs, from sending his report of the Southern California Alumni Club's dinner-meeting by smoke signals. At least that's the tale the club's joking secretary wrote recently.

Details of the organization's first 1948 meeting were contained in Estes' long letter to Ted Beard prepared January 30, the day after the alumni got together.

Principal action was the dividing of the large Southern Cal area into eight "alumni" sections, and the appointing of representatives from each section by President Lyman Tibbitts, '16ba, '19ma. The representatives will meet monthly with the club's officers, then will contact their "constituents" to inform them of action taken. By such a plan, hundreds of O.U. alumni will not have to undergo travel hardships to keep posted on club activities.

Those appointed by President Tibbitts are Floyd Norris, '35law, representing the Westwood and Santa Monica areas; Ethel Barre Brachser, '30, '40-ma, central Los Angeles; Charley Forbe, '22ba. '25ma, Long Beach; Winifred Keys, '43bs, Pasadena and Glendale; W. M. Greene, '41law, East Los Angeles and Whittier; Albert Williams, '18ba, '19ma, Orange County; Ralph Brand, '33ba, Riverside and San Bernardino, and Andrew Castle, '16ba, San Fernando Valley.

As for the rest of the meeting, Estes' recapitulation follows:

"After the above matter had been disposed of, each individual present arose and stated his name, class, and town he came from in Oklahoma. Everything went along well until D. E. Epperson, '40eng, tried to explain where his home town of Zaneis is located. "Epperson worked from Zaneis to Ringling to Goodland to Heflin, and then on to Ardmore before everyone knew just what section of the state he was from."

Dear Ted:

Per your request of February 2, 1948, the following is a list of the Alumni employed by the Central State Hospital, Norman.

Artie Marie Garrett, '33bs, surgical nurse; John William Gittinger, '38ba, '39ma, medical psychologist; Harold Waton Hacker, '27ms, '33ma, physician; Leslie James Kroh, '33Ph.C, '34bs, pharmacist, assistant steward; Harold Dewey Larsh, '21law, assistant bookkeeper; Shirley Clark Love, '47ba, typist; Margaret Lorraine Medlin, '39nurse, staff nurse; Max Morris, '34ba, stenographer.

Charles Ralph Rayburn, '23ba, '23ma, '25med, assistant medical superintendent; Joseph Anton Reiger, '23law, '26bs, '30ba, '32med, physicist; Betty Short Shurtleff, '47ba, stenographer; Lee Steele, '23ba, attendant; George W. Windelman, '38ba, '40med, physician, and Harold Byron Witten, '36bs, '36med, physician.

I do not have much in the way of news except that we are happy to have Dr. J. W. Gittinger as our clinical psychologist and we are indeed fortunate to be the only state mental hospital in Oklahoma to acquire such a service. Our Dr. C. W. Windelman increased his family by the addition of a baby boy October 31, 1947. I trust that the above information will be of assistance to you.

Yours very truly, Charles R. Rayburn, '23ba, '23bs, '25med, assistant medical superintendent.

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Yours very truly, Charles R. Rayburn, '23ba, '23bs, '25med, assistant medical superintendent.

Here they are, the officers of the active Denver, Colorado, O.U. Alumni Club. They are, from left to right, Robert B. McWilliams, '23ba, vice-president; Roscoe Walker, Jr., '42ma, president, and William A. Clarke, Jr., '47bus, secretary-treasurer.