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Clearing the Desk  By R.C.

THE DESK almost didn’t get cleared this month due to the arrival of a second son to the editor and wife just shorty before copy for this magazine was ready for the printer. The usual distracting nature of such an event is further complicated by the fact that the pre-selected name, Susan Frances, doesn’t seem to fit a boy very well and we are torn between the necessity of getting the magazine to press and the also urgent necessity of selecting a name for the youngster who for several days has had to be referred to simply as Butch.

DOES ANYONE have a 1921 Sooner Yearbook he would like to convert into cash? The Sooner Magazine office has an inquiry from an alumnus willing to pay for a copy. None could be found on the University campus except file copies not for sale.

JUST AS we were reflecting upon how hectic things must be in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor, we received a letter from W.S. Tenhagen, ’41eng, which indicated that things aren’t too bad. He received the December issue of Sooner Magazine, and wrote to say that he enjoyed it very much, was pleased that we could send it to him at the Naval Air Station at Pearl Harbor, and that he was glad to hear that everything is going along better than ever at the University. He made no effort to write anything about the war situation so his letter was uncensored except that one line—evidently the identification of his unit—was cut out. We’re making every effort to get the magazine to all subscribers, wherever their duties in the armed service take them, but can’t guarantee to reach everyone as successfully as Subscriber Tenhagen.

THIS MONTH we have another entry in the friendly competition to see what family can claim the most University of Oklahoma degrees. This time it’s the family of C. Ross Hume, ’98ba, ’00ma, of Anadarka, who gave his family an early start in the race by getting one of the first two bachelor of arts degrees ever granted by the University. The degrees in his family include those of his brother, his three children, his daughter-in-law and his son-in-law. The names and degrees, in addition to Mr. Hume himself, are: Raymond R. Hume, ’01pharm; Ross G. Hume, ’29ba, ’31law; Mrs. Gladys McDonald Hume, ’30ba; Dorothy Hume Hammond, ’34ba, ’37law; James Harold Hammond, ’34bs, ’37med; Betty Hume Black, ’36ba. This is a total of 11 degrees in a group all related by blood or marriage. Who can beat it?

VETERAN POLITICIANS may be changing their minds about the vote-getting advantage to be gained by criticizing the University of Oklahoma, or its president, as a result of the recent boomerang blow received by Frank C. Carter, state auditor. After Carter made charges of extravagance against President and Mrs. Brandt, in connection with the furnishing of the president’s home, there was a veritable avalanche of editorial comment over the state, and surprisingly enough, the comment was about 20 to 1 against the state auditor. Newspaper editors accused him of cheap politics, bad taste, and what’s more important—to him—bad judgment in picking a campaign publicity topic. More than one editor predicted that the general public of Oklahoma is not smart enough to be taken in by such obvious vote-seeking demagogery, and that they will remember it when they go to the polls.

NEXT MONTH we will present a new monthly feature, tentatively entitled Sooners in the Service, which will be devoted to the constantly increasing volume of news about O. U. men on active duty in various branches of the armed services. War is the news story now, and Sooners are playing a big part in it. Readers are invited to contribute items and pictures for the new department.

SOONER BASKETBALL players found a cordial welcome from O. U. alumni when they visited a number of northern and eastern cities in their December tour, as a result of preliminary arrangements made by Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird. At Washington, D. C., Paul Walker, ’12law, member of the Federal Communications Division and chairman of the O. U. Advisory Council in Washington, arranged a sight-seeing tour for the Sooner cagers. At New York, Hughes B. Davis, ’17ba, chairman of the New York Council, arranged a sight-seeing tour but it was canceled at the last minute as Coach Drake decided his team needed to use the only available time for practice. At Chicago, where the Sooners played DePaul, the alumni who gathered to cheer them on included Wesley I. Nunn, ’17, Mrs. Beryl Butler Nunn, ’18, Grace Williams, ’15, Bob Dunlap, ’35ba, and Dr. W. A. Fowler, director of student health at the University who was in Chicago on his way to New York.

HAS ANYONE thought of a better name than Butch?