into a spirited student body, with common ideals and purposes.

But even the "old" students are not equipped for this task. Like most of the youth today they are beginning to realize the important role they will play in the uncertain future of a world not yet at peace. They have reached the age at which they are impatient with anything of the past. They are living in the present and are eager for the future.

There is a feeling that they have been cheated of something by an older, bungling generation.

There has been a repeated cry that the University has no "school spirit," no traditions, nothing to remember after college days are gone but a few dull classes.

So the students have sought to establish traditions. Some are good ideas, and maybe there is a definite need for them. Frontier Days, for example, covers a weekend. Students wear western garb, have big programs and convert the Student Union Building into a "Frontier Town." Although this celebration was started in 1942, it is already called a "tradition".

This is all well and good. But O. U. has plenty of traditions—the students simply do not know them. And they differ vastly from the present-day "tradition" concept of a week of fun and frolic.

Few even notice the large limestone rock which sits in the north oval. If you mention the '06 rock to them, they only stare blankly.

Where did it come from? In the young days of the University when class rivalry was high, members of the class of 1906 found the rock near Moore where it had fallen from a Santa Fe train. They brought it to the campus with a mule team.

The '06 class guarded the rock zealously, but couldn't prevent rival classes from burying the rock. There's much more to the story—how, years later, the Deep Dark Mystery Club took up the burial ceremony, and how Dr. Guy Y. Williams, member of the class of 1906 and a professor of chemistry on the campus, did his best to protect the '06 rock, which had become a symbol of the class spirit.

Present-day students do not know what the spoonholder is. They have no idea that the class of 1910 spent a Saturday night excavating and pouring concrete in the north oval to leave a memorial on the campus. Nor do they know the details of a "shotgun" guard which protected the spoonholder from rival classes until the concrete hardened. And, incidentally, why is it called the spoonholder?

There are other memorials on the campus which doubtless have stories behind them—stories which would make this campus mean more to its present students. Where did the totem pole come up from Mindoro Island? I got him a ticket also. I went again. The other day Lt. Col. Ben Burdick was up from Mendiros Island. I got a ticket also. We had a real chat along with Major Tom Bryant. (His wife is one of the Owens girls, I think.)

"We have been overworked of late. I can't figure where it comes from. There are too many stories around asking for reports is the main trouble.

"Tale Vletko expects to get in orders November 20, so he will soon be home.

Sincerely, Hillyer"

**Post-War Planning by An Absent O.U. Alum**

**Special Note:** A few days ago the Executive Office of the Association received from Frances K. Hunt, now of Washington, D. C., a very constructive list of suggestions dealing with post-war plans for SOONER MAGAZINE. Miss Hunt graduated from the University in 1929 and was formerly staff member of the School of Journalism on the O. U. campus. She is now, and has been for some time, secretary of the Washington, D. C., O. U. Charter Club.

The suggestions she offers in her letter, addressed to the Alumni Headquarters, are most constructive and merited a cross-section of suggestions that have been made by many alumni over the period of the past three months. In quoting portions of her letter below, special comments will be offered following the questions, in order to acquaint our clientele with plans for the immediate future and the general changes in magazine policy that have come about since V-E and V-J days. Miss Hunt's letter, (in part) is as follows:

"Just wanted to say I'm glad the war is over for this reason as well as all the others: maybe the Sooner Magazine can soon return to its old size and speed. I miss all the articles and features you used to have and until post-war you can't have another.

**Special Note:** Indeed, not unlike other alumni publications throughout the U.S., SOONER MAGAZINE suffered during the war period due to the paper shortage and other war emergency measures that were, of necessity, observed in accordance with "the rules of the game." Not until seventeen days ago did the "paper shortage" become even slightly on a pre-war basis. In the November issue, 1945, SOONER MAGAZINE, we have been able to increase the size by four magazine pages. This is the first increase in the size of the magazine since the Executive Office of the Association was forced, due to the war measures, to cut the number of pages to an all-time low of twenty pages. It is hoped by the officers and members of the editorial staff of the publication that we may continue to increase the size of the magazine until we bring it back to a pre-war standard.

"I noted by Sooner State Press you are going to have some guest editors because Elaine left you. This has always been a nice and attractive feature. Miss Hunt graduates lately that you just can't hold them. Guess you'll have to get a man. But of course I highly approve of women editors and am particularly admiring of both Edith and Elaine."

**Special Note:** It is noted from the comments of Frances Hunt that we have been unable "to hold" the attractive editors during the war period. Our readers of course are aware that Edith Walker, after a number of years with the editorial staff as (Continued on page 22)

**Sooner Magazine**
Absent Alumna Makes Plans

(Continued from page 4)

student assistant, former editor and finally as editor of the magazine "chose" to become Mrs. Ted Helley and move to Philadelphia. The assistant to Miss Walker, Miss Elaine Larecy, was promptly promoted to the editor of SOONER MAGAZINE until an officer of the U. S. Army on mili-

tary leave now in Manila or Tokyo is able to com-
telephone his services as an essential officer of the Army and return to the University. Miss Hunt’s letter continues:

"Well, to get down to the point, don’t you think a lot of alumni would agree with me that an ex-

panded magazine would be valuable and popular? "Maybe others wouldn’t agree with some other things I would like, but anyway, here they are:

A more personal slant to the whole magazine — like you give it in your column. You give real personal interest in it. It always sounds like you are bursting with enthusiasm and good will for every Sooner. The rest of the magazine, on the other hand, is rather rather rather really about old friends but I hardly recognize them in the midst of titles, degrees, addresses, and all the other detail.

And last but maybe most important to me — I would like to read more about what is going on at the University, written by some one with the viewpoint of an alumnus. Not just facts about events, but some description of the campus, the students, the professors, and the activities compared with how they used to be before the war, or in 1935, or in 1930 — rather an interpretation of new things in an old setting; if you get the idea. Harvard knows that does that type of writing, in anything he does.

I am sure I would never have had any urge to write this sort of letter during the long period I lived in Norman. I knew so much about the Uni-

versity and its news then that I could not have imagined the viewpoint of an absent Sooner. But I sure have that viewpoint now and any editor of SOONER MAGAZINE should be one that was edited with the absent person in mind.

"Did you happen to read the short story in Collier’s a few weeks ago by Hansford Martin? I

got a kick out of it simply because it had an illustration of the Union Tower, and some refer-

ces to campus scenes — especially the elevator key in Union.

"Saw Francis Sibley Sunday on his way from Oklahoma City to New York AP, and got a little current news from him. Joy and young Brenn are staying here for a while, and are with her parents just one block from me in Kaywood Gardens. Don’t you think, Mr. Beard, that the School of Journalism has turned out a tremendous number of people who have made good in AP, UP and on newsmen, etc.? Same way through the whole University.

"Do come back to Washington and make an-

other speech. You really went over last year. I

overlooked saying this the other day. I was read-
ing you all about the military news in the magazine throughout the war has been, remarkable, I think the staff provided a service in giving and printing all those thousands of items of interest in service. During the war that was the No. 1 need. I doubt if any other alumni magazine delivered like Oklahoma on that type of news. All my re-

marks earlier in this letter bear that out, of course."

Sincerely yours,

Frances Hunt

November 13, 1945

Dear Mr. Beard:

It is such a treat to be receiving the Sooner and to catch up on all the news —

In answer to your request — Roy ’34, ’34aw, ’40med, is now sailing the high seas to Europe to become a part of the Army of Occupation there. He has been in Fort Ord, California, until recently when he was transferred to Fort Sill and from there to Europe. John, ’33ba, is working in the Separation Center at Camp Bowie, Texas — he says he takes care of everyone’s discharge except his own.

As for my own status, I have been seeing the country a lot recently, and it has given me a wonderful opportunity to observe a lot of angles of war train-

ning. At first I was stationed in Wilmington, Illinois, where we served the war plant workers. Then I was with the O. U. P. in Santa Fe, New Mexico — then in Rolla, Missouri, when the 70th Infantry Division was training at Fort Leonard Wood to ship overseas (we played Christmas cards by re-

ceiving it at the headquarters, and I wish I were a writer.

In the 10th Mountain Division I have met Charles Willey, ’43drama, graduate of the O. U. Drama School — he visits the Club frequently, can still act and dance, and we have great fun discussing all our mutual friends from O. U.

This brings you up to date on at least part of the Grandstaffs. With respect to your family, and regards to Mrs. Turnbull, Frances Eudean Grantham, ’38ed, ’44m.a.

Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Prexy" Again

(Continued from page 19)

they have the capacity for self-education within them.

(2) Our cooperation with the University and the student. We accept our responsibility for co-

operation with the University in continuing their educational programs and in increasing our interest in the welfare of the University, as well as what we say and do, may be a tremendous in-

fluence in determining the attitude our young-

sters toward the O. U. and future acquaintance with those who instruct our children will lead to a better mutual understanding. Our interest in both the curricular and social activities of our children and our schoolchildren will be too quick to judge and criticize when other interests, especially social activities, cause our youngsters to fail to meet standard educational requirements.

(3) Our influence on public opinion. We accept our responsibility to promote the welfare of the University, particularly in our local communities. To do this, we should be well informed concerning its functions, its objectives, its plans and its needs, that we may be able to present them to our fellow citizens. Facts about how many boys and girls are working their way thru school will con-

trast malicious statements that O. U. is a school for rich men’s sons and daughters. Similarly, if we believe, refuse statements that O. U. is a st

nobsblish school or that the instructors are com-

munistic in their tendencies and athletic in their teachings. All that has been said may be an expression of personal opinion, gathered thru several years of intimate asso-

ciation with the University and activity within the Alumni Association, but personal or other-

wise, it is our University as I see it from a seat in the Dad’s Association, and to the purposes named above I commend the utmost effort, thought and loyalty of this Association."