**Riding the Sooner Range**

By Ted Beard

BEGINNING A NEW ERA, this November of '45. Indeed, signs and car-marks of a pre-war November! Whatta long siege it has been in swinging back on this cycle!

Rough spots? Yes, but many, many pleasant hours on the Sooner Range in the immediate past few days and nights. A rough (and sad) 2:00PM that recent day in Enid, at the funeral service of one of O. U.'s finest Dads—LOUIE McKNIGHT. The soldier son, LLOYD ('31aw)—on emergency leave from his Ft. SILL Army Station, there with dozens of relations and friends in strain due to LOUIE's sudden passing. Thus time (and life) moves on.

A business session—conference room, Biltmore Hotel, Oklahoma City. The door swings open and there "framed" appears the Navy-Army representative of "other years" from Sooner ranks—MAJOR PAUL REED ('18) SULPHUR, on 30 days leave (may it be terminal leave) from his post of duty, Port of Embarkation, SAN FRANCISCO. Yes, roll on! As of this fall semester, PAUL WARREN (Chip-off-the-REED-JOR PAUL REED ('18) SULPHUR, on 30 days there"framed" appears the Navy-Army representative of "other years" from Sooner ranks—MAJOR PHIL C. ('37law) and who, at this conference was adding his philosophy to "Education in the U. S. and England" along with Professor GEORGE CROSS, "Presto" DAN PROCTOR ('43ed), O.C.W., CHICKASHA, headman DOC BRUNER, OKLAHOMA CITY, School Chief and the Good-Educator, Mayor-Educator Tom WARREN of the British Empire. So it goes. Never an idle—indeed, never a dull moment in watching the parade pass by in Riding the Sooner Range!

The noon-luncheon plus afternoon-house of businessconference, over in the Conference room of the Biltmore, the "Dads" discussed above duly adjourn to a state-wide assembly of 505 citizen, from 31 communities of the state in theater Glade Room, Skirvin Tower, O. U. Sooner in evidence? Plenty! Among those "observed" were Dad J. HAMILTON, the outstanding Director of the Oklahoma Crippled Children Society, DICK MEER, OKLAHOMA CITY-NORMAN, journalist-reporter-picture snappin' specialist. H. K. McDOWELL (28ba) OKLAHOMA CITY, cap-and-gown, medal-trophy, engraved-printerswork and side-linemagnate. [MRS. MAC ('34 there also.] FINIS EWING, PURCELL-NORMAN, the electrical-supply-O.P.A.-store merchant. BILL ('35ma) and MRS. BUTLERFIELD, on staff, HERR WINKLE ('31ma), NORMAN, ham and eggs (plus T-Bone steaks NOY) distributor. ELMER L. ('38ma) and MRS. FRAKER ('22), OKLAHOMA CITY-MANGUM, "Frake" the state Legion Adl, plus Ed + Peaser. Lender Dr. LELAND LAMB ('28md), OKLAHOMA CITY, x-ray-pi, powdernumber. These plus dozens of others there Rarin' the Range! Thus draws to a close another, another night on the trail.

At dawn, back home and in the Alum Head-quarters, the old machine begins to grind, CAPTAIN EARL, was on Army mission in TOPEKA, KANSAS, looking forward to enough hours leave to drop down Norman way to see SNORT-R'S ('22law) bogstake on a real football delegation—some 2 days in the future. So it goes in the Army! Oders to shuffle around from that Biltmore conference table and extend a "Hi there, MAJOR" to PAUL, were: O.U. Dad-Aviation enthusiast MOSS PATTERSON, OKLAHOMA CITY, whose 2 daughters (by blood) MARY NELL WILSON ('37ma) and CARL L. MAYHALL JR. ('36bs) were doctrinated with the Sooner Shouts prior to and immediately after Pearl Harbor. Dad FRANK MCCART, PAW HUSKA, O.C.W., L. T. COL. FRANK ('35ba) had been discharged the night before this assembly and was headed back at that hour for Ft. SILL, OKLAHOMA CITY, whose 2 daughters (by blood) MARY NELL WILSON ('35ma) and VERANDA MARIE MAYHALL ('40ma), two sons-in-laws (by marriage) KENNETH WILSON ('35ma) and CAPT. CARL L. MAYHALL JR. ('36bs) were doctrinated with the Sooner Shouts prior to and immediately after Pearl Harbor. Dad FRANK MCCART, PAW HUSKA, O.C.W., L. T. COL. FRANK ('35ba) had been discharged the night before this assembly and was headed back at that hour for Ft. SILL, OKLAHOMA CITY, whose 2 daughters (by blood) MARY NELL WILSON ('35ma) and VERANDA MARIE MAYHALL ('40ma), two sons-in-laws (by marriage) KENNETH WILSON ('35ma) and CAPT. CARL L. MAYHALL JR. ('36bs) were doctrinated with the Sooner Shouts prior to and immediately after Pearl Harbor.

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