The "Keeper" of Landmarks

The telephone "dingles!" Oklahoma City calling. At the sending end, "Say, Ted—what's happening on the old North Oval? Well, whatever is happening, see that the Spoonholder of the Class of '10, the '06 Rock and THAT Memorial... degrees, take my name off the Memorial Plaque, take all my personal contacts away from me on the old O.U. campus, BUT leave those landmarks—that mean more to us alumni of yesteryear than all the buildings and laboratories—STICKILY ALONE! That's ALL, get into ACTION!!"

The telephone "dingles" again—yes, AGAIN and AGAIN, Tulsa calling, Purcell calling. Others calling. Same protest. And, here (as recorded by Ruth Kirkpatrick, '44, staff writer for The Norman Transcript in an early December 1945 feature story) is what caused it all!! —T.M.B.

LANDSCAPING AT O.U.

"Alumni who were visitors on the University campus last week may have been dismayed to see the results of three days labor of a team of horses and a turning plow on the north oval. "Plowing up the University's front lawn was not the first revolutionary change which is in progress on the campus. It was preceded by removal of numerous groupsof overgrown shrubs. "Directing the renovation of the campus landscaping is Robert H. Rucker, landscape architect, who was appointed to the position last summer. "Mr. Rucker has a two-fold purpose in his campus changes—reduction of traffic hazards and steady beautification of the University campus. "Most of the luxuriant shrubs which grew around the north oval and in front of the gate, have been removed for the former reason. To the drivers of automobiles approaching the Administrative building, students crossing from the Education building to the Science building on the sidewalk nearest the south end of the oval, were entirely out of sight behind tall evergreen trees planted on the north side of the walk, until they stepped into the street. "Several times, cars have had to drive up on the west curb in front of the Science Hall to avoid hitting students," Mr. Rucker said. "At the main gates to the campus, principally the gate into the north oval, the line of sight for a driver entering Boyd Street was zero, because of the large evergreens planted around the brick pillars. These have been removed and will be replaced with the low spreading varieties, Mr. Rucker explained. "An expanse of smooth lawn under the tall oaks and elm trees providing a vista across the campus is Mr. Rucker's plan. "The first two concrete walks on the south end of the oval have been removed because in rainy weather water stood on them. "Grading on the oval was backward, as the edges were higher than the center and water did not drain off. Men worked last week with a team of horses and a plow turning over the ground. The second step will be disking and then the oval will be graded with a "crown" in the center like a football gridiron is graded and resodded. "The two walks will then be replaced and the flagpole set in the center of the second walk. More utility for the students will be introduced when diagonal walks are run from near Holmberg Hall to the Educational Building to accommodate the music students who must take courses in education in order to teach public school music. "Another diagonal walk will be laid from the Science Building, where home economics classes are held, to the Art Building at the north end of the oval, to accommodate students of home economics who have work in the art school. "The diagonal walks will cross at the flagpole where a sundial of flowers will be developed. The lower part of the pole will cast its shadow on numerals made of dwarf flowers and shrubs. "Since it is necessary for the students to cross the oval, we shall remove the unsightly barricades and fences, and give them walks to cross on," Mr. Rucker said. "If the campus does not suit the need of the student body, the landscaping has failed," he explained, "because the students spend much of their time on the campus. "At the north and on the oval, the bed of plants forming the letters "O.U." are to be removed and replaced with a new bed, forming the name "Oklahoma U" in seasonal flowers. "Attention is being given to the use of color in the landscape, to harmonize with the buildings, keeping foremost the Oklahoma red and white. "Among other new plantings planned in the long range remodeling, will be those around the 10 buildings of Woodrow Wilson center and Jefferson house and commons, all on South Jenkins Avenue. "Seeking safety and beauty at the same time, Mr. Rucker said that it was not his intention to willfully plant anything which would create a death-corner or other hazard to people. "At the same time, he hopes to develop in the students, unknowingly to them, an appreciation for the beautiful. "Basically we have a very beautiful campus and what we want to do is to accent the natural beauty to its maximum degree," Mr. Rucker said. "Reduction of maintenance costs by reducing beds 30-feet wide, to about 12 feet, is also one of Mr. Rucker's goals. "No matter what we do in design and construction, maintenance is the most important and most expensive part of landscaping," he said. "Mr. Rucker has a staff of two men and a varying number of general assistants. "Bedding plants for the campus are grown in
FM Radio Station to Be Constructed

The University has been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to construct a new non-commercial frequency modulation radio station according to an Associated Press report.

The application for a 3,000-watt FM station, which was filed at the University, is approximately 1,200 now being processed by the Commission. This number includes applications for both FM and standard broadcasting stations.

If approved, the station will be operated in addition to the present activities of WNAD. According to information available, the station will have a coverage of only 45 to 50 miles, since FM carrier waves travel in a straight line as television waves do, not following the contour of the earth as in standard broadcasting.

The new station will be required to broadcast a minimum of six hours a day, with the greater part of the time devoted to programs designed to be of aid to schools in the coverage area.

Newspaper Work Attracts State Veterans to O. U.

Returning service men and women who plan to train for newspaper work may take all beginning courses in journalism at the University during the second semester which begins January 14.

Ordinarily the first courses in journalism are offered only during the fall semester but because of the demand by returning service people and transfer students, complete programs for those entering the school for the first time will be given the second semester.

Enrollment of majors in journalism this year shows an increase of 75 per cent over figures of last year. With the return of several faculty members who have been on military leaves, the staff is prepared to care for the increased number of students.

Model Drugstore

No longer confined to such a limited list of soda-fountain items as cokes and vanilla ice cream, the model drugstore of the School of Pharmacy at the University has a new name, "Tootsie Fruitie," or in non-drugstore lingo, fruit salad ice cream may now be purchased in the miniature store.

Hundredsof pharmacy students at the University have received practical training in the model drugstore by setting up window displays, working at the fountain and arranging inside displays.

Outstanding Freshman Coed

Bobby Henry, sophomore from Bartlesville, who has been selected as the outstanding freshman woman student by the Morrill Board. In addition to maintaining a high grade average she was president of Alpha Lambda Delta, national honorary scholarship society for freshman women, a co-counselor, a member of the Engineers' Club and U.W.C.A. and a member of the Delta Gamma sorority.

Hikes or Art

Taking care of after-class free time at the University of Oklahoma are more than 100 non-social organizations ranging from hiking, swimming and tennis clubs to groups such as Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic fraternity and professional organizations. All of the organizations have been officially approved by the University.

O. U. Officials Doing Utmost to House Vets

Staging a day and night battle against the Norman housing shortage, University of Oklahoma officials are doing their best to insure living accommodations for approximately 2,000 veterans expected to enroll for the second semester.

Application has already been made to the federal public housing agency for use of a 90-unit Hillcrest apartment south of the campus and permission to use surplus buildings at the north and south Navy bases has been secured. Necessary conversion of the Navy accommodations is now being planned.

Thirty trailer units will be available for use January 15 and it is hoped a 56-unit apartment dormitory for married students can be erected by the fall of 1946. University officials have appealed to Norman landlords urging them to give married war veterans enrolling in the University preference in renting apartments vacated by Navy personnel.

Sorority Reactivated

Re-activation of Alpha Gamma Delta, international college sorority, was made in December on the University campus. The re-activation will restore the chapter its 1919 seniority date of the original O.U. charter.

University of Oklahoma Foundation

Plans for a $2,000,000 Bizzell Memorial Library Center at the University of Oklahoma, along with that of other similar projects, were recently presented in the first formal statement of plans of the University of Oklahoma Foundation.

Let this not be a high pressure campaign for any over-all sum of money, but rather one step in a long-time program of presenting to friends of the institution the need that can be taken care of only by giving and bequests, stated Dr. Cross, who is president of the University and also acting president of the Foundation.

The first general announcement to alumni and friends listed the Bizzell Memorial project as the No. 1 item, but also described the need for gifts and bequests to finance a museum building, dormitories, scholarships, special research fashions, research projects, special equipment, and endowments for the Medical School.

Under the title "Oklahoma's Endless Frontier," the booklet issued by the trustees of the Foundation developed the thesis that there is no end to "the frontier of knowledge" which has replaced the western frontier of range cattle.

Education and research now represent effective education of its young people for leadership in the postwar period of adjustment and rebuilding, and on effective research into the state's social, economic, and scientific problems," President Cross said.

"It is apparent that, even with the increased state appropriations provided by the last Oklahoma legislation, the University of Oklahoma has not a large enough income if it is to give the state adequate service. Laboratory equipment has worn out during the war and much of the present equipment has been made obsolete by war-time technological developments. Buildings are inadequate for the postwar enrollment rush already under way, and high building costs partially offset the effectiveness of the recent building appropriations provided by the state.

"Instructional supplies cost much more than before the war. Competent teaching and research talent costs much more than in the past. In fact, the university faces increased operating costs in every phase of its program, just at the time when enrollment is heading into its present all-time high.

"Following the example of most of America's great institutions of higher education, the University of Oklahoma now invites its alumni, parents of students, friends, and other citizens of Oklahoma to help meet the need."

President Cross pointed out that, in spite of Oklahoma's wealth from oil, minerals and agriculture, the state's total of private gifts and grants made to institutions of higher education in Oklahoma in the last year reported by the U. S. office of education was only 10 percent of the nation's population. This is less than a third of the national average, and it ranks Oklahoma forty-fifth among the states.

In terms of the amount of private gifts and grants per student enrolled, Oklahoma rate lower—42nd among the states. This figure for Oklahoma in 1941-42 was $8.88 as compared to $33.93 in Arkansas, $33.34 in Louisiana, $33.09 in Texas, $34.08 in Kansas, $36.00 in Missouri, and a national average of $32.82. The average for the New England states was $59.25.

"We hope that when the University and the other institutions in Oklahoma do a better job of letting the people of the state know what the institutions are trying to do, the private gifts can widen the boundaries of achievement, the per capita giving in Oklahoma for educational purposes will become more in line with other states," President Cross said.

"I am sure we have many successful men in Oklahoma who have vision and imagination and who will give financial support to educational and research projects, provided they are assured that those programs are dynamic, forward-looking programs geared closely to the needs of today and tomorrow."

The Bizzell Memorial Library Center is designed (Continued on page 21)
Riding the Range

(Continued from page 5)

LEE EMENHISER, '31med, and their Secretary-Treasurer, DR. JOHN LAMB counseled far into the night arrival. Via, CHICKASHA, DUNCAN AND COMANCHE.

In CHICKASHA it's a pause to "season" briefly. A hasty check-up on pending alumni business. Lt. RALPH BRAND, '33ba, '38ma, the countyprefix, has a series of standing committees perfecting duties. Old cronies, President (Alumni) ELMER FRAKER, '20ba, '30ma, long since out of the Community, asks about his welfare. FREXIE DUN PROCTOR, '36ma, '45ba, of OCU in the CHICKASHA. Comment in and about quite highly. Expressions of sorrow are voiced over the loss recently of BRUCE MEYERS, '22as, '34mas, young son. Thus, another O. U. community passes in review and naming of dozens of your former associates and friends! BUT it's back to the O. U. office from this "tour of the south.'

Thus, they come—thus they go, ever on the march, some roaming, some on homecoming. CAPTAIN BOB COCANOUR, '26as, as together (in this Christmas period of PEACE) we continue Riding the Sooner Range.

O. U. Foundation

(Continued from page 9) to honor the memory of William Bennett Bizzez, president of the University for 16 years, who died in May, 1944. Dr. Bizzez secured from the state legislature the appropriation to build the present Library building, which was erected in 1929.

Plans have been drawn for extending the present building toward the back of the University Administration building so that the two structures, although not joined, would form a distinguished architectural unit.

All state funds appropriated to the University for capital purposes in the immediate postwar years will have to be used to build unadorned classrooms, laboratories, and service buildings, at the lowest possible cost, in order to meet urgent space requirements of the fast growing enrollment," President Cross said. "Benefactions therefore provide the only feasible means of financing the construction of a great Library center in the collegiate Gothic style of architecture already adopted in the design of the Administration building and the Library.

The building is to contain large reading rooms, seminar rooms, graduate study cubicles, special collection rooms, additional book stacks, and a Bizzez Memorial Room. The plans call for air-conditioning the reading rooms, since Oklahoma school teachers and administrators do most of their graduate research work in the Library in hot summer months.

While a gift of $2,000,000 would permit completion of the entire project in the name of a single donor, President Cross pointed out that the plan is divided into segments appropriate for smaller contributions. Gifts of $10 to $100 will pay for units of book stacks, $1,000 will pay construction cost of a graduate study cubicle bearing the name of the donor, and $50,000 to $100,000 will pay for large reading and study rooms suitable for identification as memorials to donors or their families.

HARBER, '40ba, back from many advanced Pacific landings and searching for a "home" for wife and babies in Norman, "so I may go on through with that law." W. B. "Tommy" THOMPSON, '20ba, the big soft drink bottling magnate of PONCA CITY. MAJOR DALE VLIET, '38ma, en route home from his MANILA duties as Provost Marshal General. MAJOR WALTER "HEALTHY" SNELL, '24ba, now back "CPA-ing" in OKLAHOMA CITY after a long tour of Army duty. CAPTAIN C. O. HUNT, '36as, '40ba, the new "Insurance Citadel" at the capital building in OKLAHOMA CITY. All these plus dozens of others went down on Jim's mailing list AND there will be a day when that "gang" is called together!

From WALTERS it's down the trail again to WAURIKIA, LAWTON, DUNCAN, RINGLING, SULPHUR, ARDMORE, PAULS VALLEY AND WILSON. In each center it's an O. U. assembly. Would that space would allow the pointing out and naming of dozens of your former associates and friends! BUT it's back to the O. U. office from this "tour of the south."