Distinguished Sooners

(Continued from page 6) exemplary military leaders."

Serving as master of ceremonies for the Achievement Day occasion was Lloyd Noble, '21, Ardmore, past president of the University Regents. Reverend O. L. Fontaine, '25ba, Oklahoma City, pronounced the invocation, and Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28 bus, president of the University of Oklahoma Association, delivered the address of welcome. Musical entertainment was furnished by the University glee club under the direction of Chester L. Francis.

As a gesture of appreciation to their alma mater, the banquet guests closed the occasion by singing the "Oklahoma Chant."

Cobeans Visit Campus

Easygoing Sam Cobeanc, '37, cartoonist for the New Yorker and other national magazines, and his wife, Anne (Anne McCool, '36ba), last month were back on the campus visiting friends.

R. M. McCool '31, Anne's father, is former city manager of Norman. The McCool residence was telephoned and a smooth feminine voice answered, "Surely, we'd be glad to talk to you."

The voice belongs to Anne. Husband Sam is a quiet, rosy-cheeked fellow in a sleeveless shirt and faded old khakis. He drives a sleek, low-slung convertible.

In ten years he has skyrocketed from studying law and journalism at the University through Hollywood and the Army to cartooning for the country's leading publications.

He stretched out on the McCool couch. He'd been working on some ads that had to be in the mail. When he finished them he browsed around the Art School. He hadn't eaten lunch. Would Anne mind making a cheese sandwich? He chatted between munches.

Sam was born in Pennsylvania, but after his parents died he moved to Tulsa, then attended the University of Oklahoma. He served two hitchs in the Army in 1936-37 as editor of the Covered Wagon, campus humor magazine. He earned a reputation for packing the sheet with cartoons. He left the University to do some artful pencil pushing through Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs for Walt Disney.

On leaving the Disney studios he worked for Universal and Columbia. Meanwhile, his Sooner classmates, Anne McCool, worked in the offices of Boyd Gaming, '37aw, director of the Extension Division. Then she secretaried her way out to the Art School. He hadn't eaten lunch. Would Anne mind making a cheese sandwich? He chatted between munches.

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He worked hard enough to keep the "bank" behind his New Yorker desk, but with pictures for future use. He also peppers the pages of many magazines with his advertisement cartoons.

On their Seneca Lake farm the Cobeans have two horses, a colt, and two harnessed horses (Rat-like little creatures minus tails).

It was almost time for the Cobeans to go to a party at the home of a University faculty member. Anne, always polished looking as one of Sam's Esquire drawings, didn't need to get ready for the party. Sam didn't.

They stepped into the convertible. Sam sat in careful ease behind the steering wheel, cruising around Norman. He didn't look exactly where the party was to be given. But that didn't bother him. Nothing perturbed Sam.

And, eventually, he found the house. At the party the wives congregated around Anne. Suit-clad University artists clustered near Sam. Sam was still wearing his battered suntans and his sleeveless shirt.

But the people didn't notice. They were too interested in the man, Sam. His title on the New York News was "cartoonist." His deeply suntanned face beamed good naturedly. "They just call me Sam," he said.

Hefleys Recall the 'Run'

BY BARBARA PIPER

O.U. Journalism Junior

Even before the Sooners and Boomers came to Norman, the Hefley family was living here, running the section house for the Santa Fe railroad!

In a recent interview with three of the Hefley brothers, all of Norman and all who were students in the first class of the University in 1892, a colorful story evolved of a family living on the scene in the early days of American history.

John T. Hefley, received the B.A. in 1901 and the Doctorate in education in 33. He taught for many years in the state and was a professor of education at the University, J. L. Hefley got his B.A. degree in 1899. He later became a Methodist minister and lived most of his life away from Norman. Henry M. "Hank" became a farmer and has resided in Norman since 1888. It was Hank who remembered most clearly the first furious days of the little town on the Canadian.

"Well," began Hank, "this is the way the story goes. My father, Jefferson L. Hefley, my mother and eight children came to what was, then, called Norman back in 1888. The name was borrowed from Jomer E. Norman, a government surveyor who operated from Fort Arbuckle to Oklahoma City. It was first served. Arkansas laws prevailed in the Territory until it became a state. D. L. Larsh and T. R. Waggoner, the first Cleveland County repre-

Sam Cobeanc, '37, and Anne McCool Cobeanc, '36ba, relax during a recent visit at the home of Ann's parents, the R. M. McCools of Norman. Biggest change here since his sleepy student days, he says, is "The New York run between classes. Campus corner is just like Times Square—everybody in a hurry and you wonder where they're all going."

Sam Cobeanc is cosmopolite, but he's in no hurry.

He and Anne alternate between living in their New York City apartment and on their farm at Seneca Lake, New York.

So much of his drawing while they are at the farm, "Spasmotic" is the word he uses to describe his work habits. "I work very hard for awhile then I don't work," he says.

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sentative to the legislature and author of the bill to establish a university in Norman, reputedly, hailed in the first prefabricated house in the state. They brought in the section by train, put it up in a few hours and moved in by nightfall. There is some slight difference of opinion between the old settlers, but this house is supposed to be still standing at 425 South Santa Fe Avenue, covered now with asbestos siding. Ed Ingle, first editor of the Transcript, established in 1889, was here the first day and got his homestead.

So it went all day. By night some 500 happy but tired pioneers sang songs around fires on this side of the river. Where there had been only prairie, now were tents, wagons, shanties and life. And the Hefley's Hotel Norman had a cellar, but fate stepped in. Several weeks later, the hotel was finished, with nine sleeping rooms and a huge dining room, the government contested the claim. Hefley had been on this side of the river before the run and was, therefore, ineligible to homestead.

Slightly pigted, but undaunted, the Hefleys picked up their hotel and moved to a legal spot. They took everything, including the lining of the well.

The theater came to town by way of the Frann Opera House, built by Mr. W. Seawell the first summer. Real plays by legitimate artists were presented, as well as operas such as "Carmen." Even then, culture reared its head in the little metropolis. Father Hefley sold the lot, where the City National Bank now exposes, for $25. The Southern Methodist was the first church to get up a building on the present site of the Central Church of Christ. Reed's was the first drug store. Social life consisted mainly of picnics along the river and the church was the hub of activities.

In 1892, the University opened shop on the site of the present Sandusky furniture building. In 1902, the first elections were held. J. A. Hallum was elected mayor and Norman became a first class city.

And so was born "our town," which now boasts a population of 18,000 residents and approximately 12,000 University students. It has practically no industry, will never be a metropolis, but has cultural and living advantages hard to equal.

With a touch of nostalgia in their voices, the Hefley brothers agreed that "there was less trouble in those pistol-packing days than now. Everybody was out on one big spree, looking for something free, and those were really the good old days. Yes, sirree!"

Dr. Joseph H. Maraburn, professor of English, served as president of Georgia Military College before joining the O.U. faculty in 1920.

The Choctaw County Alumni Association entertained University band members at a banquet when the band made its trip there for the Second Annual Circus Roundup, an all-day celebration given in honor of the city's eight shows which winter in Hugo.

Those who assisted after the hotel was built included: Ennis M. DeWeese, '21ba, Hugo mayor; Robert Firebaugh, '38m.ed; Eddie Miller; Robert H. Warren, '42; John A. Bryan, '11ba; Miss Fannie Glenn, '20ba, '29ma; O. A. Brewer, '17ba, '20law, president of the Choctaw County Club; Miss Maida Lambeth, '45ba; John Conrad, '20ba, '26ma; Cecil Ford, banquet chairman; Mrs. O. A. Brewer (Glady's Malby, '20); Carlos Webb; Miss O. C. Brewer, '20; F. H. Stevens, '45ma, '46law, a law instructor.

The "Press Box" of the Norman Transcript recently carried this item:

"Ansel Challener, '25eng, '33m.eng, of the University College of Engineering staff, says he believes he's recorded one of those 'impossible events' in his books.

"Receiving a call from a Swiss scientist in New Jersey the other day, Challener was asked by the scientist where the professor lived. Challener gave him his street address, but the scientist wasn't satisfied. He wanted to know the name of the town.

"Challener, surprised that the scientist didn't know the name of the town which he had called, learned that the Swiss, a man he met during the war, had placed the call to Ansel Challener at a university in Oklahoma, not knowing which university or college or town in which Challener was located.

"The call came through, but Challener told telephone company officials they hardly could believe that it was possible since it is the usual procedure that the town must be known first before a call is placed."

Yes, sir, I haven't quite added two pounds per year over that 20 year stretch and I don't have to wear a hat to keep from yielding to this California sun, but it won't be long.

Enjoyed your comment concerning secretaries and it is just as someone said, we can get along without presidents, but what the heck would we do without secretaries. Of course, I mean alumni secretaries.

Best regards, George Christmas, '28ba.

Pharmacists to Fete Early Grads

Once in fifty years graduates of the School of Pharmacy are entitled to the type of recognition being doled out this month to four of the school's grads with the class of '98.

On their fiftieth anniversary of graduation, James Lebron Freeman, Tonkawa; William Henry McCutcheon, Oklahoma City; Edmund S. Norris, Pawnee, and Robert Franklin Snapp, Mountainair, New Mexico, are being lauded as members of the third class to graduate from the University.

In the May "Drug Mill," a monthly news release authored by Dr. Ralph Bienfang, professor of pharmacy, the class of '98 is contrasted with the much larger classes of today. The 1,000th graduate of the School of Pharmacy will receive his diploma this spring.

Where's the University?

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May, 1948