This is the Diamond Jubilee Year of the Cherokee Strip Run. A huge rectangle of Oklahoma land, big enough to contain three entire eastern states and portions of three others, prior home of the nomadic Comanches and Kiowas, the buffalo, and the antelope, the Cherokee Strip was cursorily explored by Spanish Conquistador Francisco de Coronado in 1542. It became a part of France, then Spain, and of the area wrongly called "The Great American Desert" by early colonial geographers. It was set aside for the Cherokee people, leased by them to ranchers who had trailed cattle along the Chisholm Trail which crossed it, and finally opened for settlement in the great race on Sept. 16, 1893.

A CALENDAR OF
CHEROKEE STRIP CELEBRATIONS

FAIRVIEW ..................................... July 25-31
PERRY ......................................... Sept. 14
ENID ............................................ Sept. 14-16
PONCA CITY .................................... Sept. 14-16

A reminiscence of youth
In anticipation of

DIAM JU

BY HENRY BASS ..........
in the Cherokee Strip
the Run of 1893's
OND BILEE

Among the racers was my father, Dan Bass. Born in Ontario, Canada, he was brought to Nebraska by his parents when he was two-years-old. There he grew to manhood with scant opportunity for formal schooling, became a skilled carpenter, and married Sophia Ackerman. Early in 1893, he began hearing glowing stories of the opportunity for obtaining land in the Cherokee Strip. He came to Oklahoma City.

By dint of hard work, chiefly in building wooden sidewalks on California and Reno Streets, he earned enough money to bring his wife and two children, John and Lillian, to share his life in the promised land. By September he had earned enough to purchase a fleet pony. His brother Charles came down with his wife and two children. Opening day found them in Hennessey with the fleet pony, a covered wagon and the necessary team of horses to pull it.

From beneath a gnarled cottonwood tree, which still stands in the fence row marking the boundary between Old Oklahoma and the Cherokee
McKenzie's son kept me patched up that she was restored to health. Dr. His grandson, Jim Tagge, now serves as our family physician.

They moved onto an apparently unclaimed lot near today's Youngblood Hotel. A claimant appeared and ordered them off. As they prepared to leave a third claimant came along and ordered them all to depart. Dad told the two claimants if they could decide which of them was the rightful owner he would pay him fifteen dollars for the lot. The pair argued for awhile then both of them disappeared. Dad never saw either of them again, and this remained their homestead.

Dr. Walton McKenzie, a bewhiskered physician who had just arrived by train from Fort Worth, diagnosed my mother's illness as typhoid fever, and in succeeding weeks saw to it that she was restored to health. Dr. McKenzie's son kept me patched up during four years of high school football. His grandson, Jim Tagge, now serves as our family physician.

Enid that first night was a sea of tents. Many who had no such luxury slept in the open. Carpenters were in demand. Dad accumulated sufficient funds to purchase a supply of 2x4s, 1x10s and batts with which he built one-room domiciles, which was the envy of all our neighbors during that first winter. I still remember it as the home of our family cow after we had a larger house, but before we became sufficiently affluent to construct a barn.

The house in which I was born was built by my father, a room at a time, after normal work hours. Nearly all the furniture which went into it was fashioned by the same hands. A severe drought was underway at the time of the opening and continued for four years. One of the principal food staples of those trying years was turnips raised after autumnal rains had fallen. Cherokee Strip historian George Rainey once told me he paid a visit to Oklahoma City during the trying times. A waitress asked him what he desired for breakfast. He was so used to a steady diet of turnips he failed to realize other food might be available and said, "I will take my turnips fried this morning."

In 1897 ample rain fell. A bumper wheat crop was garnered. It brought one dollar per bushel, and prosperity. Money brought in by dollar wheat was put to use. Houses were painted, new furniture and buggies appeared, church and school construction got underway.

Ringling Brothers Circus came to Enid that autumn. Settlers from all over the Strip came by the thousands to make it a gala occasion. The largest crowd to ever attend the circus on one day until that time overwhelmed the show's capacity. Many lingered on for days to celebrate.

My maternal grandfather came down from Nebraska to see how fared his only daughter in her new surroundings. He showed more enthusiasm and vision concerning the new city's future than most. Settlers, uncertain as to titles and not overly enthusiastic about prospects, were willing to sell out at low prices. Granddad undertook to purchase the entire north block facing the square. His son-in-law deemed the old gentleman was losing his mind and wired his sons to come get him quickly before he dissipated his life's savings. There is now no block in any city of comparable size in the nation where business properties command such high rentals.

Enid and the Rock Island Railroad enjoyed a varied relationship from the start. The railroad located a town site called Enid three miles north of the center of the present city. The Department of the Interior was informed that land speculation was underway by railroad officials, so the government decreed that the town of Enid would be located three miles south of the railroad's choice.

The Rock Island flatly refused to stop trains at the government's designated townsite. Many more people had settled in the government's Enid than in the railroad's Enid and much unhappiness resulted. After months of bickering a few determined pioneers took things in their own hands. On a moonless night they sawed the timbers supporting the railroad bridge south of Enid. A Texas cattle train was the first to come along. None of the crew were injured, but dead and maimed longhorns littered the landscape as the bridge collapsed.

Federal troops were sent to guard the railroad property. The widespread publicity engendered caused Congress to pass a law ordering the Rock Island henceforth to stop all trains at South Enid, by which the government sponsored town was known in the lexicon...
of the day.

As Dr. B. B. Chapman points out in his treatise *Enid’s Railroad War*, the railroad’s selection was the better site. North Enid stands on level ground while South Enid was located in a creek valley. The agony suffered, and the millions of dollars in losses incurred from the creek’s raging flood waters before they were fully eliminated by a diversion canal, could fill volumes.

While raising turnips and battling the Rock Island Railroad other happenings occasionally distracted the settlers. A young cowboy by name of Dick Yaeger, alias Zip Wyatt, swept across the Strip robbing and terrorizing its inhabitants. Scores dropped their daily chores to join in the chase for the elusive outlaw.

The bandit was finally cornered near Hennessey and wounded by an alert deputy. Brought to the Garfield County jail he lingered for days before expiring from his wounds. The Bass Construction Company’s most publicized project resulted — Dan Bass took the contract to build Dick Yaeger’s coffin. Wave-Democrat editor J. L. Isenberg wrote a colorful story of the episode. It was picked up by the Associated Press and carried by newspapers over the country. Later, Enid’s Pulitzer Prize author Marquis James further publicized it in his book *They Had Their Hour*.

Shadowy figures from Civil War times crossed Enid’s threshold to add mystery to our town’s story. Boston Corbett, the eccentric Irishman who allegedly shot John Wilkes Booth, passed his last known days in Enid before vanishing into total obscurity. David George, who committed suicide in Enid, confessed on his deathbed that he actually was John Wilkes Booth, starting a controversy which continues unabated to this day. Daniel Allan Dorsey, one of the intrepid volunteers who stole “The General” during the Civil War lived out his life in Enid. To properly commemorate this heroic act, Abraham Lincoln created the Congressional Medal of Honor.

My first vivid recollection occurred when I was four-years-old. I toddled out the kitchen door to find my brother Harry, slightly less than two years older than I, sitting on the back steps crying.

When I asked why, he said, “The President has died.”

William McKinley meant nothing to my four-year-old mind, and I laughed and taunted Harry for crying, whereupon he arose and properly chastized me for such frivolous conduct.

From then on I watched the drama of Enid unfold. I well remember running water coming to our house, soon followed by the plumbing which ended forever those journeys to the little shack on the back of the lot. Then the dramatic moment when darkness dissolved in the magic of turning on our town’s first electric lights. Then came the telephone, and tussles between my older brother and sister as to which would get to the ringing instrument first.

The kids in our neighborhood got a real break from Pat Wilcox, the original Enid inhabitant. As a young man employed by the Department of the Interior Pat was domiciled in a tent on Enid’s proposed public square on the day of the opening. From that vantage point he watched a faint something on the southern horizon grow into a fast moving dust cloud hammered out by the hoofs of thousands of horses as their riders converged on Enid. Our break came when Pat Wilcox settled in our block on West Elm and taught us the rudiments of baseball.

Then there was the morning when a distant chugging alerted our gang to a new wonder. We ran to North Independence to, for the first time, see banker Sherman Goltry drive past in a cloud of dust raised by Enid’s first automobile. A few years later our school was thrown into an uproar as everyone rushed to windows to catch a glimpse of Clyde Cessna’s airplane as he soared overhead in Enid’s first airplane flight.

But for the fact that Clyde Cessna could not find a proper building in which to tinker with his plane through that winter, Cessna Aircraft might be in Enid rather than Wichita and Seattle. A Wichita garage owner let the birdman use the back of his building that winter, and a great industry was born. As Enid’s growth continued the Warner-Quinlan Paving Company of Pittsburgh, Penn., came to do our first street surfacing and an Ohio company installed the streetcar systems in Enid and Tulsa. The superintendent was instructed to make his home in whichever city was larger. Until the end of World War I this superintendent, Clarence Cline, operated both systems from Enid. Now Enid has more Cadillacs per capita than any other city in the world.

Garfield County has been acclaimed the world’s banner wheat raising county. A cattlemen’s magazine states that the county has more purebred cattle breeders than any other. Shell Oil Company recently stated that the Schroeder Lease in Garfield County’s Garber Oil Pool has produced more
oil in dollar value than any other quarter-section of land in the history of the petroleum industry.

Home foreclosures are practically unknown in the Strip. Enid’s banks enjoy the lowest ratio of loans to deposit of any city in the nation. Panhandle A&M’s President Morrison once said that the old Oklahoma 8th Congressional District which embraced the Cherokee Strip, had the highest percentage of literacy of any political division in the world.

Dan and Sophia Bass, denied all but the rudiments of formal education, were determined their seven children would not be so handicapped. All their offspring were given opportunity to obtain all the education they were willing to absorb. From the beginning, mother and dad worked to better our family’s economic and cultural position. As soon as funds were available a cow was purchased and a cow remained an important cog in our economic setup until (one of the truly memorable moments in my life) the day I returned from my freshman year at the University of Missouri to discover that Molly the cow had been sold.

In my youth, ownership of a cow was a status symbol. Chickens were important. Practically every egg or

fried chicken of which I partook were raised in our back yard. Our yard was spaded, hand-raked by Dan Bass and his sons, and planted to garden and orchard. All fruits and vegetables not eaten fresh were canned for winter use. Each autumn Dad butchered two large hogs, and we older kids hurried home from school to cut up the fat to be rendered into lard. We cut cabbage and pounded the cuttings into a jar to be fermented into sauerkraut.

My first regular job was assisting my brothers in driving the neighborhood cows to pasture each morning and home each evening. Then I got a paper route. Later I was promoted to an inside position as folder and mailer. Believe me, it was something to get in out of the rain, snow and cold. It enabled me to follow by incoming telegrams the forty-five round pugilistic battle between Battling Nelson and Ad Wolgast.

I became a printer’s devil on Everitt Purcell’s Enid Morning News. Working hours were 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., six days a week, pay $1.50 per week. Late one Saturday afternoon Mr. Purcell’s sister came in and, ordered me to deliver a wedding present to the far west part of town. This burned me up. It required over an hour to make the delivery. I returned to ready the shop for closing and pick up my week’s pay check, which was always left on the front desk on Saturday. Instead of the usual amount of $1.50 it read $2.00. I was so excited I ran all the way home to show my mother. All thoughts of quitting left my mind.

I entered the construction world as a laborer for the munificent remuneration of 15c per hour. Customary working hours were ten hours a day, six days a week. We were engaged in digging a basement with pick and shovel when someone came to the job and informed my father the legislature had just passed the eight-hour law. Dad paused just long enough to lament, “How will we ever get a building finished working only eight hours a day?”

One of the best breaks our family received was when the Carnegie Library was constructed across the street from our house. My mother was often compelled to send some of the younger children to the library to order the older ones home for supper. Then there was the year our gang invaded the county fair carnival and beheld a new miracle, the first story movie ever made, The Great Train Robbery, which ushered in a completely new mode of entertainment.

No region in the history of mankind has reached such a high standard of living in so short a span of time as the Cherokee Strip. And it has all been fun.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 25—July 5</td>
<td>“Cameo,” Lyric Theatre ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 1—2</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Tecoma (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Horse Racing ... Woodward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Hawaii (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Fred Lowery Memorial Rodeo ... Lenapah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2—4</td>
<td>American Legion Rodeo ... Wright City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2—4</td>
<td>Kiowa Cour/Car Clan Celebration ... Carnegie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Little Britches Rodeo ... Beaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4—6</td>
<td>RCA Kiwanis Rodeo ... Hinton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4—6</td>
<td>All Girls' Rodeo ... Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4—6</td>
<td>Pioneer Roundup Rodeo ... Dinzlentee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4—7</td>
<td>Pawnee Indian Homecoming &amp; Powwow ... Pawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4—6</td>
<td>Osage Powow Powow ... Osage Powow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 9—20</td>
<td>“Can-Can,” Lyric Theatre ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 10—13</td>
<td>Town &amp; Gown Musical Production (OSU) ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 10—13</td>
<td>Jaycee Rodeo ... Broken Bow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11—12</td>
<td>Little Britches Rodeo ... Hobart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11—14</td>
<td>Roundup Clubs Rodeo ... Walters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11—13</td>
<td>Rodeo ... Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12—14</td>
<td>Sac &amp; Fox Powow Powow ... Stroud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12—14</td>
<td>Square Dance Festival, OSU ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12—14</td>
<td>State Men's Indian Softball Tournament ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 12—17</td>
<td>International Cheerleaders Clinic ... Ponca City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 13—16</td>
<td>Yuchi Green Corn Ceremonial ... Kellyville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15—17</td>
<td>All Sports Jamboree (LU) ... Langston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16—17</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Indiana Polis (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17—20</td>
<td>Town &amp; Gown Musical Production, OSU ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17—20</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Chickasha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>Band Concert, CSD ... Edmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18—20</td>
<td>Great Plains Rodeo ... Cherokee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18—20</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Enid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18—21</td>
<td>Comanche Homecoming Powwow ... Walters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19—21</td>
<td>International Roundup Clubs Cavalcade ... Pawhuska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19—21</td>
<td>State American Legion &amp; Auxiliary ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Int'l Brick &amp; Rolling Pin Throwing Contest ... Stroud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20—26</td>
<td>Central State Golf Assn. ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20—24</td>
<td>Bandmasters Assoc. ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23—25</td>
<td>89ers vs. Oilers (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 23—Aug 3</td>
<td>“The Student Prince,” Lyric Theatre ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 24—27</td>
<td>Roundup Club Rodeo ... Cheyenne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25—27</td>
<td>Wrangler's Rodeo ... Fairview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26—27</td>
<td>45th Infantry Division Assoc. ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26—28</td>
<td>Oilers vs. San Diego (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26—28</td>
<td>State Girls' Indian Softball Tournament ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26—28</td>
<td>89ers vs. Phoenix (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 29—Aug 1</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Phoenix (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30—Aug 1</td>
<td>89ers vs. San Diego (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2—3</td>
<td>Roundup Club Rodeo ... McAlester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2—4</td>
<td>Sac &amp; Fox Veterans Powow Powow ... Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2—4</td>
<td>Oilers vs. 89ers (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 3</td>
<td>Peach Festival ... Porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 3—4</td>
<td>Cimarron River Stampede ... Waynaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 3—6</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Lawton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 5—8</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Oklahoma (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 5—8</td>
<td>89ers vs. Portland (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 6—7</td>
<td>&quot;Funny Girl,” Lyric Theatre ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 7—9</td>
<td>Rodeo ... Rush Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 8—10</td>
<td>Caddo Veterans ... Binger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 9—10</td>
<td>Rodeo ... Atoka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 9—11</td>
<td>89ers vs. Indianapolis (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 9—11</td>
<td>Frontier Rodeo ... Darby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 10</td>
<td>Watermelon Festival ... Rush Springs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 12—17</td>
<td>American Indian Exposition ... Anadarko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 15—16</td>
<td>Roundup Club Rodeo ... Wagonner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Mohawk Park Powow Powow ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>Oilers vs. 89ers (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 18—24</td>
<td>Western Heritage Days ... Bristow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 19—23</td>
<td>Dairy Show ... Enid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 20—22</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Phoenix (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 20—22</td>
<td>89ers vs. Denver (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 21—25</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Vinita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 22—24</td>
<td>Rodeo ... Madill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23—25</td>
<td>89ers vs. San Diego (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 23—25</td>
<td>Oilers vs. Indianapolis (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 26—29</td>
<td>89ers vs. Phoenix (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28—31</td>
<td>Fair ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28—31</td>
<td>Elk's Rodeo ... Woodward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—31</td>
<td>Fair ... Horse Show ... Rodeo ... Buffalo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—31</td>
<td>Horse Races ... Miami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—31</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Hinton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—31</td>
<td>RCA Prize Rodeo ... McAlester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—Sept 1</td>
<td>Ponca Powow Powow ... Ponca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29—Sept 1</td>
<td>Cheyenne-Arapaho Powow Powow ... Ponca City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30—Sept 2</td>
<td>Golf Tournament ... Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Quarter Horse Show ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Plainsmen vs. Alabama (football) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31—Sept 2</td>
<td>Fair ... Rodeo ... Beaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31—Sept 2</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Elk City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31—Sept 2</td>
<td>Colonial Powow Powow ... Colony</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2—4</td>
<td>Oilers vs. San Diego (baseball) ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 3—4</td>
<td>Free Fair ... El Reno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 3—8</td>
<td>Fair ... Enid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 4—6</td>
<td>Fair ... Hugo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 4—7</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Idaho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 4—7</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Cherokee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 6—7</td>
<td>Fair ... Wagoner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 6—8</td>
<td>89ers vs. Oilers (baseball) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>Cherokee National Holiday ... Tahlequah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>Fair ... Pryor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 9—11</td>
<td>Fair ... Fairview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 9—12</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Duncan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 10—14</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>Frontier Rodeo ... Cheyenne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Chandler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 12—14</td>
<td>Open Golf Tournament ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>Fair &amp; Horse Show ... Atoka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>Fair ... Claremore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 14—16</td>
<td>Cherokee Strip Celebration ... Enid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 14—16</td>
<td>101 Ranch Rodeo &amp; Celebration ... Ponca City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 15—17</td>
<td>Fiesta de Mejico ... Waynaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 15—20</td>
<td>State Fair ... Muscogee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16—18</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Clinton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16—19</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16—19</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Okene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 17—21</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Ardmore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 19—21</td>
<td>Free Fair ... Bristow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>Plainsmen vs. Oklahoma (football) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>State Fair of Oklahoma ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>Men's International Softball Tournament ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>“Fiddler on the Roof,” (McMahon Mem. Aud.) ... Lawton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 26—29</td>
<td>RCA Rodeo ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 27—Oct 1</td>
<td>American Polled Hereford Assoc. ... Tulsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 27—Oct 6</td>
<td>Tulsa State Fair ... Tulsa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 28</td>
<td>Plainsmen vs. Quad Cities (football) ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 28</td>
<td>OU vs. Holy Cross (football) ... Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 28—29</td>
<td>Professional Photographers Assoc. ... Stillwater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 30—Oct 1</td>
<td>Oklahoma Petroleum Council ... Oklahoma City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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CHEROKEE VILLAGE

Descriptive passages in rare books have for all too long been the only source of information on the early way of life of the Cherokee people. Hours of research in the ethnological collections of distant libraries would provide, for the determined researcher, visual images of daily life among the Cherokees, if the researcher had a vivid imagination, trained skill in seeking information, patience, and enough money to travel to the widely scattered libraries where such information might be available.

We are thankful that times have changed. Now a curious youngster, on a holiday, can at Cherokee Village, Tahlequah, obtain a wider concept of how the Cherokee people lived two centuries ago than an adult trained in research could learn in a year's hard work a generation ago.

At Cherokee Village, young Cherokees play stickball, Cherokee ladies enjoy morning gossip (in the Cherokee language), the village crier makes his rounds shouting the news (in Cherokee), ceremonial dances are held, while you eavesdrop and observe. It is educational entertainment at its best.
ART IN INDUSTRY

SEE (Systems Electronics Engineering) Inc., in Wewoka, produces objects which look simple, but aren't. They appear to be metal, but they are also plastic. You may have seen these objects glowing in night darkness on the control panels of aircraft, or beside the iridescent nighttime green of a radar scope. If you have served with the military perhaps you have seen these panels behind the input cranks and control knobs of electronic fire control computers, rangefinders, stadimeters, or sonar gear.

Because they must be read in darkness the letters must glow, but only dimly. They must glow red because exposure to red light does not cause night blindness. They must be of uniform brightness, requiring no eye adjustment for a varying intensity of light in moving from one dial to another.

A component of a lighted control panel is the printed circuit, copper on plastic. SEE, Inc., is remarkable not only for the precise engineering of its product but for the concept from which the firm grew. The Seminole Tribe invested capital here, to provide opportunity for Seminole Indian people. It was the first such state venture. Its success has been followed by other such ventures to provide opportunity for Indian people.

You might suspect that creative thought would flourish in such an environment. It does. Mon T. Cheves, vice-pres. and gen. mgr., is as creative as a split-T quarterback calling signals under pressure. What, he wondered, might be the outcome of combining ancient Indian-Asian art techniques with the ultra modern materials of the printed circuit?

Here enters Johnson Scott, talented Seminole-Creek artist whose paintings have won prizes, at the Wewoka Centennial Celebration, and at the First Annual Five Tribal Museum Exhibition in Muskogee. He created the seal design for the Wewoka Centennial. Johnson Scott's artistry, and Mon T. Cheves' ingenuity in adapting industrial techniques with copper and plastic, have blended to produce a futuristic space age lithography; the subject, a graphic series illustrating the story of the Seminole Nation from ancient times to the present.

Neither the artist nor the innovator is certain what the future of this melding of their talents may be. Perhaps collectors-item art objects. Perhaps mass produced items for variety store souvenir counters. Perhaps both. Perhaps something in between. Neither are we certain — except that the plaques they have thus far produced are extremely interesting. It is a delight to discover that there is something new under the sun.

NEW BOOKS

LIFE OF GEORGE BENT: Written from his letters by George E. Hyde, edited by Savoie Lottinville, (Univ. of Oklahoma Press, Norman, $5.95). George Bent was half-Cheyenne; his wife was Cheyenne; he spent his life among the Cheyenne people. His writings are entirely Indian, Cheyenne, in viewpoint. In them he described daily incidents among his people, included accounts of Cheyenne battles and historic events heard from Indian eye-witnesses, old men of the Cheyennes spinning out their yarns under the very best of circumstances, while smoking around the fire, under no pressure of time, and among their friends. This book written from Bent's letters is a vicarious experience in living among the Cheyenne people in the days of their glory. This is how it was to be a Cheyenne a century ago.

KIOWA YEARS by Alice Marriott (MacMillan Co., New York). One of the last projects the incomparable Jerome Tiger undertook before his untimely death was the preparation of the illustrations for this book. So the book is a remarkable composite. It is Kiowa heritage written by a Caucasian author, illustrated with pictures of a Plains people drawn by a Five Tribes artist. It is convincing truth that in our age, for the first time in all history, lines of communication are perhaps truly open among the families of mankind. In this century, it is possible for a person of understanding and talent to become intimately versed in the culture of another people. It takes a finely sensitive spirit and a great patience, not
possessed by many lesser than Marriott, and Tiger. But it can be and it has been done here, to the benefit of anyone who has the opportunity to read this book.

UP THE TRAIL IN SEVENTYNINE by Baylis John Fletcher (Univ. of Oklahoma Press, Norman, $2.95). We doubt that there is a more popular series of books anywhere, among scholars and general leaders alike, than the O.U. Press Western Frontier Library. These authentic accounts continue to cover every aspect of the American West, with authenticity and colorful impact. "The Indian Territory was a cowpuncher's paradise," writes trail drover Fletcher. He continues to prove it with his first hand accounts of lush grazing, freedom from the evils of the settlements left behind in Texas, and those to be encountered ahead in Kansas. A chapter descriptive of a camp meeting documents the impact of this worthy religious institution in the early West.

ON THE WESTERN TOUR WITH WASHINGTON IRVING: The Journal and Letters of Count de Paurtales by George F. Spaulding, (Univ. of Okla. Press, $4.95). It seems incredible that an original source such as this was not discovered until 135 years after the fact. The accounts of three of the men on the Irving journey in 1832 (Irving, Letrobe, and Ellsworth) have long since been published and available. Paurtales' account was discovered in Munich, by author Spaulding, just three years ago. With its publication, Irving's tour of the prairies is now available from the viewpoint of each of the four main travelers in the party.

BILL TILGHMAN: Marshal of the Last Frontier by Floyd Miller. (Doubleday & Co., New York, $5.95). This is the kind of book about an Oklahoman, and Oklahoma, that we have long yearned to see written. Not that it is alone... there are a few others; there will be more. Too many who speak of "pride in Oklahoma" don't really know what they're proud of. A reading of this book would surely put them on a right track. Mr. Miller is a man who admires courage and knows how to depict it for others to admire. He closes his splendid narrative with a quote, "One Man with courage makes a majority." (Andrew Jackson) Bill Tilghman was a one-man majority, as is every man with courage and conviction. The Oklahoma environment still seems to produce that kind of man.

NATIONAL POETRY CONVENTION AT CSC


Library of Congress Poet-in-Residence, James Dickey, and the chairman of Iowa University's Creative Writing Program, Paul Engle, presented lectures.

Styles of Modern Poetry, a poetry workshop paired with the Convention, included symposia and discussions under the direction of Central State's Dr. Cliff Warren, Herwanna Barnard, and OU's Dr. Robert Bauer.

Bess Mae Sheets, president of the Poetry Society of Oklahoma, served as Convention Chairman. Vice-chairman was Clara Laster, Editor of the Tulsa Poetry Quarterly. Convention secretary was Barbara Rasmussen, Oklahoma City columnist and poet.

A special emphasis on Indian heritage brought contributions from Creek chieftain W. E. Dode McIntosh, Dr. Muriel Wright, Carol Rachlin, Alice Marriott, and Mrs. James Monroe Cox.

Henry Carlton Jones, Oklahoma State Writers President until his recent death, had been scheduled to be Oklahoma's chief delegate to the Convention. "Hank" Jones, known and loved by all literary Oklahomans, was sadly missed. The Convention paid warm tribute to this popular and widely known Sooner author.

Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor of the Sunday Oklahoma's Orbit magazine served as an official host. Central State President Garland Godfrey greeted the convention. Distinguished poets and poets laureate from virtually every state were present to participate in the variety of panels and reading sessions included during the Convention.

PATTI PAGE IN TULSA

Oklahoman Patti Page presented her first Oklahoma concert at the Tulsa Civic Assembly Center on June 14. She, and the Pozo Seco Singers, were
sponsored by National Bank of Tulsa
and Radio Station KRMG in a benefit
concert for the Tulsa Psychiatric
Foundation.

Patti, whose real name is Clara
Ann Fowler, grew up in Claremore.
Her career began at Radio Station
KTUL where she worked in the Art
Department. An emergency call went
out for a singer to replace the regular
vocalist on a fifteen minute musical
show sponsored by the Page Milk
Company. She applied for the job
and got it. She also assumed the
name of her sponsor and became
Patti Page.

Jack Rael, a professional musician
and band manager, heard her singing
on radio while he was resting in a
Tulsa hotel between stops with Jimmy
Joy's band. Rael liked what he
heard, sought Patti out and persuaded
her to embark on a career as a singer
in small theatres and night clubs.
About six months later, Patti audi-
tioned for Don McNeil. Appearances
on his Breakfast Club led to a pro-
gram of her own on CBS. From there
to stardom was only a short journey.
Her first twelve records were good,
but were not hits. Her thirteenth was
a song called Confess where Patti
recorded a duet, singing both parts
herself. On her next record, With
My Eyes Wide Open, she recorded
four voices and the record became
one of Mercury's all-time best sellers.
It was followed by the well-known
hits Tennessee Waltz, Mocking Bird
Hill, Mr. and Mississippi, Detour,
Doggie In The Window, I Went To
Your Wedding, and Hush Hush Sweet
Charlotte.

Patti has appeared in every major
night club in America, on every major
TV show as a guest star and has
starred in several of her own network
television shows. She also starred in
the movies Eimer Gantry, Dondi, and
Boys Night Out. She starred on the
legitimate stage in Annie Get Your
Gun.

Patti lives in Beverly Hills with
her husband, Charles O'Curran, a
prominent choreographer-director, and
their two adopted children, Kathy, age
five, and Dan, age three.

INTERNATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Sutoriku Suriee, Stryk Tres, and
Strike Three all mean the same thing
in various places around the world.
All three phrases will be heard during
the eight-day World Men's Softball
Tournament to be held in Oklahoma
City in September.

Fifteen nations from four contin-
ents will be represented in the
tournament. The games will be played
during the State Fair of Oklahoma,
at All Sports Stadium inside the Fair
Grounds, and at a newly constructed
softball park in downtown Oklahoma
City.

Games will be played from early
morning until near midnight each
day. This will be the second men's
World Tournament. The last one was
held in Mexico City two years ago
where the United States Sealmasters
of Aurora, Ill., won the crown.

The tourney is played on a round-
rubin basis, with each team meeting
the others at least once. Then the
four teams with the best won-lost
record play in a single elimination
tourney.

The major sponsoring group of the
tournament is the International Soft-
ball Federation. Its headquarters
offices are in Oklahoma City. A num-
ber of local organizations are lending
support for the affair.

"We planned on holding the tour-
nament every four years," Don E.
Porter, Executive Secretary of the ISF,
said. "It's only been two years

since the last one, but we wanted to
get the Men's Tournament on a regu-
lar basis."

A World Softball Congress will be
held in conjunction with the tourn-
ament. Several countries not com-
peting this year will send represen-
tatives to the Oklahoma Congress to
plan methods of increasing interest
in softball.

Teams from the United States, New
Zealand, Japan, Philippines, Mexico,
Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, Pan-
amo, Venezuela, Bahamas, Virgin
Islands, South Africa, and Nicaragua
will be in Oklahoma to compete.
She is 18-years-old and a 1968 alumna of Norman High School. Her name is Debi Faubion. She won her crown before a nationwide television audience at the America’s Junior Miss Pageant held this spring in Mobile.

America’s ideal high school girl is a member of the National Honor Society and the Future Teachers of America. Her favorite subject is French, and she is the elected Sweetheart of the N.H.S. Future Farmers of America.

At Mobile she won a total of $14,500 in college scholarships. She plans to enter the University of Oklahoma, where she will major in education to become an elementary teacher.

Representing the United States, and Oklahoma, Debi will travel to Europe this summer. Appearances during her year of reign as America’s Junior Miss will include the Akron Soapbox Derby, New York City’s Thanksgiving parade, the Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, and the Senior Bowl football game in Mobile.

On her triumphant return to Oklahoma she was greeted at Will Rogers World Airport by a host of friends. When welcomed home by Lt. Gov. George Nigh, Debi replied, “Being home is better than winning the America’s Junior Miss title.”
any sites of interest from Oklahoma's heritage center around the Fourteen Flags Plaza. Confronting the Capitol entrance are the historic flags and their identifying plaques. Beside them is the State Seal, carved in native granite, which was a part of the World's Fair display. Across, in Lincoln Boulevard parkway, stands the derrick which pumps oil from beneath the Capitol—the shadow of the derrick is visible in this picture. In December the Oklahoma Petroleum Council will dedicate an historic marker here, on the anniversary of the discovery of one of the world's giant oilfields, the Oklahoma City Oilfield. Facing the parkway is the Oklahoma Historical Building, repository of documents, library, artifacts, a major research source on the trans-Mississippi West.

1541  The Royal Standard of Spain at the time of Coronado's expedition, 1541.

1663  The "Great Union" of England under Charles II, whose 1663 concept of Carolina included most of Oklahoma.

1719  Royal Standard of France in 1719, date of Bernard de la Harpe's exploration of the Oklahoma country. La Salle earlier had claimed all lands drained by the Mississippi.

1763  Flag of the Spanish Empire, 1763, when the Treaty of Paris ceded territory containing Oklahoma to Spain.

1800  Napoleon's French Republic, in 1800, reclaimed the Louisiana Territory for France and Spain yielded.

1803  In 1803 the Louisiana Purchase brought Oklahoma under the then fifteen stars and stripes flag of the United States.
In 1818 the U.S. Flag was changed to twenty stars and thirteen stripes.

From 1821-26, the Oklahoma Panhandle was a part of Mexico.

The Texas Flag was the flag carried by Confederate Troops from 1861-65.

In 1839 the Panhandle became lands of the Republic of Texas.

The Confederacy Battle Flag, representing Oklahoma Territory, allied with the Confederacy.

In 1839 the Panhandle became lands of the Republic of Texas.

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The Oklahoma Flag was adopted in 1911.

The first Oklahoma Flag, representing the Choctaw Nation, was adopted in 1911.

The Oklahoma Flag was changed in 1925; the lettered OKLAHOMA was added in 1941.
Winter comes with stern command,  
“It’s time for seeds to slumber,  
Now burrow down with promises  
To awake with season’s summons  
To perform in strict tradition.”

Spring’s inaugural dress parade  
Implored the sleeping seedlings  
To arouse from deep sedation—  
To snorkel up for reveille  
And to assume their obligation.

Summer spun the sky umbrella  
To mix the sun and showers,  
And called on earth, the alchemist,  
To blend and stir her minerals  
For stem and flower and kernel.

Autumn’s mist and slanted rays,  
The years nocturnal pipers,  
Congealed the sweetness of the fruit—  
Baptized the seeds with living fire;  
And ordained tomorrow’s bounty.

The hand of man is numb indeed  
This art to emulate;  
And ill-conceived his attitude,  
And dull of wit, who in failure’s ire  
Defaults divine dominion.
RESTRICTED DOMAIN

Winter comes with stern command,
"It's time for seeds to slumber,... beneath the tracery of winter snow.
Now burrow down with promises
To awake with season's summons
To perform in strict tradition."

Spring's inaugural dress parade ... in Honor Heights Park.
Implored the sleeping seedlings
To arouse from deep sedation.
To snorkel up for reveille
And to assume their obligation.

Summer spun the sky umbrella
To mix the sun and showers,... at Lake Keystone.
And called on earth, the alchemist,
To blend and stir her minerals
For stem and flower and kernel.

Autumn's mist and slanted rays,
The years nocturnal pipers,... in the Quachita National Forest.
Congealed the sweetness of the fruit-
Baptized the seeds with living fire;
And ordained tomorrow's bounty.

The hand of man is numb indeed
This art to emulate;
And ill-conceived his attitude,
And dull of wit, who in failure's ire
Defaults divine dominion.
anchors aweigh
along the arkansas river waterway
industry is already underway at . . .

FULL SPEED AHEAD

by h. c. neal

More than $374 millions of dollars have already been committed by private industries developing along the incredible Arkansas River waterway linking Oklahoma to the Gulf of Mexico. Which is only the beginning, for it will be approximately two years before the channel will be completed.

When the last engineer has rolled up his blueprints and folded his slide rule, the waterway will reach from the Port of Catoosa to the mighty Mississippi 452 miles downriver. This means access to the freighter docks at New Orleans and seaports east, west, south or where-do-you-want-it-shipped?

Future shippers who have already lined up to do business include Kerr-McGee, Armco Steel, North American Rockwell, Howe Coal, Phillips Petroleum, and a host of other processors, fabricators, and manufacturers. Plus ranchers, farmers, and power suppliers.

Cargoes moving on the canal will include aerospace hardware (even moon rockets, maybe), coal, canned goods, coffee, cement, crushed rock, crude rubber, fertilizer, plastics, newsprint, small grains, iron and steel, petroleum, salt, sugar, soda ash, sulphur, zinc, wheat and probably cattle, plus the 60 or more producible minerals which await the hand of man in the greater river basin area. Mining these has heretofore been impractical due to transport-marketing costs.

"This project will yield more than
$66 millions in annual benefits," predicts Don McBride, nationally recognized water resources authority. "It will carry shipments annually totalling more than 13 million tons," he added, "and return $1.50 on each $1 invested per year."

A ton of steel can come to Tulsa from Pittsburgh by barge for $8 less than present costs. A bushel of wheat can go to New Orleans 13 cents cheaper on the barges. The standard river barge is 96x135 feet, and carries 1,500 tons of practically anything.

Kerr-McGee has already staked out two enterprises to utilize the low-cost barge transport — a $70 millions coke processing plant near Stigler, and a $25 millions uranium refinery in the Sallisaw area.

An operation by the Howe Coal Co. in the same general area will mine a special strain of coal for an exclusive market, the steel mills of Japan.

North American will be manufacturing space hardware in its new plant on a 200-acre site in the Port of Catoosa area. Phillips Petroleum has acquired a new 25-acre site near Muskogee. At least 19 other major corporations have already bought or optioned land in the river basin area to take advantage of low-cost shipping. In addition, 57 firms in Tulsa alone have expanded or branched out within the past two years because the canal is coming. Their products will range from steel to soft drinks, petroleum products, rubber goods, caskets, lab equipment, plastics, and tanks.

Another major factor in the industrial explosion is the increase of electrical power and industrial water. The Public Service Co. plans a $91 millions investment to expand its power distribution in the river basin area. Another $31 millions of dollars are being spent right now for port developments in Oklahoma cities along the canal. Tulsa recently passed a $17.5 millions bond issue to go with Rogers County's $2.5 millions in establishing the Port at Catoosa. Muskogee will have a $1 millions-plus port facility. Keota and Sallisaw are eyeing bond issues to build municipal ports.

Hydroelectric generating plants are planned at the four high dams on the canal, out-putting 378,000 kilowatts altogether. They'll be sited at the Webbers Falls, Robert S. Kerr, Dardanelle, and Ozark dams. Add to this 160,000 kilowatts of power to come from the Keystone and Eufaula reservoir stations, and you get a concept of the electric hypo coming to the basin area.

Another spinoff from the canal will be haulage rights to service the barges. At last count, some 17 transportation companies had applied to the Interstate Commerce Commission for operating permission to service canal shippers.

In considering the future of Arkansas River navigation, it is of interest to examine the history of other navigational systems. The Columbia River project is now returning $5 for each $1 of federal investment; the Lower Mississippi system is now yielding 6-to-1 on the federal dollars that were invested in it; and the Ohio River, with industrial growth of a billion dollars a year for the past decade, is now returning $11 for each federal dollar invested.

The Intracoastal Canal which runs from Texas to Florida along the Gulf of Mexico was justified on a potential haulage of five million tons per year. In 1963, it carried more than 60 million tons.

The Arkansas River project is three times as large as the Panama Canal. Its 452 miles from Catoosa to the Mississippi will offer a year-round, ice-free waterway. There are 17 locks and dams in the project. Each dam will create a navigation pool of back-up water; each lock will lift, or lower, the boats and barges to the next level. There will be four high-lift locks, capable of raising barges from 30 to 54 feet. The 13 low-lift struc-

These elongated concrete "donuts" were photographed at the Kerr-McGee Cimarron Nuclear Fuel Materials Facility near Crescent. These materials are red tagged when "hot," and lowered into the concrete cylinders for storage.
tures will have a rise capacity of 14 to 30 feet. Each lock will be 110 feet wide and 600 feet long.

Barges will use a channel with a consistent depth of nine feet throughout the entire length of the canal. That channel will be a minimum 250 feet wide on the Arkansas River and 150 feet wide on the Verdigris. Three upstream lakes, Oologah, Keystone, and Eufaula will serve as reservoirs, and also as power generators.

“The water expelled in power generation will keep the river at stable depth in the navigation canal,” explained John Thistler, chief of the technical liaison branch of the Tulsa district, Corps of Army Engineers.

All vessels, commercial and pleasure craft, will use the locks toll-free. Pleasure craft on a busy riverway?

“Sure,” said Thistler. “Part of our job in the operation of the project will be to keep the water clean and non-smelly. After the canal is opened you can put your boat in the river at Catoosa and go to New Orleans without setting foot on land.

“We’ll ensure that the water is un-polluted so that it will be a pleasure to use, as well as profitable for shippers. There won’t be any barge captains flushing their engines in this body of water.”

Thistler explained that the engineers won’t have an enforcement role, but rather the same inspection and advisory role they now serve in keeping the reservoir lakes clean. State officers will enforce the anti-pollution laws, basing action on the regular cleanliness tests of water content as conducted by the engineers.

There are 99 recreation areas (picnic and camping spots) planned along the canal waterway. They range from 10 acres to 900 acres in size. The operation of sternwheel excursion boats by private enterprise is receiving careful study.

There is a long history of river haulage on the Arkansas. Keelboats came up the river long before the Civil War to haul supplies to pioneers in the new land, and to the garrison at historic old Ft. Gibson. But it was always a chancy proposition, operating strictly on an un-scheduled “who-knows-when?” basis due to the erratic flow-and-dry character of the river.

In 1832, congress appropriated $4,300 for “dredging and snagging,” to remove the perils of navigation from the river. Historian Grant Foreman reports that “in 1843-'44, snag boats Rolla and Wabash Valley were both tied up at Webbers Falls for several months awaiting a rise in the water.”

Paradoxically, man's need for flood control on the Arkansas was the catalyst which triggered the present canal project. F. L. Wilson, executive director of the Arkansas Basin Development Assoc., was commanding officer of the Tulsa district Corps of Army Engineers in 1943.

“In May of that year,” he recalled, “the river went on a real rampage. It set a new flood record of 325,000 cubic feet of water per second through the flow gauge at Muskogee. Ten days later it re-surg ed, and doubled that flow, running 700,000 cfs.” Col. Wilson contacted then Oklahoma Governor Robert S. Kerr.

“We flew over it and got a good look at the whole flood area,” Wilson continued. “Kerr really got mad at the destruction and property loss the river was causing.”

Kerr stayed mad, and later that year Congress authorized a survey report on the Arkansas and its tributaries. The overall plan for a major flood control canal project was authorized in 1946. Extensive straightening and bank stabilization was begun.

Millions of tons of dirt have been moved, millions of tons of stone emplaced to keep the river straight and manageable. Upstream barge navigation to Little Rock will begin later this year; to Ft. Smith in 1969; and to Catoosa in 1970 when the project is fully operational. And, with it, Oklahoma’s land-locked economy is taking on a new dimension, barge right out of its traditional limitations.

The Arkansas River canal will trigger an incredible industrial growth. An estimated 10,000 new jobs will be created in the Tulsa area alone, and retail sales will increase by $17 million per year.

Small river towns which have never had the upper hand while shopping for industry are now in the pilot’s seat. City officials and Chambers of Commerce are receiving enquiries from over the nation about plant sites.

Test site for the Saturn Rocket under construction on the Gulf of Mexico near New Orleans. Saturn will propel the Apollo space flight. Giant components of the Saturn will travel by barge down the Arkansas and Mississippi to this site in 1970.
The Catoosa port’s initial 22 barge berths will handle some 30,000 tons of shipping per day, resulting in direct benefits to Sooner consumers. These will range from a more economical pound of coffee to dollar-stretching by the highway department (cheaper steel for bridges and forms due to lowered freight rates).

Oklahoma is still undergoing a hard-to-believe expansion in water recreation. In addition to the newest three big lakes, Keystone, Oologah, and Eufaula, six others are authorized for construction; Copan, Shidler, Candy, Sand, Birch, and Skiatook, all directly tied in with the flood control-canal project.

Meanwhile, there are still some staunch big-dam opponents who remain opposed to the project. A recent publication out of Washington called it “the greatest swindle since the snake traded Eve an apple for fee simple title to the Garden of Eden.”

But a lean, weatherbeaten rancher near Keota has a different opinion. “I’ve been here 37 years,” he said. “Four times I’ve been clean flooded out — crops, cattle, everything carried away. I understand now it can’t happen like that no more. Well, that’s good, mister — that’s good.”
Like Little Tommy Tucker who "sang for his supper," OSU's Student Entertainers entertain for an education. Hundreds of OSU graduates have earned their way through college in this unique program.

It all began in 1935, when the dark clouds of the depression seemed hopelessly stalled overhead. That was when steak sold for 17½ cents a pound, if you could afford it, and you could get a pass to the show in exchange for five bread wrappers.

Proceeds from the first program, presented in Perkins, were used to buy cowboy boots for the entertainers. When the Oklahoma A&M Cowboy Quartet appeared on Arthur Godfrey's radio program and Major Bowes' Amateur Hour that year they were an instant success.

In 1936, work was looked upon as a gift from heaven. A. Frank Martin, director of student employment on the campus, received that year some 9,000 letters and interviewed 2,300 students, all of whom needed work to enable them to attend school. This astonishing figure was three times greater than the enrollment for that year.

Martin, through the National Youth Administration, was then arranging
employment for 800 students who received $15 a month for departmental work. The entertainment division was added to the NYA activity. An 18-piece NYA orchestra was already rehearsing. Martin sent out a call for students who could "sing, impersonate, dance, play an instrument, or who have any stage ability."

The response was good. Tryouts were held. The Entertainers Bureau began to take shape. Engagements were accepted anywhere in the state, and by December bookings were pouring in. As the students performed for a small fee at civic banquets, pie suppers, barbeques, lodge meetings, their acts improved. Each year brought more talent.

When Frank Martin retired in 1956 he was replaced by Ashley Alexander, composer, musician, entertainer, and successful high school band director. In 1945, Alexander and his three young sons formed a combo billed as "Alexander’s Ragtime Band." For the following ten years they traveled throughout the state, almost nightly, by popular and enthusiastic demand. Alexander can play almost any musical instrument. He plays most of the piano accompaniments for the OSU entertainers who, under his direction, have now traveled more than 2½ million miles to play engagements all over the world.

Alexander himself is an unanticipated part of any show's fascination. With swift, elf-like movements he appears to be everywhere at once, darting up and down the stage steps, disappearing from the orchestra pit into the wings, suddenly he appears in front of the curtains to announce a number, and swoosh he's gone. A sparkling glissando from the piano tells you where he is. He moves with the agility of a dancer, the humor of a comedian, and the purposefulness of a professional director.

Always smiling, his eyes twinkle continuously. He has an air of old world graciousness about him. Kind, thoughtful, apologetic, desirous of pleasing others, he possesses a unique, seemingly unlimited reservoir of energy.

Ashley lives on a farm near Pawnee. Many times when he returns home late at night from doing one, two, maybe three shows in a single evening, he drives his tractor to relax an hour or two, plowing a field with the headlamp beams of the tractor guiding him.

He is serious about religion and often plays the organ for as many as three church services on a Sunday morning, sometimes in different towns. He flies a plane and when necessary dashes skyward to a banquet or convention in some distant place, meet-
ing demanding deadlines, for his college entertainment program is one of the most popular in the southwest.

His primary interest is young people, and his job as director of student entertainers seems tailor-made for him. Soon after Alexander took the position, a trio known as “We’re Not Sisters” became a national hit. They appeared as contestants on Arthur Godfrey’s Amateur Hour in 1957, and won. This earned them a daily spot on his weekday show.

“The Four Hits,” another popular vocal group, traveled far and wide with the Army Field Band in 1959. As world conditions began to change, so did the programming. Servicemen stationed all over the world prompted Alexander to organize a USO troop to tour army camps in the Pacific.

Pradyumna Shukla

Carl Shultz

Nancy Whisenhunt

Last November, he directed and sponsored another USO show, seven coeds who traveled for eight weeks to 13 European countries doing variety shows. The girls agreed that one of their best audiences on the entire trip was an isolated place with only 13 servicemen present. “They were so appreciative, they clapped as loud as 200. It really seemed to make it all worthwhile.”

The O.S.U. Entertainers program continues to grow both in size and variety — pantomimists, baton twirlers, ventriloquists, marimbaists, Indian dancers, bull whip artists, cowboy ropers, instrumental combos, pop singers, gospel quartets, western singers. Each engagement is a new adventure, but OSU holds firmly to its original insistence that the primary objective is still a college education, to which working as a performer must play second fiddle. Each student is required to carry at least 12 hours and maintain a grade point average of 2.0.

Performers receive $5.00 per show on campus. For out-of-town engagements they are paid $5.00 per show plus $1.00 per hour, plus expenses.

Programs as short as five minutes or as long as two hours can be booked for any type meeting from a sewing circle to a convention of thousands. The Student Entertainers rehearse and produce approximately 50 programs each month.

“The demand for entertainers is always greater than the supply,” Alexander points out. “And we are always searching for someone who can make people laugh.”

So even after 33 years things really haven’t changed much. Requirements for the original NYA unit specified that “the orchestra will play a type of music liked by all.” It may be impossible to please everyone, but the Student Entertainers surely try.
In October, Mexico City will host the XIX Olympiad.

With a perfect record, never having lost a basketball game in Olympic competition, the United States basketball team is settling into final training. The U.S. will send a 12 man squad plus 6 alternates. Oklahoma has two players on the 1968 team, and the coach is an Oklahoman.

James King, 6'-7" forward, is a graduate of OSU where he was an outstanding player. Currently, King is with Akron’s AAU team and is employed by the Akron Rubber Company. Charles Paulk, 6'-8" swing-man, who plays forward and center, an Olympic alternate, is at Northeastern State College, Tahlequah.

Oklahoma’s Henry Iba, head basketball coach at Oklahoma State University, will coach this year’s U.S. team. He is the first man to direct two consecutive Olympic basketball teams. Each year competition is keener.

At the last Olympics, 1964 at Tokyo, the Russian basketball coach is quoted as saying “There will be a surprise for everyone. We are fed up with second.”

The U.S. team and the Russian team, both undefeated, were in the final contest. At the start of the game Russia took a four point lead. For seven minutes they held the lead, then the U.S. team went ahead. The Russians again took the lead. Then, once more, the Americans. At the half the Russians trailed.

As the second half began the U.S. team widened their lead and carried it to win 73-59. It was the sixth consecutive Basketball Gold Medal for the United States. The 1964 team has been called the best U.S. team effort ever produced.

Henry Iba believes in teamwork. The “Iron Duke” puts his teams together as a unit. He counts on enthusiasm for the game, sportsmanship, and integrity. He has been made a member of Helms Foundation All-Time Hall of Fame.

Other Oklahomans who have coached the victorious U.S. basketball
teams are Bud Browning, OU, in 1948; Warren Womble, Southeastern State, in 1952; Gerald Tucker, OU, at Melbourne in 1956; and Lester Lane, OU, in 1960.

Oklahoma basketball team members in former years were Jess Renick and Bob Kurland, OSU, in 1948. At Helsinki in 1952 Wayne Glasgow and Marcus Freiberger of OU and Kurland were on the squad. The 7-foot Kurland is one of the tallest athletes ever to compete in any event in the Olympics. Lester Lane, OU, was a member of the 1960 team, and in the 1964 games at Tokyo, Jerry Shipp of Southeastern State and Jim Barnes, formerly of Stillwater and Cameron, were members of the team.

The London Olympics saw Art Griffith, OSU, as wrestling coach. In 1952 at Helsinki, former OSU student and Central State College mentor Ray Swartz was coach. At Tokyo in 1964 Rex Perry, formerly of OSU, coached wrestling. At Rome in 1960 Port Robertson, OSU, was wrestling coach.

Three Oklahomans are on the 1968 U. S. Olympic wrestling committee; Tom Evans, greco-roman wrestling coach at OU; Jess Hoke, Oklahoma City, publisher of Amateur Wrestling News, and T. M. Lumly, Tulsa. For years T. M. Lumly has helped Oklahoma's outstanding wrestlers reach Olympic competition. He has been elected to the Helm's Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Since the beginning of the modern Olympics in 1896 the United States has acquired a total of 528 points. This is the greatest number of any nation in total of Olympic events. Oklahoma has made her share. In 1912 at Stockholm, Oklahoma's Sac and Fox Indian athlete Jim Thorpe won the five-event Pentathlon and the ten-event Decathlon. Thorpe was presented to host King Gustav IV of Sweden who said, "You, sir, are the greatest athlete in the world."

Thorpe is the only man ever to win both the Pentathlon and the Decathlon. At the 1912 Olympics he won ten Olympic Gold Medals, three more than anyone else has ever won. In 1950 the Associated Press poll of U.S. sports experts selected Jim Thorpe as the "Greatest Male Athlete" of the twentieth century.

Oklahoma's next Olympic Gold Medal was won in 1932 when Jack Van Bebber of Perry, OSU wrestler, took the Welterweight Gold Medal in catch-as-catch-can wrestling. An hour and a half later Bobby Pearce, Cushing, captured the Bantamweight Gold Medal. Pearce, too, was an OSU student. In 1932 and the six succeeding Olympics, Oklahomans have taken six Wrestling Gold Medals.

In 1936 the Olympics were scheduled for Berlin. Europe was an armed camp. After much discussion the U. S. committee, by the narrowest of margins, voted in favor of participation. Oklahoma participants in the Berlin Olympics recall that although the United States group stood when the ruler of the country made an official appearance, they did not salute as the
others did. The U. S. decision to participate proved to be a stroke against bigotry and the Nazi concept of the "master race," for this was the year Jesse Owens of the United States was hero of the Olympics, winning four Gold Medals and breaking four World Records.

At Berlin, Oklahoma’s Frank Lewis captured the Welterweight Gold Medal in wrestling. Twenty-three year old Frank Lewis was a student at OSU. A natural pinner, his style of wrestling was perfect for the Olympic system which varies so greatly from that of U.S. colleges.

Lewis recalls the great excitement and thrill of being selected for the Olympics and the amazing elation of winning. “Of course you don’t really expect to win,” he now says.

There are many countries in which Olympic type wrestling is as commonplace as bowling and softball in the U.S. The advantage is definitely with them. Lewis has maintained his interest in wrestling, lives at Claremore, has business interests in Claremore and Tulsa, and is still the tall, quiet man whose friends say looks more like a minister than a wrestler.

In 1956, at Melbourne, OSU’s J. W. Mashburn won the Olympic Gold Medal in 1600 meter relay.

The 1960 Olympics in Rome were staged with grandeur. Three Oklahomans, all wrestlers, won Gold Medals. Terrence (Terry) McCann took the Bantamweight Gold Medal. Interested in training for the Olympics McCann came to Tulsa after his graduation from Iowa University. He worked for TRECO and with the National Jaycees Youth Program in Tulsa while training at the YMCA with Clay Roberts.

Doug Blubaugh, Ponca City, OSU graduate, was in the Army and coaching wrestling at West Point as 1960 Olympic preparations began. He trained for the Olympics and assisted in training the West Point team. In winning the Welterweight Gold Medal, Blubaugh was the only wrestler to go through the 1960 Olympics pinning every opponent. He was given the title of the World’s Outstanding Wrestler. Only eight such titles have ever been awarded.

Shelby Wilson, Ponca City, captured the Lightweight Gold Medal at Rome. He is now an ordained minis-
fter working with a Baptist evangelistic association in Fort Worth, Shelby graduated from OSU at mid-term in 1960 and spent the next semester working out for the Olympics.

Tokyo, 1964, produced an unusual situation which, by stretching a point, could be considered an Oklahoma win. Yojiro Uetake, three times national wrestling champion while a student at OSU, won the Olympic Gold Medal—but in the Tokyo Olympic competition he was representing Japan. Other Oklahoma college athletes have also entered Olympic competition from their native countries.

At least 80 athletes living in Oklahoma or trained in Oklahoma have been Olympic competitors. Not previously listed are: Stockholm, 1912, Ira Davenport, of Tonkawa, third in 800 meters, and;


Amsterdam, 1928, Aggie wrestlers Clarence Berryman, George Rule, Charles Strack, and Earl McCready. In track, Tom Churchill of Oklahoma was fifth in Decathlon.

Los Angeles, 1932, A&M wrestlers Melvin Clodfelter and Conrad Caldwell. Glen Dawson of OU was sixth in steeplechase.

Berlin, 1936, A&M wrestlers Ross Flood, Harry Strong, and Fred Parkey. Glen Dawson of OU was eighth in steeplechase, and Harold Cagle, OBU, second in 1,600-meter relay.

London, 1948, Gordon Carpenter, R. C. Pitts, and Lew Beck, Phillips 66ers, were on the champion U.S. team. Bill Jernigan, Hal Moore and Richard Hutton, OSU, were on the wrestling team, and Cliff Keen was team manager.

Helsinki, 1952, OU wrestlers Tommy Evans, Billy Borders, and Dan Hodgse. OSU's Buel Patterson was team manager. Neville Price, OU, competed on South Africa's team and Sture Landqvist, OSU, on Sweden's team.

Melbourne, 1956, Burdie Haldorson, Jim Walsh, Bob Jeangerard, Chuck Darling, and Bill Houghland, Phillips 66ers, played on the championship U.S. basketball team. OU's Bruce Drake was assistant coach.

OSU's Myron Roderick and Dick Beattie wrestled, as did Dale Lewis, and Dick Delgado, of OU. OSU's Ralph Higgins was assistant track coach. Jack Daniels of Oklahoma City competed in Pentathlon.

Rome, 1960, Tony Watson, OU, broad jump; Mike Lindsay, OU, competed on Great Britain's team.

Jeff Farrell, OU, won the Swimming Gold Medal in 400-meter medley and 800-meter freestyle relays. Jim Clark, Bartlesville, competed in trapshooting. Ken Rawlinson of OU was one of the team trainers.

Tokyo, 1964, Fendley Collins, OSU, was wrestling team manager; Lt. Wayne Baughman and Greg Ruth, OU, and Bobby Douglas, OSU, were on the team. Janie Speaks of Oklahoma City competed in gymnastics.

Marcia Jones, Oklahoma City, in kayak singles. Ken Treadway, Bartlesville, was swimming team manager.

Otis Wile of OSU says, "One of our most pleasing honors came in the Melbourne Games of 1956. Jim Graham was National Champion in vault for us, and made the U.S. Olympic Team. He sprained an ankle during preparations for the trip to Melbourne. Rather than take a chance that his ankle would not be completely healed by the time of the Games, Graham asked that his alternate Bob Gutowski, of Occidental College, go to Australia in his place."

"Students of Occidental College and citizens of Los Angeles raised a fund and sent the Oklahoma State star to the Melbourne Games. At the conclusion of the Games, Graham was voted the Gustavus T. Kirby award for 'the greatest act of sportsmanship by any American on the various U.S. teams'."

"It is refreshing to recall a voluntary move by an athlete who did not want to jeopardize his country's chances and passed up an opportunity to compete. Dr. Jim Graham is now practicing veterinary medicine in Midwest City. In the true spirit of the Olympics, perhaps his Kirby Award shines brighter than many of the medals the champions treasure."

At presstime not all teams for the 1968 Olympiad had been selected. Doubtless other Oklahomans will be on some of these teams. We may have failed to include some Oklahomans who have competed in past Olympics. We urge Oklahoma Today readers to inform us of any such omissions.
Every craft and profession creates its own language. Oilfield lingo originated from various sources. When an adequate word didn't exist for a particular job, a piece of equipment, or a situation, some field man appropriated a word or phrase from another source or coined a new term.

To forget the familiar meanings of words is the first step in learning oilfield lingo. Nearly everyone is familiar with the oilfield meaning of "Wildcat," a test well drilled on unproved land. "Wildcatting" is the process of drilling exploratory wells. A "cathead" is a pulley winch used in drilling, while a "cat driver" is a man who operates a caterpillar tractor.

There is nothing wrong with being in the "doghouse" at a well—it's a toolhouse and primitive office on or adjacent to the rig floor. A "dogleg" is almost anything that is crooked, whether it is a piece of equipment or the hole that's being drilled. A "bulldog spear" is a fishing tool. Also in the canine category, a "leasehound" is a geologist and "boll weevil" refers to inexperienced workers either on drilling rigs or in roustabout gangs. The term "boll weevil corner" is the designated location on the rig floor where new workers sit while enjoying a short rest period.

On cable tool rigs, the "bull wheel" is used for lowering casing, bits and tools. The "calf wheel" has lighter duties. A "bull scout" is an oil scout who directs information seeking activities in an area. "Muleskinner" have practically disappeared from the production scene since the advent of the motor truck. "Pig iron" is any metal object around. The expression, "Don't let that pig iron eat you up!" is a safety warning which isn't often heard, as the men now more frequently call each piece of equipment by its name. A "nipple" is a joint used in rotary drilling to circulate the drilling mud fluid through the drill stem.

Both a "crow foot" and a "duck's nest" refer to a boiler. The former is a removable pronged plate on the outside of the boiler. The latter is a firebox. A "rat hole" is a slanting hole into which the "grief stem" is lowered while adding drill pipe to the drilling string. A "grief stem" or "kelly" is the heavy, square pipe which works through the square hole in the rotary table and drives the drill stem. The "mouse hole" is smaller, for the purpose of holding a joint of drill pipe.

The "spider" is a heavy, steel frame over the mouth of the hole in rotary drilling. A "fish-tail" is a bit used for shale and other soft formations in rotary drilling. "Fishing" is trying to recover tools lost in the drill hole. Fishing tools have unusual names: "cherry picker," "junk basket," "boot jack," "alligator grab" and "devil's pitchfork."

A "gun barrel" is a tank used for settling out salt water and other impurities in the oil. A "mud gun" is not a political weapon, but a length of pipe through which mud is pumped under pressure to obtain proper weight and consistency for rotary drilling. A "jackknife" is a portable derrick, and a "stabber" is the drilling crew member who racks pipe and puts tool joints together, or a pipeliner who "stabs" each succeeding length of pipe into the collar of the preceding length.

To "bleed" is to drain off water at the bottom of an oil storage tank. A "thief" is an instrument for removing oil samples from a tank. A "thief sand" is a stratum of sand encountered in drilling which absorbs oil from richer strata. "Cheaters" are pieces of pipe used to extend the length of manually-operated tools.

There's nothing fatal in "killing a well." The oil gas are blocked off in the hole temporarily, so remedial work may be done on the well. A "dead man" is equally unterrifying—it's a cement block or any weight used to hold down wires or lines extending from the derrick. "Graveyard" is the work shift from midnight to 8:00 A.M., usually coupled with "tour" (which rhymes with "flour" in the oilfield version). The other two eight hour work shifts are "morning tour" and "evening tour." A man who works two successive tours "makes a double."

A "double" also means two joints of pipe, but so does a "stand." One joint is a "single," three joints a "thrible" and four joints are a "fourble." "Casing" is heavy, steel pipe that comes in "joints" usually from 20 to 30 feet long; a shorter piece is called a "nipple." Casing is "landed" or "set" when it is placed in the well. When removed, it is "pulled."

A "roustabout" is a laborer on a lease, while a "roughneck" works on a rotary rig. A "digger" is a driller—on the evening or graveyard tour, he

BY E. G. "TY" DAHLGREN

OILFIELD SLANGUANGE

THIRTY-EIGHT

OKLAHOMA TODAY
is the “night digger.” Cable tool drillers refer to rotary drillers as “swivel-necks” and “clutch stompers.” To rotary men, cable drillers are “jar heads” and “rope chokers.” The “tool pusher” or “junk hustler” is the foreman of a drilling crew. Helpers on cable tool rigs are “tool dressers” or “toolies.” The “pot fireman” tends the boilers. The man who works in the derrick has a multitude of names; “sky hooker,” “attic hand,” “sky skinner,” “tower bird,” “monkey pipe racker.”

Anyone with college training—whether roustabout or engineer, is called a “scientist.” “Air-jammers” are know-it-all types. A “swamper” is a helper on a truck or any helper around a lease or rig. The old time employee, resistant to change, is a “hickory nut.” A pumper, who takes care of a lease with established production, is called a “switcher” or “valve twister.” A “ground stomper” is the man in a seismograph crew who places the spread of the geophone detectors.

The “collar pounder” hammers pipe line collars and sets the rhythm for other pipe line workers “making up” pipe. A hauler of nitroglycerine is tagged “dead-in-a-hurry.” “Pete and Maud” are tongs operated by roughnecks on a drilling rig. A “coffee pot” is a steam drilling rig and a “biscuit cutter” is a drill bit. “Stovepipe” is welded or riveted casing. A “lazy bench” is a bench where the derrick rig workers sit during rest periods.

One of the most common words in oilfield slanguage is the word “rig”—which includes the engine, pumps, and draw works used in drilling. A “string of tools” is a somewhat overlapping term, once meaning a complete cable tool drilling outfit. It is rarely heard nowadays. The term “rig” refers more specifically to rotary tools.

A surprising number of oilfield terms came from the sea—“cathead,” “log,” “hatch,” “jacobs ladder” —
DIAMOND JUBILEE
by HENRY BASS 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
by JANE CULLY 7

OKLAHOMA SCRAPBOOK 8

AMERICA'S JUNIOR MISS 12

FOURTEEN FLAGS PLAZA 14

RESTRICTED DOMAIN
by WM. FLETCHER WARD 17

FULL SPEED AHEAD
by H. C. NEAL 25

ENTERTAINERS
by EILEENE COFFIELD 31

OLYMPIC GAMES
by ELIZABETH TOTTEN 34

OILFIELD SLANGUAGE
by E. G. "TY" DAHLGREN 38