
Alumni in the News

Gov. ROBERT S. KERR, '16, last month drew nationwide attention to the state of Oklahoma in general and Oklahoma sorghum in particular while on a trip in the East.

A Brooklyn woman who hadn't tasted molasses in 29 years, Mrs. Emma Brandner, developed a yen for the syrup after reading about some bets Governor Kerr made with the governor of Nebraska on which state would sell the most war bonds.

The governor announced that he would personally deliver the sorghum to her after she wrote inquiring where to secure some. He and the Brandners sampled the sorghum on home-made mush while he was in their home.

Burl Hays, '25-'29, '31-'32, one of the governor's secretaries, said there were so many requests for sorghum after the governor's promotion of the product in the East that his office was acting as a clearing house.

Also on the governor's itinerary was a pancake and sorghum breakfast with Mayor LaGuardia of New York City.

Later he was honor guest at the first showing in Washington, D. C., of the musical show *Oklahoma!* adapted from the play *Green Grow the Lilacs* written by Lynn Riggs, '23. Following four curtain-calls at the close of the show, Governor and Mrs. Kerr went from their box to the stage to present the Oklahoma state flag to members of the cast.

The premiere was topped off with a reception, also in the governor's honor. Those attending included Sam Rayburn, speaker of the House, Gen. George C. Marshall, Postmaster General Frank Walker, G. B. Parker, '08ba, editor-in-chief of Scripps-Howard newspapers, and Mr. Riggs.

Governor Kerr's remarks from the stage where *Oklahoma!* was presented were broadcast over a nationwide hook-up.

While still in the East, the governor learned that he had won his bet with the Nebraska governor and would soon receive the payoff of two Nebraska hogs. Governor Kerr bet 100 pounds of Oklahoma paper-shell pecans and 100 gallons of Oklahoma sorghum.

Attorney General Enters Army

Mac Q. Williamson, '10, resigned as Oklahoma's attorney general in September to enter the Army with the rank of major.

Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, appointed Randell S. Cobb, '19law, former first assistant attorney general, as successor to finish the term of office.

Mr. Cobb, who has been associated with the state's legal office for 20 years, will probably be a candidate for the post at the conclusion of the current term, in three

years. He is a member of Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity and past state commander of the American Legion.

Major Williamson was assigned to Fort Custer, Michigan, for training in the specialist branch of military government. First elected attorney general in 1934, he had formerly served in the State Senate.

Proposes World Aviation Board

Creation of a postwar international aviation board to establish a uniform system of communication and reporting the weather has been advocated by Josh Lee, '17ba, former U. S. senator now a member of the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Mr. Lee pointed out that there will be hundreds of thousands of pilots after the war and the board he proposes could be helpful in reducing delays caused by crossing boundary lines.

Air power that is cracking the Axis, Mr. Lee said, will protect the peace that follows because the cost of keeping Allied nations prepared against aggression will be much less in the future.

Conservation Experts

The staff of the State Conservation Department at the state capitol includes four University alumni, Elmer S. (Trim) Capshaw, '15ba, '33m.ed, gas engineer; Walker T. Pound, '23, chief conservation officer; Thomas D. Bailey, '42eng, petroleum en-

gineer, and Dan O. Howard, '28geol, petroleum geologist.

Attorney Ends Case

George Miskovsky, '36law, county attorney of Oklahoma County, last month filed motions dismissing charges of violating the state's criminal syndicalism law against six persons and thereby ended Oklahoma's prosecution of Communist Party members.

Mr. Miskovsky said he dismissed the cases because of insufficient evidence and a retrial could serve no useful purpose.

Rules State Law Void

Judge Sterling (Dick) Jones, '27ba, in four opinions involving Jehovah's Witnesses written for the Criminal Court of Appeals, declared Oklahoma's law making it compulsory for school children to salute the American flag was unconstitutional.

Judge Jones ruled the Oklahoma statutes invaded "the sphere of intellect and spirit" which is protected from official control by the first and fourteenth amendments of the U. S. Constitution.

Good Neighbor Plan Passed

Members of the House of Representatives, including Congressman Mike Monroney, '24ba, voted 360 to 29 for a United States postwar policy of international collaboration.

Mr. Monroney is one of several representatives and senators who toured the nation late in the summer to speak in behalf of U. S. co-operation with other nations in establishing and maintaining a just and lasting peace.



STATE OFFICIAL CALLED TO SERVICE

Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, shakes hands with the incoming and outgoing attorney general. Maj. Mac Q. Williamson, '10, in uniform, resigned as attorney general and Randell S. Cobb, '19law, first assistant attorney general (right), was appointed to fill out the term. Major Williamson was assigned to the School of Military Government at Fort Custer, Michigan.