
Alumni in the News

WILLIAM G. STIGLER, '16, Democrat, was elected to the House of Representatives from Oklahoma's second Congressional district March 28, defeating Republican candidate E. O. Clark by a vote of 22,036 to 18,502. The election received nation-wide attention as being indicative of the trend of political thought in an important border-line state.

The campaign was marked by the active participation of leaders of both parties. Alben W. Barkley, majority leader of the Senate, spoke in Okmulgee and Muskogee the day before the special election. Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, and Sen. Elmer Thomas, senior Oklahoma senator, were active in Stigler's support. Campaigning for Mr. Clark on an anti-New Deal platform were Sen. Edward H. Moore, Tulsa, and Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel of Texas.

Congressman Stigler, veteran of World War I and former member of the State Senate, took his seat in the House of Representatives on April 12 when Congress reconvened after the Easter recess. The special election was necessitated when Jack Nichols resigned as second district congressman. Mr. Stigler's term runs until the regular November elections, when in all likelihood he will again be the Democratic nominee.

Lansden Named Speaker

Merle Lansden, '39law, private in the U. S. Marine Corps and representative from Beaver County, was speaker of the House of Representatives during the special session of the Legislature held in April. Private Lansden received a three-week furlough from his duties in the Office of the Paymaster in San Francisco to attend the session.

Geologists Elect Weeks

Warren B. Weeks, '29eng, geologist with the Phillips Petroleum Company in Shreveport, Louisiana, was elected vice president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists at its annual meeting in Dallas this spring.

In his senior year at the University, Mr. Weeks was named the outstanding student in geology, and was awarded the Sigma Gamma Epsilon scholarship trophy.

Among the outstanding geologists awarded honorary memberships in the Association at this meeting were Dr. C. E. Decker, research professor of geology, and Dr. Charles N. Gould, founder of the Department of Geology at the University and first director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey. Membership is awarded in recognition of work accomplished in the field of geology and contributions to the science.

Every year since the founding of the Association either an alumnus of O.U. or a faculty member has been among its officers.

This year's out-going president was A. Rodger Denison, '21geol, '25ms, chief geologist with the Amerada Petroleum Corporation, Tulsa. Upon leaving office he addressed the A.A.P.G. upon the challenge to geology as a science and profession.

Fritz Aurin, '14ba, '15ma, Fort Worth, Texas, preceded Mr. Denison as president of the Association.

Inflation-Preventing Steps Urged

During a visit home this spring, Mike Monroney, '24ba, Oklahoma's fifth district congressman, endorsed three measures to prevent inflation—maintenance of the Little Steel formula, use of subsidies and a tax program adequate to absorb surplus purchasing power.

Admitting that the subsidy question is political dynamite, Mr. Monroney nevertheless maintained that Congress must use whatever methods are necessary to control inflation. He advocates a law continuing subsidies only so long as the Little Steel wage formula is maintained, thus tying wages and prices together. The subsidy program, costing approximately \$900,000,000 a year, will save the government about \$5,500,000,000 a year if it prevents a 10 percent break in the Little Steel formula, Mr. Monroney said. He also condemned the last tax bill passed by Congress as "totally inadequate as a war revenue measure."

Mr. Monroney wrote to friends in Oklahoma stating that he does not intend to run for the Senate, as had been rumored in Oklahoma political circles. In stating his intention to remain in the House, he wrote: "Frankly I am honored and pleased at the very flattering mention of myself. Speaking of drafting a congressman to run for the Senate is a good deal like rumoring the drafting of an old maid into marrying Tyrone Power. I am a good deal like the old maid, I guess. I appreciate the favorable mention, but haven't much idea of consummating the ceremony."

Officiate at Meeting

Two Sooners took an active part in one of the sessions of the annual meeting of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges held in March in Chicago.

George C. Wells, '23ed, Superintendent of Indian Education, Pierre, South Dakota, and vice chairman of the committee on secondary schools of the North Central Association, presided at a conference session at which Lt. John R. Rackley, '31ba, '35ma, was one of the principal speakers. Lieutenant Rackley, who is chief of the pre-induction branch of the Military Training Division, Seventh Service Command, spoke on what the Army wants in pre-induction training.

Dr. E. D. Meacham, dean of College of

Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Joseph P. Blickensderfer, dean of the University College, represented the University of Oklahoma at the Chicago conference.

Dean Blickensderfer sponsored a special program attended by representatives of liberal arts colleges for discussion of special problems of this particular educational field.

Returns From Mission

An article on the government's development of oil interests in Arabia, which appeared in *Time Magazine* for April 3, quoted E. L. DeGolyer, '11ba, Dallas geologist, extensively.

Termed by *Time* as "perhaps the world's greatest oil geologist," Mr. DeGolyer said, "I hold no brief for the government's Arabian pipeline, but until some satisfactory substitute is found, I am for the line."

Mr. DeGolyer recently returned from a trip to the Middle East, where he surveyed U. S. oil properties as representative of Harold Ickes. As a result of his observations, he believes that the problem of oil in the Middle East is one of distribution and marketing, rather than production.

"I do not share the oil industry's fear that the construction of the Arabian pipeline is but the first step toward taking over the industry," Mr. DeGolyer said in *Time*. In regard to the question of government involvement, he said, "It seems fair to assume that the government is under no greater obligation to go to war to protect its own investment in what is essentially a commercial enterprise than it is to protect the investments of its nationals in similar enterprises."

After returning from Arabia, Mr. DeGolyer resigned from his position with the federal Petroleum Reserves Corporation. It was announced that he had accepted an invitation from the Brazilian government to explore oil resources in Brazil.

Three in London A.P. Office

Three alumni are on the staff of the Associated Press bureau in London, Austin Bealmear, '36, Howard S. Cowan, '31-'32, and Tom Yarbrough, '32. Mr. Bealmear, former sports editor of the *Oklahoma Daily*, first joined the A.P. in Oklahoma City, later going to New York as sports editor of its radio division. He was shifted to the New York foreign desk in January, 1943, and went to London last November.

Mr. Cowan, formerly on the *Shawnee News*, joined the A.P. in Kansas City in 1940, and was transferred to the London office last February. Mr. Yarbrough, who has been with the Associated Press since 1935, was first assigned to London in 1939. He was en route from England to a new post in Cairo when Pearl Harbor was attacked and he was ordered to the South Pacific, where he spent 18 months.

Last year he returned to the United States for a rest and a speech-making tour. In January he was re-assigned to the London bureau.