

Alumni in the News

Monrone Returns from Europe

Rep. A. S. "Mike" Monrone, '24ba, was in his seat in the house late in September after returning from Europe where he attended the United Nation relief and rehabilitation conference in London, and then spent three weeks touring France, Belgium, Holland and Germany as an inquiring reporter, probing what war-ravaged Europe needs.

Monrone, who attended the U.N.R.R.A. conference as official representative of the house banking and currency committee, which will have much to do with appropriations of the relief work in foreign countries, came back with an intimate picture of conditions in those countries, and a mass of statistical information to guide him and other members of his committee when considering measures dealing with relief and rehabilitation.

The congressman traveled alone in his tour of Europe and not as a member of a congressional delegation. His companions were newspaper correspondents, and the congressman forgot his official position and became an inquiring reporter again as he gained information not otherwise available.

Sooners on Staff of KOMA

Last month KOMA had the equivalent of an impromptu alumni meeting when eight graduates and former students of O.U. on the radio staff gathered in the audition room for a tall coke and a good old-fashioned bull session about O.U., campusology, and the prospects of the Sooner football season.

Joining in the gab-fest were Webster L. Benham, Jr., '43ba, director of public relations and sales promotion; Kenneth Harris, '39ba, director of publicity; Minnie Jo Curtis, '41ba, continuity writer and women's editor; Tom Cooke, '40, announcer, and stenographer-receptionists Lorene Gore, '44, Carolyn Faught, '41-'44, Ella Mae Wright, '40-'42, and Mary Nell Sipes, '41-'43.

Jimmy Leake, '35-'40, vice-president of the Griffin Grocery Company, is in charge of the company's radio activities, which includes the operation of KOMA, Oklahoma City, and KTUL, Tulsa.

Since its very beginning, KOMA might well be considered an "O.U. station," for many O.U. graduates and former students have gained their first commercial radio training there. Among the O.U. great who have passed through the portals are Amzie Strickland, '40ba, Charles Blossom, '33-'39, Betty Swidensky Wagner, '43fa, Kathleen Jarrell, '35, Jack Swineford, '33-'38, Taft Nicholson, '39eng, Orville Mills, '33-'36, and others almost too numerous to mention either in the service or with other radio stations across the country.

After a tour of duty with KOMA, Amzie Strickland went on to New York where she is pursuing a highly successful radio career. She has become a well-known writer, actress and producer, and is frequently mentioned in New York "about-town" newspaper columns.

Webster Benham heads the Oklahoma City Junior Chamber of Commerce as president, and in 1944 was selected as the most outstanding young man in point of service not only for Oklahoma City but for the entire state. His citations were given him by a citizens' committee composed of the presidents of leading professional and civic groups and representatives of the press in Oklahoma City.

Kenneth Harris represents the Class of '39 on the advisory board to the executive board of the Alumni Association. While at the University he was president of Delta Tau Delta fraternity, president of the Men's Council, and national vice-president of the United States Undergraduate Inter-Fraternity Council. At present he is a member of the board of directors of the Oklahoma City Junior Chamber of Commerce and director of publicity for the Oklahoma State Junior Chamber of Commerce.

O.U. Scientist Works on A-Bomb

Taking his place among the legions of scientists who worked on the atomic bomb is Rossi Lomanitz, B.S. in Physics, '40, an 18-year-old member of the 1940 graduating class at the University of Oklahoma.

It was in 1942 while Lomanitz was a graduate assistant in theoretical physics at the University of California, that he was assigned to research in the radiation laboratory, where he was concerned with mathematical calculations leading to the A-Bomb.

Lomanitz, who at the age of 14 had a difficult time—because of his youth—convincing University of Oklahoma officials that he was capable of doing college work, is now a Field Artillery private in the Philippines.

Recognized by his co-workers as a great scientist, Lomanitz was named one of the three outstanding students in theoretical physics at the University of Oklahoma in the past 20 years by Dr. J. Rud Nielsen, research professor of physics at the University.

A scholarship took him to California and resulted in his contribution to the A-Bomb. After he is out of the army, Lomanitz intends to work on a Ph.D. degree in theoretical physics. He entered service in October, 1943, and has seen action at Saipan and Okinawa.

Johnson Stays in House

Jed Johnson, '15, Oklahoma's sixth district congressman who was appointed to the United States Customs Court in New York by the late President Roosevelt, has announced he will serve out his present term in the House of Representatives and decide later whether he will accept the court appointment or not.

Some Oklahoma political observers took this to mean that Mr. Johnson will not take the court post and will be a candidate for re-election. Mr.

Johnson said that President Truman had advised him to complete his term as congressman.

IMAGE IS NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE DUE TO COPYRIGHT
RESTRICTIONS.

A paper copy of this
issue is available at
call number LH 1 .06S6 in
Bizzell Memorial Library.

PHONE

4 8

Clark Cleaners



Sooner Alumni in and on the air are Minnie Jo Curtis, Lorene Gore, Mary Nell Sipes and Carolyn Faught, seated left to right. Standing are Webster L. Benham, Jr., Tom Cooke and Kenneth Harris, also left to right.