

# Tribute to Achievement

Five outstanding Oklahomans will receive citations for achievement April 27th at the first annual Distinguished Service Citation banquet which will be held in the University of Oklahoma Memorial Union Building.

Those to be honored will be A. S. "Mike" Monroney, '24ba, fifth district congressman who is one of America's first two congressmen to win the *Collier's* Award for distinguished congressional service; Generals Raymond S. McLain and William S. Key, United States Army leaders who gave invaluable service to the nation during the war; Dr. E. L. DeGolyer, '11ba, internationally known geologist, and Lynn Riggs, '23, noted playwright from whose creation, *Green Grow the Lilacs*, the famous show, *Oklahoma!* was adapted.

Through careful selection, a secret committee chose these men for the awards on the basis of their merit in advancing a better contemporary society and their efforts to make Oklahoma a better known state.

The plan, which is a joint project of the Alumni Association and the University Board of Regents, is designed to honor not only graduates and former students of the University but also citizens of Oklahoma and the nation whose good citizenship and distinguished service merits recognition. Not more than seven persons may be chosen each year for the awards, and of this group a majority must be graduates or former students of the University.

Five University staff members compose the planning committee which will integrate the citation award day with the first day's activities of the Annual University Career Conference. Outstanding authorities in various fields are brought to the campus to advise students regarding choice of careers. Members of the planning committee are Dr. Leonard Logan, '14ba, chairman; Kenneth Harris, '39ba, secretary; Stewart Harral, '36ma, publicity chairman; James C. Powell; Boyd Gunning, '37ba, '37law, and Raymond White.

Dr. George L. Cross, president of the University, will present the citations. Lloyd Noble, '21, Ardmore, former president of the University Board of Regents, will preside at the banquet. Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28bus, Norman, president of the University Alumni Association, will give the welcoming address. Following the presentation of awards, President Cross will give a brief review of Oklahoma's past accomplishments and outline a look toward the future. Musical numbers will be presented by the University Glee Club.

Open to O.U. alumni and friends of the University, the banquet, to start at 7 p.m., will be one of the outstanding events of the year. Reservations for tickets should be sent to the alumni office.

The original plan adopted by the University Board of Regents and the Alumni Association for the Distinguished Service Citations was drawn up by a committee composed of Kenneth Harris, Boyd Gunning and Stewart Harral, university staff members; Joe W. McBride, '28bus, regent and Anadarko publisher, and R. L. McLean, '38m.ed, superintendent of schools, Anadarko.

Well-known in geophysical and oil circles, Dr. DeGolyer is internationally recognized for his work. He was a pioneer in the introduction of geophysics in oil exploration, for which he received the Lucas Medal and the coveted John Fritz Medal of the Founder Societies. A member of numerous scientific and technical societies, he is a fellow of the American Association for

the Advancement of Science, a director of the American Petroleum Institute, a fellow of the Geological Society of America and a member of the New York Academy of Science. He is a past president of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

Monroney, who has been a member of Congress since 1939, is one of the first two congressmen to receive *Collier's* magazine citation award for distinguished service in Congress. Last January he received an honorary doctorate from Colgate University, Hamilton, New York. He is one of the original sponsors of the move to streamline and re-organize congressional procedure and served as vice-chairman of the joint committee on the organization of Congress.

Lynn Riggs left the University in 1924 to become one of the nation's leading playwrights. Although he did not remain at O.U. long enough to receive a degree, his record as a student was outstanding. He taught freshman English and was a member of the Glee Club.

The 48-year-old Sooner is the author of several books, including *Knives From Syria*, *Sump'n Like Wings*, *Big Lake*, *A Lantern to See By*, *Roadside*, and *Green Grow the Lilacs*. It was ten years after *Green Grow the Lilacs* was published that the musical play *Oklahoma!* was adapted from it.

General Key served as provost marshal general of the European theater of operations with headquarters in London, and later commanded all United States troops in Iceland. From 1923 until 1927 he served as warden of the Oklahoma State penitentiary in McAlester. Long active in state affairs, General Key has served in an advisory capacity to both state and national governments many times.

General McLain, not a professional soldier, is a man who in a single war won the Distinguished Service Cross with oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, the French Legion of Honor and the French Croix de Guerre with palm.

Before being transferred to duty with the War Department general staff in Washington, D. C., in 1946, General McLain had assisted in reorganizing the 45th Division.

In Washington he served on the president's Advisory Commission on Universal Military Training. His ability to tackle any sort of assignment and carry it through to successful completion is highly regarded by the War Department. He is the first member of the national guard to receive a permanent appointment as Brigadier General in the regular Army.

Those wishing to attend the Distinguished Service Citations banquet April 27 may make reservations by filling in the following form and sending it with their checks or money orders to Ted Beard, Alumni Office, University of Oklahoma, Norman. Reservations cost \$2.00 per person.

Name .....

City ..... State .....

Number reservations desired .....