

# Graduate Employment: Bright Prospects

By John Wagoner, '51ba

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Assigned to study the job picture for 1951 graduates, the author interviewed deans and department chairmen and the director of job placement and came up with the following optimistic story of what the newest alumni will find awaiting them.

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In spring a young college graduate's thoughts turn to employment. More than 2,000 O.U. students who will receive degrees in June are no exception.

Based on critical estimates of the various fields, predictions indicate that the employment picture is better this year than it was for the 1950 June graduates.

Frank A. Ives, director of the University Employment Service, has examined the Oklahoma job picture and the national job picture. He estimates that employers will hire more graduates this year than in any year except the one immediately following the end of World War II.

An indication of brighter prospects for University graduates is shown in the change in college recruitment by employers. Such recruitment at the University is more aggressive than it has been in recent years. Interviewers and company representatives are coming to the University from greater distances this spring. Many companies which have never before sent representatives to the campus have interviewed O.U. students who will graduate in June.

This new interest in Oklahoma graduates can be attributed to three factors. First, the reputation of the school is spreading. Second, the graduates who have found employment with various companies have proved satisfactory; employers are seeking more of the same kind. Third, the present military emergency has made itself felt in employment.

Job opportunities in Oklahoma are available in many fields. Most state employers are active, and their activity calls for the employment of new personnel and for personnel replacement.

The military situation is a major factor in the employment picture this year. Increased military activity has brought about employment competition between government agencies and private industry. Students who will receive degrees in scientific and technical areas are being offered both civilian and government jobs.

Withdrawal of a considerable number of men from civilian occupations for duty in the armed service has opened up many jobs. Stepped up production of goods for the armed services is also having a strong influence.

A special category of graduating seniors is those who will receive commissions in the armed services after completion of ROTC training in June. Those who receive commissions are subject to orders for immediate duty. These graduates will not compete for jobs in the civilian labor force, in some instances making more jobs available for graduating women.

The College of Engineering, which has one of the largest enrolments of any college in the University, expects a good

job placement record this June. Employment in this field will be largely a matter of selecting a job.

W. H. Carson, dean of the College of Engineering, recently commented on the employment situation in the field:

"It is the opinion of most engineering educators that the 1950 graduates would have been placed even without the present industrial expansion. It seems that there are some people who do not realize that there has been a sizeable increase during the past 30 years in the number of engineers required per thousand workers. A report from the U. S. Office of Education indicates that the engineering graduating class of 1953 will be only 38 per cent of the 1950 class.

"The demand for graduates is reflected in the number of companies sending representatives to the College of Engineering in the interest of interviewing candidates for employment. Alumni of a number of years ago will recall that company representatives used to come to the campus during the latter part of the spring semester. In recent years interviewers have come to the University during the fall as well as the spring semester. The first semester of this school year set an all-time record for engineering interviews.

"The lack of interest on the part of highschool students (in engineering) in the last few years may be attributed to a widely publicized statement coming out of the Department of Labor to the effect that all fields of engineering were overcrowded and suggesting that students entering college should consider medicine and a few other mentioned courses of study. This statement was unfortunate, as the record graduating class of 1950 has been placed and there is already a shortage of engineers in the military services and in industry."

Although the current building boom has been somewhat curtailed by government restriction, the building needs for both home and industrial construction have not been met. Bruce Goff, chairman of the School of Architecture, reports that the school has more requests for graduates in architecture than can be filled. The school had a 100 per cent placement last year.

Pharmacy, like engineering, offers good opportunities this year. Dr. Ralph Clark, dean of the College of Pharmacy reports an average of three job offers each for the 46 students who expect to receive the degree in pharmacy in June.

The entire graduating class of 80 was placed last year. About one third of the graduates found employment out of the state. Main reason given for leaving the state was that higher salaries were paid elsewhere.

It has been estimated that an addition of about four per cent to existing personnel in pharmacy in Oklahoma is needed each year for replacement purposes in the retail field. This means that a replacement of 56 is needed this year.

A definite shortage of pharmacists has existed since World War II, and the shortage has not yet ended. Present emergency conditions have extended the shortage in this field, offering good opportunities for women at the present time.

It has been estimated that 95 students will receive bachelor

# Demand Is Greatest In Technical Fields

degrees in education in June. An additional 54 expect to receive masters degrees. These graduates have been offered jobs in both elementary and secondary schools. A shortage of elementary teachers is still prevalent, with some competition for jobs in secondary education.

Many jobs are available for new teachers in Oklahoma schools. The University Employment Service also reports job offers from other states. It is expected that several of the graduates will leave Oklahoma to accept employment in states which offer higher salaries for beginning teachers.

A large increase in students studying geology has caused keen competition for graduates in this field. Approximately 50 students will receive a bachelor's degree in geology in June. An additional 20 expect to receive the master's degree. Opportunities are better for those with advanced training, but competition is prevalent in beginning positions.

Geological engineering, a newer field which combines geology and engineering, offers many opportunities at the present time. A 100 per cent placement of graduating students was made last year.

There are many opportunities this year for graduates in the various fields of business administration. At the beginning of the present semester it was estimated that 326 students would receive business degrees in June.

Increasing federal, state and local taxes have opened up positions for accountants. Both public and private concerns have positions for graduates in this field.

Other business graduates have been offered jobs in management, sales, distribution, market analysis, public relations, banking, credit, production control, purchasing, personnel and related positions.

An estimated 65 students expect to receive the law degree in June. It is expected that many of the graduates will go into other fields which require legal training. The profession offers opportunities to those who are qualified.

A bright future is in the offering for the 18 students who will receive degrees in library science. Opportunities for well-trained librarians are good and little competition is expected for jobs during the next several years. Many openings are available in public schools and in small libraries.

A total of 98 students expect to receive degrees in fine arts. These students have completed degree requirements in either art, music or music education. The 14 who will receive degrees in music education have the brightest job prospects. There are several openings in Oklahoma and other states for music teachers in the public schools.

Graduates in art, drama and music will enter a competitive field where success is often dependent on a comparative talent and personality. The usual keen competition still exists in these fields.

Best job prospects exist in technical fields. There are increased demands for chemists from government agencies and manufacturing plants. New plants and processes are providing numerous professional and sub-professional openings in this field and in chemical engineering.

Graduates in physics and engineering physics are finding employment opportunities in both government and civilian activities. Many positions are open in fields related to military service. There is an increasing demand for engineering physicists as the field holds an important place in the atomic age.

Such is the employment picture which the June graduates are encountering. It appears that there is a bright future ahead for most of the 2,000 Sooners who will pocket their sheepskins June 4.

## FACULTY

### Law School Founder Dies

**The Dean Is Dead.** Dr. Julien C. Monnet, founder of the University School of Law and dean emeritus of the school since 1941, died April 7.

He had been a patient in an Oklahoma City hospital where he was taken when he fell and broke his hip Easter Sunday.

Dean Monnet came to Oklahoma after his graduation from Harvard Law School in 1908. He organized the University law school.

The first law classes were held in space made by "moving exhibits in the geology museum closer together." In 1913 the present law building was completed and dedicated as Monnet Hall. At present an annex to the building is under construction, and Dr. Monnet was inspecting this addition when he fell and broke his hip.

When he came west to organize the School of Law, Dr. Monnet held out for only one point. He was to have a free hand

in the selection of the faculty and the administration of the school. In his 32 years as dean, he served under 11 governors and three University presidents, all of whom kept the agreement.

Before his retirement in 1941, Dr. Monnet handed out more than 1,500 law degrees. In addition to his duties as dean of the school, he taught several classes.

Dean Monnet is survived by his wife at the home in Norman; two sons, Julien Claude Monnet, '20ba, '22Law, Oklahoma City, and Eugene O. Monnet, '16ba, '20 Law, Tulsa, and a daughter, Mrs. Florence Monnet McKown, '22ba, Oklahoma City.

Also surviving are ten grandchildren. Eight of the grandchildren have attended or are attending the University. Presently enrolled are Burford and Edward Monnet, sons of Eugene, Julien Charles Monnet, son of Julien Claude, and Helen McKown. Others who have attended are Martha Jean Monnet, '50ba, George Monnet McKown, '50eng, and former students Mrs. Robert

Brammer and Mrs. Richard Maddox.

Dean Monnet is also survived by two great grandchildren and a sister, Mrs. Charles S. B. Smith, Chicago.

**Two for Hall of Fame.** Dr. G. L. Cross, president of the University and Joseph H. Benton, '20ba, '21bfa, '41ma, professor of music, are among six prominent Oklahomans who will be inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame on statehood day, November 16.

Cross has been president of the University since 1944 and is one of the youngest college presidents in the country.

Benton achieved fame as a Metropolitan Opera tenor. His first recognition came in Italy where he took 31 curtain calls at the Royal Opera House in Rome before Mussolini and King Emmanuel in 1933.

**Top Publicist.** Harold Keith, '29ba, '39ma, long-time Sooner sports publicist, was selected in March as the nation's top collegiate athletic publicity director of 1950.

A fixture on the O.U. sports scene since

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