

# Sooners Share The Spotlight

SIX ALUMNI ARE IN THE THICK OF THE ACTION  
AS CONGRESS RECONVENES IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Washington, D. C., and the Congressional chambers are as familiar as the corner drugstore to five O.U. alumni returning to the Capitol this month to take their seats among the nation's lawmakers.

Both Oklahoma's senators, Robert S. Kerr, '16, and A. S. Mike Monroney, '24journ, and three of her six representatives claim allegiance to the Big Red. The Sooner Congressmen are Carl Albert, '31ba, Page Belcher, '18, and Ed Edmondson, '40ba. Rounding out the state delegation are non-O.Uers John Jarman, Tom Steed and Toby Morris.

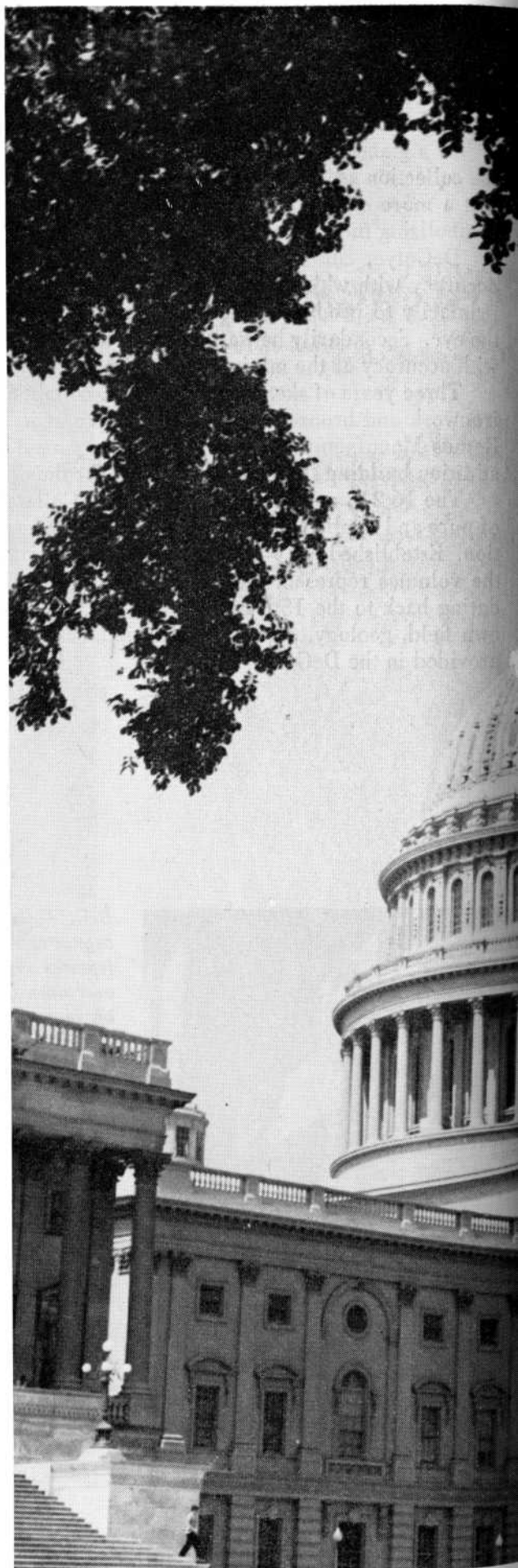
But even more important than these legislators' Sooner heritage is the record the five are chalking up in the fast and furious world of national politics.

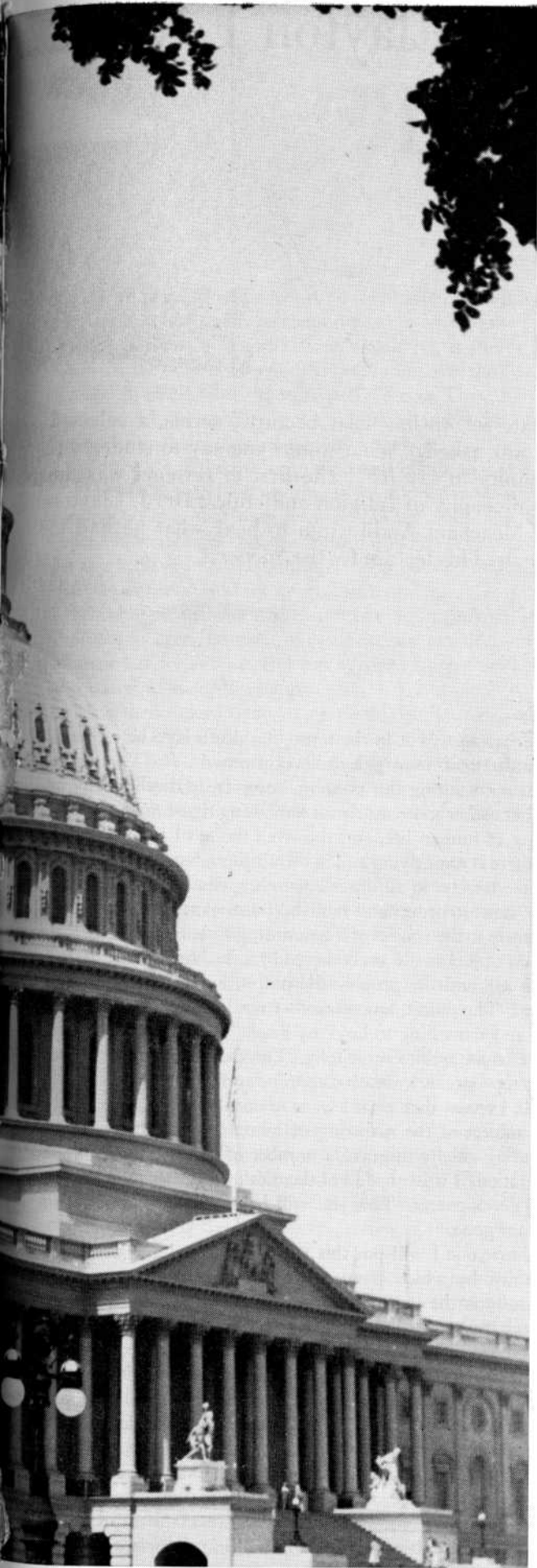
Senior Senator *Robert S. Kerr* went to Washington from the Oklahoma governor's chair in 1949 and since has become one of the ranking Democratic members of the Senate. Named to the influential finance and public works committee, Kerr is also chairman of the public roads subcommittee and a member of the committee on aeronautical and space sciences, the flood control and rivers and harbors subcommittees. He has been active on the joint committees on internal revenue taxation, and the reduction of non-essential federal expenditures.

A staunch supporter of farm co-operatives, Kerr is a public power booster and backer of the federal water development and conservation programs. His plan for unified development of great river valleys, under the direction of federal and state agencies, won Congressional and Presidential approval and has been adopted in several parts of the country.

Former newsman *Mike Monroney* was five times elected to the House of Representatives before becoming Oklahoma's junior senator in 1950. An O.U. Phi Beta Kappa and *Daily* editor, Democrat Monroney served as president of the University alumni association. He received the University Distinguished Service citation in 1948. Three years earlier Monroney had earned *Colliers* magazine award for Distinguished Congressional Service.

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Sen. Mike Monroney



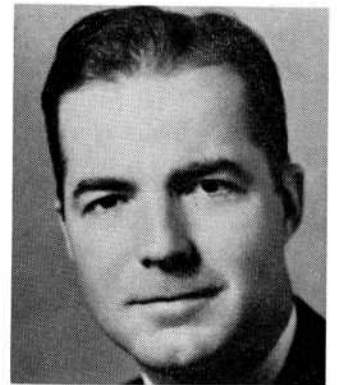
Sen. Robert S. Kerr



Rep. Carl Albert



Rep. Page Belcher



Rep. Ed Edmondson

## SOONERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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As a House member, he co-authored the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 with Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin. Monroney holds membership on the Senate's powerful appropriations committee and the interstate and foreign commerce committee. Chairman of the aviation subcommittee, he is considered the father of the Federal Aviation Agency (the reorganized Civil Aeronautics Administration).

As majority whip of the House of Representatives, Congressman *Carl Albert* is the third ranking member of that body and the youngest (at 51) to hold that position.

A campus leader during his O.U. days, Albert was a Rhodes scholar taking his law degrees at Oxford in England. He is a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame.

In addition to his party job, which involves marshalling the Democratic forces in Congress, Albert is on the agriculture committee and chairman of its subcommittee on wheat. As a member of the foreign agricultural operations subcommittee, Albert spent the fall in Europe as chairman of a commission investigating possibilities for new outlets for surplus agricultural commodities.

Sole Republican in Oklahoma's national political camp is Enid attorney *Page Belcher*. Belcher went to Congress in 1950 from the First District. He served that district as party chairman for 10 years and as Republican state executive secretary before going to Washington. At present he is a member of the national Republican policy committee.

In Congress his main interests lie in the committee on agriculture of which he is a member. He was recently named to the committee on House committees.

Two of Congressman *Ed Edmondson's* legislative interests have been newsmakers in recent months. As chairman of the House subcommittee on coal research, Edmondson has been involved in investigation of the ailing coal industry, his local interest being in the 50 billion ton reserve of Oklahoma. He was also one of the initial sponsors of the "Great White Fleet" resolution calling for establishment of a fleet of mercy ships for disaster and distress calls the world over.

Also an O.U. Phi Beta Kappa, Edmondson has been representing the Second District since 1952. He is a member of the committee on public works, interior and insular affairs. Since 1953 Edmondson has been assistant Democratic whip of the House, under Carl Albert.

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