The Sooner Salutes

Touring the “whistle stops” and metropolitan areas, wherever he can find an audience, U. S. Senator Robert S. Kerr, ’16, is presenting himself before the citizens of the country as a candidate for the presidential nomination on the Democratic ticket.

Making countless appearances on television and radio, Senator Bob is the only University alumnus ever to be seriously considered for the presidential nomination by either major political party.

As a campaigner, the senator leaves little to be desired. He mixes a molasses-rich Oklahoma drawl with pungent, verbal spices. And every word gets the added attention that places him high on the list of great orators.

At first a candidate to win and hold votes for President Truman against the insurgent Estes Kefauver, Kerr announced his own campaign immediately following Truman’s withdrawal.

Kerr’s background is crowded with American ideals. He was born in a log cabin and he has raised himself to lofty heights—a several times millionaire and former governor of the state.

How Kerr will fare in the upcoming Democratic National Convention is anybody’s guess. Coming from a border state may prove to be a boon in the Democrats “Civil War.” But however Senator Bob makes out with the delegates, he has elevated himself to a high position in the affairs of state. He deserves a rousing Salute.

Three University faculty members were awarded honorary degrees in recognition of their scholarly achievements in June exercises in three widely separated universities: Dr. Ronald B. Shuman, research professor and head of Department of Business Management, honorary Doctor of Laws from Hamline University; Savoie Lottinville, director of University Press, honorary Doctor of Letters from Southern Methodist University, and Dr. Ralph E. Olson, acting head of the Department of Geography, honorary Doctor of Sciences from Nebraska Wesleyan University.

Dr. Shuman, whose study of management problems has covered principal U. S. industries and businesses, has been on the O. U. faculty since 1935 and has headed the Department of Business Management since 1939. A graduate magna cum laude from Hamline, he earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. During World War II, Dr. Shuman served as a general staff officer.

Lottinville was one of four outstanding scholars who received SMU’s top honor. He was cited for his “leadership in building...the Great University Press of Oklahoma.” Lottinville received his B.A. from O.U. in 1929 and was selected as a Rhodes Scholar. He received a masters degree from Oxford in 1939. He has been director of the Press since 1938.

Dr. Olson was honored by his alma mater as one of two men chosen to receive Nebraska Wesleyan’s highest honor. He graduated from the Nebraska school in 1934. While geography is Dr. Olson’s primary interest, he once taught French at the American University in Biarritz, France. He had done extensive work on military research problems for the U.S. Army and has spent many summer months working in various government jobs in Washington.

The two professors and the director of the University Press have accomplished a two-fold mission. They have gained a measure of prestige for themselves and for their University. The Sooner Salutes their accomplishments.