sooner scene: spotlight on alumni

It is the aim of the alumni publications to represent the total range of interests of all graduates and of the multifarious nature of the University itself. Such coverage becomes more and more difficult as the alumni body and the University grow. Since 1892 the University has enrolled approximately 270,000 individuals; of these 68,000 received degrees. On the alumni records the graduates are identified in 89 different ways, the difference being largely in major fields of studies and types of degrees awarded.

Each month alumni publications bring you the stories of hundreds of your Sooner friends and colleagues who are making news by their accomplishments. Even so, these stories are only a sampling of the significant contributions OU graduates make to society month in and month out, year after year. Here are a few random examples taken from the news this month:

Robert Calvert, '10chem, has edited an Encyclopedia of Patent Law, published by Reinhold Book Division of New York, for release this month. Dr. Calvert came out of retirement to produce this impressive work. Here is what Joseph Rossman, former editor of Journal in the Patent Office Society, has to say about it:

"In my opinion, this is the best one-volume work in the field of patent law and practice that has appeared in the past 50 years. Furthermore, it comes at a most opportune time to fill a long-existing void in the patent literature, because the flood of patent law decisions and rapidly changing practice in the Patent Office have produced a baffling maze through which the active patent attorney must thread his way with much uncertainty for lack of reliable guide posts on almost every problem that arises."

Friends of J. W. McLean, '43bus, will be interested to know that he has been appointed manager of international banking at Bank of America's Southern Division in Los Angeles, effective April 22. McLean began his banking career with the First National Bank and Trust Company of Tulsa in 1948, left to be president of Texas National Bank of Houston in 1958. Recently his bank merged with the National Bank of Commerce in Houston and McLean was named president of the newly formed bank. However, a proxy fight between the shareholders of the two groups found McLean on the losing end. From our point of view, Houston's loss of one of the bright young leaders of the banking industry is a gain for southern California.

Another success story was called to our attention when P. H. Robinson, '25eng, returned to Oklahoma City to speak to the Economic Club this month. Robinson came to OU in the early 20's from the short grass country (Woods County), after attending schools in Capron, Medford and Alva. Upon graduating from OU, he joined Westinghouse in Pittsburgh and in 1928 moved to Houston Light and Power Co. There he moved up through the ranks to become president in 1963.

The University has furnished many outstanding executives and technicians to the Humble Oil and Refining Co. Last month Carl Reistle Jr., '22eng, president and chairman of the board, announced the election to the board of directors of O. L. Luper, '36bus. Luper was originally a native of Paden. He has been controller of Humble for eight years and is currently serving in New York in the headquarters of Standard Oil of New Jersey as executive assistant to that company's chairman of the board and chief executive officer.

When Carl Albert, '31ba, visited the campus this fall he mentioned that OU probably has more Phi Beta Kappa's currently serving in Congress than does any other university in the nation: himself, Mike Monroney, '24ba, Fred Harris, '52ba, '54Law, and Ed Edmondson, '40ba.

The University records of the many distinguished assistants who have been enticed into government service from Oklahoma stand as evidence of highest quality and a credit to the elected delegation. One of the senior members of the group is Jack Yocum, '43ed, who has just joined the staff of the post office and civil service committee of the U.S. Senate after serving for 19 years in the office of Sen. Monroney.