The U.S.: A Calculated Risk

In early June, a national figure stepped up to a row of microphones in Owen Stadium to tell graduating seniors about the "Land of Calculated Risk."

Using his topic as a definition of America, Eric Johnston, economic price stabilizer, defined what he meant by calculated risk at the June 4 Commencement.

"That is my definition of taking chances boldly on the future—of investing what we have in the considered hope of fair returns. It means counting the cost of adventure, of course; but it means daring to spend—in order to earn. It means immediate sacrifice for long-range profit."

More than 2,000 seniors and their families and friends had gathered in Owen stadium on the cool June night to listen to Johnston and witness the conferring of degrees.

"Perhaps more so than any other people, we abide by the parable of the talents, as told in St. Matthew," Johnston continued.

Then turning to the threat of Communism, Johnston said, "We are pushing toward S-Day, two years ahead. And S stands for Security. . . This is our riskiest hour. It defies comparison with anything behind us. No class of seniors ever graduated in a riskier moment. . . . I don't know what America is going to look like after S-Day—or five years from now—. . . but here's what I think:

"I think S-Day can be a kickoff day for a new plateau of prosperity, plus peace. I believe we can turn our new power to produce to the positive pursuits of peace. "...

President George L. Cross introduced the University Deans and they in turn presented their graduates. Dr. Cross conferred the degrees. D. H. Grissos, '50 geo, retiring president of the Alumni Association, welcomed the graduates into Alumni ranks. Gerald Hornung, '51 bus, senior class president, accepted the welcome for his class.

A Couple of Days

Something for the Girls. Mothers, sporting finery and a corsage from sons or daughters, looked the campus over and visited with their children. The occasion was the University's Annual Mother's Day April 28. Organized houses held open house for the mothers of their members and special entertainment was provided for the evening.

As usual, a highlight of the day was the All-University Sing. The organized houses competing in four divisions—quadrangle, independent men, sorority and fraternity—were required to sing Fred Waring's "O.K. Oklahoma" plus another song of their choice.

The winners were Whitehand Hall, (independent men) Quadrangle Unit IV, (independent women) Alpha Gamma Delta (sorority) and Sigma Phi Epsilon (fraternity).

After the Sing, the mothers met to elect officers of the Mother's Association for the coming year. Mrs. M. C. Patrick, Marion Grant, '21 ba) Shawnee, was named president succeeding Mrs. Dave McKown, (Florence Monnet, '22 ba) Oklahoma City. Mrs. George L. Cross was chosen secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Ira Crews, Tulsa, was elected parliamentarian.

District vice presidents include: Mrs. Hugh Perry, (Lois Maple, '26 ec) Tulsa; Mrs. O. W. Jones, (Cathryn Beckett, '31)

Justice and Honesty. The first justice of the U.S. Supreme Court to speak to a University audience was the bait that brought judges and lawyers from over the state to the Law School's annual Law Day May 3.

And after the Day was complete it was apparent that Justice William O. Douglas had landed many an Oklahoma fish.

After addressing a turn-away luncheon on the precepts a lawyer should come equipped with and some advice on how to attain those precepts, Justice Douglas was ready to get into the meat of his visit—an address entitled, "Honesty in Government."

In essence he told his audience that morality in officials is as high or low as the tolerance of the public. "Public Opinion is far more effective than any law passed. Americans are impatient. They rush out and pass a law, but all laws man can devise cannot adequately protect against corruption," he said.

"America needs a new restatement of moral code. All the great civilizations of the world were destroyed by internal corruption. A moral breakdown can destroy us from within more than Russia can from without," he stated.

The Law Day was a tremendous success. In addition to Douglas, the program included: 1) visits to law classes, 2) moot court competition finals with the Oklahoma Supreme Court sitting as judges, 3) Luncheon, 4) Legal institute on 'Practice and Procedure in the County Court, 5) Western style supper.

The Winners

Medals for Seniors. At the Senior Assembly May 9, six senior students were
awarded Letzeiser medals—symbols of outstanding academic and extracurricular activity. They also denote the top three men and women in the graduating class.

This year’s Letzeiser award winners were Barbara Whitehurst, Ponca City; Ted S. Webb, Fort Worth; Pat Harston, Oklahoma City; and Richard Denner, Enid (silver medals); and Pat Phillips, Bartlesville, and Edward John Hinman, Norman (bronze medals).

Pe-et for Juniors. Ten junior men were elected to membership in Pe-et, honorary society, in early May. Founded in 1910 by 10 members of the Class of 1910 in order to recognize top-ranking junior men each year, Pe-et is the oldest honorary organization on the campus.

Those selected for membership are William G. Paul, Pauls Valley; Reford Bond, III, Chickasha; William W. Price, Norman; James I. Miller, Jr., Okmulgee; Dexter C. Eldridge, Luther; John Charles Lemon, Norman, David Hall, Oklahoma City; Alan Nichols, Oklahoma City; Fred R. Harris, Walters, and William E. Karnes, Oklahoma City. Paul was elected president for the coming year.

A Covey of Titles. Miss Norman is Miss Oklahoma and Miss Oklahoma may very well be Miss America. The whole thing sounds a little like Gertrude Stein unless it is added that a comedy University Miss by the name of Bobby Simmons has won the first two titles in her attempt to become Miss America of 1951.

Miss Simmons won her two trial heats before the big affair in good style. She’ll head for Atlantic City in September and then back to school and voice studies.

A Chance for Responsibility
Something for the Boys. With a record attendance of 554, the 13th annual Boys’ State was held on the South Campus June 2 to 9.

Party Elections—always a high spot for the boys attending—resulted in Marvin Seeman, Woodward, being elected as governor. He was given the oath of office by Supreme Court Chief Justice Ben Arnold.

A legislature was elected and organized, judicial officials were chosen and instructed in their duties and the boys began their practical course in government.

Other state officers elected were Russell Fuller, Muskogee, lieutenant governor; Mark Schooler, secretary of state; Glen McLaughlin, Shawnee, state treasurer, and George Russell, Miami, attorney general.

Boys’ State is sponsored by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. This year 173 state communities covering 71 counties were represented.
was done through his association with the YMCA in South America and the U. S. After his retirement from 'Y' work at 61, he didn't forget his interest in children. He is now visiting teacher in (Roanoke) City Junior high schools.

"Born in Kansas, Mr. Long . . . was raised and educated in Oklahoma. In addition to collecting a couple of degrees, Mr. Long managed to earn ten letters in football and track at the University of Oklahoma. There he graduated with a B. A. and a M. A. degree in comparative psychology.

"He also received an M. S. degree from Louisiana State University where he began his life's work as student YMCA secretary. He found time to coach the Jaycee football team at LSU.

"In 1913 he went to Brazil as a religious worker for the Methodist Church and as student YMCA secretary. The day before he left the U. S., an incident occurred which tended to slightly alter his life.

"At a gathering of those who were going to Brazil, Mr. Long was introduced to a girl1 would like to marry."

"Call it prophecy or determination. About a year later he married this girl in Brazil. Mrs. Long was the daughter of a Methodist Missionary. She was born in Brazil. . . ."

"Frank Millard Long, Jr., '40, was a student at the University of Oklahoma when he was drafted during World War II. He went down with his ship in the Battle of the Solomons in 1942. The other children, all graduates of Oklahoma, except for the youngest, Edith, who is still a student there, are James, '37ba, Eulalee and Lewis, '47ba, '49ms, '50bs. The latter is now studying for a doctor's degree in human relations at Harvard.

"In Brazil, at Port Alegre, . . . Mr. Long became general secretary of the YMCA. He was known as the 'Father of Athletics' in Southern Brazil. When the depression hit the U. S., the YMCA was forced to curtail its foreign program and Mr. Long returned here in 1934.

"For a time he did 'Y' work in Memphis, Tennessee, and in 1936 came to Roanoke as general secretary of the YMCA here. He retired in 1942. During the war, he was associated with the USO, organizing a chapter at Hampton. For the past six years he has been working as visiting teacher. He describes his work as 'a school social worker helping children with difficulties, aiding them to work out their problems."

Since the award was made on the basis of nominations from the doctor's patients, the following letter was submitted to the awards committee:

"I recommend Dr. Doyle Ferguson as the Doctor of the Year because of his sincere pledge to each of his patients to ever regard them as his only patient, never forgetting their deepest emotions, human nature and desire for immediate, sympathetic understanding attention.

"Dr. Ferguson has kept his pledge in ever respect in dealing with members of my family and my friends. He is a great family doctor."

The Awards Committee were unanimous in their selection.

Earnest Hoberecht, '41journ, was recently named United Press general manager for Asia. His headquarters will be in Tokyo where he has been U. P.'s chief correspondent and manager for Japan.

Hoberecht's division now includes Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Philippines, Formosa, Republic of Indonesia, Malaya, Siam, Indo-China, India, Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

In charge of the UP's Korean war coverage since the outbreak of hostilities, he has spent considerable time at the front and has made frequent trips to the front with General MacArthur. He returned to Tokyo recently following a brief trip to New York for consultation with United Press executives.

Reluctant Angel, a novel of faith in one's own abilities and in a higher faith, was published in May. Authored by Mrs. Ennen Reaves Hall, '41, Oklahoma City, the book has no illusions of being a literary masterpiece. It is an enjoyable book that looks at the conflict between the desires for material success and the search for God.

Mrs. Hall has had more than 200 stories published. Reluctant Angel is her first full-length novel.

Signs of the Times

Lt. Col. John H. Byrd, '38bs, Oklahoma City, was one of 22 persons killed April 6 in a plane crash near Santa Barbara, California. Recalled to active duty with the United States Army in February, Byrd was accompanied by four other officers, all of whom had just completed a semi-annual inspection of Fort Roberts, California. He is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

Capt. Archie Swanson, '48bs, Muskogee air force pilot, was shot down by ground fire behind enemy lines in Korea in May and was rescued within 15 minutes in a