Anthony Olis

The School notes with deep regret the recent death of Anthony A. Olis, JD ’21. After many years in the private practice of law, Mr. Olis became president of the Chicago Sanitary District. His service in that office was well described in an editorial in the Chicago Daily News of June 4, 1958, which is reprinted here, with permission:

"Anthony A. Olis, who died Tuesday at 59, had been president since 1950 of one of the world’s great public enterprises—the $450 million Sanitary District of Chicago.

A long-time Republican leader, he was an able public servant who won praise for sound and efficient administration of the district’s affairs in an era of rising costs and expanding operations. In 1953, he was given a special “good government” award at a civic luncheon sponsored by the Chicago Junior Association of Commerce and Industry.

In 1955, he and his associates again won praise when economies enabled the district to cut its tax levy by $2½ million. A $12 million supplementary budget was necessary however, in 1957, to meet deferred maintenance and other costs.

In recent years, Mr. Olis had demonstrated purpose and vision as a keen student of Chicago’s resources and its future problems. On Aug. 3, 1955, he wrote in the Daily News: ‘In our lifetime, you and I will see this metropolitan area grow to 15 to 20 million people and become the largest, greatest and finest community in the world.’

For many years, he had led the still unresolved struggle to win for the region a greater diversion of Lake Michigan water at Chicago.

His was a useful life, and he will be missed by the region he served.”

Jacob Logan Fox

Jacob Logan Fox, Ph.B. ’11, JD ’13, founding partner in the Chicago firm of Brown, Fox and Blumberg, died suddenly in Cincinnati on July 24. A native of Springfield, Illinois, Mr. Fox was an active member of the Law School Alumni Association and gave generously of his time to the Alumni Fund and to the Building Fund Campaign.

At the time of his death Mr. Fox was Chairman of the Board of the North American Accident Insurance Company and a director of other firms. He served as a trustee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and was one of the founders and Honorary Board Chairman of the South Shore Temple.

A noted Lincoln scholar and collector, Mr. Fox was a member of the Civil War Round Table. He was the author of many legal articles and took an active part in the Chicago, Illinois and American Bar Associations.

He is survived by his widow Sally and his three sons, Jacob Logan Fox, Jr., JD ’47, Theodore and Robert.

Benjamin A. Ragir

Benjamin A. Ragir, AB ’35, JD ’36, died in Chicago on July 29. While in law school, Mr. Ragir was a member of the Board of the University of Chicago Law Review; he received his law degree cum laude. Upon graduation, Mr. Ragir practiced in Chicago with the firm of Mayer, Meyer, Austrian and Platt. Later, he was associated with the Office of the Alien Property Custodian. In 1946 Mr. Ragir became secretary of the Ekco Products Company, and in 1950 he became president of that firm.

Mr. Ragir was active in Law School alumni affairs. He was particularly interested in the research program of the School in the area of law and economics. While he was president of the Ekco Products Company that firm gave a three-year scholarship to the Law School. Upon his retirement as president of the Ekco firm, Mr. Ragir accepted the appointment as Director of Special Programs for the Law School.

Mr. Ragir is survived by his widow Julia, a daughter, Sonia, and son, John Arthur.

Richard Corwin Stevenson

Richard Corwin Stevenson, JD ’25, died in Chicago on April 24. Mr. Stevenson was senior partner in the firm of Stevenson, Conaghan, Velde and Hackbert, with which he was associated for many years.

He was a very active member of the Visiting Committee of the Law School, and took a prominent part in a variety of Law School alumni activities. He served also as a trustee of Ohio Wesleyan University, which awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Mr. Stevenson participated extensively in the affairs of the Chicago Bar Association, serving as a member of its Board of Managers and on many of its committees.

He was a past president of the Law Club of Chicago, and of the Legal Club of Chicago. He served for many years as president of the Immigrants Protective League and as president of the Evanston Civic Association. He was also a director of a number of business enterprises.