

...and the Comment

H.K. Calvert for the Board of Regents

Dr. Hollomon's resignation this morning was a surprise to the members of the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents. It was very obvious that the decision was made with a great deal of thought and personal anguish.

The board has accepted Dr. Hollomon's resignation as of September 1, 1970, and his recommendation to appoint Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter as acting president as of that date.

4 Throughout the years that we have served as members of the OU Board of Regents, the University has had academic freedom, and we feel it has been a very open place for the expression of ideas. This philosophy of openness has been one of the basic tenets of the University for many years. Dr. Hollomon's strong convictions regarding student, faculty and employee participation in the issues which affect the University will continue to influence the members of the Board of Regents.

Speaking for the entire board, I can assure you, as evidenced by the June regent's meeting, that this board has not and will not be influenced by political pressures of any nature, either from inside or outside the University.

A search committee for a new president will be formed and announced as soon as possible. The committee will include members of the entire University community.

As Dr. Hollomon requested, the Board of Regents will have a special meeting in August. Due to the many conflicts caused by previous commitments on the part of members of the board, we have not yet set a firm date for the meeting.

We understand the concern of the University community — students, faculty, employees, alumni and other citizens of the state. As the regents of this institution, we will continue working to build a better University, and we hope that all in the community will join us in this endeavor.

Roy Cartwright for the Alumni Association

It seems unnecessary to say that President Hollomon's resignation was a surprise. It appeared to be that to nearly everyone. What I hope people will remember after he is gone is that Dr. Hollomon accomplished a great many fine things during his presidency.

The past few months have been difficult for everyone, and I do not think we can judge the University or the president by what has happened during this time. I know many alumni believe as I do that Dr. Hollomon has given new direction to the University, direction that was necessary in an age when the very nature of higher education is changing.

Probably any man coming into the OU presidency after the long and capable tenure of Dr. George L. Cross would have found the position difficult. Any man who would change the order of things would have faced problems. I hope, however, that in the ensuing months those on the campus and those of us away from OU will do everything we can to support the University and its acting president, Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter.

I am confident the search committee will select a strong and capable person for the presidential post. I am equally confident that the alumni will maintain their loyalty and support of the institution with full knowledge that change is necessary. None of us would like to go back and find the University unchanged from our student days for that would mean it had made no progress. We have made progress, and we will continue to do so.

Governor Dewey F. Bartlett

I have read Dr. J. Herbert Hollomon's statement of resignation as president of the University of Oklahoma. I wish him well in the future.

I support the board of regents in its decision to name Dr. Pete Kyle McCarter as acting president. I call upon the students, the faculty, the alumni and all citizens of the state to support Dr. McCarter.

I have full confidence that the board will be able to select a capable and highly-qualified man to serve as the new president of the University of Oklahoma.
