Progress--the university's ideal

BY GEORGE L. BOWMAN

Having been a member of the board of regents of the university since 1919, except for about two years, and having been president of the board of trustees of Kingfisher college for some fifteen years, I, of course, have become interested in education in Oklahoma. As president of the board of regents, I will advocate progressive ideas in education and strive to keep the university in step with the advancement of our times.

Some universities seem content with the old ways. As the years pass, all things change. A university that does not keep step with progress is unworthy of its high purpose. I think the faculty of the University of Chicago made a great step forward when it outlined plans to graduate students when they could pass the required examination regardless of the time spent in school. This will give many students the advantage of entering into the affairs of life sooner.

I am wondering if some one in the University of Oklahoma could not give to the educational world some new ideas in meeting the conditions as they exist today and will exist in the future. Perhaps the day is not far distant when students will go to universities to learn to do the things that they will be required to do after graduation.

Observation points to the fact that in future years the greatest problem will be for the masses to make a living and not for the few to accumulate great wealth. Nor will the accumulation of wealth be considered such an honor in the future as in the past. Universities should be able to give to the students those practical things which will help them solve their problems in life. The proposition that "ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey, where wealth accumulates and men decay," is a more serious one today than when Goldsmith wrote it a century ago. What are universities doing about this?

"Progress" is my idea for the slogan of the University of Oklahoma. My ambition is to make it one of the great universities of our nation. Not simply as to the number of students enrolled nor as to the number and size of its build-

ings, but as to the quality of work done as shown by the ideals and character of the graduates and their ability to lead the masses of our people to a better and happier life: the success shown by these leaders in attacking the complex problems of modern society.

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Tau Omega

Tau Omega was organized during the latter part of the fall semester of 1927 by a group interested primarily in the advancement of aeronautics on the campus of the University of Oklahoma.

The present plans of the organization are the building of a one foot model wind tunnel under the supervision of Professors Joseph Liston and J. C. Davis. The purpose of the tunnel will be to study characteristics of models and interpret the data in a form which can be applied to full scale aircraft.

Some noted figures in aviation are members of Tau Omega; among which are: Lieut. James Haizlip, assistant to J. H. Doolittle of the Shell Petroleum Corp., J. C. Carleton of the Curtiss Wright Corp., and Roy Hunt of the Norman flying service, Professors Davis and Liston of the University of Oklahoma.

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Sigma Tau

Sigma Tau was founded February 22, 1904 at the University of Nebraska. The motives that guided the founders sprung from a general desire to be of service to engineering education in the institution where the fraternity was first established.

In determining the basis of eligibility to membership in the fraternity those qualities which best give promise of a successful career were selected. In making this selection the founders were aided by the results of an investigation which was made about this time by Frederick W. Taylor, an eminent mechanical engineer. Mr Taylor, in summarizing the opinions of a large number of employers, found that, given good health, employers asked first for character, sec-

ond for judgment, and third for technical training. The relation between these qualities and the three qualifications for Sigma Tau membership, viz: scholarship, practicality and sociability, are apparent.

Elmer Gardner is president of the local chapter; Foster Whiteside, vice-president; Lester Puckett, local secretary; Dan Wood, corresponding secretary; Sam Alexander, treasurer.

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Junior A. I. M. E. club

Since its organization in December, 1928, the Junior A. I. M. E. club has been very active and has shown a considerable increase in membership.

The Junior A. I. M. E. club is a branch of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers which organization is international in scope and its members are to be found in all parts of the world.

The present officers of the club are: President John K. Kalb; vice-president, Neal B. Prichard; secretary-treasurer Frank E. Ittner.

The membership committee is composed of H. C. George; Neal B. Prichard and Edwin S. Smith, jr.

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A. I. E. E.

The University of Oklahoma branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers was founded in 1912 and is therefore one of the oldest organizations on the campus. All student electrical engineers are members of the local branch.

Each year the electrical engineers put on an electrical show during the St. Pat's celebration and of course this is handled through the A. I. E. E. This year the officers of the branch are Scott Hammonds, chairman; Elmer Prag, vice-chairman; Bill Fell, secretary and treasurer; Ted Bloss, senior St. Pat's representative and James Callahan, junior St. Pat's representative. Professor F. G. Tappan is the faculty counselor for the branch.

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Stadia club chapter

The American Society of Civil Engineers was organized in 1852, the first technical organization in this country. It draws its membership from civil engineers and those connected with that profession. The Stadia club, a local organization, was granted a charter as a student chapter in 1922, one of ninety-six similar chapters in schools and colleges of engineering throughout the country. Sophomore, junior and senior students in the school of civil engineering are eligible for membership.