

brows, the well oiled political machinery function in the recent student council election, May 3. Despite efforts to end political combines and parties which attempt to rule student government, efforts which resulted in the "reform" constitution of two years ago, wherein political parties were formally abolished, such parties merely became secret ones, thriving more strongly than ever, students believe.

With election of thirteen new members of the council, the Administration party, headed by Finis "Chick" Gillespie, swept nine of its thirteen candidates into office at the recent election. The so-called non-fraternity party, headed by Bill Brodersen, Okarche, is backed by the old Beta combine. The Brodersen-Beta combine netted only three seats, having elected one representative from the pharmacy and education schools, and one from the college of engineering.

But the election of members brought no security to successful candidates, as three moves were begun immediately to oust them. Thus issues the contention.

The engineers will have none of crooked politics, they say, so it is announced that they would seek to recall the men elected Tuesday from that school. The second petition by the college of business administration charges that two constitutional provisions were violated in the election in the business school, and asks that the results of the election be thrown out. Hicks Epton, Durant, law school member of the old council, started the third petition. He avers that the new council was not legally seated since the precedent was not carried out by the old council of seating the new council by vote. George Miskovsky, old president of the men's council gaveled Joe Stampfer, Clayton, into the president's office May 5.

Jack Fischer, editor of the *Oklahoma Daily*, writes for the student paper, the following:

Today two new and lusty combines are battling in a "non-partisan" election. To the naked eye there are only two differences between the combines and the old parties:

1. The new groups are furtive, scared of the light. Their politicking is all done in corners, the darker the better.

2. The caliber of the politicians is considerably lower than in the era of the Big Guns, such as Merton Munson and Bob Shelton. This sad decline is natural—the result of prying student hands off of the money bags. On the day the council dances were protected against student plundering, politics began to decline. Able men don't care to bother with such non-profit pastimes. Hence all we have left are rather inept amateurs.

Like most reform movements, the spasm of two years ago accomplished exactly nothing. Worse than that, it served only to drive politics underground.

Personally, I'm in favor of a frankness campaign. Let's make all the parties open and legitimate. Allow candidates all the advertising and publicity they want. Let student voters know whom and what they are voting for.

Candidates who were successful in the

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The university state economy leader

ONE of the soundest of American universities financially, the University of Oklahoma was one of the first in the country to take the leadership in co-operating in curtailing governmental expenditure.

The university was the first institution or department in the state of Oklahoma to reduce its budget beyond the already slender sum allowed it for the biennium by the state legislature.

The board of regents of the university at its meeting May 21, 1931, ordered that a total of \$305,000 of the university's appropriation be returned to the state. This made at the time a total saving for the current biennium as opposed to the preceding biennium of \$721,000. The saving in accordance with the order of the regents was accomplished by a general salary reduction and reduction in maintenance.

Recognizing the public spirit actuating President Bizzell and the board of regents in making the reduction during the current fiscal year, Governor Murray issued a statement asking that state institutions and departments return to the state during the next fiscal year a total of \$2,000,000. A conference of teachers colleges was had with the governor and they at once agreed to make a reduction.

In the meantime, the board of regents of the university met at Norman March 30, approved the recommendations of President Bizzell for the ensuing fiscal year and voted to continue the reduction in the budget so as to allow the university to return to the state a total of \$152,000 during the coming year.

Soon after this meeting, the board's representatives, Regents Lyons and Hatchett, met with representatives of the board of agriculture and Presidents Bizzell and Bennett. The Oklahoma regents stated that the university had already effected a saving but was willing to do its fair share towards reducing the rapidly mounting debt of the state, provided that the reduction was made uniformly by all schools and departments of the state. They suggested a uniform cut of ten per cent in the sum appropriated by the legislature. The Oklahoma A. & M. college agreed to this, as did the representatives of the other institutions in the state.

Thus during the ensuing fiscal year,

all institutions of the state will be returning money to the state treasury to help reduce the state's debt.

The new reduction makes the total returnable to the state from the university approximately \$202,000. The total reduction in the budget for this biennium as compared to the preceding biennium thus becomes \$847,703.88—the largest saving not only in amount but in percentage as well, of any institution or department in the state.

The new cut created a grave problem for President Bizzell, already working miracles with the lowest budget per capita enrollment of any state university in America. The per capita cost this year is \$194, a saving of \$38 over last year.

Determined to preserve the essential functions of the university—a policy in which the regents whole-heartedly agree—the president determined to make the new reduction possible through the following means:

First, by reduction in salaries of faculty members and employes;

Second, by leaving vacancies unfilled, where other members of departments can carry the teaching duties;

Third, by appointment of teachers of lower ranks in vacancies which are to be filled;

Fourth, by extending the teaching week from five to six days;

Fifth, by increasing the teaching loads;

Sixth, by elimination or consolidation of services;

Seventh, by restricting maintenance expenses;

Eighth, by postponing improvements and repairs of the university grounds and plant.

It has been the aim of both President Bizzell and the regents to maintain the university's standards and at the same time, to face the necessities created by the national depression. The university under President Bizzell was one of the few institutions in the state which during the past six years closed each year with its books balanced, and without asking supplemental appropriations from the legislature. This same careful management brought about a plan under which the essential functions of the university will be continued without destroying the value of the education given the state's youth.