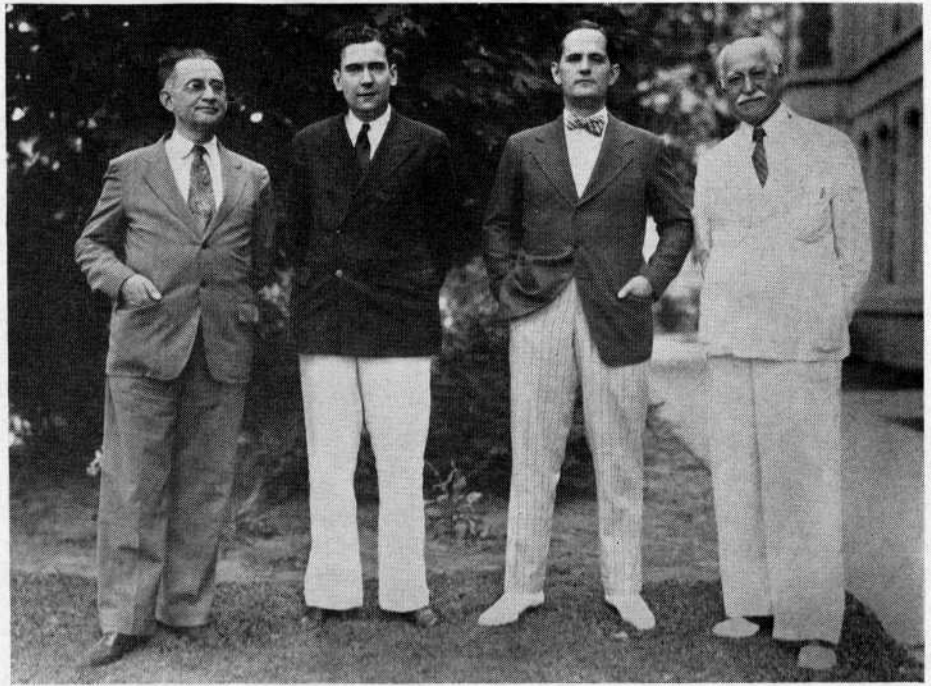


At the left is William G. Schmidt who was Benton's voice instructor at the University. Second from the left is Spencer Norton who has been Benton's accompanist during many programs. Norton will become a member of the fine arts faculty in the fall. Benton is second from the right and next to him is Patricio Gimeno who, as Benton's Spanish and Italian teacher, gave him early training in operatic technique. Gimeno, now of the modern languages faculty, was once head of the art department and many years ago was an opera singer.



## Hunting Adjectives for Benton

**S**INGING at the formal opening of the world's fair in Chicago, Joseph Benton, '20as, '22mus, touched off his triumphant homecoming to the United States after a dozen years in Italy with a performance that drove operatic critics in search of new adjectives.

He also has appeared at the University commencement exercises, at the alumni association dinner and at a special concert on the campus, but the Chicago recital was his actual debut before critics who had heard all of the "greats" of American and European opera.

To say that he was successful is mild. Benton, or Giuseppe Bentonelli as he is called in Italy, was hailed as another Caruso, a comparison which the Sooner dislikes since his is rather a lyric tenor voice.

Eugene Stinson in the *Chicago News* wrote of Benton:

"Giuseppe Bentonelli is a young man who is going to find it practically impossible to escape a most distinguished career. He returns to his native country distinguished abroad but as timber that has not yet been proven here, but if he does not immediately take a leading place in America's music, something will be wrong with others than himself. It is entertaining to conjecture that someday very shortly we will find it enjoyable to boast that we first heard an idol of the operatic stage amidst the outdoor scenery of a world's fair, because Chicago needed his efforts in behalf of charity.

"He is a tenor with a voice of lyric quality, exciting vibrancy, immaculate smoothness and finest texture. He uses it with grace, intelligence and punch."

The *Chicago Tribune* carried a head, "A New Caruso Arises in Our Midst," and said:

"Last night we heard in the Streets of Paris, a new, young, superb voice, Giuseppe Bentonelli, pupil of the late Jean de Reszke, and he is in the Caruso class. It was wonderful to be present before a group of Chicago's musicians and critics and see and hear the greatest new musical hope."

Herman Devries of the *Chicago American* reviewed a concert Benton sang for a smaller group in a Chicago home. He said:

"In my appreciation, he has a glorious voice which he uses to perfection. In the excerpt from 'La Boheme' he juggled high C with the greatest of ease. I have not heard the aria from Romeo and Juliet better sung since the departure of the unforgettable Lucien Muratore.

"Tenore robusto he is not. He is what is called in French *tenor de demi caractere*. We understand that he is engaged for the next season of the Chicago Grand Opera."

## A Changing Campus

**T**HE slow evolutionary process by which a university grows and keeps abreast of the times will be a little more evident than usual this fall on the University campus.

A number of minor adjustments that have been made after careful studies of educational problems will become effective.

Probably the most far reaching alteration affecting the University most extensively is the junior-senior college plan in the college of arts and sciences. The distinction between the lower and upper two years will be made more important starting this fall. Students will be required to take a greater amount of preparatory work and must make a higher grade average before passing into the upper branch of the college.

Revision of fraternity rush rules also will affect a large number of men students in the fall. A system designed to protect students who have not decided what or-

ganization they wish to join has been adopted. Those who already have made up their minds will be allowed to pledge early. The former group will not be allowed to pledge until the entire period has passed.

A depository bank will be established on the campus with no handling charge other than a small semester fee.

Out-of-state registration fees will be doubled, making a total of fifty dollars a semester.

Ruf Neks and Jazz Hounds, pep clubs, will have new faculty sponsors who will be responsible for their actions. The sponsors are James C. Powell and Leonard Logan.

Football games once more will be broadcast after a silent year and golf will become a conference sport. Also in the way of athletics, a cross-country conference meet will be held. It was abolished two years ago as an economy move.