

Needs of the university

SIFTING carefully the multitude of items needed by the University, the president and the Board of Regents have presented a budget request for the next biennium which they believe represents the minimum needs of the institution.

"There are no selfish motives in the request for financial support," explains President W. B. Bizzell. "It is made with a view of having the kind of a university that the citizens of this state are expecting. The amounts requested are much lower than could wisely be used in making a better University of Oklahoma."

A university that does not have adequate financial support suffers certain penalties. Some of them are crowded conditions, classes meeting in rooms unsuited for efficient instruction, unsatisfactory laboratory facilities, lack of equipment, classes much too large for personal contact with students, and the frequent loss of the best teachers to other institutions.

The University now has 33 less teachers than in 1930-31, although the enrolment has increased by more than five hundred. In the budget request for the 1937-39 biennium, provision has been made for about twenty additional teachers during the first year of the biennium, and ten more during the second year. This would bring the teaching staff approximately to what it was five years ago.

In regard to salaries of faculty members, the budget submitted asks for an adjustment in salaries for the first year of the biennium equivalent to approximately one-half of the reductions made three and four years ago, and a complete restoration of salaries for the second year except in the upper brackets.

In many institutions salaries were restored two years ago and unless provision is made for adjustments at this time, the University of Oklahoma will lose some of its most outstanding teachers to other institutions. During the last five years, a number of teachers have gone to other institutions at salaries ranging from fifty to one hundred per cent larger than they were receiving at Norman; and with improved conditions prevailing throughout the country, many others will be seeking positions elsewhere.

The rise in living costs since the depression also has caused hardships on many faculty members.

The total salary appropriations requested for the two years of the biennium are \$1,059,848.29 for the first year and \$1,151,-

388.29 the second year. While considerably larger than the salary item of \$810,000 which was given the University for the present school year, both of the proposed appropriations are substantially below the salary appropriations for the years 1929-31, as can readily be seen from the accompanying table.

Regular maintenance appropriations of \$340,870.80 for the first year and \$342,570.80 for the second year are requested. There has been a marked increase in the costs of all materials, especially scientific supplies and apparatus, Dr. Bizzell points out. The curtailment of budgets for sev-

Appropriations For Last Ten Years

| YEAR | SALARIES | MAINTENANCE |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 1927-28 | \$ 987,500 | \$250,000 |
| 1928-29 | 987,500 | 250,000 |
| 1929-30 | 1,194,000 | 275,000 |
| 1930-31 | 1,194,000 | 295,000 |
| 1931-32 | 1,122,867 | 308,694 |
| 1932-33 | 1,122,867 | 308,694 |
| 1933-34 | 786,000 | 214,000 |
| 1934-35 | 786,000 | 214,000 |
| *1935-36 | 810,000 | 228,200 |
| **1936-37 | 810,000 | 228,200 |

*Special appropriations as follows for 1935-36: \$250,000 for Business Administration building; \$30,000 for boilers; \$28,000 for generator; \$40,000 for equipment for petroleum engineering and air conditioning; \$17,172 for land.

**Special appropriation for 1936-37: \$10,000 for equipment for petroleum engineering and air conditioning.

eral years has placed all departments far behind in their needs. Quality of instruction depends upon the materials provided, for they are the tools of many phases of education.

In addition to the regular salary and maintenance appropriations, the University has requested special appropriations as follows:

First year—\$29,700 for permanent improvements and repairs; \$56,000 for equipment of the University; \$54,200 for equipment for the College of Engineering, and \$350,000 for a Petroleum Engineering building.

Second year—\$29,200 for permanent improvements and repairs; \$56,000 for equipment for the College of Engineering; and \$250,000 for a Geology building.

The permanent improvements and repairs include such essential things as an addition on the boiler room of the power plant which was constructed 23 years ago, replacing unsafe elevators in two buildings, installation of a ventilation system for the University auditorium,

water filtering and sterilizing equipment for the Women's building swimming pool, repairs and changes in the Press building, repair and replacement of windows in the Administration building, and repairs and improvements in the heating system.

In explaining the need for new engineering equipment, Dr. Bizzell points out that the College of Engineering at the University is one of the largest in the country, in enrolment, and that the demand for graduates by various industries and for government service has exceeded the number available.

"The test of any institution is in the product, and we are attempting to train our engineering students to meet the requirements for satisfactory employment following graduation," Dr. Bizzell said. "Employers want well trained men, and the citizens of the state expect their sons to receive such training when they enrol in the University."

The equipment in the engineering, woodwork and machine shops is antiquated, as can readily be seen from the fact that some of it was transferred from another institution in 1917. To replace this equipment with modern machinery will require \$34,200, officials have reported.

The rapid development in air conditioning has left O. U. far behind in practical laboratory and research equipment, and if students are to be trained adequately for this important new field, equipment must be provided.

"The heads of the various departments in the College of Engineering have submitted lists of equipment needed totaling more than twice the amount included in the budget," Dr. Bizzell said. "Only the most urgent items have been included. The state budget officer has urged us to request the amount shown. If appropriations are provided, we shall be able to increase the efficiency of instruction accordingly. If less is provided, we shall carry on with that amount as well as we can. There is nothing selfish in this request. It is made simply for the sake of efficient instruction."

In support of the request for funds for two new buildings, officials point out that for ten years previous to the Business Administration building appropriation, the University had no funds for providing additional classroom space, while the enrolment has increased more than a third.

The imperative building needs, the regents decided upon recommendation of the building committee and President Bizzell, are a Petroleum Engineering building in 1937-38 and a Geology building in 1938-39.

"Oklahoma has a unique opportunity in these fields, and it would be unfortunate not to take advantage of this situation, especially in view of the fact that the

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such groups, eat of their bachelor cooking and encourage them to carry on in their task of securing an education.

A brilliant scholar, Dr. Boyd had an especially strong leaning toward the cultural aspects of education. He said that he once hired a professor of engineering without much investigation because the man had a Phi Beta Kappa key. Yet with all his scholarship he was never a pedant. He had a keen sense of humor, loved a good story, and was himself a great story teller. While traveling in Greer county soon after that region became a part of Oklahoma in 1896, he gave a speech at a tiny hamlet called Paradise Valley, commonly shortened to "Paradise." At the close of his address the chairman of the meeting said:

"Now folks, I hope you'll all come up and meet Professor Boyd. He probably never will be in Paradise again."

Dr. Boyd would tell this story with great relish, and also another of an old mountaineer who once told him:

"I hate to see my wife wash dishes. That job seems so plumb constant."

Brought up in a devout Presbyterian home, Dr. Boyd retained throughout life a deep religious faith. In his father's home family worship was held each morning, consisting of a Scripture reading, a prayer and the singing of a psalm. At the University he held chapel each morning at ten. At these exercises after Scripture reading and a prayer, he always made a three-minute talk, striving in each one to develop only one point. These little speeches he worked out with great care and an early graduate of the University has asserted that he got more from these chapel talks than from all the rest of his college course.

In spite of deep religious convictions he was never bigoted or narrowly sectarian. Attendance at chapel was voluntary and later in life he often spoke with sincere respect of the strong religious faith of the Mormons of Utah and of the southern mountaineers, both of whom he had worked among while he was with the Mission Board. Religion rather than creed was his ideal. He always remembered the teachings of his childhood home and that on the morning he was to start to school for the first time his mother dressed him in his new suit she had made and then led him to her room and knelt and prayed for his well being in what was to him a great adventure. Neither did he ever forget her dying words to him, her eldest lad:

"Be a good boy, obey your father, and go to church each Sabbath."

The writer spent nearly a month with Dr. Boyd during the past summer and left him soon after the first of September. His health, which had not been good, seemed at that time much improved. He spoke eagerly of his hope of returning to Norman in 1942 for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the

University but it was not to be. On November 17 he was stricken with a severe heart attack and died within a very short time.

He was buried in Forest Lawn at Glendale, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in all the world. No ugly shafts of granite or marble are there. The earth above the graves is perfectly level and each grave is marked with a small slab placed flat upon the ground so that it is scarcely noticeable. The effect of the whole is that of a vast park covered with green grass, stately trees and flowers of incomparable loveliness. There is nothing there to remind the visitor of death—only the vigorous growing things to speak of life and of the Life Eternal.

It is fitting that he should lie there in the midst of all this beauty of a type he had done so much to create in many places. It is fitting that he should lie beneath the trees. He had loved trees as those who know the University and the University City have so much cause to remember.

As for a monument of stone, he needs none. His monument is the great institution of learning he founded and to which he gave sixteen of the best years of his life. It is the substantial high school building he built at Arkansas City from native stone hauled across the Kansas line from Oklahoma. Above all it is to be found in hearts and lives of the many thousands of men and women who knew and loved him. In the hearts of all these he will live forever. They can never forget the magic of his voice, the touch of his hand, the inspiration of his teaching and his example.

His long life was a happy one, but it was also a very busy one. Those of us who know how hard and earnestly he labored for the accomplishment of so much of lasting value to Oklahoma and to the nation may well say with Sydney Carton: "It is a far, far better rest he has gone to than any he had ever known."



BUILDING FOR A PURPOSE

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courses because of a desire to obtain some general knowledge about the state's mineral resources. There is a real satisfaction in visiting a place like the Arbuckle mountains and finding that you know something more about the rock formations than possibly the difference between granite and sandstone.

During the first semester of this year, instruction in geology was given to 12 graduate students, 160 geology and paleontology majors above freshman rank, 550 students taking geology for freshman and group science requirements, 100 petroleum engineering students, 25 civil engineering students, 250 in business admin-

istration, and 25 in other miscellaneous groups.

A \$500,000 building is actually needed to provide the accommodations that are essential even for present needs. The present building was totally inadequate from the day of its completion but would serve to house some departments that do not require especially designed laboratories.

Suitable quarters for the Oklahoma Geological Survey, which is closely allied to the School of Geology although having a separate staff, should be provided for in the new building.

Oklahoma's hope of maintaining its high rank in the production of mineral resources rests not only upon discovery and development of new oil fields, but also in development of other mineral resources such as building stones, pottery clay, glass sands, mineral fertilizers, building lime and numerous other earth materials that occur in the state. The geological engineer plays a major role in discovery and development of those materials.

A state expenditure may be considered large or small, according to the benefits to be derived from it. If the expenditure is vital to continued development and utilization of the state's mineral resources—our chief wealth along with agriculture—the expenditure can be considered a good, business-like investment, with new wealth for the state as the annual profit on the investment.



NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

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petroleum industry supplies a very large portion of the revenue coming into the state treasury," Dr. Bizzell said.

Other buildings which the University administration believes are urgently needed, but were not specifically requested for the next biennium, are buildings for Home Economics, Physics, Graduate and Education, Journalism, completion of the Physical Education Building for Men, Arts, Social Sciences, Botany, Power Plant, Chemical Engineering, Fine Arts and Auditorium.

University officials believe that if the federal government continues the policy of supplementary grants, Oklahoma should take advantage of the opportunity to secure its share of funds to provide for permanent improvements at the state institutions.

Arkansas, Texas, Missouri and many other states have provided liberal building appropriations for their educational institutions in order to take advantage of the federal offer, and unless a similar policy is followed in Oklahoma, the University will suffer in comparison to the neighboring state universities.