

The Financial Picture

A University budget for 1940-41 based on the full amount of the legislative appropriation for that year was approved by the University Board of Regents at its May meeting. The items are as follows:

Salaries	\$1,070,000
Maintenance	80,697
Heat, light and power	24,200
Communication	19,650
Repairs and alterations	17,500
Equipment	15,800
Repairs to buildings	14,150
Books and periodicals	10,000
Travel	9,250

The total of \$1,261,870 is approximately \$88,000 more than the amount actually spent during the fiscal year just closing. The difference represents the amount cut from the legislature appropriation during the present year by authority of the quarterly estimate budget law which gives the governor power to make reductions.

The policy of applying this law to reduce expenditures below the level of legislative appropriations probably will be applied again next year, according to reports at the capitol, but the regents decided to submit a budget request each quarter for the full amount of the appropriation.

Court test of the constitutionality of the law delegating power to reduce appropriations to the governor was still pending last month.

In general terms, the University's budget for the next year is much the same as for this year. Chief concern is whether it will continue to be possible to maintain even the present low scale of faculty salaries. No cuts were made during the present school year.

The question of tuition for state educational institutions is still being debated. A great variety of opinions may be heard.

Would a tuition fee cause a serious drop in enrolment? The University of Texas, which adopted a \$25 tuition fee, is now complaining that it has too many students in proportion to faculty staff.

Would it be undemocratic? If so, the vast majority of states in the union are undemocratic because the tuition system is almost universal now in state universities. The University of Michigan in March of this year announced increases of from \$10 to \$40 in its tuition schedule. A resident student taking a literary course will now pay \$60 per semester, an engineering student \$65, a law student \$80, a medical student \$125.

Would tuition prevent college education of poor but brilliant students? Actually, a \$25 per semester tuition fee would add only about ten to fifteen per cent to the

cost of going to the University for a year, which wouldn't stop many ambitious youths: Also, most of the proposed tuition systems provide for waiver of the tuition fee for a reasonable percentage of good scholars.

Objections to the tuition proposal that are not so easy to answer are that the Legislature might offset the additional revenue by reducing the regular state appropriation; and that the plan would have to be worked out carefully and applied to all state educational institutions equally in order to prevent a competitive element.

The *Ponca City News* calls tuition "a logical and a fair source" of new income for the states educational institutions. The *Oklahoma City Times*, however, in discussing the University's financial troubles, comments that tuition and new taxes should be the "last items considered" in seeking a solution. The *Purcell Register* expresses doubt that the Oklahoma Legislature would ever approve a college tuition system.

A complaint that Oklahoma is overburdened with state educational institutions is frequently heard. Wilson Wallace, '37, '39law, of Ardmore, Carter County representative in the last Legislature, presented a detailed plan for doing something about it in the *Daily Oklahoman*.

He proposed that all of the six state teachers' colleges be made junior colleges, with the exception of Central State College at Edmond; and that students be required to attend one of the junior colleges for two years before entering one of the senior colleges, which would be the University, Oklahoma A. and M. College, and Central.

The senior colleges would be restricted to work of junior, senior and graduate levels, with some exceptions to take care of undergraduates needing work that could not be offered on a practical basis at the junior colleges.

Mr. Wallace suggested that all of these schools be under control of a single chancellor and a single board of regents. He proposed another board and chancellor to govern A. and M. College, Panhandle A. and M. College and three junior agricultural schools.

He believes that a plan such as this would cause a considerable saving to the state, and result in more efficient work.

During the 1940 National Education Association convention at St. Louis, one educator told a group that for two decades the schools and the public have been drawing apart because educators have been "so occupied with improvement of procedures that we have lost sight of the fact that progress is safe only as it carries with it public understanding and support."

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His recommendation was a "well-conceived program of public relations," to let the taxpayers know what they're getting for their money.

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Bizzell President Emeritus After 1941

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Oklahoma Association issued the following statement:

This is a happy example of what can be done in education in this State when politics is forgotten and governing bodies work harmoniously with the heads of educational institutions. The alumni appreciate the attitude of the Board of Regents and of Governor Phillips. All along, the governor has said that he was taking no hand in the internal affairs of the University. Those of us who were closest to the situation knew this to be true, and this action will no doubt convince many other persons who were not so sure.

Dr. Bizzell has served this state long and satisfactorily. It is gratifying to the alumni to know that this State and the University of Oklahoma are not going to lose his counsel, scholarship and personal association.

The alumni believe it was wise on the part of the Regents to postpone the selection of a successor to Dr. Bizzell so that they can look over the entire educational field. There is not and never has been any disposition on the part of the Alumni Association to tell the Board of Regents what to do in any particular, and the alumni certainly feel that this Board of Regents is fully qualified to select a successor to Dr. Bizzell when they feel the time is appropriate so to do.

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Association Progress

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on the Atoka County Advisory Council, has resigned because of moving to Oklahoma City.

Rev. Oscar L. Fontaine, '25, has left the Tillman County Advisory Council because of moving to Custer City.

William B. Cram, '30, former council chairman at St. Louis, Missouri, has been appointed chairman at Des Moines, Iowa.

At New Haven, Connecticut, council appointments have been made as follows: Margorie Harriet Hays, '25; Merwin M. Elwell, '35fa; R. G. Gill, '37; T. Z. Wright, '29bus, '34law.

Dr. Victor D. Mills, '38med, formerly on the Portland, Oregon, council, has resigned because of moving to Chicago, Illinois.

E. H. Skinner, '23, is the new chairman of the Kansas City, Missouri, Council, succeeding Albert Drake.

A council has been organized at Santa Fe, New Mexico, with Mrs. Arteola Bilbrey Daniel, '29fa, as chairman. The members are Raymond Sroaf, '25, '29law; Mrs. Lucille Heckman Love, '33ed, Eva Thomas, '28, '32law, and Mrs. Lois Martin Kimmell, '31ex. Sooner alumni in the Santa Fe vicinity planned a Spanish dinner party in May, and issued a general invitation for Sooners visiting the Coronado Celebrations this summer to call on members of the council in Santa Fe.

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