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Joseph A. Brandt, University of Oklahoma graduate elected last month by the Board of Regents to become president of the University August 1, 1941. Photo by Truby.

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O.U.'s First Alumnus President

NEXT AUGUST 1 a graduate of the University of Oklahoma will become its president. It will be the first time that an alumnus of the institution has been called to this position of importance and responsibility.

The selection of Joseph A. Brandt, a graduate of the University in the class of 1921, is significant in many ways.

What it means to the average alumnus of O. U. is that a fellow-alumnus is on trial in this exacting position. He will need the friendly aid and support of Sooners everywhere, both on the campus and throughout the state and nation. There is every indication that he will receive this kind of co-operation.

On Homecoming Day as Sooners gathered in Norman, there was much talk about the action of the regents on the previous day. The tone of the comments was that a highly satisfactory choice had been made for the next president of the University, to fill the office when President W. B. Bizzell retires next year.

Alumni and faculty members who worked with Joe Brandt on the campus at Norman know him as a keen-minded, alert, enthusiastic builder and creator—a man interested in every constructive project in the field of publishing in particular and higher education in general. They remember him as a man always willing to debate the merits of a proposal—but inflexible when convinced that a principle must be upheld.

It is apparent that Mr. Brandt will take office with the full confidence of the governor of the state and the members of the Board of Regents. The University's budget request for the next biennium is likely to be considered in an atmosphere of barmony.

Though the path of a University president is always liberally strewn with rocks, there will be many friends to help clear the way. The Executive Board of the Alumni Association has officially commended the Board of Regents for its selection of Mr. Brandt, and the alumni in general stand ready to serve with the new president in building a greater University.

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