

Association Progress

AN OKLAHOMA school man, widely known also as a Legion leader and a popular public speaker, has been called on to head the University of Oklahoma Association for the next year. He is Elmer L. Fraker, '20ba, '38ma, now superintendent of schools and president of the junior college at Mangum.

A native of the short grass country, having been born near Cherokee, he is one of the "farthest west" presidents the association has ever had.

Mr. Fraker was elected president at the annual business meeting of the executive board on the afternoon of June 1, commencement day at the University. The other new officers elected are Max Chambers, '21ba, '29ms.ed, superintendent of schools at Okmulgee, named first vice president; and George Abbott, '22, superintendent of the American Legion Home School at Ponca City, elected second vice president. Ted Beard, '21ba, continues as secretary-treasurer and executive secretary.

The executive board confirmed the election of five new board members in the annual mail ballot, and also confirmed the election of a sixth new board member who was chosen by mail ballot of board members to fill a vacancy.

New board members chosen in the regular election, to serve three-year terms, are as follows:

Members-at-large — Tom R. Benedum, '28law, Norman; and Harry D. Simmons, '24ba, formerly of Wewoka and now of Stillwater.

District representatives—Joe A. Brown, '20law, Hartshorne; Dr. Roy C. Warren, '28med, Yukon; and James H. Van Zant, '23ba, '26ms, Enid.

The sixth new member is Granville T. Norris, '29ba, Muskogee, who was chosen by the executive board to fill a vacancy caused when Rev. Virgil Alexander, '24ba, moved out of the district he represented.

George "Sailor" McDermitt, president of the Class of '42, was elected by the board to serve as representative of his class on the Advisory Board from Recent Classes, which consists of one alumnus from each of the last ten graduating classes. McDermitt was chosen after presentation of a petition from various officers and members of the Class of '42 recommending his selection for the position.

Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, president of the University, addressed the alumni board informally and made two specific suggestions of ways in which he believed alumni could serve the University at this time.

"The Undergraduate College plan is not well understood in the state," he said. "You alumni can help create a better understanding of it. The basic idea is simple. The Undergraduate College plan sets university is the cup that holds the heart of

wide control over the first two years of a student's university work—which are the most important years.

"Every new student will have an exhaustive interview with a competent faculty member to determine what his capacities are, and to decide what kind of college work he should take.

"It is important that each student have at least one course in American history and institutions. Democracy has been a negative thing. We haven't gone out and preached it. We need to make it a positive thing. If I ever lose my conviction that the Uni-



ELMER L. FRAKER, '20ba, '38ma

democracy in Oklahoma, I'll leave my place as president."

President Brandt stated that the Undergraduate College plan would not necessarily increase the years required for professional training, such as engineering or business administration.

The other thing which President Brandt requested alumni to do is to encourage young men who seem to be good college material to attend some college or university, on the grounds that they can prepare themselves to be of greater usefulness to the armed forces later on.

"The Army and Navy have shown how important they regard certain kinds of college training by their various plans for students to enlist and defer their active service until after they complete college courses," President Brandt said.

"If no young men at all enrolled in colleges and universities for the next four or five years and we have a long war, the armed forces would have to compel young

men to go to college to get the scientific and other varieties of training that are essential to some branches of the Army and Navy."

President Brandt also told the alumni board how in his contacts with students during the first year of his administration he has made it a point to treat them as future alumni of the University, and to emphasize in such occasions as commencement the common interests of faculty, students and alumni—the three groups that make up the University.

The University president also said that:

(1) The University faces a serious financial problem in 1942-43 because of the reduction in student fee income, but savings will be made by not filling faculty positions left vacant by leaves or resignations.

(2) Enrolment during the next winter might be anywhere from 3,000 to 4,500.

(3) The spending of state funds by the University can be justified better in training students in statecraft and citizenship, than in professional training, although both are needed.

(4) He believes that the University is moving now into a new period of class loyalty and of loyalty to the University as a whole, which was largely lost during the materialistic days of the Twenties.

(5) The State Regents for Higher Education were established to keep the state colleges and the University out of politics "and it is part of our job to see that they are kept so."

O. F. Muldrow, '22, Ardmore, president of the Association for the last year, presided at the meeting and presented the president's annual report. In his report Mr. Muldrow 1) commented that University President Joe Brandt and his faculty are confronted with the most trying situation in the history of the University; 2) expressed confidence in President Brandt's administration, now closing its first year; 3) recommended that in view of a feeling that life memberships "are the very essence of this organization," that efforts in that direction be extended; 4) commended the work of the executive secretary and the editor of *Sooner Magazine* during the last year; 5) suggested that improvements be made in the functioning of the county advisory councils during the next year; 6) recommended that board action be taken to provide for arranging leave of absence for any staff member called to military service.

The annual report on *Sooner Magazine* presented to the board showed that 1) in the last 12 months, a total of 532 pages were published, an average of 44 pages per issue; 2) advertising revenue during the last year has set a new all-time record; 3) because of the war, personal news about alumni published in the Magazine has doubled

within the last four months; 4) several changes have been made in the format to adapt the Magazine to war conditions; 5) a new addressing system expected to greatly speed up the mailing of *Sooner Magazine* and the quarterly *Alumni News Bulletin*, as well as facilitate contacts with reunion classes and other special groups of alumni, has been installed in the Alumni Records Office.

On recommendation of the trustees of the Life Membership Trust Fund, who were represented at the meeting by Tom Carey, '08ba, Oklahoma City, one of the three trustees, the alumni board adopted a resolution providing for establishment of a reserve fund to take care of possible losses in security transactions, to keep the principal of the trust fund intact.

Mr. Carey reported that nearly \$5,000 in Life Membership Fund receipts has been invested in war savings bonds. Although this perhaps would not be justified from a purely business viewpoint, the trustees are glad to do it for patriotic reasons, he said. The trustees have announced that all money paid on life memberships for the remainder of the year will be invested in war bonds.

The board adopted a resolution changing the end of the association's fiscal year from August 31 to June 30, in order to have the fiscal year coincide with the University's fiscal year.

Budget for the 1942-43 year was approved as presented by Executive Secretary Beaird. Most items in the budget were reduced somewhat, in anticipation of less income from *Sooner Magazine* advertising, and from other sources.

Six nominations were made for the three positions as alumni representatives on the Athletic Council for the next year. Three appointees will be selected from the list by President Brandt. The present three representatives are Neil R. Johnson, Norman; Paul W. Reed, Sulphur, and Bon Tolbert, Oklahoma City.

On recommendation of the retiring president, O. F. Muldrow, the board appointed a committee with power to make any reorganizations in the alumni program that might become necessary on short notice because of the war. Members of the committee are George Hann, Ardmore, chairman; Norman W. Brillhart, Madill; Hicks Epton, Wewoka; Elmer Fraker, Mangum; Tom Benedum, Norman; and O. F. Muldrow, Ardmore.

606 Life Members

Half a dozen additions to the life membership roster during the last month have brought the total number of living life members to 606, Alumni Secretary Ted Beaird announced.

One of the new life memberships was a graduation gift from an alumnus of 1912 to his daughter who was a member of the Class of '42. The father is Ulys Webb, '12ba, of Skiatook, who surprised daughter Jacqueline Webb, '42bs, with presentation of a life membership at the alumni-senior

Life Membership Ranking

CLASS	RANK	NUMBER	PER CENT
1904	1	2	14.39
1912	2	16	13.01
1910	3	10	12.82
1914	4	21	12.65
1909	5	5	11.90
1908	6	6	11.32
1913	7	14	10.85
1911	8	8	9.64
1915	9	17	8.90
1916	10	19	8.62
1906	11	3	8.11
1907	12	3	7.14
1920	13	26	6.72
1917	14	16	6.08
1919	15	14	5.51
1922	16	28	5.44
1905	17	1	5.21
1918	18	10	4.39
1924	19	27	3.86
1921	20	17	3.70
1923	21	19	3.32
1926	22	20	2.83
1930	23	25	2.42
1938	24	28	2.19
1925	25	16	2.14
1928	26	18	2.12
1934	27	22	2.06
1927	28	14	2.01
1937	29	24	1.97
1941	30	29	1.92
1929	31	18	1.75
1933	32	16	1.45
1931	33	15	1.38
1939	34	18	1.28
1932	35	13	1.15
1940	36	16	0.97
1935	37	10	0.91
1936	38	10	0.83
1942		6	
Undergraduates		1	
TOTAL LIVING LIFE MEMBERS		606	

luncheon. Miss Webb has gone to work as geologist for the Republic Natural Gas Co. Her mother is Mrs. Berthe Webb, assistant in French in the University.

Also on the list are George S. McDermitt, '42eng, president of his class, and Mrs. McDermitt (Eldora Baker, '38). Mr. McDermitt reported last month for military duty.

Two other members of the Class of '42 have already taken life memberships. They are Joe Sterling, '42ba, of Seminole, who is traveling this summer in Mexico on a free trip he won in a national extempore discussion contest; and James P. Parks, of Dustin, who has gone into the hardware business in his home town.

The other new life member announced last month is James F. Haning, '36ba, '39law, attorney at Ada. As a student in the University he was a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity and took part in such varied activities as Congress Club, Bombardiers, Scabbard and Blade, Skeleton and Key, Oratorical Council, International Relations Club, League of Young Democrats and Jazz Hounds.

Life membership in the University of Oklahoma Association costs \$60, which may be paid at the rate of \$5 as the initial payment and \$5 quarterly until a total of \$60 is paid. When payment is complete, a numbered Life Membership Certificate is issued. In cases where both husband and wife attended the University, a single life membership includes both.

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