

## The University

GEORGE LYNN CROSS, 38-year-old acting dean of the Graduate College, became acting president of the University January 1 when the resignation of Joseph A. Brandt was effective.

Dr. Cross was appointed by the Board of Regents December 28 to serve as acting president until a permanent appointment is made. His selection was made by unanimous vote of the five regents present.

No prediction was offered as to when a permanent president would be selected. "We are still a long way from shore on that," Joe W. McBride, '28bus, Anadarko publisher and president of the regents, said. He announced that the new president would continue to carry out the policies established by the regents.

Dr. Cross, who came to the University in 1934 as an assistant professor of botany, will continue to serve as acting dean of the Graduate College as well as O. U. president.

His chief interest in the educational field has been in research. He has published technical papers in national and international journals since he has been at the University and has received recognition from national scientific societies.

He was born on a farm near Woonsocket, South Dakota, in 1905 and attended grade school and high school there. He played basketball and football and was a member of the track team four years. In his senior year he was captain of both the basketball and football teams.

Dr. Cross entered South Dakota State College at Brookings in 1923 and was graduated with a bachelor of science degree. He received his master's degree from the same institution a year later. That year he was married to Miss Cleo Sikkink, also a science major, who was completing work for her degree.

In 1929 he received a doctor's degree from the University of Chicago and during the next year did scientific research on plant proteins at that university as a research fellow with a Rockefeller grant.

From Chicago he went to the University of South Dakota as head of the botany department, a post he held four years until he was appointed to the University of Oklahoma faculty.

He advanced rapidly at O. U., was promoted to associate professor and later to full professor. In 1938 he was appointed

head of the botany department to succeed Paul B. Sears, nationally known scientist and author, who left for Oberlin College, Ohio.

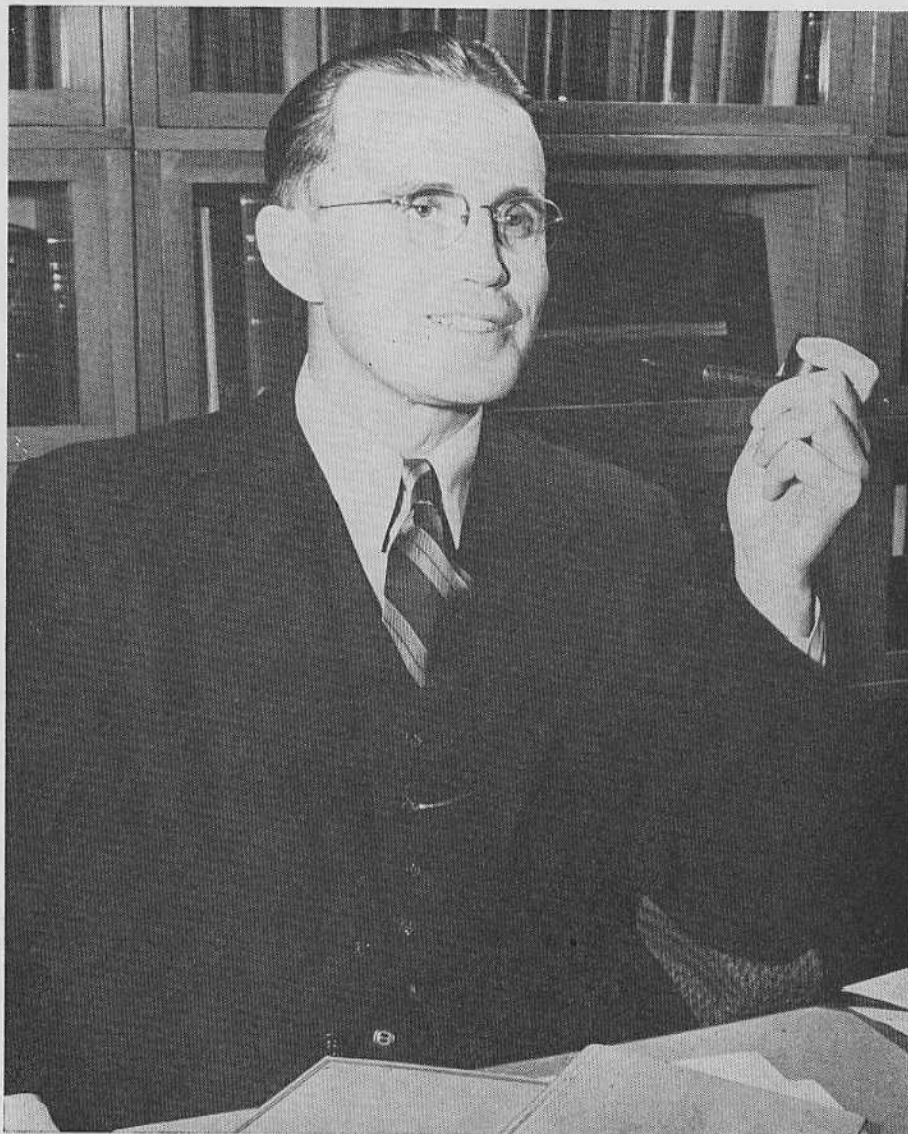
He was appointed assistant dean of the Graduate College and then acting dean when Dean Homer L. Dodge went to Washington, D. C., as director of the Office of Scientific Personnel of the National Research Council.

In taking over Dean Dodge's duties, Dr. Cross also became acting director of the Oklahoma Research Institute which is now carrying on projects vital to the war

effort and to the future industrial welfare of Oklahoma and the Southwest.

Since joining the University faculty, Dr. Cross has been president of the Oklahoma Academy of Science, president of the Faculty Club, president of Sigma Xi honorary research fraternity, and served last year as president of the Norman Lions Club.

He is a member of the American Association for Advancement of Science and is at present a member of the national council. He is also a member of the Botanical Society of America, the Torrey



O. U.'s NEW ACTING PRESIDENT, GEORGE L. CROSS

Botanical Club, Phi Sigma biology fraternity and is a trustee of the Presbyterian Church.

He and Mrs. Cross have two children, Mary Lynn, 12, and Bill, 7. The University president's home across from the campus was placed at the new president's disposal but he announced that his family would continue to occupy their own home and use the presidential mansion for entertaining purposes only.

Among the University problems which the new president will face is the problem of setting up a training program for returning servicemen. In addition, he also has the important and ever present problem of working with the faculty to make the University a vital and constructive influence in the life of Oklahoma.

Dr. Cross believes that a long-range program of basic research is vital in building a great university that will play an important part in Oklahoma. He hopes that the system of research professorships recently set up by the regents will keep the University from losing its top men year after year.

## Brandts Leave

Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, accompanied by Mrs. Brandt and their two children, left by train for Chicago in late December where he will be director of the University of Chicago Press.

The Brandts were honored December 28 at a reception in the Union Lounge given jointly by the University faculty and the Alumni Association. Several hundred people, including faculty members, students, Norman townspeople and members of the Board of Regents, gathered to say farewell to the former president and his wife.

Dean John B. Cheadle, on behalf of the faculty, presented the Brandts two gifts, one a painting by Oscar B. Jacobson, director of the School of Art, and the other a piece of sculpture by Joe Taylor, O. U. art professor.

## December Commencement

A great future for the University of Oklahoma in the postwar world was predicted by Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, who believes that the University's influence should extend to the farthest corners of the state.

Speaking at midwinter commencement exercises in the Fieldhouse December 23, Governor Kerr commended the University on its progress in the past and pointed out that it must prepare for days of greater service in the postwar era.

"When the war ends American colleges and universities must be prepared for an enrolment of from four to six million. These halls will be crowded. This campus will echo to the marching feet of ever-increasing numbers of men and



### GOODBY AND HELLO

*Farewells to Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, and Mrs. Brandt mingled with congratulations to O. U.'s new first family at the faculty-alumni reception honoring the Brandts late in December. Left to right are Mrs. Brandt, Mrs. Cross, Mr. Brandt and Dr. Cross*

women who will seek and have a right to receive here the best educational advantages and service obtainable anywhere," he said.

The University should devote attention to research as well as to the education of state citizens, the O. U. alumnus and state executive said.

"As soon as the war is over one of the first projects that will require our attention is a great research center to be developed here. Chemical science has developed many destructive agencies before and during the war. It will be the purpose of our research laboratories to probe the uttermost reaches of chemical and mechanical science for the development of agencies that will bless and not curse humanity."

Technical training at the University should not be overemphasized, Governor Kerr said. He predicted that non-technical courses would be of greater importance than ever in the postwar period. "The University of Oklahoma of tomorrow must be an institution of leadership in the development of moral character and spiritual values."

Today's job of winning the war must be accomplished before future plans for the University can be carried out, Governor Kerr reminded the audience. "I am compelled to remind you that we must do more than think and plan for the University of tomorrow. Unlimited finance and the most unselfish and enlightened planning alone are not enough. We must first win the bitter cruel war forced upon

us by wicked selfish men and waged against us by the most fiendish military machines ever made by man."

Preceding Governor Kerr's address, President Joseph A. Brandt paid tribute to the Board of Regents in a brief talk. "Oklahoma has seven men here who think for themselves and who have the welfare of the state's leading educational institution at heart," he said.

Degrees were conferred upon 209 graduates many of whom could not be present at the exercises because they had completed work for degrees earlier in the year.

The new alumni, first graduates of the Class of '44, were the fourth group graduated from the University during the last year.

Among the graduates were a group of medical students who were commissioned first lieutenants and lieutenants junior grade in the Medical Corps Reserve and 24 Naval R.O.T.C. students who were commissioned ensigns. Pictures of the senior naval class, including all the new officers except Robert D. Ortenburger, appear on the following pages. Those who did not receive commissions in December will graduate within the next few months.

The Naval R.O.T.C. graduates entered the naval officer training program when it was set up at the University in September, 1940.

Tom R. Benedum, president of the University Alumni Association, accepted the Class of '44 into alumni membership.

He told the graduates that as alumni



they acquired the obligation and responsibility of protecting the interests and welfare of the institution which has given them their college education.

"You will have a strong personal interest in the continued improvement of the standards and facilities of the University," he said, "because the value of your degree will, in the future, be measured by the standing of the University in the future and not by its standing as of December, 1943."

Announcement and presentation of four University faculty members elected research professors because of their contributions to knowledge were made by President Brandt.

Those honored are Edward E. Dale, graduate professor of history and director of the Frank Phillips collection; Oscar B. Jacobson, director of the School of Art and museum of art; Charles E. Decker, professor of paleontology, and J. Rud Nielsen, professor of theoretical physics.

Created by the Board of Regents at their meeting November 12, the chair of research professor is awarded to a person who "shall have made distinguished contribution to knowledge, and who must have demonstrated over a period of years to the learned world his vigorous leadership in his field."

The commencement program was the last public appearance of Mr. Brandt as president of the University.

A meeting of the Board of Regents to select an acting president of the University was scheduled to be held the same day but was postponed because only two regents were present.

## The Regents

The establishment of the Museum of the University of Oklahoma was approved by the Board of Regents at the December meeting. J. Willis Stovall, professor of paleontology and director of the Museum of Geology, was appointed director of the University Museum.

Ralph Shead, '16ba, '17fa, was appointed technician for the museum, which will house collections concerning geology, anthropology, the plant sciences and classical languages. Mr. Shead, who did the geological and paleontological murals in the School of Geology building, which have received national recognition, will paint murals for the new museum and will assist in the proper arrangement of the displays.

The museum is to be established in Owen Stadium. An appropriation of \$5,000 was allocated by the last legislature for the project.

Resignations accepted by the Board were as follows:

Mrs. Celia Graves Leary, secretary and research assistant in biology.

Mrs. Annice Flipflo, secretary of the department of animal biology.

Faith Ann Shirley, '42ba, laboratory technician at Ellison Infirmary.

Lloyd G. Banta, '40-'41, University photographer, who accepted employment with the Lindy Aircraft Products Company in Newark, New Jersey.

The leave of Frank Crider, '30ba, freshman football coach now in the Navy, was extended.

The following appointments were made by the Board:

C. Guy Keiger, '08ba, special instructor in civil engineering.

Mrs. Rosemary Straub, laboratory technologist at Ellison Infirmary.

E. M. Sims, former faculty member, to return as professor of mechanical engineering March 1.

Marjorie E. Givens, '43bus, roll clerk in the Registry Office.

Leaves of absence for military service were granted to two members of the faculty of the School of Medicine, Dr. H. J. Binder, associate in pediatrics, and Dr. Turner Bynum, visiting lecturer in medicine.

## Deacon Is Seated

Among the five members of the Board of Regents present December 28 when George L. Cross was unanimously appointed acting University president was Erl Deacon, '21eng, Tulsa.

Earlier in December the State Supreme Court awarded Mr. Deacon a seat on the

board contested by him and Harrington Wimberly, '24ba, Altus publisher.

Mr. Deacon was appointed by former Governor Phillips to succeed C. O. Hunt, '40law, when Hunt went into the Army on the grounds that a vacancy existed although Mr. Hunt had not resigned at that time.

Later Mr. Hunt tendered his resignation and Governor Kerr appointed Mr. Wimberly. Decision as to whether Mr. Hunt's absence for Army duty constituted a vacancy on the board was placed in the hands of the Supreme Court through a friendly test suit. The court ruled, in a 5 to 4 decision, that the office was vacated when Mr. Hunt went into service, and that Mr. Deacon was therefore a legal member of the board.

## O. U. Wins Flag

A large service flag, first of its kind awarded to any university, was presented to the University of Oklahoma in mid-December as recognition of the large purchase of war stamps by the student body.

More than 90 percent of the students enrolled in a university or college must buy stamps to be eligible for the award. In order to retain the flag, this record war-stamp purchase must be repeated each month.

Formal presentation of the flag was made on the Vernon Parrington Oval in ceremonies climaxed by the raising of the flag to fly under the Stars and Stripes.



### STUDENT BODY REWARDED

*The large purchase of war stamps by University students last month brought O. U. the honor of winning the first service flag presented to any university in the country. President Brandt received the flag from A. E. Bradshaw (center), chairman of the War Finance Committee. Ann Feild, '44bus (right) was commended for her part in promoting stamp sales.*

# O. U.'s First Class



GARTH ABBOTT  
Delaware



ROBERT BARRON  
Oklahoma City



DAN CARTER  
El Reno



ROBERT CHANCELLOR  
Oklahoma City



ROBERT CHANDLER  
Oklahoma City



REALTO CLINTON  
Ponca City



CHARLES COLPITT  
Collinsville



AUSTIN DILL  
Oklahoma City



GLEN GAINES  
Ringling



ROY GELLER  
Coffeyville, Kansas



HAROLD HANSEN  
Alva



BLOUNT HARRIS  
Hugo



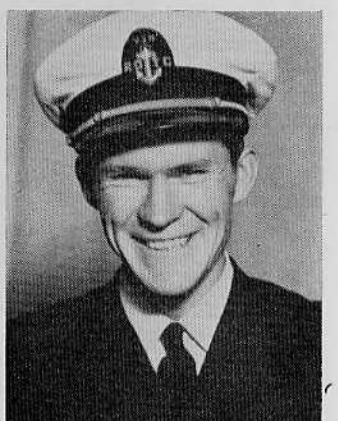
FRANCIS HAYHURST  
Bristow



CALVIN HENDRICKSON  
Oklahoma City



BILL HOWARD  
Olustee



W. L. KENNEDY  
Fox



# of Naval Graduates



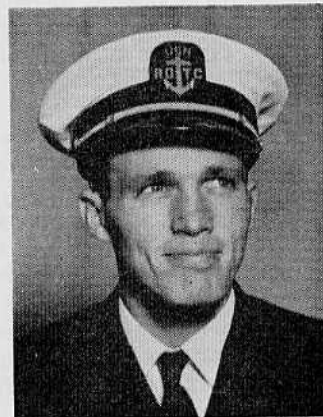
K. C. KNIGHT  
Oklahoma City



JOHN LEAKE  
Norman



C. D. MANSON  
Norman



HARRY MITCHELL  
Tulsa



JOHN MURDOCK  
Oklahoma City



J. B. OAKES  
Oklahoma City



FRANK OWENS  
Tipton



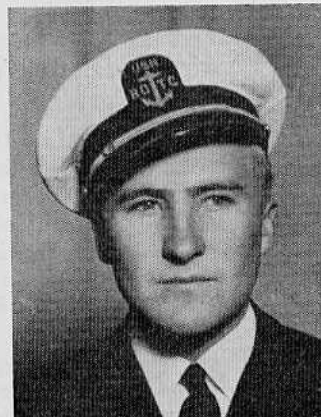
JOHN PANTIER  
Norman



CHARLES PROKOP  
Shawnee



KENNETH ROBERTS  
Sapulpa



KENNETH SAIN  
Norman



REX SCOTT  
Shawnee



DUDLEY STROTHER  
Oklahoma City



JACK TRENTMAN  
Wichita, Kansas



CARL WENZ  
Oklahoma City



JAY WITBECK  
Dallas, Texas

Guests attending were A. E. Bradshaw, Tulsa, chairman of the War Finance Committee; Paul R. Taylor, El Reno, director of the School at War Committee, and S. C. Bray, executive manager of the War Finance Committee.

Ann Feild, student from Oklahoma City, and chairman of the University War Council, was introduced and commended for her work on the campus in promoting the sale of war stamps. M. L. Wardell, '19ba, acting director of the Extension Division, was master of ceremonies.

President Brandt accepted the flag in behalf of the student body. The program was broadcast from the University radio station WNAD (640 kilocycles).

## Plastics Produced at O. U.

A plastic molding compound has been manufactured by Robert A. Hardin, associate professor of industrial education, which utilizes wood waste from Oklahoma sawmills.

The plastic, which has an average tensile strength of 8,100 pounds per square inch, is made by cooking sawdust or shaving material in a steam digester with acids.

Mr. Hardin has discovered that all materials used in common plastics are available in Oklahoma, among them coal, water, wood, lime, petroleum, natural gas and cotton.

## Fraternity Alumni Organize

Oklahoma City alumni of college fraternities have organized the Oklahoma City Interfraternity Alumni Council to help fraternities surmount wartime problems of slim membership and financial difficulties. The main object of the Council is to see that the debts on chapter houses at Norman and Stillwater are paid on time, or to arrange for postponement of payments.

Participating in the first meeting of the organization were representatives of the following fraternities: Acacia, Alpha Tau Omega, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Chi, Delta Tau Delta, Delta Upsilon, Kappa Alpha, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Gamma Delta, Phi Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi Lambda Phi, Phi Kappa Alpha, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Mu and Sigma Chi.

Officers elected were Grover D. Strother, '20ba, president; E. R. Newby, '07bm, '08ba, vice president, and T. Ray Phillips, '35ba, secretary-treasurer. The group will hold quarterly meetings.

## Coal Mining Revived

Coke is being made from Oklahoma coal in a commercial plant for the first time in 35 years, Robert H. Dott, director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey, has announced. Coal from Haskell and Pitts-

burg County mines supplies the 78 by-product coke ovens of a steel company at Daingerfield, Texas.

From 1896 until 1907 Oklahoma mines were busy providing coal for coking in Oklahoma plants, which sold their products for domestic fuel use. The industry declined until 1941, when the U. S. Bureau of Mines ran some tests, showing that coke of sufficient strength for blast furnace use could be made from proper blending of Oklahoma coals.

When the Texas ovens are in full operation, a trainload of coal will be required daily, Mr. Dott said.

## Joins Union Staff

Sally Sue Hensley, '43phys.ed, Tulsa, has been appointed assistant activities director of the Oklahoma Memorial Student Union, to direct recreational facilities for civilian students and Army and Navy trainees.

Miss Hensley will work with Virginia Reinecke, counselor of women and director of Union activities, the Union Activities Board, the Union Board of Managers, and student committees.

Before joining the Union staff, Miss Hensley was director of social activities at the Tulsa U.S.O. center. While a student in the University, she was affiliated with the Women's Athletic Association, the Associated Women Students' Council, the Christian Youth Fellowship, the Choral Club and Orchesis dance society. She was an assistant in physical education for women during her junior and senior years.

## Aids Oklahoma Youth

Dr. Alice Sowers, director of the Oklahoma Family Life Institute, has been instrumental in establishing Teen-Town organizations in a number of Oklahoma towns as a means of preventing juvenile delinquency by providing attractive places of recreation for young people.

Sponsored by civic clubs, school and church groups and city officials, Teen-Towns have been set up in Vinita, Hobart, Duncan, Lawton, Clinton and Bartlesville. The typical Teen-Town has a recreation center with games, magazines, books, a radio and a juke box for the use of the town's young people.

## Poems Published

Poems by Kenneth Kaufman, '16ba, '19ma, chairman of the department of modern languages at the University, and Muna Lee de Munoz Marin, '14, Washington, D. C., are included in *Poetas Norteamericanos*, an anthology of North American poetry published recently in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Alfredo Berumen, '31ba, '31ma, was on the staff of translators who translated the poems into Spanish.

# Faculty

CAPT. ALFRED B. SEARS, associate professor of history on military leave of absence, has been assigned to Hamilton Field, California, to help write the history of the Fourth Air Force. He was assigned specifically to gather and write the history of the functional operations of the Pacific coast defense. This project is part of the history now being written about all branches of the armed forces.

► Fritz Frauchiger, associate professor of modern languages on leave, has been assigned to the Board of Geographical Names in Washington, D. C. The Board, organized in 1890, has the final word in choosing official names to appear on maps and in deciding the correct pronunciation of foreign proper names.

► Col. George B. Privett, instructor with the University R.O.T.C. unit from 1931 to 1937, is director of training at an Officers Candidate School in Australia, which trains men to serve as officers in twelve different branches of the Army. All enlisted men under General MacArthur's command are eligible to apply for training in the school. Colonel Privett, a graduate of West Point and the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, established the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill.

► Edith Mahier, professor of art, has joined the editorial board of *Books Abroad*, international literary quarterly published at the University, as staff artist. The magazine, edited by Roy T. House, professor of modern languages, has had no regular staff artist since the death of Patricio Gimeno several years ago.

► Isidore Budick, assistant professor of Jewish history and Semitics in the Oklahoma School of Religion, is teaching a course in Arabic, the first time it has ever been offered at a southwestern university.

► A question submitted by Kester Svendsen, assistant professor of English, in 1941, was recently used on *Information, Please*, the dean of radio quiz shows. The question, after being edited by the program officials, asked what poet was killed in a tavern brawl and what poet died in a duel with his brother-in-law. The answer, given correctly by the board of experts, is Christopher Marlowe and Pushkin, respectively.

► Dudley Williams, assistant professor of physics, and Mrs. Williams are the parents of a baby daughter Harriet, born in November.

► Mrs. Bruce Hankins, former Norman elementary school teacher, has been appointed University employment secretary, succeeding Mrs. E. N. Comfort.