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Sooner Scene

By R. BOYD GUNNING Executive Secretary Alumni Association

T HIS SPRING a million or more young Americans will decide about college —whether or not to go, and, if so, then to which one. As a college alumnus, you are apt to be involved in this national discussion. Your opinion will be sought as a parent, as a leading member of your community, or simply because you are a college graduate. The decisions made will largely shape the future of the young students concerned.

Will your advice be sound? What are the important elements of the college problem?

It is difficult and risky to generalize about the college decision. There is a great variety of people among these prospective students. They represent a wide range of preparation, interest and aptitude. The answer for one may not work well for all. But certain kinds of information, we know from experience, may be helpful. Here is one way to approach the problem.

The first question is whether or not a boy or girl should go to college. Parents should assist their youngster in making a realistic appraisal of his academic aptitude. This is very difficult for the parents since most will overestimate or underestimate the youngster's abilities. But parents can examine information about the youngster and reach sound conclusions. How has he done in academic subjects: English, mathematics, science, history and languages? If he has not taken enough college preparatory subjects, he has little chance of succeeding in a college program of study.

If a youngster is interested in a career requiring skill or training best gained outside of college work, then he may be happier and more successful pursuing such a course. There are many roads leading to personal development and success. College is not the right answer in every case. On the other hand, college training is an absolute must for many lines of work.

If a student has made adequate preparation, if he is interested in a career or profession requiring a college education, and if he is willing to work to achieve his objective, then he should be given every encouragement to enter the college best suited for him and for his chosen field of study. Too many students and adults assume that all college programs are similar. This is far from true. As a matter of fact, diversity characterizes higher education in the United States. Institutions vary in size, emphasis, fields of study offered, in entrance requirements and many other ways. Students should determine which kind will provide him with the best opportunities for growth. There are arguments in favor of each type of college. The student should select the school which fits his particular needs best. He should also beware of the school that claims to offer all things for all students.

If a student is interested in entering the University of Oklahoma he should write the Dean of Admissions and ask for an application for admission. Those who are seniors in high school should do this immediately. The next step is to ask the high school principal to send a copy of his high school transcript to the University.

Those students who apply for admission early may pre-enroll. New students who are interested will be advised by the office of admissions when they should appear for this early enrollment.

As soon as a student has taken the first two steps he will receive information from the University about living quarters, campus organizations, and for those who request it, the employment office will provide information about part-time jobs.

The rules for admission are similar to those of most state universities and are very simple. Any student may be admitted to the freshman class who is a graduate of an accredited high school. A student may be admitted from another college with advanced standing if his record shows average grades, or higher, and if he is eligible to return to the college from which he is transferring in good standing.

The University does not have entrance examinations; however, placement tests are given during the enrollment period to assist the student and his faculty advisor in determining the subjects he should take. This

spring there will be hundreds of young students visiting the campus seeking answers to their questions. Encourage them to come or, better still, bring them. University people are always available to answer questions of an interested student.

You will find helping these deserving youngsters a rewarding experience. If you are asked questions about O. U. which you cannot answer, or if you desire additional information about the University, write your alumni office.

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OFFICIAL BALLOT

1958 Election of Executive Board Members University of Oklahoma Alumni Association

NOMINEES

(Vote for one in each District)

DISTRICT III

- Charles Lloyd Puckett, '37 McAlester
- Carol Daube Sutton, '22 Ardmore
- Charles Ward, '48 Durant

District V

Charles F. Foster, Jr., '49 Cushing

Joseph G. Rucks, '34, '36 Oklahoma City

Fred P. Schonwald, '30, '34 Oklahoma City

DISTRICT VIII

- Waymon Cornelson, '33 Fairview
- William W. Musser, '39, '41 Enid
- Hugh D. Southwick, '21 Garber

Name_

DISTRICT I

Miami

Tulsa

Bartlesville

Tom S. Bomford, '48

Howard Cowan, '32

William F. Martin, '38

DISTRICT VI

Wallace Kidd, '37

Lawton

Anadarko

Duncan

Fred R. Harris, '52, '54

Mary Frances McCasland Maurer, '52

Mail to Alumni Office, University of Oklahoma, Norman. If you do not choose to cut off this page, ballot may be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. All ballots must be received prior to May 15, 1958.

Address .