Policy on Withdrawals

By action of the Faculty Senate, the University has prescribed two alternatives for students entering military service before completion of a full semester’s work. The ruling provides that the student, upon completion of not less than one-half of the classroom instruction in a given course may receive one-half the scheduled credit, or he may take an examination covering not less than three-fourths of the subject material of the course to establish full credit.

Curriculum Change

Candidates for the Master of Education degree will hereafter be allowed greater freedom in choice of courses, Homer L. Dodge, dean of the Graduate School, has announced.

A new alternative curriculum will permit graduate students to obtain credit for a variety of courses which are not advanced courses. Under previous regulations, no credit could be granted toward a Master of Education Degree for any course with less than eight hours of prerequisites. The old rule had the effect of forcing specialization in a small number of subjects.

The new alternative curriculum, which does not affect the standard plan, is designed especially for teachers who need to “broaden rather than intensify their knowledge,” Dean Dodge explained.

Meeting at Springfield

A small group of University alumni met for a luncheon at Springfield, Missouri, in late May to honor President Joseph A. Brandt, president of the University, who gave the commencement address for Southwestern Missouri State Teachers College. His subject was “Priorities for Freedom.”

At noon President Brandt spoke informally on “Some Experiments in Higher Education” at a meeting of the University Club of Springfield. Sooners present included W. O. Cralle, ’15a, ’25ma; Mrs. Cralle (Marian Brooks, ’15a, ’17ma); Louella Barnes, ’30; Helen M. Armstrong, ’30ba, ’40m.soc.wk.; Stratton D. Brooks, former president of the University now executive director of DeMolay, Kansas City; J. F. Findlay, former dean of men at O. U. and now president of the Springfield College, and Mrs. Findlay.

“President Brandt made two fine speeches in Springfield,” Mr. Cralle reported to Sooner Magazine. “He is full of ideas and here’s hoping Oklahoma keeps up with him and ‘goes places’.”

15 Jobs Per Engineer

Dean W. H. Carson of the College of Engineering estimated last month that there are 15 jobs for every engineering graduate this year. Sixty percent of this year’s engineering seniors have earned reserve officer commissions, and the remaining 40 percent will take places in essential wartime industries.

Class Day

The first senior class to graduate under the administration of President Joseph A. Brandt held its Class Day May 5, demonstrating a brand of class spirit far above the general standard of recent years.

Events of the day included a program in the University auditorium attended by a crowd of about 500 persons; free movies; free treats at various campus shops frequented by students; and an all-school senior prom in the evening, proceeds of which were applied on a fund to buy a war savings bond as the class memorial. The class hoped to raise enough from various sources, chiefly $1 individual contributions, to buy a $1,000 bond to present to the University.

In the class day program, Letzeiser medal winners and the names of new members of senior honor societies were announced. President Brandt spoke briefly to the graduating class, wishing them good luck.

Looking forward to its first class reunion in 1947, the seniors of ’42 elected reunion officers. George McDermitt, senior engineer, Norman, who was president of the class, was the only nominee for reunion president. Others elected to share responsibility for reunion arrangements are: George Sterling Brown, Norman, vice president, and Emil Stratton, Carnegie, secretary-treasurer.

The winners of the Letzeiser medals, which are awarded each year by the Letzeiser Jewelry Company of Oklahoma City to three outstanding senior men and three outstanding senior women, are George Sterling Brown, George S. McDermitt, Robert Smith Frantz, Alice Dodge, Jean Clark and Daisy Lockewitz. The Letzeiser awards have been awarded annually since 1913.

Noting that less than a dozen faculty members attended the Class Day program, President Brandt chided the professors who failed to appear.

“I don’t see how we can expect to build student loyalty when faculty members aren’t loyal enough to attend a program like this,” he said, “I think the students are the important part of the University.”

Covering the Campus

A University of Oklahoma chapter of Sigma Pi Sigma, physics honor society, resumed activities last month. Frederick C. Blake, professor of physics at Ohio State University and national president of the society, spoke at an initiation dinner. By special permission, six members-at-large who are in military service were initiated in absentia... John T. Black, ’42eng, has won a scholarship to the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University.

...For the sixth time in seven years, Delta Tau Delta won the annual inter-fraternity singing.Gamma Phi Beta won in the sorority division. With more girls playing each year in the University bands, the co-ed bandmen have got together and organized a sorority, Alpha Mu Eta, with ambitions to become a national band society. The O. U. bands, which ten years ago accepted only one or two girls occasionally to play some rare instrument, this year had more than thirty co-ed members.

...Attendance at the annual Engineers’ Openhouse, held during the Intercollegiate Meet, was estimated at 3,500. Exhibits were the usual array of scientific magic. There were several new gadgets, including a steel ball floating in a cup of “Union coffee.”

...Joe Francis, ’42ba, of Norman, has been awarded a year’s scholarship to the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Medford, Massachusetts, and also has been chosen by Stanford University for summer study in international relations and diplomacy. As he is in advanced military science training at O. U., acceptance depends upon whether the War Department will grant permission... J. S. Munsey, quarterback on the Sooner football squad, has passed examinations for entrance to the U. S. Army Air Corps.
... Editors chosen for the three major student publications next fall are George Cornell, Weatherford, Oklahoma Daily; Marjorie Trent, Clinton, Covered Wagon; and Jules E. Thompson, Tulsa, the 1943 Sooner Yearbook. It was reported that the Daily might change to tabloid format next fall because of war conditions. The tabloid size has been used for the summer Daily for many years.

... Helen McClurg, Tulsa, is one of thirty students chosen from American universities to attend the annual Institute on World Affairs this summer in Salisbury, Connecticut, under sponsorship of the Student International Union. Expenses of the trip will be paid by the sponsors. Miss McClurg was selected this year by Theta Sigma Phi as the senior woman who has done the most for the University. The Oklahoma Geological Survey is preparing an article for the magazine Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering on Oklahoma's possibilities for developing of chemical processing industries.

... Joe Sterling, '42ba, Seminole, won the regional extempore discussion contest held at Kansas City under sponsorship of the co-ordinator of Inter-American affairs, thereby earning the right to compete against five other regional winners in a national contest at Washington. The regional victory assured him a trip to Latin America, or a summer course at the University of Oklahoma.

... Completing two years of work, the University's Naval R.O.T.C. staged a colorful review last month. The cadets paraded before Navy and University dignitaries, and a large crowd of civilian spectators. The unit is to be expanded to a total of 400 cadets within the next year.... Ralph (Fats) Harris, all-Big Six guard with the Sooner football team last season, has enlisted in a Navy construction unit.... Almost all of this year's senior class of 135 students in the R.O.T.C. will be called to duty by early June, reports Lt. Col. Charles H. Brammell, commandant. Assignments will include 10 to the Air Corps, 84 to Field Artillery, 28 to Ordnance, 11 to Quartermaster, and one each to Cavalry and Engineers Corps. Girls will try most any job in this day of manpower shortage. Pearldeye Easterling, 19-year-old general freshman, withdrew from school last month to go to Dallas and take a job welding airplane parts for an aircraft company. William T. Tiffin, who directs the University's special defense courses in welding, declared that Miss Easterling was one of the best student welders his classes had produced.... Regular attendants of University Playhouse productions labeled "Ladies in Retirement," final presentation of the 1941-42 season, as one of the best ever. Mrs. Dorothy Elson, a graduate student in the School of Drama, handled the direction with a deft touch.

David Wood, junior student from Muskogee, won the annual Gordon Fuller memorial oratorical contest, speaking on the subject "America Rediscovered".... Winner of the intramural all-sports trophy for the school year was Sigma Nu fraternity. Sigma Chi, Kappa Sigma, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon ranked next.... Members of the graduating class of '42 received a modernized diploma, new in both design and material. Will Ransom, art editor of the University Press, designed a "formal, inscriptional treatment in Roman letters in place of the conventional Gothic text letters." The diplomas were printed on a special hand-made rag paper, instead of the conventional parchment, and a special long-lasting ink was used..... Eager to help the nation's war effort, the Sigma Nu chapter has purchased $6,000 worth of war savings bonds with an accumulated surplus. The bonds were presented by Tom Carey, '08ba, Oklahoma City, at a chapter reunion at which speakers included Orel Busby, '42law, Ada; Lewis R. Morris, '17law, Oklahoma City, and Fayette Copeland, '19bs, Norman.... Gene Potes, Sulphur, was chosen last month by Sigma Delta Chi as the outstanding senior in the School of Journalism.... An O. U. chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, national honorary electrical engineering fraternity, was installed last month with 13 members, chosen from the upper one-third of the electrical engineering class. Continuing the war-time trend toward all-university dances and house dances to replace more expensive entertainments, University fraternities have scheduled only two dances each year as compared to four this year. Sororities plan to have one dance each for the year. The all-university dances will be sponsored by the Independent Men's Association, the Interfraternity Council and the Union, and no other dances will be scheduled on the same nights.

Editor-Elect Resigns

Resentment over a reduction in the budget for the editorial staff of the Oklahoma Daily next year, as ordered by the Publications Board, resulted in the resignation of George Cornell, Weatherford, the editor-elect for the first semester of the next school year.

Editor Cornell, enlisting the support of his prospective staff members for next year, insisted on a minimum budget of $115 for staff members and refused several tentative compromises offered by the Publications Board, one suggestion being that editorial salaries be kept at the present level providing Daily income is sufficient to meet such a payroll.

Anticipating a considerable reduction in advertising revenue because of war conditions, the board has ordered the format of the Daily changed to tabloid size next year.

When the editor-elect declined to accept any of the compromise offers, the Publications Board took steps toward putting editorial production of the Daily more directly under faculty supervision. Cornell and his supporters appealed to President Brandt, and in late May it appeared that the entire problem with its numerous ramifications would be given a review by the University administration.

Curfew Rule Tightened

The not-so-new problem of how to insure that every co-ed is safely in her approved dormitory by curfew time every night is receiving serious study from University officials.

President Joseph A. Brandt and Women's Counselor Margaret Stephenson discussed the problem with householders of women's houses last month, looking forward to next fall when the new Naval Aviation Base and Air Mechanics School being constructed in Norman will bring thousands of young men into Norman.

Concerned over reports from campus officers that a locked front door doesn't always prevent entrance and exit via windows, French doors, fire escapes and back doors, administrative officials suggested that all windows screens be fastened with screws, and that all outside doors have cylinder locks.

Because the privilege of staying out after hours has been abused on a number of occasions, when it has been granted, the women's counselor indicated that all such requests might be refused next year.

Householders were warned to take "personal responsibility" for strict enforcement of University curfew regulations for women students.

Books for Soldiers

Men in the armed forces will receive personally autographed books from graduating seniors in scores of colleges and universities this spring through the victory book campaign, it has been announced by President Brandt, member of the national committee.

At commencement exercises in every college and university each senior is expected to bring an autographed book to contribute to a pool of "victory" volumes which will be presented to men in arms.