Two Bills concerning the University’s proposed dormitory and building program, Senate Bill 41 and Senate Bill 42, were introduced in the State Legislature in mid-January and were passed in the Senate by a unanimous vote. Final approval depends on passage by the House and the Governor’s signature.

Also up for legislative consideration were the University’s budgetary appropriations for the 1945-47 biennium which were introduced on the university’s request to the State Regents for $3,450,000

Roscoe Cote, financial assistant to President George L. Cross, explained the bills as follows: Senate Bill 41, providing for construction of dormitories and other buildings at the University, is generally designed to give the Board of Regents permission to issue bonds to borrow money with which to build dormitories, providing that bonds can be issued either by the Board of Regents or by a non-profit organization formed for the purpose of building dormitories on the University campus. The projects would be self liquidating. They would pay for themselves out of the income from rentals, room and board receipts. There is no state appropriation involved.

The bill merely authorizes the University to build dormitories as self liquidating projects.

Senate Bill 42 relates to power of the Board of Regents pertaining to contracts for leasing a portion of the campus for an addition to the Oklahoma Memorial Union Building. The bill authorizes the Board of Regents to lease additional land to the Board of Governors of the Union so that it can be enlarged. The present site of the Union is land which is leased by the University to the Union Board of Governors. The additional land the Union would be built by a bond issue which would be retired by Union fees and revenues of the building.

Budget recommendations for the Norman campus of the University for the 1945-47 biennium, including an increased amount for faculty salaries and maintenance, which is approximately 28 per cent larger than any appropriation the University has ever had.

The total operations budget approved for the University for the next academic year was $2,224,885. The board agreed to recommend to the Legislature that $1,899,855 be appropriated from state funds for the operations budget, since income of $350,000 from student fees and other sources is anticipated.

The proposed operations budget for 1946-47, the second year of the 1945 biennium, calls for $800,000 additional in the salary budget for O. U. The University did not fare so well, however, on its request to the State Regents for $3,450,000 for the 1945-47 biennium for buildings and other capital items. Concluding its consideration of the University’s budget needs in December, the board agreed to recommend to the Legislature an appropriation of approximately $1,850,000, which is roughly half of the amount previously approved by the University regents.

The Regents

President George L. Cross discussed the legislative program of the University with the Board of Regents at the regular January meeting.

The following appointments were made to the University staff and faculty:

Robert H. Rucker, landscape architect and assistant professor of plant sciences, effective June 1.

Edwin C. McReynolds, ‘22ba, ‘26ma, special instructor in history.

Mrs. L. Virginia Dearborn, special instructor in the University Library.

Rudolph N. Evjen, special part-time instructor in social work for the second semester.

The Regents approved the University’s proposed building projects at the University campus. The projects would be self liquidating. They would pay for themselves out of the income from rentals, room and board receipts. There is no state appropriation involved.

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The President

President George L. Cross left in mid-January for Washington, D. C., where he planned to contact officials of various governmental agencies to get materials for the construction of a building to house the University of Oklahoma Research Institute.

Propriations for the building were made by the Legislature four years ago and were reappropriated in the last session. All research projects now in progress are devoted entirely to the war effort. Because of lack of facilities, Research Institute officials have been forced to decline many projects, President Cross said.

During the coming month, President Cross is scheduled to speak before the Lions Club of Yukon, February 7; the Presbyterian Men’s Club of Shawnee, February 9, and the federated Sunday evening service of the Christian, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Bartlesville, March 4.
and the publishing of advertisements warning Japanese-Americans not to return to the Pacific northwest.

Calling such action an "open and flagrant violation not only of the constitutional rights of the United States but that of the Legion," the college World War II veterans urged an investigation of the Hood River post and recommended that the post be requested to cease such activities.

The resolution directed to Legion national headquarters stated that taking such measures in the name of the American Legion constituted a "blot and discredit" to the organization as a whole.

At least one of the servicemen whose name was mentioned by the Hood River post was reported recently to have received the Bronze Star for gallantry in the European war theater, it was pointed out.

War Training Enrolment High

With the exception of Texas, Oklahoma had more people enrolled in Engineering, Science and Management War Training courses during the first half of the fiscal year than any other bordering states.

In a report issued in December, J. R. Chandler, institutional representative for the E.S.M.W.T. at the University, reported that Oklahoma enrolments from July 1 to December 1 totaled 1,890.

The University, to take over his duties the first of February, professor of mathematics, and H. H. Harris, who holds three degrees from the University of Chicago, came to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisconsin. He was formerly director of the reading clinic at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

No announcement had been made regarding what Miss Abbott's successor in mid-January. The assistant director of Union activities on December 15. She took the position soon after graduating in February for the purpose of drawing up a constitution for the student body.

The purpose of the C. U. C. was to point out, is not only to take a special interest in student government but "to sponsor immediate re-form for prevalent campus situations."

A new campus newspaper called the Student Citizens for Democratic Action was pledged to the support of liberal causes. It was primarily interested last month in amassing support for the proposition to give more money in Oklahoma, a measure which has the backing of Governor Kerr.

To help inform students on the reasons for the lowering of the minimum age, the S. C. D. A. in December sponsored the appearance on the campus of R. M. McClintock, press secretary to Governor Kerr, who said he was "probably the oldest man in captivity who favored the vote for 18-year-olds."

Approximately 6,500 persons attended the 31st annual openhouse of the College of Engineering held in December. Climax of the affair was the presentation of the St. Pat award to the students in the School of Civil Engineering for having the exhibit judged most outstanding. Students in the School of Electrical Engineering were given honorable mention for the second best exhibit. The engineers sign, which has been in blackout since Pearl Harbor, was in operation during the openhouse.

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