Editorial Writers of Oklahoma newspapers, caught by surprise by President Joseph A. Brandt's resignation effective January 1, expressed a startling diversity of opinions in editorials published in the last month. The resignation was cited as proof of any number of conclusions, including political meddling, inadequate support from the legislature, faculty opposition, lack of appreciation of the value of higher education on the part of the people of Oklahoma, and the conclusion that the resignation was intended as a "fire alarm" to awaken the people to the University's problems.

About the only point on which practically all commentators agreed was that the University now faces a very serious situation, and that much depends upon the choice of the next president.

The Oklahoma City Times agreed with President Brandt's resignation statement in which he contended that the University was not given adequate financial support. Under the caption "Oklahoma Thrown for a Loss" the Times stated editorially:

The resignation of Joseph Brandt as president of the University of Oklahoma means a loss to the state for reasons that must be frankly faced. One reason is that it came about because of a badly applied program of economy, which was laudable in general, but worked to weaken some of our vital functions of education. It was economy applied in the wrong places.

Another reason is that President Brandt had a vision for a great revival of practical effort to conserve and utilize Oklahoma's unique natural and human resources, through a research division and intensified attention paid to land use, applied science, agricultural wealth, industrial capacity and decentralization that would bring Oklahoma energy and wealth back to Oklahoma. The interior states are in grave danger of losing these elements of strength to the big eastern metropolitan centers, in a constant drain that has already set in, and he foresaw this trend and was building for a new and energetic campaign of true and broad-gauged conservation. Through such a program, education gets away from academic dreaming into practical service.

The ground can be regained if the appointing powers find an outstanding man who will see such a vision of Oklahoma's greatness.

Richard Lloyd Jones, editor of the Tulsa Tribune, devoted two columns to an editorial taking the viewpoint that Oklahoma has not properly appreciated the importance of higher education. Quoting James A. Garfield's statement, "Progress halts when schools are hurt," Mr. Jones wrote that "Oklahoma will only rise as her crowning college is given the power to lift the state." His editorial, "Dr. Brandt Turned in the Alarm," is as follows:

A week ago today Dr. Joseph A. Brandt resigned to lead such shallow politicians into the academic standards for the nation. It was an announcement that he had resigned to accept an alluring offer from the University of Chicago. But there is a lot more to it than that.

The chief reason that the director of the Chicago University Press, with all its cultural contacts and freedom from controversies, became attractive to Doctor Brandt is found right in the people's legislative assaults upon the strongest uplifting influence a state can devise.

Only four years ago the LaFollette boys, Bob and John, were masquerading behind the political alias of "Progressive," gave rational thinking and academic freedom at the University of Wisconsin a foul swift kick in the face. Foul political play. At Norman it has been an effort to pinch the college into incompetency. So Brandt shirked, as he should.

But when Doctor Brandt accepted the Presidency at Norman he also knew the other side of the commonwealth college story: the statistical story of uplift.

The state of Maine established her state university much earlier than territorial Oklahoma. In a decade it had raised the percentage of the state's population enrolled in schools of all classes and grades from 14 to 26 per cent. Nebraska's story was similar.

The legislators of Oklahoma can make Oklahoma just as dumb and backward as the people of Oklahoma will let them.

So it appeared to President Brandt, and with full propriety and logic, that his best service to his state and to his Alma Mater came in this opportunity to make the state government's derection of duty apparent. And this could in no way so effectively be done as to resign.

What will the effect be? The regents are going to find it difficult to find a man of caliber to take the job with such a government as the people have chosen to have.

No college is stronger than its teaching staff. And you cannot have and hold highly educated teachers on less than ditch-digger's wages. And you cannot have and hold a state university as other states have. You must have a state government that will care for it.

New England is a poor goat pasture. But it built more colleges than any section of the country. It set the academic standards for the nation.

Result: The most industrialized section of our country is where there are the least resources to maintain it.

Here in Oklahoma we have a five million dollar textbook steal. And here we have courts that find technicalities that defeat justice and protect corruption. If any of our courts are political, and they are not defenders of justice. With the five million dollars steal Oklahoma's governor jauntily refers to the thing as merely some political pilfering. That contemptuous attitude toward justice is disgustingly vicious. Infamous.

Oklahoma needs a culture-creating institution that the elemental honesties in our courts and law-makers may be strengthened.

Some twenty years ago the legislators in Illinois decided they would cut the university so close to the bone there would be no meat left. Dr. Daniel Bryan, then president of that great people's college, told the stupid legislators that it was not his college, it was the people's college, and through their elected representatives the people...
could do with it what they pleased. Then he sent out an SOS to a hundred thousand voting graduates of the state university. In two days there were not enough mail trucks in Springfield to handle the immediate delivery of demands of the sons and daughters Illinois had educated. In its fifty-one years the University of Oklahoma has graduated 29,615 sons and daughters. With President Allen plan and purpose of making the state respectable failed out here in the hoof and hide country? Where are the Norman alumni? Are they inarticulate, or does their Alma mater fail to tell them citizen guardianship?

Dr. Joseph Brandt did not resign because Chicago called. He resigned because it was the only way to save the state of Oklahoma. The University of Oklahoma is in danger. Oklahoma's politicians, as they stack up, are a pretty sorry bunch of primary voters who cannot comprehend the economic and educational development of the state. Oklahoma will only rise as her crowning college is given the power to lift the state.

The Norman Transcript pointed to improvements in student housing, development of the Research Institute, and the development of the Army and Navy programs as outstanding achievements of President Brandt's two-year administration. The Transcript editorial:

Joe Brandt's administration as president of the University has been comparatively brief, but in two years he has brought about reaching changes in the institution's administrative and educational policies and practices. To what extent some of those innovations will survive a change in administration, only time will tell.

One change that appears permanent relates to student housing. The University after the war will have approximately 1,100 rooms in University dormitories for men, and it is likely that most freshmen boys hereafter, aside from those who pledge fraternities or five at home, will be housed in the newly built fresh dormitories.

The Research Institute, in its infancy when Mr. Brandt came to O. U., was given full support by him and developed into an important organization now engaged in a number of projects relating to the war effort.

Obtaining both Army and Navy training units for the University, with all of the training on the college campus, has been a significant accomplishment not equalled anywhere in the southwest. It also is a distinct contribution by the University to the war effort.

But the fate of the University college, the rotting plan for departmental chairmanships, and the Faculty Senate, which succeeded the administration group composed of deans, is uncertain. All of those changes, however, considerable not equalled anywhere in the southwest. It also is a distinct contribution by the University to the war effort.

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If the next president's ideas and beliefs coincide with those of Mr. Brandt, no doubt most of the present policies and practices will continue, but one with a different philosophy and different accomplishment than the University of Oklahoma has been liberal on the whole with its multiplied institutions of higher learning. The "economy" which President Brandt ... cut in totaled educational expenditures at all. The overall figures will not bear out the contentions of the retiring university chief.

The Parcell Register, edited by State Senator James C. Nance, expressed regret that the presidency of the University should change again in such a short time: Higher education requires long term planning. Oklahoma university will never make the desired progress as long as it continues to change presidents every few years. With the resignation of Joe Brandt as president will retard the progress of the University. Brandt brought new leadership and new plans to the university. He was making fine progress. Years would have been required to fully flower the Brandt program. The departure of Brandt at this time will cause genuine regret, among friends of the University.

Following up President Brandt's criticism of the University's low salary scale for faculty members, the Oklahoma City Times published a feature story by Horace Thompson which reported that truck drivers and in some instances common laborers, in the Oklahoma City area are receiving higher wages per year than some
University faculty members. The article is as follows:

Truck drivers, and in some instances common laborers, are getting higher wages per year than instructors and assistant professors at the University of Oklahoma.

Highly skilled labor such as carpenters, electricians and plumbers, are getting more than full professors receive, although university records indicate the shortage among professors at present is not much less acute than in other fields.

Although there are many extenuating circumstances which keep these comparisons from being mathematically accurate, they remain accurate enough fully to justify the statement made by Joseph A. Brandt, president of the university, that many faculty members "are compelled to eke out an existence at salaries far lower than day wages paid common laborers."

Brandt resigned his job Saturday, scored the state's "political economy more" which cut university appropriations 15 percent, and virtually wrecked the program he set up for the university.

In an independent check of the salary question, the Oklahoma City Times checked the University of Oklahoma schedule which revealed Wednesday that beginning instructors there receive a minimum of $1,710 a year. The majority of instructors now are being paid $1,800.

In senior classification, assistant professors receive a minimum of $1,800, but the majority now are receiving $2,200 a year.

Associate professors start at $2,331, but the majority are getting $2,700. Full professors, the highest rank, receive from $3,200 to $3,807 a year. The minimum for a full professor is $2,664 a year, the records show.

The figures for regular war plant jobs throughout this area are being paid an average wage of 90 cents an hour. Most of them work for 48 hours a week, and because of overtime allowances, receive pay for about 52 hours. This means an average wage for the regularly working Oklahoma City Times reports an average wage of 90 cents an hour. Most of them work for 48 hours a week, and because of overtime allowances, receive pay for about 52 hours. This means an average wage for the regularly working truck drivers amounting to $2,433.60 a year.

The schedule of rate of pay for common laborers is figured on a 48-hour regular week figures $1,757.60 for the year, allowing for the average overtime involved about 40 hours each week.

By these comparisons, common day labor receiving $47 a year more than the minimum salary set by the state for university instructors who are required to have completed college educations before being eligible for places on the university staff.

Truck drivers, according to the average figures obtained by the Times, are being paid $233 a year more than instructors who receive $1,102 a year more than the starting minimum for associate professors, and within $240 a year of the minimum for full professors.

In those where both figures range from $1.10 upward, the average laboring man is receiving from 1½ to 5 times as much in a year as the professors who have spent years obtaining their baccalaureate and master degree as evidence of their skill.

The Bartlesville Examiner commented as follows:

The University of Oklahoma isn't going to the pot because Joe Brandt quit. It will get a new head and be a live educational institution. Brandt should have known the score before he took the job and has no opportunity to know. He is no stranger. Brandt introduced some worthwhile reforms and made some good changes. He got away with a lot of his ideas, more than many thought possible, but he missed the target.

The resignation of Joe Brandt was discussed at length by writers of personal columns in various Oklahoma newspapers. The following article by "J. B. W.," appeared in the Column Left department of the Elk City News:

The University of Oklahoma and the state itself will sorely miss the educational leadership of Joe Brandt, who last weekend resigned as the university president to accept the directorship of the University of Chicago press.

Brandt, who at 44 shares along with Robert M. Hutchins, Chicago U. prexy, the distinction of being the youngest man ever to hold the position of university president in the country, has a unique view on education. This view, advocated most widely and with more publicity by Hutchins, concerned mainly the importance of liberal arts in the well-rounded education of any man or woman in the world of today.

It was our good fortune to have gone to the university when Brandt was beginning his career as an educator and we saw many of his theories being put into practice. Often we heard him say that education had tended to become too departmentalized and too specialized and that

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The Regents

The Board of Regents last month voted that Joe W. McBride, '28hus, president of the board, should become acting president of the University at the termination of President Brandt's tenure if a permanent president has not been chosen by that time.

Action of the regents was interpreted as a step to quiet speculations on who will be chosen as permanent president and to give the regents more time in selecting a successor.

Mr. McBride was also appointed as news and editorial director of student publications, including The Oklahoma Daily, student newspaper, the Covered Wagon, humor magazine, and the Sooner Yearbook.

Stewart Harrel, '36ma, director of University press relations, who was named to that post when the regents accepted President Brandt's resignation, declined the appointment in a letter of resignation.

As news and editorial director of student publications, Mr. McBride will have complete power over the Oklahoma Daily. The action of the regents resulted in the naming of Charles Tant, '25, '29, superintendent of the Journalism Press, Inc., to serve in "an advisory capacity to the Oklahoma Daily."

Since all departments of the University obviously have activities of news value to faculty and students alike, the regents feel that this development will result in increased worth of the Daily to its readers through more complete news coverage.

Mr. McBride, Anadarko publisher, at 39, is the youngest man ever to serve as president of the Board of Regents. While a student in the University, he served as advertising and business manager of the Oklahoma Daily and the Sooner Yearbook and as circulation manager of the Whirwind, humor magazine.

After graduation, he was associated with newspapers in Oklahoma City, Hobart, Elk City and Walters before going to Anadarko where he publishes the Daily News.

In addition to other actions at the executive session October 13, the regents attended to routine personnel matters.

New appointments include William Leonard Cory, '28eng, instructor in mechanics, effective November 1; Dr. Ivo A. Nelson, visiting lecturer in clinical pathology at the University School of Medicine, and Sara Catherine Arledge, assistant professor of art.

Promotions were granted to Fred R. Mouck, instructor in mechanical engineering, to assistant professor, and Dr. William Floyd Keller, assistant professor of medicine, to associate professor of clinical pathology.

Betty Lee Nothstein, '42he, who has been employed in the University Registry Office, was granted a leave of absence to join the WAC.

The regents also announced that the
University will lease the large 900-unit dormitory project now under construction from the National Housing Agency for use in the Army-Navy housing program. The project is expected to be completed by December.

On the recommendation of President Brandt, the regents amended the charter of the University College as follows: "The Charter of the University College is hereby amended to eliminate the Board of Delegates as now constituted. The members of the four divisions, namely, the humanities, the social sciences, the natural sciences and the physical sciences, become hereby the faculty of the University College. The chairman of the four divisions shall act as a standing advisory committee to the dean of the University College. This committee shall have no power to veto the actions of the faculty of the University College." This change makes it possible for practicing faculty members to participate in the activities of the University College, since almost all are members of the four divisions.

Closed Incident

Campus controversy over the recommended dismissal of M. S. Shockley and C. C. Walcutt as members of the English faculty apparently was ended in September when the Board of Regents made public a written statement from E. D. Meacham, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Joseph H. Marshburn, head of the English department, who had made the recommendation for dismissal.

The letter was released after attorneys for both parties had had a conference, and after the Board of Regents cancelled plans for a public hearing on the charges against the two English professors. Regents made no comment except to say that it was a closed incident.

The letter from Meacham and Marshburn read as follows:

On June 26, 1943, we transmitted to President Brandt certain charges against Messrs. Shockley and Walcutt with the recommendation that their services with the University of Oklahoma be terminated. The charges were referred by President Brandt to the committee on grievances and tenure for review and recommendation.

In our judgment the matter has received publicity which has been harmful to the University. It is our desire to relieve the University of further embarrassment. Also, in view of the recent resignation of President Brandt it is our further desire to eliminate any handicap to the board of regents in the selection of President Brandt's successor. Accordingly, we withdraw our recommendation of dismissal.

The Norman Transcript in an editorial discussing the settlement of the case commented that "The unwavering loyalty of Dean Meacham and Joe Marshburn to the University by their willingness to subordinate personal interests to the welfare of the school have been outstanding in the developments that have featured the Shockley-Walcutt case. The Board of Regents and friends of the University should deeply appreciate the unselfish course these men have followed in that case."

R.O.T.C. Juniors Return

Some of the 143 junior R.O.T.C. students who left the University in May for basic training at various posts last month returned to the campus as Army trainees.

The men were given the opportunity of transferring to the Air Corps after completing basic training, Lt. Col. J. Don Garrison, commandant of the University R.O.T.C. unit, said, and some made the change.

Those who didn't transfer were assigned to Specialized Training and Reassignment Centers, one of which is at Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater, before assignment to the University or other colleges in the Army Specialized Training Program.

Lawyers Discuss Tax

Discussion by state lawyers and accountants of the new withholding tax, as applied to individual taxpayers and small businesses, took place early in September in Oklahoma City at an Income Tax Institute.

Sponsors of the institute were the University School of Law, the Law School Alumni Association and the Oklahoma Bar Association. Speakers included Karlton Mosteller, Oklahoma City, an authority on taxation; Gov. Robert S. Kerr, '16, who spoke on "The Place of the Lawyer in the Postwar Era," and Thomas Casady, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, who presented the tax subject from the layman's viewpoint.

Also attending were Dean John G. Hervey, '29law, of the School of Law; T. R. Benedum, '28law, Norman attorney and chairman of the Institute Committee of the Oklahoma Bar Association, and Travis Milsten, '22ba, Tulsa attorney and president of the Law School Alumni Association.

Faculty Lectures Scheduled

Schedule for the annual series of public lectures by members of the University faculty has been announced by M. L. Wardell, '19ba, chairman of the committee in charge of arrangements.

First address of the series was given by President Brandt at the third annual matriculation in September. He spoke on "Education for Freedom."


State Resources Map

Preparation of a mineral resources map of Oklahoma as part of a regional program to call attention to the resources and opportunities existing in the middle west is now under way by the Oklahoma Geological Survey.

When completed the state map will be published in colors, Robert H. Dott, survey director, announced. Distribution of mineral resources will be shown, with emphasis on locations of mines and quarries as well as locations of mills, refineries and other types of processing plants that are now or have been operated, together with fuel, power and transportation facilities.

Trainees at 209 Colleges

The University of Oklahoma is among the 209 colleges and universities of the nation participating in the Army Specialized Training Program, President Brandt announced.

More than 100,000 soldier-students were in training over the nation last month. In addition, some 16,000 soldiers were reported at Specialized Training and Reassignment Centers where final determination is made on admission into the program.

The program is approaching the goal of 150,000 soldiers in training which was originally set by the War Department. Under the setup, men receive training in fields in which the Army needs specialists.

Brandt Makes Study

President Joseph A. Brandt, '21ba, has been appointed chairman of a committee of the National Association of State Universities to study the effect of specialized training programs on campus life and possible postwar changes in colleges.

The committee reported its findings at an association meeting which was held in October in Chicago. Other members of the committee are Virgil M. Hancher, president of the University of Iowa; Chauncey Samuel Boucher, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, and Deane W. Mallot, chancellor of the University of Kansas.