Where alumni can help

ALUMNI, as citizens of Oklahoma, may be of the greatest assistance this year to high school graduates, confused as to purpose by these changing and strenuous times.

Perhaps there is a boy or girl among your acquaintances who is asking whether college is worth while. Perhaps there is doubt as to the cost of education, now that a program of inflation is in progress. Perhaps the high school graduate does not know what he should do in college.

This is where the alumnus can perform a real service to younger Oklahomans.

Not for years has it been possible to obtain a college education as cheaply as it is now. Board and room prices are even lower than they were in the pre-war years. Some persons say that the cost of board and room is even lower than it was in the nineties.

Board and room in Norman could be obtained last semester for as low as $18.50 a month. An average next semester will be between $20 and $22.50, while the best rooms with board will cost around $25 a month. Fraternity house bills will be more, of course, but some chapters are reported to have reduced their bills to $35 a month.

George Metzel, who has placed hundreds of men in jobs the past several years as secretary of the Y. M. C. A., has estimated that with care a student should be able to complete a year at the University of Oklahoma for $350, while $400 should provide fairly comfortably expenses, although this is purely an estimate; it is reported that it is possible to live in a fraternity during a year for $500.

The required fees of all students enrolling is a minimum of $7 a semester. This is distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infirmary</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union membership</td>
<td>2.50</td>
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These fees provide the finest hospital facilities in the state for the student requiring such service, admit him to one of the finest college libraries in the south and southwest, and provide him with the facilities of club membership in the Oklahoma Union.

First and second year men are required to make a deposit of $10 per annum for military training.

There are three optional fees which a student who can afford them should pay: Subscription for the Sooner, $5.00; athletic ticket for the year, $7.00; Playhouse for the year, $2.50. These fees will give the student a lasting record of the events of the school year, permit him to see every athletic contest at Norman and give him at least five modern plays presented by one of the best non-professional theaters in the southwest.

A question frequently asked is about opportunities for self-help. These, unfortunately, are not frequent. Few jobs as student assistants are open now, due to the sharp reduction in the university budget. The Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. have on file many more applications for work than they have jobs.

The university does not encourage students to come with the expectation of being self-supporting. In fact, a student should come prepared to pay his way at least a semester, in view of present conditions.

You may be asked, in view of the number of unemployed, whether it pays to go to college. This question is frequently asked and is one for which the colleges and universities of the country have been in part responsible. In the past many colleges urged students to come to their campuses solely to prepare for a better job. This is merely an incidental to the true purpose of the college. The University of Oklahoma exists as a tuition-free university so that it can train young Oklahomans to become thinking citizens. You can do the young student a good service by urging him to take arts and sciences before enrolling in a professional school, until he is satisfied as to what profession he wishes to pursue. Professional schools are specialized units and the student with the broad training of the arts and sciences college should succeed much better in the professional school and later in practicing his profession.

This recommendation is in keeping with the attitude of large employers of college graduates. Newspapers, for instance, prefer journalism graduates who have had wide reading in political science, history, etc. Employers of technically trained men are insisting more on the broad training of the arts, science, history, etc.

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