Association Progress

NEW solidarity in the efforts of friends of the University of Oklahoma to promote the interests of the institution resulted from an important meeting held in the Union building March 14.

For the first time, members of the Alumni Executive Board, the Alumni Advisory Council, the Board of Regents, and the officers and past presidents of the University Dads Association gathered in a joint meeting. 

Chief item of discussion was plans for the Semi-Centennial Celebration of the University, beginning this year and climaxing in 1942, but many problems were discussed in a stimulating way during the conference that lasted nearly three hours.

First public gift to start the ambitious Semi-Centennial program was made at the conference when W. E. Grisso, state highway commissioner and former president of the Dads Association, offered to be one of twenty donors of $1,000 each to establish a fund for preliminary preparations for the big celebration.

Broad aims of the Semi-Centennial celebration were outlined to the group of sixty persons by Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University. He predicted that the comprehensive history of the University to be published in connection with the celebration will attract national attention and will surprise many alumni with its challenging and inspiring story.

The University of Oklahoma is far behind most other universities of the nation in seeking private benefactions to enrich its services, Dr. M. L. Wardell, assistant to the president, told the group. An alumnus of the University himself, Dr. Wardell declared that O.U. alumni are beginning to feel that they have an alma mater of which they can justly feel proud.

John Turner, Holdenville attorney and president of the Dads Association, emphasized the importance of encouraging young people to attend the state university of their home state. He also declared that if friends of the University will convince politicians that they must make the University a great center of learning or they won't stay in politics, that they will give that support the institution needs.

Alumni of the University are the primary group to which to look for educational gifts, Mr. Turner declared. He urged that young alumni who are well-to-do be made acquainted with the needs of the University.

Lowrey H. Harrell, of Ada, president of the Alumni Association during the last year and member-elect of the Board of Regents, spoke in behalf of the alumni. The state is awaking to the great opportunities existing in the state for educational benefactions, he said. He also emphasized that large endowments eventually would make the University more independent of Legislative support.

J. C. Looney, '22 law, Wewoka, spoke in behalf of the Board of Regents.

“If 75 per cent of the alumni and 50 per cent of the Dads and Mothers of University students would organize in active chapters over the state, the political problem would be solved,” he declared. He commended the Alumni Association for its work of setting up County Advisory Councils over the state during the last year.

Other speakers on various phases of plans for the Semi-Centennial included Neil R. Johnson, Norman business man; R. W. Hutto, Norman banker; Dr. Edgar Meacham, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; and Raymond Tolbert, Oklahoma City attorney.

T. M. Beaird, alumni executive secretary, presided at the luncheon program.

Harrell resignation

Because of his appointment to the President of Regents, effective March 29, Lowrey H. Harrell, of Ada, has resigned as president of the University of Oklahoma Association.

His letter of resignation to Executive Secretary T. M. Beaird is as follows:

Although I have seen you in person since receipt of your letter written on the train, I nevertheless desire to put into writing my expressions of appreciation for all the work done by you and other members of the Association in connection with my recent appointment to the Board of Regents. I again wish to state that this is an exemplification of what the Association can do by concerted action and by centering their force at one particular point.

I assume that the by-laws of the Association present my continued acts as president of the Association, and even if they did not I think this is an honor that should be passed on to some one else in view of the fact that I shall shortly become a member of the Board of Regents. You may therefore consider this letter my resignation as president of the University of Oklahoma Association, effective immediately upon my installation as a member of the Board of Regents, on or after March 29, 1938.

I wish to state frankly that my association with you and your organization has been one of the highlights of my life. There is so much room for service through the Association that after one starts one hates to leave and go into another field. I know my successor will, however, carry on under the inspiration furnished by you and your organization.

More broadcasts

Alumni are invited to tune in on WNAD, the University radio station, at 8:30 p.m. April 6 to hear another program designed particularly to interest alumni and former students of O.U. The program is being prepared by H. H. Leake, production manager of WNAD.

In late May, a program devoted to the three graduating classesholding reunions this spring will be broadcast over WNAD.

Margaret Ann Hamilton, University student from Enid, is a new part-time representative of the Alumni Association. She is shown above receiving from Dr. Cortez J. M. Ewing, director of the School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, a subscription to the Sooner Magazine.

APRIL, 1938
Three New Life Members

THREE new Life Memberships have been received by the Alumni Office, bringing the total to 232.

The new Life Members are Dr. William Schriever, Norman; L. W. Kibler, '16, '17ma, Memphis, Tennessee; and Albert G. Kulp, '30, '34law, Oklahoma City.

Dr. Schriever, who is professor of physics on the University faculty, is not an alumnus but has long been active in supporting the program of the Alumni Association. He was elected an honorary member of the Association in 1930.

Mr. Kibler is a former director of postgraduate medical work for the University Extension Division and is now field director of postgraduate medical education for the Tennessee State Medical Association. Mrs. Kibler (Lois Harris, '16), also became a Life Member by virtue of Mr. Kibler's membership.

Albert Kulp and Mrs. Kulp (Virginia Kramer, '31), are another couple who both become Life Members. Mr. Kulp is an attorney in Oklahoma City and is part owner of an oil and gasoline wholesale distributing company. He is now president of the State Association of Oil Jobbers, and is vice-president of Associated Motor Carriers. He has also been active in the Oklahoma City Junior Chamber of Commerce and has served on national committees.

Association Progress

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and also the stations of the Oklahoma Network. Some of the phases of June Commencement exercises will be broadcast over the same network.

Membership promoted

A special committee has been appointed in Custer County to promote Alumni Association membership in that area. On the committee, County Advisory Council Chairman George D. Hann has appointed Dr. Harry R. Cushman, Clinton, chairman; Dr. J. R. Henshaw, Butler; Roger Fenn, Weatherford; E. R. Hickman, Thomas, and Mrs. Jack Bramlett, Clinton, with one or two others to be appointed by Dr. Cushman.

Spring reunions

The three graduating classes to hold reunions this Spring are those of 1908, 1913 and 1918, which completed their work for degrees thirty, twenty-five and twenty years ago.

Detailed plans for the reunions will be presented in the May issue of the Sooner Magazine.