Alumni Association Progress

PLANS for appointment of several committees to supervise various important phases of the Alumni Association’s activities were started at the Homecoming Day meeting of the Alumni Executive Board—first board meeting held in the beautifully furnished new meeting room of the Union, adjoining the alumni offices.

With Charles B. Memminger, ’14, ’33law, of Atoka, presiding as president of the Association, the board considered means of greater co-operation with the student body, heard reports from the executive secretary and the editor-manager of The Sooner Magazine, discussed state politics and plans for supporting the University’s budget requests for the next biennium, andadjourned for lunch in time to hear Governor-Elect Leon C. Phillips, ’16law, give the principal address at the annual meeting of the State Association of School Administrators in the Union Ballroom.

Kenneth Harris, of Ardmore, president of the Men’s Council, appeared before the Board and suggested that students be given a chance to work more closely with the Alumni Association in order to make the transition from undergraduate to alumnus less sharp a break. He proposed that the Advisory Council, which now consists of one representative from each of the last ten graduating classes, be expanded to include one representative from each of the four undergraduate classes.

The board referred this proposal to the president and executive secretary for study and possible action.

After discussion of the needs for special committees to work on membership, and on board representation at alumni gatherings over the state, and other phases of the alumni program, the board authorized the president of the association to appoint such committees.

President Memminger told the board members that he had personally investigated reports of alleged political activity in the last state campaign by Alumni Association representatives and had found the reports to be incorrect, but invited further discussion by board members. After discussion by various members, the Board disposed of the matter by concluding that no action was called for.

Nearly forty persons were present for the board meeting, including members of the Executive Board, the Advisory Council to the Executive Board, and chairmen of about a dozen County Advisory Councils who were special guests at the meeting.

New life members

Four new Life Memberships—three of them received on Homecoming Day—have increased the total of Life Memberships in the Alumni Association to 254. Miles G. Tolbert, ’23law, Hobart attorney, decided to take out a paid-in-full Life Membership while attending the Homecoming Day meeting of the Executive Board, of which he is a member. Mrs. Tolbert (Mary Hare, ’30), also becomes a member of the Association for life, since a single Life Membership includes both husband and wife if both of them attended the University of Oklahoma.

Another Sooner couple joining the ranks of Life Members during the last month consists of Moody R. Tidwell, ’23law, Miami, and Mrs. Tidwell (Dorothy Thompson, ’33law). Mr. Tidwell is chairman of the Ottawa County Advisory Council.

The third Life Membership received on Homecoming Day was that of F. E. McReynolds, ’08, ’29ed.m, who is principal of the elementary school at Maysville.

From California came the fourth new Life Membership. It was taken by Mrs. Charles A. Graham (Florence Van Buskirk, ’14), who is a housewife in Montebello, California.

The Life Membership from Mrs. Graham further increases the lead held by the Class of ’14 over all other classes in percentage of members who have become Life Members of the Association. This class now has a percentage of 10.24. It also leads in number of memberships, with a total of 17.

Audit is complete

The life membership trust of the Alumni Association reached a total of $16,928.60 at the end of the fiscal year closing August 31, 1938, according to the annual audit completed last month by Charles H. Allen, certified public accountant.

Mr. Allen reported that the earning capacity of the fund in its present status is $701.50 per year. However, only $575 of the interest income during the last year was withdrawn for current use of the Association, the remainder being added to the principal fund of the trust.

The trust agreement provides that all money paid on life memberships remain in the trust fund and that only the interest on the fund may be used by the Association. The Executive Board also has adopted a policy providing that any interest income not withdrawn for use during the year in which it is received be added to the principal of the trust fund at the end of the fiscal year.

With additions received since the beginning of the 1938-39 fiscal year, the life membership trust fund now amounts to more than $17,000. A total of $1,162 was collected on life membership pledges during last year. The analysis of receipts from operations in the audit shows $1,641.32 received from Association dues and miscellaneous income, and a total of $7,328.08 from magazine subscriptions and advertising.

The analysis of disbursements for operations of the Association shows $3,676.93 spent for Association activities, including salaries, traveling expenses, committee expenses and various office expenses; and $5,040.75 spent for Sooner Magazine operating expenses, including salaries, printing and other expenses.