A committee from the Executive Board of the University of Oklahoma Association last month held a series of conferences with University officials and with Governor Leon C. Phillips, '16 law, in an effort to give the governor a full picture of conditions at the University.

Charles B. Memminger, of Atoka, president of the Association, called the Executive Board into special session the Sunday following the University's budget hearing before House and Senate appropriations committee members.

Governor Phillips had declared that he had difficulty in securing exactly the information he wanted about certain activities at the University. After studying the situation, the Executive Board of the Association expressed itself as favoring the general economy program of Governor Phillips and offered to help develop a clear picture of phases of the University's activities that he was particularly interested in.

Mr. Memminger appointed a committee including Norman Brillhart, Madill; Coleman Hayes, Oklahoma City; Hicks Epton, Wewoka, and Harry L. S. Hally, Tulsa.

This committee obtained voluminous reports on University affairs, particularly the auxiliary enterprises that are partially or entirely self-supporting, and presented them to the governor.

The Board of Trustees of the Stadium-Union Corporation also named a committee to present facts to the governor. This committee, appointed by Neil R. Johnson, Norman, president, consisted of R. H.loyd, Norman, chairman; Tom Carey, Oklahoma City; R. W. Hutto, Norman; Raymond Tolbert, Oklahoma City; and Frank Cleckler, Muskogee.

The alumni committees presented no demands for any particular favors financially, but asked only that the University needs be fully considered in allocating what funds are available for educational institutions for the next bimennium.

Best information from the State Capitol in late March was that the University's finances were pending in the Legislature in late March. One was a bill providing legislative control over revolving fund income of educational institutions. Another was the apparent decision to pass the institutional appropriation bill in itemized form, which would specify salaries for all positions for the next bimennium.

Awards to women

Women came into their own March 9 when honor awards were given to an Oklahoma City newspaperwoman, a University professor and research scientist, and a co-ed law student at the annual Matrix dinner given by Theta Sigma Phi, national honorary fraternity for women in journalism.

The annual achievement awards were given to Mrs. Walter Harrison, wife of the managing editor of the Daily Oklahoman and Oklahoma City Times and fashion artist whose sketches are signed Anne Waters; Dr. Alma J. Neill, acting head of the department of physiology, who last year discovered a cause for sleeping sickness; and Patricia Hodges, Catoosa, outstanding co-ed and student in the School of Law.

Phyllis Bentley, English novelist, highlighted the program in the main address of the evening—"How to Tell Your Friends From Fiction."

The internationally famous writer described to members and guests of Theta Sigma Phi her methods of work and way of planning her novels. Among the guests of the journalism fraternity were Mrs. Leon C. Phillips, University graduate and wife of the governor of Oklahoma, and President and Mrs. Bizzell.

New board president

Eugene Ledbetter, '14law, Oklahoma City lawyer, was elected president of the University Board of Regents in a special session held March 6 in Oklahoma City.

Lloyd Noble, '21ex, Ardmore oil man, was elected vice president.

The meeting was held preceding a joint hearing of the Senate and House appropriations committees on the University budget request.

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Art scholarship

The dream of many an American art student was realized by Clyde Harris, Konawa, major in interior decoration, when it was announced last month that he is the winner of a $500 fellowship for art study in France.

The award is made annually by the New York School of Applied Art to an outstanding art student. Last year Wendell Tomberlin, Oklahoma City, won the fellowship and began his studies in Paris.

Browsing room popular

Nonconformists who disdain the mechanized selection of reading matter by the card-catalog system can enjoy the University library now, since an informal browsing room recently has been opened.

Containing 3,000 new books, the browsing room has comfortable seating accommodations for 200 persons and plenty of wandering room for those who merely like to rove from shelf to shelf, eying the titles and leafing through best-sellers.

Purely for pleasure reading, the collection emphasizes new fiction, but there is a liberal sprinkling of biography, travel, economics, psychology and religion.

Sad demise of Allie

All was doleful on the Beta Theta Pi front on the first day of March. Reason: Allie the Gator was dead.

The pet alligator was sent to Gus Baker by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wheatley as they honeymooned in Miami shortly after Baker had served as best man at their wedding.

Placed in a luxurious position in a Beta bathtub, Allie thrived until one sad night when someone—inaudiently of course—left the window open. Allie the Gator froze to death.

Funeral services were held in the Beta backyard and opened to the public. Nearly a hundred mourners were present for the last rites.

Fraternity problems discussed

Over one hundred representatives from eight states gathered at the University last month for the second annual Regional Interfraternity and Deans of Men conference.

Verbal bouquets and brickbats were tossed about as the meeting progressed, with President Bizzell commending the groups and describing their "abdication and ceding place in college education," while Dean J. F. Findlay scored evidences of hypocrisy.

The Oklahoma dean of men accused fraternity men of being "too often pharisaical and giving only lip-service to their solemn vows."

"Although this Jekyll-Hyde attitude of the average fraternity man is unconscious backsliding, there is too much an element of hypocrisy about the whole matter," Dean Findlay said.

George W. Stephens, dean of students at Washington University, was one of the principal speakers at the convocation of Greek orders.

THE SOONER MAGAZINE
Educational co-ordinating board

The plan for co-ordinating higher education in Oklahoma through a board established by the State Legislature has been revived by Governor Leon C. Phillips, 'Idaw.

Governor Phillips appointed fifteen men to the board, but it was later discovered that two of them could not serve because they already held state appointments to another board. These are Major Eugene Kerr, of Muskogee, and C. C. Hatchett, Durant, members of the University Board of Regents.

Others named by the governor are John Kane, Bartlesville attorney, chairman; Bishop Francis C. Kelley, Oklahoma City, chairman of the executive board; H. G. Bennett, president of Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater; John W. Raley, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University of Oklahoma; T. T. Montgomery, Chickasha school superintendent; Dr. Eugene S. Briggs, president of Phillips University, Enid; Dr. C. I. Pontius, president of Tulsa University; Dr. A. G. Williamson, president of Oklahoma City University; Dr. A. Linscheid, president of East Central State Teachers College, Ada; Dr. John O. Moseley, president of Central State Teachers College, Edmond; M. A. Nash, president of Oklahoma College for Women, Chickasha; and W. C. Smoot, Bartlesville.

The board has authority, with the governor, to revise curricula of state educational institutions to eliminate duplications without any further legislative action.

Covering the campus

Nearly 150 enrolled for a two-day short course in welding March 10-11, during which latest welding methods were described by experts.... Miss Ima James, director of physical education for women, has been invited to be one of a group of American college leaders to make a study of undergraduate curricula at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, April 27, 28 and 29.

Stanley Vestal, who is W. S. Campbell, professor of English, as well as a popular writer, is the author of Last Laugh, an adventure story in the April issue of Boys' Life magazine.... Lieut. Col. Paul V. Kane, now on duty in the Philippine Islands, was named Mach 4 to succeed Lieut. Col. Reese M. Howell, University R. O. T. C. commander, whose term expires next autumn.

Lew Chatham, manager of the Sooner Theatre, was initiated March 2 by the Ruf Neks, University pep order, in the first honorary initiation ever held by the group.... An all-university prom was held last month, the proceeds from which were donated to a scholarship fund started last year.

"Reading-Writing-Rhetoric," an article by Grace Ernestine Ray, '20, '23ma, assistant professor of journalism, appeared in the February issue of Scholastic Editor, a journalism magazine.... A Celebrity Serenade concert given by the Oklahoma Federal Symphony Orchestra in the University auditorium March 2 was attended by more than five hundred persons.... Dorothy Elson and Jack Wilson, both of Norman, were given the leading roles in "Rain from Heaven," scheduled to be performed by the University Playhouse March 31. Miss Ida Z. Kirk, assistant professor of drama, directed the play.

The Norman Aviation club became official early in March as 16 University students signed the list of charter members. They have made plans to purchase an airplane and begin an active campaign to make the University more air-minded.

Dr. Andrew Parks McClean, instructor in the Medical School at Oklahoma City, died in February as a result of burns received in a laboratory explosion. A flask he was heating to make a tincture burst and he was showered with blazing alcohol.

The department of orthopedic surgery of the Medical School has received a $3,000 grant from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, to be used for research and study in cases of paralytic scoliosis.

Doctor's degree in English

Ambitious English students who wish to delve into the intricacies of Chaucer and Milton with promise of more reward than mere love of learning brings may do so now with the object of receiving a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English.

Approval of the program of advanced study was announced by Dr. Homer L. Dodge, dean of the Graduate School, after members of the staff of the department of English had worked on the plans for several months. Extension of the study program assures the department of an increased enrolment, especially during the summer session.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

April 6--Easter vacation begins.
April 10--National Oil Measuring Conference.
April 11--Recital of Jack Bowers, vocalist.
April 12--Recital of Kenneth Ward, vocalist.
April 13-14--Graduate Nurses' Short Course at University Hospital, Oklahoma City.
April 15--Third Annual News Photography Short Course.
April 17--Southwestern Gas Measurement Short Course. (tentative)
April 18--Recital of Orchesis, dance society.
April 19--Recital of Georgia Fay Board and Joe Edgings.
April 21-22--Mechanics' Short Course.
April 26--State-Wide Youth Conference.
April 27-28--Interscholastic Meet.
April 29--Track Meet.

After fulfilling certain requirements specified by the department, the applicant for the degree must prepare a thesis which meets with the approval of the graduate committee.

Honor freshmen chosen

Forty-one co-eds were announced as eligible for Alpha Lambda Delta, national honoray scholastic fraternity for freshmen women, soon after first semester grades were released last month—one of the largest groups ever to qualify.

But they were forced to bow to the scholastic abilities of first-year men students selected for membership in Phi Eta Sigma, corresponding scholastic group for freshmen boys, for which 68 qualified.

Both groups, representing the highest scholastic honor a freshman may obtain, have a grade average standard of at least 2.5—an A-minus peak.

Drama on lavish scale

"Johnny Johnson," an anti-war drama presented by the University Playhouse last month, brought to a large student audience the most lavish production ever attempted by the school of drama.

Despite an epidemic of colds and sore throats that threatened the large cast as opening night drew near, "Johnny Johnson" went on as scheduled with Charles Suggs, Ardmore, in the title role.

With the fire of cannons and repeating rifles—shooting blanks, of course—the largest cast ever assembled in a campus production was presented in an ironic indictment against the folly of modern warfare.

Contrary to recent customs, the play was not taken on the road. Previously the year the student productions have been carted to Oklahoma City for a run at the Warner Theatre or to other nearby cities for performances, but it was found unprofitable to do so.

Drama student best orator

A University co-ed came to the front in March to win the Men's Council oratorical contest and an award of $15 in cash presented by the council.

Mary Love Appleby, Wichita Falls, Tex., defeated four men students to receive the honor. Miss Appleby, a student in the School of Drama, had the leading role in "Stage Door," Playhouse production of a few months back.

Ed Edmondson, Muskogee, won the annual intramural extemporaneous speaking tournament held last month.

Engineers celebrate

Maxine Moore, Sapulpa, was crowned queen of the O. U. engineers the night of March 17 at the annual Engineers Club dance. Dwight C. Cain, Oklahoma City senior in the School of Chemical Engineering, had the honor of serving as St. Pat.

APRIL, 1939