

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

A special meeting of the Regents of the University of Oklahoma was held at the University Hospital, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 7:00 p.m., August 26, 1944. The following named Regents, constituting the entire membership of the Board of Regents, were present: Dr. Claude S. Chambers, President of the Board, E. C. Hopper, Vice-President of the Board, Lloyd Noble, Erl Deacon, Don Emery, W. R. Wallace, and Joe W. McBride. Dr. Chambers presided, and upon his direction and without objection, Regent Emery recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Dr. Chambers, after declaring that a quorum was present and that the meeting was open for the transaction of business, made the following statement:

"The Regents have had under consideration for over a period of eight months, the selection of a President for the University of Oklahoma. It is appropriate at this time to briefly review the method adopted by the Regents to discharge this duty. Early in our deliberations and after considerably exploring the problem, the Regents reached unanimous agreement as to qualifications for the office. The one chosen should be:

- (a) Distinctly religious in conviction and practice.
- (b) A person of distinction in the academic world.
- (c) A leader whose executive and administrative ability has been tested by successful executive and administrative experience in the field of higher education.
- (d) A man whose general experience and education, domestic life and attachment to spheres of interest indicate a sympathy with the problems of the people of Oklahoma and offer an inspiring and wholesome leadership to Oklahoma youth.
- (e) Young, preferably not older than 45.

"The Regents unanimously concluded, also, that an effort should be made to find a person who met the qualifications in one of the following fields which I shall name in the order of their predetermined importance:

- (a) The faculty of the University of Oklahoma.

August 26, 1944.

- (b) The alumni of the University of Oklahoma, wherever located.
- (c) The State of Oklahoma.
- (d) The United States of America.

"To be certain that the Regents had before them for consideration the largest possible list of candidates, they requested and received suggestions concerning a person or persons deserving of consideration from Presidents of many American universities and colleges, from educational foundations, from the Oklahoma University Alumni Association, and from a committee composed of the University of Oklahoma faculty. All suggestions were helpful and timely.

"From a large list of persons deserving consideration, invitations were sent requesting appearances before the entire Board of Regents. Extended consideration has been given to each of the persons interviewed and comparisons made one with another.

"I should like now to ask whether the Regents are ready and willing to consider the election of a President."

Thereupon each of the Regents stated to the President that he was ready to indicate his choice.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED that the Regents of the University of Oklahoma elect Dr. George Lynn Cross, the present Acting President of the University of Oklahoma, to be President of the University of Oklahoma, pursuant to the constitution and laws of the State of Oklahoma, effective September 1, 1944, at a salary of \$ 10,000 per annum, payable monthly, and an allowance of \$ 3,000 per annum for the operation and maintenance of the President's mansion, payable monthly; that Dr. George Lynn Cross be immediately notified to report to this meeting; that the office be at this time tendered to Dr. George Lynn Cross; and that his signature of acceptance under the recorded minutes of this meeting containing this resolution shall constitute this resolution as a contract for the employment of the services of Dr. George Lynn Cross as the President of the University of Oklahoma between the Regents of the University of Oklahoma, and Dr. George Lynn Cross.

August 26, 1944.

Upon notification, Dr. George Lynn Cross appeared before the meeting, was tendered the office pursuant to the above resolution and accepted the office as tendered.

Thereupon Dr. Chambers declared that Dr. George Lynn Cross had been duly elected President of the University of Oklahoma pursuant to the above resolution. In accepting the office, Dr. Cross stated he deeply appreciated the honor bestowed upon him by the Regents of the University of Oklahoma, and was at the same time deeply cognizant of the responsibilities to be discharged in performing the duties of the office. Upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

President of the Board of Regents

Emitt Keattli

Acting Secretary

Accepted
