

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

(Wednesday, September 19, 1945, 7:30 p.m.)

A special meeting of the Board of Regents was held in the office of the President of the University at 7:30 p.m. all members having been notified of the meeting by telephone by the President of the University at the request of the President of the Board.

The following were present: Regent Hopper, President, presiding; Wallace, Emery, Noble. Absent: Wimberly, McBride, Deacon.

President Cross presented a letter from Dean John G. Hervey, submitting his resignation, it was read, and is as follows:

"President George L. Cross,
Faculty Exchange.

"My dear President Cross:

"In accordance with our conversations of last Tuesday and Thursday, I write to say that I would like to be relieved of my duties as Dean of the Law School and Professor of Law. This resignation is effective immediately. I would appreciate the acceptance of it at the earliest possible moment, and I am quite willing to assist you in finding a successor. But I would like to get away by October 1, next.

"Upon acceptance I shall tender my resignation as Executive Secretary of the Judicial Council of Oklahoma, as Chairman of the Big Six Conference, and my membership on the Institutes Committees of the Oklahoma Bar Association. I do expect, however, to continue as Chairman of the State Bar Committee on Aid to Veteran Lawyers.

"With renewed assurances of my personal esteem and with every good wish, I am

Respectfully yours,

/s/ John G. Hervey, Dean."

88
1899

September 19, 1945

(The third paragraph of Dean Hervey's original letter, concerning "A single release to the press" was stricken at the request of Dean Hervey.)

President Cross reported on his conferences with Dean Hervey over a period of several months. Long distance calls were placed for absent members and the operator reported there would be a delay in completing the calls.

Following a discussion the Chair inquired of the President if he desired to make a recommendation, whereupon President Cross stated: "I recommend that the resignation be accepted with regret."

Regent Emery moved the adoption of the recommendation, and the motion carried.

The Chair asked that he be recorded as voting "No."

President Cross recommended that Maurice Merrill, Professor of Law, be named acting dean of the School of Law, effective September 20, 1945.

The recommendation was unanimously approved.

The long distance operator reported Regents Wimberly, McBride and Deacon on the telephone and Regent Emery discussed Dean Hervey's resignation which had been filed with the President. Each asked that the minutes show the statement as follows:

Regent Wimberly: "I was communicated with by telephone during the special meeting of the Board of Regents and I see no other recourse than to adopt the President's recommendation to accept Dean Hervey's resignation."

Joe McBride: "I was communicated with on the telephone during the meeting and in my judgment the recommendation of the President should be approved and the resignation accepted."

Erl Deacon: "My vote would be that I would approve the President's recommendation that Dean Hervey's resignation be accepted with regret."

Regent Noble brought up the question of employing more than one member of a family and made the following statement and motion: "It has been for years a general rule of the

September 19, 1945

University not to employ more than one member of a family. Since there have been questions as to the interpretation of this general rule, I hereby move 'That in the future no two members of any family, related within the 3rd degree, either by blood or marriage, be employed by the University, or in any branch of the University'".

Regent Noble's motion was approved.

Returning to the question of Dean Hervey's resignation, Regent Emery moved, and it was voted "That the president be authorized to issue a joint statement on behalf of the president and the Board if he deems it advisable."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Emil R. Kraettli, Secretary.