

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

A special meeting of the Board of Regents was held on Monday, March 27, 1939 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., on the mezzanine floor of the Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City.

Regent Ledbetter, President of the Board, presided; others present: Regents Noble, Kerr and McBride.

The meeting was called following a conference Major Kerr had had with the Governor concerning the question of tuition.

Major Kerr stated the Governor had asked that the Board of Regents consider the question of tuition, and that he would like to meet with the Board to discuss the situation. Major Kerr stated that he had made the appointment with the Governor for 10:30 a.m., and the meeting at the Skirvin Hotel adjourned to the Governor's office.

Upon arriving at the Capitol the Governor stated he understood the appointment was for 10:00 o'clock and that he had a meeting with the School Land Department for 10:30. He inquired if it would be convenient for the Board to meet with him at 1:30 p.m., and it was agreed to meet with the Governor at that hour.

The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m., in the Governor's office at the State Capitol. Members of the Board of Regents as above were present; also, President Bizzell and Secretary Kraettli.

There was a general discussion on the question of tuition not only in the University but in other state supported institutions of higher learning.

The Governor expressed the opinion that it would not be possible to secure passage of a bill in the present legislature for a general tuition program. He suggested it would be desirable to postpone the matter until the Co-ordinating Board had had an opportunity to make its survey and recommendations.

Major Kerr raised the question as to the desirability of a tuition in the School of Medicine and read two proposals providing for tuition in the School of Medicine.

It was the sense of the Board that a bill be introduced and Major Kerr was directed to prepare the same and present it to the Governor for approval.

Following a discussion on the question of tuition, the Governor made inquiry concerning the Student-Union fee stating that he felt the present fee was too high and that he did not approve of some of the expenditures, especially in connection with additions to the Union Building, such as the clock tower. He presented reports from the Board of Governors of the Union and asked that the Board go into the matter with a view to reducing the fee to a maximum of \$4.00 each semester, and if possible lower than that amount.

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He also stated he was very anxious to eliminate the fee entirely at the earliest possible date but that he had no intention of jeopardizing the commitments on bonds outstanding. He stated further that he did not feel any more payments should be made from the Book Exchange and that in his opinion the Athletic Department is unable, at least at the present, to help on the indebtedness. The Governor stated he was willing for the Board of Regents to work this situation out as outlined.


Prior to adjournment of the meeting, Major Kerr restated points to be considered by the Board of Regents:

- 1) Reduce the Student-Union fee to \$4.00 per semester or less, effective September 1, 1939.
- 2) That a bill providing for tuition in the School of Medicine, the amount to be fixed on a basis of not to exceed one-half of the per-capita cost for residents, and not to exceed the full per capita cost for non-residents.
- 3) That the question of a general tuition program be left to the Co-Ordinating Board.
- 4) It was understood that an appropriation in the amount of \$67,000.00 for the purpose of erecting an isolation ward at the Crippled Childrens Hospital, would have the Governor's approval.

The Governor agreed to the above points.

Major Kerr wrote a new bill providing for a tuition in the School of Medicine as above outlined; the Governor approved the same, and instructed the Board of Regents to have it introduced in the Legislature.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.


Emil R. Kraettli, Secretary.