

# Alumni Can Help University

## In Critical Time at Hand

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Decision as to what kind of a University the state is to have will be made by the 1937 legislature which meets in January. The Alumni Association officials ask alumni everywhere to help present the case of the University to members of the legislature—a fair and interested group indeed who will give fair consideration to the problem when it is presented to them.

The University's budget situation this year is especially severe and significant from several unrelated but converging causes. Restoration of all, or at least part, of the reduced operating budget seems imperative.

Too often the reduction in the institution's operating funds is thought of as being dated from the legislative cut enacted in 1933. The fact is that, by request of the then Governor and the Board of Regents, 10% of the funds appropriated for use of the University for the 1931-32 year was turned back to the state treasury. For the 1932-33 year 25% was turned back, nearly as much as the legislative cut, which came in 1933.

So, by next July, the University will have run on a reduced budget for six years.

### **Vacancies Hard to Fill**

During that time resignations have taken many outstanding staff members, but death has taken the following list of leaders: ex-Chancellor Strong, who was teaching law, Dean Brandt of the College, Dean Shaad of the School of Engineering, Professors Hodder, Owen, H. A. Rice, and Thurnau, all department heads, and Professors O'Leary, Ashton and Charles Sterling. Two more outstanding professors who had been on the retired list, Drs. Bailey and Dunlap, also were taken. Prof. Eugenie Galloo, head of the French department, retired last spring, and six more of the University's best will retire next spring. This list of nineteen comprised a significant proportion of the supporting framework for the University structure. They had come to the staff years ago and would stay on almost regardless of salary. To take their places, however, it either has been or will be necessary to bring in persons at salaries somewhere near those paid in other comparable institutions and with assurance that reasonable treatment may be expected in the future.

The University of Kansas started into the depression period with salaries 11% to 16% under that paid by most other mid-western Universities. The fact that the Kansas cut was deeper than most others and that most others have now had partial or complete restoration, makes the Kansas scale so far under the others, even those immediately surrounding the state, that the University will be at a severe disadvantage in competition for competent persons to take the places of leaders she has lost.

### **Reserve Balances Exhausted**

Since 1933 the enrollment has increased more than 900, necessitating additional maintenance, expenditures and employment of many part-time instructors and office assistants. This expansion, far from adequate for satisfactory administration and instruction, has been financed from reserve balances. Since these reserves will be exhausted during the current year, some additional income is necessary to maintain even the present budget.