



Drawing of proposed geology building, showing present building as a wing of the new structure.

Building for a purpose

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BOTH the practical business man and the educator can join hands in supporting the building program which the University of Oklahoma is submitting to the legislature this year. The request is for funds for a petroleum engineering building to be built in the first year of the next biennium, and a geology building in the second year.

Considering the vast importance of mineral resources to the state, the investment of a reasonable sum for establishment of adequate facilities for petroleum engineering and geological work at the University is good business as well as an important step in providing professional training that is desired by many ambitious young people.

The science of geology has contributed more to the development of Oklahoma's wealth than any other subject taught in any of the state educational institutions, and the mineral wealth of Oklahoma for many years has equaled or exceeded the agricultural wealth.

The state maintains five state supported schools for agriculture but the University of Oklahoma is the only state school where professional training is given for the discovery and development of mineral resources. It is, therefore, a logical development in the state's system of higher education for the legislature to provide a center of geological education at the University which would be in proportion to geology's importance to the state.

Since geology is one branch of instruction that is not duplicated at any other school in Oklahoma, legislators can feel confident that the money spent on such a project will not be duplicating any educational work done elsewhere.

The University of Oklahoma by its

location and through its efforts, has established a notable reputation for geological instruction and is therefore the logical place for continued emphasis upon this phase of higher education.

Many of the major oil pools of the state, including Cushing, Oklahoma City, Edmond, and Cement were first discovered and mapped by graduates of the University's School of Geology. The geological, production, and land department of almost every major oil company in the United States include graduates of this school. Approximately seven hundred graduates have entered some phase of petroleum. O. U. geologists have scattered to Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina, Uruguay, Dutch East Indies, China, Roumania, Morocco, and Russia.

Pre-eminence of the University's School of Geology is shown clearly by the number of graduates who have been given teaching positions in colleges and universities, both in and out of Oklahoma. The universities of Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri, Texas and New Mexico have drawn their teaching staffs partly from the University of Oklahoma.

But the training of geologists is only one phase of the school. One of the most important responsibilities is the collection and filing of geological information and actual samples, not only for scholastic research but also as a guide to future development of the oil industry.

More oil wells have been drilled in Oklahoma than in any other area of similar size in the world, and the records of these wells have been more carefully preserved than in any other state. This furnishes a most valuable storehouse of practical information for geological research, but it should be supplemented by actual rock

samples in order to be entirely effective. All of the major oil companies for many years have collected actual samples from each well during the process of drilling and have offered such samples to the University as permanent reference material. However, serious shortage of space has prevented acceptance of many of these offers. These samples obtained by the companies at the expense of millions of dollars should be carefully preserved and filed. The School of Geology already has the largest departmental library on the campus—25,000 volumes—but this should be supplemented by the samples of well cuttings and fossils which provide a reference guide to subsurface formations in Oklahoma.

The School of Geology has the largest collection of fossils in the entire southwest, but does not have even one room which can be entirely devoted to the display of museum material. Oklahoma has a wealth of vertebrate fossils and a government grant has made it possible to collect a large quantity of these fossil elephants, dinosaurs, camels and so on, but no space is available for the preparation and exhibit of such large forms.

This year, geological instruction in both lecture and laboratory courses is being carried on in seven different buildings on the campus. Obviously, this condition is neither economical from the standpoint of use of equipment, nor efficient for the use of illustrative materials. With more than fifty laboratory class sections being offered each semester, the need for well-equipped laboratories is pressing. The school now occupies, in addition to space in the Geology building, rooms in Old Science hall, Business Administration building, the Old Gymnasium building, two rooms under the west wing of the Stadium, Liberal Arts building, Engineering building, and part of the Geological Survey quarters in the Geology building.

Since geology's importance to the development of Oklahoma is well known to the public, a great many students who have no intention of becoming professional geologists take a few elementary

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such groups, eat of their bachelor cooking and encourage them to carry on in their task of securing an education.

A brilliant scholar, Dr. Boyd had an especially strong leaning toward the cultural aspects of education. He said that he once hired a professor of engineering without much investigation because the man had a Phi Beta Kappa key. Yet with all his scholarship he was never a pedant. He had a keen sense of humor, loved a good story, and was himself a great story teller. While traveling in Greer county soon after that region became a part of Oklahoma in 1896, he gave a speech at a tiny hamlet called Paradise Valley, commonly shortened to "Paradise." At the close of his address the chairman of the meeting said:

"Now folks, I hope you'll all come up and meet Professor Boyd. He probably never will be in Paradise again."

Dr. Boyd would tell this story with great relish, and also another of an old mountaineer who once told him:

"I hate to see my wife wash dishes. That job seems so plumb constant."

Brought up in a devout Presbyterian home, Dr. Boyd retained throughout life a deep religious faith. In his father's home family worship was held each morning, consisting of a Scripture reading, a prayer and the singing of a psalm. At the University he held chapel each morning at ten. At these exercises after Scripture reading and a prayer, he always made a three-minute talk, striving in each one to develop only one point. These little speeches he worked out with great care and an early graduate of the University has asserted that he got more from these chapel talks than from all the rest of his college course.

In spite of deep religious convictions he was never bigoted or narrowly sectarian. Attendance at chapel was voluntary and later in life he often spoke with sincere respect of the strong religious faith of the Mormons of Utah and of the southern mountaineers, both of whom he had worked among while he was with the Mission Board. Religion rather than creed was his ideal. He always remembered the teachings of his childhood home and that on the morning he was to start to school for the first time his mother dressed him in his new suit she had made and then led him to her room and knelt and prayed for his well being in what was to him a great adventure. Neither did he ever forget her dying words to him, her eldest lad:

"Be a good boy, obey your father, and go to church each Sabbath."

The writer spent nearly a month with Dr. Boyd during the past summer and left him soon after the first of September. His health, which had not been good, seemed at that time much improved. He spoke eagerly of his hope of returning to Norman in 1942 for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the

University but it was not to be. On November 17 he was stricken with a severe heart attack and died within a very short time.

He was buried in Forest Lawn at Glendale, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in all the world. No ugly shafts of granite or marble are there. The earth above the graves is perfectly level and each grave is marked with a small slab placed flat upon the ground so that it is scarcely noticeable. The effect of the whole is that of a vast park covered with green grass, stately trees and flowers of incomparable loveliness. There is nothing there to remind the visitor of death—only the vigorous growing things to speak of life and of the Life Eternal.

It is fitting that he should lie there in the midst of all this beauty of a type he had done so much to create in many places. It is fitting that he should lie beneath the trees. He had loved trees as those who know the University and the University City have so much cause to remember.

As for a monument of stone, he needs none. His monument is the great institution of learning he founded and to which he gave sixteen of the best years of his life. It is the substantial high school building he built at Arkansas City from native stone hauled across the Kansas line from Oklahoma. Above all it is to be found in hearts and lives of the many thousands of men and women who knew and loved him. In the hearts of all these he will live forever. They can never forget the magic of his voice, the touch of his hand, the inspiration of his teaching and his example.

His long life was a happy one, but it was also a very busy one. Those of us who know how hard and earnestly he labored for the accomplishment of so much of lasting value to Oklahoma and to the nation may well say with Sydney Carton: "It is a far, far better rest he has gone to than any he had ever known."



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courses because of a desire to obtain some general knowledge about the state's mineral resources. There is a real satisfaction in visiting a place like the Arbuckle mountains and finding that you know something more about the rock formations than possibly the difference between granite and sandstone.

During the first semester of this year, instruction in geology was given to 12 graduate students, 160 geology and paleontology majors above freshman rank, 550 students taking geology for freshman and group science requirements, 100 petroleum engineering students, 25 civil engineering students, 250 in business admin-

istration, and 25 in other miscellaneous groups.

A \$500,000 building is actually needed to provide the accommodations that are essential even for present needs. The present building was totally inadequate from the day of its completion but would serve to house some departments that do not require especially designed laboratories.

Suitable quarters for the Oklahoma Geological Survey, which is closely allied to the School of Geology although having a separate staff, should be provided for in the new building.

Oklahoma's hope of maintaining its high rank in the production of mineral resources rests not only upon discovery and development of new oil fields, but also in development of other mineral resources such as building stones, pottery clay, glass sands, mineral fertilizers, building lime and numerous other earth materials that occur in the state. The geological engineer plays a major role in discovery and development of those materials.

A state expenditure may be considered large or small, according to the benefits to be derived from it. If the expenditure is vital to continued development and utilization of the state's mineral resources—our chief wealth along with agriculture—the expenditure can be considered a good, business-like investment, with new wealth for the state as the annual profit on the investment.



NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

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petroleum industry supplies a very large portion of the revenue coming into the state treasury," Dr. Bizzell said.

Other buildings which the University administration believes are urgently needed, but were not specifically requested for the next biennium, are buildings for Home Economics, Physics, Graduate and Education, Journalism, completion of the Physical Education Building for Men, Arts, Social Sciences, Botany, Power Plant, Chemical Engineering, Fine Arts and Auditorium.

University officials believe that if the federal government continues the policy of supplementary grants, Oklahoma should take advantage of the opportunity to secure its share of funds to provide for permanent improvements at the state institutions.

Arkansas, Texas, Missouri and many other states have provided liberal building appropriations for their educational institutions in order to take advantage of the federal offer, and unless a similar policy is followed in Oklahoma, the University will suffer in comparison to the neighboring state universities.