

The "Fabulous" Union—

ANOTHER DREAM TA



An architect's drawing of the finished Union building pictures an immense structure of beauty and symmetry. Two new wings will be added, north and south, and the structure will cost approximately \$2,200,000. It will be finished by early 1950.

By PAUL A. ANDRES, '50
Sooner Feature Writer

The recent approval of a \$2,200,000 expansion program for the Oklahoma Memorial Union is proof-positive that time changes things—especially ideas.

Yes, brimstone and fire have been tossed at the Union, which was the subject of countless controversies and court scenes



P. A. ANDRES

during the early years after its inception. Large black headlines once streamed across the front pages of most newspapers in the state telling both lurid and interesting stories originating in the "fabulous" Union. A few merchants screamed "unfair competition,"

and the religious cried out against that "sink of iniquity" on the O.U. campus. A long drawn-out court suit began when a State Senate investigating committee heard the testimony of a student

who said he had heard another student in the pool room say, "I'll bet you a dime I'll put the nine ball in the side pocket!"

To this Walter M. Harrison, "the Skipper," writing in the Oklahoma City Times in 1928, replied by razzing the investigators in his column and stating that "All of this howl about the Student-Union Building at Norman is witless."

He must have been right, for the Oklahoma Student Union Corporation won in every instance. But, excerpts from Harrison's column reveal a lot about the situation and feeling that existed during the 1928-29 school year.

"Judging from the statements of the merchants in Norman, the Student Union is responsible for the price of cotton, the limited proration in the Oklahoma City oil field and the price of bread. There is no other cause for depression in and around Norman except the Student Union with its cafeteria, its billiard hall and its book exchange where students can get text books."

According to a back issue of *Sooner Magazine*, the school year 1928-29, which was

the year the building was erected, proved to be even more hectic than portrayed above.

After having previously approved the University's collection of a Union fee of \$2.50 per semester by a student vote of 1601 to 382, a group of 22 students led by Floyd L. "Bus" Rheam, '29Law, then a senior lawyer, protested and took legal action in the courts. The University was upheld by Judge Sam Hooker, Oklahoma County District Court Judge. The students then immediately appealed to the State Supreme Court which finally took action January 17, 1933. The decision of the Supreme Court was unanimous in favor of the University, and the *Norman Transcript* quoted the decision as follows: "The requirement that each student pay a \$2.50 Student Union fee each semester is not prohibited by any constitution or statutory provision, and is within the implied power of the University Board of Regents."

Also, during this period, the manager of the billiard room, Bill Owens, was arrested by city officers on the charge of operating

MAKES CONCRETE FORM

pool tables without a city license, and, the county assessor announced that he would make an effort to collect the ad-valorem taxes on the Union Building, which had shown heavy losses during the first month's operation.

On April 3, 1937, the proposed budget of the Union Board of Governors mentioned increase of the fee to \$5.50 per student a semester. On June 3, 1940, during the administration of Governor "Red" Phillips, the Union fee was again cut back to \$4.

Newspaper accounts and the records disclose that O.U. Alumnus Governor Leon C. Phillips, '16Law, had made the Union and his fellow alumnus and Manager of the Union, Ted Beard, '21ba, an issue in the gubernatorial campaign two years previous. The records disclose that candidate Phillips, during his campaign speech in Norman, declared in essence that when he was elected Governor his first official act would be to fire Ted Beard who for years had been living in "regal splendor" in one of the large apartments of the Oklahoma Memorial Union! It might be well to add that Ted Beard has never made his home for a single day in the Union Building! And, too, the Phillips administration has come and gone and Beard is still manager of the Alumni Corporation.

Finally, after pressure was brought from the merchants and others concerned, a State Senate investigating committee was commissioned to investigate all the charges against the Union and to hear the testimony of various students and University officials. It eventually came to the conclusion after weeks of deliberation that "the Union is serving a most useful purpose and has answered a great need of the school, not only in furnishing a general center of supplies for the student body, but also in serving as a general melting pot for the fraternity and non-fraternity groups, thus serving to promote a more democratic atmosphere."

Perhaps the reason the Senate committee arrived at this decision will be found in the plaques displayed at the downstairs entrance and in the foyer of the Union. They exemplify the truly American spirit in which the building was built. The simple but beautiful bronze plaque just inside the entrance states:

"This Building Is Dedicated to the Memory of the Graduates and Former Students of the University of Oklahoma Who Gave Their Lives in the World War. 1917-18."

The Memorial Plaque left by the Class of

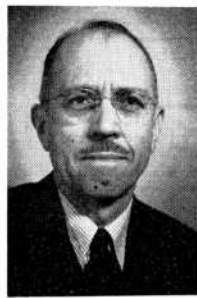
1944 in the foyer of the Union is again typical of the brotherhood and fidelity evidenced in the spirit of Oklahoma alumni. In bold bronze letters it states: "*Proudly We Pay Tribute to O.U. Alumni Who Gave Their Lives in World War II.*"

In more recent years the Union has been generally accepted as an essential and important institution on the campus, and its use has increased steadily.

It has become the center of campus life, and, in truth, if any controversy exists today, it's because there's just not enough Union for everybody.

In the near future, however, alumni visiting their alma mater for homecoming or class reunion will find accommodations more pleasing than before. Waiting in long lines to get something to eat will be a thing of the past and the problems and worries involved in finding a meeting place for their special groups will no longer exist.

The reason is that the University Board of Regents and the Union Board of Governors, with their more than a score of technical advisors selected from the present-day student body, alumni over the country, and present-day faculty members of the Union, gave their final nod of approval to architect Tom Sorey's preliminary plans for the expansion of the Oklahoma Memorial Union at a meeting held September 8. Sorey received a BA Degree in 1920.



TOM SOREY, '20BA
Architect

The tremendous expansion project will necessitate a fund approximately \$2,200,000 and is expected to get underway soon after the first of next year. Architect Sorey expects to hand to the Board of Governors completed details and plans by December 15, 1948. The actual building will be completed by early 1950.

"The proposed addition should provide sufficient facilities to meet the needs of a student body numbering up to 15,000 students," President Cross said. Even as recently as the middle of October, President Cross stated before an audience of business and professional men that it is his solemn conviction that the University of Oklahoma student body will reach a minimum of 15,000 students by 1960.

The additions to the Union Building will

be attune with the recent building spree of the University, which, during the past year, has been responsible for the construction or enlargement of four large structures on the campus. These buildings include the new Research Institute, the new Press Building, the women's quadrangle consisting of four large residential halls, a west wing which was added to Holmberg Hall for the benefit of the School of Music, an east wing to the Engineering Building, and Kaufman Hall, new classroom building.

Two new wings, north and south, will be added to the Union which was completed in 1928 at a cost of \$576,677.19. The wing to the north, which will be 120 by 100 feet, will be four stories high while the wing to the south, 85 by 125 feet, will be three stories high and include many much-needed improvements. A new cafeteria can be used with the adjoining fountain room and will provide sufficient space to serve 615 patrons at one time. This is three times the present number that can be accommodated in the Union. The cafeteria includes a large kitchen to be built on the northeast corner of the first floor. Nine dining rooms, seating between 40 and 160 each, will be installed above the cafeteria.

The University book exchange will occupy approximately twice the floor space of the old book store and will take up a lot of the space now occupied by the cafeteria. Outstanding features of the new store will be complete modernization including indirect fluorescent lighting and, for the first time, large show cases. Adequate storage space is to be provided in the basement. The large book exchange will make it possible to discontinue all existing branches.

Students feeling in a gay mood will have plenty of space to express themselves in the modern ballroom which is to be enlarged and included in the north wing on the second floor. The old ballroom is to be completely redecorated and will be able to seat 868 people for dining, 1,034 for meetings and will have a capacity of 413 couples for dancing. Recent rules insist that student organizations holding dances in the hall shall not be allowed to decorate in any manner which will damage the interior.

The faculty will also benefit from the proposed expansion. The long-felt need for Faculty Club expansion will at last be realized to the satisfaction of everyone. They will have their own club on the mezzanine floor on the East side of the north wing. They will have a pantry, snack bar, a



The Union Lounge is the scene of both gay activities and many peaceful hours. Students can drop in between classes to meet their friends or spend restful hours reading during the afternoon or at night till 10.

lounge of 57 by 31 feet dimensions and a game room measuring 50 by 39 feet. A feature of these two rooms will be the modern folding doors to make one room for large social gatherings.

The Faculty Club will share the cost of the new Union Building by paying for their section of it. This includes the "cost of constructing the facilities to be used by the Faculty Club." Also, it includes "the cost of furnishings and equipment purchased with bond issue funds for installation in the Faculty Club facilities." The Faculty Club will make an initial down-payment to the Board of Governors, but, as yet, no specific amount has been set.

The Faculty Club will also pay semi-annual interest to the Board of Governors based upon their part of the total debt incurred in the construction of the additions. Also, in case of default on the part of the Faculty Club trustees in payment of the premium and interest, the facilities will revert to the Student Union Corporation Board.

The alumni office, the Union Business office, and the *Sooner Magazine* office will acquire new space on the third floor of the north wing. At present, these offices will be found in the south wing of the second floor.



TED BEARD, '21BA
Union Executive-
Manager

Radiostation WNAD will broadcast from ultra-modern quarters on the second and third floors of the south wing, and, according to Ted Beard, '21ba, secretary-manager of the Union, "the best facilities of any educational radio setup in America will be included."

The new Union, which is modeled after and includes the best points of hundreds of similar college meeting places all over the United States and Canada will include an

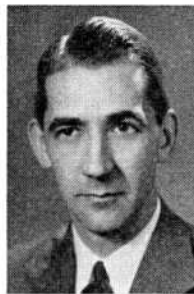
auditorium to seat 540 people. The auditorium will be thoroughly equipped for radio broadcasts and will be used for short courses, institutes, special meetings, and many other activities for the student body, alumni and faculty.

Eleven meeting rooms are to be added on the first floor and the present game room will be extended into the first floor of the south wing.

Air-conditioning is another feature of the proposed project which is steadily becoming a reality. This, plus two passenger elevators and one service elevator, will complete the planning which has been the focal point of attention for A. N. "Jack" Boatman, '14ba, '16Law, president of the Board of Governors; E. D. Meacham, '14ba, chairman of the Union Building Committee, President George L. Cross, and the various committees and sub-committees meeting regularly for the past 21 months.

The present Board of Governors elected to serve during 1948-49 are:

- A. N. Boatman, President, '14ba, '16Law
- Lee B. Thompson, Vice-President, '25ba, '27Law, Oklahoma City
- R. W. Hutto, Treasurer, '10ba, Oklahoma City
- T. M. Beard, '21ba, Secretary, Norman
- Dr. George L. Cross, Norman
- Erl Deacon, '21eng, Cushing
- Grady Harris, '18, Alex
- Dr. E. D. Meacham, '14ba, Norman
- Frank S. Cleckler, '21ba, Oklahoma City
- J. F. Malone, '37ba, Oklahoma City
- Owen Townsend, '40ba, '40Law, Oklahoma City
- Norman Brillhart, '17ba, Madill
- Hicks Epton, '32Law, Wewoka
- Jack Luttrell, '38ba, '41Law, Norman



H. FREELAND, '38FA
Union Operational
Manager

Menter Baker, Jr., '42bus, Oklahoma City

Paul Reed, '21, Oklahoma City

Lowrey H. Harrell, '16Law, Ada

Elected by the Board of Governors to serve as their active full time managing board is the Oklahoma Memorial Union Board of Managers. They are:

Jack Luttrell, '38ba, '41Law, Chairman

Dean E. D. Meacham, '14ba, Vice-Chairman

Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28bus

Paul MacMinn, Dean of Students

Paul McClung, Editor, Oklahoma Daily

Jack Bales, President, Student Senate

Ted Beard, Manager, Oklahoma Memorial Union, '21ba

The president of the University is represented on this board by Paul MacMinn while both the editor of the *Oklahoma Daily* and the president of the Student Senate are automatic members representing the student body.

The expansion program is getting started at a very appropriate time. For it was only last May that B. S. "Chebie" Graham, '24, and his wife dedicated an oil painting by the well-known Tulsa portrait artist, Frank von der Lancken, to the late Eugene Faulkner, '23ba, "who first conceived the idea of a student union." Faulkner's idea resulted from a realization of the fact that members of fraternities and sororities had a place to meet their parents and other visitors to the campus, but others did not. He conceived a building which would serve as a common meeting place for parents and visitors during University exercises and sports events.

The files of the *Oklahoma Daily*, student newspaper, reveal that a group was organized in 1916 for the purpose of erecting the Union Building. It got far enough along for an architect's drawing to be printed in the paper. However, World War I called away most of the leaders and plans were temporarily shelved.

The movement was resurrected in February of 1922 when a large frame building used by the Y.M.C.A. burned. The following Sunday, Dr. Stratton D. Brooks, then president of the University, called together 25 of the leading men on the campus for a conference to decide whether to attempt to rebuild the "Y" or to try for a Union. The latter was decided upon, and Eugene Faulkner, the man with the original idea and then a senior lawyer, was elected chairman of a committee to handle preliminary details. As many alumni readers will remember, the 25 men who met on that memorable Sunday afternoon constituted the "Committee of 25" which so often dis-

patched appeals all over the country designed to reach into the pocket books of thousands of alumni between 1922 and 1928.

Faulkner and his small committee visited the Union Buildings at Michigan, Purdue, Nebraska, Illinois, Chicago, and Ohio State Universities. Upon their return, an alumni corporation was formed and chartered by the Secretary of State. The Board of Governors was organized to handle the business part of the Union, and an estimate of \$350,000 made as the amount necessary to erect the building needed.

Men and women who have served on the Board of Governors in the past include, since 1928, the following:

W. B. Bizzell (deceased) President of the University, 1925-41

J. S. Buchanan (deceased) acting President of the University 1923-25

Frank Buttram, '10ba, '12ma

Thomas F. Carey, '08ba

Glenn C. Clark, '13ba

Richard F. Cloyd, '19ba, '28ba, former alumni secretary

E. E. Dale, '11ba

Don Emery, '20ba, '21Law, present member of the Board of Regents

T. Jack Foster, '29

B. S. "Chebie" Graham, '24

Harry L. S. Halley, '15ba, '17Law

George D. Hann, '36m.ed, Alumni Association past president, Dad's Association President

G. B. Johnson, '19ba

Neil R. Johnson, '15ba, '17Law

Casper Kite, '16ba

Emil R. Kraettli, '18, Secretary of the University and the Board of Regents

Warren T. Mayfield, '18bs, '20med

V. E. Monnett, '12ba

Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28bus

O. F. Muldrow, '22

Nellie J. McFerron Littick, '15ba, '19ma

Errett R. Newby, '07bm, '08ba

Lloyd Noble, '23

Bennie Owen, former head football coach and director of athletics

C. C. Roberts, (deceased) '01ba

H. V. L. Sapper, (deceased) '14bs, '14ba

Raymond A. Tolbert, '12ba, '13Law

Owen Townsend, '40ba, '40Law

W. R. Wallace, '10

Chester Westfall, '16ba

Guy Y. Williams, '06ba, '10ma

Robert H. Wood, '11ba

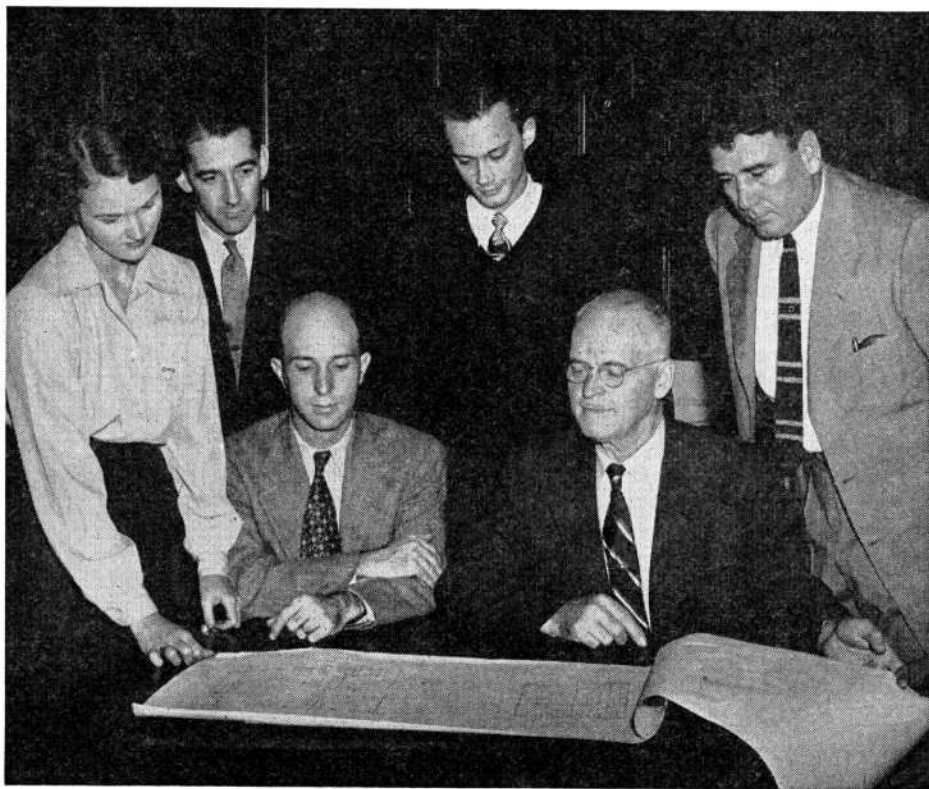
With the assistance of alumni, a bill was pushed through the Ninth Legislature and eventually signed by Governor Jack Walton giving the Board of Regents of the University the authority to make a lease for 99 years to the Board of Governors of two acres of ground on the campus, at a yearly rental of \$1. This "rental fee" was also to include light, heat, power, and water! The new lease still contains the \$1 per annum

rental fee, but the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Student Union, i.e., the lessee, is responsible for maintenance of the property and the payment of all bills incurred in the operation. The State of Oklahoma is assuming no part of the financial burden.

Sorey and Vahlberg, Oklahoma City, were selected as architects for the original building, and the first plans and sketches were completed in 1924. These were revised a number of times, and as at the present, finally culled to include the best that had been found in the Student Union Buildings of the country. It eventually took 10 years to build the first Union because of lack of funds due to the depression and other difficulties encountered. The last indebtedness was paid on the present building April 1, 1943.

verted into two dining rooms, the Woodruff Room and English Room. The offices on the west side of the south wing of the main floor were finished. This project, also done with the help of the W.P.A., cost about \$27,000 include the furnishings of the lounge.

The same year that the Union idea was conceived, Ben G. Owen, then head of athletics, started a campaign for a stadium, but his first effort was unsuccessful. It was decided that a joint campaign would be held to raise \$1 million of which 65 percent would go for the Stadium and 35 percent for the Union. The official name of the campaign was The Stadium-Union Memorial Fund, Inc. Frank Buttram, '10ba, '12ma, who had pledged several thousand dollars to the campaign, was elected national chairman. J. S. Buchanan, as presi-



The building committee went to work and now have plans submitted by architect Tom Sorey for the proposed additions to the Union Building. Seen studying the final drafts are: seated, left to right, Jack Luttrell, '38ba, '41Law, and Dean E. D. Meacham, '14ba; standing, left to right: Virginia Smith, arts and sciences senior; Hillyer Freeland, '38fa, operational manager of the Union; Harry McMillan, business administration junior, and Hal Muldrow, Jr., '28Law.

The completion of the physical plant has proceeded step by step since the early beginnings. The Memorial Tower was placed on the building in the school year 1935-36 at a total cost of \$34,555.08. The W.P.A. split the total cost with the alumni corporation by contributing \$18,167.75.

The barn-like space originally intended for the main lounge was finished as a fine oak-paneled lounge with comfortable and beautiful furnishings in the winter of 1937-38, and as part of the same project, the old alumni and Union office space was con-

verted into two dining rooms, the Woodruff Room and English Room. The offices on the west side of the south wing of the main floor were finished. This project, also done with the help of the W.P.A., cost about \$27,000 include the furnishings of the lounge.

On April 14, 1925, the articles of incorporation of trustees for the Stadium-Union Memorial Fund of the University of Oklahoma were issued by the Oklahoma Secretary of State. In the first paragraph of these articles will be found some very significant words—words which indeed make every cent that was contributed to the orig-

inal Union and every cent that will be contributed to the new additions, quite worthwhile.

"The sole purpose of this corporation is to promote the educational, literary, scientific, and religious development and advancement of the students of the University of Oklahoma, in memory of the graduates, former students and students of said University who served in the World War . . ."

sity of Kansas which was tied zero to zero. The Stadium, which was to be in the form of a horseshoe and include a large gym, was so constructed that the least amount of sun would be in the eyes of the players, and the wind would be at the back of the track runners on the straightaway.

Recent plans announced by President Cross in the July, 1948, *Sooner Magazine* call for an enlarged stadium capable of seating thousands of more people. Whether the

ma; former Governor E. W. Marland, deceased; and Lew Wentz, Ponca City.

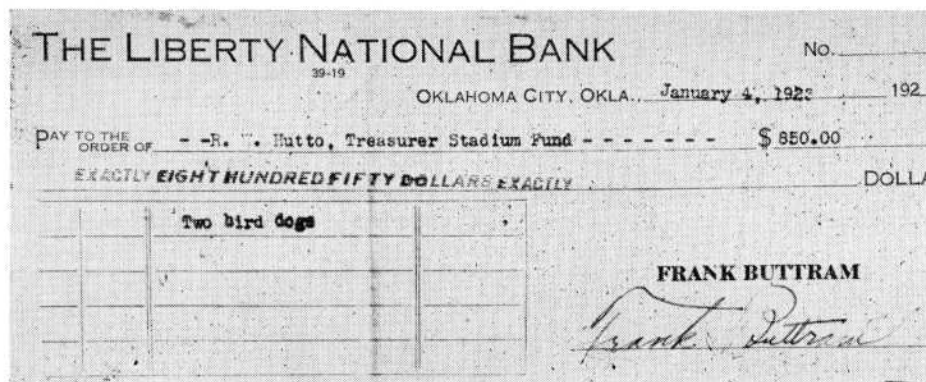
The present building is valued at approximately \$750,000, and it has been paid for in full. Of the purchase price, approximately \$330,000 were contributed by alumni and citizens of Oklahoma, while the balance was paid from a student Union fee voted as an assessment upon each student by Mary Lou Stubbeman, '45bs.

The activities of the Oklahoma Memorial Union are planned and supervised by a Union Activities Board, which consists entirely of students and is headed this year by Mary Lou Stubbeman, '45bs.

The present structure was erected by subscriptions from the alumni, former students, undergraduates, the faculty and friends of the University as a "lasting tribute to those who in their daily life on the campus lived unselfishly for their classmates and University and who in time of war died gallantly for their country."

The building has gone far toward fusing into all groups a great University loyalty, and it is on this loyalty among its students and alumni that a university stands in the world of men.

Today, as 12,000 students pass through the entrance doors of the Union, it stands as a great living memorial to the immortals of two World Wars. Its tall tower reaches toward the heavens to exemplify the high ideals and the firm purposes of alumni who gave their all in the service of country and University. Yes, the Union stands today as a tremendous structure—a building built with a lot more than money and mortar—a memorial to those who have persevered the democratic way of life both at the University and in all educational institutions in America.



The above check was given by Frank Buttram, '10ba, '12ma, Oklahoma City, for the two registered English setters that were donated to the Stadium Union Fund by Guy Y. Williams, '06ba, '10ma, professor of chemistry. The dogs were auctioned off to the highest bidder between halves of the Homecoming football game played between Missouri and Oklahoma on Boyd Field, November 11, 1922. The game ended in a 0 to 0 tie.

The first actual boon given the campaign happened between halves of the homecoming football game played between Missouri and Oklahoma on Boyd Field, November 11, 1922. Guy Y. Williams, '06ba, '10ma, then and now a professor of chemistry, auctioned off two registered English setters to the highest bidder and gave the money to the corporation. Frank Buttram, '10ba, '12ma, president of the Buttram Petroleum Company, Oklahoma City, purchased the dogs for \$850.

The Stadium-Union Memorial Fund began to function in earnest also on a significant date. It was Armistice Day, November 11, 1924, that a battery of 200 workers started out to call on alumni. Within four days they had turned in \$217,000 and by February 10, 1925, a full million had been pledged and \$409,910 collected.

A 2-5-0 club was started to obtain more money. If a person contributed \$250 or more, he became a member and was entitled to receive free football tickets for all O.U. home games for life. Approximately 400 alumni joined this club, but only some 200 paid out their full pledges. Life football tickets were only given to those who did pay out their entire pledge.

Original plans called for a section of the Stadium capable of seating 15,000 to be constructed by October 1, 1925, at a cost of \$100,000. This first section of the Stadium was completed and ready for the November 7 homecoming game with the Univer-

horseshoe originally planned will be completed, or the stadium to be made into a bowl, or a second deck added, similar to baseball stadiums, is still a matter of speculation. A new gym is also included in future building plans.

The Union was begun September 1, 1925, and completed, except for minor decorations in certain parts of the interior, in early 1928.

Among the chief individual contributors to the fund were Frank Buttram, '10ba, '12



Above are pictured the members of the Union Activities Board. Seated, left to right: Johnny Lane, journalism senior, Pampa, Texas; Mary Lou Stubbeman, '45bs, director of U. A. B.; Catherine Stewart, music senior, Norman; Jim Smith, business junior, Oklahoma City, and Charles Hale, bacteriology senior, Moore. Standing, left to right: Spencer Taylor, petroleum engineering junior, Jackson, Mississippi; Jim Milbourn, business junior, Fairland; Sudie Grantham, music senior, Ryan; Carolyn Propps, physical education senior, Tulsa, and Calvin Goode, business junior, Mangum.

Nettleton Attends Inaugural

It isn't often a new university is launched. But the University of Oklahoma was represented at the launching of one in New England recently. The occasion was the inauguration of Brandeis University and the installation of its first president, Dr. Abram Leon Sachar.

Brandeis University, named in honor of the renowned former Supreme Court Justice, Louis D. Brandeis, is located in Waltham, Massachusetts, on the campus that once was Middlesex College. Backed by the Brandeis Foundation, Incorporated, it is the first university in the United States to be established under Jewish auspices.

Although it is Jewish-sponsored, George Alpert, president of the Board of Trustees, made it clear in the inaugural festivities that Brandeis University will be open to all races and faiths, and will make no discriminations on grounds of religion or nationality in choosing its faculty or student body.

At the request of President George L. Cross, Tully Nettleton, '23journ, a member of the Boston, Massachusetts, chapter of the University of Oklahoma Association, attended the formal inauguration ceremonies in Symphony Hall, Boston, on the evening of October 7. He marched in cap and gown in the academic procession and sat on the large platform with representatives of more than 200 colleges, universities and learned societies. He also attended a luncheon in honor of Dr. Sachar at the Somerset Hotel preceding the installation.

Mr. Nettleton is editor of special projects for *The Christian Science Monitor* in Boston.

Among universities and societies represented, in addition to those from all parts of the United States, were Rijks University, Holland; University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and the Academy of Sciences of the Institute of France.

Bass Scholarship Awarded

William C. McGehee, University arts and sciences junior from Bristow, has been awarded the first Robert Dean Bass memorial scholarship. The scholarship was established in 1947 by Henry B. Bass, Enid, father of Robert Dean Bass, '39-'43, and Harry W. Bass, Dallas, an uncle of Robert Dean. The fund is administered by the University foundation which handles gifts and bequests to O.U.

McGehee is majoring in government and has compiled almost a straight "A" average. Recipients of the scholarship must be majoring in either government or economics.

Dr. E. D. Meacham, '14ba, dean of College of Arts and Sciences; Earl Sneed, associate professor of law, and Dr. Oliver Benson, '32ba, '33ma, chairman of the government department, comprised the three-man committee which selected McGehee.

The Robert Dean Bass scholarship made its initial appearance this semester and is good only at the University for the current year. The stipend is expected to be approximately \$600 in 1949.

Robert Dean Bass was lost in action February 7, 1945, while serving with the Army Engineers in Germany. Prior to entering the University he was an outstanding student in the Enid High School.

McGehee is president of the campus Y.M.C.A., and is a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity. He is an active member in the student senate. Prior to entering O.U. the scholarship winner attended high school at Bristow.



Dr. Percy Buchanan, minister-linguist-professor, is teaching the University's first course in Chinese and Japanese history.

Asiatic Authority

A minister-linguist-professor who has lived 30 years in the Orient is teaching the University of Oklahoma's first courses in Chinese and Japanese history.

He is Dr. Percy Buchanan, formerly director of the Institute of Asiatic Affairs at the University of Colorado. He still finds a practical use for speaking Japanese, even in Norman.

"My wife and I both speak it," he explains, "especially when we're out house hunting. We can talk freely about the house before the owner or agent and no feelings are hurt."

During World War II he headed the army intelligence language school in Washington, D. C., and directed counter intelligence training in Japan for a year after the surrender.

After seeing the Far East from the viewpoint of a missionary and teacher in Japanese colleges, he believes the need is important for Americans to practice democracy themselves in China if they expect to counter communism.

"We can't defeat an idealism with arms or money," he says. "I feel very strongly that we can defeat communism only by so believing in our democratic form of government that our young men and women will go to China and live before the Chinese a way of democracy. Democracy is infinitely superior to anything communism has to offer."

He favors sending food and medical supplies to "all parts of China because in this way we can, to a certain extent, do away with poverty and famine. That is where the roots of communism sink so deeply and easily."

Are the Chinese communists getting arms from the Soviet government?

Dr. Buchanan won't give the affirmative to that, but he points out that "they're getting arms—Japanese arms. The Japs had arsenals and plants in Manchuria when the war ended, and we know they were moved out of Manchuria. So the Chinese Red armies are getting new Japanese arms now."

He credits MacArthur with doing "a magnificent job" in Japan. "He has made mistakes, yes, but not as many as in other occupational zones. He knows

the Orient. The Japanese people hold him in awe and admire him. In 1946 they were afraid he would leave. Of course, their great fear is Russia."

The University professor's background on the Far East wasn't gleaned as a sight-seeing tourist who travels first class and has hotel accommodations.

He was ejected from Mongolia in 1937 while doing linguistic research for the American Philosophical Society. Eventually he proved to the satisfaction of Chinese police that the ancient Mongolian manuscript he carried wasn't of military value.

He saw Shanghai on "Bloody Sunday" when the Japanese first bombed the city.

He won his release from Japanese police in Formosa and Okinawa when he sang Nipponese folk songs. In Formosa he was identified by singing before the police a Japanese song which he had previously recorded for the Victor company. On Okinawa they liked his song so well they gave him a police escort and offered to assist in his research.

He was born in Takamatsu, Japan, where his father was stationed as a missionary. Buchanan has been an ordained Presbyterian minister since 1925. After receiving Bachelor Degrees from Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee, and a B.D. from Union Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, he returned to Nagoya, Japan, to teach music and English at Kinjo College. He holds Master's and Doctor's Degrees in linguistics from Princeton.

The Buchanans' son, Donal, 20, is a history major at the University of Colorado. Their daughter, Mrs. Forrest Duncan, lives in Oxnard, California.

Alumni History Gathered

A new and different interest in the alumni of the University has been developed by the University Library in the division of manuscripts. One phase of this work is concerned with "the alumni in history."

"The alumni in history" begins while the future alumni are still students at the University. Records of various aspects of campus life and class activities are preserved for future generations.

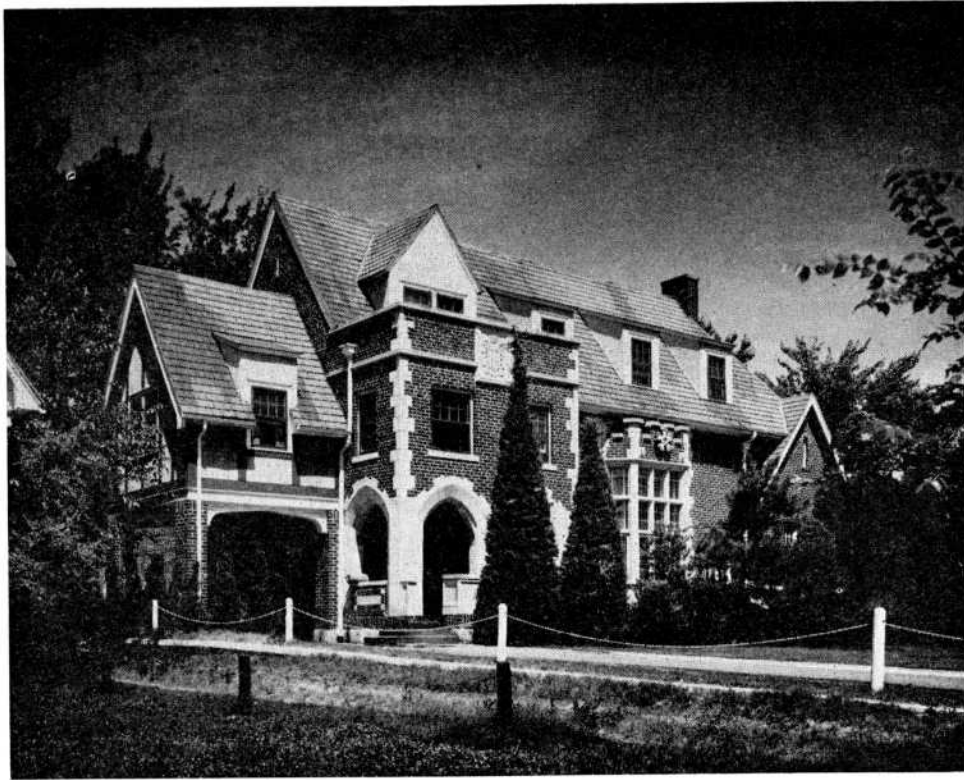
Class histories, class pictures, banners and pennants are among the class records being kept. There are approximately 150 campus organizations on file with their records of members, scrapbooks and photographs of members. Campus publications, such as the yearbooks, daily papers, departmental publications and posters, are part of the record being kept on campus life.

Fifty-six school years have passed without much effort being made in the preservation of these materials. Thus, much has been lost. There are approximately 200 issues of the 1000 numbered series of the *University Bulletin* which are unaccounted for. All copies of the yearbook before 1909 are missing and the 1917, 1918, and 1920 issues are not available.

Other materials are also needed to complete record files for future reference and research on the University life and for publicity on class reunions.

All former faculty and administrative officers of the University, as well as present members of the staff of long standing, are invited to contribute their files of correspondence, copies of O.U. publications and other materials to the building of this new home of University memorabilia and archives in the Division of Manuscripts.

A total of 8,669 tons of lead and zinc concentrates were produced in Oklahoma during June.



Sigma Nu

Founded At O. U. in 1909

Looking at a going concern such as the Delta Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Nu as it is today and as it was yesterday is not only indicative of the growth of a segment of the University but it is also indicative of the growth of the University.

Much of the history of the institution is bound up in the fraternal organizations and Sigma Nu can rightfully boast of being along for most of the ride. The fourth national fraternity on the O.U. campus, Delta Epsilon Chapter was formed from a local fraternity, Alpha Delta, in 1909.

Joseph P. Paxton, deceased, a Sigma Nu at the University of Missouri, and at the time professor of Greek at the University, guided the formation and affiliation of the local chapter. Nineteen members of Alpha Delta became members of Sigma Nu and the infant chapter was on its way.

From 19 to more than 100 in nearly 40 years is the record of the membership of Sigma Nu here.

With the growth in membership came a growth in responsibilities. As proof the fraternity met its obligations and provided men capable of meeting their responsibilities, Sigma Nu points with pride to such outstanding alums as Leon Phillips, '16Law, Weleetka, charter member and former governor of the state; Errett Newby, '07fa, '08ba, an executive of the Buttram Oil Company, Oklahoma City; Lewis Morris, '15ba, '15ma, '17Law, Oklahoma City, district judge; Orel Busby, '14Law, Ada, former Supreme Court Justice; Dr. John F. Burton, '18bs, '21med, Oklahoma City, prominent plastic surgeon; Dr. Earl McBride, '12bs, Oklahoma City, orthopedic surgeon; Kermit Hardwick, '29bus, Oklahoma City, an executive with the John A. Brown Company, and Col. William V. Cox, '21ba, '24ma, Ponca City, Superintendent of Ponca Military Academy.

Three University faculty members—Jesse Rader, '08ba, '13ma, University librarian; Burton Gilder-

sleeve, associate professor of finance, and Ben G. Owen, director of intramural athletics—list Sigma Nu as their fraternity.

The current leaders of the local chapter are Commander William A. Hall, architecture, senior, Holdenville; Lt. Commander Robert A. Wilson, Law, senior, Shawnee; Recorder Earnest R. Dick, business, junior, Oklahoma City, and Treasurer Ted P. Holcomb, business, senior, Duncan.

Some of the activities these men direct include the White Rose Formal and Border Dance, two of the social highlights of the year. Recently, the float entry of Sigma Nu placed first in the men's division of the Homecoming parade and Sigma Nu is consistently a leader in intramural athletics.

Facts concerning prominent alums, outstanding members, social highlights, and active participation in campus activities help to illustrate why Sigma Nu has made so much progress in their first 40 years on the campus.

BOOKS

NO MAN'S LAND, by Carl Coke Rister. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.00.

No Man's Land, so called because Congress failed to assign the area to any administrative unit after the Compromise of 1850, has been the site of many struggles between Nature and Man. This strip of land, which now comprises the Oklahoma Panhandle, was traversed by Coronado and other early explorers in their search for the fabulous Indian kingdom of Gran Quivira.

The country was lush and beautiful in the early Spring, but in July and August it became parched with heat and drought. The Indians had learned how to live in this territory, but white men had a difficult time adapting themselves to the changing climate.

No Man's Land had no law. It became a haven for outlaws, although many of its citizens were

honest, hard-working ranchers and settlers. Crimes increased with the influx of settlers. Finally, in desperation, the honest settlers took the law in their own hands. The vigilantes formed. They succeeded in cleaning up a few of the claim jumpers and other thieves who made life miserable for the citizens who were trying to make homes. It was not until 1890 that No Man's Land became Oklahoma territory, with civil government, provisions for schools, land offices and courts.

In these years of struggle, the ranchers and farmers had taken what they could get from the land, and put nothing back. For this they paid. Dust storms began carrying away millions of tons of soil. The worst storm of all came in March, 1939. The state was covered with dust weighing 198,117,270,072 pounds. During these dust storms, complete blackness covered the vicinity. Time and again the Panhandle dug out of the dust, only to face another storm.

In 1940, rain finally brought relief to the dust-choked residents of the Panhandle. Much had to be done to rebuild and stop erosion. It is still being

done.

Carl Coke Rister is a research professor of history at the University of Oklahoma. He has written several books dealing with the Southwest, including *Land Hunger*, and *Border Command*. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, and holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from George Washington University, Washington, D. C.—Thellys Hess, '47bus.

Cobean Is Cartoon Creater

Life magazine has credited Sam Cobean, '37, as being the creator of dream cartoons, which are illustrated with the forms of unclad females.

At the University Cobean was the editor of the *Covered Wagon*, campus humor magazine, in 1936-'37, and his cartoons also appeared in the *Sooner Yearbook*.

While in the Army during the war, he started cartooning for the *New Yorker* and *Saturday Evening Post*.