

For the Union, a New Look

Utility and beauty are being blended into a perfect combination for more student pleasure.

By John Wagoner

Expanded by two new wings, the Memorial Union Building will be a thing of beauty accented by utility when it is completed in August, 1951.

Fanning out to the north and south, the two additions will almost triple the floor space in the original building. And the old section will get a face lifting which will give it the same appearance as the new wings.

From a stainless steel-equipped kitchen to a terraced ball room, the Union will have a new look. As a hub of student and alumni activities on the campus, it will provide adequate facilities for the growing University and alumni association.

W. H. Freeland, '38fa, operational manager of the Union, has been thumbing blueprints since plans for the Union came off the architect's drawing board. Acting as a pencil-pointing guide, he has conducted

scores of "blueprint tours" of the expanded building. Freeland begins the tour by explaining that the south wing will have three floors and the north wing will have three floors in addition to a basement.

Let's take a look at the blueprints and have a sneak preview of the "new" Union.

Housed in the north wing of the ground floor, the new cafeteria will have seating space for 450 persons. An adjoining fountain room will provide booths and tables for 250. The cafeteria will feature a fry station where sandwiches will be served, a complete breakfast unit, and two steam table lines.

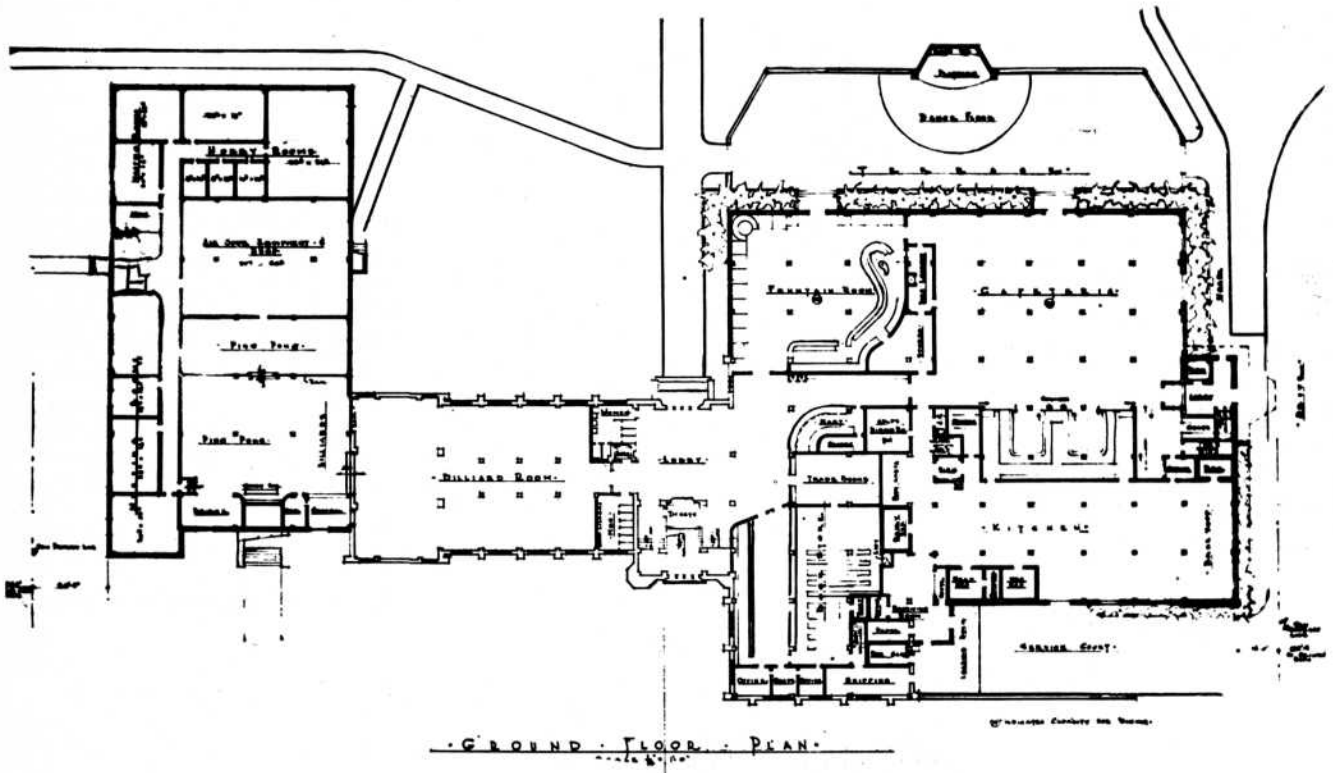
Doors will open from the cafeteria and fountain room to an outdoor dance terrace which will be located between the Union and the Law Building. A band shell, decorated by plant niches, will face the Union from the west edge of the terrace.

A new kitchen, which will provide food service for the cafeteria and dining room, will be equipped with modern stainless steel facilities. Freeland points out that labor-saving devices in the kitchen will save approximately \$45 a day in labor costs.

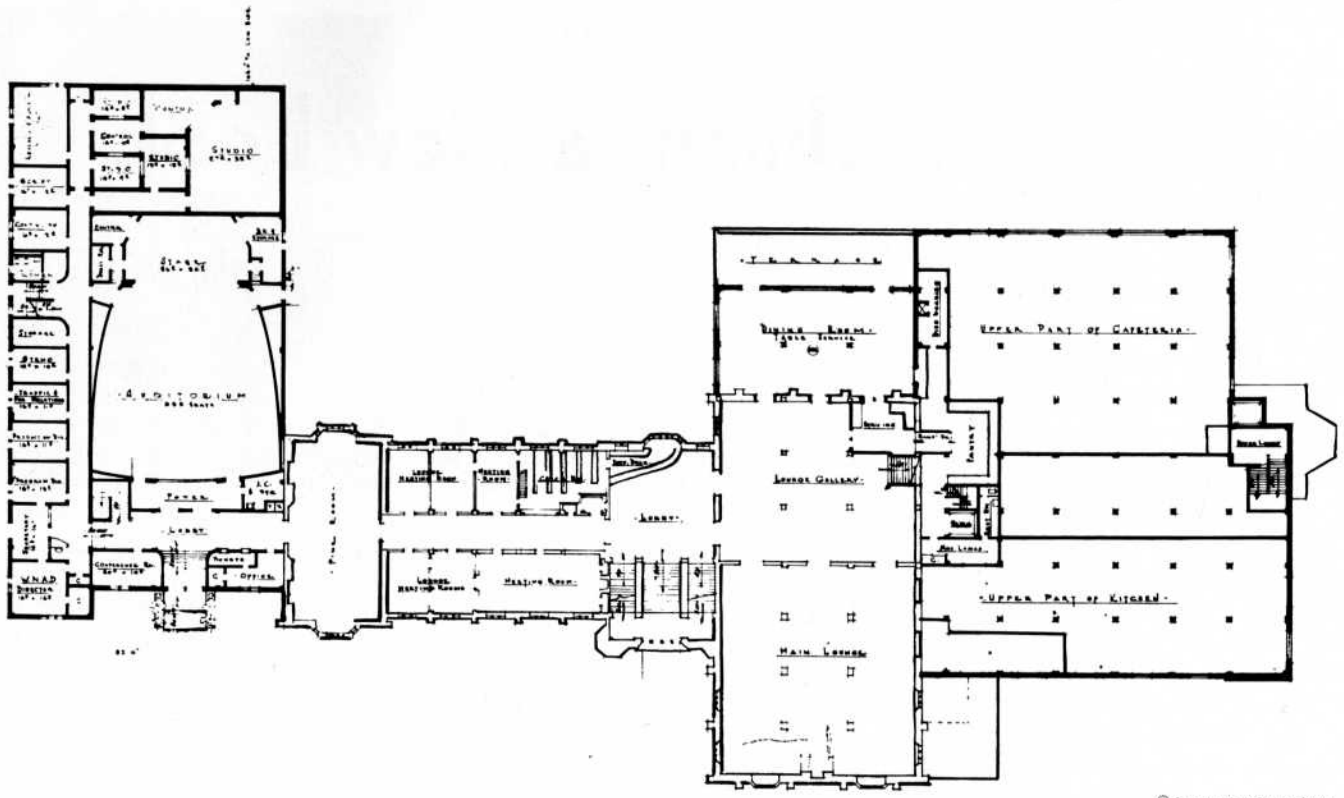
Space now occupied by the cafeteria on the ground floor will house the University Book Exchange. The basement below the cafeteria and book exchange will be used for storage and service rooms.

In the south wing of the main floor, the billiard room will be expanded, and more rooms will be provided for bridge and ping pong. Meeting rooms line a corridor extending along the south side of the wing.

A large conference room with a seating capacity of 200 will also be located on the ground floor of the south wing. Scaled for the use of small groups, the room will be used by organizations not large enough



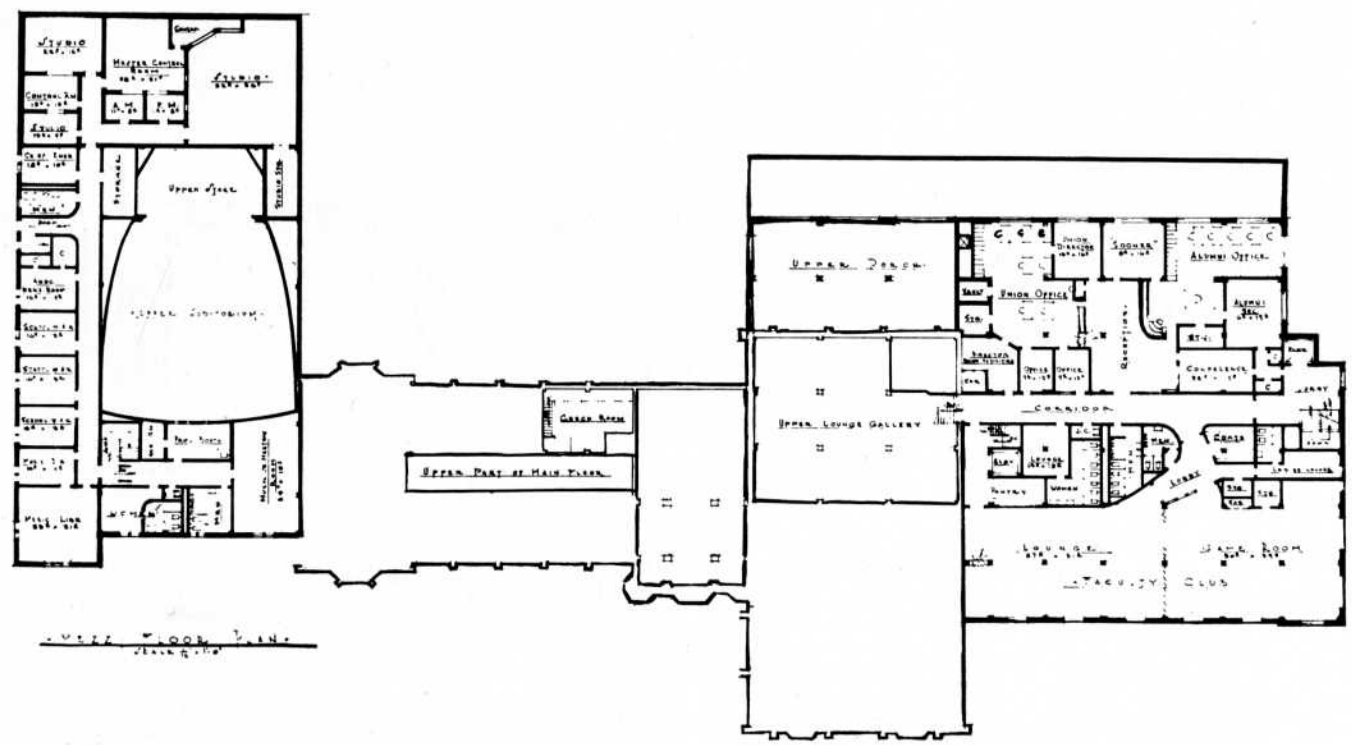
The ground floor plan of the expanded Union shows, from left to right, meeting rooms in the new south wing, hobby rooms, conference rooms, ping pong and billiard game areas, lobby, fountain room, Union Book Exchange, cafeteria and kitchen. To the west of the cafeteria and fountain room are an outdoor terrace and band shell.



· MAIN FLOOR PLAN ·

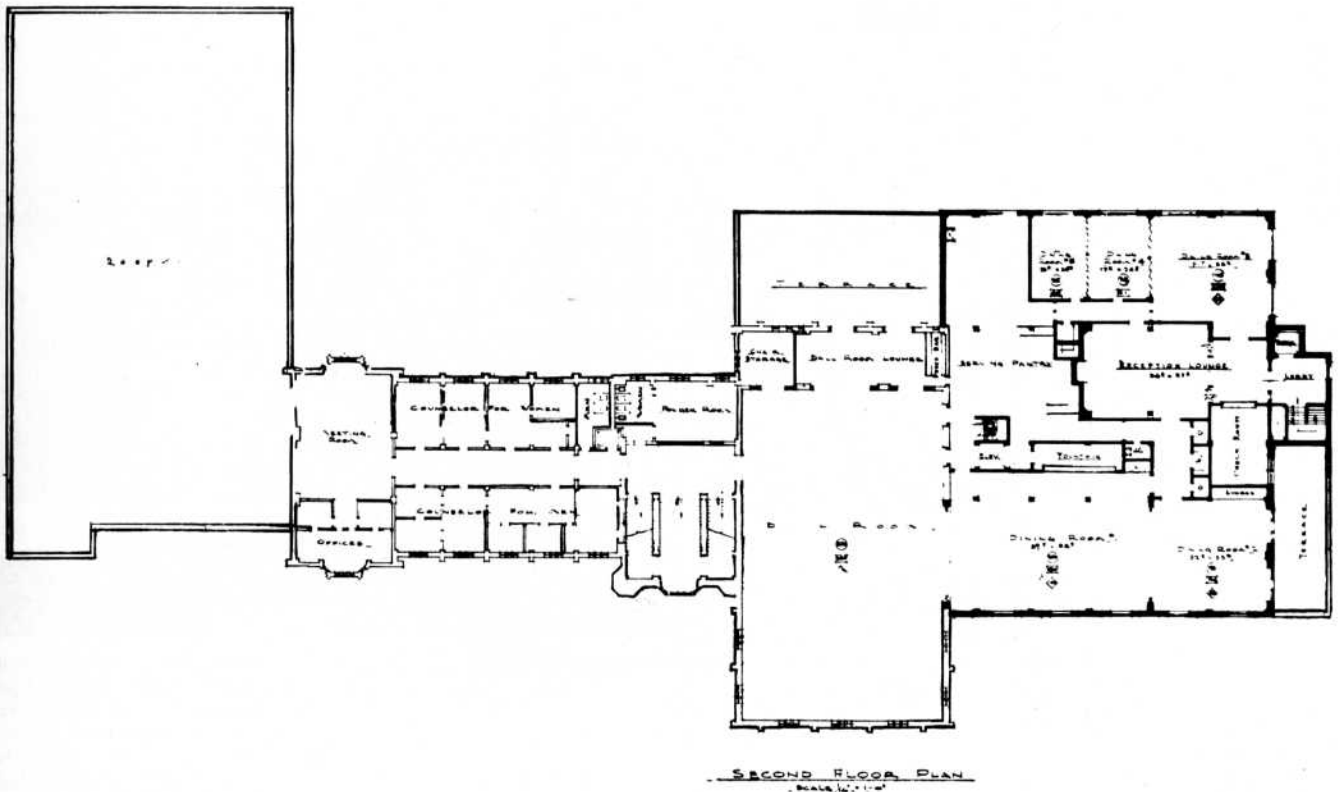
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An auditorium and radio station WNAD studios and offices occupy the south wing on the main floor level. Continuing from left to right into the main portion of the building are the Pine Room foyer, meeting rooms along the corridor, lobby and information desk, main lounge, lounge gallery and Oriental dining room. A second floor terrace opens off the dining room, and the upper part of the cafeteria and kitchen occupy the rest of the north wing.



· MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN ·

University Radio station WNAD will occupy offices and studios along the south corridor of the mezzanine floor in the south wing. The north wing mezzanine floor will be occupied by—left to right—an upper gallery, Union offices, Alumni Association offices and a faculty club lounge and game room.



Student offices will occupy the main section of the old building on the second floor level. From the central section of the blueprint, left to right, are the ballroom, serving pantry, dining rooms, reception lounge and lobby. A terrace flanks the ballroom on the west, and another outdoor terrace extends from the north dining room.

to need an auditorium for their meetings.

The Union Mart, which sells periodicals and incidentals, will be housed on the ground floor at the entrance to the cafeteria and fountain room.

The main floor can be entered from the east entrance or from the new lobby which will be located in the south wing.

The Jug, coffee drinkers retreat, will be removed, and the Union Lounge will be extended through the area it now occupies and on into the Woodruff Room. A main dining room, which will feature menu service and catering, will be located west of the lounge gallery. Decorated in Oriental motif, the room will seat 170 persons. Doors to the west of the dining room open onto a terrace.

The main floor lobby will include a check room and information desk. Meeting rooms line both sides of the hallway which extends toward the new south wing.

The Pine room, which is now occupied by the Alumni Association records office and the *Sooner Magazine* office, will be converted into a lobby for an auditorium in the south wing.

With balcony facilities, the auditorium will seat 575 persons. Planned for use in short courses, conferences and public lectures, the auditorium is equipped with a fire-proof motion picture projection booth.

Radio Station WNAD will occupy offices and studios located along a main

floor corridor south of the auditorium. Additional equipment rooms and studios will extend behind the auditorium stage. The top floor of the south wing will house a balcony, radio conference rooms and studios.

A faculty club lounge and game room will be located on the mezzanine floor in the north wing. The Union business offices and Alumni Association offices will occupy space west of the faculty club in the same wing on the mezzanine floor.

A ballroom, which can be expanded like an accordion, will be located on the second floor in the north wing. It will be flanked by two dining rooms which can be expanded into the ballroom by modern folding doors. A fountain room extends off the main dining room. Doors will open onto a terrace on the west of the ballroom, and a terrace will flank the north dining room. A portable bandstand, which can be moved to any location in the ballroom, will be included.

A reception room and foyer, serviced by an elevator rising from the north entrance, will be located off the entrance to the ballroom. A punch bar and lounge will occupy space between the ballroom and terrace.

Smaller dining rooms are located west of the reception lounge in the north wing.

Student offices will occupy the same space they now have on the second floor,

and the YMCA and YWCA lounge will be converted into a Union lounge for games and recreation.

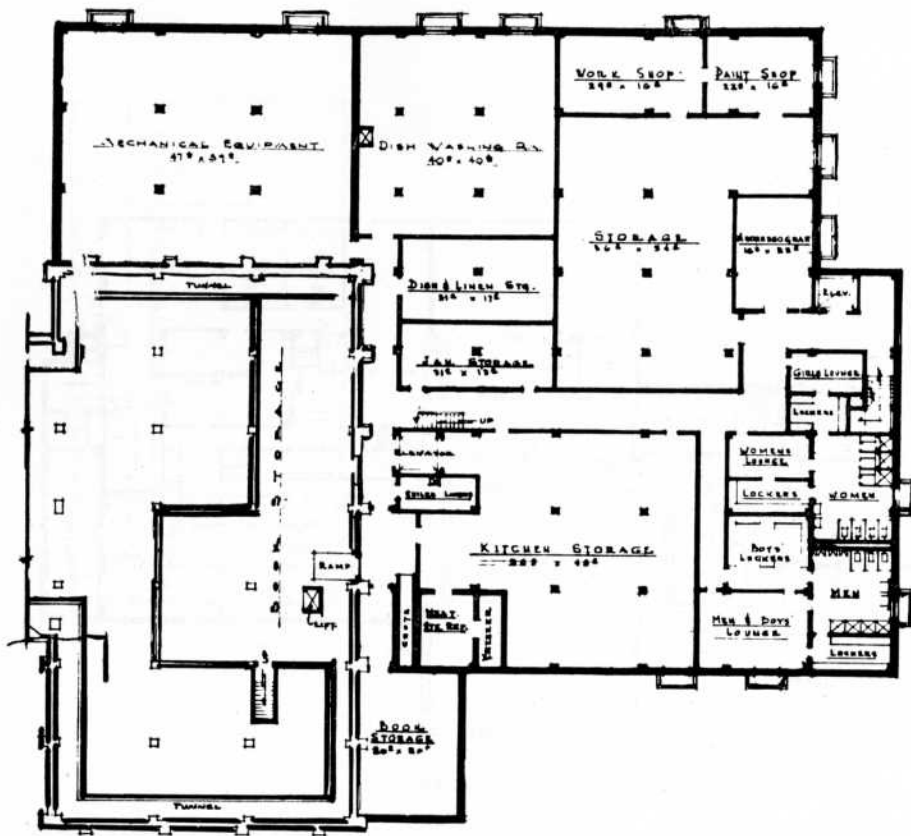
Tower rooms, now occupied by offices and studios of WNAD, will be renovated to accommodate music listening rooms. The radio station will be located in its new space in the south wing. Two apartments for overnight guests of the University will also be located on the upper floors in the original building.

Robert D. Harrell, Los Angeles designer and decorator, has planned the interior decoration scheme for the Union. A nationally known interior decorator, Harrell recently planned the plush decorations for the Shamrock Hotel in Houston, Texas.

Harrell has designed special lighting fixtures for the various rooms, and much of the furniture which he has planned for the Union will be custom built. Carrying out an international modern theme, the furniture and decorations will blend modern and period motifs.

A special touch for the Union will be the Oriental dining room on the second floor. Brass lighting fixtures which resemble Japanese lanterns, will hang from varying heights. And a specially designed sofa will stretch along one wall.

All furniture now used in the Union will be bleached and reconditioned. And Harrell has assured the Union planners that when his job is finished the "old can not



BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

The basement floor in the north wing of the Union will serve as a utility unit. From left to right—book storage space for the book exchange, mechanical equipment room, dish-washing room, dish and linen station, kitchen storage, rest rooms, lockers and lounges for Union employees.

be detected from the new."

Many of the lounges and dining rooms will be carpeted. All of the new sections of the building and part of the original section will be air conditioned as a concession to Oklahoma weather.

A special feature of the new north wing will be a circle drive which loops under a concrete canopy. From the north lobby an elevator shaft rises to the ballroom floor.

The south wing and tower will be serviced by an elevator which is now in use. And a special elevator will connect the kitchen with dining rooms in the building.

Worn floors in the old part of the building will be replaced, treads on stairways will be renewed, and marble wainscotting will be installed on the lobby walls. The total effect will be a building which looks spanking brand new all over.

Cost of the building and remodeling project is \$2,300,000. Ideal building weather during the spring months has kept the contractors ahead of schedule, and everything indicates the completed building will be ready for use in August, 1951.

► Dr. J. E. Fellows, dean of admissions and registrar, has returned from San Francisco, California, where he visited San Francisco State and Fresno State College as well as attended the annual meeting of AACRAO, April 12-25.

With an Alumni of 40,000, Correspondence Looks Ahead

More than 40,000 persons have enrolled for courses through the Correspondence Study Department of the University's Extension Division since it was organized in 1913.

In post-war years, with classrooms and campuses crowded to capacity and beyond, the Correspondence Study Department, under the direction of Miss Lucy Tandy, '32ma, and her two right-hand "men," Mrs. Christine A. Virgin, '44ma, and Mrs. Maude Kitchens, '23ba, has proved its value many times over. Annually, between 3,000 and 5,000 students enroll in more than 450 courses offered in college and highschool divisions.

No other single department of the University has served a larger or more varied clientele, or drawn its students from a wider field. Name a type of person: housewife, missionary, college student, prisoner in a penitentiary . . . "doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief . . . tinker, tailor, cowboy, sailor . . ." like the old nursery rhyme, students in correspondence courses include them all.

Or shut your eyes, and put your finger down anywhere on a map of the world, chances are that correspondence study courses from the University have been sent there. Right now, all of the 77 counties of Oklahoma, most of the 48 states, and twenty foreign countries are represented in current enrollments.

The Extension Division department handles lesson plans and books, and acts as a clearing house in the grading of papers by University faculty members or certified high school teachers. Only college courses were offered during the early years, and it was not until 1935, when an extension program was begun at government expense under

WPA, that high school courses became important.

Today, the enrolment is divided almost equally between high school and college courses. Courses for both high school and college credit offered through the department are approved by the State Board of Education, as well as by the United States Armed Forces Institute. A new ruling by the State Board allows persons over 21 years of age to take all courses for a high school diploma by correspondence.

The University, in co-operation with the USAFI, offers correspondence courses to enlisted personnel as well as officers in all branches of the service, at one-half the total price of the course. The government pays the other half. Credits in these courses apply on the requirements for high school diploma, or a university degree. Most correspondence courses can also be paid for under the G. I. Bill. Veterans who are interested in further education should write for more information.

At present, there are about 250 college courses offered, ranging through the alphabet from accounting to zoology. It requires a large staff of instructors and clerical workers to maintain these services.

College correspondence courses are written by members of the campus faculty, and are kept up to date by periodic revision. This spring, twenty-seven have been completely revised. These include six in education, six in music, four in home economics, and two each in English, history, French, German, Russian, and sociology. One course in Spanish, in Greek, and in journalism have been newly revised.

New courses not previously offered total 36, according to Miss Tandy. Business administration leads the field with ten new courses on the college level. Business law, economics, statistics, four courses in marketing, and business mathematics are now offered.

Electrical engineering offers six courses, as does home economics. A new course in applied thermodynamics, and one in aeronautical engineering are now available. Drama, mathematics, Japanese, and Chinese, are scheduled, with two courses each, and philosophy, geography, public health and German each offer one new course. Further additions to the curriculum offered are being considered, and will be announced from time to time.

Old stand-bys, still very popular with students, include English composition, professional writing, Oklahoma history, and U. S. government. They are kept revised and up to date.

Many students have found that an interesting and valuable feature of the department is the large collection of foreign language records. The department rents records in French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish, all made by persons who are natives of the various countries. Records for beginners, and on through to advanced conversational records are available.

The department is proud of its staff of instructors. Only teachers exceptionally well-qualified in their special fields and in correspondence teaching are utilized. Two Deans are teaching now. They are Dr. Horace B. Brown, dean of the college of Business Administration, and Dr. E. D. Meacham, '14ba, dean of the college of Arts and Sciences.

Chairmen of departments carrying on correspondence teaching include, Francis R. Cella, business statistics; L. A. Comp, '27bs, '35ms, aeronautical engineering; Dr. Howard O. Eaton, philosophy; E. E. Hatfield, '36m.bus, secretarial science; and Wyatt Marrs, '17ba, sociology. Other department chairmen who teach correspondence courses are Dr. Jim E. Reese, economics; Dr. J. J. Rhyne, social