



The Shoe Fits a Little Better

It's taken the efforts of the students, the administration and the citizens of the state, but O.U.'s physical facilities are beginning to fit the increased student enrolment.

O.U. was like the old woman who lived in a shoe. A record number of students—12,351—swarmed over the Norman campus after the close of World War II. The University physical plant was built to accommodate 5,000.

The solution was to build—and to build as rapidly as possible. A building program launched close on the heels of VJ Day is still booming. Enrolment had dropped to 10,465 for the 1950 spring term, but plans are being laid for an enrolment of 15,000. That's the figure expected sometime in the late '50's.

Amid the staccato of hammers and riveting machines, announcement came early in March that three more campus buildings are on the way. Construction plans authorized by the regents include a new wing of the geology-mineral industries building, a new graduate education building and a home economics building.

Then on April 19, the board of regents gave preliminary approval to more buildings and announced estimated costs to be financed by the University's cut of the state building bond issue. Included in the list were:

Journalism, \$300,000 to \$400,000; public health and biological facilities, \$150,000; second unit of

the geology and mineral industries wing, \$650,000; law library, \$200,000; chemistry building, \$400,000; classrooms under the new stadium, \$100,000; graduate education building, \$500,000; home economics building, \$500,000, and new class room building, \$450,000.

Concrete framework was rising for two new wings of the Memorial Union Building, and riveters were joining together the steel skeleton for a new geology building when announcement of the new plans was made. With \$7 millions in construction completed since the war, an additional \$5 millions in construction projects was in progress on the campus March 1.

Funds for the newly authorized buildings will come from \$3,250,940 allotted the University from the \$36,000,000 bond issue voted by the state last September. Sites for most of the new structures have not been announced.

Also approved by the regents in their March session were preliminary plans for a new aeronautical building. The new brick structure will be built on North Campus. Funds approved by the legislature last May will foot the bill.

The University began its building program in 1946 when Sooner City, a prefabricated housing development, sprang up like dandelions on Nic-

mann Field, south of the Main Campus. Conversion of navy barracks into men's housing units came next.

Since then the building program and approximate cost has included:

Kaufman Hall, \$450,000, liberal arts building; \$600,000 Research Institute Building; \$175,000 addition to Holmberg Hall, fine arts building; \$2,000,000 women's quadrangle housing project; \$235,000 University Press Building; \$1,200,000 addition to the football stadium; and an \$365,000 addition to the Engineering Building.

Projects now under construction include a \$2,300,000 building and remodeling program for the Memorial Union Building, a \$1,800,000 electrical power plant, and a \$425,000 geology building.

The University's off-the-campus building program includes plans for additions to the University medical school in Oklahoma City and the development of a biological center on Lake Texoma.

Oklahoma City expansions include a neuropsychiatric addition, Crippled Children's Hospital addition, and remodeling of the obstetrical suite, laundry and food service.

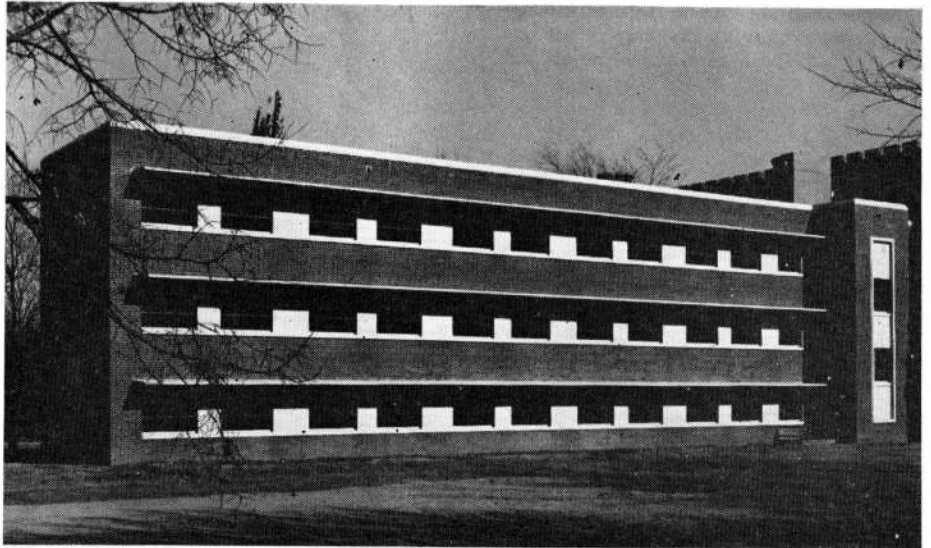
The Texoma biological center, 14 miles south of

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This aerial view extends northward from the south end of the South Oval. In the foreground is the new \$2,000,000 Women's Quadrangle. Four buildings of modernistic design, the Quadrangle is the University home of O.U. co-eds. Each house furnished in modern or period motif. Also included in the Quadrangle is a large cafeteria and lounge.

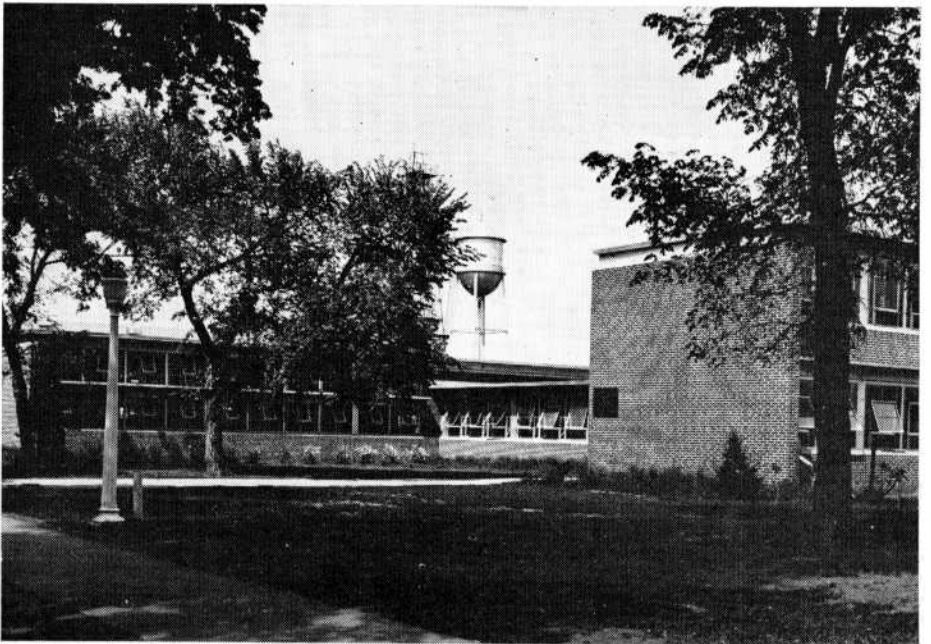
In the upper right corner sprawls the expanded stadium. The new section encloses the north end of the U-shaped field. Current plans call for conversion of space under the new section into classrooms.

At the left, structural steel framework of the new Geology Building juts up from the east side of the South Oval.



At the upper right is pictured the new addition to Holmberg Hall. The new space is devoted to music practice rooms. The structure is connected to Holmberg on the west.

From cramped quarters shared with the School of Journalism, the University Press has moved into a modern glass and brick building (center right). Located south of the Journalism Building, the Press now has adequate office space and a press equipment wing. Here books, pamphlets and University publications are edited and printed.



Setting a new trend in campus architecture, modernistic Kaufman Hall (lower right) stretches in long, sleek lines on the west side of the South Oval. New home of the English and Modern Languages departments, the building also houses the Speech Department and studios for student radio station KUVY.

Madill, will be used for the first time this summer. A partially completed cement block structure was given the University in March, 1949, by Norman, '17ba, and Mrs. Brillhart, (Mildred Colby, '22fa) of Madill. The legislature appropriated \$110,000 to complete the building and develop the station, the only one of its kind in the Southwest.

Expansion of the University is being planned with an eye on the 1940 birth rate. Youngsters born in 1940 are now in grammar schools, and will swell the University enrolment in the late '50's. When they come to Norman, the University hopes to have room for them.



Pictured at the upper right is the completed architects drawing of the Geology and Geological Survey building seen in its construction stage on page 12. The new structure will feature streamlined lines and accent the utilization of glass.

The University's new power plant will get the last of its finishing touches in August. Planned to service the expanded campus, it will replace a plant which has been operating at a maximum load for many months, center right.

The building pictured at the lower right is the addition to the Engineering Building. It connects to the old building on the east. Recently completed landscaping north of the building and extending to Boyd street enhances the beauty of the structure.

Home of the Physics department, the Research Institute (below) provides offices and facilities for persons delving into scientific and industrial problems. Located across the street from the University Library, the Institute is the scene of study of several petroleum industry problems and physics research.

GEOLOGY & GEOLOGICAL SURVEY BUILDING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

WALTER T. & ROBERT W. VAHLBERG, ARCHITECTS AIA, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA, NOVEMBER 12, 1948

