



Among those inspecting the library's new facilities on the day of dedication were (from left) Governor Raymond Gary, Librarian Arthur McAnally, and President George Cross.

# THE NEW LIBRARY

## Most Modern of Storehouses

**T**HE UNIVERSITY took one more step in the race to improve American higher education as the addition to the Bizzell Memorial Library was opened for use in March.

The original building, erected for the 1929 enrollment, had become much too small for the more than 15,000 students expected to flood the campus each semester in the 1960's. Eighteen months ago construction began on the addition which more than doubles the size of the original library.

"Here for the first time in many years," said Dr. Arthur McAnally, director of O. U. Libraries, "we're securing adequate facilities for students and faculty members to use the library, as well as housing for books that overflowed the stacks 15 years ago." He predicts that use of the library will double as a result of the new addition.

(Changes have been made in the older portion of the building, too. Lighting was

up-dated and the entire structure completely air-conditioned.)

The six-story, \$2,700,000 addition will be financed by a state bond issue, to be repaid by a part of the cigarette tax. "So," McAnally laughed, "every time you smoke a cigarette, why, you're helping to pay for our new library."

Library staff members and University faculty members were consulted on the plans of the addition. Coston, Frankfort and Short of Oklahoma City were the architects, and Robert Harrell of Fort Worth did the interior decoration. Harrell is widely known for his decoration of the Shamrock Hotel in Houston.

The result of their work combines the Gothic of the old part with a more conservative—but harmonizing—annex which makes possible several basic changes in O. U. library service.

Each of the addition's six floors is built

on a similar basic plan: A broad hall bisects the floor into two major rooms, and these larger areas are broken up by bookshelves in the center and divided into smaller lounges and study areas by metal and walnut screens and more bookshelves.

The addition joins the older part of the building at two upper levels, on the first floor, and in the basement. Lining the walls are soundproof faculty studies, private typing rooms and individual desks for students. Seating for 26 percent of the on-campus enrollment is now provided.

When the Bizzell Memorial Library was originally established, it was referred to as "Oklahoma's Crown Jewel." Today, with more emphasis than ever before put on the need for educating the American people, Oklahoma may continue to be proud of this, one of the vital links in the vast storehouse of man's knowledge. (For more pictures, turn the page.)



The new library addition suddenly makes "open" stack system workable. This floor, like four others, puts thousands of books at one's fingertips.

Every time you smoke a cigarette, you will be helping to pay for the newest and most modern structure upon the campus.

**E**ACH UPPER FLOOR of the addition contains 16 faculty studies, four conference rooms and two seminar rooms. Special areas are also provided for a map collection, microfilm records, government documents and three special collections—the Bass History of Business, the DeGolyer History of Science and Technology, and the Phillips Southwest and Indian History. Special quarters for these collections each contain a large room for meetings and study, offices for the library employees responsible for the collections, a workroom and a closed room for the bookshelves. They are paneled in walnut interiors.

Two of the collections will have ornamental metal screens over their exteriors, while the third will be finished in walnut paneling. The rooms are carpeted and have leather upholstered furniture.

The addition is furnished in soft colors, soothing but not dull. Brown, tan and gray form basic colors; green, blue, yellow and red serve as accents. The central hallway

on each floor is of brown and tan tile laid in a geometric pattern. Tables are a bleached walnut shade.

Smoking is allowed nearly everywhere in the new part of the library. Formica-topped tables guard against cigarette burns, while an electronic filter system connected with the air-conditioning gets rid of smoke.

Expansion of library facilities has brought about several changes in the service system of Bizzell Library. The major change is a switch from the "closed" to the "open" stack system. Formerly circulation was handled from a central desk, with library employees running up and down the many stacks—or, floors of books—to bring volumes back to undergraduates who requested them. (Graduate students and faculty members were free to go into the stacks, however.)

Now, at long last, stacks are open to everyone. Books are arranged according to subjects, with a central card catalog as a key to their location. Students find their

own books, but circulation still is handled at a central desk.

In an attempt to keep up with the need for better and more facilities before the addition was built, the O. U. library had branched into special libraries for many subjects. Education-psychology, business administration, mathematics, journalism, and the freshman and sophomore-aimed lower division branches are moving into the new part of the library. Medicine, law, engineering, geology and fine arts will retain their branches.

Dedication of the annex came April 11, some time after it was opened to the students. At the ceremony were Oklahoma's governor, Raymond Gary; O. U. President George L. Cross; Dr. Robert Downs, director of University of Illinois libraries.

Also there were John Rogers, chairman of the state board of regents for higher education; Joe McBride, president of the O. U. board of regents; Mrs. E. L. DeGolyer; the Harry Bass family, others.





A massive card catalog, only part of which is shown here, is located on the annex's ground floor, serves as key and guide to any desired title.



A teacher studies in solid comfort in a room designed to meet such faculty needs. Object in foreground: a giant dictionary.

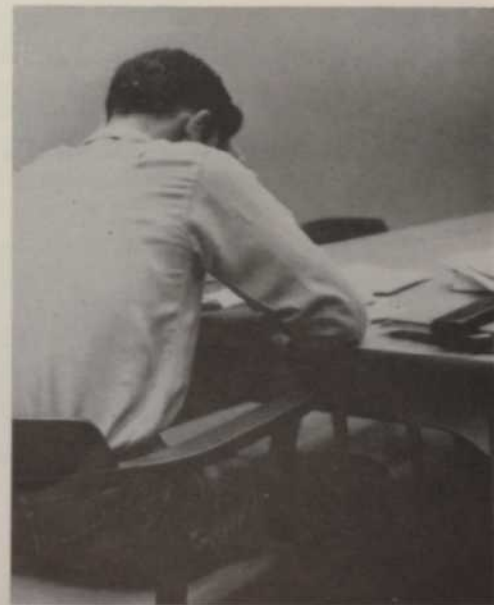


Student employees cart tons of books from old "closed" stacks and branch units to new steel shelves.

## The Job Was Only Partly Finished . . .



First days of occupancy were a nightmare of questions and answers. Woman at left, a regular employee of the library, not only checked out books at circulation desk but also "directed traffic."



Many students hurried into new addition, went right to work on studies, grateful at having been provided a spot conducive to concentration. Most pleasant surprise: smoking is allowed.





In this particular area students can relax in just about any manner except lying on the floor. Books, magazines surround each of the many such areas.

## ... But In Came the Gaping and Eager



PERHAPS NO ONE except those directly involved in the action of moving and re-arranging the hundreds of thousands of volumes will ever know what an enormous, backbreaking task it presented. At this writing, the work was still going on.

Students couldn't wait for the job to be completed. The moment the new portion was opened, they flocked inside. After a few open-mouthed glances around the modernistic interiors, they settled down to work out the last part of the spring semester.

Some were confused in the first few days. The card catalog seemed to have grown larger, somehow. Open stacks spelled a lot more footwork on the individual's part—though elevators help out. Designated sections of volumes aren't always easy to find right off.

But library employees have gone out of their way to guide students who must learn how to use the new system, and they answer thousands of questions daily—somehow, cheerfully. And, though a bit more complicated, the annex has pleased most with its added comforts.

Current issues of most important periodicals are located on every floor. A large number of students are assigned "outside reading" each week for history, geography, and other courses.



Dedication of new library April 11 drew an overflow crowd. Following ceremony, reception was held in new annex (above).



A group of prominence, the Goodrich-DeGolyer family, came to O. U. for the dedication ceremony. Mrs. Nell Goodrich DeGolyer (center, white hat), widow of Everett L. DeGolyer, who gave to the University the famed history of science and technology collection, talks to Dr. Duane Roller, curator, in the collection's new rooms. Also in the picture are two of her three daughters, Mrs. George McGhee (standing, black hat), and Mrs. Arnold (behind small boy); a son, E. DeGolyer (fourth from left, light suit); a daughter-in-law; two sons-in-law; three grandchildren; a sister; a niece and nephew; niece-in-law and nephew-in-law, and the brother of the late Mr. DeGolyer, Homer, who is standing second from right behind chair.