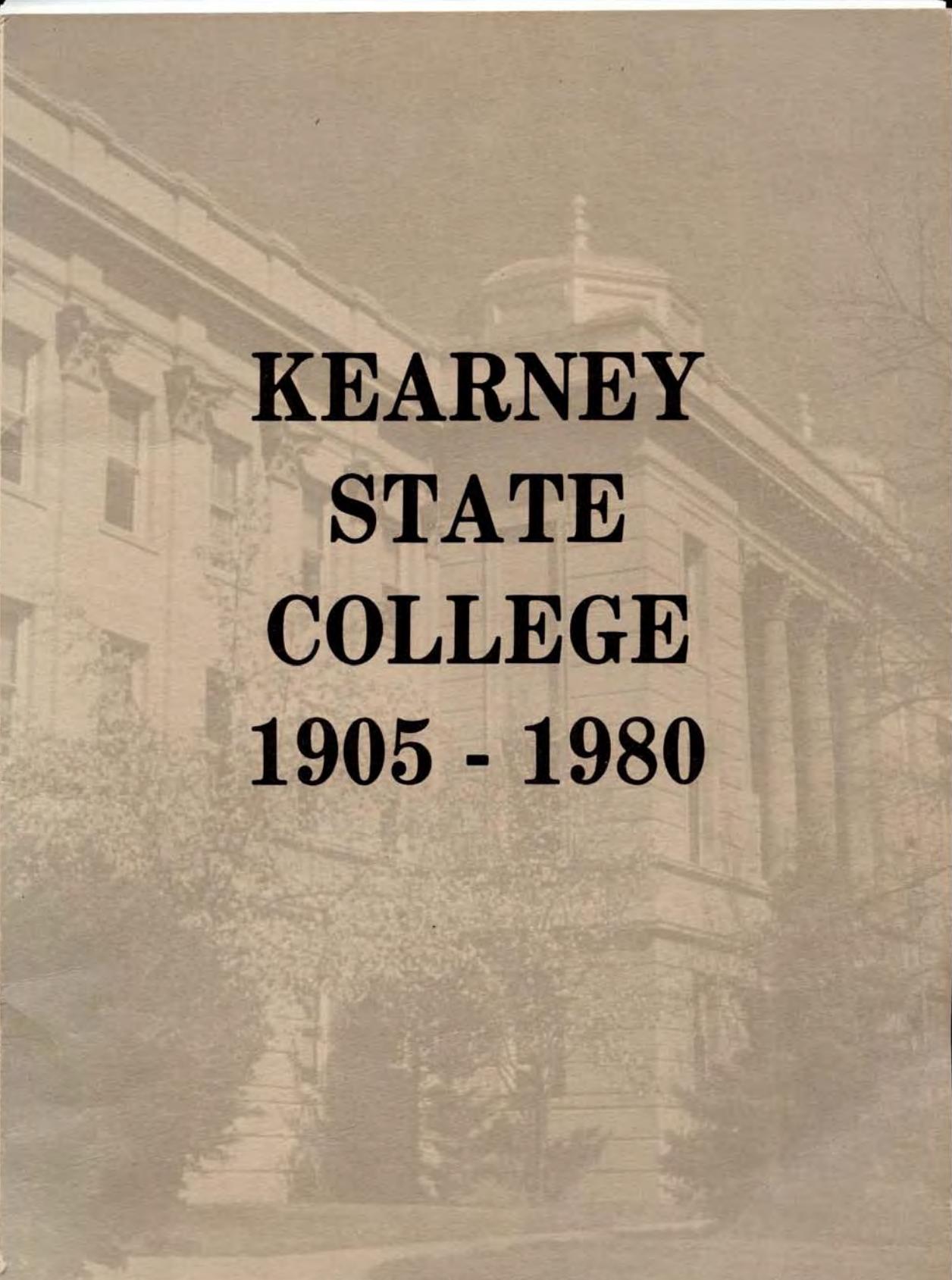


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Kearney State College 1905-1980 — Holmgren



**KEARNEY
STATE
COLLEGE
1905 - 1980**

Philip S. Holmgren, Ph. D.

KEARNEY STATE COLLEGE 1905 - 1980

A History of the first seventy-five years

**Philip S. Holmgren, Ph.D.
Kearney State College
Kearney, Nebraska**

**"this school situated as it
is, is bound to be a great
school. It cannot escape
it."**

**A. O. Thomas
November 13, 1905**

**1980
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Foreword
History of Kearney State College

For seventy-five years, Kearney State College has been a living experience for students, faculty and friends of the college. It has been a living experience which has been close to the heart of the Great American Dream. The college was established to provide the young citizens of Nebraska an opportunity. Though the scope and character of Kearney State has changed over the years, the mission of providing the best education possible continues to be an institutional priority. Thus, our Diamond Jubilee name "a past of distinction, a future of promise," incorporates the many outstanding qualities that have originated and developed over the years and which promise to continue the tradition of opportunity through education.

The story of Kearney State is an exciting story, and one that Dr. Phil Holmgren is eminently qualified to tell.

For over a quarter of a century Dr. Holmgren has been intimately involved in the historical development of Kearney State. As Chairman of the History Department, he has acquired a sensitivity for the attitudes of the students, the faculty and the administration. From his observation point he has observed the major forces that have given shape and direction to the college, and he has noted carefully the quality of the commitment by the citizens of Nebraska to the educational opportunities offered by Kearney State College.

With precision and perception he has traced the traditions of Kearney State from a modest beginning in 1905 to a comprehensive campus of close to 7,000 students in 1980. He has carefully noted the significance of the development of academic programs leading to baccalaureate degrees, masters degrees, and a specialist degree. He has shed new light on the troublesome times and the successes, and he has accented the contributions of many persons whose inspiration and dedication have built a "past of distinction and a future of promise."

Dr. Holmgren has compiled a meaningful statement of the history of Kearney State College that will become a valuable resource for the future. It is my pleasure to recommend this book to the students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Kearney State College.

Brendan J. McDonald
President



“past of distinction, future of promise.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



No historic celebration is complete without a record which gives credence to the past and a preservation of the present. The Diamond Jubilee of Kearney State College has been honored by such a record in this history of the first seventy-five years of the college.

Written by Dr. Philip S. Holmgren, Professor of History and Chairman of the Department of History, this historic record deserves a few comments about the author.

Born and reared in Naper, Nebraska, Dr. Holmgren attended Wayne State College where he received his B.A. degree. Later he taught in the high schools of Minden, Iowa, and Naper, Nebraska. Holmgren received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. He also studied at Oxford University and the University of Glasgow before joining the staff at Kearney State College in 1950.

Phil has many professional and honorary memberships in the national, state and county historical societies, as well as memberships in the Academy of Political Science, National and Nebraska Education Associations, Smithsonian Associate, Nebraska Schoolmasters, Pi Gamma Mu, Phi Alpha Theta, and Kappa Delta Pi to name a few. In addition to his memberships, he has served as president of the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies, Nebraska State Education Association, Buffalo County Historical Society, and the Kearney Centennial Commission.

Honors and awards include Educator of the Year (1979) by the Nebraska State Council for the Social Studies; Community Service Awards, 1980-Kiwanis Club; Distinguished Service Award - City of Kearney 1973, Rockwell Recognition Award, 1973; and the Foundation for Economic Education Fellowship Award, 1957.

Phil's very active with college service as well. He has served on Academic Affairs, Graduate Council, Athletic Committee, and as chairman, Frank House Advisory Committee. He has written articles on subjects regarding the American Indian, Frontier and American West, for local, state and national publications. He was instrumental in writing the *Kearney Centennial History*. Dr. Philip Holmgren's history of Kearney State College is indeed an addition to the annals of Kearney State College.

Hal Colony
Director of College Relations

Acknowledgements

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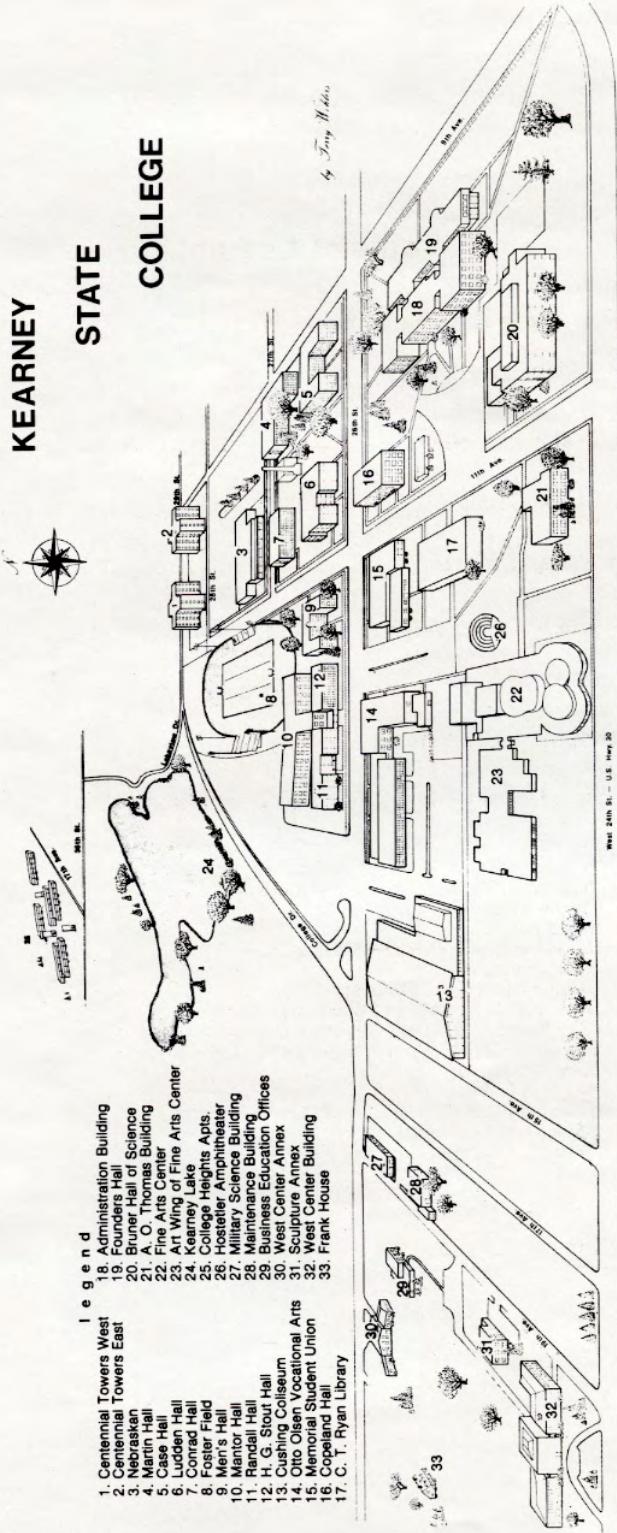
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To my wife Lois who has done more than all the others to make this work possible.

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Introduction

A definitive history of the first seventy-five years of Kearney State College is still to be written. The account presented here is an attempt to bring together some interesting facts and stories about the college and the people who have made it what it is. It is written for the alumni; all students, past and present; former and present faculty; friends of the college and all people interested in Nebraska's largest state college and how it grew. It is the hope of the author that the accounts will bring memories to some of its readers and enlightenment to all. No one will find everything in the book to his liking, but it is hoped that everyone who reads it will find something worthwhile.

The selection of materials included in this presentation was the decision of the author. Emphasis on materials in some cases and omissions of subjects in others, were determined to a large extent by the availability of information and records. Observations and evaluations made from time to time are based on an examination of the data on a subject.

Footnotes have not been used but credits are included in the narrative. Direct quotations are included just as they appeared without attempts to correct or edit the script. Word usage may be different from that used at the present time and in a number of cases it seems questionable that it was correct for the time it was used.

The official title of the Board of Trustees for State Colleges, and its earlier title are not always used but they are referred to in this narrative as The Board.

Material examined for this study includes all the newspapers on file at the Nebraska State Historical Society which were published in 1903, in all the communities which were interested in having the new normal school located in their communities. Also included were all the newspapers from the major cities in the state published during that period of time. Kearney Newspapers beginning in the late Nineteenth Century until the present were also examined. The *Antelope*, the college paper was first published in 1910. All issues of that paper from the first issue through the summer of 1980 have been examined as have all the *Blue and Golds* the Kearney college yearbooks which have been published. Other official publications of the college and many college records were searched. Time did not permit careful evaluation of many of the statistics including the financial statistics which relate to the total picture of higher education in the state. All minutes of the governing board from 1903 to 1980 have been read. Former students and former faculty have provided some material for evaluation. Students who attended the first year of the State Normal to those who attend at the present time have graciously consented to share some of their memories and ideas about the college.

Much more time was needed to do justice to an undertaking such as this. Although work on this book started over eighteen months ago it had to be worked around a full time teaching load with only one-third time off in the summer of 1979 and one-fourth time off during the academic year 1979-80, the latter made possible by a grant from the Research Services Council. This did not allow adequate time for a complete investigation and research on all the various programs offered by the college or the involved financial aspect of the operation and how it relates to higher education in the state. These are just a few of the areas which are regrettably omitted. A lack of sufficient secretarial

assistance also slowed the process.

The college has considerable archival materials but there are no organized archives in existence. It is almost impossible to make efficient use of the available materials. Some of the departments have kept valuable records while others are completely without records needed for historic research.

It should be obvious to all who have read this far that a definitive history of Kearney State College is still to be written. What has been recorded here should be of major assistance to the individual who will write the Centennial History of the college in 2005. It can only be hoped that such a person will be given adequate time and assistance to do the kind of job that deserves to be done. In the meantime this limited offering is made available to you.

CHAPTER I

NOW AND IN THE BEGINNING

Kearney State College, as it celebrates its 75th birthday (anniversary of first classes) is a college with an enrollment of over 6,800 students, and a campus of 235 acres on which are located 32 buildings with an original cost of construction value of \$22,356,956.00. The annual budget in 1979-80 from all sources was \$13,056,023.00. In 1980-81 the total budget from all sources is expected to be \$15,307,365.00.

The college operates under the supervision of the seven member (six appointed by the Governor and one ex officio) Board of Trustees for State Colleges. The administration, faculty and staff total 275 and are assisted by a support staff of 195.

The origin and development of this multi-purpose institution of higher learning, from its beginning as Nebraska's second normal school to the largest state college in Nebraska offering baccalaureate, masters and specialist degrees, are a part of this story. People are the most important part of the whole story. The students, faculty, board members, administration, members of the legislature, governors, other governmental figures both state and local, citizens of the Kearney area and the state all combine with the rest of the taxpayers to shape the development both in a positive and negative fashion. A portion of this simple yet immensely complicated story will be found on the pages which follow.

Kearney State College, as we know it today, has had several official names and many unofficial ones. Supt. W. K. Fowler in his report to the board on October 3, 1903 recommended that the school at Kearney be known as "The Western Nebraska State Normal School." The board apparently didn't like his suggestion and moved to call it the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. After it became a degree granting institution in 1921, the name was changed to Nebraska State Normal School and Teachers College. This lengthy title was shortened to Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney. It wasn't until October 18, 1963 when the name was changed to Kearney State College that the word Kearney appears in the official designation of the school except as an address. Popular usage included the city name as part of the college name at all stages of its existence. In the narrative which follows, various contractions of the official names and name of the city of its location will be used to designate the educational institution which is the subject to this narrative. To all former students who have been saying they attended Kearney Normal, Kearney College, Kearney Teachers College or any other such combination, it must be said that no institution existed by those names.

Let us leave Kearney State College and go back to early 1903. Eventually we will return to 1980 with all its problems and promises which seem both so terrible and yet so great from our highly prejudiced present mindedness viewpoint. When we again see Kearney State College, hopefully, we will have a greater appreciation of the past with a more realistic view of the present and the challenges of the future.

As the twentieth century opened, it was evident to people in educational circles that a change was needed in the Normal School situation in Nebraska. The only state supported normal school was located at Peru along the Missouri

River in southeastern Nebraska. This location was extremely inconvenient for many teachers in Nebraska who desperately needed the additional training offered by a normal school. W. K. Fowler, State Superintendent of Instruction, made two suggestions to improve the situation: one was to exchange the Industrial School for Boys at Kearney with the State Normal School at Peru; the other was to move the Normal School to Lincoln or establish a new normal at Lincoln. The idea of moving the Normal School from Peru was met with much opposition, but the fact remained that it was not in a position to meet the needs of the state. The needs expressed by Supt. Fowler for a new normal school gained support, and Rep. C. Warner of Lancaster County introduced a bill known as House Roll No. 1 providing for an appropriation of \$100,000 for the location of a new normal school west of the sixth principal meridian. The selection of the site was to be made by a committee of three state senators and six representatives. To be considered as a site a community must give at least twenty acres of land worth at least \$75.00 per acre and \$10,000 in cash or bonds. The school to be established would be under the State Board of Education and governed in the same manner as the school at Peru. Several communities went to work to make plans for securing the new school; among them were York and Aurora. When the amending process was complete, the House Roll No. 1 was passed on March 26, 1903 and sent to Governor Mickey for his signature. These changes had been made: 1. the appropriation was cut to \$50,000.00 2. the site had to be west of a line five miles east of the 98th meridian 3. the Board of Education would select the site, and 4. the \$10,000 cash or bond offer was eliminated. The westward movement of the line eliminated York from consideration, and the representative from York who had earlier supported the bill now opposed it. When it passed on March 26, 1903, he tried to persuade Gov. Mickey to veto the measure. Legislators from the western part of the state gave support to the measure as did some who lived outside the area which would get the prize of the new school. The interestingly designated line was also part of the last minute maneuverings since the bill had earlier used the 98th Meridian as the dividing line. Central City and Aurora, both considered as likely sites, were in serious danger of being eliminated from consideration if this designation had been permitted to stand. The five mile cushion put these cities safely into the favored area. The only community which voiced any serious opposition to the newly drawn line was York. Throughout the long selection process, York newspapers continued to point out in their accounts of the various bids and actions by the communities bidding for the school, that York had so much more to offer and would be a much better location than any under consideration.

The political activity necessary to get the bill passed for the establishment of the second Normal School is well documented. Even before the State Board of Education could officially advertise for bids, communities were hard at work raising the funds necessary to present the best possible offer to the state.

Writing on the editorial page of the *Kearney Daily Hub*, April 16, 1903, the editor was pleased that the "selection would not be made by politicians but by the board of education, pull will be of no avail in securing the school for any particular city." He went on to say that a man that is fit to be a member of the state board of education cannot be reached by ordinary methods. What happened during the next five months indicated this may have been more of a false hope than accurate prediction. Before the selection process was officially started, the maneuvering got under way as a result of the expiration of the term of one board member and selection of a new one. W. L. Stephens accepted the Superintendency of the Lincoln Public Schools and thus was not available

for reappointment to the board. His resignation was effective June 21.

Governor Mickey was under considerable pressure from several groups to appoint Mr. Stephens' replacement from individuals favorable to their point of view. Those communities interested in having the normal school located in their community were, of course, interested in the appointment hoping that the individual selected to fill the vacancy would be one that was favorable to their location or if not favorable at least would not actively oppose their bid for the school. Although Supt. Fowler professed to be neutral in the selection process he did express the belief that the new appointee should be a school man, since the resignation of Mr. Stephens left Mr. Fowler as the only educator on the Board.

After some delay Governor Mickey announced the appointment of J. E. Delzell, Supt. of Schools at Lexington, to serve on the Board. With this selection the board was now complete and could move forward on the selection process. The Board was composed of George Rodgers, of Omaha, President of the Board; R. A. Tawney of Pierce; Luther P. Ludden of Lincoln; Thomas J. Majors of Peru; and Peter Mortensen State Treasurer with Ord as his home town; Wm. K. Fowler, State Superintendent. James E. Delzell of Lexington completed the Board membership.

Several other issues appeared to complicate the selection process even before the normal bids were submitted. Thomas Majors of Peru was recognized as a very strong leader on the board. The Peru interests, as they were referred to, were not too anxious to have a second normal school established. Once it became evident that a second normal school would be established, they then turned their attention toward getting the location as far away from Peru as possible. They were not interested in a school located in what they considered to be their territory. Mr. Majors appears to have had some strong disagreements with President Clark of the Normal School at Peru. While attempting to line up support on the board to dismiss President Clark, he appeared to be in a bargaining position for the location of the second normal school. No firm decision on Dr. Clark's future was reached until after the selection process had been completed.

July 28 was set up as the official date for the opening of all bids from the communities wishing to have the new state normal school located in their community. Those submitting bids were Alliance, Ainsworth, Long Pine, Fairfield, Central City, Lexington, Ord, Kearney, Gothenburg, Broken Bow, St. Paul, Hastings, Holdrege, Aurora, and North Platte. Each of these communities had carried on a lively campaign in its area to gain the necessary support to submit a bid. Local communities were established to raise the necessary funds, and either those or other committees were established to point out to the state as a whole and to the Board in particular, the advantages which their community offered for the establishment of the school. Each community was convinced that it was the logical site. It was also convinced that the establishment of the school in its community would be of great economic benefit. It was this latter point that appears time after time in the publicity which attempted to persuade those in the community to provide the financial support necessary to submit a bid. Aurora appears to have been the community with the first active committee organized for the location of the normal school in its community. It received some official encouragement in this respect because its representative in the state legislature, Anderson, is reported to have hurried out immediately after the final vote was taken on House Roll No. 1 and sent a

telegram to his constituents advising them to get busy with the work of preparing an application. Since the location of the school was considered to be a "political plum," Hastings and Kearney were thought to be handicapped by the fact that there was already a state institution located in their communities. This did not deter either Hastings or Kearney from waging an active campaign for the location of the school in their midst. A report in the *Hastings Republican* of May 18, 1903 indicated that Hastings had another thing to worry about in addition to fact that it had one state institution located in its midst. It was supposed that the friendship of the Burlington Railroad would be sufficient to give it an opportunity to obtain the school. An unnamed but considered to be well informed citizen is quoted as saying that, "Tom Majors, who pulls a great deal of weight on the Board and who seems to be taking a painful degree of interest in the location of the new school would be of some concern. Tom Majors is known to have dawnd his war paint when governor Dittrich ran his pen through the Peru building appropriations and he had not washed it off." The fear of the Hastings man was that "the hostility to Senator Dittrich will extend to his home city and that when the votes are counted some other town will be found to have captured the institution." He went on to say, "I am afraid of Kearney, although Treasurer Mortensen may be able to swing the votes to Ord. We would be afraid of Aurora but there's a big demand to push the school as far west as possible, and of course the Peru people will help to boost it along to enlarge their own territory. As the thing stands now we must look out for Kearney." This statement, although published in the *Hastings Republican* first, also appeared in the *State Journal*. Of the communities in the race for any period of time, Ord was the only one which had a native son on the Board in the person of the State Treasurer Mr. Mortensen. Although Lexington did submit a bid late in the time allotted, it appears to have been stimulated primarily by the late appointment of Mr. Delzell to the Board.



Green Terrace 1903

Given by Kearney to the state for use as a dormitory.

Starting in May there was a steady procession of delegations from the several communities going to Lincoln and presenting their case to Supt. Fowler. The presence of these delegations was dutifully noted by the Lincoln press, especially the *Lincoln Star*, and those articles published by the *Star* were dutifully reprinted in the papers of the several communities. Since the bids had not yet officially been called for, the amount and the buildings and land which the several communities were offering to the state were reported in generalities and speculation rather than fact. This appears to have stimulated the campaign in other communities to do more when they saw what some communities had already done. For the most part the communities spent their energies on promoting their own strong points. There were some exceptions, however, in communities which not only promoted the advantages which they had to offer but also tended to point out the fallacies in the proposals made by some communities which they considered to be their strongest competitors. Long Pine would attack Ainsworth. Hastings seems to have spent most of its time attacking either Kearney or Aurora. Central City was the victim of some unkind attacks made by St. Paul. Most of these attacks on neighboring communities were done not by the committees established to get the resources and prepare the bids but by the newspapers and a few self styled "authoritative kibitzers."

Following the opening of the bids on July 28, 1903 the task of drawing up a schedule for the board members to follow in visiting all the proposed sites was given to Luther P. Ludden, board member from Lincoln. It was assumed that it would take at least six weeks for the board to go through the state. Rev. Ludden's superior organizational ability was demonstrated when the visits were completed in a month with only one mix-up. The scheduled visit to Alliance was changed from that which was first announced, and the changed schedule was dispatched in a letter to the Alliance committee. When the members of the board arrived a day earlier than called for in the old schedule, there was no one there to greet them because the letter informing them of the change had never been delivered to the committee. The letter was found in the post office undelivered.

After spending the month of August visiting all the communities which had submitted bids for the new normal, listening to all the speeches concerning the merits of their cases, injecting specially prepared banquets, (Long Pine imported a special chef who prepared a nine course dinner for the board) and listening to local talent, the Board finally met at Peru on September 1, to select the community for the new normal. Governor John H. Mickey sent the Board a telegram stating his feeling that the use of a secret ballot in selecting the site would lack propriety. He urged them to use a public vote so that the vote cast by each member of the Board would be of public record. This plea was not heeded and the Board voted 4 - 3 to use a secret ballot. After three ballots had been taken, each community that had submitted a bid had received one vote. Ord and Lexington had received one vote on each ballot. When the fifth ballot was counted Ord had two votes. Hastings and Central City each had three votes on the eleventh ballot. Aurora received its last vote on the fifty-second ballot, even though it had three votes as late as the fortieth ballot. Long Pine had its last vote on the fifty-first ballot. Its only other vote came on the third ballot. Fairfield received votes on only three ballots, the last one coming on the seventy-eighth ballot. Alliance received one vote on the third, seventh and fifty-fourth ballots. Ainsworth received a single vote on seven ballots, the last time on the fifty-seventh. After the eighty-ninth ballot the only communities receiving votes were Broken Bow, Hastings, Kearney and Ord.

During the long day of voting Aurora, Broken Bow, Central City, Gothenburg, Holdrege, Lexington, North Platte and St. Paul were the recipients of three votes on one or more ballots. Hastings received three votes on ten ballots, and Ord on five. In looking at the total votes on the one hundred and eleven ballots, the fourteen communities not selected could comfort themselves by saying they got at least one vote on several ballots. Most could say that they had three votes, as many as any one but Kearney ever received. Those who received only the one vote on several ballots felt they had been betrayed and the Board really never looked at their proposition.

One thing came through quite clearly, Kearney showed far more strength than any other community. On twenty-seven occasions, Kearney received three votes, while the total of the other fourteen receiving three votes was only thirty-four. What was most important was that on the hundred and eleventh ballot - Kearney received the necessary four votes. As soon as President Rodgers declared Kearney the successful competitor for the location of the additional state normal, Mr. Mortenson who had loyally supported the application of his home town of Ord, offered for the record the following protest against the location of the school at Kearney.

- (1) that the proposition for the site does not contain the required number of acres and for this reason does not comply with the provisions of House Roll No. 1.
- (2) that its location is in the southeast portion of our state where already there are fourteen out of the fifteen state institutions, one of said in that city, which will work an injustice to the north and west parts.
- (3) the building offered is not practical for the use of a dormitory and of but little value to the state, and the small cash bonus is too insignificant and would indicate a lack of appreciation on the part of the city.

The lodging of this protest in no way changed the outcome of the balloting. What it did do was give some of the communities who were unsuccessful in obtaining the school some vague hope that perhaps the decision of the Board could be overturned. There was a move on the part of several of the communities to bring a court case against the Board because they charged that Kearney was permitted to change its bid after the bids had been opened. This charge was based on the fact that the city of Kearney had not yet vacated the streets which ran through the property and thus there was the charge that the plot of land did not consist of 20 acres without any interruptions. One of the interesting areas of contesting the decision of the Board was on the constitutionality of the Board's right to make selection. The argument presented was that the legislature could delegate its authority to a board but as soon as the legislature adjourned that delegation would be null and void. The Legislature had adjourned shortly after designating the Board as the selecting agent. For those communities which had held to that ray of hope the *Grand Island Independent* made the observation: "it is rather interesting that the communities which had expended so much energy to attempt to locate the school in their midsts, were now saying that since they didn't get the school, the whole process which they used in attempting to get the school was unconstitutional." This whole process made for some lively newspaper discussions and some interesting copy between editors that were noted for rather strong language toward their counterparts in other cities. Most of the communities

took their loss rather philosophically saying that all of them knew that fourteen would be losers and only one would be a winner. The *Ainsworth Star Journal* said "Kearney gets the Normal - North Nebraska gets what it usually does - gets left." Again the *Ainsworth Star Journal* said, "The location of the Normal School at Kearney was a mistake, north and west Nebraska will not be satisfied until it gets the Normal School." The *Aurora Sun* said, "The board could not have done worse by selecting any other town in the contest." The *Central City Nonpareil* said, "Proceeding apparently upon the theory that to them that hath shall be given, the Normal Board decided to locate the school at Kearney." To those towns which were contesting the selection of Kearney the *Nonpareil* said, "We believe these towns are making a mistake, the school has been located and the action of the Board should be allowed to stand." The *Central City Democrat* said, "Kearney gets the new normal and therefore Kearney is to be congratulated." The *Beatrice Sun* said, "Kearney is very favorably located upon two leading railroads of the state, it is well equipped to take care of the Normal. It is a good clean town, a healthy place to live, and one where the moral tone will be what is desired." From the *Hastings Democrat*, "On the one hundred and eleventh ballot Kearney was selected as the seat of the new state normal school. Hastings extends the warmest congratulations to her sister city on the west," but the *Hastings Tribune* had this to say, "Kearney has secured the State Normal, it matters not how it got it, she got it and that puts an end to it so far as speculation is concerned. The *Tribune* congratulates the wire pulling politicians of Kearney who skillfully and successfully manipulated the deal. From all indications Kearney was positive of the plum long ere her people started to raise a dollar for the site. Be that as it may the race is run, and Kearney has won, may her people realize as much benefit out of the State Normal as the anticipate." From the *York Times* comes this comment, "The *Times* congratulates Kearney on its good fortune and believe the location is as good as could have been selected after York was cut out." The *St. Paul Republican* said, "The farce, deception and fraud back of this whole deal should be sifted to the very core. Hastings by reason of presenting the most money, the best offers, the best location was and is entitled to the Normal School, and the entire state knows it. In the face of such fact every possible recourse should be taken to repudiate and invalidate the action of the Board designating Kearney as the seat of the school." The *North Platte Tribune* says, "The school is the biggest thing for the town that Kearney has ever captured, it's worth twenty cotton mills." From the *Alliance Times*, "Kearney is a good location for those situated in Union Pacific territory. It only exemplifies what has often been said that when the State has anything to give Western Nebraska is not considered worthy of note." And from the *Ord Quiz*, "The farce entitled the new Normal School in which the Normal School Board were the chief comedians has at least ended, at least as far as their acting is concerned. The closing act of the comedy was the location of the Normal at Kearney, and the funny part of the play was the fact that the four men who placed it there knew from the start it would go to Kearney after all junketing trips had been had and the banquets offered had been sampled."

Such a great prize sought by so many and finally obtained by Kearney would normally be considered to be a headline event in the community. Such headlines as "Kearney Gets the Normal", "Kearney Gets It" were front page items in the papers of a number of unsuccessful communities. The *Kearney Hub* saw fit to place its headline on page three and the *Kearney Democrat* with its headline "Normal School Comes to Kearney" was found on page five.

The disappointment felt by many of the unsuccessful communities was quite

obvious. The amount of time and energy put into the preparation of their proposals plus the pledging of the money necessary to provide for the bids, obviously put a strain on many in the community. The communities which received the most support from the Board in consideration had also spent the most time in preparing their proposals. In their presentations were detailed charts including the rail fares from virtually any point within the area of the state to be served, schedules as to the time it would take a student to come from any part of that area to the school if it were located in their community. They had outlined in detail the merits of their pure water supply, the good fire protection, drainage and sanitation facilities. The general support by the community by its schools, churches and individual citizens was laid out for all to see. The value of the property and other consideration available to the state were also outlined by the several communities. Not content to let the printed material do the informing, when the board came to town they were subjected to all that was in print plus much much more. The strongest statement against the selection of Kearney came from the *Aurora Sun* which said: "From a moral standpoint the board have selected the worst in the entire list of fifteen towns. A place that is noted the state over for it dominating saloon element and grafters in behalf of houses of prostitution. It certainly seems that it is not to be the town that offered the best inducements and clean surroundings, morally, that should be entitled to this school, but the town that could show the least cash, the greater number of saloons, greater numbers of houses of prostitution and ungodly surroundings, should win this state prize, an institution that you desire to have your boys and girls attend to procure and education...all things considered morally and otherwise the board selected practically the worst as far as present and future educational needs are concerned." The *Grand Island Independent* which had observed, during the period before the selection was made, that they were glad they had nothing more to fight over with their neighbors than the merits of their ball clubs, now made the observation, "It looks like a very good time on the part of the other cities to adopt the motto 'Don't get sore!' To which the *Lincoln Star* added, "The thing for the other towns in the contest to do is to forget about it and try for some other kind of prize."

To do all this and fail was hard to accept. For the Board of Education the task had not been an easy one. As William Fowler said, "it was not an easy task for the Board and we did not seek the job." The Board survived all the charges made against them by the unsuccessful applicants.

In the days which followed the announcement that Kearney had been selected as the site for the New State Normal school to serve western Nebraska, a number of the papers continued to carry items dealing with the implication that the selection process had not taken place in an honest fashion. The implication was that undue influence had been brought to bear on some members of the selection committee. There were suggestions put forth to try to block the awarding of the school to Kearney. One suggestion was to get a court order which would stop any action until the legislature could meet and change the law. The proposal was also made to take whatever steps were necessary to place the control of the Normal Schools under the control of the Board of Regents.

On October 5, 1903 the *Kearney Daily Hub* reported: "Everything is at last settled at a meeting of the State Board of Education in Lincoln on October 4, they accepted the deeds to the site, the building plus a bond from the City of Kearney agreeing to repair the building according to the wishes of the board.

The attorney General Mr. Prout gave the board the opinion all were valid and in order."

With this action the effective opposition to the selection of Kearney as the site for the new normal school came to an end. There continued to be expressions of dissatisfaction with the selection of Kearney but any chance for changing the decision was no longer in the realm of the possible. Mr. Mortensen continued to express his displeasure whenever possible. At the November 7, 1903 board meeting, George A. Berlinghof, the architect for the board, submitted plans and specifications for the reconstruction of the Green Terrace Flats. These plans were announced and approved and forwarded to the Kearney committee for approval. The Kearney committee came back to the board at its December meeting with suggestions for a less expensive change. Mr. Mortensen objected to these and subsequent changes which eliminated the rebuilding of the heating system to the new heating plant which was being constructed for the college building. Mr. Mortensen wanted his vote to be recorded as "no" because he felt the board was agreeing to relieve the Kearney people of their obligation to remodel the building as they had agreed to do, and also he felt that the heating of the school building should be kept separate from the dormitory.

George A. Berlinghof was selected as the architect for the new building at Kearney over the "no" of Mr. Mortensen. By March 25, 1904 the plans for the new building were approved, and bids were called for to be opened April 26, 1904. The Knutzen and Isdell of Kearney bid of concrete stone for \$41,500 was accepted. This permitted the acceptance of the heating, plumbing and electric bids of A. Dussell & Son of Columbus and stayed within the \$50,000 figure provided by the legislature. The Kearney Hydraulic Stone Company (in which A. O. Thomas was a shareholder) of Kearney was the maker of the concrete stone used in the construction of the new building and provided the guaranty bond demanded by the board to produce a product which would sustain a test of 2,000 pounds resistance to the square inch.

The new building was by order of the board, located 250' back from the lot line of 9th Avenue facing to the east with the center of the building in the center of 25th Street. In addition two public driveways 50 feet wide were extended from 25th Street and 9th Avenue in a curved line around both ends of the building to 25th Street and 10th Avenue.

October 18, 1904 was selected as the date for the laying of the corner stone, and Hon. Norris Brown of Kearney was invited to deliver the oration of the day. According to the Board minutes of September 30, 1904 invitations to attend the ceremonies were extended to... "state officers, candidates for state offices, congressmen and candidates for congress, U.S. Senators, members of the legislature and candidates for the legislature, former members of this board, architect and contractors, the county superintendents, the city superintendents, the chancellor and faculty of the University of Nebraska, the principal and faculty of the State Normal School at Peru, and other prominent educators in the state." The cornerstone would measure 48 1/2" x 21 3/16" each face and be laid by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Nebraska. The only time stated on the invitations was "the afternoon of Tuesday October 18, 1904. A good crowd gathered for the ceremony, but many of the special guests were absent. Those who were not present were spared the discomfort brought on by a severe thunderstorm, accompanied by hail, which interrupted the ceremonies. Accounts of the day's activities said,..."neither the roll of thunder nor the pelting of rain and hail could dampen the enthusiasm of the memorable

gathering..." Sen. Norris Brown appears to have been in top form at the mass meeting which was held in the Opera House following the cornerstone laying ceremonies. His opening statement, "My friends you people look mighty good to me. This has been one of the best days of my life," has been quoted in every account of the day's activities. Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews of the University of Nebraska gave a charge to the people of Kearney which has not always been remembered by them in their relations with the college. A summary of his remarks includes the following ideas:

- (1) the bestowal of this magnificent institution carried with it a great responsibility and with the citizens of this city rested in a great measure the success or failure of the school.
- (2) the moral atmosphere of the city must be kept up to highest standard.
- (3) the citizens of the community must see to it that the "huchsters" were not allowed to charge exorbitant prices for things the students were compelled to buy.
- (4) the citizens of the city should see to it that the state makes liberal appropriations for the maintenance and expansion of the institution, so that it may grow and prosper in proportion to the growth and prosperity of the state.

In the years which have followed students have at times felt they were charged too much for things "they must buy" and paid too little for work they have done. Citizens of the community have had fights to get appropriations for the college reduced because of disagreements with the administration. Businessmen have circulated petitions asking for the reduction in college teachers' salaries because, in a period of depression their income was greater than that of the businessmen. City councils have asked for a large corner of the campus to run the proposed relocated Highway 30 within a few feet of the administration building and expressed the feeling they did not care if the highway went "through Herb Cushing's office." To this the cartoonist for the *Antelope*, Frank Rassch, Jr., replied with a cartoon showing a truck breaking through the administration building with the driver asking, "Where's Highway 30?" Fortunately these are unfortunate exceptions to the usual generous support given to the college by the community of Kearney.

The major task remaining before the Normal School would be a reality, in addition to the completion of the building, was the selection of a faculty and a president. Although not accurate, president will be used to designate the head of the Normal School. Principal was the official title for that office until October 1913.

The Board went about the task of designating the number of faculty positions there would be and the salary paid for each position. The salaries ranged from a low of \$1,350 to a high of \$2,100. The president's salary was fixed at \$3,750.00.

The following note is attached to the list of salaries: "It was the aim of Mr. Delzell and myself in first reviewing this matter to base the salaries on the proposed salary scheme for the state normal school at Peru, adopted March 2, 1904 for the year beginning April, 1905. We figured on a year and one-half's

work when in reality it is a year and three-quarter's. It was our aim, of course, to have the summer term of 1905 practically a donation of services by the faculty. It will hardly figure up therefore to the schedule referred to, but it is probably sufficient salary on which to test our new faculty. J. L. McBrien". When looking at these early salaries it must be kept in mind that the amount indicated was not an annual salary, but was for nearly two years service.



FACULTY 1906

C.A. Murch	Alma Hosie	Edith L. Robbins	Mrs. Eva J. Case	Anna V. Jennings	W.E. Allen
Anna Caldwell	A.J. Mercer	George N. Porter	C.L. Anderson	Grace Greves	
Sara L. Garret	Catherine Hicks	M.R. Snodgrass Pres.	A.O. Thomas W.A. Clark	Carrie Ludden Etta Brown	
Marion C. Smith	Gertrude Gardner	Virginia Mercer	Mary Crawford	Charlotte Lowe	Grace Hamer
W.M. Crichton	Mary Bailey	H.O. Sutton	Mrs. H.C. Richmond		O.W. Neale

The selection of a faculty appears to have been accomplished by the Board without major difficulty. When it came to the selection of the principal (President) for the new school the board engaged in another one of its long voting sessions. The first voting took place May 6, 1905 at 1:00 p.m. with all members present except Mr. Ludden. An informal ballot gave A. O. Thomas three votes, W. K. Fowler two votes and one vote was cast for Charles Fordyce. At this point they started the formal balloting. Twenty-seven ballots were taken, but no one received the necessary four votes. At this point they stopped voting and took care of other business including the setting of the date for the first classes at Kearney to be held June 19, 1905 and ordering President Crabtree of Peru to advertise the summer term of the State Normal School at Kearney. The board adjourned until 7:30 p.m. when they again started balloting. At the end of the 71st ballot a move to adjourn was defeated and the voting continued until the meeting was adjourned, after the 100th ballot, until May 22, 1905 without a principal having been selected. Throughout all the balloting A. O. Thomas received three votes each of the 100 times.

Reports are in existence which say that W. K. Fowler was elected to the Kearney position but declined it since the vote was not unanimous. No such record appears in the minutes of the Board. In the May 23, 1905 minutes there is the following statement, "Moved and carried that the declination of the principalship by W. K. Fowler be accepted." In all the 100 recorded and one informal vote, Mr. Fowler never received more than two votes and his last vote came on the 68th ballot. If he were offered the job by his fellow board members

it must have been in an informal manner. When the board went back to voting, the first ballot again gave A. O. Thomas three votes, Mr. Fordyce three and Mr. Searson one vote. On the next ballot A. O. Thomas received the necessary four votes and was declared elected. The secretary of the board was instructed to send the following telegram. "Lincoln, Nebraska, May 23, 1905. Supt. A. O. Thomas, Kearney Board elected you principal at Kearney on second ballot. Thomas, four, Fordyce three. Wire acceptance or rejection. J. L. McBrien, Secretary." In less than a month Dr. A. O. Thomas and a new faculty would open a new normal school that was still without a building of its own. Probably no one was better prepared for this task than Dr. Thomas since he had been on the very first committee and all succeeding ones to get the normal school for Kearney.



The State provided this building for the New Normal. Putting in the walk toward Ninth Avenue are E. R. "Baldie" Edwards in the dark coat facing the camera. Next to him is his son, C. E. "Tip" Edwards, in the dark vest and light shirt, on the left quarter of the picture. Sitting in front of a horse and wearing a light shirt is Axel Peterson. His family provided this picture.

The bulletin prepared for Prof. Crabtree, president of the Normal School at Peru announced that the first classes held by the Normal School at Kearney would be held in the Kearney High School from June 19 to July 28, 1905. This same bulletin also gave assurance to any potential student that the new Normal building would be ready when the fall term opened September 20, 1905. It also contained a plug for the Normal School at Peru. President A. O. Thomas in his report to the Board of Education on December 20, 1905 told of the conditions and progress of the State Normal School at Kearney. The following quotation includes most of his report.

"It will be of considerable interest to note that when we opened school on the 20th of September, 1905, we were unable to get into our new building. The Board of Education of the city schools kindly adjourned the high school for two days, in order that we might organize our school in their building. We entered our own building however on the following Monday. At that time we were not in very good shape for the opening of school. The windows were in place temporarily on the upper floor. Canvas was stretched over the win-

dows on the second floor, while on the lower floor the windows remained open. Temporary stairs were put up so that we could get into the rooms on the third floor, that being in best condition of any. There were no floors on the halls, the concreting was in on the upper floor. We had little furniture on hand at that time, and little equipment of any kind. Our enrollment so far exceeded our expectations that we were compelled to double our supplies by subsequent orders, but during all of this time the two or three hundred students enrolled were considerate in the extreme. They gave the best attention, entered their classes with spirit and determination, and ever since have seemed to grow in their enthusiasm and interest in the school. The faculty and students have observed the unfolding of this educational plant from the bud to the full-blown flower. They have watched the windows placed, the halls tiled with marble, the casings fastened, doors hung, floors laid, iron stairs adjusted, and the general cleaning up. In fact they have watched almost every process connected with building.

We had no heat for some time after beginning. Oil stoves were placed in the normal building proper and in the dormitory. These served for some weeks, but as the weather became colder it became necessary to make better provision. We secured traction engines, two for the main building and one for the dormitory, for the purpose of furnishing steam for the buildings.

During all this time, with the open buildings and the imperfect heating, I am pleased to report that we have had no sickness in connection with the school. That so far as I know a physician has been called only once or twice on matters of minor importance in connection with the school, and no physician has been called to attend members of the faculty or students in the school or dormitory.

We owe much to the consideration, kindness and enthusiasm of our students.

Not everything was as good as reported by Dr. Thomas judging from another item in the same Board minutes which told about the work of Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf who were in charge of the "culinary department". A Mr. Hitchcock of Omaha complained to the board that both of his daughters had been ill owing to the poor quality of the food furnished.

A feature article in the *Kearney Hub* of October 21, 1905 had told its readers about the progress at the State Normal School. The report spoke of the satisfactory progress being made and that everyone was enthusiastic. The first month of school was described as an interesting one for both students and faculty. The progress made by the workmen was "heralded with joy" by faculty and students as "it betokens comfortable quarters in the future".

The classes during this period were described as "migratory," meeting one day on the second floor, one day on the third, another day in the south rooms and the next in the north rooms." It was not uncommon to see a professor, followed by a class of students, looking for a room where a class could be held without interruption. The students were described as "good natured."

The building and classes may not have been the picture of organization, but

other activities were being organized during the first month. Under the direction of Professors Mercer and Allen a football and basketball team were organized. Prof. Porter organized an Orchestra. The Young Women's Christian Association had elected its first president, a Miss McConnell, and was holding meetings in the reception room of the dormitory every Sunday afternoon. The Emanons literary society had scheduled its first program for Saturday evening at the dormitory.

A number of the students who have been interviewed nearly three quarters of a century after those early classes were held under such trying circumstances recall that the faculty put them to work and gave no special concessions because of the adverse conditions under which the school was operating. The cold was also mentioned, but special comments were made about the moisture which collected on the inside of the exterior walls of the building.

Several articles appear in the firstyear book published in 1908 which give us an insight into how these early students viewed the early operations of the Normal School. Several lengthy quotations from that publication follow. There is no indication of the author of the first publication.

SKETCH OF SCHOOL LIFE AT THE NORMAL

"On Saturday afternoon, June 17, occurred the first faculty meeting. In a brief inaugural President Thomas explained his plans in general and asked for the hearty cooperation of his teachers, and spoke of the future when things would be realized that could only be promised then. The school opened in the high school building on Monday, June 19, Lena Tyler, '07, was the first student to register and before the close of the first day seventy-one others had done likewise. By Tuesday night there were eighty-five and by Friday night, ninety-six. This was considered excellent by those who knew all the conditions, and it surpassed expectations, because the time had been so short that there was scarcely any advertising worthy the name. The instructors had a good deal of sport over their bids for classes and students. One had one class of two students, and another class of one. Another instructor had two classes of one each. Of course they had some other classes besides these, but this indicated a scarcity. Things are different now.

"At the second faculty meeting, June 29, were appointed the various committees, which still exist. There was much speech making during the rains and the heat of this memorable first session. Before July 9, Messrs. McBrien, Delzell, Bishop and Richmond had visited the school and talked. On July 12 and 13, President Thomas exhibited the faculty for the edification and amusement of the students. Each had to make a speech, tell a story, or sing a song. Imagine!

"On July 14 the board of education held its meeting in Kearney. Speeches were made by Messrs. Gregg, Childs, Majors, McBrien, Delzell and Crabtree. That evening the first public reception was given at the dormitory. Dr. Ludden, who had arrived too late for chapel, was called on for a speech and told his famous "clock story." School closed on July 27. Pictures were taken of the school, and the "funny faculty" now hanging in the office dates from that day.

In the meantime, work on the Normal building was being pushed to the full capacity of the working force. However, it was far from finished on Wednesday, September 20, when the fall term opened. While the registration was going on the Normal furniture arrived - great quantities of desks, teachers' chairs, recitation seats, recitation chairs, camp chairs, etc., etc. There seemed no end to them. Professors Allen, Anderson and Mercer were detailed to tend to them. By means of a pulley at the south end of the building they hoisted this stuff by hand to the second and third floors and unpacked it. Some of the new students wandering about the rooms wondered how many janitors they had in connection with this school. School was begun in the high school building, but on Monday of the next week it was moved to the Normal building amid the lime and cement, carpenters and masons. The workmen interfered with the classes, the classes in passing, interferred with the workmen. The noise was terrific. No heat in the building, not a door swung, not a casing on, few of the floors laid, no blackboards, no library, few text books. Here certainly was a chance for patience and good feeling and it came in abundance. All laughed and joked and did their best. It was altogehter a glorious beginning. On October 1 the first door casing was put in. Heat was soon needed, and the little oil stove was produced. This of course was a mere hint at heat, and was generally so taken along with the rest of the jokes. By November 1 two traction engines had coupled on to the heat pipes, and then things went fine until the heating plant was finished. By this date, too, one stairway was completed. Before this it had been a rather rickety climb from one floor to another. But from this time on the school grew constantly and in all directions, and the obstacles that at first had seemed so ominous, one by one began to vanish. Teachers began to hear classes twice in the same place. Students were permitted to pass from one room to another without carrying chairs with them. Enough text books were accumulated to go around by those in the same family, or same immediate neighborhood, doubling up. In time - a long, long time, it seemed, blackboards actually appeared. Then things did boom; but for some time a search warrant was necessary in order to find chalk and erasers. Soon Miss Jennings began to direct students to a few straggling books on the library shelves, and an occasional whiff from Professor Sutton's door indicated that the students in there, too, were getting a taste of real life.

"On Tuesday, December 19, a special Christmas program was given in chapel. Miss Caldwell told a Christmas story and Mrs. Richmond sang a Christmas song. The board of education expected to be present the next day and a special program was announced. On December 20, which was the last day before the holiday vacation, the students assembled in chapel early and school spirit broke out in real earnest for the first time in the history of the school. Volley on volley of class yells rolled up from various parts of the room and numerous pennants were waved. It was a great exhibition for fifteen or twenty minutes. The full board did not get in in time to see it, but Messrs. Gregg and Childs did, and both made speeches."

"May 18, 1906, was Senior day. The class marched into chapel preceded by President Thomas and Dr. Clark, all attired in caps and

gowns. The room had been decorated in their class colors. It was quite an impressive sight, and indicated that the Normal had begun to form its own traditions. On the evening of May 28, a public reception was given in the chapel. Speeches were made by Messrs. Delzell, Mercer, Ludden, McBrien, Majors, John Dryden and Governor Mickey. The students and faculty presented President and Mrs. Thomas with two beautiful chairs for their new home which was then building."



Tree Planting on Arbor Day at New School 1906

For a number of years Arbor Day was used to put into operation some plans which had been developed by a professional landscape gardener. On May 3, 1906 the students were given a afternoon off to plant trees. Classes and organizations each assumed the responsibility for one or more of the trees. The names of the organizations and members responsible for the planting of the tree were buried next to the tree. The late Everett Jenkins of Ravenna commented when informed of the removal of these trees to make way for the construction of Founders Hall "My name is in a bottle under one of those trees." His informant replied, "not anymore."

The practice of planting trees on campus on Arbor Day by school groups was continued for many years but there was never again the enthusiasm evidenced as that first Arbor Day.

"Summer school opened June 6. Students fairly poured in and they all wanted to take the five essentials. The instructors in these lines were almost buried alive, but they all lived through it. There were many visitors from various parts of the state, including many prominent educators. The school was enlivened by a number of special county days and some good programs were rendered. Superintendent Abbott gave his illustrated lecture on "The Philippines" and the Slayton Jubilee Singers entertained the students one evening. Altogether it was a great nine weeks' work."

"The year 1906-07 started off quitely with a large attendance and

"business" written on every feature of the work. The school organization seemed to be complete, a school tradition established, student organization aroused to the opportunities. Everything had seemed to move with the swing of an old school ever since, no grand stand plays, but good, solid, earnest work toward a definite goal. "Catch step" is the word to the new students and it is remarkable how soon they get into line. In this year President Thomas began the professional faculty meetings, which are calculated to keep the instructors out of ruts, and to put them in touch with the best thought and the best people of the day, and so far they have not only done this but have afforded most pleasant evenings from the social standpoint."

"On February 21, 1907. President Thomas's new home was formally installed into the Normal scheme. The occasion was the second professional faculty meeting. It was just a family gathering of the Normal folks, at any rate that was the way the host and hostess made them feel. They were given permission to inspect the new home. Some had built, some had future intentions, all were interested. Well, it was a great meeting, strictly "professional," and one long to be remembered. But it was only one, for since that time it has been the scene of many delightful evenings for faculty, for students, and for the educational friends of Kearney. People are made to feel at home at President Thomas's house, something is always in store for those invited, and one goes away feeling that it was good to be there."

"The Normal has received two visits from the State Examining Board. The first was made on Friday, May 17, 1907. E. B. Sherman and C. A. Fulmer were the members present, and though Friday is a poor day to see the school in good working trim, they had some very flattering statements to make about what they saw. One of them stated that they came to Kearney with a standard in mind by which to measure the work. It not only came up to the standard but stuck up above it. On their next visit, in the fall of 1907, the whole committee, Superintendent Fulmer, Superintendent Bodwell and Principal Cora O'Connell were present. They had words of praise similar to those made on the first visit."

"The summer school of 1907 was like the preceding one, full of hard work for teachers and students. There were present many who had taught a number of years successfully, and came for special work along some line. The great event of the session was the visit of Governor Sheldon and wife on July 25. It was a hot day. They arrived in the afternoon. Chapel was called at 3:30. Being near the close of the term many students had already gone home. However, in the face of such obstacles, a chapel full of students greeted the governor. That evening President Thomas gave a reception at his home in honor of the governor and wife."

"The first semester of 1907-08 started off exactly according to schedule with a good attendance in spite of the new entrance requirements. During the vacation great improvements were made in the building. The walls and ceilings of all the hallways and some of the rooms were beautifully tinted and the floors were oiled. Later

some much needed and most convenient furniture was added to the office and to the library. Valuable additions have also been made to the laboratories and to the school in every particular. Something has been done, too, in the line of decorations. The first piece was a bust of Shakespeare given by the Italian artist, who made the moulds for the capital stones in the building. Professor Murch donated the silk flag that hangs in chapel, and Mr. Gregg the large one that floats from the Normal flag pole. The class of '07 left as their memorial the "Winged Victory" on the second floor. The debating society contributed the beautiful oak base it stands on. Money is already in the treasury to purchase a number of handsome pictures for wall decorations. Such is the life of this flourishing educational giant of the west. All are kept at work, all lines are advanced; the same spirit pervades the whole movement. What of its future? Let him who dares, prophesy."

A second article written by Ernest Danly describes some of the college life as revolved around Green Terrace which meant more to the school than being a dormitory for women students.

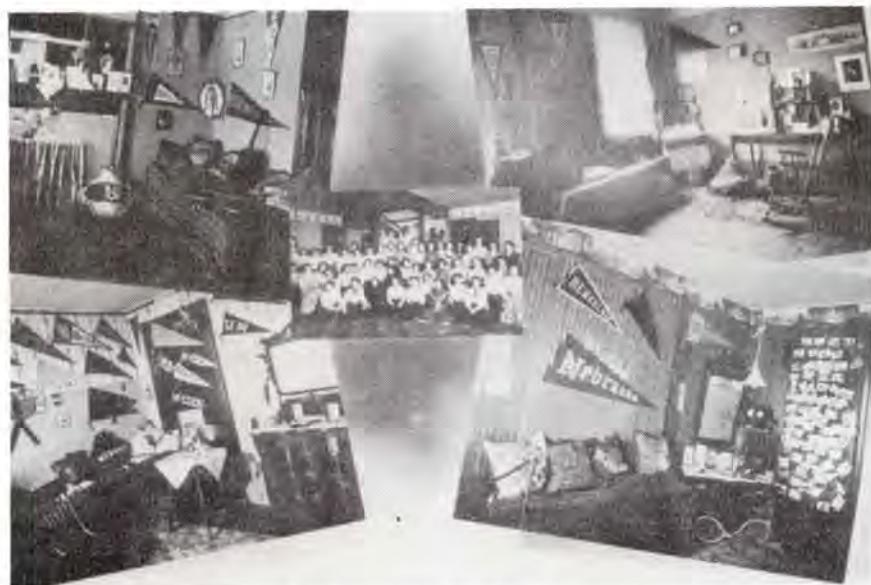
DORMITORY EVENTS

"One of the more important feature of the history of our school is a brief outline of life at the dormitory. It is important, more especially to the boys of the school, for various reasons. With the first plans of the school came plans for a dormitory in connection, and as a result we have the large, pleasant looking building known as "Green Terrace." It is three stories high and is constructed toward the south, facing the school building and at a distance of about a block. The rooms are large and well furnished. The building is heated by steam, lighted by electricity and contains numerous bathrooms, conveniently located. One of the features of the dormitory is its large reception room on the first floor in the center of the building. The bay windows and beautiful stair cases at either end of the room, the post seats and cozy corner, the delicately tinted walls, the rich carpet and substantial mission furniture attract us as we enter. Ever since the dormitory has been open to applicants for rooms it had been filled with charming young ladies.

"With the beginning of school, Mrs. Eva Case acted as preceptress. By her many deeds of motherly kindness and her noble womanly traits she commanded the love and admiration of all with whom she came in contact. She sought to make those about her happy and in time of trouble none was more ready to help. As is often the case with those who are always seeking the welfare of others, illness fastened its grip on the home of President Thomas, during which time all possible aid was given her, it was thought best to remove her to a hospital. Accordingly she was taken to the Presbyterian hospital at Omaha, where death overcame her. During the time of the more serious illness of Mrs. Case, Miss Anna Caldwell was assigned the duties of preceptress at the dormitory, which position she still retains. By her ways she commands the respect of all her girls and maintains the good name of the dormitory."

"Frequent entertainments and social evenings are given to the public by the girls at the dormitory. These evenings are always thoroughly enjoyed by all who attend. Many other noteworthy

events have occurred at this place. The first entertainment of any sort of the history of the school was held in the dormitory. It was a public introduction of the Normal faculty to the people of Kearney. It occurred on Friday evening, July 14, 1905. The receiving line numbered thirty-eight and included members of the faculty and of the board of education. Light refreshments were served in the dining room. This was the first formal opportunity for the Kearney people to see what had become of some of their money so generously given in connection with this building and they came in great numbers to inspect. They seemed to be well satisfied with what they saw. With the beginning of school in the next fall part of the enrollment took place at the dormitory. The reception room was used for this purpose and it made a very suitable place when means were so limited. Shortly after this occurred the first Y. W. reception to the students of the school. As the students and teachers entered they were given a slip of paper on which was the statement, "I am (give your name)," and the games played, thus making a delightful evening. The next event at the dormitory was a Hallowe'en party."



Student rooms in Green Terrace

"Upon this occasion nearly all the lights were turned off. Jack-o'-lanterns were quite numerous. A small admission was charged at the door, the money thus taken in going for curtains and other needed articles for the dormitory. After entering, the people were escorted about the building, upstairs and down, and through dark chambers and halls, amid a chorus of moans and various other weird sounds. Hideous, mysterious ghosts were on every hand. Our reception was warm, to say the least. We traveled from chamber to chamber, each more terrible than the last, from the home of the Gipsy fortune tellers, to the climax of the weird and ghastly, "the

chamber of hors." On a couch, among the bones of many animals, lay the remains of the departed, pale and ghastly. About her moved the hideous troop of mourners of every description. It was enough to make one's hair rise and his blood run cold. But one daring youth, to test the reality of the situation and to ascertain if he were still in the land of the living, pinched a protuding toe of the unsuspecting corpse. A blood curdling yell was emitted and the show came near breaking up in consternation on the spot. A general sociable time followed and closed the program of the evening."



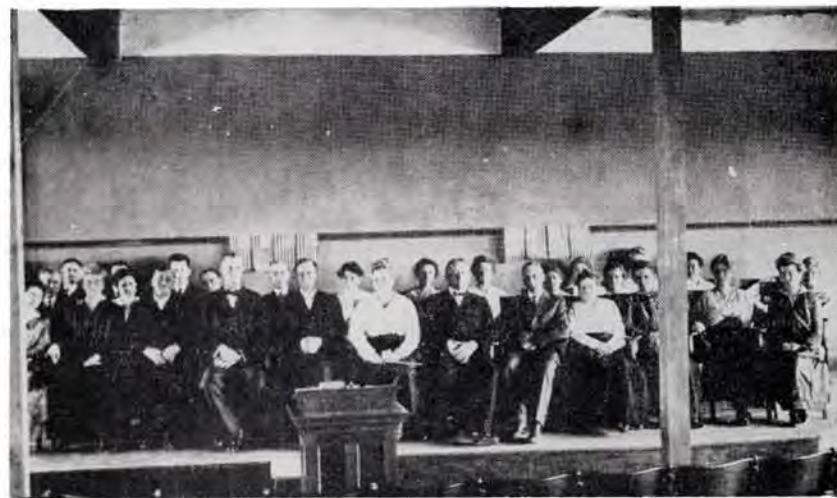
Girls in Green Terrace Reception Hall 1910.

"For several weeks in the fall of 1905 the literary society held its meetings in the reception room and it was a matter of some comment that a large number of boys were always present to hear the program. One evening, just in the midst of the study time, the cry of fire was heard, and it was soon learned that an oil stove had exploded in one of the rooms and that there was a real fire in the dormitory. After turning in an alarm, the young ladies were organized into a fire department and did great work before the city company arrived. The fire was soon extinguished and little real damage done. In the spring of 1906 occurred the reception given by the juniors to the seniors. The two classes gathered in the dormitory reception room and then descended to the beautifully decorated dining hall. A feast was served, a toast program rendered, and another enjoyable event was added to the history of both classes in connection with the dormitory. At the same place, about a year later, the juniors of the class of '08 entertained the seniors. After listening to a play given by the juniors in the Normal chapel the two classes with their advisers, President Thomas and a few others, repaired to the dining hall. The hall was elaborately decorated in red, white and green, a combination of the colors of the two classes. A delicate menu was

served and a sparkling toast program rendered. Miss Hattie Roberts acted as toast mistress and the following responded: Joseph Laughlin, "The Class We Honor;" Prof. Anderson, "Facts and Figures;" Helen Ray, "Looking Backward;" Roscoe James, "Mere Man;" Fay Hitchcock, "What Next;" Dr. Thomas, "The Touch of Civilization." During the third year of school, up to the present time, there has been one social event at the dormitory, known as the "Yrotimrod." Upon this occasion chairs were placed in a semicircle facing the north, in the beautifully decorated reception room. An interesting entertainment was given, followed by a recess and a concert. Refreshments were served at either end of the reception room in adjoining rooms and there was a candy stand in both ends of the room. The event was very much enjoyed by all who attended. While the events recounted do not include all of note that have occurred at the dormitory, they are enough to prove that it has become a great institution in the life of the student body of this school."

During these early years there is evidence of pride in the support for the new school both by students and faculty. Everything that was done had the potential of becoming a tradition. They were pioneers, and as in any pioneer society the play was closely associated with the work. The student organizations, to a great extent, had a close association with the academic programs. Class organizations were strong, and competition was keen in such matters as school spirit and sports. Daily chapel services appear to have influenced this spirit of unity between students and faculty.

A student of those early years remarked in a recent interview that "Our faculty was much better than the faculty is now." When pressed for an explanation she said, "Oh your faculty has better training but they were better people." The quality of the lives of those early teachers had a lasting influence on the lives of their students.



Faculty members were assigned chairs on the stage. Each chair was complete with a brass name-plate. This photo was taken of the faculty on the stage of the Old Chapel in 1917 just before the move to the auditorium.

CHAPTER II

THE NORMAL YEARS

The dynamic and personal leadership of President A. O. Thomas is very evident in the early years of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. He was able to instill in the first faculty a feeling of family and loyalty. The first hectic year's major problems created by lack of adequate facilities were overcome largely by a degree of teamwork which is hard to imagine possible by a group assembled from a variety of assignments in a variety of locations. Although faculty were added, they did not resign. The first break in the ranks of the faculty came with the death in November 1907 of Eva J. Case. After the completion of his home at 2222 9th Avenue President Thomas had most of the faculty meetings in his home. After a year the pattern developed that half of the meetings were on campus and the rest were in the president's home. Regular meetings were held twice a month. Specially called meetings were usually held on campus.

The enrollment from the very first was larger than anticipated as President Thomas expressed it in his first address to the faculty November 13, 1905.

This institution which a few weeks ago had no building, no books, no furniture, no curriculum, no programs, and no students, has sprung, like Minerva, full grown from the brow of Jove, and within seven or eight weeks has buildings and books and curriculum, program, furniture and a splendid body of students to the number of nearly three hundred seventy-five. In the annals of education there is no parallel. ...Here we are almost full size, at the very beginning, and we are placed to the test in order to take care of the students who come, and to provide for their welfare. But none of you have shirked the responsibilities or the duties that have developed thick and fast about you, and already we have begun to look forward to larger buildings, and more complete equipment.

The struggle to obtain adequate funding for programs as well as capital construction was to remain unrewarded for the first three quarters of a century of the school's history. It would indeed be unwarranted optimism to expect the situation to change. Even in the best of circumstances there has been an over-crowding in some areas while others may have some extra space. Only in times of national emergency such as World Wars I and II when enrollments were drastically cut was the space provided near adequate. The financing too continued to be inadequate.

One of the most popular of the original faculty was Professor Clarence A. Murch who was listed as the Principal of the Department of Commerce. His poetry was well received and he had a genuine interest in young people that they appreciated. He wrote the words to the Alma Mater song which was used extensively for many years but is known by very few associated with the college at the present time. His death in January 1910 brought great sorrow to the Normal School faculty. Thomas had reported to the Board on December 2, 1909 that there was going to be a deficiency in the salary fund because the legislature had failed to appropriate enough funds to pay the regular salary schedule. By leaving vacant some positions from which faculty had resigned there was still not going to be enough money to make up for the deficiency. This appears to have been the first of many major crises in relation to insufficient funds to meet faculty salaries. The death of Professor Murch solved the financial crisis since his work was taken over by other faculty members with no additional pay.



Alma Mater Song

A star in the east where the perennial tees run, And the sweep-ing hills dip to the plain. 'Tis on the gray storied walls of the
Our proud be thy future, enduring thy fame. As the years on swift current roll by. Never dimmed be the lustre that
Then raise, we our voices on pinions of song, Alma Mater, thy praises to sing, through the years as they come and he

Home that we love Alma Mater, we hail thee again! Healthy shade we have gazed over valley and plain. On the
banner bespeaks That now to all o'er so proudly on high. Thy sons and thy daughters, Forty-th and the right, Stand
years as they go May thy glories enduringly ring. And the colors shall stand for the truth and for Worth Still

scenes that enrapture the eye, And our hearts thrill with pride as the Blue and the Gold. Proudly floats 'gainst the purpling sky,
ever till time shall grow old. Enlivened round their hearts with dear memory's chains. The loved banner of Blue and of Gold.
floats the yearning soul, And well cherish wherever he wander on earth. Our loved banner of Blue and of Gold.

During the years Thomas remained as president he was able to witness two major additions to the original building, the north and south wings. They were slower in coming than needed to be, and because of inadequate funding by the legislature were less than they should have been. Saturday morning March 27, 1909 a fire in the original building almost became a major disaster but because of its early discovery, quick action by the fire department and some actions by President Thomas to keep the building closed until the firemen were ready to enter, the damage was kept to smoke and water except in the southeast room where the fire started. No adequate explanation was ever given for the start of the fire. The room had been locked since Friday evening. One window was found unlocked in the room in which the fire started that gave a hint it might have been set. In the 1960's during a major remodeling job in one of the offices now used by the Dean of Students, workmen and administrators were surprised to find some partially burned floor joists still in place.



They started them young at the Normal

President Thomas was very anxious to improve the appearance of the campus. He encouraged the Arbor Day tree planting by various student groups. Thomas was able to obtain the services of J. H. Hadkinson, the man who had planned the layout for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, to develop a plan for the Kearney campus. On May 26, 1908 the following motion was made by Mr. Ludden and seconded by Mr. Shellhorn,

That we accept the plans and specifications as prepared by Mr. J. M. Hadkinson for the proper parking on the grounds and the location of the buildings. And that the Board hereby formally adopts the same as the plans for the permanent parking, locating of buildings, setting of trees laying out of walks, driveways etc. of the State Normal School grounds Kearney, Nebraska.



May Day Celebration at the Normal

These celebrations began in the early years at the Normal, records indicate as early as 1910. Mrs. Agnes Knutzen Anderson, KDG supervisor, directed the annual winding of the May Pole game from its beginning until her death April 15, 1937.

In the years A. O. Thomas was president he held to the plan which was detailed enough to include the location and kind of every tree and shrub to be planted. One of the more famous campus beautification actions was Dandelion Day, which was first held on May 10, 1911. All classes were dismissed for two hours and the students moved across the campus picking up all of the litter and pulling or digging up all the weeds. The description of the affair includes the comment that after an hour there were numerous large piles of dying dandelions. At the end of the "dig" the students all went to chapel and then returned to their regularly scheduled classes.

Students demonstrated their interest in campus beautification in other ways; the seniors in 1917 inaugurated what they hoped would be an annual Ivy Day. The planting of ivy resulted in the east side of the Administration Building being covered with ivy until the major repointing and sealing of the building in the 1950's resulted in its removal.



This truck was used to meet the trains and bring the incoming students to the campus.

The 1907 veto by Governor Sheldon of the appropriations for putting the additions on the original building extended the severe problem of overcrowding for another two years. The conflict which arose over the passage of a law creating the "Normal Board" delayed the construction of the Shellenberger Building further because of concern over which board really had power to act. The matter was finally settled by the courts and new, bids were accepted which made possible the building of first the Shellenberger Building and two years later the South wing, the Aldrich wing.

The suit over the law creating the Normal Board was in litigation for eight months. During this time the college could not pay its bills because neither board's action was being recognized. In order to pay the teachers during this time President Thomas borrowed money to meet the payroll. President Crabtree of Peru did the same thing. When the case was settled and the old board was restored President Thomas was reimbursed for the amount of money he had made available for the faculty salaries, but the \$524.40 which he had to pay in interest for the money was not refundable. This represented a large amount for someone whose gross salary was \$3,000 a year.

Through all this activity the school continued to grow with improved programs and an increase in the student body. President Thomas' requests to the Board included his concern for good maintenance of the buildings and grounds, the request for funds to purchase trees and requests for funds to hook up the fountain in front of the main building which was the gift of the class of 1911. There were also some requests which reflect on the amount of control which the Board retained over details such as the request for permission to "use vacuum cleaners on carpets in the office." This would entail an expenditure of five dollars. Another request was for permission to repair the locks on the dormitory room doors.

At the October 15, 1913 meeting the Board voted four to three to remove Thomas from the office of president of the college. Some of the reasons given for this move are discussed in another chapter of this book. The Board action stood over the protests of college and community groups. It was obvious the Board was not too comfortable with a man like A. O. Thomas as president of the Normal School at Kearney. Dean M. R. Snodgrass was appointed acting president.

During these formative years the first *Blue and Gold* was issued in 1908, and the first *Antelope* was published in 1910 with Lester Chatterton as the first editor and Lemont Stephens the first business manager. The Antelope was selected as the college mascot and the name of the newspaper appears to have given it the necessary publicity for total acceptance.

Professor Alma Hoscic in her paper which she read to the students in the fall of 1932 outlining some of the history of the college, says of Professor Snodgrass, Dean of Faculty, "Since he understood that he was only a stop-gap he made few changes. The chief change was provision for supervisor's certificates in Domestic Science, Commercial Education, Public School Music and Expression." Although Dean M. R. Snodgrass made "no major changes" while he was acting president it is evident that he did continue to keep the needs of the school before the Board. By January 13, 1914 he could report to the Board the establishment of the Department of Instrumental Music complete with the faculty in charge of the piano students (his wife was one of them) and the fee schedule for supporting the program. Music teachers were still being paid by a percentage of fees collected. He also reported a need "for an instructor of Manual Training." As soon as Charles D. Wellers was employed to teach Manual Training and he submitted a suggested list of equipment needed, Snodgrass presented these requests to the Board. The fact that Wellers could also help with athletics was a plus factor in his getting the job. Dean Snodgrass carried through the Board mandated reorganization of the departments and the upgrading of the academic level required of all those who were to serve as heads of departments.

Another item of importance to the young ladies living in Green Terrace was that President Snodgrass requested the purchase of a heater for heating the bath water at the dormitory during the summer. Not a part of any Snodgrass proposal, the Board adopted a policy in April of 1914 of encouraging faculty to continue to work with various teacher and educational groups. When such services were performed the faculty was to have their "expenses borne by the Normal School or the local organization but they are not to receive remuneration in addition to their regular pay."

Dean Snodgrass remained at the Normal after Dick became president but he asked for permission to retire which he did in December of 1914, and then

moved to San Diego, California. It appears that he was having health problems following a severe stroke he had suffered several years earlier, which influenced his decision to retire.

The selection of George S. Dick as President of the Normal School at Kearney may have been influenced in part by the agitation for the establishment of a course of study for the training of rural teachers. Mr. Dick had the experience of having developed such a program at the Iowa Teachers College at Cedar Falls. At the June 23, 1915 Board meeting President Dick was ready to propose plans for responding to the legislative order that a course of study for rural teachers be a part of the Normal School program. Among the pro-



Professor R. W. Powell and his rural education students are ready to leave for visits to rural schools in the area. As early as March 1916, the Buda and Glenwood schools became demonstration centers for the rural school department. By April 1925, there were seven affiliated rural schools - a vital part of the Nebraska State Teachers College, teaching program.

posals was the selection of local schools as training centers. In return for this designation the districts had to hire their teachers from those recommended by the Normal School. President Dick recommended that the teachers be paid five to ten dollars per month in addition to the salary which the district paid them. The Board, true to form, agreed on the lower figure of five dollars a month as sufficient additional payment. The Normal School had to provide transportation to the school for the student teachers so it was necessary to purchase a vehicle for that purpose.



Students working on a construction project on the College Farm.



At work on the farm



At work on the farm

Agricultural programs were usually established for the purposes of experimentation and for teaching the students the best way to operate and manage farms. A small program existed for these purposes at the Normal School. This agriculture program at Kearney was expanded for the purpose of teaching the would-be rural teachers what it was like to be a farmer. For this reason a small farm was obtained adjacent to the Collins School thus making it possible for the practice teacher both to work on the farm and do his practice teaching. John Ludden, who had been teaching in the Physical Science Department, was placed in charge of the agriculture program. Again, true to form the farm was equipped with used machinery that "cost but very little more than freight."

The rural program grew very rapidly as indicated by the large number of students enrolled. By 1916 the Rural Club was the largest student organization on campus boasting a membership of 220, eighteen more than the second largest group, the Recreation Club.



"Off for an outing and big picnic at Glenwood Park several miles north of the city." This happy group of typical K.S.N. students were entertained from one o'clock P.M. until nine for 35¢ each which paid for transportation, park fee and all eats desired. Boating was extra for those who indulged in it.

In June of 1915 the Board adopted a policy which was to divide the responsibilities of the president. It removed from him much of what he had been doing with regard to financial matters. These responsibilities were now placed in what was referred to as a Department of Records which was "charged with keeping books of the institution, including those showing the scholastic standing of students as well as all matters of finance affecting the schools." This department was placed under the direction of the Registrar. Problems developed when the question of record keeping also involved decision making on the expenditure of funds.



At work in the shop-basement of the Administration Building—under the south wing.

Much of the remainder of the time Dick spent as president was involved in two major building projects, the auditorium and the gymnasium. His decision to ignore the Hadkinson plans and place the gymnasium in its present location was a great disappointment to some of the original faculty. Mr. Dick made a constant plea for funds to do necessary maintenance and repair but most of what he wanted was only partially heeded. The same June 20, 1917 report to the Board which tells about the first program given in the new auditorium, being under the auspices of the Music Supervisors Club, also pointed out the need for enlarged quarters required by the Manual Training Department. Since the gymnasium was already under construction it was obvious that these new facilities would do nothing to provide the necessary room needed. The suggestion was made that if the area under the west end of the south wing were evacuated, suitable space could be provided for the manual training needs. This is what was done and the room thus provided served the Industrial Arts area until 1955.

World War I did not go unnoticed on the Normal School campus. Enrollment which had been 451 in the fall of 1915, dropped to 305 by 1918. In the summer of 1918 twenty students were awarded the Bachelor of Education degree, the first four year degrees awarded by the Normal School. The newly completed gymnasium was ready for use by the fall of 1918 but it was turned over to the Student Army Training Corp. The library displayed much material on the Red Cross, its work and relief activities and directions for knitting. Cooperating with the American Library Association, the library under Miss Jennings' leadership collected and sent to military camps 1,200 books, 7 boxes of magazines and 100 requested textbooks. Various groups on campus raised funds for special organizations. Pageants, concerts and plays were given as fund raising activities. Three men from the Normal School were listed as having made the supreme sacrifices. They were Clarence M. Olsen, a brother of Dr. Hans Olsen, a member of the faculty; Floyd Hedglin and Chaplain Wilby.

In January of 1919 President Dick submitted his resignation to the Board. No indication was given as a reason for his resignation or what his future plans were. Newspaper speculation that he was interested in some kind of war rehabilitation work was borne out when he accepted a position with an army hospital in Denver.

Dean George E. Martin was appointed acting president and later was selected by the Board as the third president of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. His administration was to witness the change from a Normal School to a Teachers College, in fact, as well as in name. As President Martin took over the administration of the Normal School the Normal period drew to a close and the expanding horizons of the Teachers College came into view.



Augustus O. Thomas

A. O. Thomas was the first president of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. He actually held that title for a very short time because even though he was referred to as president, the official title was principal. The action of the Board to change the title from principal was taken just before they moved to dismiss Thomas from the position. The term president will be used for his total service to the Normal School at Kearney.

President Thomas was Superintendent of the Kearney Public Schools when the legislation was enacted which provided for the establishment of a Normal School for western Nebraska. He was very active on several Kearney committees which worked for the location of the school in the city. His selection as the first president came less than one month before the school opened on June 19, 1905. Under his capable direction the problems of that first year were met and the school prospered. The 1908 *Blue and Gold* has this to say about him, in addition to his past accomplishments, "...his power lies....in his kindly feeling towards those about him. ...His sense and his sympathy, his hand and his purse are always on the move in the interest of those about him. ...He has an unbounding confidence in the goodness of humanity...Words of censure he rarely uses, but words of praise are constantly on his lips. He leads often, seldom drives."

Faculty members who were seriously ill were taken to his home and cared for. In his visitation of ill students he did what he could to make them more comfortable. While visiting one seriously ill student he noted the mattress was in very bad shape, so he returned to his home, got a mattress and was seen walking up the street with the mattress on his back. He delivered it to the young man's room so that he would be more comfortable.

In a recent interview an early day student related that she always doubted the story that President Thomas knew them all by name. Her doubt changed to belief when she met President Thomas on the street in a small town in

Southwestern Nebraska several years after leaving Kearney, and he called her by name. She considered this most remarkable since she was an ordinary student and President Thomas had no special reason to have known her name in the first place, certainly not to have remembered it several years later.

The rapid growth of the Normal at Kearney intensified the factionalism on the Board between the Peru and Kearney factions. When Wayne and Chadron were added the situation became more complicated. The information was circulated in the fall of 1913 that President Thomas was being considered as President of the University of Arkansas. The Board accused Thomas of seeking the position to use it as "A club over the Nebraska State Normal Board to secure an increase of salary at Kearney." (His salary was \$3,000 a year.) Thomas denied the charge, but the Board stood firm in its dismissal of Thomas over the protest of citizen groups and students. Dr. Thomas gave up his fight to retain his position because he considered it to be in the best interest of the school. The *Nebraska State Journal* explained the dismissal in this fashion, "Principal Thomas lost his official head because of too free speaking. ...for many years he had been suspected of being a wire puller and something of a politician." The *Kearney Daily Hub* accused the Board of performing "...the worst blunder perpetrated in this state during more than 40 years."

Whatever the reason stated for the dismissal of President Thomas it was evident that the Board would tolerate no strong administrator who demonstrated any degree of independence.

President Thomas went on to become the Nebraska State Superintendent of Public Instruction and thus he took his place on the very Board which had dismissed him from the Presidency at Kearney just a few months earlier. Later he became the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the state of Maine. At the time of his death in 1935, he was serving as Secretary General of the World Federation of Education Associations.



Home of President A.O. Thomas 1910

It was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1980, and is destined to become the home of the Kearney State Alumni Association.



George S. Dick

George S. Dick was the second president of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. He came to the position from Iowa State Teachers College where he had served as Professor of mathematics, Registrar and later as Director of Teacher Training. His election to the Kearney position, although reported as a unanimous vote of the Board, actually took place a month after another candidate had refused the position, and one informal and thirteen formal ballots were required on June 23, 1914 before Mr. Dick received the necessary four votes. He assumed his responsibilities as president of the Normal School at Kearney in August of 1914.

President Dick was noted for his standing in teacher training in the state. He carried on the tradition of President Thomas, taking a personal interest in student problems. Under his direction two major construction projects were completed on campus, the auditorium and the gymnasium. His decision to locate the gymnasium where he did was noted as a departure from the plan drawn up by a professional landscape artist for the campus. This plan had called for the gymnasium to be located north of the Shellenberger Building and connect with it by a second story walkway over the circle drive.

Not much is known about President Dick and his relationship with the faculty. He appointed the first Dean of Women, Gertrude Gardner, the Latin teacher. He also organized the Rural Department and established the four rural schools of Buda, Glenwood, Collins and Victor as demonstration schools for the Rural Department.

The first Bachelor of Education Degrees were issued in 1918. Thus the Normal changed under his direction from one where as many as 45% of the students were really secondary students to one in which the whole atmosphere changed from secondary education to college.

It is evident that the resignation of President Dick in January of 1919 was

not voluntary on his part, but the reasons which surround his departure are also lost in the mists of time. Unlike the dismissal of President Thomas his departure involved no protest from students, faculty or community people. Mr. Dick went on to serve as Educational Advisor at the Army Hospital in Denver and from there he joined the staff of the Department of Public Instruction in Madison, Wisconsin in 1920, a position he held until his death September 20, 1938.



President Dick at the ball game.



Professor W. B. Stryker's 1916 penmanship class



"Ready" for a Junior-Senior picnic 1914

CHAPTER III

THE TEACHERS COLLEGE

The years covered in this section represent considerably more than half of the years the college has been in existence. Franklin Gold in his paper *A History of the State Board of Education of State Normal Schools* describes this same period for all the state colleges as "a period of Stable Existence." It is a little difficult to equate that title to all the things that happened to the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney. The period started with a great deal of optimism. The college was about to get a new name. It had permission to grant Bachelor of Arts in Education, Bachelor of Science in Education and very soon Bachelor of Fine Arts in Education degrees. The college had a new president. All of these should point to the possibility of dramatic changes. By any measure you want to use, changes did take place but if you look only at numbers, then the Gold title is quite accurate until about the middle 1950's. At that point there was a rapid change in numbers which continued for about 16 years.

In 1919 George E. Martin became president of the Normal School. In 1920 there was a change from the semester to the quarter system and in 1921 the name was officially changed to the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney. President Martin was enthusiastic about what the name change would mean to the college. He was convinced that more students would stay for the full four years instead of stopping after two years. This he felt would result in larger enrollments. Some of his predictions were correct and the students did come and stay in numbers which put a strain on the overtaxed facilities and inadequate budgets.

One of the major crisis to be faced by President Martin and the college came to a head in July of 1929. Widely reported in the state press were charges and counter charges against President Martin and the college. The following headlines tell part of the story: From the *Lincoln Star* of July 10, 1929, "State Normal Students Back Martin," "Stage Big Demonstration for President of Kearney School," "Board arrives to Investigate," "To Take Up Charges Made by State Representative Saunders," From the *Omaha World Herald* came these reports: "Normal Board Hears Kearney Complaints," "State Legislator Appears as Chief Opponent of President," "Settlement Expected." The *Omaha Bee* found more to include in its coverage than did the others with the following example, "Love Trysts at Kearney Normal Aired," "Board Goes into Wide Array of Charges; Students Stand Behind their President," "Intimack Aired," "Investigate Dissension Ready for Battle."

This affair was the culmination of a series of things which happened in the 1920's. Inadequate budgets continued to plague the college. Space was desperately needed for the training school and the vocational arts. Funds to construct a new training school were finally approved in 1925, but because of the cost it was decided to have some of the work done under the direction and supervision of Verne C. Fryklund, the industrial training teacher. The fact that the building was built in such a fashion and that the utilities were all brought to the site so that the total structure as planned could be built with the minimum amount of money, caused the charge by Governor Weaver to be made to Representative Saunders that some money was wasted at Kearney. President Martin asserted that the entire difficulty resulted from Saunders'

dismissal as operator of the college dining hall six years earlier. He went on to say that there had been no trouble prior to that time. President Martin stated further that prior to the college taking over the operation of the dining hall, students had petitioned for Saunders' removal because of alleged unsatisfactory food. Saunders was accused of encouraging a reduction of the biennial appropriations. Representative Saunders through his attorney charged that he had been told that unless President Martin was removed, the appropriation would be curtailed. Martin charged that Representative Saunders had urged the members of the Ways and Means committee to consider his unfitness. Letters from former faculty members, some of whom had been dismissed by Martin, were introduced and described Martin as a "Perpetual grouch," "autocratic," "One of the best educators in the country, but a poor executive." When the letter of one former male faculty member was introduced and it condemned President Martin, President Martin called upon two women members of the faculty who told of discovering a letter relating to the intimacies of the professor and another woman. Other charges made against Martin by Saunders through his attorney, Mr. Minor, were:

1. Unsanitary conditions at the college-farm feeding yard stench was unbearable in hot weather.
2. Alleged misappropriation of funds for the training school building.
3. Deficit in the dining hall.
4. Sale of hides for private gain by college workers.
5. Removal of dairy and meat products without paying for them.

Coming to the support of the President was the summer school student body who staged a demonstration in support of the college and its president George Martin. The parade headed by the band was several blocks long and covered the principal streets of the city. Banners carried by the students were all favorable to President Martin. Also giving strong support to Mr. Martin was the Chamber of Commerce. The hearing held by the Board in Kearney on the accusations made by Mr. Saunders and some of his supporters did clear the air, but did not result in the hoped for removal of President Martin. It had been two years prior to this incident since the Board had been in Kearney.

It is obvious that the whole affair did not help the college even though Martin was to continue in office until his death in July of 1936. The coming of the depression was to intensify the struggle for funding even to the point that some businessmen in the community circulated a petition to request a reduction in faculty salaries since some of them were making more than the businessmen. Many years after this event, faculty members who were on the staff at the time were known to avoid, if at all possible, doing business with those establishments operated by the petition circulators. Fortunately the feeling thus represented was characteristic of a minority on the part of both the business community and the faculty.

On June 19 and 20, 1930 the college celebrated its Silver Anniversary. The celebration was marked by the triumphal return to the campus of its first President A. O. Thomas, who was the Thursday Convocation speaker, and by the dedication of the Estey Pipe Organ in the auditorium. Miss Hoscic describes the two days as, "...two days of pure joy, of bubbling enthusiasm on the part of students, faculty, patrons and guests." Present for the class reunion were members of each class since the first in 1906 who were joined by eight of the original faculty in addition to Dr. Thomas. Of the eight original faculty who were present five, Mary Major Crawford, Alma Hoscic, Anna V. Jennings,

Marion Smith and H. O. Sutton were still on the faculty. Governor Arthur J. Weaver, a boyhood friend of President Martin, was the banque speaker. Following a full day of activities on Friday, the celebration ended with the presentation of the pageant, "The Spirit of Education," under the direction of Professor C. T. Ryan. President Martin's remarks at the time of the Silver Anniversary to the college included this statement: "As the blue shadows proceed to enwrap the panorama, eyes grow tender, hearts throb quicker, new and higher aspirations replace the sordid and the mean. Reverently we salute the past, cheerfully confidently, we face whatever the future may demand. We must make our next quarter century even more distinguished than the past. Hail to the broadening horizon."

During the summer of 1930 another major event took place as the first dormitory constructed on the Kearney Campus took shape. With the completion of Eva J. Case Hall in September of 1930, Green Terrance was converted to "self boarding" apartments where young ladies could live even more cheaply than the \$6.50 per week it cost for a room in Case Hall and board at the dining hall.

Other construction which took place in the 1930's was limited to such improvements as the paving of the circular drive, a few additional sidewalks and the moving of the athletic field to its present location. These were possible by the availability of WPA funds. In addition to these the old greenhouse was constructed and finally Mens Hall, which included a new modern kitchen and dining room, also made possible by federal funds. All of these additions were made to the college scene.

Late in 1935 a number of changes took place involving college faculty. Dr. J. T. Anderson, the Dean of Men, was selected by the Board as the second president of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Wayne; and Mrs. Ruth Elliott, long time faculty member who had been Dean of Women since 1922 resigned and was replaced by Alice Robinson, Professor of Latin. President George Martin's health began to fail in 1935. He suffered much from kidney stones but refused to take pain killers. His doctor would not operate since he feared Martin's heart would not tolerate such a procedure. Through all of this President Martin continued to carry on his duties until his final hospitalization when it was discovered he was also suffering from advanced stages of cancer. After several weeks in the hospital where the only treatment available was the administration of pain killers which he refused to take, he was removed at his request to his home at 924 West 24th. Death came on July 12, 1936. The committee chaired by Dr. H. G. Stout who had managed the affairs of the college during the last few weeks of President Martin's life continued to function until newly elected President Cushing assumed the office on November 1, 1936.

In 1920 the college had moved from the semester to the quarter system of academic scheduling. Since all the other colleges in the state were on a semester basis it was decided in 1937 that the Teachers College at Kearney would return to that system effective in September 1938. An examination of the college bulletin reveals that for a number of years what had been three quarter courses became three semester courses. It was two decades until all traces of this simple transfer disappeared from the academic offering.

The year 1939 saw the first dormitory for men constructed on the Kearney campus, ready for occupancy. The severe budget restrictions of that year resulted in the closing of the A. O. Thomas high school, over a twenty percent reduction in the faculty, and a realignment of the seventeen administrative

departments into seven divisions. All of this took place without a change in enrollment. A Carnegie Grant to the library in 1940 in the amount of \$21,376 made possible the addition of over 500 books on art and related subjects as well as nearly 2,000 reproductions of art works for use by students and faculty. Selections of the materials were made by the art faculty and librarians.

The impact of World War II on the college was swift and dramatic. New defense courses were approved and offered. Faculty members Durfee Larson, Robertson Strawn and Roland Welch were granted leaves for military service and Harold Cerny and Robert Thrall were granted leaves for war work in a civilian capacity. Professor Lyle Mantor in his *The Broadening Horizons* says of those years, "Scarcely a day passed that did not see the withdrawal of young men and women from college to serve in the armed forces." The student body was further reduced by those who left for defense work. The growing shortage of teachers in the public schools made it possible for students to drop out of college before their course of study was completed, and they taught with temporary credentials. All of this resulted in a reduction in the size of the student body until it became less than half of what it was in 1940-41.

An attempt was made to maintain the physical plant and educational programs during the war in such a way that the transition to post war needs would be as smooth as possible. When the war ended barracks from deactivated air bases were moved on to the campus to provide housing for veteran families. A little later buildings from the Kearney Air Base were combined on the campus as a temporary student union. These temporary housing and union facilities served the campus for over a decade.

At the end of World War II there was a rapid increase in enrollment until 1950 when the outbreak of the Korean conflict again resulted in a decline which continued through 1953. From that time through 1970 each fall saw an increase in enrollments.

The end of the academic year 1942-43 brought the end of service to the college by original faculty members. At that time Professor Mary Major Crawford, Alma Hosic and Marion Smith were granted emeritus professorships. With this designation came a fifty dollar a month stipend. The college and the Board had no retirement plans; thus the fifty dollars a month was their reward for 38 years of professional service. When later these retired faculty became eligible for a small amount of money under a newly enacted teacher retirement law, the amount was subtracted from the original fifty dollars. Thus their benefits were never to exceed the fifty dollar figure.

The normal teaching load for faculty was by Board action to be no less than twenty quarter hours and under the semester system no less than eighteen hours. The stipulation also carried with it the requirement of a proportional reduction in salary if the assignment fell below the designated number of hours. How strictly this was enforced isn't too clear but it did result in some of the faculty spending much of their time during registration literally forcing students to register for their foreign language class so their salary would not be cut. These minimum loads remained in force until a reduction in teaching loads was forced by accreditation agencies and by the desire to offer graduate work.

The Teachers College years saw many firsts on campus. It was the first anniversary celebration of the beginning of the college, the twentieth in 1925. The following statement made at that twentieth anniversary celebration by



After 20 years these members of the original faculty were still actively serving the Nebraska State Normal School and Teachers College at Kearney. They are front row: Marian Smith, Art; C. N. Anderson, history; Second Row: H. O. Sutton, science; Mr. Mercer, geography; Anna V. Jennings, library; Third row: Mary Crawford, English; and Alma Hosic language.

President Martin was repeated at the twenty-fifth and again at the fiftieth when the theme "We Mark with Light" was used.

According to a beautiful myth, the sacred fire kindled by Vesta perpetually was kept alight by her votaries. Years ago sacramental fires were kindled by those who preceded you. Their path is marked and illuminated by their work. Each glowing deed performed by the teacher intensifies and lengthens the life of light set by their pioneers.

There was the establishment of the first student government with Homer McConnell as its first president, and the first recognition of individual students such as popularity contests, kings and queens who became in time homecoming queens and numerous other royalty. There was the first Inter High contest. The social organizations, although local in nature and having some roots in the Normal Period really came into their own. Students gained national recognition in athletics and speech activities. Honor societies appeared to give additional recognition to those students who excelled academically.

Chapel which had been held every day during the early years of the college became convocations and were gradually reduced in number to one compulsory one per week. Later there was a further reduction to one convocation every two weeks until all were abandoned when the auditorium could no longer hold the total student body. In retrospect a number of former students look back on the convocations as a major part of their education. It was here that they were introduced to classical and semi-classical music. Speakers from the faculty and from the outside brought insights that went far beyond their regular classes. As one former student put it, "They provided me with a good general education." Brought to campus for convocations or special programs were great and near greats in music, literature, politics, science and religion.



Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts, soon to be elected President of the United States, is addressing an overflow crowd of students in the auditorium in 1959. On the stage with him are State Senator, Norman Otto; Board Member, Carl Spelts, and Dean of Administration, Lester Hunt.

These included such names as, William Howard Taft, William Jennings Bryan, John Mulholland, John G. Neihardt, H. V. Kaltenborn, E. Stanley Jones, R. R. Brown, Robert M. LaFollett, Evan Williams, Will Durant, Walter Judd, Rosa Ponsello, Carl Sandburg, Dr. Daniel A. Polling, Vachel Lindsay, Bishop Gerald Kennedy, John F. Kennedy, Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink, Nelson Eddy, Jimmy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, and last but not least, Bess Furnam, a former NSTC student. On campus she was the first girl editor of the *Antelope*. For twenty years Ms. Furnam was working on newspapers in Washington D. C., a member of the Washington Bureau of the *New York Times*.

In 1949 the legislature gave its approval for the college to offer a non teaching degree, the Bachelor of Arts degree. This legislature recognized the expanding programs of the college. Also in 1949 and 1950 Harry Hoffman of the English Department and Robert House of the Music Department combined their talents to write a new fight song for the college. It is still being used over thirty years later.

The 1950's saw changes in the academic progress at the college which included the appointment of H. G. Stout as the first Dean of Instruction. When Dr. Stout retired, Dr. Leo Thomas was appointed to succeed him. Included in his responsibilities was the administration of the new graduate program which had its first graduates in 1957 when Masters degrees were awarded to Donald Briggs, Robert Lundt and Gladys Rose. Gladys Rose and Donald Briggs joined the faculty after their graduation, Mrs. Rose in art and Mr. Briggs in journalism and English. The rapid growth of the graduate program resulted in a separation of its administration from the office of Dean of Instruction. Dr. Myron Holm was appointed Director of Graduate Studies in 1958, a position he held until 1969.

The Golden Anniversary celebration June 15, 1955 was attended by Mrs. A. O. Thomas and her daughter Dr. Katheryne Whittemore. Also present were



Two members of the class of 1906 at the Golden Anniversary banquet, 1955. Mrs. Joseph Owen (nee Georgia Abrahamson) and Margaret Knapple.

members of the first graduating class of 1906 and other early classes. President Cushing was the banquet speaker and used as his theme "Education is the means man uses to tie the progress of the past into the present for the sake of the future." A buffalo-beef barbecue and the dedication of the New Vocational Arts Building were the major activities of September 30, 1955 the first day of the two day Golden Anniversary Homecoming. Dr. Verne C. Fryklund, president of Stout State College gave the dedication address for the new Vocational Arts Building. Dr. Fryklund had served as chairman of the Industrial Arts Department at Kearney from 1922 until 1929.



A Float in the Golden Anniversary Homecoming Parade

The rapid increase in enrollment in the late fifties as well as the building boom which hit the campus, marked the last years of the Cushing administration. The selection of Milton J. Hassel as the successor to President Cushing 1961 marks the first time faculty were involved in the process of selecting a president. The committee appointed to assist the Board in securing candidates for the position, consisted of Myron Holm, Harry Hoffman, Ray O. Johnson, Donald Fox and William Lynn.

Although the end of the Teachers College era does not come until the name change in 1963 to Kearney State College, the change of presidents so near that date appears to be a satisfactory point for the change.



Impressed by a performance of the Kilgore, Texas, Rangerettes, President Cushing encouraged the organization, in 1955, of a similar group for Kearney. These became the Wagoneers who combined precision drill and artful maneuvering to become a popular attraction both on and off campus. The group performed at athletic events and represented the college in parades until 1977.



Herbert L. Cushing Coliseum



George Ellsworth Martin

George Ellsworth Martin came to the Normal School at Kearney in 1915 as Head of the English Department. Two years later he became Dean of Teacher Training, a position he held at the time of the resignation of President Dick. He was appointed acting president until his election to the office in June of 1919 as the third president of the Normal School.

Prior to coming to Kearney, President Martin collaborated with J. W. Searson in writing a series of reading textbooks which gained wide national acceptance.

During his seventeen years as president Kearney was changed from a Normal School to a fully accredited Teachers College. No president has served during a time when less financial support was given to the college. Much needed capital construction was given only minimal support. The A. O. Thomas Building was constructed but it was only one third of what it was planned to be, and the first dormitory, Case Hall, was constructed. During his administration enrollment grew from 305 to 825 while the faculty went from 36 to 55.

President Martin was described as a man with a passion for accuracy and punctuality, a thoroughgoing disciplinarian who put a great deal of emphasis on efficiency and thoroughness. It was said that character and personality were important factors in his selection of faculty. His compassion for students is supported by the accounts that he "Tramped miles through all kinds of weather in search of work for students." Out of his own pocket he gave and loaned money to needy students. At the time of his death a member of the clergy is quoted in the *Antelope* as saying that under President Martin's leadership, "The relationship of the college faculty and student body to the churches of Kearney has been superior to that which exists between many so called religious schools and the churches of their affiliation." ...He had a strong belief in separation of Church and State.

Some accounts describe him as a scholar who had little patience with students who spent much of their time in socializing. He had little sympathy or even patience with sororities and fraternities. President Martin received national recognition for his leadership in educational circles as evidenced by his selection as Vice President of the National Education Association in 1935. The following quotation from the 1937 *Blue and Gold* further describes the man:

...A kind gentleman whose patience and sympathy were never failing...an able executive, a diligent scholar, ...a master teacher... a master mind in the field of philosophy and literary interpretation... a great mind which by wide reading and interpretation through life's experiences made him a peer in the intellectual world...he had a deep appreciation for music, poetry, and art...a love for beauty everywhere.

His health began to fail in 1935 and he died June 18, 1936, the only President of Kearney State College to die in office. Funeral services were conducted from the college auditorium.



Herbert L. Cushing

Herbert L. Cushing became President of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney November 1, 1936, the fourth man to hold that position. He came to the presidency from the State Department of Education where he was serving as Deputy State Superintendent. He liked to tell about a conversation he had with some of his friends after he applied for the office of President at Kearney. It was obvious the Board was going to be divided on its selection. One of his friends said to him, "You can't accept it unless you get a unanimous vote," to which he replied, "You just watch me." The Board as usual found it necessary to vote a number of times on October 19, 1936 before they gave Mr. Cushing the necessary four votes out of seven to make his selection official. His tenure in the position was destined to be the longest to date in the history of the college.

President Cushing had taught rural school, been a county superintendent of schools, a city superintendent of schools, a newspaper publisher and editor and a rancher; and he had been involved some in political activity. At Kearney he assumed the presidency of a college with over 800 students and over fifty faculty with an inadequate physical plant and budget. The budget was to suffer a severe cut in 1939 which resulted in over a 20% reduction in the faculty. The first seventeen years of Mr. Cushing's administration saw the construction of the first men's dormitory in 1939 and a replacement for the old heating plant in 1949. The enrollment which stood at 825 when he became president dropped below 300 during World War II, increased rapidly after the war only to drop to near six hundred during the Korean conflict. Most of the growth of his administration took place during the last few years of his administration so that he could retire from an institution which had expanded its program to include a liberal arts degree and a graduate program in education, had an enrollment of about 1800 and was experiencing a building boom.

His special interests resulted in special support for speech, vocational education and athletics. The only two classroom areas constructed during the nearly

quarter of a century Mr. Cushing was president were the Otto Olsen Vocational Arts Building and the Coliseum which bears his name.

Near the end of his administration the rapid increase in enrollment, the increase in the building activity and the expansion of new programs seem nearly to overwhelm him. President Cushing had been accustomed to making all the decisions even on many minor issues. He found it extremely difficult to select assistants and delegate authority to them without wanting to continue to make all the decisions. The budget, then on a biennial basis, became more and more difficult as enrollments moved far ahead of projections, making the budget even more inadequate the second year of the biennium than usual. The year all college personnel were first covered by Social Security was the first year of the biennium. It was customary for President Cushing to have any repairs and maintenance work which funds would permit done during the first year of the biennium. The notice to pay the first quarterly installment on Social Security arrived while workmen were in the midst of some renovation and repairs on the first floor of the Administration Building. Mr. Cushing called in a dean who was not assigned responsibilities in the financial area and after consulting him about the need to make the Social Security payment remarked, "We've just got to fire the carpenters." For some years faculty members in discussing financial problems- Kearney State has always had them- would say, "I guess we'll just have to fire the carpenters."

President Cushing's involvement in the detailed operations of the college would extend from the hiring and dismissing of faculty to making buying trips for the purchasing of some art pieces for the college, to the planting of trees and the planting, trimming and watering of the rose bushes. His personal caring for the trees and the pruning and watering of the roses resulted in his being mistaken, much to his great delight, by strangers as one of the groundskeepers.

President Cushing took great pride in the fact that the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney held the distinction of having a faculty which had 100% membership in the Local, State and National Education Association. Kearney held this record longer than any other institution of higher education in the nation. It took considerable effort on the part of Mr. Cushing to see that this record was maintained. On occasion he personally paid the dues of faculty members who would not join on their own initiative. Their tenure at Kearney State was not very long. In the third year after his retirement this record was finally broken. Ironically a Kearney State College faculty member was president of the Nebraska State Education Association the year the record ended.

Herbert L. Cushing's planned-for retirement came on July 1, 1961 as he was approaching his seventy-first birthday. In the months which preceded his retirement he was honored in a number of ways, including a special day in his honor, May 17, 1961 called Cushing Day. This was a luxury and pleasure which has not been extended to any other Kearney State President. The last of these special honors came on February 11, 1962 when Cushing Coliseum was dedicated. This was just seventeen days before his unexpected death on February 28, 1962.



President Cushing takes a mighty swing in a faculty-alumni ball game.



President Cushing awarding first degree of the Golden Anniversary Year to John Cronin, January 1955.



Buffalo Beef Barbecue for Golden Anniversary Homecoming, September 30, 1955 was presided over by faculty members Ed Nelson, Al Zikmund, Leland Copeland, Robert Hauver, Elmer Beckman, and Chief Chef Don Fox.



President Herbert L. Cushing joins fellow Grand Island college graduate Coach Charlie Foster at a sports event.



In 1925, Industrial Arts students constructed twenty teachers' desks. Shown above are nine of the desks stacked at the foot of the stairs near the Southwest entrance of the Administration Building.



Library—north end of the first floor of the Administration Building. After the new library building was completed this space was remodeled in 1964 for the offices of: President; Dean of Instruction, Director of Business Affairs, Registrar and Vice-president.

CHAPTER IV

A STATE COLLEGE

When Dr. Milton J. Hassel became the fifth president of the Nebraska State Teachers College on July 1, 1961 he was faced with a number of problems that were in need of immediate attention. Within the first week of this arrival visitation teams from North Central and from NCATE were on campus. Neither of these accreditation groups gave a favorable report on what they found.

Some of the things that had taken place in the few short years which preceded their visits involved rapid enrollment growth without equally rapid growth in financing, and the introduction of a graduate program without adequate funding. The graduate program had been established with the promise that it really wouldn't cost anything extra. The system of rank was rather unique. A division chairman had the rank of a professor. A Ph. D. without a division chairman assignment resulted in an associate professor rank. Long time service and special consideration had resulted in the awarding of a professional rank. Those with a Master's degree were given an assistant professor rank and if faculty members had less than a master's they were instructors. Rank assignment was an administrative decision. All faculty committee members were determined by administrative appointments. Teaching loads were heavy and



A 1958 Faculty committee is meeting in the old library. Left to right: student representative; Max Casey, Dean of Men; Les Livingston; Jennie Conrad; Alice Robinson McCready; Lyle Mantor, George Whitfield; Gladys Rose and Louise Adams.

library facilities and holdings were woefully inadequate. It was a case of a small single purpose college that had grown rapidly towards a multi-purpose institution, while the organization, facilities and financing were still basically small college. In addition the criteria on which rank was determined were not in agreement with accepted academic practice. A number of advanced academic ranks had been awarded to people who had only limited graduate work in the area of their rank. One of the visitors is quoted as saying to the assembled administrators in his exit report, "You run a loose ship around here." For this and other reasons faculty members who had been on campus a number of years found themselves for the first time filling out more multi-copy forms in order to do things which earlier had been handled on an informal basis in the division. Faculty were drawn into the area of decision making to a much greater degree than ever before.

During the next few years it was necessary for the administration and faculty to prepare what seemed to be endless reports and studies with the assistance of consultants from the accreditation agencies to document the changes which were being made toward meeting the standards for full accreditation on both the undergraduate and graduate levels. President Hassel in a recent interview remarked what a great relief it was when after all the consultants, all the reports and all the visitations were completed, the word came that full accreditation was finally received. Small wonder that he considered accreditation of all the programs one of the major accomplishments of his years as president of Kearney State College.

In 1963 came the recognition that the State Teachers Colleges were more than single purpose institutions when the names were changed to State Colleges. For the first time in the existence of the institution the names of the community became an official part of the title and the name of the state was dropped. It was now Kearney State College. Student groups had for a number of years been advocating a change and for a time used "Nebraska State." The letter "N" replaced the traditional "K" on some uniforms such as those worn by the cheerleaders. The basketball team had some uniforms which used the



Former Normal School Professor, W. B. Stryker, pays a visit to President Hassel and his secretary, Sally Jackson, 1962.

words "Nebraska State." It has been the tendency to look upon the four state colleges as the same so the name change which went into effect in 1963 affected each of the state colleges by using the name of the community in which they are located, followed by "State College."



Joyce Iverson, Bridgeport freshman, made history in September, 1961, when she became the 2,000th student to register. Marvin Stovall, Business Manager and President Hassel witnessed the occasion.

Enrollments continued to climb and special picture taking sessions marked the reaching of the 2,000 enrollment level. It was necessary to recruit faculty in much greater numbers than ever before in order to provide for the increased enrollment. With college enrollments on the rise nationwide it was difficult to recruit faculty with advanced degrees in sufficient numbers to serve in the department interested in graduate work.



Pictured here are 25 of the 27 who joined the faculty in 1963, a number larger than the total faculty in 1905.

Classroom space was at a premium but it was necessary to convert classrooms for use by the faculty as make-shift offices. When it became necessary to evacuate the auditorium wing, Conrad Hall space had to be taken over to house the music faculty. Business faculty had been moved into Mens Hall. Because of the crowded conditions. President Hassel went to the Board with the request that consideration be given to limiting enrollment. He expressed the opinion that until new facilities were available it would be better to serve those students who were present and limit the number of new students. The Board would not go along with the recommendation but went on



Senior Service Award winners for 1967 Melanie Stovall and Gary Mason

record as saying that as long as students could find classes in which to enroll and find a place to live there was to be no limiting of enrollment. The enrollment reached a high point of 5,890 in the fall of 1970. For the first time since 1953 the enrollment in 1971 was less than it had been the year before. In this case it dropped to 5,713. By the fall of 1973 enrollment figures stood at 4,921. Enrollment now seemed to be limiting itself. Many reasons for the decline were not associated with the campus, but a substantial number of students and potential students became discouraged and left college because of the limited facilities available. By the fall of 1974 the trends in this cycle had been reversed and the number of students began to increase again to the present record enrollment.

President Hassel resigned in the fall of 1971. Dr. Marvin Knittel served as acting president until Brendan McDonald took over the office as president. With the arrival of President McDonald, Dr. Knittel moved to the office of Dean of Instruction, a position that underwent a name change to Academic

Vice President. A committee made up of faculty elected from the several schools, a graduate student and two undergraduate students, the graduate dean, the chairman of the faculty senate, a representative of the alumni association and one member of the Kearney State College foundation assisted in the search for the new president. The committee chaired by Dr. Philip Holmgren received and reviewed all applications, interviewed candidates and finally submitted names to the Board who made the final selection.

The development of new programs was characteristic of the State College period. Older programs were changed and refined. Reorganization within divisions was much in evidence long before the major reorganization of 1969 became effective. An example of this may be found in the Social Science Division, where all course offerings were listed as social science without reference to the discipline involved. President Hassel and his Dean of Instruction, Paul Gaer, were anxious to have courses more accurately identified with the discipline represented. As a result as early as the 1962 college catalogs, courses were listed as either economics, geography, history, philosophy, political science or sociology. All subsequent new courses were added with the discipline designation. As numbers of faculty increased and the courses expanded it became desirable to look to one member of the faculty of a given-discipline to assume more of the responsibility of the area. They revised many of the functions of a department chairman and they were thought of by faculty and students as such but the position in nearly every case was unofficial.



Campus Scene from the Air Jan. 1977

Undergraduate and graduate majors were developed in numerous areas before and after the 1969 reorganization. In the social sciences where most courses beyond the basic ones were in geography, history and political science, majors were developed in economics and sociology in addition to the other



First capping ceremony initiates 4 year nursing program Feb. 1978,

three. In speech, additions were made in the area of radio and speech corrections, in industrial arts, the traffic safety program and in education, the educational administration program. These are a few examples associated with the early state college period. Later programs were developed in psychology, criminal justice, computer science, statistics, the degree nursing program, vocational education, special education, early childhood education, counseling and guidance, recreation, telecommunication, theatre arts, dance, speech pathology, health science programs, management technology as well as a number of options in the area of business.



President Brendan McDonald, Dean Harry Hoffman and Professor Fred Koontz witnessing the beginning of the construction of the Hostettler Ampitheater given to the college by Florence Raymond of Chicago in memory of her father, Judge Bruno Hostettler. It is located between the Library and the Fine Arts Building. 1980.



President Brendan McDonald and President Edwin Nelson of Chadron look over the document which established Nebraska State Historical Society Regional Archives at Kearney State and Chadron State. Rich Bringleson, Executive officer of the State Board of Trustees and James Potter, State Archivist confer in the background. 1977.

The new programs have been developed to meet the needs of the students who are coming to Kearney State College. A number of them have been given a good start as a result of federal grants. The willingness of the state to support these programs after the federal funding is discontinued is extremely vital to the programs. When state funding is not forthcoming in sufficient amounts to support the program the college is faced with the dilemma of insufficient funds to support all programs offered even if student interest is sufficient.

The variety of programs offered at Kearney State College, more than just enrollment figures, is evidence that the institution is far removed from the Normal School. For many years after the Normal School became the Teachers College and finally State College, the governing board carried in its name the Normal School designation. For many citizens of the state the Normal School image of the State College is far too vivid. The result is that the funding from the state is influenced by the Normal School mind set.



Milton J. Hassel

During the first 75 years of the existence of Kearney State College, Milton J. Hassel was the only one of its graduates to serve as its president. Hassel first enrolled at the Nebraska State Teachers College in 1933. After completing two years he served as an elementary principal while continuing his college education in the summers. He was graduated in 1941. Twenty years later he returned to assume the office of president on July 1, 1961. He was the fifth man to hold that position.

His administration was marked by continuous growth. Each fall there was a new record enrollment except for his last year. Enrollments grew from 1800 to 5800 while the faculty increased from 93 to nearly 300. During the ten and one-half years of his presidency nine buildings were constructed and the auditorium was removed after structural failure made it unsafe for further use. The period also coincided with the greatest student unrest on campuses over the United States. The Kearney campus did not escape but major threats did not materialize. Funding lagged far behind student growth.

Both North Central and NCATE teams were on campus during the first week Dr. Hassel was president. Apparently they did not like what they saw and for the next four years the administration and faculty were busy with reports and examinations in order to make the necessary changes to obtain full accreditation. In a recent interview President Hassel expressed the opinion that the greatest things to come out of his administration were,

1. Achieving full accreditation for all programs by North Central and NCATE.
2. Being able to assist in the construction of nine much needed new buildings.
3. Seeing the college reorganizing from divisions into schools.

4. Seeing a good increase in enrollments and being able to assemble an upgraded faculty to handle the expanded program of the college.

When Dr. Hassel became president there were numerous faculty committees and councils which assisted in the governance of the college. Membership on each of these committees and councils was through administrative appointment. During the time he was president the idea of a faculty senate was proposed. A constitution was drawn up and received faculty, administration and Board approval. The Faculty Senate was elected by the faculty. The old appointed committees and councils were replaced by new faculty senate committees and councils whose membership was determined by faculty vote. Thus a major step was taken to involve the faculty as a whole in the decision making process on campus.

Under great pressure from some members of the Board of Trustees, President Hassel submitted his resignation after serving his alma mater as president for ten and one-half years. Those years witnessed the most spectacular growth in the history of the college and also the greatest turmoil on the KSC campus.

After leaving Kearney Dr. Hassel joined the staff on the University of Nebraska where he served as an administrator in the State University of Nebraska program until his retirement.



Newly installed President Hassel is visited in his office by Governor Frank B. Morrison.



Bob Whitehouse, president of Stout Hall, looks on while President Hassel signs the guest register at the open house.



When President Hassel accompanied the football team to Eastern Montana State in 1965, he demonstrated his punting ability. Kearney won 10-0.



Brendan J. McDonald

Brendan J. McDonald was elected the sixth president of Kearney State College on July 14, 1972. He assumed his position a month later in August of 1972. McDonald, a native of Canada, holds degrees from St. Cloud State College, the University of Minnesota and Michigan State University. He came to Kearney from St. Cloud State College where he was Vice President of Administration and Planning. At Kearney he was faced with declining enrollments and a large vacancy rate in the residence halls. Faculty cuts were necessary in order to keep within the available funding. By 1975 trends had been reversed and the residence hall occupancy was back up to 95% capacity and continued to climb to exceed 100% as early as 1977. Enrollments have also increased to a new high of over 6,800 students as of the fall term of 1979.

New construction on campus has included Founders Hall and the art wing addition to the Fine Arts Building. The college has made good progress under Dr. McDonald's leadership to utilize the facilities of the former Hospital for the Tubercular which had been transferred to the college shortly before his arrival. He has done much toward the preservation and restoration of the George W. Frank House which was a part of the former hospital facilities.

The construction of the bridge across the tail race at 26th Street and completion of the road which connects 29th Street with the new bridge and continues through the West Campus to connect with Highway 30 west, has been a major accomplishment. This route skirts the campus on the north allowing access to the college while eliminating excessive traffic on campus.

Some of the new programs which have been developed or expanded during the McDonald presidency are the four year degree nursing program, computer science, criminal justice, the specialist degree in school psychology and school administration, the safety center and the much maligned masters of business administration. Additional emphasis has been placed on the expanded campus

progress. President McDonald was the leading force in the establishment of the Nebraska Art Collection to be housed in Kearney.

Dr. McDonald prompted the organization of a host group on campus, called the Ambassadors. He has taken an active part in encouraging closer ties between the Emeriti faculty and the college. The granting of Certificates of Recognition to the 50 year graduates of Kearney State College is an example of President McDonald's interest in the alumni. Through his encouragement alumni groups have been organized in various sections of the country while here in Kearney he worked toward the purchasing of the former A. O. Thomas home for use as an Alumni House.

Dr. McDonald's leadership has been instrumental in funding the Kearney State Foundation as a stimulus to increase monies to assist the college.

Many serious challenges have been met since Dr. McDonald became the sixth president of Kearney State College. In the years ahead there will be continuing problems to challenge the administration and faculty.



President McDonald chats with students during this 1974 "Meet the Freshman" ice cream social.



President McDonald demonstrates that a College president is not always behind the 8 Ball. Mantor Hall game room, 1977.



Receiving her 50 year Certificate of Recognition from President McDonald at the 1975 Spring Commencement is this 1925 graduate of Kearney State College.



R. M. Snodgrass

Acting Presidents

R. M. Snodgrass, George S. Martin and Marvin Knittel have served as acting presidents of the college. R. M. Snodgrass served from the time of the dismissal of A. O. Thomas until George S. Dick assumed the office. George Martin served from the departure of President Dick until he was elected as the new president. Marvin Knittel served from the time of President Hassel's departure until President Brendan J. McDonald assumed the office. During the time of the critical illness of George S. Martin and the months following his death before President Cushing came to campus, the affairs of the college were handled by a three member faculty committee under the chairmanship of Dr. H. G. Stout. Stout was assisted by Professor William Zeigel and Professor Ralph J. Powell.



Marvin Knittel

CHAPTER V

BRICKS AND MORTAR

When the citizens of Kearney made their original gift to the state for the normal school, the building they offered was Green Terrace. It had been used for a variety of purposes including an apartment hotel and a regular hotel, between the time the first Midway Hotel burned and the new Midway was constructed. Although not an old building when given to the state, Green Terrace was in need of renovation to make it suitable for the new purpose it was to serve, a dormitory with dining facilities.

Before the school could operate, a building suitable for use by the faculty and students as a classroom - office building was needed. Such a structure was built in 1904-05, the center part of the building now known as the Administration Building. It was designed in such a fashion that major additions could be made both on the north and south ends. The growth of the school was so rapid that a bill was introduced into the 1907 legislature providing funds for the construction of the wings. Although the bill received legislative approval, it was vetoed by Governor Sheldon. The Citizens of Kearney, on a technicality in the statutory time limit for a veto, filed suit. The court case, brought by citizens of Kearney, resulted in an adverse ruling which was appealed, but on October 4, 1907, the State Supreme Court refused to grant a rehearing. Thus, not only was there a delay of two years in getting the necessary appropriation, but it had to be constructed in two stages, resulting in the north wing being done in 1909-10 and the south wing in 1911-12. The delay was further complicated by legislation which called for the creation of a State Board of Education for Normal Schools. The constitutionality of the new board was challenged in court. Thus, there was a time when two boards existed, with serious questions in the minds of outsiders as to the legality of either. Accordingly, when there was a call for bids for the north wing, only one was received and that was higher than the amount appropriated by the legislature. Bids were readvertised, and the January 8, 1910, bid of W. F. Crossley was accepted in March, after a dispute over the bid of Knutzen and Isdell was finally settled. By eliminating the pillars, which would have matched the ones on the original building, and the basement, there was a total savings of \$3,800. A partial basement was constructed at a later date at a cost much in excess of this original savings.

During the course of construction, such major items came before the board as the piping of gas and water to the laboratories on the third floor and the connecting of the halls on the first floor, with a covering to match the marble used in the original building. At the June 17, 1911 meeting the board accepted the building and gave both Dr. Thomas and Mr. Crossley a vote of thanks, one for supervision and the other for the "gentlemanly way in which he performed his work."

On May 3, 1911, plans for the south wing were approved and the architect was given instructions to complete full drawings and specifications. On June 21, 1911, W. F. Crossley's bid for \$53,732.50 was accepted for the construction of the south wing. This bid was to include wiring, plumbing and heating, all completed and ready for occupancy. In October there was a ten-day delay caused by the late arrival of structural steel for the third floor. Because of this delay, the contractor was unable to have the wing done as planned for the 7th anniversary of the opening of the school. On June 28, 1912, the new south wing was formally dedicated and christened the Aldrich Wing. Governor Aldrich was present for the festive occasion. Thus was completed the building which

has been known to generations of students as the Administration Building. In the nearly 70 years since the completion of the south wing, few, indeed, are the



Dedication ceremonies for the south wing of the Administration Building, 1912.

students or faculty who have known that the original building was the Mickey Building, the north wing the Shellenberger Building, and the south wing the Aldrich Wing. All were named in honor of the governor who signed the legislation, making possible the construction of that part which bears his name so very lightly.

Completed, in a very general sense, was the gymnasium in 1911. The structure was 60' by 80' with a 28-foot ceiling. It contained a 75-yard cinder track, and was used not only for track but for indoor baseball and basketball. The only heat was furnished by two oil stoves. This barn-like structure was to serve as the only gymnasium until the new one was constructed in 1917.

The 1915 legislature approved funds for the construction of an auditorium. On August 3, 1915, the bid of W. F. Crossley of \$57,867. was approved. By October 13, 1915, a request was presented to the board in the following fashion:



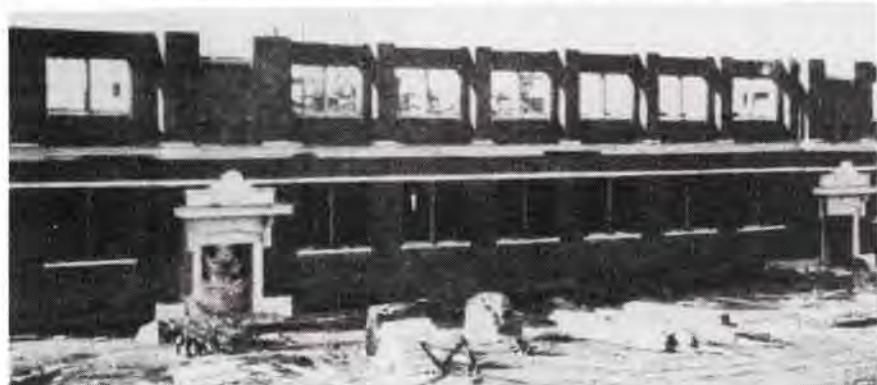
College Auditorium under construction 1915.

It was attached to the west side of the "Mickey Building". Structural failure early in 1968 necessitated the evacuation of the auditorium wing and the building had to be demolished.

We greatly appreciate the liberality of the state your ever watchful care of the state Normal Schools of Nebraska in the past, and especially do we appreciate the fine new auditorium so soon to be completed. We now ask for the sum of \$50,000 with which to erect a new gymnasium and to place a suitable pipe organ in the new auditorium.

A pipe organ was eventually given to the college by the alumni in time for the Silver Anniversary in 1930.

Walter Knutzen was awarded the general contract of \$50,017 for the gymnasium on June 23, 1916. Heating, plumbing and wiring were awarded to other contractors. This meant that two buildings were under construction at the same time. As plans were being made for the laying of the cornerstone for the gymnasium, there were plans also being made for the dedication of the



Copeland Gymnasium under construction 1916.



S.A.T.C.

The Student Army Training Corps of the Kearney State Normal School was organized early in October, 1918, and was demobilized December 10, 1918. The new gymnasium was given over to the government to be used as barracks, and here the seventy-one members of the corps were comfortably quartered. The officers in charge of the S.A.T.C. were Commandant Oscar Vickstrom, First Lieutenant, and Adjutant Edward Himmel, Second Lieutenant.

auditorium. As the new auditorium was nearing completion, arrangements were made to convert the old chapel room for the use of the commercial

department.

A feature of the first program given in the new auditorium in May, 1917, was the taking of a free-will offering. Collected at this time was \$75.00 which was turned over to the newly-organized Red Cross Society of Buffalo County.

The gymnasium was completed in 1918, and for a time was the busiest spot in town. This lasted for only a short time until the whole facility was turned over to the Army for use by the SATC. After the war ended, the corps was discharged and the gymnasium was again available to the college students.

Starting with the construction of the north wing, or Shellenberger Building in 1910, and ending with the completion of the recently-named Copeland Gymnasium built in 1918, there were one minor and four major additions made to the academic structures on campus. This represents the most active period of academic construction in the history of the college.

With all the construction which had taken place, there was still an overcrowding. The training school was in need of special facilities to provide the student teaching experience, necessary for a teacher preparatory institution. There was also need for more room for the manual training classes, as they were known at that time.

Plans were drawn for a training school which would be built in the shape of a "gigantic E", the long part of the building to face 11th Street. The south wing was designed as a two-story structure for the kindergarten and elementary schools. The center would be four stories and house the high school. The north wing would match the south wing and be used for the education faculty and college education classes. Funds were made available in 1925 for the purpose of constructing the first section, the kindergarten-elementary wing. This project appears to have been one which was self contracted, since much of the construction was under the direct supervision of Professor Verne C. Fryklund of the Industrial Training Department. The cornerstone was laid March 20, 1926. Contracts were let to construct the tunnel to carry the steam pipes from the heating plant to the new building, and another contractor was responsible for the plumbing. On December 6, 1926, President Martin reported to the Board that the first unit of the training school was complete and that, with the exception of the fifth and sixth grades, the training school had moved in. (On November 21, 1932, the Board approved the request of the faculty and students of the training school that their building be known as the A. O. Thomas Building.) It was still necessary for many high school classes to be held in the college building, "notably, classes in laboratory sciences." Hopes were high that the appropriation of the next biennium would include funds for the completion of the next two units. Not only were funds unavailable during the next biennium, but there were no funds available for construction of classroom buildings for 27 years. The next building to be approved was the \$770,000 Otto Olsen Vocational Arts Building which was authorized in 1953 and occupied in 1955. This building provided space for the Home Economics, Business and Industrial Arts programs.

In March of 1959, funds were approved for the construction of a new physical education plant which was underway in early April of 1960, and the cornerstone was laid in May, 1960. It was dedicated as the Herbert L. Cushing Coliseum in February, 1962.



Members of the Vocational Arts Division faculty examine plans for the first new class room building to be built on the Kearney Campus in over twenty-five years. 1953. Seated left to right, Clara Ockinga, Delia Garrett, Bernice Mantor Standing, Robert Place, Otto Olsen, Roland Welch, Otho Means and Kenneth Carlson.

Library facilities had become so cramped much of the collection had to be stored in other rooms referred to as the "annex." A self-evaluation made in 1960 gave statistical evidence to the need for new library facilities, which were obvious to the casual observer. As early as 1923, recommendations for the expansion of the library included a 60-foot extension to the west end of the north wing of the Administration Building. By 1960 this recommendation was no longer under consideration. In April of 1961, a library for Kearney State was number three on the list of new buildings to be approved by the Board for the four state colleges. In October of 1961, the Governor gave approval for the



Carl Spelts, board member, Alice Paine, head Librarian watch Dr. Hassel Break ground for the new library, July 1962.



On October 31, 1963, the library was named the Calvin T. Ryan Library. The dormitory formerly known as West Hall was renamed the H. G. Stout Hall and the dormitory formerly known as North Hall was renamed Jennie M. Conrad Hall. Miss Conrad is seen receiving the congratulations of Professor Lyle E. Mantor. C. T. Ryan is directly behind Miss Conrad and seated in the center is Zelda Jean Ryan Rouillard, daughter of C. T. Ryan.

library at Kearney. Bids were opened June 18, 1962, and the ground-breaking ceremonies took place in July. On November 5, 1962, the cornerstone was laid and the move into the new library was completed in August of 1963. In 1980, plans are being made for a major addition to the library with construction to begin in the new future.

The 1963 legislature voted an allocation of \$500,000 for the first unit of a new science building. Plans for this building had called for a facility with an estimated cost of over one and one-half million. What could be done with \$500,000? Since the term "first unit" was not understood by the Board, the members then attempted to find out what the legislature had meant by "the first unit of a science building." Did the first unit refer to a complete entity, or could this term be construed to mean the shell of a larger building? The requests for funds to complete the two remaining units of the training school building could not help but be in the minds of administrative officials as they contemplated what should be done. After a plan had been devised for a shell large enough to house both the science and mathematics departments of the college, the Board sought the approval of each legislative committee applicable to the situation, including the Legislative Budget Committee, the Legislative Executive Council, the State Attorney General, and the Governor, to build the shell. Attorney General Meyer gave his decision that the Normal Board could be defended by building either a first unit that was self-contained or the shell of an over-all building. Therefore, upon the approval on January 23, 1964, of the Governor of the State of Nebraska, Frank B. Morrison, the construction of a shell or basic over-all structure as the first unit of a science building at Kearney State College was authorized. On October 15, 1964, bids were taken for the shell which was estimated to cost approximately \$500,000 from state funds. Construction of the shell was completed in 1966.

Although the shell of the new building had been built, no funds were available to finish and equip the inside of the building. In the latter part of 1964, the Higher Education Facilities Act was passed by the federal government, stipulating matching money for the construction on college and university campuses of library and science facilities. If the state would pay two-thirds of the money for the building, the federal government would appropriate the remaining one-third of the cost of the building. A deadline for application for

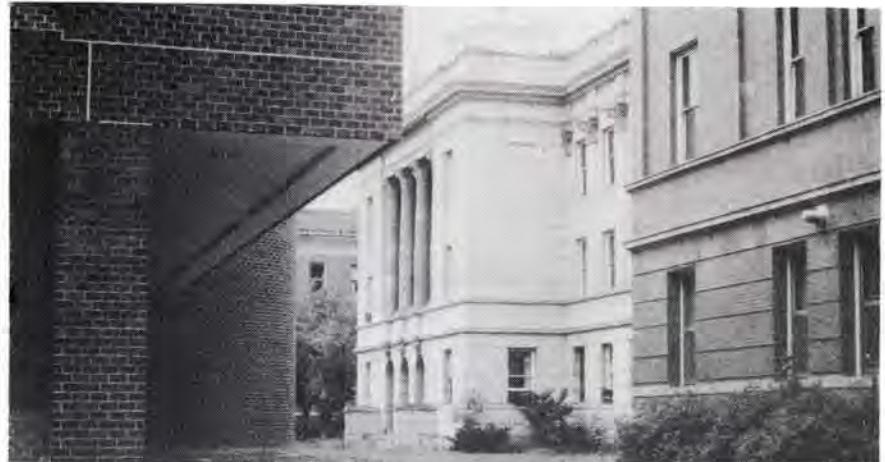
the funds was March 31, 1965. In January of 1965, the new session of the Nebraska Legislature convened. To meet the deadline March 31, 1965, President Milton J. Hassel asked the legislature for the balance of funds to finish the three-story building. The bill was presented to the floor of the Legislature on March 1, 1965. By noon of March 31, the bill was passed 40 to 0. L. B. 868 appropriated \$1,250,000 to be taken from the 1965-67 state building fund to be matched by \$699,893 federal funds for the completion of the science building, including both the interior and necessary equipment. In August 1965, the college was notified that the federal grant had been approved. The entire building costing \$2,449,893 was finished on September 1, 1966.

Some members of the legislature were not too happy with the decision to construct the "shell" as the first unit. Their resentment was even greater when the request for the second unit was coupled with the necessity of rapid approval, to take advantage of federal funds to assist in the construction costs. For a number of years Kearney's requests were given greater scrutiny to prevent them from playing another "shell" game. Formal dedication of the William F. Bruner Hall of Science and the Mary Morse Lecture Halls took place April 26, 1967, after the facilities had been used nearly a year by the departments of mathematics, biological and physical sciences.

Plans for a new Fine Arts building were under consideration for a number of years. Lack of sufficient funds resulted in a facility which could house only music and a portion of the speech-theatre program. No room was available for radio, television, speech pathology or art. Bids were accepted in May 1968, but it was December 1970 before the building was completed and ready for occupancy.

The ROTC Building was constructed in 1969. Its purpose was to house the Senior Division of the Reserve Officer's Training Corps which was assigned to Kearney State College, effective in the fall of 1969.

For some time the condition of the Administration Building was of concern to college officials and all faculty and students who used it. After the library was removed, considerable remodeling had been done on the first floor but it was apparent that major construction would still need to be done if the structure was to continue to serve the college community. Plans for remodeling were set aside after the September 4, 1969, veto of a \$1,500,000 appropriation bill, for the remodeling of the Administrative Building, and plans for a replacement were begun. Some of the early replacement plans had called for the incorporation of the north and south wings into a new building, after the original center section had been removed. It was decided that a new structure would be built, completely independent of the old. Before the specifics were completed, the decision was made to close the Hospital for the Tubercular, and transfer all lands and building to the control of the Board of Trustees for State Colleges. This became what is now known as the west campus of Kearney State College. Approval of the expenditure of funds appropriated for the new building was now delayed until an assessment was made of the ways the college could utilize the former hospital buildings. By the time approval was given to build the new structure, costs had risen to the point that the three-story building planned was reduced to two. When the decision was made to locate the building between the original building and Ninth Avenue, it necessitated the removal of the large trees which had been planted by student groups on those early Arbor Day Observances.



The old is crowded by the New Founders Hall nearing completion in front of the Administration Building 1976



Rich Bringleson, Executive Officer of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Ann Campbell, Commissioner of Education and President Brendon J. McDonald - Board of Trustees are Inspecting Founder's Hall January 1977.

At the October 17, 1974, board meeting, a motion was made by George Egermayer and seconded by Robert Walker that "open" offices be included in the plans for the new building. This motion adopted by the Board was in direct opposition to all recommendations made by the faculty who had been consulted during the planning stage. Contracts were let April 12, 1975, for the construction of Founders Hall for a total of \$1,700,000. The building was ready for occupancy in January of 1977. The departments of art moved into the first floor, while the School of Education, with the exception of Physical Education and the Department of Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology were moved to the second floor. Most of the classes taught by those housed on the second floor were held in other buildings because of the limited classroom space.



Founders Hall

Dedicated to the memory of the original faculty of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney. 1978.



Moving out of the Administration Building January 1977

The construction of Founders Hall did not provide the space needed to replace the Administration Building which had been condemned in total. The third floor was sealed off, as were the north and south wings of the second floor. Plans were made for a new facility to house the Art Department, which would be attached to the Fine Arts Building. Ground was broken for this new facility in October of 1978. That portion of the Art Department which had been housed in Founders Hall moved into the Fine Arts Building in January of 1980. During the remodeling, done in the summer of 1980, the offices which had been



Are you sure that's where you want it?
Dr. Louis Ninegar right may be questioning Dean Leonard Skov's decision.
Moving in to Founders Hall January 1977

left "open" when the building was constructed were enclosed. The first floor, vacated by the Art Department, was remodeled to provide space for administrative offices.

In his report to the Board on February 22, 1966, President Hassel expressed the thought that the tendency has been to think in terms of buildings that were too small. He said, "Often times a building was inadequate in size when it was completed". If this were true in the years before 1966, it has certainly been painfully true since that time.



The Normal School's first athletic field, grand stand and bleachers, constructed in 1906 south of 26th Street...The football field ran east and west.

Much of the construction on campus has been done with non-tax funds starting with the original athletic field and bleachers which were constructed in 1906. The field was square and was surrounded by a tight board fence. A new field was built in 1929-30 which was equipped with lights. This field ran north

and south and was located west of the A. O. Thomas Building. The bleachers were on the west side. Money to complete this field was provided by Kearney businessmen and President George Martin. Their money was to have been refunded from gate receipts, but no record has been found that indicated anyone was ever repaid. The decision to discontinue the operation of the college farm made this land available for other uses. The athletic field west of A. O. Thomas during "the dirty thirties" was a source of dust and dirt for the demonstration school. Reports indicated it was "almost impossible to keep the training school clean." With the availability of W P A funds, the decision was made to move the athletic field to its present location. By the fall of 1939, the new field was ready for use. The cinder track, built at this location, was used until 1979, when a new all weather track was installed. Over the years, the available seating has been improved and expanded. A major improvement was made in 1959 when the new steel stands were installed. Press box facilities have also been improved and expanded.

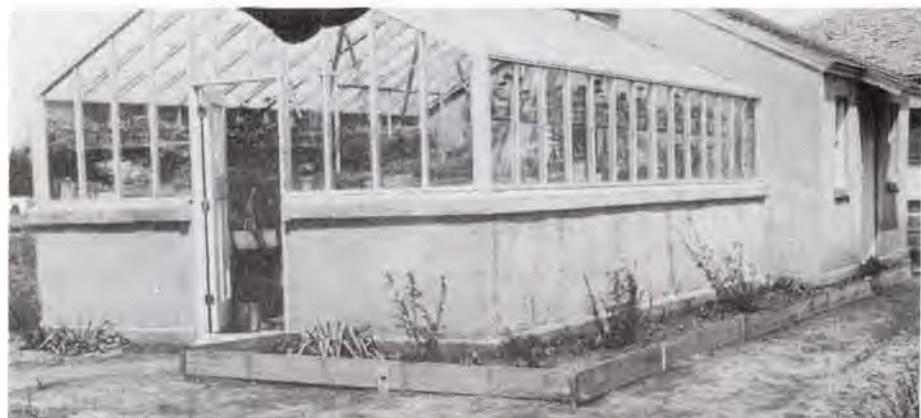
In 1929 plans were made for a new dormitory, the Eva J. Case Hall for women. Planning for the building and providing for the financing did not permit an opening of bids until May 12, 1930. By June 9, 1930, the cornerstone was laid and the building was completed by August 15 that same year, twenty days ahead of schedule. Not all of the furnishings were installed as some were slow



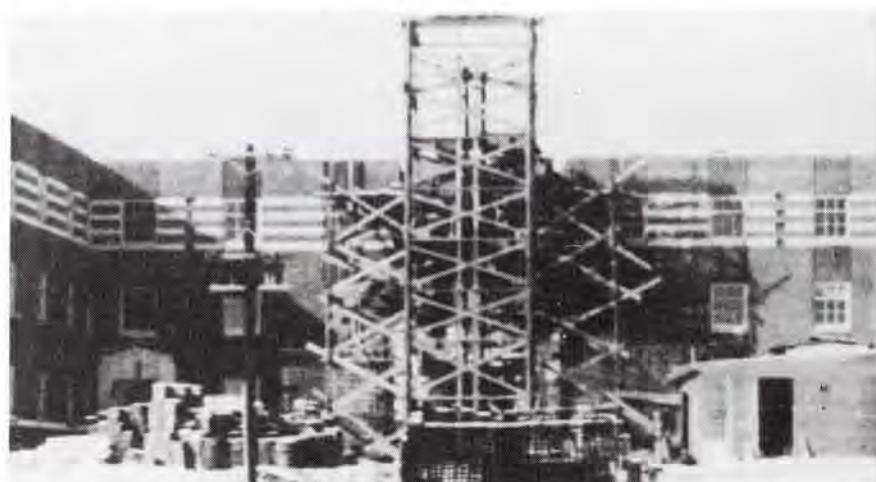
Kearney businessmen and President Martin furnish \$3,275 to complete this new lighted football field west of A. O. Thomas in 1930.

in arriving. However, the building was ready for the freshman girls when the fall term opened. Newspapers followed the progress of the construction with much interest and spoke of the tremendous force of men, "sometimes working twenty-four hours a day." When a few years later problems with moisture developed, and the rain would come through the walls, it was discovered that in the haste of construction, the space between tiles and bricks had been only partially filled with mortar. In order to correct the problem, a repointing job was necessary and the exterior was waterproofed.

In the spring of 1937, a greenhouse was constructed north and west of the heating plant with the exhaust from the heating plant used to heat the building. The *Antelope* of April 9, 1937, referred to it as a "combined rat and greenhouse, to be 16' wide and 28' long and will be used by the biology department for quarters for the rats, bulbs and plants." The cost of this building was less than five hundred dollars since it was constructed by NYA labor under the supervision of college personnel. This greenhouse served until it had to be removed in 1956 to make way for the construction of Conrad Hall. A new greenhouse was built south of Copeland Gymnasium in 1960 at a cost of \$17,500.



This combined animal and greenhouse was constructed in 1937 and was used by the Biology Department. It was located adjacent to the old heating plant, north of Green Terrace.



Under construction, Men's Hall, 1939

Building dormitories for students at Kearney was complicated by opposition from the Kearney citizens. When the administration would recommend to the Board, plans be made for the construction of such a facility, a delegation would call upon the Board and inform them no such facility was needed. This attitude by local citizens was responsible for the fact that no dormitories were built during the first 25 years of the school's existence. No dormitory for men was constructed until Men's Hall was built in 1939. It was dedicated on June 15, 1939, the summer Homecoming Day. A delegation of Kearney people had called on the Board, asking them to disapprove this building, but the Board felt that the need of a new dormitory for men, with a dining hall, was long overdue. An investigation had revealed the deplorable condition under which some men were forced to live, in order to go to college. As early as the summer of 1922, there are accounts of men living in a "tent city" because no adequate housing could be found. In 1953 another dormitory for women became a part of the cam-



Dining Room in Men's Hall 1939



Lobby of Men's Hall 1939

pus and was named the George E. Martin Hall. Complete late in 1957, were two more dormitories known originally as North Hall and West Hall. Later these were renamed the Jennie M. Conrad and the H. G. Stout Halls, respectively.



Veteran's Village

The end of World War II brought numerous veterans to the campus. For the first time, the college was faced with the problem of housing for large numbers of student families, so that one or both husband and/or wife could go to school. Early in 1946, a housing bureau was set up to aid the veterans. In March of 1946, the college received the FPHA Veteran's Housing units which were moved from Geneva, Nebraska and placed west of Men's Hall, north of 26th Street. These units consisted of one, two and three bedroom apartments. By the fall of 1947, thirty families resided in Vet's Village. That fall also brought with it a "rat problem" for the residents of the village. A meeting with Dean Stutheit resulted in a report, which put much of the blame for the rats on inadequate sanitary provisions. When the garbage disposal problems were taken care of and the weeds removed, the rat situation was brought under control.



Vet's Village Board 1954-55

Dave Escript, Don Dowhower, B.F. Stutheit, sponsor, Bob Volsteadt, Mayor, Roger Dahlin, Doyle Howitt, secretary-treasurer, Richard Remy, Laird McCormick.

The problems associated with the management of a housing development, such as Vet's Village on the college campus, needed some special kind of treatment. To help meet this management difficulty, a seven man board was elected to assist in its governance. Such a board continued to function as long as the village was in existence.

Residents of the village participated in the activities of the college. One notable example was a long budget float which was entered in a Homecoming parade. Pulled behind a car was a four wheeled, rubber tired wagon. The wagon was filled to overflowing with the children of the residents of the village. On each side of the wagon box was hung a borrowed sign with the two words, "Kearney Hatchery."



Veteran's Village under construction

For many years, the students at Kearney State College were without a student union. The first prospect of one becoming a reality came in March of 1941, when the will of Professor Lula E. Wirt included a bequest of \$1,000 to be used in the erection of such a building. The coming of World War II brought a drastic drop in enrollment. As the war neared its end in 1945, plans for a new union was publicized. The "Memorial Student Union" was to honor those former students who gave their lives for their country. A fund-raising campaign was organized and supported by Kearney businessmen. The "Buck-a-Month Club" was instigated to help raise the \$75,000 which was needed to get the project under way. It was estimated \$125,000 would be needed to complete the desired structure. Although pushed by students, faculty and alumni, the fund-raising ventures did not produce the money necessary to reach the goal of a new building. College officials, concerned about the rapidly rising costs, felt that was not the time to build. When two buildings at the air base which had been used as officers clubs became available in the fall of 1947, college officials made the decision to move them to the campus for use as a temporary student union.



The Officers Club building was moved from the Kearney Air Base to the campus. It was located north of the A. O. Thomas Building, and served as a student union from 1948 to 1958.

This decision was a partial answer to the need for a student union, but it was far from the kind of facility envisioned by the students, even though it was an improvement over the Kampus Kave. The temporary union had a snack bar and a large recreation ballroom. The disappointment felt by those who had worked so hard for a union, through the various planning and fund-raising campaigns, was evidenced by the decision to discontinue the "Buck-a-Month" club.



Faculty members Ron Landstron, Dale Ingram, Don Jester and Leona Failor are being served by two co-eds at the Snack bar in the old Student Union.

Ten years later, in 1957, plans were drawn up for a new student union which included a dining hall with a seating capacity of 500. When President Cushing shared the plans with several members of the faculty, the remark was made that the new union was little more than a slightly larger version of the old temporary union, to which President Cushing replied, "Show me where I can get some more money and we'll build a bigger and better one." Funds to build the new structure came from revenue bonds plus \$50,000 which came from students, alumni, faculty, and the old "Buck-a-Month" fund-raising venture of earlier periods. Within a year after it was occupied, it underwent its first of several expansions.



George W. Rosenlof, speaker; Mrs. H. L. Cushing, President Herbert L. Cushing, Carrie E. Ludden, Mr. and Mrs. Everett L. Randall. Taken February 11, 1962, on the occasion of the dedication of Herbert L. Cushing Coliseum, Everett L. Randall Hall, Carrie E. Ludden Hall, and the College Heights Complex.

In July of 1959, a news item reported that there was a "Building boom now set for NSTC." In September contracts had been let for the new Physical Education Plant; the Married Student Housing; one women's dorm, Ludden Hall, on the site of Green Terrace, and one men's dorm, Everett Randall Hall. With the exception of the Physical Education Plant, later named Cushing Coliseum, all were revenue-bond structures.



The Nebraskan Spring 1977



One of the six dining rooms in the Nebraskan 1977

Added to the campus structures in 1964, was a building which would house, among other things, the food service for the college. It was named the Nebraskan. In 1965 Mantor Hall was added to the list of dormitories. The two tallest structures on campus were named in honor of the one hundredth birthday of the State of Nebraska, celebrated in 1967. These dormitories, Centennial West and Centennial East, were constructed between 1965 and 1967.

No new dormitories have been constructed since 1967. For several years President Hassel requested the building of another large dormitory, complete



Centennial Towers Residents Halls

with its own food service facility, but the Board would agree only to a small dormitory and that was never approved by state officials, even though everything seemed to be in order as to need and available financing. As there were numerous empty dormitory rooms on the campuses of the other state colleges, Kearney was denied the rooms it so desperately needed for a few years. In the light of the changes in life styles of college students, and their desire to move "off campus", coupled with declining enrollments, something of a surplus of rooms at Kearney State occurred later and remained for several years. The decision by the state officials may have been a prudent move, in the short-term analysis. This short-term surplus of rooms has again been replaced by a shortage. The larger enrollment and the greater desire of students to live on campus, have again resulted in a shortage of campus housing.

In reviewing the buildings which now make up the campus of Kearney State College, it is interesting to note that less than one-third have been built by tax funds, procured from the legislature through the efforts of the Board of Trustees and the Administration. This count includes the condemned Administration Building, the Heating Plant and the Maintenance Building. Nearly one-half of the buildings on campus are revenue-bond buildings with some assistance from gifts. The remainder are buildings which the college inherited when the Department of institutions closed the Hospital for the Tubercular in 1971. After being declared surplus by the Department of Institutions, the former hospital, buildings and grounds were transferred to the Board of Trustees for State Colleges, who, in turn, have incorporated them into the campus of Kearney State College. No revenue-bond construction has taken place for over twelve years with the exception of some remodeling. During this period of higher construction costs, the Military Science, Fine Arts, including the art wings and Founders Hall, have been constructed. Taking these facts into consideration, the construction cost of the revenue-bond building still exceeds that of the tax-financed construction. If the former hospital buildings were included, then the balance shifts to the tax-financed buildings but these were originally intended for health care, not for education. The state of Nebraska has spent less on buildings for Kearney State College than have the students through the revenue bond program. Chancellor Andrews, in his fourth point to the citizens of Kearney, at the session following the cornerstone-laying ceremony for the original building said, "The citizens of the city should see to it that the state makes liberal appropriations for the

maintenance and expansion of the institution - so that it may grow and prosper in proportion to the growth and prosperity of the state." Not only have the construction funds been difficult to obtain to meet the needs of the college, but so have funds for maintenance and repair. Every president has repeatedly included in his reports to the Board the need for funds to "repair the roof," "fix the walls," "replace faulty plumbing" and the list goes endlessly on. Probably the most desperate plea came from President Martin when his repeated requests for funds to eliminate the cause, and repair the damage done by moisture getting into the walls of the Administration Building, went unheeded. He literally begged those Board members who had not seen the damage that was being done to please come out, and examine it for themselves. Apparently the cause of the problem was never really corrected as evidenced by the continuing water damage in the now condemned building. Recently enacted legislation gives promise of improvement in the maintenance budget, although Capital construction funds continue to be inadequate



EVA J. CASE



This is the only photograph available of Mrs. Eva J. Case, the first preceptress of Green Terrace Hall and the lady for whom Case Hall is named. All word pictures of her portray her to have been a most remarkable woman. She was one of Willa Cather's teachers and is the Miss Knightly in Miss Cather's story *The Best Years*. A teacher and administrator in Red Cloud and Webster County before coming to Kearney, she spent most of her life in service to others. Mrs. Case was an optimist who was an inspiration to all who came in contact with her. The only criticism ever voiced of her work as a preceptress was that she gave too much of herself to the girls and allowed them to take too much of her time and strength. She served the girls of Green Terrace from June of 1905 until her death in November of 1907.



LELAND COPELAND



Leland Copeland, a native of Creighton, Nebraska, joined the faculty of Kearney State College in 1946. He was an associate professor of Physical Education. In addition to teaching physical education classes, Mr. Copeland served as an assistant track coach from 1946 until 1961 and as an assistant football coach from 1946 until 1962.

With the increase in enrollment it became obvious that much needed to be done with the intramural program at Kearney State College. Leland Copeland developed a comprehensive intramural program and served as its administrator. He was in his 24th year as a member of the Kearney State College faculty at the time of his death in March of 1970.

In June of 1980, the State Board of Trustees for State Colleges approved the recommendation of a faculty committee to name the gymnasium building constructed in 1917, the Leland Copeland Gymnasium.



OTTO C. OLSEN



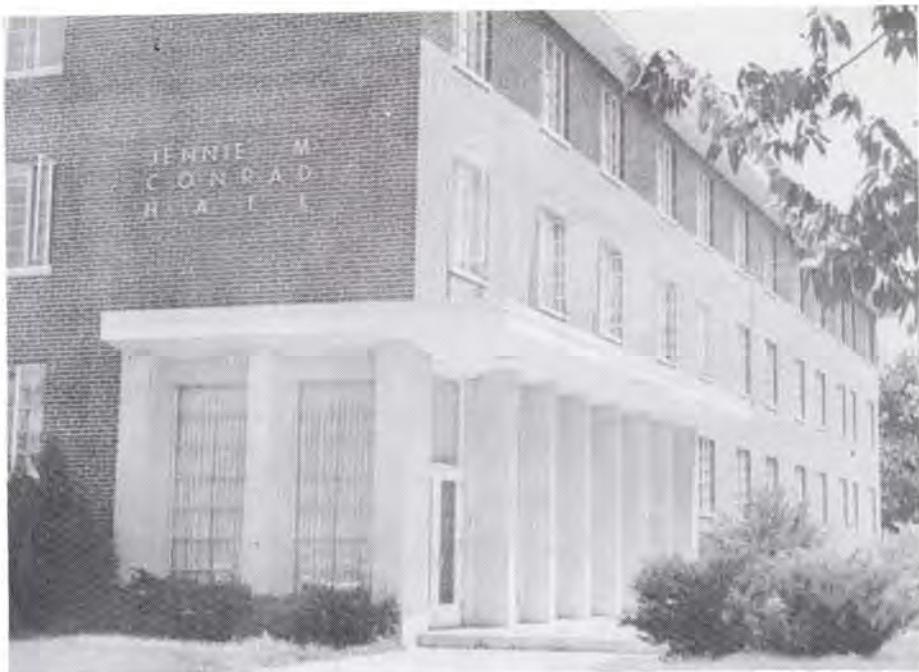
Otto C. Olsen, a native of Lilley, Michigan, and a graduate of the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney, joined the staff in 1919. He retired in 1957. Mr. Olsen was Chairman of the Vocational Arts Division from 1939 until the time of his retirement. He also had served as Chairman of the Industrial Arts Department before the academic reorganization of the college in 1939.

Professor Olsen was a pioneer in the field of driver education. Under his leadership the college at Kearney was one of the first in the nation to offer instruction to those who would go on to teach driver education.

In 1961 the Vocational Arts Building, constructed in 1955 at a cost of \$770,000, was renamed the Otto C. Olsen Building.



JENNIE M. CONRAD



Jennie M. Conrad, a native of Oconto, Nebraska, was graduated from the Nebraska State Normal School in 1912. Following a stint of teaching and homesteading in Idaho, she returned to earn one of the first degrees granted by the Nebraska State Teachers College. She remained on the staff as a teacher of history and government. Miss Conrad retired in 1961, after forty and one half years service to Kearney State College. She was honored on October 31, 1963 when North Hall was renamed Jennie M. Conrad Hall.



DR. H. G. STOUT



Dr. H. G. Stout joined the staff of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney as a Professor of Education in 1928. He served as Chairman of the Division of Education from 1939 until the time of his retirement in 1953.

During the time of the critical illness of President George E. Martin and the months which followed his death, Dr. Stout chaired a committee of three faculty members who administered the affairs of the college, until a new president was appointed. Later he was appointed the first Dean of Instruction for the college, serving from 1951 to the time of his retirement.

On October 31, 1963 a residence hall, formerly known as the West Hall, was renamed the H. G. Stout Residence Hall.



CALVIN T. RYAN



Calvin T. Ryan, a native of Bishopville, Maryland, joined the English faculty of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney in 1928. He was instrumental in developing courses in Children's Literature, Biblical Literature, Advanced Writing and Radio.

Professor Ryan was serving as the Chairman of the Division of Language and Literature at the time of his retirement in 1958. In 1963 he was presented the Distinguished Service Award by Kearney State College and on October 31, 1963 the new library was given the name Calvin T. Ryan Library in his honor.



EVERETT L. RANDALL



Everett L. Randall, a native of Gibbon, Nebraska was a 1912 graduate of the Normal School at Kearney. After graduating from the University of Nebraska College of Law, he practiced law in Kearney for many years. He was first appointed to the State Board of Education for Normal Schools in 1941, and served for 18 years. The Everett L. Randall Residence Hall opened in 1961, was named in his honor.



CARRIE E. LUDDEN



Carrie E. Ludden, a native of Knox, New York, joined the faculty as a laboratory assistant in 1906. Her father, Luther P. Ludden, was a Lutheran pastor and long time member of the State Board of Education which selected Kearney as the site for the Normal School.

Carrie E. Ludden holds the distinction of serving the college 48 years, longer than any other faculty member in the history of the institution. She retired from the biology faculty in 1953.

Miss Ludden served as secretary of the Alumni Association for more than 30 years. During World War II she wrote personal letters to all NSTC service men. In 1961 a new residence hall was named Carrie E. Ludden Hall in her honor.



DR. LYLE E. MANTOR



Dr. Lyle E. Mantor, a native of Algona, Iowa, joined the staff of the Nebraska State Teachers College in 1927 as Professor and Chairman of the Department of History. With the Academic reorganization of the college in 1939, Dr. Mantor became chairman of the Division of Social Science, a position which he held until 1961. He retired in 1964. At the January 1966 Commencement, it was officially announced that the new dormitory, soon to be opened, would be known as Lyle E. Mantor Hall.



DR. WILLIAM E. BRUNER



Dr. William E. Bruner, a native of Red Cloud, Nebraska, joined the faculty of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney in 1932 where he served as Chairman of the Biology Division until 1962. He retired in 1965. The corner stone of the William E. Bruner Hall of Science was laid September 30, 1965 and it was dedicated April 26, 1967 to the honor of a man who gave 33 years of his professional life to the biology students of Kearney State College.



DR. MARY L. MORSE



Dr. Mary L. Morse, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, first joined the staff of the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney in 1937 and with the exception of 1943 and 1944, when she served as a member of the faculty of the Mississippi State College for Women, she remained on the staff until her death in February of 1958. The lecture halls attached to Bruner Hall of Science are named in honor of this dedicated professor of chemistry.



CHARLIE H. FOSTER



In 1960 the athletic field and stadium at Kearney State College was named in honor of Charlie H. Foster, long time coach and Athletic Director. The State Board of Education for Normal Schools made an exception to its rule not to name buildings or facilities after active faculty members, in this case, in order to make the name Foster Field possible.

Mr. Foster joined the faculty of the Nebraska State Teachers College in 1945. During his first years he coached all sports, was Athletic Director and Chairman of the Division of Physical Education. He continued to coach basketball until 1949 and football until 1953. By the early 1960's he was concentrating on coaching only track and cross country and served as the Athletic Director. By 1970 he had given up the Athletic Directorship and he retired in January 1972. Retirement for him meant only leaving the pay roll. He was responsible for starting the women's track program in the spring of 1972 and women's cross country in 1975. His women's track teams have won all CSIC crowns and have been defeated only once in a dual meet—that with Kansas State. His men's track teams won 19 consecutive NCC championships including the three when the conference consisted only of the four state colleges. Mr. Foster coached basketball for 23 consecutive years, football for 26 consecutive years and track for 53 consecutive years. Among the many honors which have come his way are: World Herald Coach of the year 1957; NAIA Helms Foundation Hall of Fame for track coaches 1960; NAIA Track Coach of the year 1968. In 1979 The Nebraska High School Activities Association gave him its first Distinguished Service Award.



BERNHARD F. STUTHEIT



B. F. Stutheit - Dean of Students

Bernhard F. Stutheit, a native of Cook, Nebraska, joined the Kearney State College faculty in 1943 as an instructor of English. In 1945 Mr. Stutheit became Dean of Men. He became Dean of Students in 1954. After serving the students of Kearney State College for 30 years, he retired in 1973. A lounge in the Memorial Student Union has been named in his honor.



Dean Stutheit cutting the ribbon at the opening of the B. F. Stutheit Lounge.



MIRIAM ECKHARDT DRAKE



Miriam Eckhardt Drake, a native of Viroqua, Wisconsin, joined the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney as a teacher of English in 1925. Her assignment emphasized public speaking and dramatics. During the next 46 years until her retirement in 1971 she taught on a full time, part time and substitute basis, classes in speech and English and directed numerous plays. In December 1976 Mrs. Drake received the Distinguished Service Award, the first woman to be so honored by Kearney State College. In 1980 the theater in the Fine Arts Building was named the Miriam Drake Theater.



"Persons that cannot observe proper decorum shall not be privileged to enjoy the library."

A. O. Thomas



Merlin Backman needs some help from the Dean (Stutheit)

CHAPTER VI

ATHLETICS

In discussing athletics at Kearney State College there is the temptation to look at the recent past and say that Kearney has a winning tradition. Athletics have played a very important part in the life of the college. Many teams have won victories, but there have been many seasons when victories were few and far between.

When the Normal School opened its doors in 1905 there were no doors for awhile, because the building was far from completion. Women's athletics appeared to be as prominent as those of the men. The records on those early years have been difficult to obtain, but they indicate that the teams operated without special coaches, and for the most part gave a good account of themselves in the games which they were able to schedule. By the end of the first decade, women's athletics disappeared as an interscholastic activity, - not to reappear until the 1960's. Although official records give a careful listing of those who earn letters, these same records, especially for the low visibility sports such as golf, tennis, swimming and volleyball, do not include win-loss records. What follows will be an attempt to give a summary report of the various activities based on the records available. Names of some of the outstanding performers are listed. This is a dangerous thing to do since the list will not include some who should be there and will undoubtedly include some who may not be so outstanding. Of all athletics football has enjoyed the greatest success at Kearney State College. For a sport that started out its first season in 1905 without a victory - without scoring a point - and having its first



Football team of 1910

winning season in 1910, it has indeed enjoyed remarkable success. Between 1910 and 1934, Kearney had 9 winning seasons, 12 losing seasons and 4 were tied. Starting in 1935 they have earned 38 winning seasons and only 4 losing ones with one tied season. The last losing season for a Kearney State team came in 1960 when it had a 4 won, 5 lost record. The records of the early games are not too complete, and the 1910 *Blue and Gold* says of the 1908 football season, "It was not very successful." The only write-up of a game which could be found was in the *Hub* for October 31, 1908. This discussed the Friday night game with Grand Island Business College as one where, "the Normal team was

not together in the plays as it should have been." After a Grand Island touchdown and the score 21-0 in favor of Grand Island, "with the hour late and still five minutes to play," the game was called "as some of the Normal players had to get to work." With the foregoing as evidence, it is counted as a losing



Football team ready for action. 1917

season. In addition to the first season, there have been only two seasons which saw no victories for the football team - these came in 1918 and 1933. Six teams were undefeated but two of these played one tie ball game.

The 1927 team had a 4-4-1 record but produced the most talked about play of any Kearney football team. In a game with Hastings with only seconds to go, Hastings had a 10 to 6 lead, and had the ball on the Kearney three yard line. On the last play of the game, Hastings fumbled and Ihling "Brick" Carskadon came up with the ball and ran the 97 yards for a Kearney touchdown and victory.



Ihling "Brick" Carskadon

The 1929 team with a dismal 3-5-1 record could still boast of four all conference players: Homer Boswell, LeRoss Williams, Kenneth Daggett and Merle Trail. Merle Trail was the first Kearney player to receive All American recognition. Probably the first Kearney graduate to play professional football was John Marrow, a product of the teams of the mid 30's. He played three years for the old Chicago Cardinals. In the summer he was supposed to have kept in shape by wrestling John Pesek, the World Champion wrestler.



Lee Jacobson receiving the 1965 Tom French award from Gene French.
The award is given annually to the outstanding freshman player in memory of Tom French, one of the most promising freshmen ever to play football at Kearney State College. Tom was killed in February 1962 in an automobile accident.

The requirements for the award include: 1. Football ability 2. Scholastic standing. 3. Moral character. 4. Desire. 5. General attitude toward college.

During the past two decades, national honors have come to a number of individual players and several teams. The 1963 team was undefeated in regular session, ranked 3rd nationally but lost to Prairie View A & M, 7 to 20 in the NAIA play-offs. The 1977 and 1979 teams were also nationally ranked, 4th and 5th, and were in the NAIA play-offs. Other teams which earned national rank-



This 1979 championship football team became the 3rd KSC football team to participate in the National NAIA playoffs when they hosted Central Oklahoma of Edmonds in a December game on Foster Field.

ings were: 1964 - 12th, 1967 - 6th, and 1978 - 10th. Players receiving All American recognition were: 1965, Ed Kruml; 1967, Lee Jacobsen; 1970, John Makovicka, who was also the leading scorer in the NAIA with 126 points; 1971, Randy Nelson; 1973, Phil Gustafson; 1974, Tom Kropf; 1976, Roger Wachholtz; 1977, Wachholtz and Bill Windhorst; 1978, Doug Peterson; 1979, Tom Virgl and Mike McClade. Mitch Johnson was Kodak All American in 1976. In 1975, Tom Kropf and Kirk Heyer were drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers. Kearney State teams have either won or tied for the CSIC title since the conference has existed.



Randy Rasmussen came to Kearney after playing 8-man football at Elba, Nebraska. He never saw an 11-man football game until he played in one for Kearney State. After graduating in 1967, he was drafted by the New York Jets and earned a starting berth as an offensive tackle during his first year. He continues to play that position for the Jets.

Coaches have travelled thousands of miles to scout future opponents, and for Kearney State probably none have logged more miles than Les Livingston; but when it comes to most unusual experiences none can top that which befell Coaches Claire Boroff and Terry Renner in October 1976. They, accompanied by a graduate assistant, Steve Billster, had gone to Emporia, Kansas to scout Washburn University. On their return trip they were stopped by Kansas law enforcement agents, ordered out of the car at gun point and "spread eagled" on the pavement without being given a reason for the action. (How seriously can you take football?) It turned out to be a case of mistaken identity. A State of Nebraska truck had been stolen and they were being held as suspects. Yes, three college coaches, driving a state car, were mistaken as truck thieves. In spite of the badly shaken coaches, the Kearney State football team was able to defeat Washburn University 36-9.

The following men have coached football teams at Kearney State: W. E. Allen, George Porter, George Van Buren, Harry Tollefson, W.D. Reynolds, Hugo Otoppalik, Ray Ozmun, Fred Fulmer, Ted James, Howard Hill, L.F. "Pop" Klein, Charlie H. Foster, Marvin Franklin, Allen Zikmund and Clair Boroff. Zikmund, with seventeen years as head coach, is far ahead of the rest in number of seasons at the helm. Boroff moves into second place, ahead of Fulmer, Klein and Foster, as he starts his ninth season as head coach.



Coach Al Zikmund approves of what the football team has just done, scored a 'Come from behind' touchdown against Northern State College of South Dakota 1966.



Allen Zikmund coached football at Kearney State for seventeen years starting with the 1955 season through the 1971 season. He has been Athletic Director since 1969. In 1956 and 1963 Zikmund was the *World Herald* Coach of the Year. The *Lincoln Journal* and the *Star* honored him as Coach of the Year in 1955 and 1958. In 1968 Al Zikmund was inducted into the NAIA Helms Foundation Hall of Fame and in 1977 to the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame.

Baseball was the most successful of all sports during the early years of the Normal. The 1910 *Blue and Gold* says, "Since its opening, the Kearney Normal has stood high in athletic circles, especially has this been true of our Baseball team." This statement is supported by a season record of 13 and 1 in 1906 and



Baseball Team 1907
Members of this team were:
Radebaugh, Bastian,
McMahon, Danly, Strain, Ir-
win, Leafgreen, Morris,
Wallace, Rogers, McGuire
and Dority.

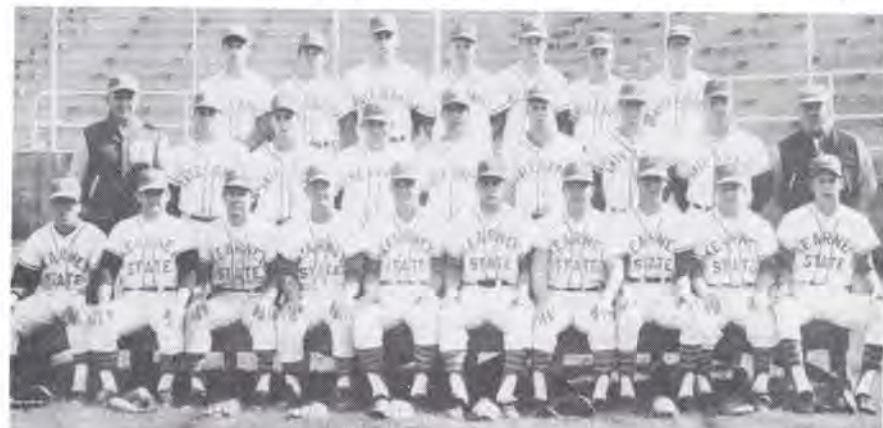
13 and 3 in 1907. The 1911 team is listed as a "championship" team. The team appears to have had only one losing season until baseball was suspended in 1914, due to lack of funds. In 1915 the baseball team played one game even though no funds were available. In 1916 there was a four game season which saw the Normal boys win three. At this point, baseball was suspended and did not appear again until 1961. In the past twenty years, the won-lost records



Normal Baseball Team 1910

had been only nine winning seasons. This statement is misleading since Kearney State teams from 1974 through 1978 won both NCC and NAIA district titles. The 1978 team won the CSIC Conference. The '79 and '80 teams won NCC titles and the 1980 team was runner-up in the CSIC. With all these accomplishments to their credit, only the '74 and '75 teams had winning seasons. The early season road trips, when games are played with major universities, is a partial explanation of this situation. One other team that should be mentioned is the 1967 team which played in the National NAIA tournament.

Some names of players on the early teams that are worthy of note are Edward Strain, Burt Danly and Pat Murphy. In the more recent period Ken Vergith, who pitched three no hitters in 1975; Frank Ryan, also a pitcher in the mid-1970's, now with a KC Royal farm club; Rich Osentowski, drafted by the



This 1967 Championship Baseball Team went all the way to the NAIA National Play Offs.



Rich Osentowski, Kearney State College's only three times "All American Baseball Player." First ever to be drafted by the professionals.

Twins and played in the Minnesota League in the late 60's; Chuck Schnoor signed by the New York Mets in 1980; and Dave Pratt, who had a brilliant career at Kearney State in the seventies, all are worthy of special recognition for their contributions to the baseball program at Kearney State.

For those who have followed men's basketball at Kearney State College starting in 1970, it is difficult to imagine that before 1970 the basketball teams had twice as many losing seasons as they had winning seasons. The explanation given in one of the early *Blue and Golds* for the poor showing of the basketball team was that they had no place to practice except a classroom which they shared with the girls. There was no place to play their games except the Armory Hall. When the gymnasium was built in 1911, it looked like a



The Normal School's first gymnasium.

barn and had the kind of floor usually found in a barn - a dirt floor. In the years preceding the opening of Cushing Coliseum in 1961, the basketball team also suffered a serious handicap when teams would no longer play on the small floor available at the College. Kearney was forced to play its "home" games at such locations as Axtell, Minden, Wood River, and Ainsworth. After Kearney constructed its new high school, a number of home games were played in that facility.

Starting with the 1921-22 basketball season and ending 1935-36 season, there were only two losing seasons: there were '24-'25, a 7-8 season; and '32-'33, a 5-15 season. During this period they were NIAA champions in '27-'28 and 2nd in '31-'32. The 1929-30 team is described as "probably the best to represent the



1915 Basketball Squad

- 1. Coach Tollesen 2. Rich (Capt.)
- 3. Robb 4. Birkelbach
- 5. Moor 6. Randolph
- 7. Esort 8. Green



Coach Fulmer and the 1929-30 Teachers College Basketball team are leaving on an extended road trip to Colorado and New Mexico.

State Teachers College up to that time." They traveled over 5,000 miles and played such teams as the University of Colorado, Arizona State, Northern Arizona, New Mexico State and Highlands University. They also played the Chicago Bears professional team. They lost only four games during the season: two to the University of Colorado, one in a triple overtime; and two to Chadron. Although Kearney defeated Wayne, Wayne was declared the conference champion because they played more conference games. Lovell and Dusek were given all conference honors for their performances.

Since the start of the recent string of winning seasons, Kearney State College basketball teams have gone to the NAIA Tournament five times - in '72, '75, '78, '79, '80. In 1978 they were defeated in the finals to take second place. Tom Kropp won the NAIA Hustle Award in 1975, and the same honor went to Randy Cipriano in 1978. Tom Retzdorf was declared the most valuable player in the 1978 tournament. Tom Kropp was drafted by the Washington Bullets and played for them one year and one year for the Chicago Bulls of the NBA.



Co-captains, Tom Ritzdorf and Dave Haun, hold the second place trophy won by the 1977-78 basketball team at the NAIA tournament held in Kemper Arena in Kansas City. The sad faces of Tom, Dave and Coach Hueser reflect their great disappointment in losing first place. The smiling tournament official doesn't understand the feeling.

Tim Higgins, All American in '79 and again in '80, has been drafted by San Francisco. Tom Kropp won All American honors in '75 and Loren Killion was so honored in 1978. Jerry Hueser has been head basketball coach since the 1970-71 season. He was honored as NAIA Area III Coach of the Year in 1975. In 1972 and again in 1978 Hueser was honored by the *World Herald* and the *Lincoln Journal and Star* as the State College Coach of the Year.

Basketball teams have been coached by W. E. Allen, A. J. Mercer, George Van Buren, Harry Tollefson, W. D. Reynolds, Hugo Otoopalik, Raymond Ozum, Fred Fulmer, Ted James, L. F. Klein, R. D. Watkins, Harold Oaks, Clifton White, Charlie Foster, William Morris, Les Livingston, Wayne Samuelson and Jerry Hueser. With the 1980-81 season Hueser will coach his eleventh season as head coach, thus establishing a record for serving in that position at Kearney State. He leaves behind him, in the length of service race, ten year veteran Fred Fulmer and Les Livingston.

Changing substitution rules permitted many more athletes to get playing time in sports. This policy coupled with the philosophy, "It is fun to play but it is also fun to win," promoted by coaches Foster and Zikmund, resulted in the adoption of the slogan, "It's fun to run with the champions." The philosophy of the use of as many athletes as possible has increased the fun of participation and, in the long run, has led to the strengthening of the total athletic program.

Track as a competitive sport first appeared at the Teachers College in 1923. The records made by the teams which follow are indeed commendable. Individual performances are much in evidence in track, and individual performers gain prominence even before the teams begin to win conference championships on a very regular basis. Names which appear early are Woodward Burgert, Clyde Cox, Adolph Panek, Clarence Capps, Harold Gale and Frank Lydic. Lydic appears to be the first track man to gain recognition beyond

Nebraska. Starting with his 3rd place finish in the two mile run at the Drake Relays in 1928, he set new conference records in 1929 and finished 9th in a national meet in Chicago. In 1930 he placed in the 3000 meter run at the Kansas Relays, the two mile at the National Collegiate in Chicago and in the mile at the National AAU in Denver. Frank completed his track career at Kearney by setting a new record in the Jr. Division AAU mile, won 4th in the Sr. division AAU mile and was a member of the winning two mile relay team which set a new record at the Colorado Relays. Continuing his running after his graduation, Lydic reached the final tryouts for the 1932 Olympic team. In 1936 he reached the Olympic semi-finals at 5,000 meters.

Starting in 1930 and continuing until the decline of track fortunes in the 1970's, only two teams could be classified as poor. The 1934 team is described by contemporaries as "very poor year considering lettermen and material on hand." The 1945 team finished eighth in a nine team conference. Although the other teams did not always win the conference meet, only the 1953 team finished as low as third.

Gaining special recognition in the 1940's were Merlin Quillen and Robert Hauer in the dashes and Tom Nye in the high jump. In 1952 Glenn Peterson won the NCC 120 yard high hurdles for the fourth consecutive year. Heading the list of those who placed in the National NAIA meets in this period was Clayton Scott who won the two mile in '54 and '55 and placed second in the 5,000 meter run in 1956. Other Kearney men who rated nationally are: Don Straney, 5th in the 440 in '54; Doyle Fyfe, 4th in the discus in 1955; Dale Falter,



Heading for San Diego and the 1956 NAIA National Track meet are left to right: Joe McFarland, Coach Charlie Foster, Don Ayers, Jim Hansen and Clayton Scott.

6th in the pole vault; Jim Hansen, 7th in the shot; and LeRoy Sprague, 7th in the discus, all in 1957. The 1959 team was ranked fifth in the NAIA and 1960 team was 6th. The 1967 indoor track team was ranked 6th in the NAIA. Winning championships at NAIA events in the 60's were Hylke van der Wal in the 3,000 meter steeplecase in 1962; Jim Sobieszczyk, high jump 1970; Merlin Lawrence 1961 and Dennis Dukesherer, 1967, both in the pole vault.

Track has had more "do it yourself" work done on its facilities than any other sport. Coaches Fulmer, Klein and Foster and their athletes put in long



Championship Track teams at NSTC have been numerous. This is the picture of the 1964 team.

hours of work on building and maintaining the track. With improved facilities and a new all weather track, there is hope for an up-turn in the program which has suffered a decline in the 1970's.

The first record of cross country at the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney was in 1927. In 1928 Kearney was the NIAA Champion and in 1929 they were the Mid-Western AAU Champions. No further mention can be found of cross country until 1956 when the newly orgainzed team went to the NAIA meet and came back with a fifth place ranking. Starting in 1956 the first eleven teams won NAIA district titles. The team ranked 8th, in 1961; 4th in 1962; 6th in 1963 and 9th in 1965 in National NAIA cross country meets. Some of the top men in cross country have been Martin Mason, Hylke van der Wal, Don Peterson, Shane Fruit, Carroll Kinnaman, Clarence Wiedel and Carl Stromberg. After suffering a sharp decline, there has been an improvement in cross country during the last few years.

Wrestling started at Kearney State College in 1963. After a slow beginning, the teams in recent years have had good records. Some men who have gained recognition for themselves and Kearney State College are Don Hather, Dan Mowrey, Lane Kinnan and Tom Kruger.

Although tennis has been played as an intercollegiate sport at Kearney, at least since 1938, no records of wins and losses are available. The 1952 and 1959 teams were NCC champs. Some of the teams have been represented at the national meet. Steve Fisher, Dennis Duryea, Roger Joe Fisher, Bill Roach and Doug Grundy have performed well for Kearney State in tennis.

Win-loss records are not available for golf. With the exception of several years during the World War II period, Kearney has had a golfing program since 1938. They were NCC champions in 1950. Coming from a sport that was noticed by very few and with little interest expressed in it by students, it has grown to one of considerable national recognition. That Kearney golf teams have been successful is attested to by the number of teams which have won the district NAIA and gone on to the National Tournament during the past fifteen years. Tim Tschepl, John Haney, Dan Bahensky, John Sajevic, and Steve Samuelson have performed well while playing for Kearney State.

Athletics for women came both early and late in the history of Kearney State College. Basketball was played by the women of the Normal during the first year. Their record in those years was good. They had to content themselves by playing high school teams. Victories over schools like Miller and Brady Island might not impress us too much, but they also won over schools like Kearney High. Most of the games played by the men were also played against high school teams. Women's athletics did not last long, and even before the Normal School became a Teachers College, athletics was the domain of the men. Competitive athletics returned for women at Kearney State during the 1960's. Among the women who have distinguished themselves in recent years was Marilyn Dubbs Wiese who was the first woman to go over 6 feet in the High jump. She won the high jump at the Drake Relay three consecutive years, 1978, '79 and '80. Jill Stenwell won the AIAW Indoor Shot title with a throw of 51'7". Both these women qualified for the Olympic Trials in 1979 and '80. Cindy Hauver was an outstanding diver competing with men all the way to the National NAIA diving meet. Cathy Welter was an all around athlete participating in basketball, volleyball and softball. After college she went on to play professional softball in Detroit.

Basketball for women returned to the Kearney State scene in the late 60's. Since its revival, the basketball team has had only four losing seasons and two of these were by one game margins. They were state champions in 1970 and have been in the runner-up spot several times.

Volleyball has enjoyed much success at Kearney State. They have won every state AIAW championship since meets have been held. In addition to going to the national meets on two different occasions, they have won or shared the CSIC title since the formation of the conference. In the Fall of 1979 the team passed the 200 win mark under their coach Rosella Meier.

In contrast to the men's program in swimming, which has been dropped, the women's swim program has enjoyed a great deal of success. During the late '60's and early '70's swim teams from Kearney State ranked high in national meets. During the 1978-79 season they posted their 200th win for their coach Joan Bailey.

Softball had its start at Kearney State in 1970-71. The Kearney State women were the top team in the state for four years. They played in two "World Series" of softball. No complete won-lost record is available.



Women's tennis team at the Kearney Normal 1910. Mabel Duke, Lenor Fitzgerald, Alta Landes, Una Reed, Nellie Brown, Theora Marsh, Ruth Hiles, Mary Welsh, Edna Edwards, Mable Anderson.

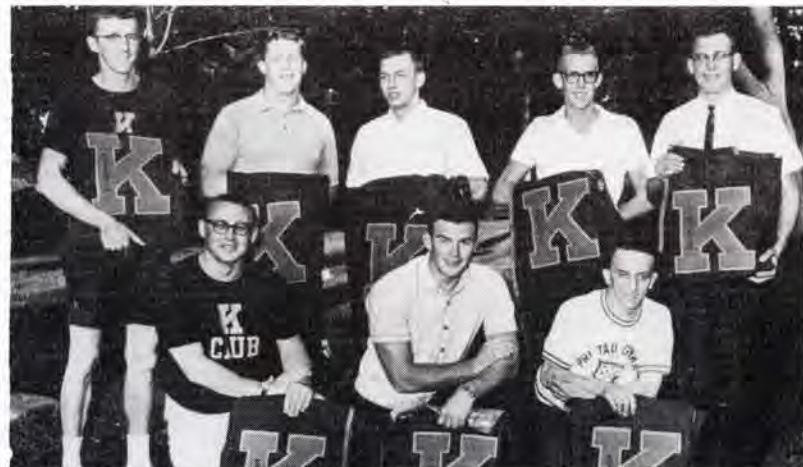
In the early years of the Normal School there was a women's tennis team. The modern version was started in 1976. They have won every state meet since 1977, and have participated in AIAW regional play.

In the seventy-five year history of the college, available records indicate only two men earned twelve athletic letters. The first to accomplish this was Doyle Fyfe who earned his first letter in football in the Fall of 1951 and the last of the twelve in track in 1955. Also earning four letters each in football, basket-



Gene Armstrong, a 1958 graduate of Kearney State, is the last man to earn 12 athletic letters. He is shown here with coaches Charlie Foster on the left and Allen Zikmund of the right.

ball, and track was Gene Armstrong. Gene earned his letters between 1954 and 1958. Several developments in recent years make it doubtful if Gene and Doyle will be joined by anyone in the near future. The tendency of athletes to concentrate or specialize in their favorite sport and the advent of spring football make the four letters in each of football, basketball and track less likely.



These men have just received their K Club blankets symbolic of having earned 4 letters in a single sport. They are left to right - front row: Larry Timmerman, Jerry Dunlay, John Lacher. In the back row are: Gary Mason, Bob Stillmoeck, Bill Olson, Ward McGowan, Milton Shrader.

A number of men have been able to earn eleven letters. Among them are Paul Blessing, Glen Hinkle, Herman Hinkle, Gene Lawhead, Warren Monnington, Dick Peterson and Art Stegeman. There have been a number who have earned 10 and 9 letters, but for all who have earned letters this number is not large. The champion letter-winner of all time was Earl Tool. He earned five letters in basketball, three in football, two in track, and six in baseball, for a total of sixteen. His first letter was earned in 1907, his last in 1913. Eligibility rules were not too oppressive in those years. Through the spring of 1980, 1,090 men have been awarded letters in football, 272 in baseball, 145 in wrestling, 116 in tennis, 90 in golf, 92 in swimming, 112 in cross country, 730 in track and 690 in basketball.

Athletic teams at Kearney State have provided much good entertainment for sports fans. The teams have often given performances which warranted far more spectator support than they have received. During the early years of the school, baseball and football teams had a respectable following. For many years basketball, both men's and women's, suffered from a lack of a suitable place to play with little desirable spectator space. It wasn't until the completion of Cushing Coliseum that any reasonable amount of seating was available. Track teams, although they gave spectacular performances for many years, have never drawn large crowds. Football teams have drawn some large crowds, but even with the limited amount of seating space available, the times when a capacity crowd was present have been few. The rest of the sports have had very little spectator support. The outstanding records which most of these teams have compiled are indeed a credit to the athletes and their coaches.

Donald K. Briggs
Sports Information Director



Don is a native of Broken Bow, Nebraska. He received his B. A. Degree from Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney in 1951. In 1957 he was a member of the first class to receive his M.S. from Kearney. That year he joined the faculty of the college on a full time basis. He has taught English and journalism, served as the Director of Public Relations, Publications Director and Sports Information Director at Kearney State College.

Since 1974 Don has continued to teach journalism while serving as Sports Director. Among the many honors which have come his way he has received two NAIA Awards of Merit and he was inducted into the NAIA Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service.



This 1963 Football team hosted Prairie View of Texas in a NAIA play-off game on Foster Field in December.

The game was won by Prairie View.



The 1906 Football Team in front of their new grand stand.



Pictured here are the members of the team in 1905-06 and their coach. Seated in back from left are Mabel Knapp, Sis Hull, Ella Sinclair and Laura Huntley. In front from left are Laura Bassett, Winnie Jenkins, Cora Webster, Blanche Patterson and the coach and trainer Professor Allen.



The first Baseball Team. Note the use of Western State Normal on their uniforms.
1906.



Claire Boroff, head football coach
since 1972.

CHAPTER VII

FINE ARTS

Art

In his address to the faculty on November 13, 1905, President O. A. Thomas had a section that he called "Adornment of the Building", in which he expressed his belief that the school should be the most attractive place in the community. He goes on to say:

The school should be artistic, should be surrounded by trees, gardens, and lawns. The interior should be tastily decorated and scrupulously clean...a few pieces of statuary for the halls, masterpieces in painting, and national and school colors will be our first concern. A few simple and tasty adornments are far better than a profusion of second rate decorations... Let us study in placing our adornments for the best effect that is possible to produce. We have already secured a life size statue of William Shakespeare for the halls.

His words did not go unnoticed. In the years which followed various student groups made presentations of art pieces to the college. *Winged Victory* was given by the class of 1907. At the chapel exercises on May 12, 1908 the "Training Class" presented a bust of Abraham Lincoln. *Joan of Arc* was a gift from the class of 1909. The class of 1917 presented the life size statue of Lincoln and the class of 1918 presented a matching statue of Washington. The class of 1915 gave an oil painting by Elizabeth Tuttle Holsman, entitled *A Drowsy Day* and the class of 1935 gave as their gift Ferdinand Kaufmann's *On the Trail between Ninyph and Deaur Lake, Rocky Mountain Colorado*, which was also an oil painting. The class of 1928 presented the relief sculpture, *Sacajawea Leading Lewis and Clark to the Pacific Ocean* while the library added *Washington Crossing the Delaware*. This is only a partial list of the art pieces which have been presented to the college by student groups.

Some examples of art work done by Kearney State students now on display on campus are a large mural in the Student Union done by Robert Kirby in 1959; the *Monolithic Monarch*, sculptured by Nick Chiburis dedicated in October of 1971, and Raeford Lewis's *The Faculty*. Professor Raymond W. Schultze's bronze sculpture *Nyabrnaskaka*, done in honor of our nation's Bicentennial, is an example of some art work done by the art faculty which is on display on campus.

Art has been a part of the curriculum at Kearney State since the first classes were held in the Normal School. Marion C. Smith was one of the original faculty of the Normal School and was on the staff until her forced retirement in 1943. Throughout most of its existence the purposes of the department can be listed as three: 1. To develop an appreciation of art; 2. To develop skill in art; and 3. To train art teachers. Minnie E. Larson was added to the art faculty in 1924. The art faculty had the responsibility of handling the limited art program in the campus school, as well as in the college.

By 1961, there were three faculty members in art, Phyllis Campbell Aspen, Gladys Rose, and current chairman of the department, Jack Karraker. The rapid growth of the college during the 1960's and again in 1970's is reflected in the growth of the art department, not only in number of students and faculty

but also in programs and degrees available to the art student. In 1968 the Masters Degree in Art Education was added to the Bachelor of Arts and the



Registration Woes. Gary Johnson enlists the aid of Coach Zikmund in persuading Gladys Rose to let him into her art class.



KAPPA PI, National Honorary Art Fraternity Officers

Keith Lowry, Advisor; Jack Karraker, Advisor; Jean Avrina, Secretary; Kathy Kuchor, president; Gladys Rose, advisor; Phyllis Aspen, advisor; Doug Burton, vice-president and Raeford Lewis, Sgt. at arms. 1963.

Bachelor of Arts in Education. In 1973 the Board approved the granting of the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

The increase in the number of degrees available to art students at Kearney State College has been made possible by an increase in the number of faculty to eleven and additional course offerings. In addition to those courses offered by most art departments, offerings at Kearny have been expanded to include such areas as textile arts, glass blowing, commercial art and printmaking. On

the graduate level the creative thesis has been developed. It consists of an in-depth creative involvement within a given medium, concluding with a formal showing in the Art Gallery.

The Spring of 1976 saw another dimension added to the art program at Kearney State. The proposal was made to "establish a Nebraska Art Collection at Kearney State College in order to collect, preserve, and display art work by Nebraska artists." In 1978 the proposal was given formal approval by the college and the Board of Trustees. LB 116 introduced by Senator Fowler and enacted by the 1979 legislature, gave formal approval of the Nebraska Art Collection to be recognized as the State Collection to be housed in Kearney, Nebraska.

Speech

Speech and speech related courses have been a part of the curriculum since the beginning of the Normal School. In those early years speech instruction was offered in the Department of Elocution and in the Department of English. Forensic activities had a very early start with the organization of the Emanon Debating Society on September 29, 1905. This all male organization was joined in the fall of 1906 by the Aspasion Debating Society made up of "a number of the girls of the Normal." Drama like forensics during those early years was promoted by clubs and societies of students interested in such activities. As the school moved from a two year to a four year college all speech instruction took place in the Department of English. Following the reorganization of the college in 1939 into divisions, speech emerged as a separate entity in the division of Fine Arts.

Promoted orginally by the literary and debating societies, forensics has enjoyed great popularity and has brought considerable acclaim to the college. Those early debates were held in the chapel room and after the auditorium was constructed, moved to that location to permit all who wanted to hear the debates to attend. The *Antelope*, the *Blue and Gold* and even the *Kearney Hub* would report some of the debates with as much detail as they would any athletic event. The 1923 *Blue and Gold*, in discussing the attendance at the debates said, "There were few empty seats in the auditorium during any debate, and at some of them the speakers orated to standing room only."

The literary or debating societies, which developed the forensic program in the early years of the college, found their influence reduced when the Forensic League was organized. The purpose of the league was to mobilize all the speech forces of the school. All students who wanted to debate were encouraged to first become members of the league. During the summer of 1923 the Forensic League made application for membership in Pi Kappa Delta, The national forensic fraternity. The Nebraska Zeta Chapter was installed on May 14, 1924; charter members were Clark Cullon, Clay Daggett, Hazel Hosfelt, Carroll Morrow, John F. Matthews, Homer McConnell, Edith Meyer, Philip Pearson, Rae O. Weimers, Grover Rost, Laura Rundle, Arnold Crokeir, I. D. Weeks and A. L. Phillips. Pi Kappa Delta became the dominant influence in forensic activities and replaced the old debating societies.

The 1926-27 season was marked by controversy over the debate question. Selected by Pi Kappa Delta it was a question proposing the manufacture and sale of light wines and beer. There was objection by several conference schools and Nebraska changed to a question proposing the passage of McNary-Haugen Farm Relief Bill. A similar problem arose in the 1954-1955 season when the national debate question was over the United States extending

diplomatic recognition to the communist government of China. President Cushing objected to Kearney students debating the question. He said it was "unfair to ask students to spend fifty percent of their time arguing in behalf of a government so opposed to policies adopted by our government." He went on to say he felt "someone was attempting to indoctrinate a few thousand college youth with a dangerous philosophy." His remarks were given wide circulation by the press, and the Board approved his proposal that the teachers colleges not be allowed to debate the issue. The controversy spread nationwide and among others the military service schools were not permitted to debate the issue.

A regular debate class became a part of the course offerings in 1926. For the first time any student could take debate. It was from these classes that the students with the greatest ability were chosen for the teams. Only those who had tried out for the debate team had previously received any debate training. In 1930 Kearney won its first state championship in debate. On June 17, 1930 President Martin, who had taught debate when he first joined the faculty in 1915, awarded the team their "K". This is the first record of such an award. President Martin is quoted in the *Antelope* of June 20, 1930 as saying that the award was "symbolic of their proficiency in debate, hard work and loyalty to the school."

The two debate teams of Donald Smith and George Henigan and of Walter Murrish and Ed Quinn made the 1935 season one of the most successful in Kearney State history. Of these four, three went on to direct speech programs in major universities: Walter Murrish at the University of Kansas City, Henigan at George Washington University and Smith at the University of Minnesota. Donald Smith along with his brother Allan, also a debator at Kearney, are the only brother team to receive the Distinguished Service Award from Kearney State College.

The 1939-40 season was another outstanding one for Kearney in inter-collegiate competition. One thing to note is that this year also produced one of the first great women debate teams made up of Florence Williams and Addah Jane Ludden. Ludden also won honors in extemporaneous speaking.

Prof. J. D. Hansen, who had come to Kearney in 1932 and had done much to build the forensic program, left Kearney in 1943 and was replaced by Harold Ahrendts. Ahrendts as an undergraduate at Nebraska Wesleyan had won state and national honors as an orator. Robertson Strawn, a professor of speech at Kearney, asked Ahrendts, "How long will it take before Kearney can defeat Wesleyan in oratory?" Ahrendts replied, "Give me two years." Two years later Kearney speaker John Mitchell won for his college its first oratorical championship. The contest was held at Wesleyan. This was only the first of many championships won by John Mitchell not just in oratory but also in debate, peace oratory, and extemporaneous speaking.

John W. Bjorklun, in his thesis a *History of Speech Education at Kearney State Teachers College*, written for a Masters degree at the University of Nebraska, sums up the years of competitive speech at Kearney in this fashion.

Between the years 1940 and 1963, Kearney has won sixteen first places, eighteen second places and ten third places in debate in the Nebraska Intercollegiate Forensic Association Tournament. They won twenty-two first places, seven second, and five third places in

extemporaneous speaking. In oratory, Kearney students placed first nineteen times, second twelve times and third seven times. They can point to twenty first place victories, nine second places and two third places in peace oratory. The Forensic Association is made up of the senior colleges in Nebraska, exclusive of the University of Nebraska.

During the same period Kearney won one first, two seconds and one third place in debate in the Provincial Pi Kappa Delta Tournament. In extemporaneous speaking, Kearney won second place three times and third place once. In oratory, Kearney has won first place on four different occasions, finished second or third six times.

In national competition, Kearney boasts a first place in debate and a women's sweepstakes trophy for participation in the National Pi Kappa Delta Tournament.

Since Ahrendts became director of forensics in 1943 Kearney has qualified sixteen students for participation in the National Interstate Oratorical Contest. Nine of these students have talked their way into the national finals, where they have won two oratorical championships, two third places, one fourth place and one fifth place. One might say that the period 1940 to 1963 represents a "golden age" in KSTC forensic history, especially in the field of oratory.



The 1958 Nebraska's Zeta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, the National Honorary Forensic Fraternity, maintained a record as one of the top chapters in the nation.

Pictured are from left to right: Back row - Larry Lechner; Bill Boyd; Paul Wagner; Charles Jenkins, Vice-president; Bill Mildenke. Middle row - Donna Siebler; Bob Pottinger, President; Judy Pollock, Secretary; Joyce Bishop. Front row - Professor Harold Ahrendts, Sponsor; Donna Bradshaw; Jane Miller; Sam Gamel, Treasurer.

Only a few of the many students who gained honor for themselves and their college can be listed. Risking the chance that some of the most deserving will be missed, the following who have not been mentioned earlier are presented: Jeanette Harrison in 1949 and Judy Funkhouser in 1961 were national cham-



Dean Hascall, Amherst, and Jim Knapp varsity debate team.

pion orators and head this list of notables. Lily Ann Hansen, T.K. Ford, Norma (Lewis) Gilming, Ronald Kenney, Francis Bell, Zelda Jeanne Ryan, Treva Lange, Ruth Bachman, Douglas Lawrence, Bob Parkins, Ella Mae Sizer, Dean Wallace, Royal Jester, Jr., E. K. Yanney, Arthur Taylor, June Zimmerman, Michael Yanney, Marilyn Eck, Eldon Nicholson, Betty Ziggafos, Paul Wagner, Loretta Lee, Richard Kimbrough, James Knapp, Fred Kempf, Ardyce Carroll, Bonnie Tucker, Connie Stone, Thane and Dean Hascall, William Allen, Jack Roberts, Doyle Howitt, Robert Pottinger, Jo Hicks, Leona Clement, Bill Milldyke, Larry Lechner, Donna Harris, Don Main, Marilyn Coffey, Bill Boyd,



Ardyce Carroll and Loretta Lee state championship, varsity debate, 1954.

Bill Hardwick, Gary Weeks, Charles Jenkins, Judy Pollock, Sam Gamel, Sandra Duff, Jackque Ortegren, Sharon Hackett, Gil Feis, Barbara Goble, Robert Phares, Jerry Steele, Karen Lueck, Sharon Hackett, Dennis Schroefer, Tice Miller, Janet Jensen, Phillip McCormick, Laurie Keenan, Steve Nielsen, Larry Smith, John Wemburg, Robert Lapp and John Bliese make up a long but incomplete list of debators and orators active during the "Golden Age".

An editorial in the April 28, 1949 *Kearney Daily Hub* is symbolic of the public reaction to success scored by Kearney speech students:

Those seeking to discredit the Teachers College should take note of

the fact a Kearney College Junior, Jeanette Harrison, this week became the Women's Champion of the annual Interstate Oratorical Association Contest, at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She won in a field of 24.

Earlier in the month the Kearney School was one of four which won Sweepstakes Trophies at the National Pi Kappa Delta Forensic Tournament in Peoria, Illinois, at Bradley University. The Kearney students, directed by Professor Ahrendts, competed in a field of 126 colleges and universities.

However, winning such honors is by no means new at the Kearney institution. No other college or university in Nebraska and the nation has a better record in speech competition events for the past five years. That probably is true for the country as a whole on a college student per capita basis.

Indicative of the support given to the competitive speech program by President Cushing is this quote from a booklet he had published entitled: *Souvenir Booklet Honoring the Outstanding Achievement and Records by the Coach and Students of one of Mid-West's Great Colleges*.

The Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney has long been recognized for its outstanding achievements in the field of Speech. National and State Championships in Oratory and Debate have almost become traditional....

The college is very proud of those who have contributed to the most unusual and outstanding record ever made by a Mid-Western College. It is not unusual for a College to be strong in a particular field of Speech, but when it achieves State and National Honors in all fields of Speech, the accomplishment becomes worthy of widespread attention.

Competitive speech has not been without success since the middle sixties, but it has enjoyed neither the outstanding success, nor the strong support it received during the "Golden Age".

Drama

Drama, like debate, made its first appearance outside the curriculum. During the period when the institution was a Normal school there were over forty major productions presented. Where producing organizations can be identified, most plays were under the direction of the Dramatics Club which was organized in 1908. The Senior Class presented its first play, *Polly Primrose*, May 23, 1911 and its last one *You and I*, May 21 and 22, 1936. Although the Junior Class presented the first recorded play in 1907, *A Case of Suspension*, there is little evidence of continued play presentation by classes, with the exception of the senior class.

The Dramatic Club had as its purpose "giving each member an opportunity of appearing before the public in some sketch, thus showing his ability." In order to do this, it was necessary to produce more than one major play a year. Numerous short plays were produced. Prior to the completion of the auditorium in May of 1917, no adequate facilities existed for dramatic work.

Professor Ralph Noyes, who served as debate coach from 1916-1922, is given credit for introducing Kearney students to Shakespeare when he directed *Hamlet* in the summer of 1917. In the summer of 1920, he directed *Merry Wives of Windsor*. Between 1917 and 1970, Shakespeare's plays were produced 12 times with *The Taming of the Shrew* in 1933 and 1968, the only one produced more than once. In 1947, C. T. Ryan directed *The Tempest* because he felt our students should experience the production of a play by Shakespeare. It had been over twelve years since the *Comedy of Errors* had been produced by Kearney students.

Miriam Eckhardt joined the faculty in 1925, and assumed the sponsorship of Theatre Arts League and the direction of the college plays. She also assumed the responsibility of selecting the plays, since she felt that many of the plays selected by members of the Theatre Arts League were not of the literary quality the school should be producing. During the next seven years, she directed twenty-four major productions. The year 1931-32 was the last one for Mrs. Miriam Eckhardt Drake as director of the college theatre. Her last production of the season was the musical *Vagabond King*.

With the end of the tradition of a Senior Class play in 1936, the number of major production dropped to three and then to two. During the years of World War II, there were no major productions. In the spring of 1948, Mrs. Drake was called back to direct *Our Hearts Were Young and Gay*, the only major production of the year. Since that time, with the exception of the years when no stage was available, four major productions a year have been presented by the students of Kearney State. There have been years when only two were produced but there have also been some years when there were five productions. In recent years the summer production has been presented in cooperation with the Community Theatre. A brilliant performance of *H.M.C. Pinafore* was the summer 1980 selection directed by Professor Jack Garrison.

The selection of plays and the material presented in the plays have frequently been the subject of some complaint. The production of *Death of a Salesman*, in November of 1960, aroused more than the usual criticism, when directors Jensby and Jackman refused to alter lines that were considered objectionable. Jensby and Jackman accepted invitations from the Kearney Ministerial Association to present their views on the reason why the type of plays they were producing should be presented. Jensby also wrote articles which appeared in the *Antelope* and inserts in playbills explaining the reasons for producing this kind of play. John Bjorklund in his *A History of Speech Education at Kearney State Teachers College 1905-1963* sums up the controversy in this fashion: "The Criticism subsided, either because the public became used to this type of show or because the critics stopped attending them". In the years which have followed, those patrons who objected to *Death of a Salesman* would find many which would be more objectionable; an example would be *The Team*. A broad range of plays continue to be well staged, well coached and have excellent acting, but some former patrons have found it necessary to be selective in the plays they will attend.

The growth of the college, the increase in the number of faculty and the improved facilities, have made it possible to expand the academic offerings in theatre to the point where a student is able to obtain a major in Theatre Arts. Course offerings are available in such areas as Oral Interpretation, Technical Theatre, Scene Design, Costuming, Make-up, Acting, Directing, Theatre History and Theory and Criticism.

In recent years the theatre faculty has sponsored a New York Theatre tour during spring break, which has proved to very popular.

Radio and Television

Radio broadcasting, like much of the speech program, received its early support from the English department. Professor C. T. Ryan became interested in radio in the early thirties. He began a series of Sunday morning broadcasts of a Sunday School lesson, which he continued until long after his retirement. This personal contact resulted in his experimentation with the medium of radio in the classroom. Experiments with broadcasting a lecture from the office to the classroom and evaluating the effects had questionable results. Another experiment involved Mr. Ryan and some of his students, who met in the studios of KGFW, which was behind Green Terrace. This group discussed book reviews, while the remainder of the class listened to them on the radio. After the broadcast, all would meet to evaluate the results. These early programs were experimental, to say the least, but they introduced students to radio.

When Herbert L. Cushing became president, he saw a radio program as public relations for the college. Enough equipment was purchased to make it possible to broadcast from the college over KGFW. By 1940, a studio and control room had been installed and a course added to the speech offerings, dealing with radio in the classroom. One half hour program per day was broadcast on KGFW. This arrangement continued until new management took over KGFW. The station's new programming would include the college's half hour program only if they paid \$250 per month. This the college would not do.



The college broadcasts daily from campus studio

After obtaining Federal Communications Commission's permission to operate their own broadcasting station, Nebraska State Teachers College went on the air as KOVF on September 14, 1956. The public relations purpose of radio ended with the end of broadcasting over public radio stations. Major improvements were made to the studio in 1962 with the addition of new equipment.

In 1968, KOVF was allocated 91.3 FM and in 1970 it went over to stereophonic sound, the first radio station in the area to do this. Operated by students under

faculty supervision, KOVF offered news, sports, music, announcing and production experience to the students, plus they made possible a significant program service, available to 24,000 potential listeners. In 1980, the college station averages about 12 hours of broadcasting a day.

Work in television started as a textbook study and field trips, to observe commercial stations, until equipment could be obtained to give students some practical experience. In 1960 a major development took place in radio and television instruction. A move was made to the second floor of the A. O. Thomas Building. With the expanded facilities and the aid of a grant, a T.V. Studio designed for instructional purposes was constructed. Between 1969 and 1979, it also served as a distribution center for all NETCHE (Nebraska Educational Television Consortium for Higher Education) programs, as well as for all instructional television production. Since the transfer of the NETCHE distribution program to the learning materials center, the ITV production is receiving the greatest attention.

As has been mentioned earlier, the early push for work in radio at the college came from Professor C. T. Ryan. Professor J. D. Hansen was responsible for the technical aspect of the programming. Hansen also built much of the early equipment. Professor Harold Ahrendts assumed the responsibility for the direction of the program, after joining the faculty in 1943. Since joining the speech department in 1958, Robert Larson has been in charge of the radio program. The development of the television program has also been under the direction of Professor Larson.

Students interested in radio and television may earn a major in Telecommunications as well as a minor in broadcasting. (Much "hands on" experience is gained by students in the telecommunication programs). The programs in radio and television as constituted, provide a thorough grounding in the theory, as well as demonstrating a practical use of these two mediums of communication.

A program designed to give students training in the area of what was known as speech correction, has been given attention by people in speech as early as 1933. John McGee joined the faculty in 1955 and was the first full time person employed in this field. A clinic was established and the program appeared to be making excellent progress until McGee resigned in 1957. The program was kept alive after Professor McGee's departure but suffered from lack of adequate support. As funds were available, teachers were employed to work in the area of speech correction. The program was given a major boost when in 1974 an application for a federal grant was approved. The grant, amounting to about a half million dollars, permitted a move to expanded quarters on the west campus where modern equipment was installed. The speech pathology and audiology program, as it now exists, has six full time faculty. It offers both an undergraduate and since 1975, a graduate program, and maintains a community clinic. The clinic serves an area from Sidney on the west to Columbus on the east, Ainsworth on the north and the Kansas border on the south. The clinic does speech and hearing screenings for schools and nursing homes and tests all babies born at the Good Samaritan hospital. The students completing this program will have had both diagnostic and therapeutic education and experience. Under the terms of the 1974 grant, federal funding for this program will end in 1981. The future of the program will depend on the availability of state funds.

The newest program attached to the speech department is the dance pro-

gram. Students interested in this program may earn a minor in dance.

In addition to the usual courses offered by a college departments of speech, this department at Kearney State College includes a program leading to a Master of Science in Speech Education and one in Speech Pathology, plus additional undergraduate programs in such areas as telecommunication, theatre and dance. Just over forty years ago speech courses were found only under other department listings. Speech is now one of the largest departments on campus.

Music

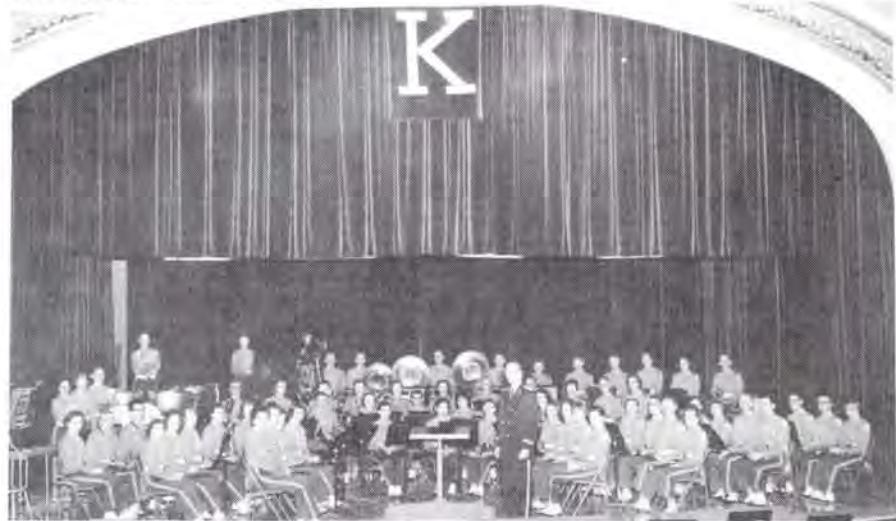
What do an orchestra and a football team have in common? At the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney in 1905, they had a common director and coach. Professor George N. Porter was responsible for the football team, the fall the school opened, so he was unable to have orchestra practice until after Thanksgiving. According to the 1908 *Blue and Gold*, "The orchestra performed on many notable occasions during the first year." One of these "notable occasions" was the senior class day at the Lexington High School, the other, "the first commencement day." There were only eight members in that first orchestra including Mr. Porter, who, in addition to directing, also played the clarinet. By the second year the membership had swelled to ten but by the third year it had dropped to six. Three of the six were three year veterans at playing in the orchestra, namely Bert Danly, first violin; Ernest Danly, cornet and Professor Porter and his clarinet. When Professor Patterson took over as the director of the orchestra in 1910, it had a membership of five. The oldest of all the musical groups on campus had problems during those early years.



The Kearney Symphony Orchestra under the direction of LeRoy Bauer

A current brochure distributed by the Music Department lists the following musical organizations which are open to all students of the college, by audition: Choraleers, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Orchestra, Concert Band, Jass-rock Ensemble, College Choir, "Antelope" Marching Band, Music Theatre Production, and Ensembles: Vocal and Instrumental. In addition to the Orchestra, the present groups can trace their "roots" to the Band which was organized in 1908, and made its first appearance at a baseball game; and the Glee Clubs, the boys' Glee club organized in the fall of 1906 and the Nordic Glee club (women) organized in January 1907. In the intervening years, numerous other musical organizations have existed. The school depended very

heavily on the various musical groups to make a contribution to various gatherings from the daily chapel sessions, to the athletic events, to the special meetings for special holidays, for visitors to the campus, and for the commencement week activities.



The 1958 Teachers College Band under the direction of Prof. Gary Thomas

A 1908 account about the music department stresses the importance of the vocal music. It lists four objectives of vocal music in the school: "(1) that all students may have some knowledge of rudimentary theory of music; (2) to be able to read music at sight with reasonable readiness; (3) to be able to interpret music artistically, and (4) a preparation for the presentation of the subject in public school work." The vocal groups were very busy during those early years, either as separate groups or combined as a chorus. They presented at least three full length concerts a year, at Christmas, Easter and Commencement. It is interesting to note that Professor Porter, the man who organized the first football team, the first orchestra, the first band, and played in both of these groups, is also on the programs as a baritone soloist for the chorus concerts. The conclusion could be made that he must have been on the faculty as a member of either the music or physical education departments. In reality he was an English teacher and the first debate coach.



Chorus 1910



Band Day



Faculty and faculty wives prepare lunches for Band Day participants. It was an annual enterprise for a number of years.

On October 18, 1957 over 1,200 box lunches were prepared for the visiting band members. Under the supervision of Bernice Mantor, sixty faculty and faculty wives completed the job in less than an hour. The menu of the day was: ham sandwiches, cup cakes, potato chips, pickles, ice cream and milk.

Although concerts were frequent by the various musical groups, and the band played at athletic events, as well as the chapel or convocation, as it was later known, the presentation of musicals, operettas, and operas were slow in making their appearances. The comic opera *Sindbad the Sailor* was performed March 12, 1912. Twelve years later *The Coming of Spring* was the next operetta attempted. During the 1930's *The Vagabond King*, *Desert Song* and *Blossom Time* involved both musical and acting talents. Music and drama people combined to bring to the stage of the auditorium musicals such as *The Student Prince* in 1951, *Annie Get Your Gun* in 1957, *Brigadoon* in 1958, *Showboat* in 1959, *South Pacific* in 1960 and *Music Man* in 1962.

The staging area of the auditorium, which had seemed so spacious in 1917, became increasingly inadequate for the type of productions which were attempted. With the structural failure of the auditorium wing, it was necessary to eliminate all major productions until new facilities were available.



Putting a basement under the stage of the auditorium 1938



Richard Kopf, 1968 Student Senate President is standing in front of some of the rubble which was once the auditorium, June 27, 1968

After the opening of the Fine Arts Building, with its more modern staging facilities, such productions as *Elijah* directed by Professor Carl Easterbrook, *The Magic Flute*, *The Tales of Hoffman*, *Lucia de Lammermoor*, *The Coronation of Poppea*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Christ on the Mount of Olives* and *The Play of the Risen Christ*, all directed by Professor George Hicks, were presented. The talent, staging and performances were of high quality but the college and the department, as well as the college community, were unwilling to support this venture into Opera.



Dr. Myron Osterberg rehearses a choral group. 1980



These musicians on stage in the auditorium, are ready for the presentation of The Messiah - Mid 1950's

The first recorded presentation by a college group of a part of Handel's *Messiah*, was at the Easter Chapel service, April 17, 1907. In the years which have followed there have been numerous performances of the *Messiah* at Christmas and at Easter. For a time in the 1950s the *Messiah* was alternated with *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, as a highlight of the Christmas Season. Christmas concerts continue to be presented by several musical organizations and are well received by their audiences.

The members of the musical organizations give several concerts a year. A number of these groups go on tour, which are limited mostly to Nebraska and adjacent states. By invitation the Choraleers, under the direction of Professor William E. Lynn, performed for the National Convention of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education in Chicago. The marching band

under the direction of Professor Ron Crocker was invited to Bloomington, Minnesota for a Vikings football game and the Nebraskats traveled to California in the spring of 1980.



The Choraleers and their director William E. Lynn at the Stuhr Museum 1979



1980 Nebraskats

As the college moved from a Normal School to a Teachers College and then to a State College, the programs offered by the music department have changed and increased in numbers and types of offerings.

The expansion of the music faculty to eleven full time members and the increasing size of the student body have resulted in expanded opportunities for the students interested in music. Available to students interested in music careers are programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts with a major in music; Bachelor of Arts in Education with a major in music; Bachelor of Science with a major in music merchandising; Bachelor of Fine Arts with a major in music performance, and a Master of Science in Education with a major in music. Attesting to the high quality of the programs offered by the music department is the 1977 granting to the department of preliminary accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Music.



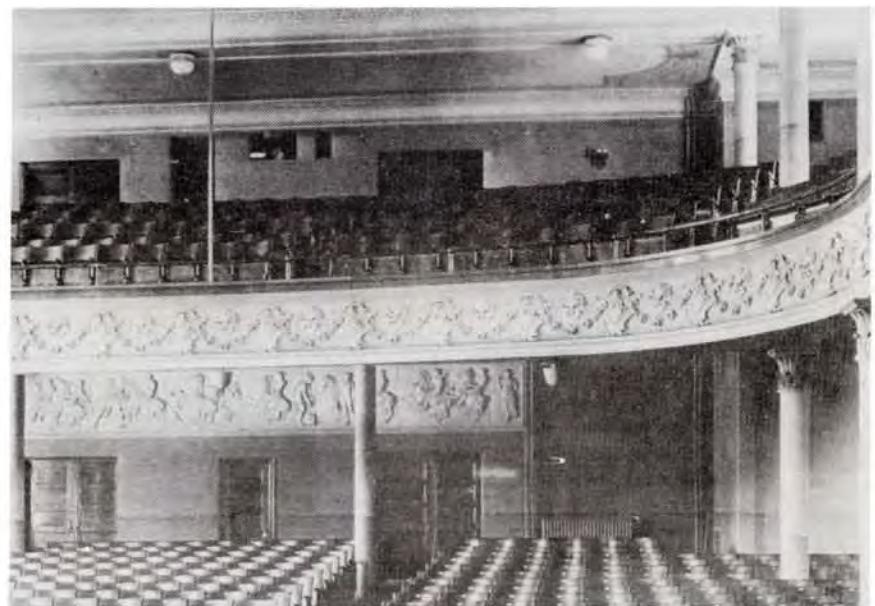
Fifty-four Voices Out of 120, 1939



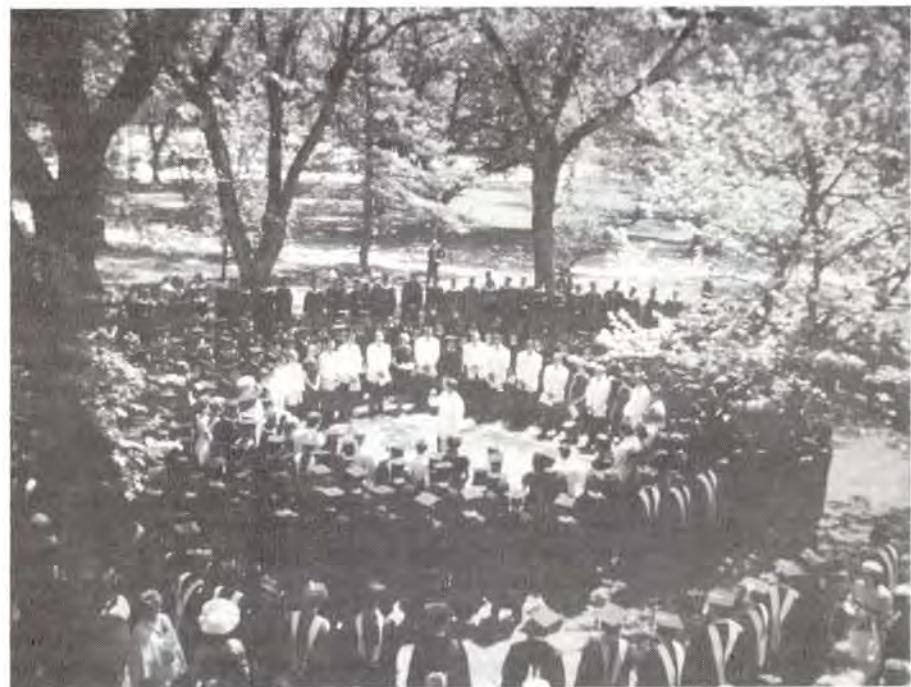
Picture of Chorus in Old Chapel



Stage of Auditorium



Back of Auditorium



The end of a tradition - The graduates and faculty gather in front of the Administration Building to sing the *Alma Mater* at the close of the May, 1961, graduation.

CHAPTER VIII

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ROYALTY

The Greeks

Sororities and fraternities have had a checkered career at Kearney State College. Such organizations were looked upon with little favor during the early years of the institution. Very few records exist of their early activities. Since the Greek societies existed on the edge, or on the outside of the official part of the college, records are not too complete in the official campus publications. Students with their few short years on campus have not done the best job of keeping records. Where quite complete accounts do exist, it is because of the dedication of a sponsor or alumnus. Alumni stories are interesting but compare with the stories told by "old soldiers" as to reliability.

Demonstrating the position of the fraternities and sororities on the campus in the first quarter century of the life of the college, is this statement to the Board by President George Martin on October 23, 1922, "The next most urgent problem along this line is the problem of sorority and fraternity affiliation. At present no such organization is recognized by the school, though it is well known that such organizations persist and exist without the control of the institution. Is it the wish of the Board that such organizations be stamped out, or that they be taken under the control of the faculty?" This statement goes a long way in explaining the absence of coverage of the activities of these social organizations, compared to other campus organizations, both in the *Blue and Gold* and the *Antelope*. Some of the initiation and hazing activities including a forced form of streaking, were not always carried on in moderation. These actions contributed to the lack of enthusiastic support given by the faculty who could see little connection between this kind of activities and education.

The files of one fraternity shed a little light on the reason they were not in good standing with college officials. Discussing fraternity life of the preceding year they said: "Congratulations to the fraternity of '23 and '24 for their efforts to hold meetings in spite of adverse conditions (crap games, the presence of jugs of whiskey, and some members continually being kicked out of school)." The records seem to indicate that the usual fraternity year consisted of dances, picnics and the rush and pledge activities.

As late as 1954 there were strong rumors that fraternities and sororities were going to be abolished on campus. A meeting with President Cushing brought out the information that some practices needed to be changed, but as long as things didn't "get out of hand" they had nothing to worry about from the president.

Going back to the beginning of the social groups, we find the Juanita girls were organized in September of 1910. Charter members were Clara Edgington, Cora Edgington, Mildred Bates, Edna Edwards, Rachel Starret, Mary Welsh, Genesta Clark, Reba Dawson, Minnie Ward, Gladys Grabill, Nelle Brown, Mary Gardner and Emma Snyder. Thus is born the first of the campus social organizations. There are accounts which say they started in 1912-13 but were not chartered until 1918. The *Blue and Gold* of 1912 uses the 1910 date for their first meeting. In 1944 they changed to Delta Phi Beta and in 1962 they became Chi Omega. The next sorority appears to be Sigma Theta Phi chartered in 1915 but may have started as early as 1912. In 1963 they became Gamma Phi Beta. The Zeta Chi Alpha was founded in 1935 and was the first to go national in 1961. By 1969 the organization had been disbanded. Kappa Alpha

Phi was the last of the sororities to go national. They became Alpha Phi. Organized as Phi Sigma Phi in 1967 this group became Alpha Omicron Pi in 1969.

Phi Tau Gamma appears to be the first fraternity for Kearney men, chartered December 5, 1915. Going national in March of 1965 as Alpha Tau Omega, they became the first chapter in the second century of ATO. Sigma Upsilon Nu was an off shoot of Phi Tau Gamma that became Theta Xi in 1962. The second fraternity to organize on campus was the Caledonians founded in 1916 and became Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1963. Phi Phi Phi was organized in 1955 and became Phi Delta Theta in 1966. Kappa Lambda Chi, founded in 1961 became the first national fraternity as Sigma Tau Gamma in 1962. Phi Kappa Tau was established in 1965, Beta Sigma Psi in 1967...Tau Rho in 1969 and Acacia in 1971. Tau Rho became Alpha Kappa Lambda in 1970. Omega Delta Pi chartered in 1956, became the Theta Chi in 1965 but folded during the 1969-70 year. Delta Zeta was established in 1963 but it only lasted five years.

In looking at this brief treatment of the "Greeks" on the Kearney State Campus, it is evident that there was a strong movement toward national affiliation in the 1960's. This is the reverse of the national trend. Two things appear to account for this move on the Kearney campus. 1. Kearney State College was growing rapidly and its name was changed to Kearney State College from the earlier Teachers College designation in recognition of its more diversified programs. 2. The national organizations were having difficulty on the major campuses because of a reaction against the "Greek System" and thus they were looking for new fields for expansion. Accordingly, they were looking with great favor on colleges such as Kearney State. The desire by the Kearney organizations for national affiliation was well received by the national organizations.

The move to resident housing for fraternities and sororities developed along with the increased interest in the organizations, the increased enrollment and the shortage of on-campus housing. The Phi Tau Gammas appear to have been the first to establish a home. Once the houses were established, changing conditions in housing supply, has not decreased the interest that the Greeks have in maintaining them.

In general the influence of the students, active in fraternities and sororities on college life, has been far greater than their numbers would warrant. The selection of students to serve in student government, popularity contests, queens and other similar positions, have been largely determined by these groups.

Honor Societies

Invited to become members of honor societies are those students who achieve high scholastic standing. For a department to be eligible to sponsor an honorary it must meet certain standards set down by the national organization. The following is a list of honor societies and the areas that they represent which are active on the Kearney State Campus:

Alpha Epsilon Rho
Alpha Mu Gamma
Beta Beta Beta
Delta Omicron
Kappa Delta Pi

Broadcasting
Foreign Language
Biology
Music (Women)
Teacher Education

Kappa Mu Epsilon	Mathematics
Kappa Omicron Phi	Home Economics
Kappa Pi	Art
Lambda Delta Lambda	Physical Science
Lambda Tau	Medical Technology
Phi Alpha Theta	History
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia	Music (Men)
Pi Delta Phi	French
Pi Kappa Delta	Forensic
Pi Omega Pi	Business Education
Rho Lambda	Junior Women
Sigma Tau Delta	English
Society for Collegiate Journalists	Journalism
Spurs	Sophomore Women
Xi Phi	Leadership and Scholarship
	Juniors and Seniors

The Gamma Chapter of Xi Phi was officially installed on December 13, 1924. It grew out of a need felt by students and faculty to establish such an honor society on the Kearney campus representing outstanding scholarship and demonstrated leadership from a variety of organizations. The first membership was selected by a faculty committee made up of Dr. Ralph Noyer, Anna V. Jennings, John I. Engleman and Dean Ruth E. Elliott. Selected as charter members were: Maude Good Bean, Gertrude Bedford, Oma Cady, Clay Daggett, Josephine S. Daggett, Stella English, Otto Hasik, Marcia Hazlett, Margaret Murphy Huff, Jennie Jacobs, Huld Jensen, Edith Johnson, John McHale, Carroll Morrow, Charles Neale, Verna Pielstick, Thelma Robinson, Stella Schrack, Gertrude Toll, Ila D. Weeks, Caryle Weinbrandt.



Outstanding Sophomore Award winners, George Haun, Ainsworth and Judith Swalley, Bellwood, are congratulated by Prof. Philip Holmgren-Sponsor of Xi Phi.
1959

The purpose of the organization was to promote leadership and scholarship among the college students, and to sponsor any worthy movement which the fraternity felt would be of benefit to the cause of education. For more than fifteen years now Xi Phi has been the sponsor of the Honors Convocation.

Other honor societies have existed on campus and are currently inactive. Some of these will be reactivated if interest is sufficient to warrant such action.

Departmental and Other Organizations

In addition to the honor societies numerous other organizations exist on campus. Many of these are departmental related but others are service oriented. There are organizations which exist for the promotion of the college. Ambassadors are an example, and there are those who promote school spirit, the Spirit Squad. It would indeed be difficult to imagine any student on campus who could not find several organizations to join. Some of the organizations of the Normal School and early Teachers College years such as the Longfellows-requirement for membership, a male at least six feet tall or the Tegner Society-requirement, a student of Swedish ancestry, (Later they did permit Danes and Norwegians to join), are gone. Gone also (what a pity) is the Culture Club organized for the purpose of developing higher ideals and a love for all things good and true, useful and beautiful." The Sodalists Latina left the way of Latin class at Kearney State. Has anyone heard of the Froebel Kindergarten Bund? Also gone are the class organizations which meant so much to students for the first half century of the college's existence. A 1980 graduate commented as he was reading the list of students who were to receive Baccalaureate Degrees, "It is interesting to find out who is in my class."

Other organizations still survive under changed names and modified purposes. Students, from the establishment of the Normal until the present time have had ample opportunity to join with other students for serious or frivolous purposes.

Religious Organizations

Religious organizations have always been a part of the college scene at Kearney. The YWCA was organized almost immediately on the opening of school in 1905. The YMCA was organized January 25, 1906. Both of these Associations were open to students of any Christian faith. They had some meetings which were devotional in nature and some which were mainly social. At least once or twice a year these two organizations would sponsor a school wide reception, a party or mixer to bring all students together in a social relationship. For many years they sponsored a Christmas carnival as a fund raising venture. A close examination of the Administration Building would still reveal some of the screws put into the woodwork to hold wires on which were strung curtains for booths for the carnival.

When the Catholic Club was organized and joined the ranks of the religious clubs on campus, cannot be pin pointed exactly, but it does appear as an organization in the *Blue and Gold* in 1910. This club operated in much the same way as did the YMCA and YWCA; that is it had some meetings strictly devotional and religious in nature while other meetings were of a social nature. Until 1940 these three organizations represented the choices which students had

to join with other students for religious activities on campus. Each organization was assigned a room in the college building which it could use for its activities. Membership was large in each group although how many of that membership was active is not always clear. What is evident is that the organizations were strong and active.

The establishment of the Lutheran Club in 1940 was a sign of things to come. All student organization suffered during World War II, but the YM and YW were never as strong after the war as they were before. Both groups continued to be active for a number of years but by 1960 the YMCA was no longer active and by 1963 the YWCA was also gone. What happened is the appearance on campus of a number of denominational oriented organizations such as Lutheran Student Association, Wesley Fellowship, Presby League, Gamma Delta (Missouri Synod Lutheran), Canterbury Club and the Roger Williams Fellowship.

In addition to these the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, not affiliated with any particular church organization, was established after World War II and it concentrated on Bible study and prayer. Inter-Varsity has been joined more recently by other non-denominational groups such as Campus Crusade and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Continuing changes in the religious organizations moved from the numerous denominational groups to some, which with combined resources, have resulted in the employment of professional clergy to minister to the spiritual needs of the students. An example was the formation of the United Campus Christian Fellowship which was followed by the United Ministries for Higher Education. Probably a more important change is the establishment of the centers just off campus. Located east of 9th Avenue between 27 and 28th Street are the Lutheran Center, an attractive new structure built and supported by several Lutheran groups, and the Newman Center, supported by the Catholics, which consists of a newly constructed Chapel, and a number of houses. The United Ministries for Higher Education have offices in the Newman Center. The Lighthouse another such center is located south of 24th Street. Thus those groups with the services of full time, or nearly full time clergy function off campus while those student groups without the services of full time clergy still make some use of campus facilities.

Gone are the daily chapel services with their devotions, but the students on the Kearney State College Campus still have an opportunity for Christian fellowship with their fellow students either through the campus affiliated groups or with the congregations of the churches of the city.



Catholic Club
Room Quarters



YMCA Room

KSC Royalty 1923-1980

The first fall homecoming seems to have been in 1923, 18 years after the opening of the Nebraska State Normal School. "There were no queens, no dances and no parades. It was just a time of greeting the returning alumni, and for hazing freshman," according to the October 2, 1964 *Antelope*.

1945 marked the crowning of the first homecoming royalty. (A year later the floats and displays appeared). There have been many queens, and many kings of many kings, and sweethearts, too: May Queens, Holly Queens, Ivy Queens, Christmas Kings and Christmas Queens, Fraternity Sweethearts and Sorority ones, to mention a few. "The Gridiron Queens" and the "K Club Queens" were the two who eventually took the title, first as the "Homecoming Sweetheart" in 1945, and "Homecoming Queen" in the years which have followed.

In the earlier years, "popularity contests" sponsored by the *Blue and Gold* determined the royalty, both men and women at NSTC. Beginning in the years 1923-24 Rae Wiemer won 1st honors, with Blanche Myers 2nd; Josephine Sadler, 3rd; John Myers, 4th and Gertrude Toll, 5th. The following year 1924-25, Homer McConnell was named as the most popular man and Lillian Hanson, the most popular lady. Others named that year were Carroll Anderson, 2nd and Archie Jackson, 3rd in the men's contest and Gladys Cronk and Alice Grantham, 2nd and 3rd in the ladies division. Julius Schneider, won top honors in 1925-26, followed by Homer McConnell, 2nd and Bill Nicholas, 3rd. The most popular lady was Letah Doyle, with Amie Gilbert, and Gladys Cronk, following in that order. In 1926-27 only the top most man Lee Harbottle, and top lady, Hazel Panek were honored in the popularity contest.

A new title appeared in the 1927-28 contest, the "Most Respected" students. Clarence Lindahl and Theresa Grantham won honors in that category. By 1928-29 there was a return to the "Popularity contest" term and Allen Anderson and Eunice Arnold became the honorees. This "Popularity" idea held through 1929-30 when Harold Tetter and Gladys Grantham were chosen and again in 1930-31 when Roy Nelson was given top honors for the men and Clara Flagg for the ladies. In 1931-32, a still different title appeared, when the student body decided on the "Most Representative Student". Willis Wolcott and Ruth Burch were named and honored as the representatives.

A still different type of contest was held in 1932-33. Six men and two women were listed in the "Liberty-Hall of Fame Students". They included Elizabeth Finke, Josephine Pierce, Bruce Fitz, Franklin Finck, Herbert Frank, George Burger, Darrel Noyes and Charles Gard.

By 1933-34 the NSTC Faculty apparently decided to make the selection of the "Outstanding Students" without regard to student choices. They named William Little, Josephine Pierce, Darrel Noyes, Gordon Weinbrandt, Thyra Morris, Charles Gard, Robert Martin, Ruth Bishop, Merle Confer, and Wilfred Edson, on their list.

The 1934-35 *Blue and Gold* lists Genevieve Keenan, Marion Nelson, Max Houchans and Ruth Bishop as the "Senior Personalities" chosen by ballot in the Senior Class.

It was at this point and time that the 1935 Football Squad decided they needed a Queen, according to this humorous story that appeared in the November 22, 1935 *Antelope*. Briefly it goes like this:

The football eleven were pivoted and ready to go up on the line of scrimmage when the right end Fitz yelled, "Check" to the men. The co-captains "Wally" Willis and Otto Hajkat are reported to have asked, "What now"? To which Fitz is recorded as explaining, "You know fellers, the reason we ain't playing inspired football this game is because we ain't got no queen". According to the story the co-captains called time out for conversation...Dan McBride seconded the motion, as it were, with "That's right fellers. We need some extra drive to carry us through this gooey mud", and with a handful of Peru mud in his hands, demonstrated his point by hitting center Billeter in the face with it. At that moment, "Pop" Klein and his trainer Grantham ran onto the field to look after the injuries of the Antelope Center. Another player, Dudley announced to "Pop", "Coach, we want a Queen." "I'm afraid we can't get her here in time to beat Peru, but I'll wire," and "Pop" turning to Grantham ordered, "Take a letter." Grantham grabbed a pencil and began to write on a strip of adhesive tape the words as Klein dictated them, "We need a queen. Names of girls will be submitted by the football team. The entire student body will vote on its choice for gridiron queen for the 1935 season. The K Club will sponsor an all school dance on Monday night of the opening of the second quarter. The results of the vote will be announced and the queen will be crowned..." The wire was on its way to Kearney in quick order. It was received at Case Hall, Green Terrace, the Sigma House and several other rooming places for girls. All details were carried out as planned and according to the story, on the given night, and for the first time a Gridiron Queen was named.

With only the promise of a Queen, the Antelopes lost to Peru 13-6 that day. The next year with a queen a reality, they beat Peru 59-0.

Patsy Hamer was that first Gridiron Queen, having been selected by vote of the whole student body. That tradition has been carried on since 1935.

In 1936 Estalene Harris followed Patsy as "Gridiron Queen"...Ada Jean Kirkman was the 1937 "Gridiron Queen". In 1938 Norma Reynolds was granted that honor and in 1939 Helen Louise Lockhart was "Gridiron Queen."

The 1939 *Blue and Gold* explained the function of Queens in this way, "You have to have Queens. They are as important as the hairy, muscular, gridiron heroes who represent strength, virility and trickery. The Queens are the personification of beauty, virtue and class."

The 1940 "Gridiron Queen" was Mary Runner, the 1941 Queen Juanita Jillson. A new title for this Queen honor appeared in 1942 when Jeanne Barber was named "K Club Queen."

As a result of World War II there were no *Blue and Golds* at NSTC for the next three years. The *Antelopes* list only Christmas Kings and Queens for the 1943- and 1944 years. These were for 1943, Carl Hagee and Catherine John and for 1944, John Mitchell and Ilene Refshauge.

By the fall of 1945, things on the campus were beginning to return to normal. Ruth Wendell became the first "Homecoming Sweetheart". President Cushing did the honors by placing the crown on her head, and a kiss on her cheek. The title "Sweetheart" became "Homecoming Queen" the following year and that has remained the title since that time until the present.

Another fact to note is that in 1946 and 1947 there were both a "Homecoming Queen" and a "K Club Queen"... Ilene Refshauge received the "Homecoming Queen" title and Theodocia Eloe the "K Club Queen" title in 1946. Donna Neal was the "Homecoming Queen" and Mary Mason the "K Club Queen" in 1947. By 1948 only the "Homecoming Queen" was crowned. She was Libbie Storch. Since that time the "Homecoming Queens" have been, Jeanne Coe in 1949; Alta Hubbert in 1950; Patty Asher in 1951; Irene Siebler in 1952; Darlene Jorgensen in 1953; Anne Christensen in 1954; Robin Croissant in 1955; Bernadine Eckout in 1956; Patricia Ott in 1957; Alyce Sanderman in 1958; Barbara Goble in 1959; Marilyn Wright in 1960; Marge Borgman in 1961; Judy Hergenrader in 1962; Carolyn Greenhaigh in 1963; Chic Licking in 1964; Juanetta Sailors in 1965; Carol Lambley in 1966; Judy Tolleson 1967; Betty Powers in 1968; Jolene Blakeslee in 1969; Renee (Smith) Davis in 1970; Sally McClymont in 1971; Ann Slattery in 1972; Maureen Neary in 1973; Nancy Hutsell in 1974; Shannon Welch in 1975. Connie Maska and Shere Wells were both "Homecoming Queens" in 1976 when they received "tie votes". Margaret Safranek followed them in 1977; Teresa Leach in 1978 and Iva Thayer in 1979. The 1980 "Homecoming Queen" will be named at the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee. This tradition holds a special place in the life of Kearney State College.



Homecoming Queen 1967 Judy Tollefesen
Attendants - left to right: C. Sederberg, C. Mintken, J. Tollefesen, C.
Powers, M. Roth.



Marge Borgman
Homecoming Queen 1961



Marilyn Wright
Homecoming Queen 1960



Estelene Harris
Gridiron Queen II 1936



Patty Asher
Homecoming Queen 1951



Libbie Storch
Homecoming Queen 1948



Homecoming Queen 1946 Ilene Refshauge
Attendants - left to right: Joanne Barber, Neva Jane Harris, Ilene
Refshauge, Marian Wardrop, Jean May.



Betty Powers
Homecoming Queen 1968



Patricia Ott
Homecoming Queen 1957



Anne Christensen
Homecoming Queen 1954



Norma Reynolds
Gridiron Queen IV 1938



Charter members of the Kearney State Ambassadors, a host group was organized in 1974. Standing left to right: Deb Snowden, Kandy Goff, Roger Jasnah, Dell Tschudin, Ken Jokes, Chriss Fornoff, Donnelle Davis; Sitting left to right: Julie Grabouski, Betsy Kirkwood, Sue Jasper, Tena Walgren, Jan Bellinghausen.



The 1980 Ambassadors. This is the 7th year of this student host program. The students pictured above, from left to right, include: Larry Killham, Beth Bush, Jeffrey Reiss, Susan Haeberle, Mark Bush, Kiki Seitzer, Greg Samuelson, Lois Hornig, Timothy McGill, Lisa Morris, Bill Welter and Barbara Hurt.

CHAPTER IX

Styles, Dress Codes, Rules and Regulations

Styles and Dress Codes....

Between the time of women's black bloomers and white middy blouses worn, in physical education classes in the early 20th Century and the bandeaus and shorts which appear occasionally on the KSC campus today, many changes have taken place in the dress fashions and dress regulations of the students at Kearney State College. Students, faculty and administrators have all had a "say" in what was fitting and proper and in some instances, more importantly what was not.



Senior Commercials 1908

In the earliest years many of the girls wore white blouses with high collars which were usually buttoned to the top, and long dark skirts, both for school and dress occasions. The men wore suits with white shirts, stiffly starched, and long ties. Occasionally both the men and women used bow ties which were also in fashion in the pre-1910 period. Hair styles in those days tended to be piled high on the ladies' heads, while the young men often parted their hair high on either side of their heads or used a middle hair part.

A decade later found the "buttons and bows" gone, as were the high necked blouses and dresses seen in the earlier years. The young men were still in suits with white shirts or colored ones, with detachable white collars and long ties. Their hair was parted in less severe lines and the women had lost some of the weighty hair look. Their hair had taken on a more casual appearance, though it was still long.

By the early 1930's the waist lines on the ladies' dresses had dropped far below the normal waist lengths, giving even the plump "miss" a slenderizing look. Long sleeved garments had been replaced by short sleeved ones in the 1920's but the sleeveless dresses came into vogue in the early 1930's. Wishing to keep up with fashion, a number of the college girls cut the sleeves out of their limited supply of dresses. This was not to be on the NSTC campus. Mrs. Ruth Elliott, Dean of Women, called all the girls into a meeting in the

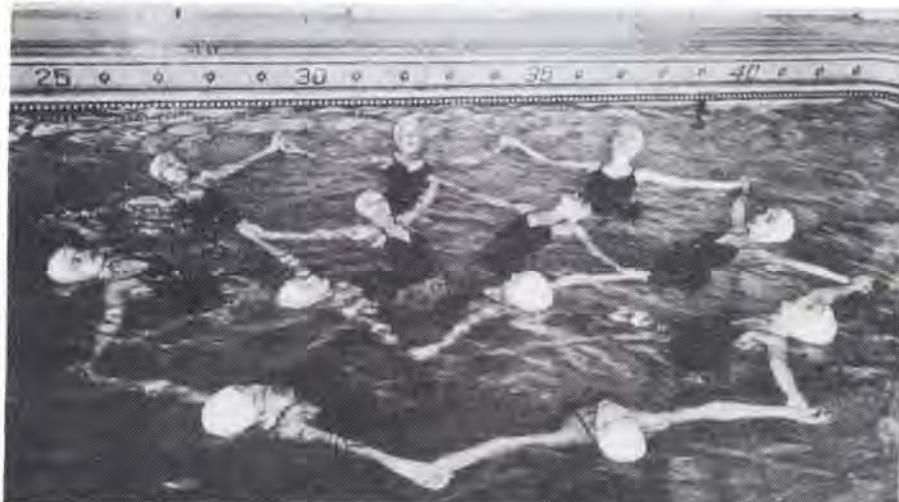
auditorium and in no uncertain terms ordered them to get their sleeves sewn back into their dresses immediately. Somehow she saw nothing wrong with sheer sleeves as long as they wore sleeves, which appeared to some of the co-eds to be a bit ironical.

Later in the thirties, both the men and women shortened their hair. For the ladies, "Sweaters and skirts are the 'in' thing," an inquiring reporter announced in the October 16, 1936 *Antelope*.

With the approach of World War II, the fashions showed a definite military influence, in both the men's and women's wearing apparel. By 1947 skirts hit a new low. When asked, the men on the NSTC campus offered such remarks as, "I hate long skirts and would like to suggest that if the fad keeps up, all men should add scissors to their repertoire-and when the chance arises, use them in the proper way, on long skirts." This remark was quoted in an *Antelope*. It was a matter for the girls to decide - whether to be stylish or have dates...long skirts or short? What a dilemma!

The September 30, 1949 *Antelope* had an article which read, "Friday is Sweater Day at NSTC...Sweater Dance Friday night. Everyone is asked to wear a sweater all day...A Sweater Queen will be chosen."

When the NAIADS, an honorary swimming organization, held their spring water pageant April 19 and 20, 1950 they featured new black bathing suits for the occasion.



Naiads perform pattern at annual swimming pageant

A November 15, 1963 dress regulation article listed these in the *Antelope*.

Classes and labs-neatly dressed in 'traditional clothes.'
After class and labs-causal clothes (Slacks for girls; wash pants, clean sweat shirts and knitted sport shirts for boys). Dining Hall-clothes suitable for classes on week days. 'Dress up' clothes on Sunday noons and Wednesday evenings. Student Union (areas other than Dining Hall), casual clothes as defined above.
Library - clothes suitable for classes on week days. Casual clothes

(No Bermudas or cut-offs).

After 6 p.m. and on Saturdays regular street clothes. ...Girls are not to wear hair curlers outside their living units.

Two years later a new dress regulation suggested by the Student Council and presented to Dean Stutheit read,

New standard includes pedal pushers and Bermudas if worn with a blouse or skirt, are acceptable for men and women in any building after 4:30 and on weekends. Long Jeans, if neatly pressed are acceptable for boys for class room wear...For both boys and girls in any building after 4:30 short shorts, cut-offs and walking shorts are not acceptable, at any time except in certain areas of residence halls. Reception rooms requires suitable dress at all times. For all class room wear-skirts or dresses are acceptable for women; slacks and neatly pressed jeans and shirts are acceptable for men. During summer school Bermudas will be generally permitted for men and women after 12:30 except for class room wear. The above does not apply to social gatherings, Wednesday evening meals or similar occasions when casual dress is permitted.



These girls came out "Short" in the late sixties.

The December 3, 1965 issue of the *Antelope* notes, "Coeds embrace a new fad, pierced ears." Other evidences of the changing mores was the advent of the "Miss Legs" contest which appeared on the KSC campus. Its purpose was to collect money for the United Fund Project. The October 21, 1966 *Antelope* indicated that the contest would run from October 31, through November 2nd and that the pictures of "legs" would be placed in the Student Union. Money was paid for each vote and the most beautiful legs would be chosen. The project raised \$75 that year...In 1968 the "Miss Legs" contest added a new dimension when the "Mr. Knob Knees" contest became part of the money making scheme.

In the March 23, 1972 issue of the *Antelope*, an article appeared, "Fashion - Anything Goes." ... "Those long bell bottom jeans will suddenly be cut off and

the ever popular cut-offs will appear. Some fringed...Bulky sweaters to be replaced by T. shirts, with all kinds of saying and pictures, possible. When it gets hot, the guys will be going shirtless and the girls will be wearing "tank tops" and midriffs...Sandals are for everybody. Barefoot will also be the 'up' thing...Students do your own thing." And so they did.

In the fall of 1975, the "staple" for the college wardrobe was jeans for both women and men. The cost per pair had risen to \$14, \$15, \$16 and up. "Casual" was the ear mark of college fashions in '76. Jeans and slacks were still the front runners for gals but new longer length skirts were coming back into style, as dresses were returning to fashion again. For men it was jump suits and light weight vested suits. Denim was featured for males...Smock tops for women. Curly became stylish for men's hair, with permanents the answer for many men.

In the 75 years of Kearney State College History-Fashions have made some of the most drastic changes.

Rules and Regulations

Following is a list of regulations included in President Thomas's address to the faculty on November 13, 1905:

1. If a student is absent from class three days without reasonable and satisfactory excuses, the teacher should...drop the name from the class roll....
2. Students must observe proper decorum throughout the entire building.
3. No loafing in the halls will be permitted.
4. It is a privilege to attend this school. Only those should be admitted who earnestly seek truth and culture. Those whose influence is known to be harmful should not be permitted to continue.
5. A class should not be permitted to become loppy or slouchy. The floor should be well spaced, the rows straight, and the students in proper physical position. These points should be rigidly maintained.
6. Unexcused absences are marked as total failure in daily work.
7. There shall be no congregating, nor loud talking or laughter in the halls and corridors.
8. Students who come into the building and do not go to the reading room, or who have not other business, must remain in the rotunda on the first floor, until the bell rings.
9. Chapel attendance, for the present, should be voluntary upon the part of the students, However it is not so advertised among them... We are confronted by a condition which must be met in the most rational manner. Attending our institution are between twenty and thirty members of the Catholic church. The priest of the parish has excommunicated, so to speak, those who attend the chapel exercises of the Normal School, and is holding mass in the old church on Twenty-sixth and sixth, on certain days of week, for the special benefit of our students. ...To compel attendance upon chapel would drive out those young people.

In his September 17, 1907 address to the faculty President Thomas still had some comments on chapel attendance:

We have been somewhat lax in the past about attendance upon chapel. Each individual instructor has been permitted to use his or her pleasure relative to the attendance. When the attendance by the members of the faculty is lax, it produces a similar effect of laxity upon the part of the students. It is our endeavor to have as many students attend chapel as possible, and in order to hold them to our desire in such a matter, it is necessary for members of the faculty to be as careful concerning their attendance as is consistent with their health, and with the general arrangement of their work. I do not mean that the instructors who are indisposed should be forced to attend chapel in such a condition, but to use proper judgement and due care, to be as punctual in attendance upon chapel as is consistent with their interests.

During the past students of the Catholic faith have been excused from attendance upon chapel. I am inclined to think that some arrangements can be made that it will not be necessary for them to be excused further. There is no reason why the chapel exercises may not be made to conform to the religious teachings and belief of all, and yet consistant with the best form of the religious and moral training in schools.

And under Rules and Regulatins these were some of his comments:

...The students must not be permitted to loiter in the halls, and should not be found in the halls for more than five minutes before the ringing of the bell. If they enter earlier, they should pass immediately to the study room or library ... Members of the faculty must be careful in all their classes to prohibit the marking up to the furniture ... No student who permits himself or herself to wilfully mark up or efface public property is fit to be placed in charge of the school. Members of the faculty should examine frequently the condition of the furniture in their room, and should impress upon the students that effacing public property is unbecoming students attending normal schools, and especially teachers. It will be necessary for us to enforce regulations relative to pool halls and saloons. Pool playing and saloon loafing are not fit companions for study and education. They do not go well together. The environment is evil, and leads many a bright, intelligent young man to his downfall. The use of tobacco is also prohibited about the grounds and buildings and on the way to and from school. While adults whose constitutions are fully established and who are active in their habits may use tobacco in moderate forms, with probable impunity, it is an established scientific fact that growing boys and growing minds cannot develop properly under the influence of the weed. All students of the school are expected to observe the regular school hours in study and recitation. Beginning at eight o'clock in the morning, and continuing until twelve noon; then from one thirty until four thirty in the afternoon, and from seven until ten P.M., shall be known as regular school periods during which time it should be our endeavor to prevent loafing and idleness on the part of the student body. Parties and school entertainments should be held on Friday or Saturday evenings as far as consistent. It shall be our policy during the present year to keep as careful oversight over all students as possible. It may be necessary to district the town in order that we

may examine the boarding places and habits of our students. The president of the school cannot enforce all of these regulations alone. It will be necessary for each member of the faculty to bear a portion of the responsibility, to make known abuses of our regulations, and assist in carrying out all regulations that operate to the advantage and advancement of the school.

Several incidents of violations of some of these regulations present themselves. There is the frequent reference to the "Hall Spooners" in early *Blue and Golds* obviously those who were in violation of the no loitering, no talking in the halls regulation. They appear to have suffered no serious consequences. This is not so for those caught in the pool halls of the city. The presence of young men from the Normal in a pool hall was reported to the president. They were properly repentant and escaped with a severe reprimand. Later when there was another report of such violation, President Thomas went down into the establishment and found the young man as reported. This time his pleas for mercy were to no avail and he was suspended. Unexcused absences also had serious results as witnessed by the following statement to the faculty.

Kearney, Nebr.
April 1, 1908

To the Members of the Faculty:

WHEREAS the Senior Class of the Commercial school have endeavored to play an April Fool joke on an instructor of one of their classes by remaining out of class, and

WHEREAS they have been reported for absence without excuse,

It becomes necessary under the rules of the school to suspend the entire class until further notice is issued.

The following students are guilty of this offense: Grace Arthaud, Sam Arnold, Audren Ayres, Ethel Craig, Florence Edwards, Carl Fines, Tom Goar, May Jones, Clara Judy, Dora Milbourn, Claude Smith, Emma Smith, Edith Smithey, Esther Stock, Silas Stock, Edward Strain, Earl Took, and Fred Wallace.

A. O. Thomas, President

Many generations of Kearney State College students will recognize at least one name on the list. Graduation for them was qualified by an oft repeated phrase "The Lord Willing and Smithey permitting." This long time keeper of the academic records of the college must have had some anxious moments as a student until the suspension was lifted. No record has been located of the reinstatement of these students, but the fact that all obtained their three year Commercial Certificate that year is sufficient evidence that the suspension was of short duration.

On October 23, 1922 President Martin went to the Board with some questions concerning the activities of students and asked for some guidance.

In the social life of the school it is found that one of the most serious problems is the dance. At present dancing is not permitted on the campus. The result is that students organize dancing parties that are more or less in the nature of a public dance. They hire halls down town, invite whomsoever they wish, and the dances are conducted as they wish. Nothing of an extraordinarily serious nature has come of this practice as yet, though one or two regrettable in-

stances have occurred. It is recommended that the Board of Education take cognisance of this condition and render a decision as to whether or not dancing under proper chaperonage and control be permitted in the school building.

Students have always been reluctant to obey all the rules that are designed by school administrators or even by their peers in school government. One example of students violating regulations which had good results took place in January 1925. The ice on Kearney Lake was blue, smooth and solid that night and several students had been out skating on it. The 9:30 p.m. hour had passed when young ladies were required to be in their rooms, whether in Green Terrace or private homes. So had the 10:30 deadline passed when lights were to be out in the young ladies' rooms. Homer McConnel and Elizabeth Losey had been reluctant to leave the lake until late. As they were walking back to the house where Miss Losey was staying they walked by the west end of Green Terrace. Elizabeth grabbed Homer's arm and said, "There's a fire in the basement of Green Terrace Hall!" Quickly realizing there were at least sixty lives at stake as well as the loss of the only dormitory on the campus, Homer made the quick decision to alert the preceptress, Mrs. Thomas. Both he and Elizabeth realized that not only were their reputations at stake, but they might even be expelled from college. This was no time to think of themselves. Mrs. Thomas was alerted, the fire department was called as was George Arnold, the custodian who lived about a block east of the dormitory. Elizabeth would stand back and wait to see what she could do. When Arnold arrived he ordered Homer to crawl into the basement and turn off the stove which the girls had obviously left on under some clothes they were drying. Homer did as he was told, keeping as close to the floor as possible in order to keep out of the smoke. He turned off the stove and got out about the time the firemen arrived. They put out the fire in the burning clothes, the smoldering wood above the clothes and cleared out the smoke. This time Homer left the building by the front door, not the east end basement door he had entered. He was quite impressed by the sight that greeted him; all sixty residents of the hall stood safely outside, dressed in their night clothes. Homer relates that many years later he met some of these ladies with their children and that made a far greater impression on him than did the night-clad girls in front of Green Terrace. Well he realized that had it not been for his friend Miss Losey noting the fire, they might have all perished, whereas, instead, now they were all happy mothers.

Appearing in the 1928 *Blue and Gold* are these admonitions to all students.
The Collegiate Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt not cross the Dormitory portal after ten o'clock nor bring home thy date after the bell hath rung, unless thy pull with the Dean be sure and mighty.
2. Thou shalt not chin with maidens in the Library, nor laugh audibly, nor behave such as a lady or gentleman doesn't, lest the wrath of Miss Jennings be upon thee.
3. Thou shalt honor thy paternal ancestors with frequent letters, lest they forget thy needs, and thy monthly allowance fail thee.
4. Thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the faculty, keeping thine eyes open, thy pencil ready, lest they mistake thy dilligence and flunk thee.
5. Thou shalt purchase a *Blue and Gold*, for yea, verily if thou failest, regret and shame will trail thee to the end of thy days.
6. Thou shalt not linger in the hall-ways, nor shalt perch upon the marble during convocation, for truly the student council may espy thee and much angry, chase thee away.

7. Thou shalt not skip classes, nor conferences with thy teachers, lest thy ability to invent plausible excuses should fail thee, and the powers that be cutteth thy credit.
8. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's answer, nor this paper, nor anything that is thy neighbor's lest thy teacher see thee, and bawleth thee out before the multitudes.
9. Thou shalt take heed if thy advisor slippeth to thee the delinquency card, for truly that meaneth danger, and thou hadst best dig else thy grade suffer.
10. Thou shalt not take this too seriously, else thy sense of humor doth crack and our disgust be upon thee; for verily I say unto thee, he who smileth not hath great need of the Ten Commandments.

An announcement appeared in the January 13, 1933 issue of *Antelope* which read, "It is necessary for any college student wishing to bring a guest to a college dance to obtain an invitation from Dean Elliott's office...Avoid embarrassment to all concerned - Obtain the invitation and present it to the dance committee at the door. (Necessary for admittance)."

An January 3, 1941 *Antelope* asks this question, "Should few sustain Expulsion for low moral standards of many" ... suggesting that questionable behavior had recently appeared on campus and asking in effect, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

In October of that same year a statement appeared in the *Antelope*, "No smoking" rule voted by NSTCers according to Council members - the new regulation will apply to students and faculty and will be enforced."

Because of the Army Air Base outside Kearney, in January of 1944, all college girls were required to have permits from their parents to date service men from the base. By March of 1947, the Case Hall girls were seeking changes in dormitory regulations which would allow them later hours and more freedom. They were no longer content to enter by way of the fire escape when out after hours. The April 24, 1953 *Antelope* indicates that 34 girls won the dorm privileges they sought, and were allowed 10 p.m. hours on week days-nights.

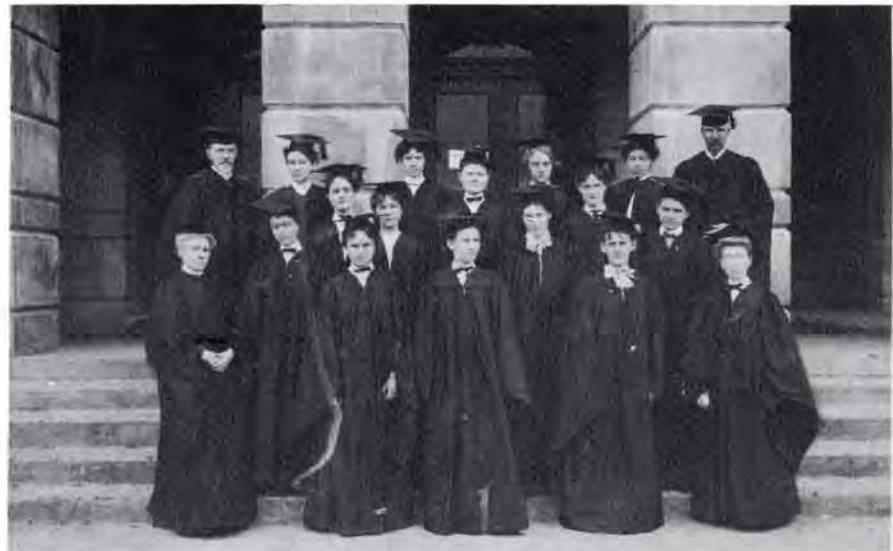
The matter of compulsory class attendance in late 1957... Quoting from the October 11, *Antelope* of that year was a direct ultimatum "New plans announced for absent reports. It is assumed every student will attend every class for which they are registered - not attend classes at their own pleasure...Instructor may exercise his right to drop from class or lower the grade of any student who does not meet standards as stated above."

The discussion of compulsory attendance continued for ten years more. The January 13 issue of the 1967 *Antelope* commented, "Most professors say Class attendance is necessary..." The following week the Student Council spoke up on the issue, saying, "Attendance is up to the student"... Dr. Hassel, President of the college, speaking with his authority reminded students and council, "There is only one policy relating to class attendance and this policy is uniform through the campus: Namely, all students are to attend all classes," signed Milton J. Hassel. Two students agreed with Dr. Hassel by adding their comments in the February 10, 1967 *Antelope*, "We agree with Dr. Hassel not these 'lame brain' council members..."

Various signs of "defiance to law and order" appeared on campus in dif-

ferent ways during the late sixties - an example at point appeared in the November 3, 1967 *Antelope* when it revealed the news item that 400 males had raided one of the female dorms and the damage done was estimated at \$660... No little amount. Other forms of malicious wrongs kept occurring. In 1969 the *Antelope* recorded that 17 bicycles which were to be used in the Bike Bowl Races had been stolen prior to the race.

"The day of infamy" came when Streaking hit the KSC campus. That was recorded in the March 21, 1974 issue of the *Antelope*. Things have quieted down again, and as the college enters the post Diamond Jubilee years, there is the hope for continuing "Peace" with the full knowledge that students will continue to express their independence in some anti-conformist behavior.



First Graduating Class 1906

Left to right front row: Edith Julia Bohannon, Mildred Johnson, Elizabeth Luce, Amalie Kanzler, Susie E. Campbell; Second row: Jessie D. Major, Georgia E. Abrahamson, Helen Hicks, Margaret Knapple; Third row: Nella Rhea, Marie Reasoner, Ethel Delzell; Top row: Dr. Clark, Minnie Croston, Selma Reasoner, May Grimmes, Mabel Patterson, Dr. Thomas, President.



Edith Smithey, Registrar

At the Diamond Jubilee celebration the new quarters for the registrar will be named in her honor. Miss Smithey served Kearney State College as registrar for about four decades.

CHAPTER X

POTPOURRI

The A. O. Thomas Laboratory School

In 1935, Dr. Hans C. Olsen, then director of A. O. Thomas, described the purpose of such a school for a teacher training institution in the following manner:

The laboratory school is to the teachers college what the hospital is to a medical school. It provides opportunities for students and members of the college faculty to study the educational process as it occurs in innumerable public school situations. In the laboratory school, educational theories are tested and verified, and educational practices are evaluated and refined. The school also affords advanced students facilities for improving their teaching technique through actual classroom practice under the guidance of expert teachers.

The philosophy expressed in this statement was the reason for the establishment and development of the school which served the college from its beginning until 1964. It was established as a K-12 system, having one of the first Kindergartens in the state. Housed originally on the first floor, center section of the Administration Building, it later expanded into the south wing. In 1926, the school was moved into a building constructed especially for it. The new



The A.O. Thomas Building

building was designed to be part of a larger building, which was never completed. Thus it could not accommodate all of the school's students or activities as it was planned. On November 21, 1932 the State Board of Education for Normal Schools officially approved the request of the students and faculty of the school to name it in honor of the first president of the college, A. O. Thomas. Shortly before his death, Dr. Thomas wrote a letter to the Council of the school, in which he said, "It is a great honor to have such a school bear one's name. I appreciate the honor and the spirit of the pupils and I trust that the A. O. Thomas School may always conduct itself with such high honor and efficiency that it will be an outstanding school..." In May of 1933, A. O. Thomas School received full accreditation by the North Central Association.

Appearing in the June 9, 1933 issue of the *Antelope* is an article stating that 116 students were enrolled in the Thomas Vacation Bible School. Another article mentioned the special garden project to motivate a regular work schedule



A.O. Thomas children in the garden north of the school building.

for the children. Swimming, shop and home economics for boys were part of the scheduled activities for that summer.

When school began in September of 1935, it is recorded that 110 pupils were enrolled in A. O. Thomas. Familiar names like Malvina Scott, Blanche Skinner, Agnes Knutsen Anderson and Glen Durflinger appeared on the faculty roster that year. Mr. A. E. Burke was principal, having served in that capacity for 8 years previously. His association with the school continued until his death in an auto-train crash in March 1946.

The A. O. Thomas high school was discontinued at the end of the 1938-39 school year, a victim of legislative appropriation cuts for the college. By 1940, the seventh and eighth grades were dropped when only one student was enrolled in the eighth grade. As school children all over the United States did during the years of World War II, the pupils of A. O. Thomas helped by selling stamps and bonds to support the war effort.

For a number years of campus school was so small, President Cushing required the children of faculty members to attend A. O. Thomas. In 1956, Dr. Wayne Marshall became the Director of the A. O. Thomas laboratory school. The enrollment grew so that the combination grades were no longer necessary, and teachers were hired for each individual class. By 1963, there were seven full time teachers who were specialized in some area of education pertaining to their grade level. Patrons and pupils were more than satisfied and pleased with the entire system and the type of scholars the school was turning out.



A. O. THOMAS FACULTY AND STAFF

Front, Left to Right: June Wrede, Ardella Webb, Ella Hahlweg, Grace Peterson;
Back: Dr. Wayne Marshall, Katherine Walker, Zellamae Hoffman, Louise Adams,
Bernard Lyons, Bill Aden.

In October, however, the Board ordered the closing of the A. O. Thomas School. The major reason given for this move was money. Appropriations from the legislature fell far behind the growth in the college enrollment. In addition, the campus school was able to handle only a small percentage of the student teachers, even on the elementary level, for their practice teaching. With the increased emphasis placed on student teaching, it was necessary to gain the cooperation of many schools, mostly in central Nebraska, to give the student teachers the necessary experience.

After serving as the laboratory school for 58 years, it was closed in 1964. One of the teachers, Louise Adams, had been on the A. O. Thomas staff for 27 of those 58 years.

Following the closing of the school, the building, furniture, books and custodial staff were made available to the Kearney Public Schools for a period of two years. Because of the critical shortage of classroom space on the KSC campus, the governing board then took back the A. O. Thomas building. Thus the end came for the campus training school laboratory.



The old heating plant—constructed in 1905. Shop classes were held in it during the last years of its existence.



The student body outgrew the old chapel, summer 1907.

Home Economics

The first home economics program at Nebraska State Normal School was referred to as Domestic Science - and had its beginning in 1909. Miss Marion Williams, a graduate of the Agriculture College at Manhattan, Kansas in Domestic Science was the first instructor. She continued teaching at NSNS until 1915 when she married and became Mrs. Marion Wellers. Under the Wellers name she taught from 1915 on until 1924.



Domestic Science Laboratory 1910

For a time in the early years of the program, Domestic Science occupied a cottage on the campus. By 1917 the Department was known as Household Science and Management. During this early time much emphasis was given to the study of foods and clothing. One year of chemistry was a prerequisite for the foods courses. Included in the foods courses were such topics as composition, production, manufacturing, nutrition and the cooking and serving of meals. Dressmaking, millinery, textiles and pattern drafting were all part of the clothing units. Other courses taught were home construction, heating, lighting and plumbing. Methods for teaching Home Economics to Elementary and Secondary schools were part of the curriculum. Mrs. Romayne Webster succeeded Mrs. Weller as food instructor and Miss Louise Enochs taught the clothing and textile classes. The Home Economics Club was organized and became very active under their leadership. In 1932 Bernice Dunlavy, who became Bernice Mantor in 1944 followed Mrs. Webster as the foods instructor. For 29 years Bernice was the sponsor of COLECON.

On March 1, 1945 Delia Garret replaced Miss Enochs and became the director of the Vocational Home Economics Program with Bernice Mantor as instructor of foods and nutrition. Agnes Saunders was placed in charge of child development.

Home management courses were taught during the summers often by visiting instructors. Securing houses as Home management residences was



The 1956 Home Economics girls are cutting the cake while Professors Bernice Mantor, left, and Delia Garrett, right, look on approvingly.

often difficult but one was always found. Mr. H. W. Swan made it possible to furnish the unfurnished houses from his used furniture store. Mrs. Margaret Slaughter from the University of Kansas taught Home Management and served as a resident instructor two summers. Mrs. Rose Tannahill, Chairman of the Home Economics Department at Beaumont, Texas served one summer as did Miss Luella Williams. A home management house on the college campus served the department from 1955 to 1970. After 1970 the department went to a laboratory situation in the Otto Olsen building.



Home Economics students in the foods laboratory of the Otto Olsen Building 1956

Agnes Saunders developed the Child Development Program which included a laboratory for Pre-School children. Miss Saunders planned the child development area in the Otto Olsen Building before she retired in 1954. When the Otto Olsen Building was opened in the fall of 1955, Wilma Larsen, currently the department chairman, was hired to direct the program on a continuing basis.



Professor Wilma Larsen with children in the Home Economics child development center. A student looks on.

In 1969 a traditional dietetics major was added to the home economics program and a human development and relationship major was added in 1972. A home economics in business major became a part of the program, in 1979. In 1980 home economics students major in dietetics, home economics in business, consumer services fashion merchandising, interior design, human development and relationships and vocational home economics.

During the last few years the Home Economics Department has added a costume collection. Support in building this collection has been most gratifying.

Food Service

At its meeting on July 23, 1923 President Martin told the Board, "Since the establishment of the school it has been the custom to turn over the conduct of the dining hall to a private person. This has resulted in a more or less satisfactory service, but at the present the service has run down. This is a potential source of income, and permission is asked that the necessary steps be taken for the institution to take over and conduct the same Hall."

On October 8, 1923 President Martin reported to the Board, "in accordance with the action of the Board, the dining hall is under direct control of the institution. A competent cook has been employed and the work is progressing satisfactorily."

These two statements give the official account of a major change in policy concerning the operation of the dining hall at the college. In January of 1908 Mr. and Mrs. John D. Saunders had taken over the dining hall which had been a source of concern from the opening of the school. President Thomas gave the first report of the Saunderson's operation to the Board in March of 1908 just two months after it started. After a detailed accounting he went on to say:

The board is excellent, and we are indeed fortunate to secure these people. I believe that with careful management the very best of board can be furnished at reasonable profit for \$2.50. There is absolutely no complaint from any source, and the dormitory is a very popular place for Sunday dinners. We have permitted a number of people to take advantage of this at the present time in order to support our theory of suitable and satisfactory board.



Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Saunders

This was just the first of many glowing reports that were to be made in the years which followed. What had been a problem for the school now became a source of pride and satisfaction. The cost per week for board remained low and the quality high. Mr. Saunders would purchase much of the food direct from farmers in the area. He made special trips out into the country to inspect what he would purchase. Mention was made from time to time about the coop full of chickens which was kept in back of Green Terrace until it was time for the fowl to start on its journey to the dining table.

In the years prior to the July 23, 1923 request to the Board, Mr. Saunders had been expanding his business interests just off campus north of 25th Street and east of Ninth Avenue. His opening of a large new cafeteria at that location in the fall of 1922 appears to have been more than a coincidence to the request for a change of the college dining hall management.

Mr. Saunders had for years been the recipient of many complimentary comments concerning his management of the dining hall. These complimentary remarks cannot be found during the last few years he managed the facility. Complaints had surfaced before the decision had been made for terminating the agreement with Mr. Saunders and replacing him with college management. College management was to last for four decades until a contract was entered into with ARA to provide the food service for the campus. This arrangement has continued until the present time. In the years the college managed the service it was sometimes under the supervision of the foods professors in the Home Economic department. Mrs. Bernice Dunlavy served in such a dual capacity for a number of years. For a time the House Mother at Mens Hall, Mrs. Matthew also held a dual responsibility. Produce from the college farm found its way to the dining hall tables prior to 1936. For number of years prior to the acceptance of the ARA contract Mrs. Mildred Meyer was the manager. In fact ARA employed Mrs. Meyer for several years after they contracted for the food service.



"The Reason We Eat so Cheap"



Cows on the College Farm. They provided milk for the College Cafeteria.

Midwest Conference on World Affairs

The Midwest Conference on World Affairs was held on the Kearney State College campus for twelve years, starting in 1964. The Conference was not a totally unique type of gathering for a college. James E. Todd, the first director of the Conference had had contact with a similar program while a graduate student at the University of Colorado. Encouraged by the late Dr. James Stone, professor of History at Kearney State, Todd was able to put together a committee from the faculty as a whole, to develop the Conference. Assisted by his Co-Director Dr. Ari Sosa, Todd directed the Conference until 1969 when he was succeeded by Prof. James E. Smith. Dr. Sosa was followed as Co-Director by Mr. Hal Colony in 1971, and Colony was followed by Prof. Jack Langford in 1974.

During the twelve years this two day annual program was in operation, it brought to the campus more than 200 diplomats representing nearly 100 different nations. Several with the rank of ambassador attended the conference. Almost every year of the conference the nations of Great Britain, Australia, Canada, West Germany, France, Japan and the U.S.S.R. were represented by senior officers. These visitors from other nations were joined by representatives of the U.S. government, business, and the news media. During the two day sessions students had the opportunity to meet with their guests in general sessions, seminars, informal coffees, formal dinners and social gatherings. As the program developed students from other campuses, plus some high school students, came to Kearney State to take advantage of the opportunity to meet, visit and discuss national and international issues with these foreign dignitaries.

The Midwest Conference on World Affairs was terminated after twelve years for one reason - money. The \$16,000 necessary to operate it for another year was not available. It started originally as a "no budget" operation. As the Conference grew to include stops by the visiting dignitaries in Omaha and Lincoln, and to handle the expanded program on campus, a budget was necessary. Since funds were not available, a very successful program had to be suspended following the 1975 Conference.



Archibald Randall, British Consul General, plants a Mountain Ash in the International Grove, 1976.

Reorganization

The College has undergone three major reorganizations during its seventy five year history. The evolutionary changes, although less dramatic, have brought about more extensive and substantive changes than have the major reorganizations.

The first reorganization took place in the Spring of 1914, when the Board adopted the following plans with the recommendation that..."each school be brought in line with the new organization as rapidly as possible, without injustice to any member of the faculty as to salary." The Board felt the work of each normal school could be strengthened and better results secured, by limiting the number of departments and keeping them unified. "One head of a department with one or more assistants would fix responsibility and secure better results than making each teacher a head of a department." The departments established were:

- I. English
- II. Mathematics
- III. Physical Sciences
- IV. Natural Sciences
- V. Latin or Ancient Languages
- VI. German or Modern Languages
- VII. Geography
- VIII. History & Civics
- IX. Education
- X. Physical Education
- XI. Training for Teaching
- XII. Reading

Under a classification of Special Departments were included:

- 1. Business Training
- 2. Agriculture
- 3. Manual Arts - Manual Training, Domestic Training, Art of Drawing
- 4. Music

The Board went on to state minimum qualifications for department heads. "Heads of departments should have special preparation both in their education work and in their experience as teachers. No one should be hereafter, employed, as head of a department, who has not earned a bachelor's degree in some reputable institution, and who has not had a year in special work in some teachers training school of recognized standing, together with at least two or more years of successful experience."

The next major reorganization came as a result of some severe budget cuts by the legislature in 1939, and a recommendation by a visiting representative of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. Dr. O. R. Lathan's recommendations included the following statement: "I see absolutely no use in maintaining seventeen different and distinct departments. It would seem that these should be regrouped, reducing the number not to exceed seven." President Cushing in his report to the Board recommend the regrouping of the departments into the following:

Biological Sciences
Education
Fine Arts
Languages
Vocational Arts
Physical Sciences
Social Sciences

President Cushing went on to say it would mean a "closer coordination of administrative activities and would eliminate the necessity for some clerical help plus effect a savings in the materials and supplies"...Although the 1914 reorganization was to take place "without injustice to any member of the faculty as to salary" such was not the case in the 1939 plan. No salary reductions took place for those in administration. Department heads were all put at \$2,400. This resulted in one salary increase of \$400 a year, one salary stayed the same, while all the others were reduced. Most faculty salaries were cut less than \$200 a year. Where increases occurred, they ranged from a low of \$0.04-yes 4 cents a year increase to one of \$180. The remainder were less than \$100. The most serious result was not the reduction in salaries, which were low to begin with, but the number of positions which were eliminated. Some accounts say that seventeen positions were eliminated, but only thirteen can be identified and two of these appear to have been restored. This would still mean that eleven out of a total of fifty two were eliminated-just over one in five. Most of these were high school supervisors and came as a result of the two year suspension of the A. O. Thomas High School-it never reopened. The dismissal which caused the most reaction was that of Anna V. Jennings. The May 28, 1937 *Antelope* quotes President Cushing as saying to the Alumni gathered at the May 25, 1937 Homecoming Day, "We have one of the finest librarians in the union and I believe it would be a fitting tribute to her untiring efforts in behalf of the library at the college, to make available a new library which she might plan and in which she might have the opportunity to work." On her way to convocation a few days after the June 26, 1939 Board meeting, Miss Jennings stopped by her mail box and picked up a note informing her that at the close of the summer session she would be placed on "indefinite leave." The June 30, 1939 *Antelope* explained that "indefinite leaves of absence are interpreted as permanent dismissal." Anna V. Jennings was one of the three remaining members of the original faculty; the board had no retirement policy and no retirement plan. Miss Jennings had reached the age of 65. The 1936 *Blue and Gold* made the following statement about her.

Those who know her best, "her boys" look to her as the French soldiers revered Napoleon, dauntless, square, understanding...these qualities they find in her. All of them, each her staunch supporters, declared they would work for nothing to work for her...Under her touch a mere shelf of books has grown into a great library.

Those students who worked in the library were extremely loyal to her. An article in the August 4, 1939 *Antelope* sums up some of the reaction to the abrupt ending to 34 years of service to the college. "To our beloved librarian-deeply regretting the circumstances surrounding your dismissal and fully realizing that any protest would be fruitless - we want you to know we still love and support you."

The last major reorganization went into effect July 1, 1969. President Hassel

had been anxious to reorganize the college into what he liked to call a "university type of organization." His first proposals to the board were recorded in 1967. A committee of faculty and administration worked on a plan which eventually met with President Hassel's approval. This plan was submitted to the Board for their approval which came May 24, 1968. The plan as approved called for the establishment of four undergraduate schools: A School of Business and Technology, this was in reality the old Division of Vocational Education; the School of Education which combined the existing Divisions of Education and Physical Education; and School of Fine Arts and Humanities which combined the Division of Fine Arts and the Division of Language and Literature. The last of the undergraduate schools was the School of Natural and Social Sciences. This was a combination of the Science and Mathematics Division with the Division of Social Sciences. The other school was the Graduate School. On March 28, 1969 Deans of five schools were appointed: Dr. Leonard Skov, Chairman of the Division of Education became Dean of the School of Education. Harry Hoffman, Chairman of the Division of Language and Literature became the Dean of the School of Fine Arts and Humanities. Dr. Floyd Krubek, Chairman of the Vocational Arts Division, became Dean of the School of Business and Technology, and Dr. Donald Fox, Chairman of the Division of Mathematics and Science became the Dean of the School of Natural Sciences. Dr. L. J. Bicak was appointed Dean of the Graduate School. In addition, the Board approved the continuation of the Division Chairman as indicated in the following excerpt from the Board minutes dated March 28, 1969:

Dr. Harold Ahrendts as Head of the Speech Department and Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts in the School of Fine Arts and Humanities. Dr. Philip Holmgren as Head of the History Department and Chairman of the Social Science Division within the School of Natural and Social Sciences. Dr. Eugene Beck as Chairman of Physical Education and Health within the School of Education.

On September 8, 1969 the remainder of the department heads were approved by the Board. The creation of numerous new departments brought with it the need for the appointment of new department heads. Concern over accreditation by having department heads without terminal degrees resulted in a number being listed as "acting Heads."

Former President Hassel, in a recent interview, responded to a question concerning the developments of his administration in which he took greatest satisfaction, listed the reorganization of the college as one of the major accomplishments of his presidency. That it was such a major accomplishment may be subject to challenge. Of the eight advantages presented to the Board by President Hassel for the new organization, some have been borne out by the experience of the intervening years, while others have not. Perhaps one of the major reasons for some disappointments over portions of the reorganization is the failure of adequate funding for the additional administrative costs incurred in the new organization. Rather than "shorten lines of communication" faculty frequently find an additional layer of bureaucracy with which they must contend. The hoped for administrative efficiency would indeed be difficult to discover. The new organization has assisted in identifying each department more distinctly and provides for a more clearly defined program in each department. The temptation is always present to want to further subdivide the departments until a pre 1939 if not 1914 condition exists. The budget process, although not a direct result of the organization but still related to it, has complicated activities. The presenting of interdisciplinary courses and programs has been complicated at a time when it should be en-

couraged. The overall educational process is secondary to the struggle for proper recognition. The lines of authority assumed and real are still to be defined. The effectiveness of an organization is determined by the quality of the people placed in positions of authority.

Of the five men appointed Deans under the reorganization, Skov, School of Education and Hoffman, Fine Arts and Humanities are the only ones who still retain that position in 1980. After nine years Bicak returned to teaching and was replaced by Thomas O. Flickema as Graduate Dean. Michael Schuyler served as acting Dean while a search went on for Bicak's replacement. After ten years as Dean of Business and Technology, Krubeck returned to teaching and was replaced by Gene Koepke. The School of Natural and Social Sciences has had four men serve as Dean of the School-Fox was replaced by Joseph McFadden, who was replaced by Ole Kolstad, who was replaced by R. David Clark.

Originally designated as Department Heads and then changed to Department Chairmen, the position has remained the same and has had a continuous change in personnel. Sixty people have served in these positions. The greatest turnover has been in the School of Natural and Social Sciences. The position is long on responsibility and work and short on authority and compensation. Of those originally appointed four continue to serve in the same position and three in slightly altered positions.

The ideal organizational plan for Kearney State College complete with proper checks and balance is still to be developed. The success with which the evolutionary process is able to meet the needs of the educational community, which is Kearney State, will go a long way in determining when the next major reorganization will take place.

Basic and General Studies

Major changes in degree requirements have taken place twice since the College was given permission to grant liberal arts degrees. The first of these changes went into effect in 1954 under the heading of Basic Studies. One of the noteworthy changes from earlier requirements was the elimination of the senior writing course. It did make some other changes which reflected the changes in offerings and permitted electives in some areas instead of specific courses.

The changes which were effective with the fall semester of 1970 is known as a General Studies Program. The total hours required remained the same but there were some other changes. The composition or writing requirement is further reduced, gone also are requirements for the study of American Government and American History. The elective procedure is expanded to the point where only one course in writing is required and one basic speech course is required if the student is not able to pass a proficiency test at an acceptable level. The evident trend in general studies is away from the academic to the practical. Attempts have been made to develop a new general education program but, except for minor changes, the program remains the same. The addition or the deletion of a requirement, the substitution of required course for an area of electives result in the need for changes in staffing patterns, either the need for substantial increase in faculty or the creation of a surplus. Philosophical changes may cause some concerns but the translation of these to staffing patterns cannot be ignored.

Kearney State College Foundation

For many years it was evident that the college needed a good method for accepting gifts and grants from outside sources, to supplement state funds and provide services not available through state support. Much credit must be given to the late Ormond Hill, publisher of the *Kearney Daily Hub*, for encouraging the establishment of the endowment association. Mr. Hill was acquainted with the operation of such an organization on the campus of the Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia, and he made arrangements for interested individuals from Kearney to visit Emporia and observe the operation there. When the Kearney State College Endowment Association was incorporated in 1959, it drew heavily from the experience of the Emporia organization.

Incorporated in 1959 as the Kearney State College Endowment Association, its name was changed to the Kearney State College Foundation in 1966. The immediate urgency for the organization came with the need to raise money to match available federal loan funds, which were being made available to college students. The first Board of Directors were George A. Munro, Kenneth S. Gotobed, Clayton J. Morey, Robert S. Nootz, Harold Oldfather, Richard E. Person, Ernest W. Quitmeyer, and Roland B. Welch.

In the early years of its existence, the business of the foundation was handled by the officers of the corporation. They were active in raising money for various scholarship programs and for the matching money for the federal loan funds. Under the leadership of an executive vice president, who was hired for the first time in 1966, and whose position was considered part time until 1974, the foundation was able to accelerate its growth sufficiently to keep pace with the increasing demands of a college on the move. The Foundation now administers funds in excess of \$650,000 for scholarships and various other programs at Kearney State College. The original board of eight members has grown to a 41 member board, made up of alumni, faculty, and other friends of the college. It is making plans to expand into new areas and programs so that through the use of private funds, the Foundation will be able to give an extra measure of assurance that Kearney State College will continue to be an outstanding college. The executive vice president and members of the board are always ready to discuss with any interested persons ideas they may have, for supporting programs through the foundation.

Barry Sherman is currently serving as the Executive Vice-president of the Foundation. Those who have served in that capacity in the past include Bill E. Redden, Robert M. Nye, Ron J. Cope, James C. Miller and Edward Stevens.

The Board Of Trustees For State Colleges

The four state colleges in Nebraska are governed by a board appointed by the Governor with the Commissioner of Education as an ex officio member. The Board has been known by other names and at the time of the establishment of the Normal School at Kearney had another ex officio member, the State Treasurer. The members of the Board serve without compensation.

In a study of the minutes of this body for the past seventy-five years it is evident the individual members contribute much of their time to serve in such a capacity. There has been the tendency of the board members from the community in which a college is located to think of it as "their college." For a time the Board was organized in such a fashion that the local Board member also served as the spokesman for the Board in matters relating to that school. His report to the Board concerning the operation of "his" school rivaled in length and detail that given by the President. Whether it was the wish of the Board that all details should come before them or not, at least they did come. In reviewing the minutes of the Board the amount of detail that is presented to them gives the impression that little was left to the administrators of the several campuses. If the whole Board wasn't involved in the day-to-day operation of the campus, at least a committee of the Board made the decisions.

The penchant for attention to detail is known to have caused some difficulty for the colleges with the accrediting agencies. An example is the decision to take over full responsibility for the hiring of all faculty with the stated request that no ranking be given to applications by the administration of the college involved. Records get very long at that point when as many as fifty resume's are on file for one teaching position. This practice in the thirties was soon discontinued.

Until recently the Board of Trustees has expressed very little official concern for issues dealing with faculty welfare. This is evident from their decision to have the newly appointed faculty at the Normal School at Kearney teach the summer sessions of 1905 with no additional salary than what had been allocated for them had their teaching assignment started in September. It was passed off with the statement "this would be a good way of testing our new faculty."

The expressed reason for the dismissal of A. O. Thomas, who was receiving a salary of \$3,000 a year, was that he would use an offer of a job as President of the University of Arkansas as a "club over the Board to increase his salary." No retirement benefits, regardless of the length of service, were available to teachers until they became a part of the public school teachers' retirement plan after World War II. Faculty committees had existed for years working on proposals to provide some form of retirement for faculty.

By the nature of its composition the Board is insulated from public pressure. Very few people in the state can name the members of the Board. Even on the campuses of the four state colleges only a small percentage of the faculty, in addition to the administrators who deal with them directly, can name more than a few of the people who serve on the Board. A former president of one of the state colleges made the statement that he felt the "Board was a better representative of the taxpayers of the state than it was of the students in the state colleges."

In the past some board members have exhibited an attitude which observers at board meetings describe as disdain for the professional people with whom they are dealing. One observer reported after attending a board meeting that one of the former board members was particularly unhappy with the idea of tenure for college faculty. He had expressed the opinion that the board should be free to dismiss any faculty or administrator as it would be to dismiss the most recent addition to the most menial job in one of their private businesses. Such attitudes are not uncommon on other boards of similar composition. On a number of occasions the Board has directed presidents not to speak on an issue until there was a meeting of the Board to decide on their official position. This appears to some observers to express a lack of confidence or respect for the administrators.

A number of Board members over the years have worked hard at the job of getting the Board to work on developing policy for the state colleges and then leaving the detailed administration of that policy to the professionals who are hired for that purpose. It has been difficult for some to keep from getting involved in the detailed administration of one or more of the colleges. In recent years the Board has accepted a student representative from each of the colleges to sit on the Board. It has been a great experience for the students involved and has had a positive effect on the Board. Another valuable experience for students from the four colleges has been the internship program with the Board Office. It has been an excellent learning experience for the students and has provided some assistance to the office in carrying out its responsibilities.

The work of the Board of Trustees has been expanded as a result of several developments. One area which becomes obvious as the minutes are reviewed is the area of financing revenue bond structure. Although the rapid increase in this activity witnessed in the fifties and sixties has subsided, the job of maintaining and improving the structures as well as servicing the debt is still time consuming. A second area which has involved more time is the expansion, especially at Kearney, of the enrollment and faculty of increased state governmental regulation on the total operation which has added another burden. By moving from a "lump sum" budgeting to the board with the Board having the power to allocate to the four state colleges, to "line item" budgeting for the individual colleges, and the Board office, the legislature appears to be indicating a distrust of the Board. The "line item" budgeting extends to the program or categories within a given college and it extends the implication of lack of trust for college administrators.

For at least 65 years there have been attempts to change the way the State Colleges are managed. As early as 1915 legislation was introduced to put the normal schools under the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. The reason given for this move was that the normal schools were beginning to teach more than "normal school" subjects. Legislation of this and similar nature has been common in the years which have followed. After several of the colleges started offering graduate work, legislation was introduced to prohibit the teachers colleges from offering instruction in "the arts and sciences in general." In testimony before a legislative committee on this bill a State Senator made a presentation in support of the bill explaining that he wanted to stop the teachers colleges from giving those "Master Mason Degrees." He obviously misspoke himself but still was expressing the idea that the teachers college shold be "kept in their place." In recent years the action along these lines has been under the guise of the coordination of higher education. Concern over coordination and duplication appears to receive more attention than the needs and demands of the students.

President Thomas said many years ago, "This school situated as it is, is

bound to be a great school. It cannot escape it." What has happened since that time indicates that in spite of very low legislative appropriations, in spite of the tendency of the Board to look upon the four colleges as being the same, Kearney has developed into a State College as different from the rest as they are different from each other. Much has been accomplished with very little financial support. From the early years of the Normal Schools when Kearney and Peru were the only two in the state, the salaries were lower at Kearney than at Peru and when compared to salaries in Normal Schools in surrounding states they fell far behind.

A 1909 study indicated the cost to the state for a student for two years of Normal School training at Kearney was \$206; this compared to \$329 per student in California and a high of \$1250 in Illinois. Later studies continue to support the saying that "Kearney State College is the best bargain in higher education."

A representative of a private college came to a Kearney church and in his plea for the support of his school indicated Kearney State was receiving nearly twice as much per student from state funds as it was costing to educate students in his college. A Kearney State professor who heard this representative investigated state support of the college at Kearney. He found that Kearney received about one-third the amount indicated by the private school representative. He also discovered the figure used for Kearney State was the amount which another of the state colleges was receiving. The "treat them alike" philosophy prevalent on the Board at the time was working a severe hardship on faculty and students at Kearney State.

Maybe as President Thomas indicated so many years ago Kearney cannot escape being a great school but it has had to overcome some formidable obstacles. A more supportive Board may have been able to reduce the size of those obstacles.

If a complete study is ever done on the cost of education at Kearney State College during the first seventy five years of its existence the following title might be applicable: "They Did it on a Shoe String."



Cindy Gerner is joined by her parents, Dr. and Mrs. D. J. Gerner of Kimball, and President McDonald on the occasion of her receipt of a plaque designating her position as a student representative on the Board of Trustees for the State Colleges. 1979

Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award given by Kearney State College

Leban E. Lydiatt	1960
Ralph C. Dailard	1961
Herbert L. Cushing	1962
Calvin T. Ryan	1962
Charles Eisenhart	1963
Ila D. Weeks	1963
Robert W. Dean	1964
Peter G. Peterson	1965
Allan F. Smith	1967
Donald K. Smith	1967
Edwin Nelson	1968
Harold Warp	1969
James M. Knapp	1971
Carl Spelts	1971
Eugene K. Yanney	1971
Charles H. Foster	1973
Donald E. Fox	1973
Miriam Drake	1975
Fern Baldwin	1977
J. A. Baldwin	1977
Michael Yanney	1978
Halvor Christensen	1978
Norman Geske	1979
Larry Ludden	1979
Ron Cope	1980
Harold Oldfather	1980



Giving a boost to the Diamond Jubilee tree planting project are the 1980 Distinguished Service Award winners, State Senator Ron Cope with the shovel and Harold Oldfather directly behind him. Witnessing the operation are President McDonald on the left, Mrs. Cope, Dr. Bliese, director of the project; and Board of Trustees member and former Congressman, Dave Martin.



President Brendan J. McDonald joins Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Baldwin in looking over preliminary plans for the Free Enterprise Lecture Series, established by the Baldwins with a \$25,000 matching grant. January 24, 1977.



Harold Warp receiving the 1969 Distinguished Service award from Pres. Milton J. Hassel

House Mothers

The term "Preceptress" may be foreign to most readers, but it describes a position which was very important in the lives of many young ladies who attended the Normal School and Teachers College. A motion adopted by the Board, December 20, 1905 gave this job description:

The preceptress at Kearney, under the direction of the principal, be required, (1) to regulate the conduct of the girls during their stay at the dormitory, not only in their rooms and in the dining hall, but on the campus and in the city; (2) to exercise authority over those in charge of the boarding department and to see that the food furnished is wholesome and palatable and properly served; (3) to require those taking care of halls, closets and dormitory grounds to keep same in sanitary conditions.

Eva J. Case was the first preceptress at Green Terrace and following her death, was succeeded by Anna Caldwell. For many years Sarah A. Brindley served in that capacity. Evelyn Boldt was the first preceptree at Case Hall when it opened in 1930. One distinction between the preceptress at Case Hall position and the house mother position which followed, was that the preceptress had faculty status and was expected to do some teaching in addition to the duties outlined above.

Regardless of the name used to describe the position, Preceptress or House Mother, the ladies that have filled the positions, have had a profound effect on those who lived in the residence halls at Kearney State College. These ladies did much to bridge the gap between home and college and between the faculty and the students. They were surrogate mothers who advised, taught, comforted, scolded, prodded, and just listened. Theirs was a twenty four hour, seven day a week job. Some appreciated their work at the time. Others, like sons and daughters of all ages, seemed to take pleasure in making life miserable for their "moms". To many young people who lived in dormitories or residence halls, no college person, faculty or administrator, had a greater effect on their lives than did the house mother. Although the list will not be complete, what follows is a list of many of those who served as house mothers.

Anderson, Lois	Maxon, Mrs.
Bedner, Leona (Mitchell)	Peeks, Mrs. Gordon
Blauch, Racheal	Peterson, Eloise
Brown, Reba	Pfiel, Rene
Casey, Irma	Pratt, Bertha Lynn
Curry, Opal	Rose, Velma
Deist, Marge	Sherman, Mrs. Stanley
Deselms, Jennie	Spiedell, Dolly
Evans, Neva (Thurston)	Stinemeyer, Maybelle
Ferguson, Lucy (Virgin)	Thomas, Gertrude
Ginsler, Virginia	Thompson, Henrietta
Hendrickson, Inez	Thorp, Jane
Holmes, Irene	Triplett, Opal
Hurtz, Elaine (Burgess)	Waggoner, Lena
Lang, Sena	Waller, Minnie
Martin, Wilamette	Webb, Vera
Mathews, Ruby	Wiles, Reba
	Wurth, Sara

The "house mother" concept was continued at Kearney State until about



"Mother" Mathews welcomes girls to Case Hall

Mrs. Ruby Mathews was House Mother for Case Hall for several years. She began her work on the NSTC Campus in 1939 as the Manager of the Cafeteria and Director of Men's Hall. She held this position until 1946. At that time she left the campus for 3 years, returning in 1949. She became the House Mother for Case Hall and remained there for some time. Later she moved to a like position at Martin Hall, where she spent her last 5 years, before her retirement at the end of June, 1961.

1974. By that time a number of the house mothers had retired and were replaced by married couples. In many cases these couples attended graduate school. Prior to being placed in the position of residence hall supervisors, they are required to attend a five day workshop to help prepare themselves for the job of working with students in the residence halls. This arrangement appears to work well with the changed policy pertaining to campus living. The tenure in the position of couples, will probably never approach the many years of service of Sarah Brindley, Ruby Mathews or Sena Lang.



Sena Lang, long time house mother at Men's Hall is shown with her Counselors and Desk Helpers - at a dinner in Grandpa's Steak House - May 19, 1963.

During the first twenty five years of its existence, the college had only one dormitory, Green Terrace Hall, which had been given to the state by the citizens of Kearney, at the time the school was established. Case Hall was constructed in 1930. Mens Hall, which opened in 1939, was the first campus housing available for men. Except for the years of World War II, the occupancy rate appears to have been very near the recommended capacity. In spite of the addition of seven residence halls and the replacement of Green Terrance, between 1953 and 1968, occupancy was at 100%. By September 1971, it had dropped to 83% and by September 1973, it was down to 69%. September 1975 found occupancy back up to 95% and by September of 1977 it was over 100% where it has remained through 1980.

Enrollment figures appear to be only a minor factor in these changes. More important in the exit from the campus, were such factors as the anti-establishment movement by some students, who wanted to get off campus "to do their own thing." Regulations for those living in dormitories were stricter than most students were subject to as high school students living at home. The strict hours and limited visitation privileges, are cases in point. Required meal plans tied to residence hall living, was also mentioned as a negative factor for "on campus" living. The shift back to the campus may be attributed to changes in the attitude of students plus changes in college policies, such as a greater option on meal plans, no hour regulations and open visitation. There have been changes made in the physical make-up of the buildings to better serve the needs of the students. Probably the major factor is economics. Campus living is considerably cheaper and more convenient than off campus living. The increased cost of operating cars is a factor which cannot be ignored. The elimination of many strict regulations and the opportunity for the student to have a greater voice in the operation of the hall, all make residence hall living more attractive at the present time.



The end of a tradition, the graduation procession from the Case Hall area to the College Auditorium, May, 1961.

Student Life

Student life during the years of the Teachers College falls into two distinct periods, pre and post World War II. In the pre World War II period student cars on campus were very rare. Students walked everywhere. There were no parking problems. In the early years dancing was not permitted, but by the decade of the thirties the "sundown" or hour dances in the gymnasium were very popular. For the very special occasion the men bought their dates corsages. These could be purchased in the price range from 25 to 50¢. Important social affairs were held in the Crystal Room of the Fort Kearney Hotel. Boating and skating on Kearney Lake as well as dancing at the pavilion on the lake were popular among the students. Student organizations such as YWCA and YMCA were strong and sponsored numerous activities. Departmental and class organizations also contributed to the life of the student. Alcoholic beverages have never been legal on campus, but the punch served has not always been void of additives. Smoking was prohibited; the 1733 Ballroom was off limits to college students. These are two examples of other restrictions placed on students during the pre World War II period. Women living on and off campus were expected to keep restricted hours. Some metal manufactured devices made entrance into Case Hall after hours much easier. Men had no restricted hours even after they had housing on campus for the first time in 1939. Convocation throughout most of the period was compulsory complete with assigned seats. Student council members enforced the attendance requirement. Even after the acceptance of sororities and fraternities on campus, they found competition from such quasi organizations as the "Boar International" who headquartered at the Midway Hotel.

Following World War II many of the restrictions of the earlier period were gradually dropped. Cars came on campus in such numbers that parking problems developed and are still without totally accepted solution. A large percentage of the student population continues to work to provide its own college expenses. With the abandonment of the college farm in 1936, one source of employment for the college student disappeared.

The establishment of a student union on campus has provided a center for a variety of activities. However, students continue to find their own entertainment both on and off campus. The greater affluency of the State College period has continued to make the student population more mobile. With the number of cars on campus, administrative leaders are at times tempted to believe there must be more cars than students.

The move off campus associated with the late sixties and early seventies also marked an increase patronage of the lounges and discos. The lowering of the drinking age and the age of majority may also have been a factor in the popularity of these commercial entertainments.

Student sponsored contemporary groups, some of them very expensive, have had mixed support from the college population. In recent years the college sponsored artist and lecture series have been largely ignored by the students.

Campus Beautification

President A. O. Thomas expended much energy in the beautification of the campus. He was able to get the Board to accept the carefully drawn up long range plans for the campus by J. Hadkinson. These plans called for a broad expense of lawn and trees between the main building and the street, a plan that was reaffirmed by several faculty and student planning committees for the location of new buildings. The decision to locate Founders Hall east of the Administration Building broke up the only major area of grass and trees left on the campus, an area referred to by older accounts as the "permanent parking." President Thomas encouraged such things as Dandelion Day and Arbor Day tree planting celebrations, to mention a few.

From the beginning of the Normal School when horse drawn mowers were used to cut the grass around the buildings on campus until the present there are numerous cases of irate professors storming into administrative offices to protest the mowing around the buildings when most classes are in session. None has ever given a satisfactory explanation for this to be done at a time when classes are in session, rather than waiting until the afternoon when few if any classes would be disturbed. Then it seems is the time the most remote corners of the campus are being trimmed. Power mowers and those that operate them have at times caused much damage to trees. One former faculty member who loved trees remarked after seeing some skinned up tree trunks, "It's a good thing some trees were large before power mowers came along or we would be a campus without trees."

Students have from time to time been responsible for moves to beautify the campus. At times they have been guilty of actions which result in destroying some of that beauty. The student council in 1945 enacted a two dollar fine for anyone walking on the grass. They went on to explain that "Laziness and selfishness were contributing reasons for students walking on the grass."

The June 9, 1933 *Antelope* carried a plea for students to stop ignoring the "Keep off the grass" signs. "Would it be too great a task to just keep off the lawn long enough to let the grass get on?" was one of its messages. The 1932 Senior Class gave \$240 to landscape the area north of Case Hall. Other gifts included stone benches and a fountain which are now gone.

In recent years student groups have again been active in contributing time and money toward the planting of trees. The Bicentennial and the Diamond Jubilee have both given an opportunity for tree planting projects, with student support.



Formal Gardens North of Green Terrace Hall
A gift from the alumni

International Education

International Education — provides opportunity for students to expand their cultural and historical backgrounds, giving them an opportunity to have a first-hand experience at understanding their heritage.



During the 1970's Kearney State College expanded its International Studies Program. Pictured above is one half of the group who was involved in the Nebraska-Asian Studies Institute in the summer of 1978. This involved eight weeks study in India. Front row: left to right are Rosalyn Jones, Mary Ann Lind, Lynn Young, Jess Enns, Jim Sheaffer. Second row: left to right are Sandy Grubb, Lyle Pollman, Grady E. Lee, Ken Boerner, Don Candelaria, Dick Reinmiller.

The 1980-81 Administration and Faculty
Year listed is the date of first employment at Kearney State College.

**College Administration
1980**

PRESIDENT		
Brendan J. McDonald		1972
ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION		
Marvin G. Knittel, Vice President for Academic Affairs		1963
Doyle Howitt, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs		1963
Monty Nielsen, Director of Registration and Statistics		1974
Lila Williams, Acting Registrar		1980
Sharon Mason, Assistant to Director of Registration and Statistics		1980
Wayne Samuelson, Director of Admissions		1966
Barry Samsula, Admissions Counselor		1977
Mary Losey, Teacher Education Asst.		1976
Ward Schrack, Director of CNCHEC		1977
DEANS OF SCHOOLS		
Gene H. Koepke, Business and Technology		1972
Leonard C. Skov, Education		1968
Harry H. Hoffman, Fine Arts and Humanities		1947
R. David Clark, Natural & Social Sciences		1975
Thomas O. Flickema, Graduate School		1979
LIBRARY PERSONNEL		
John K. Mayeski, Director of Libraries		1980
Nadine Fahrlander, Acting Administrative Head		1980
Roy Barnard, Instructional Services Librarian		1978
Orpha Hooge, Cataloging Associate		1969
Diane Keith, Acting Instructional Services Librarian		1979
Mary Mendenhall, Instructional Services Librarian		1973
Anita Norman, Instructional Services Librarian-Reference		1971

Anne Reichelt, Instructional Services Librarian 1977
Acting Director of User Services-Circulation

James Rowling, Director of Technical Services 1975

Larry Sawyer, Media Production and Technical Specialist 1967

Doris Timperley, Cataloging Librarian 1957

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Earl Rademacher, Vice President for Administration and Finance 1969

R. J. Ehly, Director of Financial Affairs 1965

Tom Jones, Director of Physical Plant 1979

Wayne Mangelson, Director of Management Information Systems 1977

William Morling, Director of Computer Center 1978

Dan Simmons, Director of Logistical Services 1975

Paul Wilmot, Acting Director of Support Staff, Grants Office 1979

Larry Reissland, Senior Accountant 1977

John Lakey, Accountant 1977

Beverly Adamson, Computer Programmer I 1978

Jean Havermann, Program Analyst 1979

David Houborg, Computer Programmer II 1977

Linda Marlatt Houborg, Computer Programmer II 1977

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Hal O. Colony, Director of College Relations 1962

Donald Briggs, Director of Sports Information 1957

Glennis Nagel, Director of News Bureau 1973

James Rundstrom, Director of Alumni Services 1968

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Robert M. Nye, Dean of Students 1968

Ruth Sisler, Associate Dean of Students 1956

Jerry Denton, Director of Counseling Center 1971

Dan Duffy, Director of Housing 1968

Viola Green, Assistant in Health Services 1966

Steve Jensby, Coordinator of Career Development 1977

Anne Keffer, Counselor	1978
David Laubersheimer, Director of Student Union	1972
Marshall Nelson, Director of Campus Security	1979
Sharon S. Pelc, Director of Financial Aid	1979
Valerie Potter, Financial Aids Counselor	1979
David Rader, Director of Food Services	1977
Diane Rogers, Acting Director of Advising Center	1979
Frances Scott, Director of Health Services	1965
Roberta Suchocki, Director of Placement	1978

FACULTY

Donald W. Adam, Assistant Professor of Military Science	1978
Dwight C. Adams, Professor of English	1956
Julia Agard, Instructor of Elementary Education	1974
Harold L. Ahrendts, Professor of Speech	1943
David Amstutz, Associate Professor of Physics	1969
David Anderson, Professor of English	1966
Teara Archwamety, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1979
Guyla Armstrong, Assistant Professor of Business	1977
Richard Ashman, Assistant Professor in Nebraska Safety Center	1978
Jerry Austin, Assistant Professor of Art	1979
Margaret Austin, Instructor of Journalism	1979
Mary E. Badger, Instructor of Home Economics	1974
Joan Bailey, Associate Professor of Physical Education	1963
Gerald Baker, Assistant Professor of Education	1969
Richard Barlow, Associate Professor of Mathematics	1966
Arthur Bates, Professor of Music	1963
Eugene E. Beck, Professor of Physical Education	1962
A. Steele Becker, Associate Professor of Geography	1964
Betty Becker Theye, Chairman and Associate Professor, Dept. of Foreign Languages	1967
Gordon E. Bennett, Chairman and Asst. Professor, Department of Geography	1975

Betty L. Bethell, Instructor of Physical Education	1964
Larry Bettermann, Chairman and Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education	1978
Laddie J. Bicak, Professor of Biology	1962
Judith L. Billings, Chairman and Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing	1976
Paul Bishop, Assistant Professor of Physical Education	1974
Gordon Blake, Professor of Economics	1963
Peter Blickensderfer, Professor of Chemistry	1966
Harold L. Blostein, Chairman and Professor, Department of Political Science	1964
L. Claire Boroff, Instructor of Physical Education	1969
Douglas S. Brouillette, (Cpt.) Assistant Professor of Military Science	1978
Dennis Brown, Director and Associate Professor, Criminal Justice Program	1977
Elsie Cafferty, Assistant Professor of Vocational Education	1974
Margaret Camp, Assistant Professor of Vocational Education	1977
Jack L. Campbell, Professor of Special Education, Counseling and Educational Psychology	1962
Donn A. Carlson, Professor of Physical Science	1967
Roger L. Carlson, Professor of Physical Science/Elementary Education	1970
Kathy Carpenter, Director of Learning Skills Center, Instructor	1975
Joseph Carroll, Assistant Professor of English	1963
William K. Clark, Professor of Speech	1967
Richard D. Cloyd, Associate Professor of English	1961
Robert Cocetti, Associate Professor of Speech	1971
John R. Cochran, Professor of Speech	1973
Robert R. Colling, Assistant Professor of Mathematics	1965
Lyle D. Colsden, Associate Professor of Vocational Education	1969
Stanley M. Compton, Assistant Professor of Computer Science	1976
Jennifer Cook, Instructor of Home Economics	1977
Glenn Critchley, Assistant Professor of Physical Education	1979

Ronald Crocker, Associate Professor of Music	1966
William L. Cupp, Associate Professor of Sociology	1977
Dean Curtis, Instructor of Speech	1979
Donald D. Dahlin, Professor of Educational Administration	1967
M. Stanley Dart, Assistant Professor of Geography	1968
Darrell DeGraw, Instructor of Criminal Justice	1976
Patricia Denison, Instructor of Home Economics	1974
Richard Detsch, Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages	1977
Karen Diestler, Instructor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1977
John N. Dinsmore, Associate Professor of Art	1968
Joseph Donnelly, Assistant Professor of Physical Education	1977
Mildred Duffy, Assistant Professor of Home Economics	1970
Carl Easterbrook, Professor of Music	1959
Maurine C. Eckloff, Chairman and Professor, Department of Speech	1962
Bruce Elving, Assistant Professor of Speech	1979
Kent C. Emal, Associate Professor Speech	1967
Jess Enns, Associate Professor of Sociology	1970
Kenneth Errett, Assistant Professor of Business	1965
Kent Estes, Assistant Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1975
Kathryn Falconer, Assistant Professor of Speech	1979
Gerald Feese, Professor of Music	1962
Dayle G. Fitzke, Associate Professor of Mathematics	1956
Myron G. Fougeron, Professor of Biology	1967
Jerald L. Fox, Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages	1975
Robert W. Frank, Director, Social Work Program; Assistant Professor of Sociology	1979
J. Paul Fritton, Assistant Professor of English	1964
Doyle Fyfe, Professor of Physical Education	1970
Paul Gaer, Professor of Educational Administration	1961
Leslie Gallay, Professor of Business	1971

Jack B. Garrison, Assistant Professor of Speech, Associate Director of Theatre	1968
Michael L. Gintzler, Associate Professor of Sociology	1969
Marvin E. Glasser, Chairman and Professor, Department of Physical Science	1970
Thomas Godfrey, Associate Professor of English	1963
Marion Grandone, Assistant Professor of English	1968
Ernest Grundy, Professor of English	1958
Gene E. Hamaker, Professor of History	1969
Kathleen Hansen, Instructor of Physical Education	1965
Roger Hanson, Associate Professor of Education	1979
David L. Harrigan (Major), Assistant Professor of Military Science	1978
D. Sue Harvey, Instructor of Vocational Education	1975
Gary B. Harvey, Assistant Professor of Vocational Education	1975
Robert D. Hauver, Head Track Coach, Associate Professor of Physical Education	1959
Keith Heaton, Associate Professor of Political Science	1966
Randall Heckman, Professor of Mathematics	1971
Nicolas Hernandez, Jr., Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages	1979
John F. Hertner, Assistant Professor of Biology	1974
Stephen Hiatt, Assistant Professor of Business	1979
Harland L. Hoffman, Chairman and Professor, Department of English	1962
Philip S. Holmgren, Chairman and Professor, Departments of History and Social Sciences	1950
Elmer Holzrichter, Assistant Professor of Art	1963
Gareth C. Houghton (Lt. Col.) Chairman and Professor, Department of Military Science	1979
Shirley Houston, Assistant Professor of Business	1972
Sherri A. Howland, Inst. Sociology	1980
Gerald A. Hueser, Instructor of Physical Education, Head Basketball Coach	1967
Richard W. Ikenberry, Professor of Biology	1965
Sister Rose Marie IMIg, Assistant Professor of Nursing	1979

W. Dale Ingram, Associate Professor of Business	1956
Mary Iten, Instructor of Physical Education	1977
Darrel V. Jensen, Acting Director of Nebraska Safety Center, Assistant Professor	1975
Halvin S. Johnson, Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1965
Loretta Johnson, Asst. Professor of History	1979
Lynn E. Johnson, Professor of Education	1969
Richard F. Jussel, Professor of English	1969
Jack Karraker, Chairman and Professor, Department of Art	1961
Don Kaufman, Professor of Chemistry	1969
Frederick N. Kempf, Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1969
Carolyn Ketchum, Inst. Sociology	1980
Robert Kirby, Instructor of English	1969
Ole A. Kolstad, Director of Health Related Education Programs, Director of Biology Systematic Collections, Professor of Biology	1965
Fred Koontz, Director of Theatre, Associate Professor of Speech	1966
John Krejchi, Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Sociology	1974
R. Sivarama Krishnan, Professor of Chemistry	1972
Floyd E. Kruebeck, Professor of Industrial Education	1955
John F. Kuecker, Professor of Chemistry	1965
Donald Lackey, Chairman and Professor, Department of Physical Education	1969
Ronald L. Landstrom, Associate Professor of Business	1958
John D. Langford, Assistant Professor of Political Science	1968
Connie Warta Larsen, Instructor of Speech	1975
L. M. Larsen, Chairman and Professor, Department of Mathematics	1948
Wilma A. Larsen, Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Home Economics	1955
Robert L. Larson, Director of Instructional T.V. Associate Professor of Speech	1958
Richard Lebsack, Associate Professor of Business	1976
Carl Lewis, Chairman and Professor, Department of Economics	1969

Mary A. Lierley, Assistant Professor of Art	1970
Robert D. Lind, Assistant Professor of Geography	1967
Ora F. Lindau, Professor of Industrial Education	1957
Leslie E. Livingston, Head Golf and Tennis Coach, Associate Professor of Physical Education	1956
Victor D. Lofgreen, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice	1975
Otto Lohrenz, Professor of History	1966
Stanley Longfellow, Associate Professor of Biology	1966
Keith Lowry, Professor of Art	1962
Clinton J. Ludeman, Professor of Education	1969
Douglas E. Lund, Professor of Biology	1962
William A. Lynn, Associate Professor of Music	1949
Mildren MacDonald, Professor of Music	1958
Dean Marsh, Professor of Business	1969
Ernest P. Matuschka, Professor of Psychology	1970
Andrea Matz, Instructor of Nursing	1979
James M. May, Assistant Professor of Art	1968
Jerry McCollough, Professor of Education	1968
Ione McHale, Assistant Professor of Special Education	1975
Roberta McKenzie, Instructor of Journalism	1976
Rosella Meier, Instructor of Physical Education	1967
Warren B. Messman, Professor of Industrial Education	1953
M. Mike Meusborn, Assistant Professor of Business	1974
James G. Middleton, Associate Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1976
James A. Miller, Professor of Industrial Education	1968
Richard Miller, Instructor of Industrial Education	1978
Jane Moorehouse, Instructor of Physical Education	1970
Melvin L. Morris (Major), Assistant Professor of Military Science	1978
Mary Jo Morrow, Instructor of Speech	1977
Dirk Mosig, Associate Professor of Psychology	1977
Guy B. Murray, Assistant Professor of Physical Education	1972

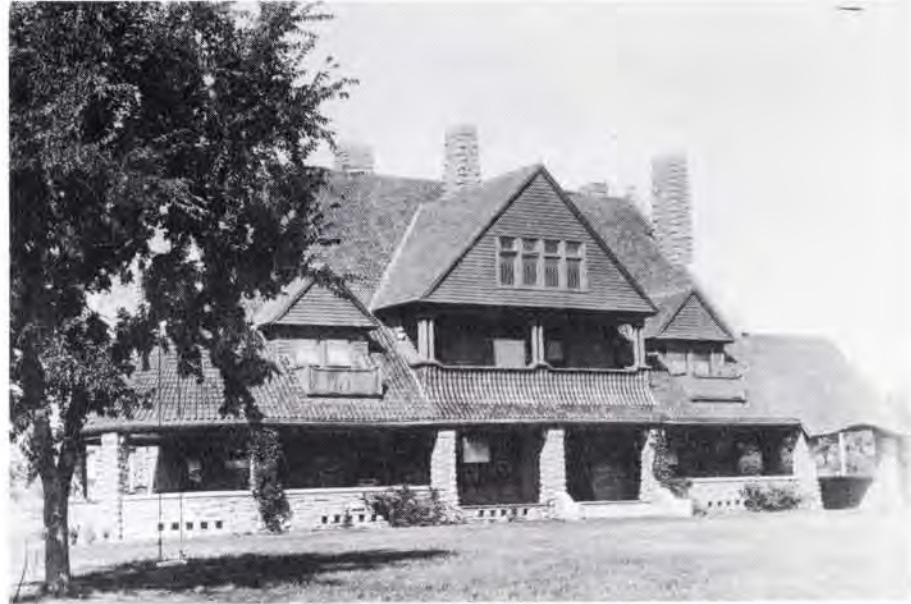
Harold G. Nagel, Coordinator, Environmental Studies, Professor of Biology	1969
Jon W. Nelson, Associate Professor of Business	1967
William M. Nelson, Associate Professor of Education	1963
Patty K. Newell, Instructor of Nursing	1977
Kenneth Nikels, Chairman and Associate Professor. Department of Psychology	1971
Louis C. Ninegar, Chairman and Professor, Department of Educational Administration	1958
Myron L. Osterberg, Professor of Music	1963
Antonio A. Paez, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages	1967
James Payne, Assistant Professor of Music	1974
William Peters, Associate Professor of Business	1977
Jane A. Peterson, Instructor of Nursing	1978
Larry D. Peterson, Professor of Art	1966
Charles G. Pickens, Professor of Mathematics	1960
Hazel Pierce, Professor of English	1964
Ruth A. Pigott, Assistant Professor of Sociology	1974
Vernon L. Plambeck, Professor of English	1964
Albert E. Poorman, Professor of Biology	1964
Glen Powell, Assistant Professor of Elementary Education	1979
Robert Price, Assistant Professor of Physical Science	1979
Jack Ramey, Instructor of Physical Education, Head Wrestling Coach Assistant Football Coach	1972
Roland S. Rathe, Assistant Professor of Business	1966
Helen Redden, Associate Professor of Home Economics	1966
Terry Renner, Instructor of Physical Education	1970
Sam C. Reno, Professor of Business	1967
James L. Roark, Chairman and Professor, Department of Chemistry	1969
Dale H. Robinson, Instructor of Audiology	1975
Robert Robinson, Instructor of Psychology	1979
Merwin G. Roeder, Professor of Physical Education	1964
John B. Rohrs, Associate Professor of Physics	1967

James Rundstrom, Director Journalism Program, Instructor of Journalism	1968
Marilyn Scheffler, Instructor, Special Education	1980
Donald L. Schmidt, Assistant Professor of Political Science	1965
Raymond J. Schmitz, Associate Professor of Business	1964
Ruth Schmitz, Associate Professor of Business	1972
Raymond Schultze, Professor of Art	1965
Michael Schuyler, Professor of History	1969
Rickard Sebby, Assistant Professor of Psychology	1979
Everett A. Sechtem, Assistant Professor of Economics	1970
M. Dean Sergeant, Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1964
F. M. Shada, Chairman, Department of Student Teaching, Professor of Education	1957
Everett Sheffield, Associate Professor of Industrial Education	1976
Richard Shigley, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice	1980
Arnold Sivils, Professor of Music	1965
R. David Smith, Assistant Professor English	1967
James E. Smith, Jr., Associate Professor of History	1966
Linda Spessard, Assistant Professor of Biology	1979
Marvin S. Spracklen, Chairman and Professor, Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1965
Joseph Springer, Assistant Professor of Biology	1980
Helen Stauffer, Professor of English	1968
Carl D. Sterner, Professor of Chemistry	1967
David R. Stevenson, Associate Professor of History	1966
Bruce Steward, Assistant Professor of Mathematics	1965
Marvin Stone, Professor of Geography	1965
Ivan Stones, Professor of Mathematics	1963
W.C. Stotts, Assistant Professor of History	1967
Donald L. Stumpff, Associate Professor of Psychology	1959
Wilam Stutheit, Assistant Professor of Elementary Education	1963
Arthur J. Suchocki, Assistant Professor of English	1970

James A. Swanson, Professor of Chemistry	1962
Robert Swanson, Associate Professor of Business	1979
Larry D. Theye, Associate Professor of Speech	1966
Gary F. Thomas, Chairman and Professor, Department of Music	1957
Kenneth A. Tobiska, Professor Educational Administration	1967
John F. Toker, Professor of Special Education, Counseling and Educational Psychology	1967
Phu Tonthat, Associate Professor of Political Science	1970
Clayton E. True, Associate Professor of Biology	1965
Ronald Tuttle, Chairman and Associate Professor, Department of Industrial Education	1974
Glen Underhill, Professor of Physics	1963
Ed. Walker, Chairman and Assistant Professor, Department of Elementary Education	1979
Virginia Walters, Instructor of Special Education	1980
Donovan L. Welch, Professor of English	1959
Roger Wells, Instructor Education	1980
Paul R. Welter, Professor of Counseling and Educational Psychology	1968
Nancy E. Whitman, Assistant Professor of Music	1972
Marvin C. Williams, Chairman and Professor, Department of Biology	1966
Robert Wilson, Instructor of Journalism	1980
Martin Wnuk, Assistant Professor of Art	1978
Sue Wood, Instructor of Special Education	1980
Wilford W. Wortman, Professor of Economics	1964
William Wozniak, Assistant Professor of Psychology	1978
Thomas York, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages	1966
Ann Elizabeth O'Quinn Young, Professor of History	1965
Robert Wm. Young, Associate Professor of Business	1965
Gary E. Zaruba, Professor of Art	1967
Allen H. Zikmund, Director of Athletics, Associate Professor of Physical Education	1955
Dale Zikmund, Professor of Vocational Education	1972

FACULTY EMERITI

Louise Adams, Education	1937-1966
E. H. Beckmann, Physics	1950-1979
Alta Bergquist, Student Health	1938-1966
John C. W. Bliese, Biology	1953-1978
Duer S. Brady, English	1964-1970
William E. Bruner, Biology	1932-1965
Eugene Buck, Industrial Education	1957-1976
Kenneth F. Carlson, Industrial Education	1945-1979
Martin E. Carlson, Social Science	1962-1973
Harvey Cole, Biology	1947-1976
Del Danker, Placement Services	1946-1960
Miriam Drake, English	1925-1971
Donald D. Duryea, English	1966-1975
Maynard Envick, Industrial Education	1956-1976
Leona Mae Failor, Education	1941-1974
Charlie H. Foster, Physical Education	1945-1971
Donald E. Fox, Chemistry	1935-1973
Edna L. Furness, English	1961-1972
Cyril Grace, Sociology	1967-1971
Edith M. Gunlicks, Business	1958-1973
Ella Hahlweg, Education	1956-1965
Mildred Hansen, Biology	1928-1963
Maurine Hofferber, Home Economics	1961-1976
Myron L. Holm, Education	1954-1971
Helen R. Istan, Foreign Languages	1940-1970
Ray O. Johnson, Sociology	1957-1971
Dorothy Klein, English	1947-1973
Alice M. McCready, English	1936-1960
Dale H. Mills, Educational Administration	1966-1978
Edward G. Monson, Industrial Education	1956-1975
Theodora Nelson, Mathematics	1946-1979
Clara Ockinga, Business	1943-1974
Alice E. Paine, Library	1948-1965
Lydia E. Butler Pavelka, Mathematics	1964-1972
Grace Peterson, Elementary Education	1956-1964
Jean M. Petitt, English	1954-1972
Isa R. Plank, Chemistry	1966-1968
Phyllis Roberts, Foreign Languages	1947-1975
Charles Rudy, Counseling and Educational Psychology	1970-1977
Ruth Schini, Library	1963-1976
Marvin Stovall, Business	1960-1975
Don Tewell, Education	1961-1971
Roland B. Welch, Business	1939-1979
Hargis Westerfield, English	1965-1975
Luella Williams, Home Economics	1956-1968



The George W. Frank House on the West Campus. This house was placed on the National Register of Historic Sites in 1973.



Frank House Dining Room



Frank House Dining Room



Fireplace, main hall, Frank House



Marion Johnson, Curator of the Frank House is with Home Economics students Mary Driewer, Mary Lovett and their teacher Mildred Duffy. They have just refinished this table for the Frank House.



Frank House Library



An Idea That Never Grew

Planting one of the trees that was to be a part of an International Grove on the West Campus are: Left to right: Dr. Charlie Pickens, Building and Grounds committee; James E. Smith, Chairman, World Affairs Committee; President Brendan J. McDonald; Vice-president Earl Rademacher and Dean Robert Nye. 1976.



College Nurse Alta Bergquist ministers to the physical needs of Jerry Ingram.



School Nurse Alta Bergquist pours a good cup of tea.



Dr. Leona Mae Failor advises graduate student, Dorothy Kuklish, Sargent, 1957.



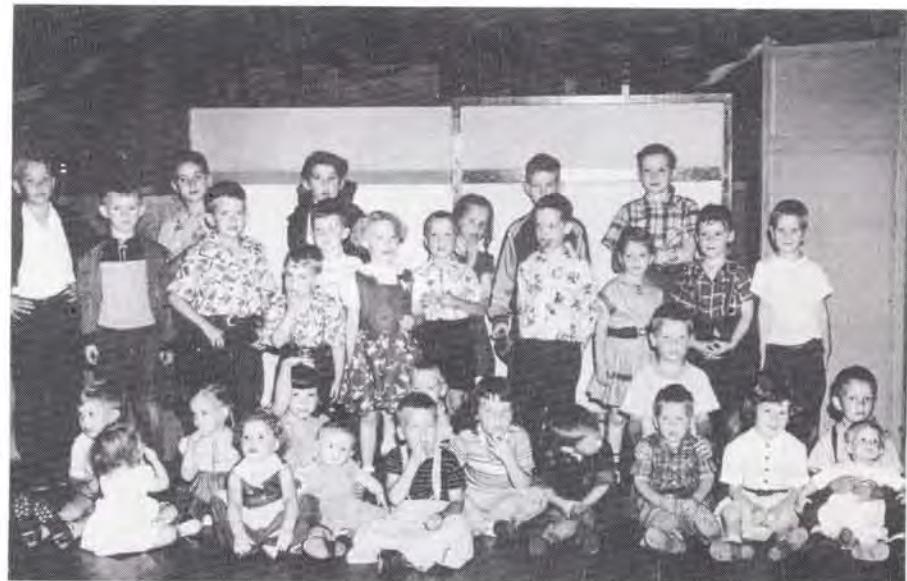
Jerry Buettner checking out textbooks to Harry Milk.



Phyllis Roberts and French foreign exchange student, Jeanine Gaucher 1958-59



The faculty and the faculty families enjoy a Christmas buffet.



Faculty youngsters at the Christmas Party 1953



F. M. (Mike) Shada is distributing Inter-High materials to a high school sponsor. On Saturday April 8, 1927 a commercial contest was held at NSTC. This was the first Inter-High contest. In the years which followed the contest was expanded to include all areas of instruction offered in the high schools of the state. High school students came to the campus and took tests which were scored and awards were given to the students receiving the highest scores. The schools whose students accumulated the most points were awarded trophies. As the popularity increased it became necessary to limit the number of students a school could enter in the test. It brought thousands of the most academically talented students in the state to the campus. The last contest was held March 27, 1969 when nearly 3,800 high school students took at least one test. Reasons given for discontinuing the program do not include a lack of interest but that it became an unequal burden on a segment of the faculty and caused a disruption of college classes. No contests were held in 1943, '44 and '45. The forty contests held made it possible for thousands of the best students in the state to spend a day on campus with other top students.



Co-chairman Professors Mike Shada and Don Searcy are joined by two student assistants in the President's office to look over the trophies to be awarded at the 1963 Inter High contest.



Dick Ellis presents George Arnold with a lifetime pass to all Kearney State College athletic events, on the occasion of his retirement. Mr. Arnold 75, started working at the college in 1915 and served continuously until September 1951. He began working as a night watchman. For 35 years he was the head custodian.



Elmer Cook who worked under George Arnold for several years prior to Mr. Arnold's retirement, was appointed to succeed him as the head custodian in charge of buildings and grounds, a position he held until his retirement over a decade later.



Check out desk in the old library in the Administration building



Homer McConnell
First president of the
first Student Council - 1926



Wes and Jeanne Dunlavy Hennis
1946



KSN Orchestra 1921



Student mixer in the old Student Union. Deans Sisler and Stutheit look on approvingly.



The dedication of this Historic Marker was part of the Kearney Centennial Celebration in June 1973. Participating in the ceremony are: Dr. Philip S. Holmgren, left, General Chairman of the City Centennial Commission and Prof. of History at Kearney State, Prof. Emeritus Otto C. Olsen and President Brendan J. McDonald.



Nov. 5, 1962, laying of the corner stone for the C. T. Ryan Library.



Professor C. T. Ryan receives the congratulations of Dr. Harry Hoffman on the occasion of the naming of the library in his honor. Oct. 31, 1963.



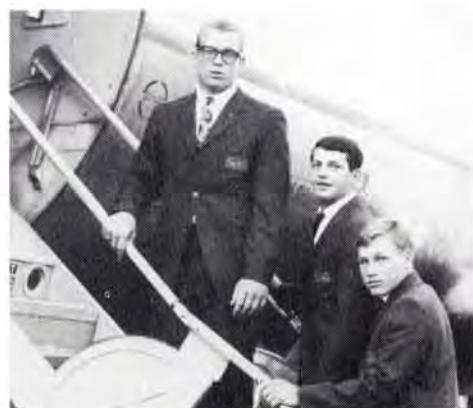
Even the move to the coliseum didn't remove the woes of registration days, as registrar Joe Horner (right) announces the closing of more classes. Business manager Earl Rademacher looks on.



The 1960-61 K Club officers George Haun, Doug Marcy and Larry Timmerman are joined by Coaches Copeland, Zikmund, Foster, Hauver, and Livingston.



Football Team 1921



Duane Donaldson, Ron Laux, and Joe Patterson are boarding a plane for Billings, Montana, on the first-ever air trip by Kearney football team.



Shown here are Dr. William E. Bruner and Alice Paine with President Hassel at the time of their retirement 1965.



This is one of the few academic processions across the campus after the graduation exercises were moved to Cushing Coliseum in 1962. The practice has since been discontinued.



Snow Scene Front Campus 1974



New Bridge on 26th Street connecting East and West Campus. 1977



Larry, they don't understand.

Leaving the discussion is Dr. F. M. Shada. Dr. Gene Beck and Dr. Wayne Samuelson listen to Dr. Larry Peterson.



Richard Nixon on stage in Cushing Coliseum with Senator Carl Curtis before Nixon addresses an overflow crowd. May 1968.



The Deans-Sisler, Stutheit and Hutcheon ride horses to help the spirit of Bronco Days.



Marilyn Dubbs Wiese demonstrating her high jumping form.

CHAPTER XI

EPILOGUE

A college which has existed for seventy five years has had many people associated with it. To mention even a small percentage of them is impossible. Searching through records and visiting with former students and faculty it is common to be exposed to many names. It is doubtful if anyone can justifiably be left out because someone would consider them important. The hundreds of faculty, the thousands of students whose names do not appear may have contributed far more than many who are mentioned. As one friend of the college said about a particular faculty member, "You'll say a lot about her because she is worth a whole book by herself." A review of this little book finds only a few mentions of her. An alumnus said, "I'd never say anything derogatory about any of my teachers - they did so many wonderful things for all of us it just wouldn't be fair to mention the negative things." Length of service is not sufficient reason to recognize or not to recognize. To recognize a Carrie Ludden who spent nearly a half century in the Biology classrooms of Kearney State and ignore a Clarence Murch who died only four and one half years after the opening of a the institution where he had served as principal of the Commerce Department, would not give proper recognition to a man who was "beloved by all who knew him."

Kearney State College has no special program for recognition of long service to the College. Mention of some of these will be made without reference to the exact number of years. They are: Carrie Ludden, Minnie Larson, Mildred Hanson, Emma Hanthorne, Mary Crawford, Marion Smith, Alma Hosic, Anna V. Jennings, Alice M. Robinson, Dorothy Williams, Edith M. Smithey, Blanche Skinner, Malvina Scott Stoutemeyer, Charlie Foster, Miriam Drake, Donald Fox, Lyle E. Mantor, Jennie M. Conrad, Otto Olsen and Clara Ockinga, Recently retired after more than thirty years service are Theodora Nelson, Kenneth Carlson and Roland B. Welch. Those still active on the faculty with more than thirty years of service are Harold Ahrendts, Harry Hoffman, Philip S. Holmgren, L. M. Larsen and William A. Lynn.

To those of you who have gone to college at Kearney and read this far, you may find one or two things about the following statements familiar either as a statement by someone or about someone. Carrie Ludden's assignment, "Make a map of the campus and locate all the trees and bird's nests." She engaged in an extensive letter writing campaign to servicemen during World War II. "She put the zip in the zip club." Lulu Wirt taught a course everyone had to take. It was considered to be the "hurdle" course in education. It was she through her bequest who got action started on a student union. Joseph Bowes was only on the faculty for a few years but he and Mrs. Bowes made provision in their wills for endowing a number of scholarships. Many may remember Emma Hanthorne for her numerous threats to throw someone out the window. From one former student came the statement, "I learned a lot of math in spite of her threats." About Marian Smith it was said, "She brought culture to Kearney," A former student recalled that "When she found out I was getting married and didn't own a suit, she gave me money for a whole new outfit." Another student recalls being stopped on his way to class and ordered by Miss Smith to rescue a cat that was up in a tree. Then there are the stories about Miss Crawford's classes and reading prison poetry while looking through the "bars" of the chairs. Prof. Murch and his poetry, his love for young people are not to be forgotten. C. T. Ryan and his writing classes, his Ryanisms or his speech, "Who would there be to examine me," are part of the lore about this English pro-

fessor. Otto Olsen is described as "The kindest person I've ever known." "He always gave the right advice." "He invited me to live in their home and be their boy." Jennie Conrad may be remembered for her "unholy five" pop quizzes, but some also recall her hiring students for make-work projects because she felt they needed the work. "Without her course I'd never have known enough about research to get through graduate school." also refers to Miss Conrad. George Arnold may have been the custodian but his advice and counsel was sought out by many students. Dr. Mantor, some called him, "Bull" Mantor, gets such reactions as: "He taught me what America was all about." "He taught me what patriotism really was."

Some faculty members may remember the faculty meeting in which President Hassel misspoke and explained the new "short circuit" television system which was soon to be installed.

Clarence Murch gets credit for writing the Alma Mater Song, but Harry Hoffman and Robert House wrote the "fight song" which is still being used after thirty years.

Energy consciousness is not limited to the recent years of concern for energy supplies. When the library was first opened in the spring of 1911, no lights were installed. Lights were added by October and in November a report to the board indicated their limited use had resulted in an electric bill of \$1.35. On March 5, 1912, President Thomas reported to the Board that a savings of between \$150 and \$200 had been realized by closing down the heating plant during Christmas vacation. It wasn't all profit because he also reported the necessity of purchasing \$23.25 worth of material for the "Biological Department," mostly large jars that had not been emptied when the heat was turned off and, consequently, had frozen and broken.

A discussion of the first seventy-five years must end on an unfinished note. The College continues to respond to the challenges which are ever present. Faculty both great and not so great continue to influence the lives of young people who come in contact with their teaching. The "lighted fires" of the distinctive past mentioned at the 25th and 50th anniversary are still burning brightly and will continue to show the way to the broadening horizons of the future of promise.



Mel Church basketball center 1949



Another class is "stricken" according to Dean of Instruction Leo Thomas.

About the Sources

There are no organized college archives at Kearney State College. A collection of material is available but it needs considerable work to get it organized for maximum use. All college publications are in a useable condition including such pamphlets as those used to announce Inter-High contests. Also present are hundreds of pictures, most of them void of identification, plus scrapbooks. The presidential files available have been well cleansed to the point that only letters with little significant information remain. Time did not permit the use of all college records made available in numerous locations on campus. The minutes of the Faculty Senate and a number of faculty committee reports exist in varying degrees of completeness.

The complete minutes of the Governing Boards from 1903-1980 were available. The microfilm copies of the minutes from 1903-1973 which are in the possession of the office of the Board of Trustees were made available and during most of the period provide far more detail than had been expected. As the more recent time is approached they are far less candid and record final actions taken without recording much detail about how the action was determined.

An unpublished M.A. Thesis written by John W. Bjorklum, entitled *A History of Speech Education at Kearney State Teachers College, 1905-1963* written in 1964 is an excellent treatment of the subject. His inclusion of a complete list of speech faculty and their academic degrees, speech courses offered, forensic record, complete with the name of the coach and the students involved is a valuable record. In addition Mr. Bjorklum includes all the debate questions used and the ranking received by the students in various contests. He concludes his appendix with a list of all major dramatic productions.

A History of the Kearney State College Library, an unpublished M.A. thesis written by Ruth Schini includes some material on the general history of the college as it relates to the library. She includes considerable material on the various people who have served as librarians. Much attention is given to Anna V. Jennings who served as the librarian for the first 34 years of the college's existence. Professor Calvin T. Ryan, for whom the present library is named, is also given special coverage.

Franklin J. Gold's *A History of the Nebraska Board of Education of State Normal Schools* is a typed paper which appears to have been written in 1968. Much of the information contained about Kearney dealt with the early history. *The Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney 1930-1955*, also known as *Broadening Horizons*, the name under which it is printed in the Golden Anniversary booklet, is a brief survey of the history of those 25 years. It was written by Dr. Lyle E. Mantor, Professor of History.

Alma Hoscic, an original faculty member in modern languages at the Nebraska State Normal School, gave a talk to the student body in 1932 which was entitled *A History of Kearney State Teachers College*. A typed copy of the talk is available in the college archives.

Typed copies of letters and addresses given to the faculty by President A. O. Thomas, plus copies of faculty meeting minutes and some studies made by the faculty for these meetings, and other material dated 1905-1910, is fastened together with string and made an interesting find in the archives.

The college newspaper, *The Antelope*, is bound together according to a school year. The *Blue and Golds* which were published through the years, the various quarterly bulletins and catalogs provide considerable information on college life and academic programs.

Newspapers published in Kearney carried much news about the college. College faculty in the past have been known to comment that they read the *Hub* to find out what was going on at the college. Other newspapers in the state give very little coverage to college activities. An exception to this is that the newspapers published in the communities which were actively seeking the normal school for their community gave a great deal of coverage to the activity which preceded the location of the Normal School at Kearney.

Material in the possession of the Buffalo County Historical Society, consists of some scrap books kept by the Chamber of Commerce and materials gathered by the late Wilma Crossley Anderson, daughter of W. F. Crossley. Mr. Crossley built a number of the buildings on the college campus. This material has proved to be valuable in filling in some details of this account.



Martin Hall opened in 1954. Named in honor of President George Martin.

- Abbot, Supt. — 18
 Abrahamson, Georgia — 45
 Acacia — 134
 Adam, Donald W. — 182
 Adams, Dwight C. — 182
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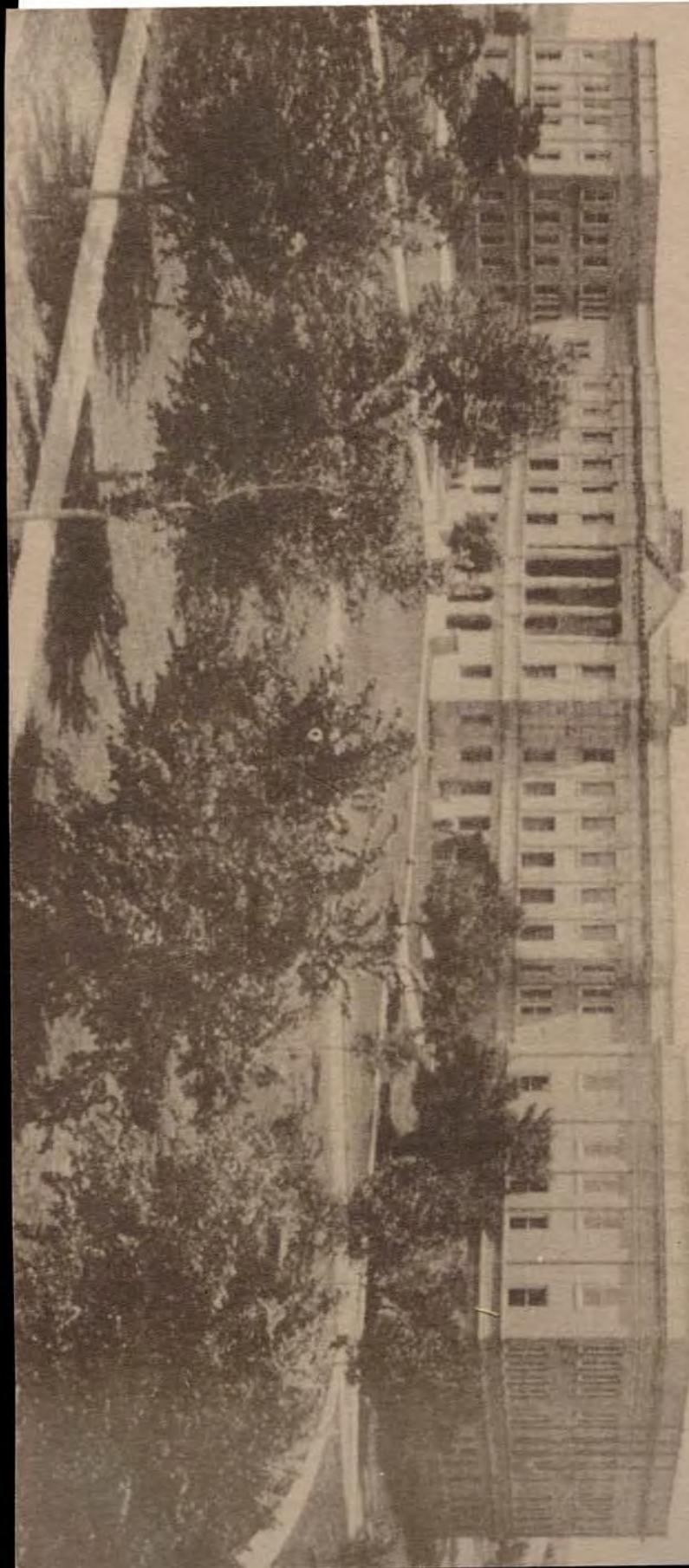
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