

Students Present Facts on Postwar Building Needs

This page is the cumulative product of student effort and constructive thought upon the recent move by the ASUO executive council regarding a plan of campaign for the advancement of the University buildings program. It is a question which has aroused statewide discussion and has resulted in several editorials concerning the importance of this decision to the veteran-student, destined to return to colleges and universities incapable of housing him.

Two editorials, printed by the Morning Oregonian, have presented a systematic study of the history of buildings appropriations at the University. According to the statistics offered, there have been no state appropriations for buildings since 1929-1931, at which time a bill for \$100,000 went through. During the prewar decade there have been altogether three buildings erected on the campus, all of which have been the result of student fees, loans, grants, and gifts. However, despite this increase in building space the enrollment has increased yearly and floor space has decreased in relative proportion. Unless there is immediate and effective action taken by those in authority, the editorial stated, Oregon's adjustment aid for veterans and the inherent principles behind the GI Bill of Rights will have failed.

The editorial further said, "We think it is imperative for the legislature to seek ways and means to keep the promise made to our young service men and women. . . . If there is no recourse but an election on the issue, the question of whether we are going to keep faith with the service men and women ought not be postponed until they are knocking at the doors of institutions of higher learning so crowded that they cannot be admitted."

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The resolution adopted by the executive council after consideration of the proposal submitted by Gene Conklin, junior representative, is:

"The executive council representing the students of the University of Oregon, hereby adopts the following purposes and methods of achieving a program of advancement of University building. To make known to the people of Oregon, and most especially the legislature of the state of Oregon, what buildings the students think it necessary to construct.

"To impress upon the legislature the urgent need for the 'long view' of higher educational development in this state—looking toward the expected large increases in enrollment, and toward the development of the University as a fully-equipped institution constructed on a full-scale pattern, not a series of temporary utilitarian workshops."

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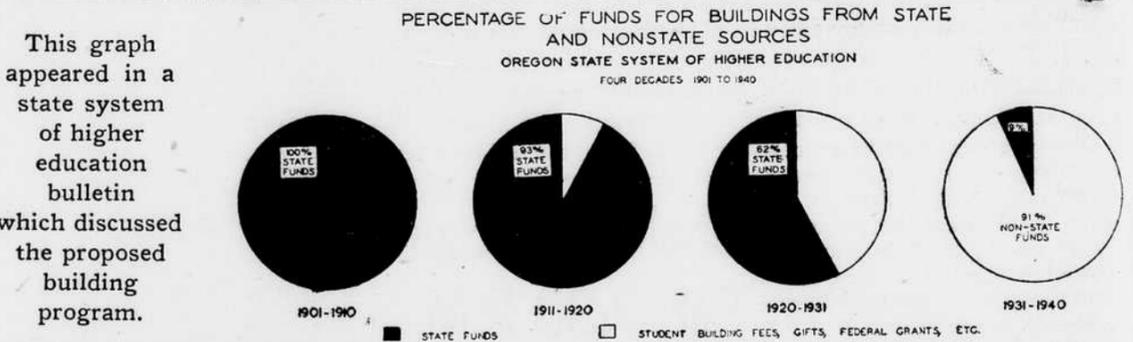
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Housing for Veterans . . .

The returning veteran who comes to the University of Oregon is going to want more than a place by the old mill race; he is going to expect, and rightly so, not only modern classrooms, a well-staffed faculty, and a normal social life, but comfortable, convenient living quarters. In view of the expected increased enrollment in the University after the war because of the release of veterans and war workers from the service, the natural upturn of attendance coming after an emergency, and the new industrial development of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest, the returning veteran is not going to find it easy to get living quarters for the following reasons:

1. In 1948, when we shall presume that the war will be over, the estimated enrollment at the University will be 4,636; of this number, half, or 2,318, probably will be men. Present housing facilities for men on and off the campus accommodate approximately 1500. This leaves over some 1000 men to rely on pup tents, house trailers, or the senior bench for living quarters.

2. The present postwar planning program of the state board of higher education includes no mention of additions to John Straub hall, the men's dormitory in normal times, or provisions for new housing units for men.

Unless there is something done about this housing shortage, the University cannot expect to attract the number of veterans it would if its housing facilities were adequate.

The government has provided a means for returning veterans to obtain an education; men in the service now have expressed their desire to come to the University of Oregon as indicated by replies received by the Lane county planning committee to their poll of Lane county servicemen; to the query, "What will you do when you are out of the service?" 20 per cent answered by saying that they were going to the University of Oregon. The only thing that the University of Oregon can guarantee them so far as housing is concerned is a certain shortage.

—R.K.C.

Line-up of NO Future

By BARBARA YOUNGER

The state board of higher education has requested a \$2,237,000 building appropriation from the state legislature for the 1945-1946 biennium for the state institutions of higher education.

This request, which is part of the building program proposed by the board, was formulated and adopted in May, 1944, after studies by the institutions and the board's building committee extending over six months. It is a ten-year program, part of which will be self-financed and part of which will require legislative appropriations. The report of the building committee adopted by the board said:

"The committee in its deliberations and decisions applied the criterion of absolute need, with emphasis on caring for the anticipated enrollment surge after the war and also providing research facilities that will aid industry in the postwar period. It is appropriate to point out that the program as submitted does not entirely represent future needs, but rather includes past needs which have not been met because of the failure of the state over a long period of time to provide funds for higher education buildings."

Appropriations Cut

When the budget was submitted to the legislature it was cut to \$1,000,000. However, another bill has been submitted to the legislature which raises it to the original appropriation of \$2,237,000.

Among the buildings scheduled for immediate postwar construction at the University of Oregon, (Please turn to page three)

State Lags Behind In Construction

By JEAN TAYLOR

For the period of 1929-1945, Oregon was at the bottom of the list in building appropriations for higher education.

California heads the list with appropriations amounting to \$10,076,332. Next comes Washington with a total amount of \$5,789,369 devoted to building up its state system of higher education. Colorado follows with \$3,625,354; Utah, with \$1,230,276. Wyoming is the first state to drop below the million-dollar mark with \$758,523 set aside for expansion of its educational system.

Nevada, small in population, has put forth in the preceding 10 years an amount slated at \$550,000, while \$160,100 is the sum laid out by Idaho state legislators for the period.

Oregon comes at the last of the list with a total of \$100,000. The average amount appropriated by her sister western states was \$2,786,231.

The last state appropriations were made, for the most part, in 1931.

Largely by use of funds from (Please turn to page three)

Student Fee Packs Load

By PHYLLIS CHURCHMAN

For the past 15 years the state hasn't built any buildings on the University of Oregon campus. During that period the students with the help of government loans and grants have built and financed four buildings and provided for the extensive renovations on grounds, heating, and electric systems.

The \$350,000 library erected in 1937 was a self-financed project calling for the ASUO pledged building fee for 15 years with the (Please turn to page three)

Building Fee History Cited

By ARLISS BOONE

In the past, building on the University campus has been financed to a large extent by student donations and fees. To pay for buildings drastically needed in the 1925's and '26's, the ASUO amended its constitution to approve a \$5 fee to be paid at registration each term; the money to be used solely for student service buildings. Since that time the state board has included the fee as a regular part

of the basic registration fee.

In 1926 the ASUO agreed to finance McArthur court at \$150,000, advancing one third of the total from the building fund that had been created in 1925.

Following that, in 1934, the \$100,000 infirmary was completed with the help of \$20,000 from the building fund.

When the University library was erected on the new campus, the entire building fee for 15 years was pledged. At the time, the state should assume full responsibility for erecting the library. The question arose whether the state board held the necessary (Please turn to page three)

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