



## Formal Opening—Eric W. Allen Hall



**ERIC W. ALLEN**  
 Dean of the School of Journalism, 1916-1944

Eric W. Allen hall is a memorial to a man who for 28 years was teacher, friend and confidant of hundreds of students, and a strong influence on Oregon journalism. Eric W. Allen founded the University of Oregon school of journalism and was its dean from 1916 until his death in 1944. Because of his custom of teaching many of his early classes in the living room of his own home, an Eric Allen seminar room has been included in the new building. It is a close reproduction of his living room and will contain Dean Allen's personal library. The room was entirely furnished by funds

contributed by alumni and friends of the school, many of whom were students of the late dean. Loved by his students, the school's first dean was one of the pioneers of journalism education in America. Twice he was elected president of the American Association of Schools and Departments of Journalism. His graduates hold top positions in various phases of journalism all over the world. The University Alumni association named him one of the six best teachers the University has ever had. A member of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional

journalistic fraternity, he was president of the organization in 1925. The four children of Dean Allen will attend the formal opening Saturday of the building named in honor of their father. They are John Allen, Socorro, N. M.; Robert Allen, Seattle; Mrs. Charles (Elizabeth) Gilbert, Berkeley, Calif., and Eric W. Allen Jr., Medford. Last year Eric Allen Jr. was the school of journalism's second Eric Allen fellow, a graduate fellowship established in honor of his father.

"School of Journalism—but wait 'til next year" read the sign on the quonset hut headquarters of the journalism school last year. "Next year" has arrived and with it the completion of the new \$600,000 Eric W. Allen hall, new home of the University's journalism school. Although the structure was ready for students when classes began this fall, formal opening of the building is scheduled for Saturday. The program includes tours of the hall, and a luncheon in the Student Union. Allen hall is the newest and one of the largest journalism buildings in the United States and one of the few planned and constructed for journalism training. It is the realization of the dreams and plans of many persons over a long period of years. The approving nod for construction of the journalism school building was given by the state senate in April, 1953, and work began when old McClure hall was torn down during the summer of that same year. The school of journalism was housed in three quonset huts during construction of the new building. Every aspect of the mass communications field has been included in the design of the building. The entire first floor of Allen hall houses the University press, with its letterpress, offset and bindery equipment. Faculty offices, classrooms, a reading and reference room and a display room occupy the second and main floor of the new structure. The reading room contains copies of nearly all Oregon newspapers and periodicals. The second floor also contains an auditorium with a seating capacity of 180 and facilities for motion picture projection. Laboratories for photography, advertising copywriting, copy editing, typography, and radio-television work are located on the top floor of the structure. Also found there are offices of the Oregon Daily Emerald, Oregon Newspaper Publishers' association and Oregon State Broadcasters association. For the opening Saturday, congratulatory letters from many of the nation's top journalists, and artwork drawn by several of the country's leading cartoonists will be on display in the building. A year-long dedication program has been planned for Allen hall. The schedule includes several addresses by leading journalists on the general theme of "The Responsibility of Journalism and Journalists."