

NORMAL SCHOOL TO OPEN ON JUNE 17

FIRST UNIT IS DEDICATED HERE TODAY

Structure and Furnishing Represent Expenditure of \$175,000

ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS EXCELLENT

Offices, Class Rooms and Library on First Floor—Spacious Auditorium Above Offices.

Following the dedication of the Eastern Oregon Normal school in La Grande this afternoon, the first term is to begin here June 17 with the summer session, consisting of two six-week periods. This will mark the opening of the first state institution of higher education in the entire eastern half of the state.

The completion of the first unit in the Eastern Oregon Normal schools represents an expenditure of approximately \$175,000, which was divided as follows, \$160,000 for the administration building, and \$15,000 for furnishings.

Appropriated in 1927 This \$175,000 was appropriated by the Oregon legislature in February, 1927 with an additional \$40,000 for maintenance. However, because of the condition of the state finances, construction did not begin until Friday, Aug. 10, 1928 when soil was first broken on the normal school site.

During the legislative session this year, however, approximately \$85,000 was provided for maintenance during this and next year, to be used for salaries, etc. The governor included the sum in his budget and there was little difficulty in securing its passage, which opened the way for the first classes in the new building a week from next Monday.

Voted in 1926 The Eastern Oregon Normal school was voted by the people of the state at the general election in the fall of 1925, and during the closing weeks of that year, following a visit of state officials—members of the Oregon Normal School board of regents and the board of control—the city of La Grande was selected as the site of the institution of higher learning.

Immediately, the city surveyed the possible locations for such a school and, on April 22 when the regents visited La Grande, had several likely sites in mind. On April 29, 1927 the site east of the court house on the hill overlooking Commodore was formally decided on and machinery was set in action preliminary to letting contracts for construction.

Work Started Last August Bids for the building of the first unit were opened on July 28, 1928 and the contract was awarded to the Northwest Construction company of Medford. After the soil was broken Aug. 10 the construction progressed as rapidly as the weather would permit and the building work went on continuously until completion, with the exception of a few weeks during the winter when weather necessitated a halt. The impressive stairway leading up to the campus level from Ninth street has not yet been completed but is to be ready for the opening of the fall quarter.

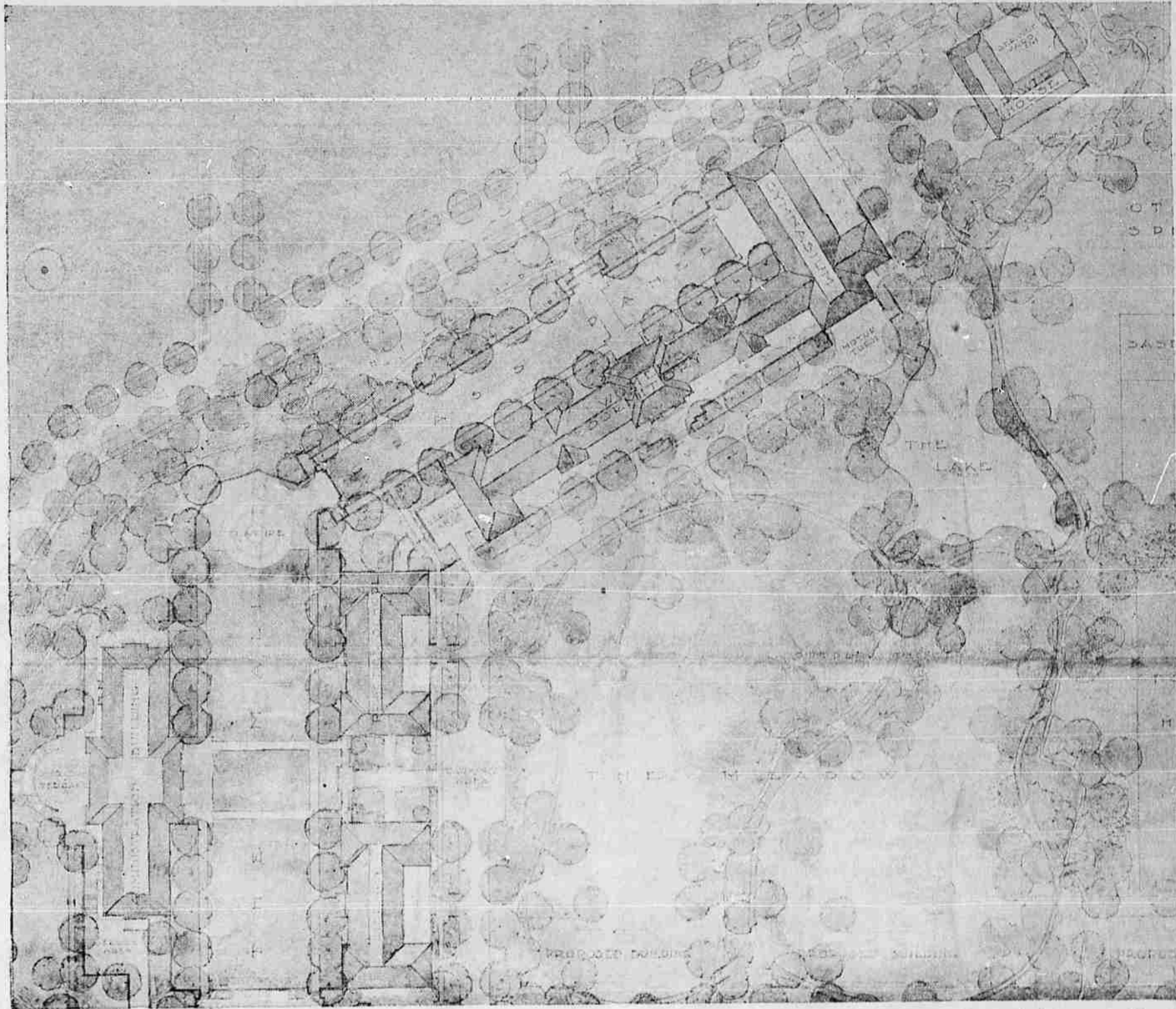
Careful study was given to the orientation of buildings, landscaping and approaches to the grounds in the planning of the campus. Provisions are being made for a baseball and football field and a stadium to seat approximately 5000 people, these to be erected later. A lake for aquatic sports will be provided as well as an outdoor theater, according to present plans.

The main entrance to the mall is on the axis of K avenue, while the grand staircase leading to the administration building will terminate the vista of Ninth street. Although only the administration building is now a reality, the group of school buildings, when eventually completed, will follow the crest of the hill with a wide mall separating the administration building from the library, training school, dormitories, auditorium, gymnasium and others. The apparently isolated parts of construction now built are but the links of the finished scheme—one of the finest settings for a group of educational buildings in the state, according to

Excellent Construction Not only is the first building of the Eastern Oregon Normal school a thing of beauty, but it ranks among the best-built educational buildings in the northwest, both in construction and arrangement.

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A Picture of The Campus Plans For The New Eastern Oregon Normal School



Here is a picture of the campus plans for the new Eastern Oregon Normal school, showing the main buildings and the campus landscaping as it is proposed. The administration building is shown on the north side of the campus plan with the proposed library building and training school building south of it, separated by a wide mall from the structure which is being dedicated this afternoon.

NEW NORMAL SCHOOL STRONGLY BUILT ON BEAUTIFUL SITE

Structure Overlooks La Grande and Valley; Steps Impressive

"One of the finest settings for a group of educational buildings in the state of Oregon," and "the most beautiful site for a campus in the state"—expressions from the architect who designed the building, John V. Benes, and the president of the State Normal school at Monmouth, J. S. Sanders, fittingly describe the plans for the complete group of buildings and the site. And the present structure which has just been completed after months of careful and expert labor by skilled workmen, gives promise of the campus that is to be.

On the edge of a small hill located in a central portion of West La Grande and overlooking the city and the beautiful Grande Ronde valley, the administration building is ideally situated, the site emphasizing the architectural beauty of the handsome structure.

This first unit, now completed, is 242 feet in length and 54 feet in width, rising two stories above the basement height, the central portion rising above the flanking wings which contain the class rooms. This note of architectural emphasis was obtained by placing the auditorium on the second floor above the administrative offices.

The exterior of the building is finished in buff colored stone, of a particularly pleasing shade, overlaid with a most graceful climb. These steps are the largest and most impressive in the entire state.

Although not yet completed, the Ninth street stairway is to be finished within a short time—before the opening of the fall term.

The building follows a style of architecture known as the modern Italian Renaissance, which was adopted by the board of regents of Oregon state normal schools after months of study. This style is particularly well adapted to the site and La Grande's wonderful scenic background, its rolling hills and blue skies which add material

City of La Grande Co-Operates With State in Providing School

Two Approaches There are two approaches to the school at present, one on the west along K avenue from Fourth street and another on the north, on Ninth street.

The building fronts to the south and before the wide sidewalk at the entrance is a mall, stretching from the K avenue entrance to the eastern edge of the campus. Later a handsome statue of similar erection will be placed on the east end.

Leading to the mall from K avenue are a series of beautiful steps and as one reaches the level of the mall, a wonderful view of the valley and the snow-capped Willamette mountains in the distance attracts one's sense of beauty.

It is on the Ninth street side, however, where an unusual feature is provided in the most majestic steps in Oregon.

From the level of Ninth street to the campus is an elevation of 42 feet and the steps, of buff-colored concrete to match the main building, will climb 150 feet upwards. Risers are five inches in height, and treads are from 12 to 20 inches, giving a most graceful climb. These steps are the largest and most impressive in the entire state.

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MOSKOW (AP)—The village of Okunievka in the Shiklovsy region has asked that scientists visit it to investigate a meteor which fell near there. Many trees were felled and a vast quantity of snow melted when the fiery visitor landed.

City of La Grande Co-Operates With State in Providing School

Throughout the preliminary planning and the actual construction of the new Eastern Oregon Normal school in La Grande, the city has cooperated with the state, supplying not only the site on which the campus is now taking shape, but also providing the school with water, etc.

When the Oregon Normal School board of regents selected La Grande as the location for the new structure, in December of 1927, there were four or more possible sites selected here for the structure, and the city stood ready to acquire whatever land was finally agreed on.

Donate 27 Acres When the campus was located on the small hill overlooking Commodore and just east of the county court house, the city donated approximately 27 acres of land to the state. A part of this land was secured through trade for city property and part of it was purchased outright, after which the deed was turned over to the state last year giving the school complete possession of the 27 acres.

Early agreements also called for the city to stand the expense of grading around the building and putting in the tile, but when the contract for the building was let the board of normal school regents was short of funds and the city provided \$4500 in cash in lieu of the gentleman's agreement for the grading and backfilling. This \$4500 permitted the regents to provide a

more adequate basement in the structure. Hook Up Sewer City crews only recently completed hooking up the normal school to a sanitary sewer, which runs along L avenue, and a six-inch water main was installed leading to the grounds for fire protection and to provide an inlet for the school's supply of water. The main leads from Fourth street up K avenue to Eighth street and about 200 feet into the campus.

Plans have been completed for the paving of Ninth street, from the present pavement on N avenue, to the steps which lead up the hill to the normal school. The pavement will include one block on street in addition to the intersection of L and Ninth, and will be completed this summer.

will have no difficulty whatever in going to and from the north entrance. The graded road from Fourth along K will be easily traveled during the dry season, thus providing two routes of approach at present.

QUITTED FABRICS RENAMED PIQUELLA

PARIS (AP)—Piquella is the new name fabric makers have given quilted materials formerly designated as "metelasse."

Dressmakers use it in cotton varieties, plain or printed for sport jackets, pajamas and beach coats. Hats and handbags also are made of piquella.

Silk varieties are made into evening wraps and house coats for wear with negligee and pajama costumes.

TAX TOTAL RISES WASHINGTON (AP)—The treasury department's statement for the first nine months of the current fiscal year shows internal revenue collections totaling \$2,127,178,477 an increase of approximately \$60,000,000 over the same previous period. All except \$448,000,000 represents income taxes.

WARSAW (AP)—Polish health institutions, established with American aid and advice, have proved so efficient that Mussolini has sent an Italian mission to study them, especially those concerned in the fight against tuberculosis.

The Prince of Wales says no good can come of putting ourselves on the back. The reflections of a seasoned roller.

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EAST NORMAL CAMPUS PLAN IS OUTLINED

Six Buildings, Including Library and Dormitory, Are Pictured

SPACE DEVOTED TO ATHLETIC FIELDS

Arranged to Take Care of Eastern Oregon's Educational Needs Over Period of Years.

A general plan for the campus of the new Eastern Oregon Normal school in La Grande, made public for the first time today, indicates that, when completed, the group of buildings will present one of the most beautiful and practical educational centers in the Pacific Northwest.

The plan, a drawing of which is pictured on this page of today's issue of The Observer, done by Erling Green, landscape architect of Corvallis, Ore., in collaboration with John V. Benes, architect, includes the entire 27 acres. Six buildings are pictured, outlines of three more, to care for the educational needs of Eastern Oregon over a great many years.

Beginning with the Ninth avenue stairway to the campus level and the administration building, now completed, the plan pictures a park way, just south of the administration building and reaching from the K avenue entrance to the eastern edge of the campus.

Practice School, Library Directly south of the east end of the mall is planned a practice school, in which practice teaching will be carried on occupying space probably one-half the size of the administration building. This building fronts on the mall and directly west of it will be the library building, with the same general dimensions. The two proposed structures will be separated by a square of lawn intersected by sidewalks.

Just south of these two buildings will be a parking area, the level to be two and a half feet lower than the ground occupied by the library and practice school buildings, which in turn are nearly six feet less in elevation than the mall. Concrete steps, in keeping with the general scheme, will connect them. A spacious meadow, surrounded by trees and bisected by a brook which will lead into an ornamental lake, will be landscaped south of the parking area.

Athletic Fields Planned On the southern edge of the campus a football and hockey field will be constructed and east of this will be located the baseball diamond and grounds for other sports. At the far east end of the "panhandle" of the campus, just north of the Masonic property, tennis courts will be installed. North of these courts, taking up the other half of the "panhandle" is to be another landscaped area.

A woman's dormitory, connecting to a large gymnasium, is planned on the eastern edge of the hill southeast of the practice school. From the plans, this structure will have the greatest length of any of the buildings. The gymnasium will connect with the dormitory at the southeast end, with its length running at right angles to the dormitory.

Trees and shrubbery are to be eventually planted over the campus and around the boundaries. Directly in front of the women's dormitory, there is pictured a smooth stretch of lawn. The plans also outline three additional buildings in a line south of the library building, with the third in the string to be located west of the gridiron at the southwest corner of the campus.

Hill Street Proposed The plans show a street to run along the edge of the campus at the bottom of the hill to be known as Hill street, paved with parking and sidewalk, from the street level of the L avenue until it turns due east along the edge of the "panhandle" to join Twelfth street. A sidewalk curves along the hill top at the edge of the campus with connections with the Hill street sidewalk at the southeast corner of the mall and in front of the women's dormitory building.

The buildings are at a different elevation with the administration building highest, at 2312 feet. The practice school and library are at 2266.5 and the dormitory at 2260. The level of the lake is to be 2275 feet.

The plans also include a power house southeast of the dormitory, which may be erected when the other buildings are completed.

Carefully Arranged Driveways The arrangement of driveways throughout is carefully planned,

(Continued from Page Four.)