



# from the **K.U. NEWS BUREAU**

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32 STRONG HALL, THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE 66045  
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**100 YEARS on  
MOUNT OREAD**



*old  
luggs*

Senior citizens' memories of when "a little bought a lot" may be evoked by the Board of Regents approval of a request for \$1.2 million in additional state education building fund money to improve physical facilities of the state's School of Veterinary Medicine. The program to retain accreditation might total \$14 million, including federal grants.

In 1876 just \$15,000 did wonders in making University Hall, later renamed Fraser Hall, a highly useful fixture at the University of Kansas.

In 1869 Chancellor John Fraser persuaded Lawrence citizens to vote \$100,000 in bonds to build what was then the largest educational building in the nation. It was occupied in 1872, but much of the interior remained unfinished.

Chancellor James Marvin, upon his arrival in 1874, was not pleased. He told the Legislature: "The new university grounds, beautifully located and ample in extent, lie exposed as common pasture for stray cattle."

The chapel and corridors were not even plastered. Many classrooms could not be used and some windows were boarded up. The winter was severe and some classrooms had to be abandoned.

Chancellor Marvin found money hard to come by. Drought and grasshoppers had played havoc in the summer. Faculty salaries were cut and a Mr. Blair told the House of Representatives that there were plenty of men in Kansas who were as competent to fill the chancellor's position as the gentleman who now occupied it. If the present chancellor could not live on \$2,000, then let him go back east. We have thousands of people who live on \$200 a year.

Times improved by 1876; \$15,000 was appropriated to finish the hall.

That sum provided for finishing 16 classrooms, the chapel and its balcony, improving hallways, and putting glass in all the windows.

Outside a new wall and gates kept the wandering cows from the inner campus.