The Age of Dormitories
see page 10

January, 1959
Opening Remarks

THIS SPECIAL NUMBER featuring residence halls has been in preparation 30 years. It was more than half a century ago that dreams emerged and voices were raised on behalf of decent living quarters for students. Shirley Ward Kee;er's article beginning on page 16 tells the story of the movement that led to the present facilities. It is impressive to learn that supporters were parading their fervor in 1911.

Greater Need Lies Ahead

The greater need for residence halls lies ahead. The introductory article starting on page 10 clearly shows the necessity for a continued and expanded building program. Mr. Wilson's article on financing on page 17 outlines plans for the next few years.

Resistance began long ago to the choice of living either in a fraternity or in a private rooming house which might or might not be a fit place to rest and study. The demand for University-controlled living quarters has been growing as rapidly as has the enrollment. Further, as economic conditions have changed it has become more and more difficult to operate profitably a unit for 6 to 15 persons and provide good shelter, sanitation, lighting and service. Few rooming houses ever dreamed of offering a social program. (Some of the boarding clubs did. Who remembers those delightful midweek mixers down at Moody's Club at 14th and Tennessee?)

The scholarship hall plan at Kansas has done great service for a selected group of students. Dean Don Alderson paints that picture in vivid detail on pages 14-15.

Credit for a Senator

An article on page 18 mentions some of the persons who have contributed by gifts, by bequests or by leadership to the forward march toward dormitories. Not all were included by any means.

But much credit must go to one man, former State Senator Wilfrid Cavaness, of Chanute, who sponsored in the Legislature the sound scheme whereby the state provides the "down payment" financing, and the students, by their room and board payments, retire the self-liquidating bonds necessary to complete the building costs.

The late J. R. Pearson initiated that system of building with his gifts. But such gifts do not always come fast enough. The state's "nest egg" appropriations continue on and give hope for continued provision of this necessary adjunct to the University's service to the state.

Ahead of all the discussion on residence halls we are running Jim Gunn's "The Vanishing Joe College" on the present day students themselves—the folks who are to live in the halls and for whom the halls are built. They make the effort worthwhile.—Fred Ellsworth.
THE BLOSSOMING OF A NEW ERA at the University of Kansas—an era that might be called "the Age of Dormitories"—comes with the opening of the 416-man Joseph R. Pearson residence hall.

When the University celebrates its centennial in 1966, 50% of the women and 30% of the men may be housed in residence halls owned and operated by K.U. At the same time, private housing will have to be built, converted, or hauled in for twice as many students as now live in these accommodations.

Why the age of dormitories was inevitable and why the age was so long coming is a story that begins almost 100 years ago.

Housing in 1866

When K.U. was founded in 1866, housing was no problem. Forty-nine of the fifty-five students enrolled were from Douglas County. Eight years later enrollment was 259. It did not pass 1,000 until 1896. Gradually, as transportation improved and a changing world made a college education of increasing importance and value, K.U. began drawing its students from all parts of Kansas. By 1910 there were 2,176.

Where would they live? How would they live? These were questions disturbing the peace of mind not only of University administrators but of Kansans everywhere.

One answer was the social fraternity. It made its appearance on the K.U. scene as early as 1873. Beta Theta Pi soon was followed by the sorority that became known in 1888 under its present name, Pi Beta Phi, and a half dozen others. But the present system of chapter houses did not start until 1894, and they remained modest dwellings until the post-war boom of the 1920's.

The Age of Dormitories
Agitation for Women

Elsewhere in this magazine is told the story of the agitation and fund raising that resulted in four co-operative houses for University women in 1919 and the building of Corbin hall in 1923. In 1923 enrollment on the Lawrence campus was 3,492. Fraternities claimed 654 members, sororities 465. Many of these—as today—did not live in the chapter houses.

In 1926 came Watkins hall for women of academic ability working their way through school. That year enrollment reached 3,929.

In 1937 was built the second of the women’s scholarship halls, Miller. There were 4,374 students. Three years later three men’s scholarship halls were added to K.U.’s unique system, Battenfeld, Tempkin, and Carruth. Fraternities had 725 names on their membership rosters, sororities 410 women.

Two older houses, Joliffe and Foster, were gifts to the University in 1942 and 1943.

Shape of the Future

The shape of the future was revealed in 1946. A flood of returning veterans jumped Lawrence enrollment from 3,412 in 1945 to 8,646 a year later, almost twice as many as ever attended K.U. before. Housing was a matter of frantic search and hasty improvisation. Students slept everywhere—from the basement of the Museum of Art to Sunflower Village, 13 miles away.

War surplus dormitories were found as far away as Texas and brought to the campus. Thirty-one of them became Sunny-side’s 186 apartments for the hastily expanded faculty demanded by the flood of students. Oread hall for 160 men was assembled west of the stadium, older houses like the five Lockley halls, Hodder, Oliver, Sterling, Kanza, and Varsity hall provided quarters for 62 men and 132 women, and the east stadium itself was converted into McCook hall for 48 men.

As the veterans departed and enrollment declined through 1949, 1950, 1951, K.U. took a deep breath and began preparing for a new onslaught. This one would come not from the doubling up of college generations through war-time service, but from rising birthrates and increasing percentages of Kansas high school graduates going on to college.

Help from the Legislature

In 1950 the Kansas legislature provided North College for 195 women. At the mid-century mark, K.U.’s Lawrence enrollment stood at 7,077. That year Pearson, Sellards, and Stephenson halls for 48 students each were added to the scholarship hall system. Three years later came the most recent scholarship hall, Douthart, and a 48-student addition to the residence hall system, Grace Pearson.

University housing’s big year was 1955. Carruth and O’Leary halls—K.U.’s first large men’s dormitory project—were completed for 100 men each. Gertrude Sellards Pearson hall for 450 women indicated the pattern of the future: a substantial gift made possible a bond issue which could be repaid from student board-and-room fees. And in 1955 the Kansas legislature voted a ¼-mill tax levy which could be used to help construct dormitories at the five state schools.

In 1957 K.U. made a start on providing housing for its married student population, which had maintained itself since the end of World War II at the surprising rate of more than one out of every five students. Stouffer Place, ten buildings with
a total of 120 apartments, was opened. Eighteen months later it was doubled in size. Both projects were financed entirely by U.S. loan funds which will be repaid from rentals.

Today's Housing Picture

Now, with these apartments and the addition of room for 416 men in Joseph R. Pearson hall, K.U. has permanent housing for 1,881 single students—554 men and 1,327 women—out of its 8,538 Lawrence enrollment. Of these the scholarship halls house 238 men and 194 women. The residence halls system provides for 616 men and 823 women.

For married students K.U. has 372 apartments—240 modern units in Stouffer Place, 132 impermanent ones in Sunnyside. Eight of the original 31 Sunnyside buildings were torn down to provide room for the new Summerfield hall School of Business building. Fourteen of the remaining 23 will be razed in July. The fate of the last nine—if not the exact date of execution—is sealed.

Total permanent K.U. housing then is about 2,100 units—space for less than 25% of the total Lawrence enrollment. This is about 18% of the single men, 35% of the single women (the women must spend their freshman year in a residence hall), and 14% of the married students.

Where do the rest of the students live? The fraternities house about 1,500 men (33% of the single men); the sororities, 700 women (30% of the single women). The remainder—about 2,300 single students, 1,450 married students—either live in private Lawrence housing or commute.

In Private Homes

What is the picture in private housing? Lawrence has tried to meet the demand for married student housing in two ways. About 320 new housing units have been added since 1950—a rate of better than 35 a year. And almost every rooming house with two conveniently adjoining rooms has been converted into an apartment.

The result, according to the K.U. Housing Office, is that there has been virtually no increase since 1950 in the number of private rooms for single men, and there actually may be a decrease.

Private firms and individuals are interested in building new apartments and duplexes, but nobody is building new housing for single students. The traditional pattern in this field is the slow but inexorable conversion into rooming houses of the larger, older homes around the campus.

Today, with somewhat higher standards in private housing and apartment conversions, the remaining house that once took

15-20 men now lists space for no more than 8. Most take between 3 and 5.

A Look at Tomorrow

What does the future hold? For the University it holds more students—many, many more. The latest predictions—by Dean Kenneth Anderson of the School of Education—call for 9,700 students at Lawrence in 1969, a jump of more than 900 over next year's forecast. In 1966 Dean Anderson expects 14,000 students, in 1970, 18,400.

For single students the future holds seven additional student residence halls by 1966. The new Templin hall will be ready next fall; Lewis, a year from now. Both are under construction on the 15th and Iowa Streets "Daisy Field." They will add housing for 832 men.

Next year an expected increase in women students will put women in the O'Leary half of the Carruth and O'Leary halls building. By the start of the spring semester next year, K.U. hopes to have five more Stouffer Place buildings—60 more apartments—built up the hill in back of the present structures.

By spring of 1960, then, K.U. will have housing for about 3,000 students, 34% of its anticipated enrollment of 8,800.

The Building Schedule

After that the present schedule calls for a new hall for 416 women in 1961, two new halls for a total of 832 men in 1963, another for 416 men in 1965, and an additional hall for 416 women in 1966. In those seven years, while the University plans to add a total of 2,080 residence hall housing units, the enrollment is expected to increase by 6,000. At that time, the percentage of students housed will be about 50% of the women and 30% of the men.

Meanwhile, additional space for about 4,000 students will have to be provided elsewhere—chiefly in Lawrence

Beyond this the imagination begins to stagger. Certain questions, however, can be answered.

Where will the University find room to build all these residence halls? The foresight of the K.U. Endowment Association in purchasing outlying land over the years makes it all possible. One more residence hall can be built on the "Daisy Field" site. Two can be constructed on 18th street, south of the present basketball parking lot; one can be put up on the present Oread hall site west of the stadium and another northeast of the stadium on the Lockley site. The last two are most subject to changes in plans.

Effect on Fraternities

What effect will this housing program have on fraternities

TWENTY STOUFFER PLACE UNITS spread out southwest of Allen field house; new Templin and Lewis halls take shape directly west of it.
and sororities? They cannot be expected to make up a significant part of the housing deficit; in the last eight years two new fraternity houses and four new sorority houses have been constructed. One sorority house has been completely remodeled and expanded. Two more groups have sites and reasonably firm plans to build. Others have plans that are more nebulous. Construction may average a new house per year for the foreseeable future.

But the past decade's construction by Greek letter groups has provided little additional housing capacity. The improvement has been in living standards.

With good housing available for the single student, fraternities and sororities will have to increase further their emphasis on scholarship, responsibility toward the university, and aid to pledges. One advantage they will have to offer is the small living group. The net result probably will be not a weaker fraternity-sorority system but a stronger—if only because the individual houses will have to work harder.

What about Lawrence

What will be the effect on Lawrence? There will be no lessening of demand for housing; rather it is expected to double in the next eight years. But the comparison with University housing will put pressure on sub-standard rooms and apartments. Private housing necessarily must be upgraded.

What will be the effect on the University? In one sense there will be more homogeneity to the student body with, for the first time, substantial residence hall housing for men. There may be a residence hall council similar to the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council. Residence halls will have their own governments, their own social functions, their own intramural athletic teams.

But it is probable that the independent student will not really be changed by living in a hall with 400 or more other men. There he can remain just an independent as he wishes without someone trying to do something about it.

There may be an increase in the students already marked increase in seriousness about his studies and a decrease in his interest in social functions, particularly the organized activities.

But this is speculation. The facts about the University's student housing program boil down to this: without it K.U. cannot hope to take care of the demands that will be made upon it by a new and more plentiful generation, and by the increased educational necessities of modern society.

Without it thousands of Kansas young men and women, if they get a college education at all, will have to get it in some other state—simply because they are Kansans.

FOR WOMEN: Gertrude Sellards Pearson (1.); North College-Corbin.

HOUSING LOCATIONS: (1) Strouffer Place, (2) Templin and Lewis (out of view), (3) Corruth-O'Leary and J. R. Pearson (out of view—on Campus Road, west of stadium), (4) GSP and Corbin-North College, (5) scholarship halls, and (6) Sunnyside.

THETA CHI fraternity will soon move into this new house at 9th and Emery Road—one of many new ones built since World War II.

WATKINS AND MILLER halls, gifts of Mrs. J. B. Watkins.
BEFORE THE TURN of the century, student housing presented no real problem for the University of Kansas. Most students came from Lawrence or surrounding areas in Douglas County, and the remaining young men and women were housed in faculty homes or carefully selected private residences. Many families moved to Lawrence especially for the purpose of educating their children.

By the early 1900’s, however, enrollment was approaching the 2,000 mark, more students were enrolling from the far corners of Kansas and from outside Kansas, and murmurs of discontent began to be heard from parents and alumni.

Laura Lockwood, ’91, g’94, a former Kansan teaching English at Wellesley College, summarized these complaints in a ten-page article appearing in the November, 1908, Graduate Magazine. Her essay was entitled “The Dormitory or the Rooming House,” and emphasized the advantages of organized living units for women as compared with the existing rooming house system, which she considered “a danger to their health and well-being, and a detriment to their development as examples of wise and noble womanhood.”

Chancellor Frank Strong shared Miss Lockwood’s opinion, and included a $75,000 request for a women’s dormitory in the 1908 University budget, explaining: “A great many mothers will not allow their daughters to come to the University of Kansas because of the great inadequacy of accommodation. It is absurd to expect that the daughters of the family will go to the University and put up with uncomfortable and unsanitary conditions.”

Legislature: No

The state legislature thought the situation not quite so pressing, however, and turned down the Chancellor’s request—marking the first of a long series of failures in the almost two decade long battle for a women’s residence hall.

When the legislature again refused the Chancellor’s request in 1910, he and Olin Templin, chairman of a newly-formed “Alumni Committee on Residence Halls,” Eugenie Galloo, representing the faculty women; and Beulah Murphy, president of the Women’s Student Government Assn., began a campaign for private support of the building project.

During the Commencement festivities in the spring of 1911, Alberta Corbin, ’93, spoke to the assembled alumni, asking help in raising funds. Members of the Alumni Association voted to join students and faculty in the effort, and a committee was formed: Olin Templin (chairman), ’86, Cora Pierson Hopkins, ’84, W. Y. Morgan, ’85, Eugenie Galloo, ’94, Elinor Sisson, g’26, Evadne Lapad, ’08, Genevieve Howland Chalkley, ’97; Katharine Morton Carruth, Faye Dodge, g’11, Rose Morgan, ’94, g’05, Agnes Thompson, ’96, Alberta Corbin, ’93, and Dean James Woods Green.

Parade to Demonstrate

On Oct. 6, 1911, University women officially began their part of the campaign. Three hundred women, representing every county in Kansas, waved banners and sang as they marched from Fraser to Robinson Gymnasium. The K.U. band led the way.

There Gertrude Boughton Blackwelder, ’75, and Cora Pierson Hopkins spoke of the University women. The University women, fired with enthusiasm, composed a song to serve as their battle slogan:

“If Kansas is not rich enough
To grant the thing we need
Come on, we'll get it for ourselves,
And glory in the deed!”

In spite of this promising start, the campaign lost momentum. By June of 1912 (when plans called for the entire $75,000 to have been collected) the committee reported $7,044.04 in contributions. A year later, the total was $11,630.27 in contributions and pledges. Olin Templin resigned as chairman of the committee and Agnes Thompson replaced him. By June of 1914, some of the pledges had been withdrawn and the amount collected was listed as $8,353.34. Miss Thompson asked that a new committee be appointed and suggested that it was “not advisable to prosecute an active campaign during the coming year.” The private support project was never resumed.

Council of Women Start

In 1916, the Kansas Council of Women—representing all women’s clubs in the state—organized a committee to undertake a legislative campaign to secure women’s residence halls at all five state schools: Emporia State, Ft. Hays State, Pittsburg State, Kansas State and K.U. The attempt failed that year, and again in 1918.

During the winter of 1918-19, University women again resorted to their plan to “get it for themselves.” They began a campaign for co-operative houses, and within a year—with the help of the $1,000 contribution from the Alumni Association —had raised enough money to establish such a house. The Alumni Association had appointed a committee to assist the women in this project: John Ise, ’98, ’10, ’11, Helen Perry Edwards, ’96, Grace Wilke, ’12, Alberta Corbin, ’93, Hugo Wedell, ’15, Irving Hill, ’96, and Thornton Cooke, ’95.

In June, John Ise offered a house at 1127 Ohio—belonging to him—for use by the women.

The plan worked well enough that it continued on page 34
Where Does the Money Come From?

By J. J. Wilson, Director of Dormitories

Financing of Dormitories at the University of Kansas, followed, until recently, a baker's dozen of formulae. But now the pattern is clear.

The policy of the Legislature and of the Board of Regents is that in construction and operation, dormitories must be self-supporting, except for the subsidy afforded by the state-wide ¼-mill dormitory fund levy.

Enacted by the 1955 Legislature, Senate Bill 134 provides a ¼-mill tax on all tangible property in the state. The Board of Regents annually distributes the proceeds to the state institutions of higher education on the basis of relative enrollments. The University's share has averaged about $336,000.

To use this money, the statutes require the University to obtain at least an equal amount from other sources, such as through the sale of revenue bonds or by gifts.

To speed the erection of needed student housing, K.U. fortunately has been able to obtain matching funds in excess of the required 1 to 1 ratio. The proportion has been approximately $3½ for each $1 obtained from the levy.

And that is how the Joseph R. Pearson Hall for 416 men could be opened in February, to be followed by Olin Temple and Luther N. Lewis Halls, each for 432 men, scheduled respectively for September 1959 and February 1960.

All Appropriation or Gift

In the past, dormitory construction at the state schools depended on a 100% appropriation by the Legislature, or 100% through gifts, a procedure that did not produce the needed student housing.

The Legislature appropriated money for Corbin Hall which was completed in 1923 and still provides good accommodations for 130 women. But the second such appropriation came a quarter of a century later, so that the companion North College Hall for women was not built until 1949.

In 1926, the late Mrs. Elizabeth M. Watkins provided Watkins Hall, a scholarship residence for 80 women. Since then, a unique scholarship hall system has been developed entirely with private funds given through the Endowment Association. The system now includes nine structures in which approximately 200 women and 250 men live at a low cost.

Fortunately Endowment Association officers also had the vision to acquire several tracts of undeveloped land adjacent to the campus. This area now is available for student housing. Were it necessary to acquire the sites at current prices, as a part of construction costs, application of the state's "self-sustaining" policy would force significant funds into land purchases and so reduce the amount available for buildings.

The Association continues to render invaluable services in advancing student housing by serving as a skillful custodian of gifts and requests.

State Permits Bonds

In the mid-1940's legislation was enacted to permit the Board of Regents to issue revenue bonds to finance construction of dormitories and student union buildings. The net income is pledged to meet a predetermined debt retirement schedule.

The revenue bond privilege provides flexibility in dormitory financing, but leaves unsolved the matter of a "down payment." To borrow the full cost of a dormitory and then seek to earn enough income from it to retire the debt is impractical, for such debt service would require excessive room-and-board charges.

Pearsoms Turned Tide

At this point, the late J. R. Pearson and Mrs. Pearson figuratively "put the show on the road." The Pearsons felt that by making "down payment" gifts for housing, they could facilitate dormitory construction which in turn would provide educational opportunity for Kansas youth.

The example of the Pearsons in supplying incentive capital gifts to K.U. undoubtedly influenced the legislation which created the statewide dormitory fund levy to make available "down payments" to all state schools. However, it appears that the ¼-mill levy is not enough to permit dormitory construction at a rate that will prepare other and campuses for the increased student loads that will be upon us in two or three years.

The additional "equity" capital which is needed can come only from gifts or greater state support.

With the University able to rely on a combination of gifts, tax funds, and borrowing power to finance dormitory construction, the system can be enlarged in a planned manner, although not as rapidly as many would like.

Four Years Required

An outline of required procedures for the construction of Joseph R. Pearson Hall indicates why construction of dormitories may seem at times to move slowly.

1. An enrollment study was made. It showed the need for more men's housing.
2. A financial study was made of construction costs and availability of funds.
3. The findings in these studies were submitted to the Board of Regents, which gave its approval to the preliminary planning.
4. Arrangements were made for the State Architect to prepare plans and specifications.
5. Application for a $710,000 loan was filed with the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency.
6. Final architectural plans and the loan agreement with the Government were approved by the Board of Regents.
7. Construction bids were taken by the State Purchasing Director and found to be within estimates. Contracts were awarded to the low bidders.
8. Revenue bonds were prepared and delivered according to the loan agreement.

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How Gifts Helped The Cause

The late Mrs. Elizabeth M. Watkins started the program of student housing through private benefaction with her gift of Watkins Hall back in 1927. By the same act, she initiated the plan of housing for needy students of high scholastic ability which has been such a great success at K.U.

Mrs. Watkins built Miller Hall, her second gift of the same kind, in 1937.

The late Dean Olin Templin, then Secretary of the K.U. Endowment Association, led a campaign in 1939 to provide similar facilities for men. He raised about $18,000, and bought from Acacia fraternity bond holders old Brynwood Manor at the corner of 14th and Louisiana. The place included a good house and tract of ground east of the campus. The land area eventually provided sites for four other scholarship halls.

Professor Templin renamed the tract “Alumni Place” in honor of the loyal and generous alumni who had responded to the call for funds. The house was transformed into a scholarship hall and put into use.

Soon after Alumni Place was purchased, a fine student, John Battenfeld, lost his life in a car accident. His parents, the late J. R. Battenfeld of Kansas City, and Mrs. Battenfeld, now Mrs. Edward Hashinger of La Jolla, Calif., built a scholarship hall in John’s memory. Through the years Mrs. Hashinger has given generously of her personal attention and gifts of furniture and fixtures for Battenfeld hall.

A short time later O. Jolliffe, of Peabody, became interested in helping K.U. students. He gave a sum of $50,000 for a scholarship hall. War time restrictions prevented building at the time and his money was used to buy two buildings already in operation. One was the former University Club headquarters at 1505 Ohio, and was named Jolliffe hall. The other, formerly owned by the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at 1200 Louisiana, was called Foster hall after the late Registrar George O. Foster.

Enter Pearson

It was here that Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Pearson of Corsicana, Texas, entered the residence hall picture. Through the influence of former Chancellor Deane W. Malott, they became convinced that the building of good housing accommodations for students was the most important contribution they could make to the University. Through succeeding gifts they made possible Pearson and Sellards Scholarship halls on Alumni Place, Grace Pearson hall at 1335 Louisiana, Gertrude Sellards Pearson hall for Women on North College Hill, and now the J. R. Pearson hall for men on West Campus Road. All together they have contributed nearly one million dollars and have made possible housing for more than 1,000 students.

The late Lyle Stephenson, well-remembered insurance man in Kansas City, left his estate to his widow, Mrs. Grace Stephenson. She became interested in the scholarship hall idea and bequeathed her estate to provide another hall in Alumni Place. It was named Stephenson hall. The executor of the estate, Clay Stephenson, forewent his fee to help finish paying the cost of the building.

Another family that made possible the building of a scholarship hall was Lela Douthart, ’99, her sister, Ava Douthart Chronister, ’01, and Mr. Chronister. Lela Douthart left her estate to her brother-in-law, Bert, to help provide a scholarship hall. Mrs. Chronister added to the amount with a personal gift, and Mr. Chronister, before his death, completed the payments necessary.

Lewis Made Major Bequest

The late Luther N. Lewis, of Lawrence, in 1933 left his estate to the University for undesignated purpose, with provision that Mrs. Lewis should have a life interest in it. The estate was valued at more than $300,000 and was said to be the largest bequest the University had received up to that time. Its value grew during the years before the death of Mrs. Lewis in June, 1956, so that eventually the University received an amount of $409,384.63. University officials considered the housing program to be the greatest need for such an amount and used the Lewis estate as a base payment in financing the two large men’s dormitories being built on the old “Daisy Field” southwest of the campus. One is to be named Lewis hall in honor of Mr. Lewis, and the other will be called Templin hall in memory of Dean Templin, who played a key role in the effort to provide student housing. The first Templin hall at 14th and Louisiana will be razed, and in its place an apartment building for retired faculty members will be erected.