Cross Recommends Med School Land Grant for V.A. Hospital

A recommendation by President Cross that four and one-half acres of the University Medical School campus be given the Veterans Administration for a proposed $18,000,000 veterans hospital has been approved by the Board of Regents and has been presented to the Oklahoma Legislature.

The action was requested of President Cross by Dr. J. P. Gray, dean of the School of Medicine, in February. The additional land brings the University grant to a total of nine acres.

Col. Harry E. Brown, member of the Veterans Administration’s national hospital committee and member of the Senate veterans affairs committee, predicted recently that actual construction on the hospital would begin within the near future. It is expected that engineers will begin surveying the site within a short time after transactions are completed. They must be formally approved by President Truman and V. A. headquarters in Washington.

The original estimate of the hospital was $10 millions on 4.5 acres of land but officials of the V. A. held the acreage was too small to accommodate the 1,000-bed hospital. A Senate committee has agreed to asked the bill to include nine acres. The University owns all the area except three lots and is arranging to obtain this from private owners.

Dean Gray and President Cross said the money obtained from the land grant would be used for further expansion.

Regents Act

At a meeting, the Board of Regents accepted the resignation of eight faculty members, administrative and clerical employees who are former students. They include: Elizabeth B. Barnett, ’36 phys., instructor in geology; W. W. Hinkley, ’41, liberal arts instructor, physical education for women; W. H. Akers, instructor in geology; Stannore Brooks Townes, ’28a, ’25ma, who failed to return to his position after termination of his leave of absence for military service.

Wiley Richard, ’42fa, announcer, WNAD; Annette Lee Kent, ’45, medical stenographer, correspondence study department; Mrs. Mary Jane Nola, ’45ba, clerical stenographer, office of counselor of women; Hazel Gunby, ’41, head of the periodical department, University library; and Ann Guthrie, ’46ba, junior psychologist.

Faculty and clerical appointments were approved by the Board of Regents recently. The appointments made were: Lawrence Vernon Scott, ’45ba, instructor of plant sciences; Irving Yale Fishman, ’45ba, graduate assistant in zoological sciences; John T. Hedges, ’42law, special instructor in economics; Hal Mulford, ’43ba, part-time special instructor in finance.

James Dolph Carmichael, Jr., ’41ba, special instructor in economics; Richard P. Yelling, ’36-38, and Lowell Dean Gregory, ’40ba, half-time instructor in mathematics; Jack M. Bowers, ’39ba, ’41ma, music director, WNAD, assistant professor of music; Raymond Grover Loper, ’38-41, graduate assistant in petroleum engineering.

Guy Herbert Brown, ’42ba, instructor in speech; Mrs. Ruth E. Walton, ’38ba, ’41ma, instructor in journalism; C. E. Holliday, ’37ba, supervisor of student publications and special instructor in journalism; Ruth Ann Park, ’45ma, and Ann Hardy, ’46ba, teaching assistants in English; Ruth Collier McSpadden, ’46ba, teaching assistant classical languages; William Allen Snyder, ’45, graduate assistant in physics.

Advisory board and clerical appointments made were: Patt Webb, ’46ba, junior accountant; Mrs. Virginia Nation Schubert, ’48ba, clerical secretary; Don M. Frenley, ’41-43, budget clerk; Arthur W. Ricker, ’41ma, junior accountant; Fred Grove, ’37ba, assistant in press relations; Mrs. Ethel Walker Helley, ’41ba, clerical secretary, department of government.

Soonerland’s WNAD ‘Grows Up’ From 10 to 1,000-watt Station

From a 10-watt station in the basement of a student’s home to a 1,000-watt station with sound proof studios on the fourth and fifth floor of Oklahoma Memorial Union Building tells much of the quarter of a century history of WNAD, University of Oklahoma’s official broadcasting station.

Many changes and improvements have transpired since the station first went on the air in the home of its owner and builder, Maurice L. Prescott, ’28eng, ’31mas, (now a General Electric application engineer) in September, 1922. Prescott, assisted by the Oklahoma Radio Engineering Co., which was organized by him, soon boosted the station’s power to 50 watts. By the time school started in the fall of 1923, the station had been purchased by the School of Engineering which had just organized the school’s radio program and was then using the station as an auxiliary. The station was later purchased by the School of Engineering and is now a part of the University Extension Division.

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During this early day period the station was limited to about two-hour broadcasts three nights a week. It now operates on a full daytime schedule, averaging about 10 hours a day with more than 200 broadcast periods each week. A recent permit from the Federal Communication Commission authorized broadcasts of basketball games at night.

The present day station of 1,000 watts was boosted to that power by steps, not all at once. In 1925-26, a complete assembly of new equipment permitted an increase in power to 500 watts. At this time Charles E. Bathe, ’26eng, ’39ba, was operator of the station. He was assisted by Byron McDermott, ’28eng, under the direction of Professor Walter, in the installation of the new equipment.

The official opening of the 500-watt station was held in January, 1926. Since then the “Voice of Soonerland” has been heard in every state in the union, every Canadian Province, Alaska, Mexico, New Zealand, Hawaii, Cuba and other remote points.

In 1927, Ted Beaird, then director of town and country service in the University Extension Division, assumed the duties of program director and general manager of the station. C. V. Bulen, assistant professor of electrical engineering, was appointed to serve as mechanical director. In 1931, when Bulen resigned from the faculty, Clyde L. Farrar was appointed chief engineer and mechanical director.

Then in 1932, Walter Emery, ’34law, now in the legal department of the Federal Communication Commission, was appointed chief announcer and studio manager by General Manager Ted Beaird. At that time Emery was director of forensics in the University.

Emery was succeeded by Homer R. Heck, ’35, who served under Beaird as studio manager until 1935, when Harold McCallum, ’34ba, was appointed. In 1939, Heck, now NBC production manager in Chicago, took over general management of WNAD and also became assistant manager to Ted Beaird in the Alumni Corporation.

Heck held his position until Beaird left for army service early in 1942. A few weeks after Beaird reported for active duty, Heck resigned in favor of his NBC assignment.
University Placement Service Unites Job-Seekers, Employers

Operating not only as a service for students but also for Alumni scattered the world over, the University Placement Service takes its place among other departments of the University as a clearing house for job requests.

Thousands of requests are handled annually by this office, both for job-seekers and employers. Requests come from all sections of the United States and foreign countries for teachers, business personnel, and technical and industrial employees.

A complete file is kept on all students and alumni who have, within the past 20 years, applied for a job. The office is completing a survey in which approximately 4,000 questionnaires were sent to teacher applicants listed in the files. The purpose of the survey is to determine how many of the former applicants are still interested in obtaining a position through the placement service, as many of them have not been contacted since applying for placement assistance.

The Placement Service is preparing to launch a campaign to line up approximately 400 companies in addition to the 200 that are now on the list of receivers of a yearly letter. The annual letter will inform the companies of the number and type of O. U. seniors available for employment.

The local situation on employment is also handled by survey. Each summer the placement service sends a letter to department heads at the University and to Norman business men requesting a list of anticipated needs for both full and part time employment for the school year to follow.

The University is the best source of part time employment for students. Each office requires secretaries and typists and many departments require lab assistants and other technicians. Norman employers likewise require many students to fill their employment schedule.

Wives of married students find the placement service extremely helpful in obtaining full-time employment for them while their husbands are in school. Some firms in Oklahoma City have also registered with the service to employ wives of married students.

Upon Heck's resigning, Mrs. Paul Sears (Virginia Hawks, '37) became WNAD's first woman director. She was followed as director in 1944 by John W. Dunn, former member of the University drama faculty.

The part-time broadcasting status of WNAD was terminated in 1940 when the station was assigned its present frequency of 640 kilocycles and permitted to assume a full daytime role. Studios were moved from the Engineering Laboratory Building to the Union Building and later to its present location in Union Tower. The transmitter was moved to the east wing of the stadium and a 300-foot antenna was erected on the Norman Golf Course.

Until 1944 the staff of WNAD was composed of students, but now has 13 full-time employees and eight student employees. Seventy per cent of the station's programs are presented by the staff.

The continuous six days a week, 52 weeks a year operation in 1946 made facilities available to over 41 agencies outside the University and to 46 departments of the University presenting regular programs. In the last 11 months of 1946, a total of 2,047 persons in addition to the paid staff appeared before WNAD microphones.

Six daily and four weekly news programs, including a 15-minute daily review of campus news, the only daily newscast of its type in the nation, is presented over the station.

Rapid and consistent expansion is not over for the University station, however. A construction permit has been granted the University for a new 3,000-watt frequency modulation station to be known as KOKU. An application for a 5,000-watt transmitter for WNAD has also been submitted.

In addition to Director John W. Dunn, the staff consists of Bill Morgan, production manager; Gus King Babb, '42, full time announcer; Jack Payne, sophomore in Arts and Sciences of Oklahoma, part time announcer; Hilary Fry, junior in English of Davis, part time announcer; Bob Nelson, freshman in Norman, part time announcer; Ramey Perot, chief engineer, and many others, both students and full time employees.

Frank A. Ives, director of the University Placement Service, reviews a job placement application while his staff looks on. They are left to right, Mrs. Betty Sue Moore, secretary; Mrs. Mary Lou Morgan, student assistant; Miss Betty Brown, '44ba, assistant director and head of student employment department; and Mrs. Patricia Heumann, clerical-secretary.