IN January, 1903, the first building, which for ten years had been the University of Oklahoma, burned. It is hard now to locate the site of that building. For a long time, a part of the old boiler marked the place, but such changes have come that the original spot is hard to find. Old graduates cannot agree about it. The pergola, back of the Pine Arts Building, is near the spot. The walk which led to it, if extended on west, would run to the home of E. Johnson. That brick house, erected by S. P. Render, faced a street which ran across the campus in front of the old building.

Some class or some organization should find the exact spot, and erect a monument to the old building for in the early history, University life centered there. For ten years it was a hive of industry; a hive because a whole University was crowded into one building.

Look at the picture at the top of this page and compare the campus of 1904 with that of today. On the far right of the picture are the ruins of the first building. In the center stand the powerhouse and two frame buildings hastily erected after the fire for recitation buildings. One of these frame buildings still stands; the other, which at the time housed the printing plant, went up in smoke and flames. To the left is the unfinished building which burned in 1907. It stood nearly on the spot now occupied by the Administration Building.

The photographer has caught an expanse of unbroken prairie. He is looking toward the southwest from a position near where the Union Building now stands. How dreary the campus was in January! You can almost hear the wind blow as you look at the picture.

Nearly all of the first faculty, that which was here from 1893 to 1903, is gone, but in many a memory, the life associated with that early University is still clear. It would take a novel to express it.

I was reminded of all this Sunday, December 10, when G. A. Bucklin, ’03, secretary to Dr. David R. Boyd, first president of the University, and first registrar of the University, knocked at my door. He and Mrs. Bucklin wanted to go to church in Norman. They wanted to visit old spots of interest to them; where they lived, and where they worked.

Mr. Bucklin has been in the U. S. Consular Service for twenty-five years. He is now retired and lives in Berkeley, California. He was interested in finding the location of the first building because he was a student there, and because he developed the registry office there. Many early record cards in his copper plate handwriting are still on file. An old friend whom we visited, Mrs. Monroe, in Noble, said that of 118 students in the first Summer School, 28 boarded with her, a block north of where Professor E. E. Dale lives on Main Street. Students walked a long way to meals then.

Dr. G. L. Cross, professor of botany in the University and head of his department, was elected president of the Oklahoma Academy of Science last month, for a two-year term. Charles A. Whitmer, assistant professor of physics in the University, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Forrest E. Clements, professor of anthropology, has an interesting colored motion picture entitled “Prehistoric Oklahoma.” It shows workmen excavating prehistoric mounds in Oklahoma, and some of the treasures unearthed.

New chairman of the medical education section of the Southern Medical Association is Dr. Robert U. Patterson, dean of the University School of Medicine. He was elected at the annual convention held in late November at Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. Donald B. McMullen, assistant professor of bacteriology, is engaged in a parasite survey of five eastern Oklahoma counties. A survey of the prevalence of intestinal parasites among school children is attempted. Dr. Grady Matthews, and Dr. James Gray, of the State Health Department, are conducting the survey.

An informal talk on “Teachers Are People” by Dr. L. B. Hoisington, head of the department of psychology, was scheduled last month over KOCY, Oklahoma City.

Mrs. W. B. Bizzell entertained for members of the Faculty Women’s Club Tuesday, December 11.

Professor Bernard D. Anderson heads a novel clinic at the University—a speech clinic. The clinic scientifically attends to such speech defects as lisping, stammering, poor enunciation and poor voice placing. It is achieving some remarkable results.

Dr. Loyd E. Harris, ’20 pharm, ’22 pharm, ’24 ms, professor of chemistry, gave the third in a series of University public lectures Tuesday, December 12, in the Engineering Auditorium. Dr. Harris lectured on the subject, “The Sources of Drugs.”

Dr. W. B. Bizzell, president of the University, represented O.U. at the inauguration of Homer P. Rainey as president of the University of Texas last month.

Dr. H. C. Peterson, associate professor of history and author of Propaganda for War, participated in the University of Chicago Round Table discussion of propaganda November 26. The program is broadcast each week over 77 stations of the National Broadcasting Company. Dr. Peterson appeared on the program with Harold D. Lasswell and Maynard Krueger, authorities on propaganda methods.