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Old Auditorium Converted to Provide Classrooms And Offices for Western’s Growing Needs

The auditorium in Old Main, virtually abandoned after the construction of the Auditorium-Music Building, has again become a center for much college activity, though changed in appearance so completely that old alums would not recognize it. What used to be the balcony now contains two offices, two classrooms and one very large room which may be converted later into two additional classrooms. The main floor has been cut into three offices and four classrooms, one large enough to seat 110, two with a capacity of 60 and a seminar room. The expanding Mathematics Department occupies two of the offices and Foreign Language the other.

Total cost of the conversion, including fluorescent lighting, tile floors, green chalkboards and new furniture, was approximately $50,000. According to Don Ferris, Registrar, this was money well spent. Growing enrollment has made it increasingly difficult, he says, to find classroom space, even with the scheduling of noon classes. So the old auditorium, remembered by many alums as the scene of their commencement, is no more. Only the low, curved steps which led into the main entrance have been left as they were. But now they are just steps leading to a blank wall. The entrance to the new wing is down the hall—about where the side entrance to the auditorium was.
Faculty On Leave Continue Preparation; Study in Norway, Italy, and United States

Seven of Western’s faculty are on leave of absence. Five are attending universities in this country and two are studying abroad. Miss Dorothy Ramsland, Home Economics, is in Norway.

She writes from Oslo that a committee of the Norwegian University Women’s Organizations has helped her work out a plan of study and visitation that will make it possible for her to see not only home furnishings and arts and crafts, but many other aspects of Norwegian life. She has opportunities to observe classes in two excellent arts and crafts schools, their plan of study and the students’ work. She has also visited factories, shops, artists’ workshops, museums, and exhibitions and has talked to many leading artists, craftsmen, teachers and museum curators.

Mr. Annis Hovde

Mr. Annis Hovde, English, is on leave for a full year, and is studying in Italy. At present he and his family are living on Forio d’Ischia, a small island near Naples. They are living in a house belonging to W. H. Auden, the poet, who, Mr. Hovde reports, has left behind his library which is so complete that it alone would provide all the materials necessary for his studies.

Two members of the Speech Department are on leave. Laurence Brewster is at the State University of Iowa, where he studied last year also. He is working on his dissertation and also teaching. Paul Herbold is at the University of Minnesota where his Ph.D. program of a major in speech and a minor in journalism has been approved. In addition to his studies, he has been working as an announcer at the Twin City NBC radio and television outlet.

Miss Helen Gillham, Third Grade, Campus School, and Miss Eileen McMillan, Music, are both doing advanced study at Teachers College, Columbia University. Miss Gillham has been given an opportunity to work in the teacher training program at Teachers College. She supervises students at Fieldston, Ethical Culture, and Mt. Morris schools. The latter is a Day Care Center—all Negro—located in the center of Harlem.

Melvin Allan, Appointment Secretary and Alumni Relations Co-ordinator, is on leave for the full quarter and is studying at the University of Washington.

WOODRING ATTENDS CONFERENCE

During August of 1955 Dr. Woodring of the department of Education and Psychology attended a three weeks conference on education held at the Institute for the Advanced Study of the Behavioral Sciences in Palo Alto. The conference was called by the Fund for the Advancement of Education to study the problems which will be faced by the high schools and colleges when the impending tidal wave of students reaches these levels. Various plans were examined for meeting the enrollment increases without lowering the quality of instruction. Participants, who were selected by the Fund, included representatives of Universities, public and private colleges, and high schools.

Study Shows Western’s Students Rate High

Contrary to what might be expected, the large increase in enrollment at WWCE has not been accompanied by a proportionate increase in students of low ability. Actually, according to a study made by the Bureau of Research, the average scores on the scholastic aptitude test have increased in the past two years. On the basis of this test, Western ranks at about the national average for colleges in general in the intellectual caliber of its student body and stands significantly higher than other teachers colleges.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this picture is the increase in the number of top quality students. This year Western has attracted a larger proportion than ever before of students in the very highest levels of academic aptitude. It might also be noted that this includes a large number of men students. The two top scores this year, higher than any made previously at Western, were made by men.

Commenting on the Bureau of Research report, the Bellingham Herald wrote in its lead editorial November 9:

“Since Western is primarily—though not exclusively—a teacher training institution, it is evident from this upward trend in scholastic ratings, now in its third successive year, that teacher standards and qualifications will be higher than ever in the coming years. Pride in the attainment of that aim can well be shared by the entire state.”
State Supreme Court Decision Halts Plans for Needed Science Building

The State Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional the building authority act of 1955 which would have provided funds for the Science Building at Western Washington College of Education and buildings at each of the other four state institutions of higher learning. The delay has serious implications for Western's student body which reached 1740 this Fall Quarter.

With inadequate science facilities, the curtailed science program will somehow have to make do in the present obsolete quarters until a constitutional source for building funds is provided. Additional classroom space in Old Main, needed by a student body that is rapidly moving toward 2000, will be denied until presently occupied science laboratories can be vacated. Unless the governor calls a special session of the legislature, it will be 1957 at the earliest before funds are available and 1959 before a modern Science Building will be ready for use on Western's campus.

Dream of Student Union Taking Shape

The Student Union building will be completed during the 1957-58 academic year estimated Dave Northrup, Student Union Planning Committee ASB, recently. The "Union" which may cost up to $600,000.00 may provide a home for the Alumni Society among its other facilities.

Recent action by the Board of Control placed an increase in "Union" fees on the student ballot Winter quarter. This assessment will, if passed, result in an income of about $30,000.00 annually to the student union fund. Present income is only about $7,500.00 per year.

The BOC has also retained the firm of Bindon and Jones, Seattle architects, to plan and supervise construction of the new building.

It is estimated that ground will be broken for construction in the late spring or early summer of 1957. The location of the building is still in doubt with the favored location being on the west (the bay side) of High street in the 500 block. Another proposal is the corner of Garden Terrace and High next to the Auditorium-Music building. Final decision on location is to be made by the trustees soon.

The student Union will contain all the offices of the student government, the student publications, Co-op store, student lounge and fountain, committee rooms, work or activity rooms and other facilities to meet the needs of Western's growing student Association.

The Student Union Committee is coordinating its plans with the faculty committee for long range planning.
Band Tour Begins February Sixth

On Friday, February 3, the band will present its annual concert of the Winter Quarter. Sigurd Rescher, saxophone virtuoso, will be the guest soloist for the occasion. The following Monday, February 6, the band will leave on a tour of western Washington. The following schedule will be of interest to alumni to whom the director, Dr. Don Walter, sends these greetings: "The band is always glad to meet alumni on these tours and we hope that many will be able to attend the concerts."

Band Tour Schedule . . .

February 6
9:00 a.m. Ballard High, Seattle
10:00 a.m. Ballard High, Seattle
1:30 p.m. Stadium High, Tacoma
2:30 p.m. Stadium High, Tacoma
February 7
9:00 a.m. Shelton High School
12:30 p.m. Montesano High School
2:30 p.m. Aberdeen High School
8:30 p.m. Raymond High School
February 8
Evening Iwaco High School
February 9
10:30 a.m. Cathlamet High School
2:30 p.m. Kelso High School
February 10
9:00 a.m. Vancouver High School
11:15 a.m. Battleground High School
2:30 p.m. Winlock High School

Choir To Go On Tour in April

The annual tour of the College choir is scheduled for April. On April 12, as part of the tour, the choir will broadcast over KING-TV on the Kings Kamera. The choir is under the direction of Mr. Bernard Regier.

Choir Tour Schedule . . .

April 10
9:00 a.m. Burlington-Edison High
11:30 a.m. Monroe High School
2:45 p.m. Snohomish High School
April 11
8:00 a.m. Lincoln High, Tacoma
9:45 a.m. Lincoln High, Tacoma
1:10 p.m. Cleveland High, Seattle
2:10 p.m. Cleveland Jr. High, Seattle
April 12
9:00 a.m. Puyallup High School
1:00 p.m. Foster Jr.-Sr. High School
3:30 p.m. KING-TV Kings Kamera
April 13
10:00 a.m. Roosevelt High, Seattle
10:30 a.m. Roosevelt High, Seattle
1:30 p.m. Everett High School

HONOR CLASS—Sharing the festive board at the Alumni Banquet last Spring were about 14 members of the Class of 1930. Some are pictured above. Left to right, seated: Irene Marz Imhof, Ferndale; Mildred Kent Jensen, Bellingham; Catherine Friese Ludwigson, Bellingham; Ed Ludwigson, Bellingham; and Earl L. Jensen. Standing: Ruth Platt, class advisor; Dorothy Stevenson Olerats, Bellingham; Ethel Boynton Crook, Bellingham; and Norma Bouck Christensen, Seattle.

Boys' have two boys, Paul 9, and Bruce 7. Clair is a regional chairman of the Alumni Association.

Kappa Delta Pi Recognizes Outstanding Teacher

At the Alumni Banquet on May 14, Eta Beta Chapter, Kappa Delta Pi, presented the first Outstanding Teacher Award to Mrs. Emma Jean Mattson Weber, '53, of the Battle Ground School District. Western's Kappa Delta Pi chapter plans to make this an annual event at which time an outstanding teacher selected from recent graduates will be honored. The 1955 selection was made from the class of 1954.

Questionnaires are sent to all principals in the state who have in their schools graduates of the class from which the selection is to be made. The principals are asked to rate each of the teachers on a five point scale on the basis of five major factors: (1) teacher effectiveness; (2) practice of democratic principles; (3) contribution to community life; (4) personal qualities; (5) professional attitude. The questionnaires are then evaluated by a committee from Eta Beta chapter assisted by faculty advisers. The final decision, which is arrived at by this group, is made on the basis of the questionnaire, scholastic record, and other evaluative data concerning the candidate.

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Hoopsters Under New Leadership; Jack Hubbard Joins Western Faculty

A new tutor took the reins as coach of the Western Basketball team this year. He is Jack Hubbard, a graduate of Central Washington College and candidate for the Ed.M. degree there.

Jack replaces C. W. McDonald, giving "Big Mac" more time for his responsibility as dean of men. Hubbard brings to Western some eight years of coaching experience at Clarkson, Mount Baker and Everett high schools. His basketball record goes back farther than that, however, to his days on the varsity team at Everett High School. Jack was team captain when Everett took the state tournament title during his senior year, (1941).

Jack and Mrs. Hubbard have a head start toward a basketball team of their own; they are the parents of triplets—

The Viking hoopsters, though short on height and rated as underdogs, are reported to be high in training standards and morale.

WESTERN WASHINGTON COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1955-1956

Dec. 2 & 3—WWC at Totem Tourney
Vancouver, B. C.
Dec. 9 & 10—WWC at WWC
Dec. 19 & 20—WWC at Willamette U.
Salem, Oregon
Jan. 6—PLC at WWC
Jan. 7—PLC at WWC
Jan. 9—CPS at WWC
Jan. 13—WWC at Whitworth
Jan. 14—WWC at Whitworth
Jan. 16—WWC at EWC
Jan. 20—UBC at WWC
Jan. 21—WWC at UBC
Jan. 23—UBC at WWC
Feb. 3—WWC at CPS
Feb. 4—WWC at CPS
Feb. 6—WWC at PLC
Feb. 10—WWC at CPS
Feb. 11—WWC at CPS
Feb. 13—Whitworth at WWC
Feb. 17—WWC at CPS
Feb. 18—WWC at CPS

Western Players Open Drama Season

Dramatic activity at the college has undergone a new birth this year. The college drama group, Western Players, has been organized. It now functions as a producing organization and sponsors the plays with the Speech Department. A new system of reserved seats has been inaugurated and tickets have been sold on a season membership basis. This enables prospective theater-goers to plan their attendance in advance and assure themselves of good seats.

The 1955-56 drama season opened November 18 with George Kelley's satire on the Little Theatre, "The Torch-bearers." The annual opera, produced in conjunction with the Music Department will be held during the winter quarter this year and will be "Of Thee I Sing," the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical with music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin and a book by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind. "Of Thee I Sing" is a hilarious spoof of national politics and the efforts of an unnamed political party to find a platform for its candidates and the complications which arise out of the solution. The opera will be presented March 9th and 10th, 1956.

The regular season will close with the production of William Shakespeare's perennial favorite, "Twelfth Night," one of the gayest and most delightful works of the greatest dramatist the English-speaking world has produced. Plans are also under way to have the members of Western Players present an all-student one-act production each quarter during one of the assembly hours. This venture is designed to give additional experience to students interested in acting, directing, and designing and building scenery. All this activity points to one of the most exciting years of theatre at WWC.
In Memoriam Elias A. Bond and Victor H. Hoppe

In the spring and summer quarters, thousands of alumni and other friends mourned the passing of two of Western's best-loved professors, Mr. Hoppe on May 26 and Dr. Bond on July 13.

Dr. Bond came to the Bellingham State Normal School in 1906, when the institution was only seven years old. With a background of experience in the schools of Chehalis, Coupeville, and Blaine, he launched into his career of teacher education, which lasted forty years, that is, until his retirement as Professor Emeritus of Mathematics in 1946. Gladly would he learn and gladly teach, as many generations of students can testify. He emphasized the social uses of mathematics and gave unstintedly of his time and energy to the problems of individuals. He was also very active in recreational activities, and no school picnic was complete without Dr. Bond's baked salmon. In his later years he achieved national recognition as a writer of mathematics texts for the elementary school. From the beginning to the end he impressed all of his associates with the warmth, geniality, modesty, and genuineness of his character and personality.

A younger contemporary of Dr. Bond, Mr. Hoppe came to Bellingham in 1915 at the age of thirty-one with a background of study and teaching in the Middle West and served thirty-seven years, that is, until his retirement as Professor Emeritus of Speech in 1952. He was especially interested in the theatre and directed about a hundred plays for the Normal School, the College, and several local dramatic organizations such as the Bellingham Theatre Guild. He was also an accomplished character actor, as those who witnessed his performances in the roles of Bob Acres, Shylock, Peter Grimm, and others will testify. Last, but by no means least, he was a peerless after-dinner speaker, like the Yorick of his favorite dramatist, Shakespeare, “a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy, with flashes of merriment that were wont to set the table on a roar.” In that capacity he presided at the memorable Golden Anniversary Banquet in 1949, after a performance of the sprightly revue which he composed and directed, Cavalcade of Years.

To sum up, Elias A. Bond and Victor H. Hoppe were unique figures in the life of Western. They were men, take them all in all, we shall not look upon their like again.

—A. C. Hicks

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BALLOT

PRESIDENT
Carl Johnson, present incumbent, nominated for president of the Association, is a junior high school vice-principal at Vancouver. Graduate of Blaine high school. In dramatics, chorus, scholarship society at WWCE. Class of 1948.

VICE-PRESIDENT
Fred Minahan, no relation to Don, is a teacher in the Highline schools. He was graduated from Mount Vernon high school, member of Norsemen at WWCE, member of Kappa Delta Pi. He's the most recent graduate of those nominated.

SECRETARY
Arlene Niegemen, B.A. in Ed. is Home Economics teacher at Mount Baker high school. She has taught at Longview, Long Beach, California, and Marysville, and picked up the Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Washington in 1953.

YOUR ALUMNI BALLOT

Please indicate your preference below, clip the ballot and mail to Alumni Office, WWCE, before Jan. 15.

PRESIDENT
Vote for one.
Carl Johnson

VICE-PRESIDENT
Vote for one.
Ted Gary
Fred Minahan
Don Minahan

SECRETARY
Arlene Niegemen
President W. W. Haggard addressed the annual Faculty Banquet, with the Trustees and other guests present, on October 26, 1955. Excerpts from his address follow:

"This fall it is even more appropriate for me to discuss the state of the College than it has been in past years. It appears that there are more problems to be solved, in the next ten years, than there have been in the ten years since the close of the war. We know that progress necessitates immediate as well as long range planning. I shall discuss briefly the developments of the past twelve months and the problems of the next year, with a bearing of course upon the several years ahead.

I want to begin with a brief statement about our trustees. Mr. Kingsbury was appointed last June for another term of six years. By 1961, the end of this term, Mr. Kingsbury will have served the College as a Trustee twelve years and, thus far, Chairman of the Trustees five years. Mr. Eldridge was confirmed as a Trustee by the Senate during the last session. By the end of this term, 1959, Mr. Eldridge will have served the College as a Trustee for a period of ten years, and as we are glad that Mr. Kingsbury and Mr. Eldridge have been reappointed, we hope that Mr. Binzer may be reappointed in 1957.

"The sum total of the days of service of our Trustees rendered the College, if tabulated, would be more than we think, and for not one cent of our Trustee for their civic mindedness and generosity of effort.

"I want to stress the importance of the shift in Colleges of Education-Legislative relations that has taken place during this last year. It is perhaps the most significant development of twenty years or more for our College. As you know, for many years the Colleges of Education have received the same treatment at the Legislature, and for salaries and wages almost the same appropriations, partially because of approximately equal enrollments and almost identical programs. At the Joint Trustees' meeting in Seattle in October last year, it was pointed out that this College, because of the recently developed enrollment prospects, would submit a supplemental request for salaries and wages.

"In November, 1954, a supplemental request was submitted to the State Budget Office, following which we were informed that the request would have to be acted upon by the Legislature. Data supporting the request were prepared and submitted to the Joint Appropriation Committee of the House and the Senate, also the Legislative Budget Committee. Of necessity, our case was defended. The enrollment prediction for the fall of 1955; the first year of the biennium, was 1726, and for the second fall of the biennium, 1856.

"Thus far, the relations among the Colleges of Education have been mutually profitable and there is no reason why such should not be continued. The advancement of teacher education in the state must always be the object of their joint efforts, but each College should always be represented by the other two Colleges to submit and defend its claims, objectively of course, before the Legislature in terms of its own needs.

"May I give you five facts describing our present enrollment of 1740:

1. The percentage increase over last year is 15.6; the increase for the last two years is 35.1%.
2. There are 1050 men and 690 women enrolled, a small increase in the percentage of women as compared with that of a year ago.
3. The number of new students, freshmen and transfer students, is 776, and the returning students 964. The returning students, 64% of the number enrolled last fall, is significant for predicting the returning students next fall.
4. The number of students from Whatcom County is 708, 41% of the total enrollment. The non-Whatcom students, therefore, number 1032, or 59%. This ratio of Whatcom to non-Whatcom, 41%/59%, compares with 44/56 in 1954, and 46/54 in 1953. The Whatcom increase in enrollment this year is 6.8%, and the non-Whatcom 22.5%. I submit that these percentages are significant for our future.
5. Last year the percentage of teacher education students to the total enrollment was 62 and this year it is 68; in 1953 it was 62.9.

"The supplemental appropriation, with its ramifications, and the enrollment just described surely make the past twelve months a very significant year in our advance.

"Now a word about the faculty. Between the adjournment of the Legislature last March and the opening of the fall quarter we employed 19 staff members with faculty rank, to include 41 additional faculty members, four replacements, and four sub-

stitutes. The total number of staff members with faculty rank, including the President, is now 110.

"It was pointed out last year that the improvement of our program must always be one of our anxieties. We have some tangible evidence of improvement which I should mention. During this last year a responsible educator made a study of the follow-up of provisional general certificate teachers. He reported to us in writing that he gave our program a top rating.

"Speaking further of program improvement, it should be said, however, that we are still unable, because of inadequacy of staff and space, to initiate the training of high school commercial teachers.

"Last year it was stated that the enlargement of Edens Hall to accommodate 100 women was a necessity. This has been done, but with the number of additional women housed 108. It was also stated that a new approach from Holly Street to the College was a necessity. This is still one of our difficult problems to be solved. We probably shall take this problem to the Legislature again, but this cannot be until 1957.

"It was hoped that the Science Building could be started this fall. You know that the State Building Authority Law, passed by the last Legislature which provided the building, was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. It is obvious that the postponement of the erection of the building until the next biennium will call for some ingenuity in administration and instruction.

"What are some of the necessities for the next twelve months? The appropriation requests for the next biennium will have to be agreed upon not later than September 1. This involves the determination of enrollment predictions for the biennium. Working together on these predictions are the State Census board, Dr. Paul Ellis who is the Auditor of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, and a committee of six faculty members appointed by the Joint Trustees. Dr. Freehill and Mr. Ferris represent the College on the Joint Trustees' committee.

"Another necessity is the completion of an annex to the Mens Residence Hall for occupancy next September, and the enlistment of more people interested in providing off-campus housing for women. You perhaps know that even with the doubled capacity of Edens Hall, we did not have sufficient housing facilities for women this fall. Actually, another residence hall for women should be under serious consideration soon."