

# 1960-61: A Busy Year at Cornell

Constructive activity characterized the Cornell University campus during 1960-61. Buildings, bridges and curricula were constructed and renovated in great numbers. And hope began to emerge that the newly-established Centennial Planning Committee could give direction to the confusing path of University progress. And while they were building a better University, members of the University community showed increasing concern for the outside world.

Students returning to campus in September 1960 found construction continuing at a faster pace than when they had left for the summer. A new Triphammer Bridge, costing \$310,000, was being built. After succeeding in its fight to get the City of Ithaca to pay for the bridge, the University contributed \$15,000 towards the cost.

University bridge-building funds were concentrated on Suspension Bridge, which had been closed since 1959. Prof. Emeritus S. C. Hollister, former dean of the College of Engineering, designed a replacement with the bridge's traditional appearance in mind. It was ceremonially reopened Jan. 7, 1961, about a month before the new Triphammer Bridge began service.

Much more was being built during 1960-61. A graphic arts building, on the Dyden Road near the Judd Falls intersection, was put into use before the school year began. The Printing Division, Photo Science and addressograph and mailing departments have been located together in this building.

The Department of Mathematics in the arts college moved from temporary quarters in Lincoln Hall to White Hall, which had been renovated at a cost of \$170,000. Work has since begun to convert Lincoln Hall for the use of the Department of Speech and Drama and Department of Music.

The Engineering Quadrangle neared completion. The nuclear reactor building near Cascadilla Creek will be ready for use in 1961-62. Bard Hall, a new addition to Kimball Thurston Hall, will soon be under construction. And the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations will move by September to its new home on the site of the old veterinary college, thus ending the life of the school's quonset huts in the middle of the Engineering Quadrangle. Three buildings will be ready for the I&LR school this fall—a conference center, a research and publications building and a faculty-administration building. In February 1962 the fourth new I&LR structure, a library-classroom building, will be finished. The school's permanent headquarters has been built with a \$3.2 million appropriation from the state.

Money for several more buildings was obtained during the year. Over the summer the Department of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency contributed \$6.1 million for a Materials Science Center, a women's sports building, Helen Newman Hall, costing \$1.5 million is to be ready in the fall of 1962. Government funds have been received for a \$250,000 plant physiology building.

New dormitories, financed mainly by the New York State Dormitory Authority, were finished and more were planned. Mary Donlon Hall, a \$2,750,000 women's dormitory housing 475 women, will be ready for use this fall. So will the Hasbrouck Apartments, for graduate students and a few undergraduates, located near the University Golf Course. Another women's dormitory similar to Donlon will be started shortly. Construction is beginning on another set of apartments similar to and near the Hasbrouck Apartments, to hold 250 students, costing \$4.1 million.

The most significant construction of the year occurred in the center of campus. After many years of planning and fund raising, and after two years of construction, the \$57 million John M. Olin Library opened for use Feb. 6, the first day of the spring term.

The new building has 2,430,000 square feet of floor space, ten times more than that in Main Library. Its seven floors have stack space for more than 3,000,000 books, twice as many as the old Main Library.

As soon as Olin Library was opened, Main Library was closed for remodeling. Work should begin this summer on its conversion into an Undergraduate Library which is scheduled to open in September 1962.

Air-conditioned and comfortable, Olin Library achieved immediate popularity. Olin was not designed as an undergraduate library, but it will serve as the undergraduate library until Main Library reopens. The undergraduate reading rooms in the University's newest social center were invariably filled on weekday evenings during the spring term. If library service was not vastly speeded up, the wait became more pleasant.

Changes on campus were not restricted to physical



LENIN'S HEAD stands behind members of the University Men's Glee Club of their joint concert with the University of Leningrad choir. Leningrad and Moscow were two of the Glee Club's stops during the Christmas vacation concert tour of the Soviet Union and Europe.

facilities. Students returned last fall to find that the Reserve Officers Training Corps program was now voluntary. Enrollment dropped; the Army signed up about 280 freshmen, half of the previous year's total, and the Air Force took 100, down from 482 the year before, but still four times as many as are commissioned Air Force second lieutenants each year. ROTC morale, it is said, was increased.

A few more students attended Cornell than ever before. Enrollment in fall 1960 was 10,815, compared to 10,622 the year before. With its new facilities almost ready, the I&LR school showed the greatest increase in enrollment, from 283 to 332.

The national election attracted the attention of many Cornellians. Young Democrat and Young Republican organizations flourished. Richard Nixon edged John Kennedy, 1595 to 1503 in a mock student election conducted by the Executive Board. Nixon's victory was attributed by some to certain Democrats' insistence on backing Adlai Stevenson, who received 216 votes. Nixon also swept Tompkins County, receiving 17,106 votes to 8,622 for Kennedy, but Republican John Taber, representing New York's 35th district in Congress, received his biggest scare in 49 years, winning over Francis J. "Bud" Souhan 77,863 to 69,732.

The Executive Board of Student Government began to assert its extensive authority in its second year of existence. The Board began the fall term by prohibiting first-term freshman women from visiting men in off-campus apartments, even at registered parties. Its nine members were more lenient towards upper class men in dormitories for the first time in history, under provisions of the new Student Code, dormitory dwellers were allowed to have women visitors. At first visiting hours were from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturdays and 2 to 6 p.m. Sundays, in March, when the program had proved to be successful, the Board authorized women guests on Friday evenings as well.

The Board also managed to convince the Office of Residential Halls that the Hasbrouck Apartments could be rented to undergraduates on 9 1/2 month instead of full year leases, urged that the disclaimer oath for National Defense Education Act fellowships be repealed and supported the Peace Corps plan.

Adjusting to the planned changes in women's housing for 1961-62 occupied the minds and passions of Women's Student Government Association members during much of the past year. The women first decided that freshmen should be kept separate from upperclass women, as they are at present. Administration officials then decided that freshmen should get Balch Hall instead of Donlon, this provoked a petition to Day Hall, in which 1,247 women urged that Balch should be for upperclass women, and 58 wanted Balch for freshmen. After more referendums, the Administration agreed, and the women were peaceful again.

A further change in the women's dormitories for next year was announced in February by Milton R. Shaw, director of Residential Halls. The obsolete free laundry service provided would be discontinued, and no corresponding reduction in room rates would be necessary.

The Interfraternity Council, following the suggestions of the Student Code, decided to loosen its chaperonage requirements: parties with liquor or live entertainment must be attended only by one married couple over 25 years old. The couple need not stay all evening.

Expressing its concern for academic affairs, the IFC also voted, 34 to 18, to bar freshmen on probation from pledging houses. Despite this restriction, fraternities took 901 pledges in February, an increase of 50 over the totals of the previous two years.

Sororities experimented with an early start in rushing, and decided to go back to the old system for 1961-62. They took 254 members in spring rushing. A new chapter of a national sorority, Delta Phi Epsilon, was organized in the summer and began operations during the year.

Meanwhile, students were expressing opinions on the main concerns of the outside world. Two new mimeographed journals of student opinion were founded, and both thrived throughout the year. One was "Dialogue," edited by two freshmen; the other, "Controversy," published by a group of graduate students.

They were joined later in the year by an issue of "Gentlemen of the Right," a well-financed publication of the Cornell Conservative Club, which was formed in the fall and conducted a membership drive in the spring.

In December the Cornell Committee Against Segregation conducted a Conference Against Segregation for students in New York State; about 70 attended. That month the Cornell Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy picketed a model fallout shelter on display in downtown Ithaca, though SANE did nothing to prevent local government officials from spending \$100,000 of

Federal and State money to build a fallout shelter in Newfield.

In February a number of the University's African students held a public mourning for Patrice Lumumba's murder on the steps of Willard Straight Hall. This event provoked a mocking "counter demonstration," misunderstandings, and hurt feelings.

But the greatest student interest centered around discrimination, a subject applying locally as well as nationally. In early February, during fraternity rushing, a number of students picketed Sigma Chi fraternity, protesting against its overt discriminatory clause. Shortly thereafter the president and vice president of the Executive Board of Student Government presented a "strongly worded" report on fraternity discrimination to the Board.

So did the Interfraternity Council. Its outgoing president, Alan D. Kraus '61, presented a report on discrimination, noting that 16 fraternities have some overt form of restriction. He suggested that a representative of each house be required to sign an oath stating whether or not the house had restrictions on membership. The full IFC decided that September 30, 1963 would be the deadline for removing clauses.

Meanwhile, the Executive Board was also considering fraternity and sorority discrimination. After two months of debate, the Board agreed on the September 1963 deadline for all recognized organizations to end discrimination. The Board also established a Committee on Discrimination with broad powers to determine if an organization complied with the regulation and to punish violators. President Malott indicated his support of the Board's policy.

Several colleges planned changes in their curricula for future years. The New York State College of Industrial and Labor Relations established two new general courses for freshmen and sophomores, and for the first time required students to take a year of mathematics or science, beginning this fall. The College of Engineering established a two-year common studies program for engineers entering in September 1961 and thereafter, engineering students will not need to specialize within engineering until their third year.

The most sweeping change occurred in the College of Arts and Sciences. Beginning fall 1962, arts college courses in the junior and senior years will carry four credits apiece. Each department will design elementary and intermediate courses carrying three credits. More work will be required in a student's minor field, and the common studies program has been altered to make history optional, not required.

In May the arts college decided to give grades only in five-point intervals starting this fall.

As everyone expected, tuition for 1961-62 was increased. Students in the endowed undergraduate colleges will pay \$1,600 annually, up from \$1,425. Graduate students will pay \$1,500 a year, also up from \$1,425. Fees in the state schools have been increased \$35.

The Cornell Writer and The Cornell Forum merged to form a literary-artistic-political magazine, The Trojan Horse, which produced three thick issues during the year. It obtained an office in the new Activities Corridor of Willard Straight Hall alongside other major campus organizations.

Cornell United Religious Work's student Board decided not to hold the Campus Conference on Religion in future years. CCR will be replaced by a year-long series of lectures and discussions.

Farm and Home Week became Agricultural Progress Days, stressing the mechanization of farming this year. The Festival of Contemporary Arts, in its 15th annual program, stressed poetry.

Ithaca became concerned with urban renewal. Citizens heard proposals for everything from cable cars to a downtown shopping mall, and were told that downtown Ithaca "does not have the feel of a college community." The city battled the University's attempt to exempt three fraternities and a sorority from property taxes. For eight weeks the Chamber of Commerce tried subsidizing local buses and lowered fares and increased schedules, the attempt didn't work, and the bus company planned to end service.

And in February the Lehigh Valley Railroad sent its last passenger train through Ithaca.

President Malott announced in February his plans to retire on June 30, 1963. Meanwhile the Centennial Planning Committee, headed by Arthur H. Dean '19, chairman of the Board of Trustees, began to consider in earnest the University's achievements and goals. The Committee collected over 30 reports on the colleges and academic fields.

Among the noted University figures who died were Charles V. P. "Tar" Young '99, who died in November, and George Holland Sabine '03, Susan Linn Sage Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, who died in January. Prof. Emeritus Walter F. Willcox celebrated his 100th birthday March 22 in good health.



PEACE CORPS representative (right), visiting campus May 23, speaks to student (left). Students displayed strong interest in Peace Corps work.