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Ward & West reunion: it's on

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Presentation about the history of Ward and West Halls as dormitories and their future adaptive reuse for a new student wellness center and home of the Counseling Center and Dowell Health Center, given at Towson University Alumni Relations reunion event, Towson, MD.

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Ward & West Reunion



It's ON!

**Saturday, June 2, 2012
2-4 p.m.**

Ward and West Front Lawn
8000 York Road
Towson, Maryland



Ward & West Halls

A Story of Dormitories Past

The Cottage - 1917



The Barracks ca. 1920s





Dormitory Life

During our four years of college life, the dormitory became a second home to us.

There are many things that make up a dorm—your very own room and roommate, the reception rooms where you may entertain guests, the dining hall with its Tudor Gothic architecture, the service room where you can gossip over the ironing boards, the foyer where dancing before and after dinner offers relaxation, the smoker where through the haze a bridge game is in session, answering phones while on hall duty, dashing across the campus to sign in before the Tower Clock stops striking, the mail box

where you hope to find a letter. Here at Towson all of this is found in our two dorms, Newel Hall and Richmond Hall.

Also on the campus are the Barracks and the Cottage for men students. Here, too, typical college life is reflected in the arrangements, for one of the students, Jack Hart, is actually in charge of the barracks.

A dorm is more than just a series of rooms, however. It is also people. The faculty and staff who maintain it, your friends who live there with you—they are all part of dorm life, and we will be leaving many friends when we leave the dormitory.



LIGHT



WYSON, MD.

September 29, 1950

Ground Is Broken For Men's Dorms

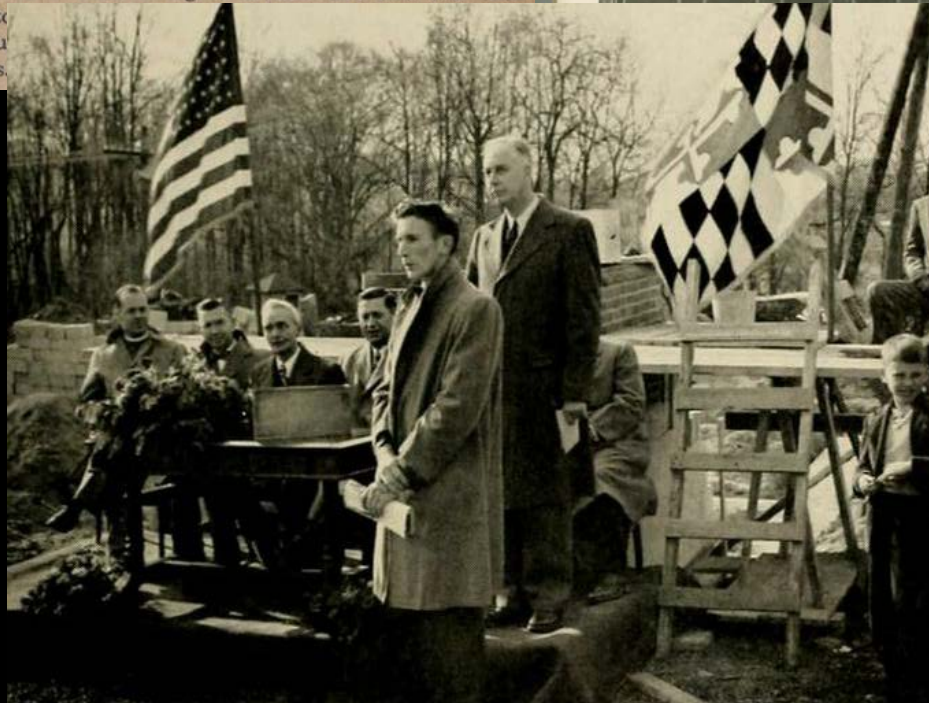
Ground was broken this week for the two men's dormitories, the first of several new buildings scheduled for construction on the college campus.

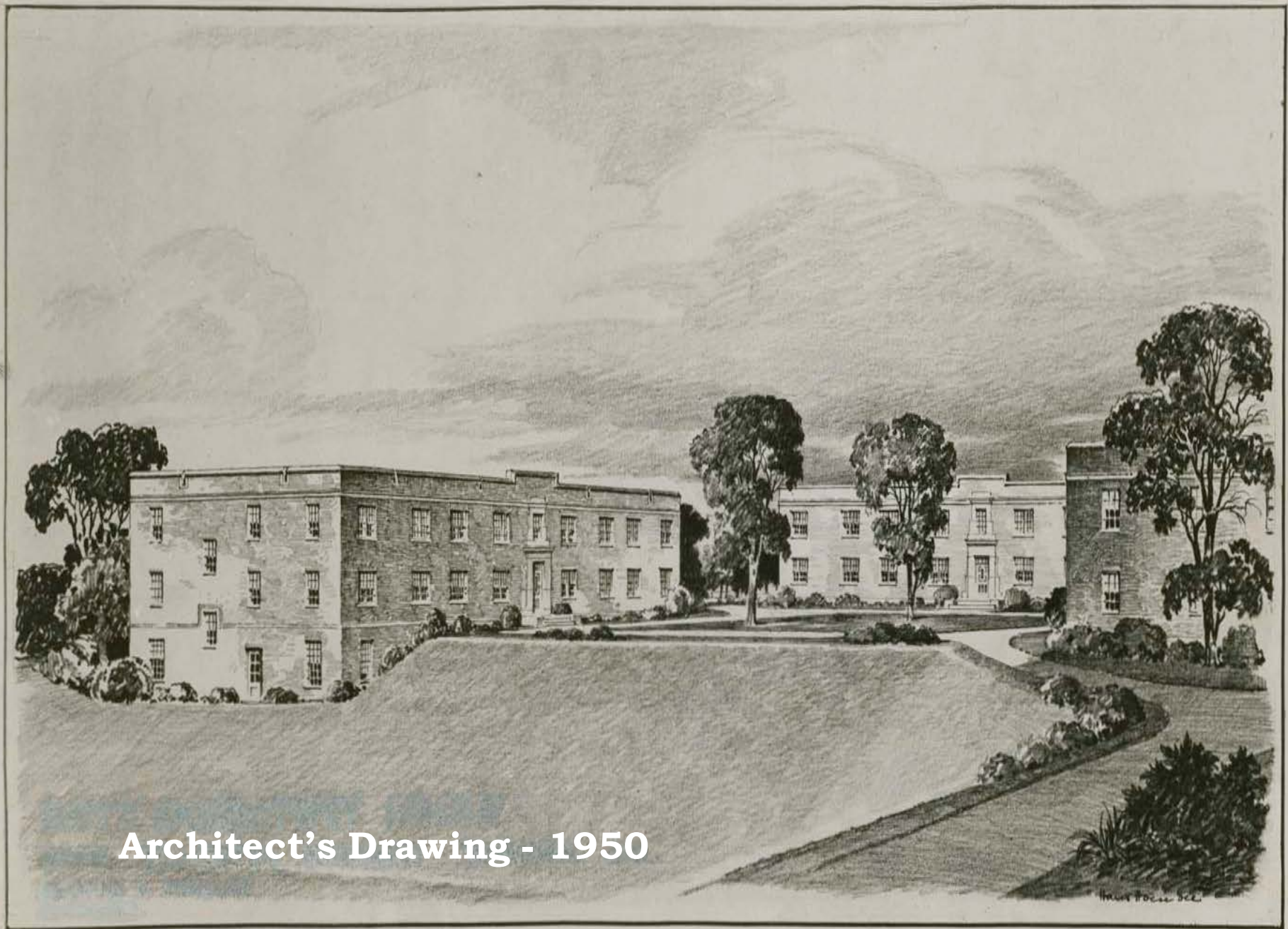
The two units will be built at a cost of approximately \$458,000.

The dorms will be of modern collegiate architecture and will each house 56 students, a total of 112 students in all. The dorms will also have facilities for a resident study rooms for the students.



**September
1950**





Architect's Drawing - 1950

Dorms to be Ready by Fall; To Accomodate 112 Men

by Anne B. Meinhardt

According to the most recent reports of Dean Anita Dowell and Mr. Karl Moser, Business Manager, the two new men's dormitories will be ready for occupancy by September of this year. This was in turn confirmed by the construction project's State Engineer, Mr. William Bishop.

The two storied buildings are of red brick designed to accommodate fifty-six students, two to a room. These rooms will be equipped with built-in dressers and wash-bowls compactly closed away in cupboards.

Modern Furniture

An easy chair will add to the comfort and casualness of the modern metal furnishings in each room, the styles of which have already been selected. Color schemes are now under way to harmonize their varying up-

tinted Mr. absolute building forced tions, t titions well i walls. The of the to eac a glin facing the lar level a

According to the latest report from the office of the President of State Teachers College at Towson there is a strong possibility that dormitory No. 2 (the North dorm) will open this winter.

of a spacious recreation room flanked on either side by a smaller lobby.

This same pattern is to be found in the other building. Another feature of each is to be a roomy apartment for the dormitory's custodian which is located just to the right of the main entrance.

Work Progresses

Many of the arrangements must be left to the imagination, since most of the construction is still at the frame-work, floor, and plumbing stage. The site was bustling with the activity of the fifty masons, carpenters and workers, cranes and pulleys, taking full advantage of the clear weather.

And although the parked automobiles, piles of lumber, limestone cornices, and debris all but hid the

strumental and ensemble groups, sponsored by music lovers of Baltimore. The series will include probably one woodwind and one string ensemble, and two instrumentalists.

February Performances

Other than the February performance of the distinguished actor, Charles Laughton, one of the author Skinner in April, feature is to be the Dancers scheduled October.

The many clubs of State Teachers take an active part next year. Students in the Kappa Delta hood Assemblies are as in a program International Relations Students P

In November, the Advisory Council and the Association will meet. After the Christmas Program, the

Fall 1951

LIGHT



SON, MD.

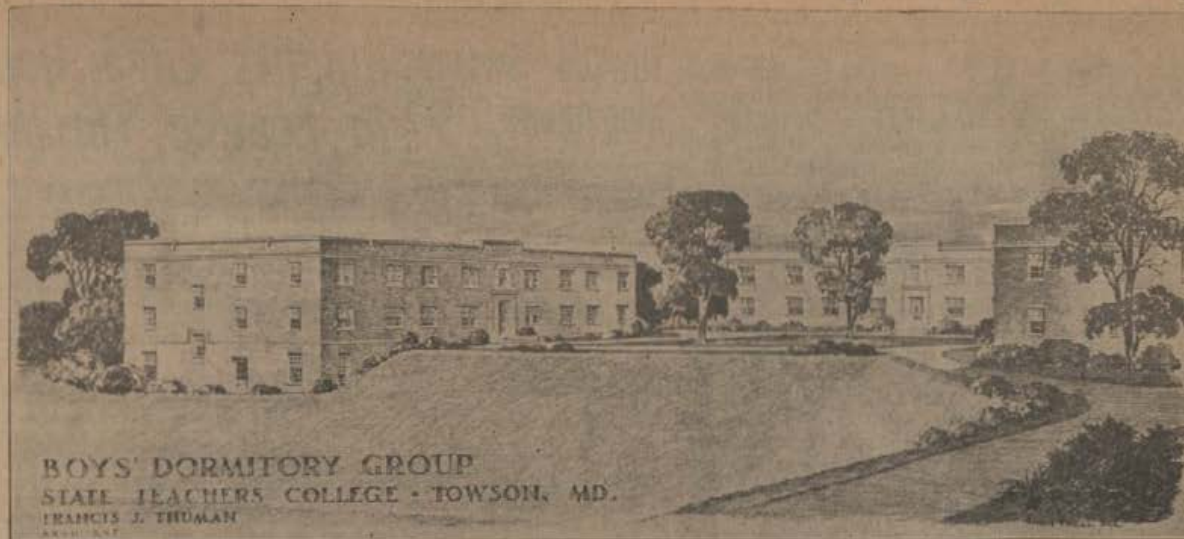
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1951

Doors of Dormitories Soon Open To Men

According to the latest reports, the new men's dormitories will be ready to open on or about October 5. This, since all the resi-

near future, as been laid with the con- are almost enlargement its action will space in both in the lower now stand, ble by a lar- used as offices re various or- upus.

College Looks To Dormitory Opening

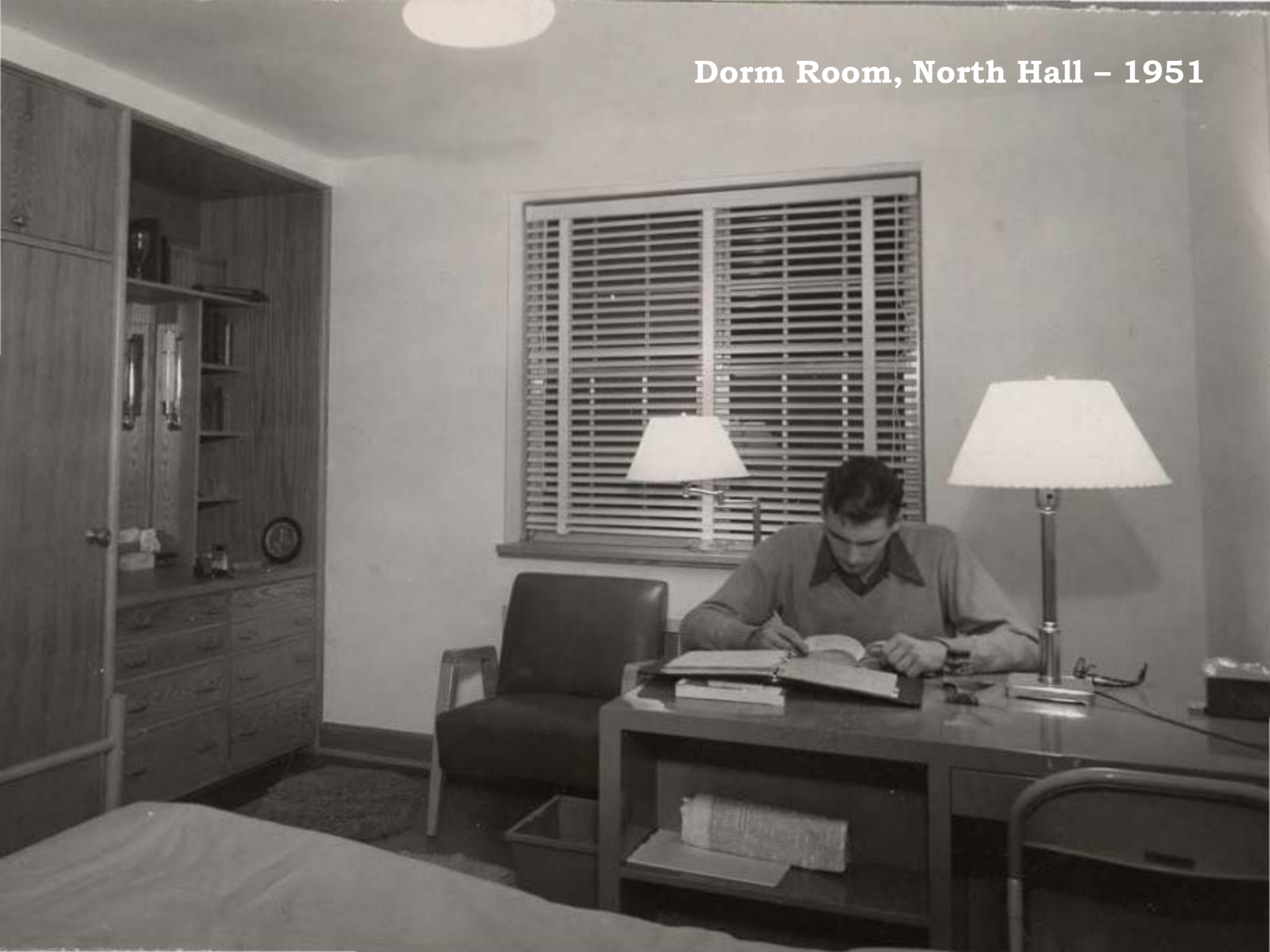


BOYS' DORMITORY GROUP
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE - TOWSON, MD.
FRANCIS J. THUMAN
ARCHT. 5-51

**West Hall opens
ca. October 5, 1951**



Dorm Room, North Hall – 1951



ca. 1952



Shown above is the North Men's Dormitory in its early stages of construction. To the right is shown the finished product of the men's dormitories. The dormitories were completed in the late fall.



Above: G. Fisher, B. Copinger, J. Montgomery, L. Lyng, C. Baseman, J. Hentschel "gather" around J. Montgomery's locker.



Above: Mr. Laine's Urban Geography class previews their land survey maps. The class worked in conjunction with the Baltimore County Planning Commission. They are, left to right: Mr. Laine, J. Cox, W. Hammerman, W. Strack, L. Rector, F. Brown, F. Roland, M. German, J. Worth, A. Pomory.

Do I know . . .

Fall 1951 was a season of excitement, action and fun for the students of S.T.C. Highlighting the season's activities was the dedication and opening of the men's dormitories in October. Also hitting the spotlight were soccer games, class activities, and Homecoming. The event which proved to be the most hilarious of the season was the "Frosh Spooks" initiation.

. . . what I am doing

The "Cov'd Corner" is a popular gathering place for all students both during school hours and after school. Many students enjoy dropping in for a "coke" and a smoke and a chat with a friend. To the right is a casual shot of the "Cov'd Corner."

Below: Ler Smith, right, greets Jack Zimmerman and Charles Rice as they enter the new dormitories. To the right: Ann Spencer, Freshman Advisory Council Member, greets a group of prospective students during high school visiting day.



ca. 1952

WHAT A LIFE!

Ed Kulinski
President



Since the completion of the men's dormitories, the men students have found more time to spend in their rooms. Conditions for studying and even serious game play are "tops." Attractively decorated and neatly kept, their rooms make comfortable homes for the boys.



Bill Hammerman
Vice-President

Bob Kane
Secretary

Bill Myers
Treasurer



Dear Dad:

Two new dorms have been opened for resident men students. Although we had good times in our old quarters, this is a dream come true.

We have finally organized the two dorms into a bustling community. The Resident Men's Council was set into operation by its first group of officers, who helped establish our rules and regulations.

We have coke and cigarette machines, recreational equipment which includes ping-pong and pool tables, checker and chess boards, cards and card tables, lounge rooms and even a kitchen. The kitchen really comes in handy for those in between meal and midnight snacks. Believe it or not we have telephone booths on each floor. They are probably the busiest phones in all Townson.

Dad, now don't you and Mum worry about your son. He has plenty to do to keep him busy and he's having a fine time.

Your son,
Wormworth



Don Rogerson
Social Chairman



Clarence Young
S. G. A. Representative



Dean Pickens
Fresh Representative



Card playing is a favorite pastime for many of the resident men students. Above: Clarence Young, Jack Zimmermann, Elmer Sauer and Al Foster engage in a game of pinochle while Jack Huggins looks on.



Both of the men's dormitories have recreation rooms where the boys can spend their leisure time. Above: Neal Moerschel takes careful aim to sink the "8 Ball."



Men's Resident Council

1954

Men's Dorm

Responsibility for governing the men's dorms rests with the Men's Resident Council. Under President Bob Kane the Council has had to make many adjustments to meet the changing needs of the dorms and the residents. With the co-operation of all the men living in the dorms, a satisfactory program has been prepared.

Mrs. Wagman talking with one of "her boys"



Somebody has to do it!



A hall session

Getting that midnight snack ready



Contact with the outside world — or is it Newell Hall?





"Ready to leave Dick?"



"I doubt that"



"Bzz—Bzz—Bzz"



"Bruce, it's five of eight"

1956

"Yes, Barbara, you did wake me up"

III.

If you I
dent men with
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1956



Fall Convocation Dedicates New Buildings

Leaders Meet in Bel Air

The 1957 edition of the Leadership Conference will be held at the Fresh Air Camp, Benson, Maryland on Friday and Saturday, the 17th and 28th of September.

Mr. W. Norris Weis will be the keynote speaker. Mr. Weis has given courses in leadership training for the American Camping Association. He was director of Camp Conoy for 17 years and has directed Camp Arrowhead for the past three summers. Mr. Weis is presently acting as special assistant to the principal at Woodbourne Junior High School in Baltimore.

The conference will begin with square dance on Friday evening. Business of the conference will commence Saturday morning with the keynote address and faculty led discussion groups. The afternoon will feature more discussion

Thai Educator Visits Campus

Mr. Chua Sananmaung, Commissioner of Education from Korat Province, Thailand visited Towson's campus for three days. Mr. Chua was a guest in Newell Hall on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of this month.

Mr. Chua observed classes in the vocational, and adult education; and recreational and physical education programs for elementary and secondary students.

While on the Towson campus, Mr. Chua observed classes in the educational blocks as well as the classes in the non-professional courses. One of the points men-

Class Plans Bay Trip

On September 30, October 1st and 2nd the annual trip to Solomons Island on the Chesapeake Bay will be taken by the students of the History and Geography of Maryland class. Under the leadership of Miss Pearle Blood and Dr. John C. Matthews, the class will

appropriate time. The Governor told future teachers that they should arouse a hunger for learning in their students.

Dr. Hawkins formally named Stephens Hall, Ward Hall, West Hall, and Wiedefeld Gymnasium in concluding the program.

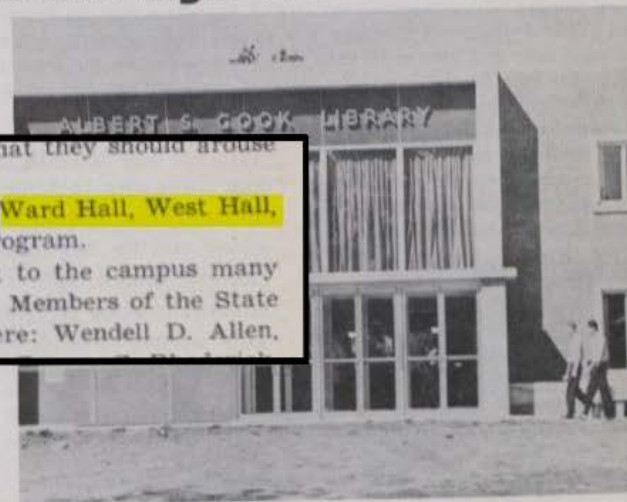
The dedication of our new buildings brought to the campus many distinguished guests and educators of Maryland. Members of the State Board of Education present for the occasion were: Wendell D. Allen,

waters. An excursion on the Bay affords an opportunity for the class to see the "farmers" of the Chesapeake at their work.

Members of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory will address the group and show films concerning the work being done there.

A sidelight is a trip to a tobacco farm. And though the annual trip

Other Campus Buildings Renamed



On Thursday, September 19, at 2 p.m., the Fall Convocation was held in the College auditorium. The focal point of the event was the dedication of the Albert S. Cook Library, Prettyman Hall, and the

Dormitory Accomodations Critical for 1954

The problem of dormitory housing was discussed at a meeting of the resident men and women the evening of May 10 in the auditorium which prompted the boys to send a telegram to Governor McKeldin the following morning.

Miss Virginia Gerdes, the resident director, in reporting on the women's housing situation said that the present capacity of Newell Hall is 217 with 3 in a room and 4 in 7 rooms, and 139 in Richmond which is a total capacity of 356.

The number of resident students graduating is 64. The total number of returning resident upperclassmen is 291. An estimation of the probable drop-outs and transfers is 20, which means that 271 spaces are needed for returning students. Therefore only 85 spaces remain

available for incoming freshman.

So this is the problem for 1954.

The probable enrollment for dent freshmen for next year is Deposits have already been cepted from 155 students as of 10 compared to 106 in 1953. proximately 80 additional s will be needed for 1954-1955.

Mrs. Josephine Wagemann, dent director of the West d presented the men's situation. present capacity of the two d is now 112 with a total of 10 rolled. The number of resident graduating is 21. Expectant turning students is 65. The ap tions for freshmen for next number 20 with 85 total s needed.

Several recommendations made previous to the meetin

the dormitory councils, and the pros and cons of these were dis-



June 2, 1954

STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE, TOWSON, MD.

Vol. 7, No. 16

STC Sees Change in Former Dorm Policy

As a result of several meetings with resident students, resident directors, and house committee chairmen policies for dormitory living have been drawn.

Policy

1. One and one-half hours commuting distance each day by public transportation will continue to be used for determining resi-

News Briefs

Frosh Election

As a result of the recent election of the Class of 1957, John Heck was elected president. The other officers are John Lynch, vice presi-

Crowded Conditions Force Men Into East Dormitory

Men Seem Fairly Content With New Living Conditions

by Martin Stark

Because of the crowded conditions in the dormitories the administration was forced to move the men out of the West Dorm and put female students in to take their place. The surplus of men were put into the building which has since come to be known as the East Dorm. The building was purchased at the end of the previous scholastic year and renovated during the summer. A certain amount of work is still being done on the building. Progress is slowly being made to make the new quarters more suitable for dormitory life. One room has been

TOWER LIGHT



STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE, TOWSON, MARYLAND

New Instructors at Towson Faculty

Faculty members announced this September as replacements for additional personnel.

speech department we will have Mr. William C. Kramer. Mr. Kramer fills the position vacated by the resignation of Mr. Fallon, who has become director of the Community Theatre at Jacksonville, Florida.



84 Women Occupy West Dormitory; Men Occupy East

Eighty-four women will move into the West Dormitory with the opening of school, while the men will triple bunk in North Dorm, and 22 will move into the recently acquired East Dorm, announced Miss Virginia G. Gerdes, Resident Director.

The movement of girls into the West dorm is aimed to ease the crowded conditions until the new girls dormitory is built. The building is among the campus building requests which have

Freshman In Full Swing

by Ly

Sh boom, and away we go. Freshmen have been and are still to be fast. A Freshman Advisory Council is its many, many activities. How successful without the complete. But as we all know, good things will soon diminish into the with occasional parties to build Towsonites.

Wednesday, and Freshman week is half over — but there is still more to come. Tonight there is going to be a pep rally and sing-song in the shelter in the



1954 - 1957



**Prettyman Construction – New Women's
Dorm Opens 1957**



**Scarborough Hall – New Women's Dorm
Opens 1964**

125 to lose residence

Dorm renovation proposed

by STEPHANIE PANOS

Currently there are three men's residence halls on the Towson campus—Richmond, Ward, and West Halls. However, if Towson is awarded the requested money from the Capital Improvement Budget, Richmond Hall will be completely renovated, thereby putting it out of use for two semesters, beginning in the fall of 1969.

Never remodeled

Richmond was built in 1924, originally a woman's hall. Since then, except for the addition of a few rooms over the Parlor, it has never been remodeled. For a number of years the State Fire Marshal has been urging that the building be renovated, pointing out that it is a "dangerous fire trap", and de-

manding that another interior stairway from the top floor

No funds are available for the renovation as would not be available until July 1, stated earlier, the Richmond to be used as a residence hall for men.

In answer to a question where the 125 Richmond, Miss Mary Lee of Residence, has commented,

"We have several problems, but nothing could put the men currently living in Ward and West Halls fit comfortably if we have any new residents."

Richmond dorm remains open

Richmond Dormitory will not be closing for renovation this year, as was expected. The higher cost over a longer period of time, which would result in off-campus housing for the evicted men, can be alleviated by waiting until the two new dormitories are built, if they are built.

The state colleges are waiting in hopes that the legislature will appropriate \$12 million to them, \$2 million of which Towson would get for two new residence halls. The dormitories, one of which would be for men and one for women, would contain 225 beds each.

If the money is appropriated to Towson, building would begin in August or September, 1969, and the buildings would be completed in about one year. Then Richmond Hall could be renovated, beginning in June, 1970.



Richmond (Men's Dorm) Renovation Proposed in 1968

Residence Towers (Co-Ed) Open 1972

Ward & West Halls

Renovation and Renewal



