

# THE DAILY IOWAN

A Daily Newspaper Published by the Students of the State University of Iowa.

Vol. 1.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1901

No. 56

## THE IMPERATIVE NEEDS OF IOWA'S UNIVERSITY.

Board of Regents' Requests for Appropriations Represent Only that Amount which is Absolutely Necessary to Maintain the Institution with Its Present Numbers and Standards.

### For Fire Losses

New Medical Building.....	\$200,000
Additional Ground.....	50,000
Medical and Homeopathic Libraries (annual).....	1,000
General Library (annual).....	7,000
Apparatus Department Physics.....	1,000

### To Bring up Material Equipment

1-10 Mill Additional Building Tax (for five years)....	\$55,000
Additional Annual Repair Fund.....	5,000

### Additional General Support Demanded by Increase in Numbers and Standards

Annual Permanent Support Fund.....	\$35,000
"    for Publication of scientific and Learned Bulletins.....	1,000
Annual for Law Library.....	1,500

Annual Total.....\$106,500

That the state of Iowa is finally coming to recognize in a measure the immediate needs of her educational institutions is indicated by the action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly. Cutting away from the niggardly methods in vogue in the past this body, known as the "educational assembly" took a stand for better educational facilities for their youth and established a new precedent by appropriating to the educational institutions sufficient funds to provide for their immediate needs: and it goes without saying that the request of the board of regents of the university was honored to the letter. Immediately attendant upon this action, seemingly as if to demonstrate to our legislators that their action met a popular demand of Iowans, the university enjoyed a growth of twenty per cent in the number of students enrolled. Thoroughly Iowan was this sudden and immediate growth too, as is shown by the facts that 95 per cent of these same students claim this fair state as their residence. Not only by the legislature, but by the general public as well is the feeling now held that the state should no longer continue to impede the development of her schools through insufficient support, but rather that she should so provide for them as to permit of their advancement to a level the same as that which she enjoys in most other respects.

### THE STATE'S INSURANCE MONEY.

During recent years it has been the policy of the state to carry no insurance and as evidencing the wisdom of this plan the board of control points to a balance of \$500,000 saved in premium money. But the money thus saved is not all profit and while the state has been hoarding this coin the university has suffered losses. Two disastrous fires have visited the institution and it is out of this fund that the legislature is asked to turn over \$259,000, which will

scarcely make good the damages suffered.

First, \$200,000 is asked to build a medical building. And why \$200,000? Because the progress in the science of medicine has kept step with the rapid advance in other branches and for the old fashioned didactic methods the modern advanced colleges have substituted the experimental. For their employment we not only need, but must have, not only the old fashioned lecture halls but also apparatus rooms, museums, extensive pathological, histological, physiological, diagnostic anatomical and chemical laboratories and these cost money. But there are other reasons why no less than the above amount should be expended for a medical hall. Since the erection of the structure just destroyed the college has enjoyed a growth of just 80 per cent and whereas the student formerly spent eighteen months under her roof, this college with its growth of 80 per cent is now, under the lengthening of the term, kept here for just double the time, or four years, of nine months each, entailing much more than double the space and expense.

In connection with this subject it may be said that Iowa's loss by fire antedates that of last March. In 1897 the general library, books and building, as well as the physical apparatus located in the same fire trap suffered almost complete destruction. To compensate this loss there has been no building erected nor have there been sufficient appropriations made to restore the valuable books and apparatus lost, but the university has experienced a constant deficiency in both books and equipment. To relieve this distress, the board of regents have asked for the modest annual sum of \$9,000.

### ADDITIONAL GROUNDS.

One of the needs of the university most patent to the student is that of more territory, nor has this need escaped the notice of

several legislators who have remarked about Iowa's scant acres. But now since the recent fire the state has recognized the folly of huddling the modern buildings together in a promiscuous fashion and this demand for more land is made still more imperative. Though comparisons may be odious it remains a truth that while our neighboring universities of Illinois and Wisconsin enjoy 210 and 248 acres respectively and even Mississippi with her 303 students enjoys 640 acres of actual campus the university of Iowa can lay claim to but 15 acres of ground upon which to erect her buildings.

### BUILDING TAX

But here is neither the alpha nor the omega of Iowa's needs. During the last decade our sister universities have entered upon a building era and Iowa has failed miserably in her effort to keep pace in this respect. Where the state of Wisconsin has seen the wisdom of putting \$1,368,000 into 15 and Minnesota \$1,800,000 into 22 buildings the legislatures of Iowa have seemed to enjoy a period of inactivity or inaction; at all events we find today but 13 buildings here and them of a total value, even including the new Hall of Liberal Arts, of the insignificant sum of \$535,000. The university wants more and better buildings, not because other institutions have them, but because she must have them to accommodate the pressing needs of the institution. As a consequence of the meager support tendered in the past she is now and always will be behind and unable to attain to her proper sphere with a 1-10 mill building tax. To obviate this difficulty the next legislature is urged to provide an additional 1-10 mill tax. A lecture hall for the college of law; an armory and general assembly hall; a fireproof library building; a gymnasium; and a fireproof building for the accommodation of the Natural History museum which is now located in a veritable fire trap are but a few of the buildings for which the student feels the eminent and immediate need. Under the auspices of the university, sixty-two scientific expeditions have been made to different parts of the globe and as a result we find here the best natural museum this side of the Alleghenies; one that \$100,000 would not begin to replace, and yet we consent to hide it away in boxes and inside of shells for want of better arrangement. If the coming legislature can be made to realize the true condition of affairs it is safe to predict that they will be tempted to increase this item of the budget.

### ANNUAL REPAIR FUND

But in more than one way is the folly of having formerly erected cheap buildings now made manifest, and with twelve old buildings ranging from the tenth to the sixtieth year, of their existence the board of regents find the item of repair expense rapidly growing larger. From this item it has been the custom to set

aside money for such things as the repair of sidewalks, fences and general repair of the grounds. No wonder, then, that the grounds have become so unsightly and in need of improvement as to elicit criticism from the city council. To meet this ever increasing bill of expense \$5,000 is asked for, not that it will put things in first class shape but rather that it will enable the authorities to relieve the pressing demands of today.

### GENERAL SUPPORT FUND

For the general annual support of the university the regents have set \$35,000 as the minimum figure. The moderateness of this bill is easily apparent. The last General Assembly fixed the annual income at \$125,000. The professional colleges here are almost self-supporting and do not draw heavily on this fund. But it is the most popular of all,—the college of Liberal Arts, where no student pays more than \$25 in tuition and a great many none at all, that the great bulk of this fund must be utilized. Here the disbursements are over four times the amount received for tuition and here has the university experienced a growth of over 30 per cent since the above amount was fixed. This increase alone would more than demand the extra \$35,000 asked for but there are yet other considerations.

It is the aim of the university to meet half way the universal demand for a practical education. There is scarcely now a department in the collection of colleges that has not been long waiting for funds with which to equip itself with apparatus and material such as will allow its courses to become more and more practical and effective. Especially is this want apparent in the college of medicine and in the scientific departments of the college of liberal arts. Roosevelt's recommendation for the establishment of a national department of industry and commerce calls to mind the fact that Iowa's school of political and social science with commerce as a sub-division is only waiting for sufficient means wherewith to spring into useful and practical being. These are some of the apparent reasons why our support fund should have reinforcements to the amount stated.

### PUBLICATIONS AND LAW LIBRARY

Rightfully we find the university the Athens of Iowa—the center of the higher education of the state and here from time to time advanced students and members of the instructional force are pursuing lines of individual research to that extent which makes the result of their labors extremely valuable not only to the scientific and literary world but as contributions which tend in many instances toward the solution of many of the mooted problems of modern life and citizenship. That such of these as are worthy, and there are, especially since the establishment of the graduate college, a great

Continued on Page 4.

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THE DAILY IOWAN  
IOWA CITY, IOWA

Entered at the post-office at Iowa City, Iowa, as second class mail matter, Oct. 11, 1901.

The Daily Iowan with this issue ceases publication until after the holiday vacation. We wish for our readers the best of success with examinations, a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

With this issue our readers are presented, though in an all too brief and concise a form, with a statement of the immediate and imperative demands of the university. In this small space no attempt has been made to exhaust the subject for volumes of material are easily at hand and many and potent needs and reasons are necessarily left wholly unobserved. But this article is written not for the edification of legislators but for the attention of the student and alumnus. Upon them and their active interest and efforts depends largely the treatment which the university shall receive at the hands of the coming legislature. No one realizes better than the student body of the present day the inadequacy of the university's financial support, and the modesty of the requests made to the coming legislature for additional aid, and, with all deference to the honorable president and board of regents, no one can better approach the several legislators with these few patent facts than the students and alumni from the several districts. Armed with a conviction of the greatness of these, her most immediate needs, every loyal Iowan has in his control the means with

which to deal a very material blow toward the end to be accomplished. The university will not fail to be accorded just recognition at the hands of the 29th General Assembly if only its members come to know the real situation. Then make it your business to see that when this information is disseminated the matter of a university appropriation is not second-rated or looked upon as a bill for Johnson county only.

It is not thus and should not be so considered. There is no institution in the state so thoroughly Iowan in every respect as is the state university, and every town, city and county in the state should and rightfully does feel a local interest in the institution through the students attending here from their respective limits.

If you have not a copy of the paper, get one at the office read it carefully, if need be, take it home with you, but at any and all events see to it that you bring home to the legislator from your county the dire needs of the institution. Don't leave it for your friend, your brother or uncle but do it yourself and then take credit for having shown a spark of gratitude for the privileges you enjoy while here.

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Those who have seen "My Friend From India," thought it was funny, but in "The Man from Mexico," which comes to the opera house next Tuesday night, Dec. 17th, is said to be one of the brightest and withal one of the most enjoyable comedies before the public today. It is of extremely farcical style and one of those that starts the laugh at the beginning and continues it to the end. The cast is said to be the strongest that has yet interpreted this bright comedy farce.

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### The University's Need

Continued from Page 1.

many, may be preserved to the university and her library, the university asks an annual appropriation of \$1,000. Such publications are essentially a part of our life as an institution of study and research and the wisdom of this provision is too self evident to warrant discussion.

As the university stands today the college of law, one of its strongest departments, ranks by reason of its thoroughness and the capability and efficiency of its faculty, the peer of similar schools in the West. But the wisdom of the last legislature counseled the lengthening of the course by one-half and this necessarily means a proportionate addition to the expense account. The board of regents purpose to maintain the high standard this college has attained and in this they will certainly have the hearty approval of the good people of the state. To do this it is necessary to bring up the law library and considering the cost of books in this field, \$1,500 per year is found to be the lowest possible figure compatible with suitable material and efficient work.

Nor is the story concluded when the above is told. The appropriations asked from the state this year are those, and only those, which the university must have to maintain her present standard. Were we allowed to advise the legislature of all of our real wants there are many things we would beg leave to mention. Not the least of these would be a building for the engineering students who find themselves crowded into a veritable shed as a result of the last fire. For the same cause the university, on account of lack of adequate rooms of her own, is now paying rent for quarters wherein the literary societies may meet. These societies have long since developed into institutions for great good and as soon as the present strain is tided over they should be provided with quarters in keeping with those destroyed. Today these colleges, the Law, Pharmacy and Graduate, have no building of their own, but are ordered about wherever a room can be found empty.

Of all the colleges these two latter should have buildings and special equipments of their own. They are those which daily appeal to fifteen hundred students and thousands of alumni scattered about the entire state. Even the library building, the assembly hall, gymnasium, armory and museum building, the need of which towers above these others cannot be assured us in less than eight or ten years with the regents' request honored to its fullest extent. But modest and moderate we must be. And surely we have been. For not only has every item on the bill been figured to its lowest limit, and then discounted, but only those which the needs of today demand, have been even so much as suggested.

#### New Students, Notice.

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