

Dean Dineen's Letter:

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT EXPANDS

Two years ago, this column in the Engineering edition of the Brunswickan indicated that planning of additional facilities for our faculty was in progress and that our objective was to begin construction in the spring of 1966 and to occupy this new space in September 1967. One year ago it was indicated that this schedule had not been altered. Today, the construction of this addition to Head Hall is on schedule and we expect to be moving in before the beginning

engineering undergraduate population of approximately six hundred students, taking into account that practically all freshman and some sophomore courses are given elsewhere. The adequacy of this addition was short-lived however, as the effects of the introduction of degree courses in Chemical and Surveying Engineering in 1960, together with a rapid increase in graduate studies and research at about the same time, resulted in serious overcrowding in



Dean Dineen and Professor Beattie examine the new extension.



The new extension to Head Hall.

had been converted to use by Surveying Engineering and the development of the third floor of the Civil Engineering building to provide classroom, seminar and graduate student office space.

During this period, the university generally was short on classroom and office space and found it necessary to restrict undergraduate registration for a few years. As a result, the total number of Engineering undergraduates has remained somewhere between 600 and 675 for a period of about ten years.

The occupancy of the new addition can be described in a number of ways but can be fully defined only by the floor plans, a copy of which is on display in the lobby of the Civil Engineering department. Broadly speaking, the new addition will house most of the activities of the Chemical, Civil and Surveying departments, together with the University Computing Centre and faculty library, as well as the research functions of the departments of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. The undergraduate work of these

latter departments will continue to be located principally in the existing building.

Because this faculty will share in the recently-announced grant of the Atlantic Development Board to the university, the addition will include space and equipment for graduate studies and research which would not have otherwise been possible. These areas will be devoted to research in Materials Science, Process Engineering, Power Generation and Conversion, and to a Computer and Systems Engineering Centre.

In addition to the research equipment arising out of the A.D.B. grant, two other items of equipment may be of particular interest. The greatly expanded University Computing Centre will continue to operate the present I.B.M. 1620 and its auxiliaries and will also have installed early in 1968 an I.B.M. 360 System, Model 50G, which will very greatly extend our capability to handle large problems and keep this university in a position of favourable comparison in this rapidly expanding field. At about the same time, the

Surveying Engineering Department will acquire an analytical Photogrammetric Plotter of the highest available capability. This instrument was developed at the National Research Council and ours will be the first to be available to civilian users in North America.

The present departmental libraries will be amalgamated into one faculty library which will have space for approximately 20,000 volumes and provide about one hundred seats for reading and study.

Other features of the addition include a 350 seat lecture theatre with up-to-date projection facilities and provision for the origination of radio and television coverage of lectures. The latter will be part of a proposed closed circuit television system which will be served by a studio in the engineering addition, and will have provision for connections to many of the new laboratories and to other campus buildings. It is also possible that further development of this faculty could provide a link, in the form of either live lectures or video tape, with the Saint John campus.

For the present academic year, our faculty and students are faced with a number of minor inconveniences which will be removed by the completion of the building. Because of these and the much greater interest to be expected next year, it was decided that "Open House" would not form part of the 1966 Engineering Week Program. It is hoped that this program will again this year serve to focus favourable attention on the Faculty of Engineering and its students. On behalf of the University, it is my pleasure to express thanks and appreciation to all who contribute to its success.

J. O. DINEEN
Dean of Engineering

of the next academic year. Because the period of large additions to our building has been, in the past, approximately a decade, special attention will be given here to a brief description of these new facilities and their functions.

The 1957 addition, which joined the Civil-Mechanical and Electrical Engineering buildings was adequate for an

many areas. But for considerable space being made available to Chemical Engineering in Memorial Hall, it would have been impossible for this new department to develop even an adequate undergraduate program. Other steps taken since 1960 to provide accommodation for the faculty include the addition of a hut behind the building to replace drafting-room space which

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