

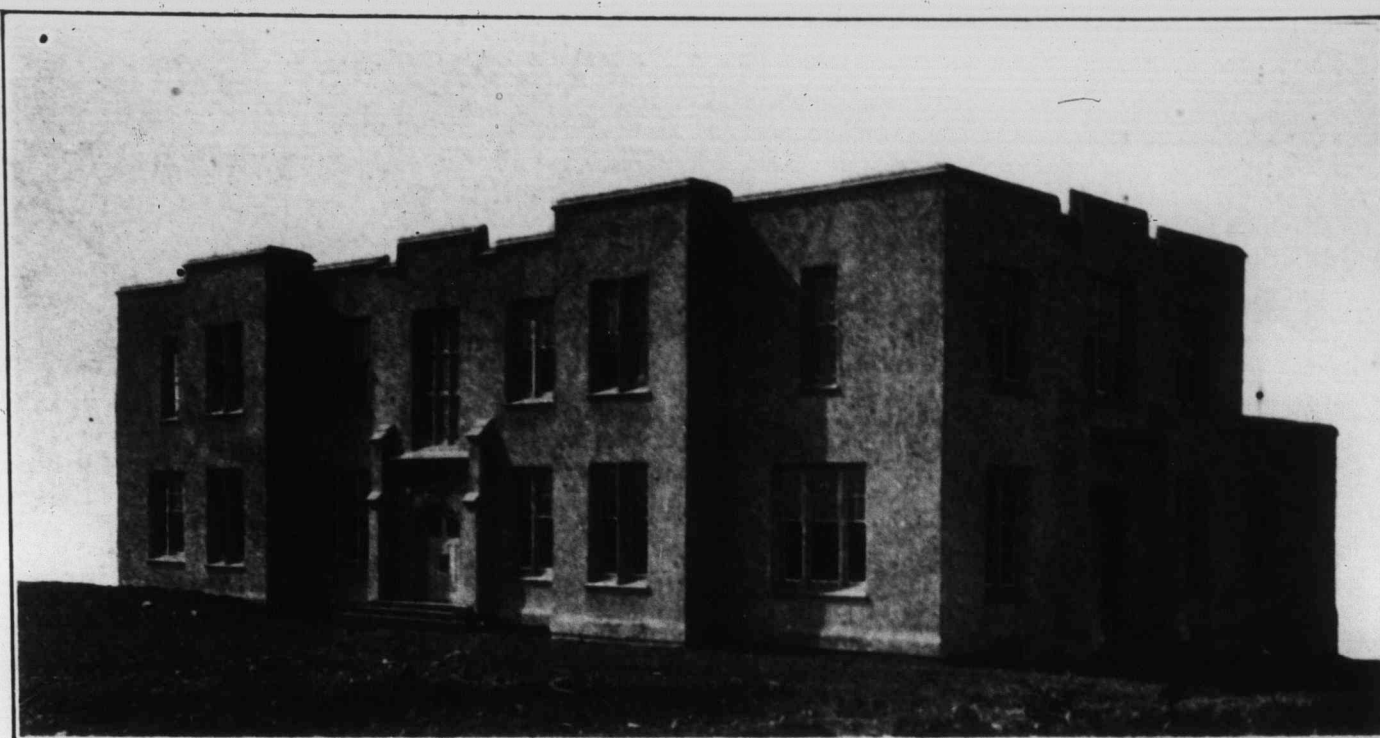
The Science Building being thus under way, the next decision to be reached was the selection of the other units of permanent buildings to be constructed, and, in addition the number, character and size of the "temporary" structures, for it was realized from the beginning of the Hegira that the sum necessary to give accommodation for 1500 students in permanent buildings, such as the Science Building, would involve an outlay beyond the present means of the government.

It was felt that the valuable books comprising the University Library should not be exposed to any risk from fire, and so a permanent stack room in which to house them was the first conclusion reached. A permanent reading room was at first not contemplated.

It was likewise determined that the power and heating plant for the whole institution should also be a "permanent" structure. The design of these three buildings was assigned to Messrs. Sharp & Thompson, the university architects. The remainder of the buildings was to be planned by the Provincial Department of Public Works, under Hon. Dr. Sutherland, through Messrs. P. Philp and C. Whittaker, the Deputy Minister and Provincial Architect. These were eight in number: Administration, Arts, Applied Science, Auditorium, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mining and Forestry. The word "temporary," as applied to any of these buildings is an evident misapplication. All are on the most sturdy and enduring concrete foundations, while their superstructure is so built that they can look forward to at least three quarters of a century of usefulness.

It has already been stated that the University of British Columbia was an institution planned and designed in detail from its very beginnings. Perhaps this is as appropriate place as any to make some explanation of the plan. A map or sketch would make the design more apparent and clear, but perhaps a few paragraphs of general description will be helpful.

The University property consists of some 540 acres, most of it located at the extreme tip of the promontory between the mouths of the Fraser River, to the west, and the Gulf of Georgia, to the east. Running roughly from north to south along the peninsula is a slight crest, from which the land slopes gently—about 5 feet in a hundred—to east and west. This crest was



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

selected as the major axis of the building design, and will be marked by two parallel roads, with lawns between. On either side of these roads, to east and west of the axis, four pairs of large, and one of small, blocks were surveyed. The large blocks are some 800 feet square.

Out of the third and fourth pairs of blocks, something less than one-fourth of the contiguous inner corners was taken to form an eleventh block, the central feature of the whole design. It fronts on the two central roads, and is also located on the transverse axis of the whole plan—the axis that connects the university with the main lines of traffic to Vancouver, through 10th Avenue, and also across the entire University property, connecting with Marine Drive. On this central block or "quad" will in the future be built the great Administration Building, which will include Congregation Hall, where the conferences of degrees, and other academic ceremonies, will take place.

The most northerly pair of these ten quads is assigned dormitories for men and women, of which none are yet built. The next pair are, to the east, the Arts Quad, towards the rear of which is placed the west, the quad on which are the first unit of the Library, and, to built five of the semi-permanent structures. Administration and Auditorium to the north, Agriculture to the south, Arts in the centre and Applied Science to the rear.

The next pair of quads, proceeding south, are Science to the east and Engineering to the west. On the former, and fronting on the "Mall," or central double road, is the Science Building, devoted to Chemistry, Physics and Bacteriology, while on the opposite block, in

its very centre, is the power plant, which later will be masked by the hollow square of buildings devoted to Engineering. Three semi-permanent buildings, to the south of this quad, are for present use of mechanical and Electrical Engineering, and mining departments.

The Forest Products Laboratory, built, equipped and maintained by the Dominion Government, and doing valuable work for the timber industry of the province, is located on the next block to the south. There are as yet no buildings on the corresponding block opposite, to the east. Nor has any construction been started on the two smaller blocks, next to the south, both of which are intended for teaching buildings for the Department of Agriculture.

A good beginning has been made on the necessary group of buildings for practical work in Agriculture. These are arranged in a horseshoe, to the south of the main group of quads. Several are units of permanent structures, while some are makeshift buildings for temporary use. They include barns for Horticulture, Agronomy, Sheep, Cattle and Horses.

The two groups of blocks already described constitute the areas on which the main building program of the University will be carried out. In extent, it comprises about 100 acres—approximately one-fifth of the property. It lies in the centre of the area, and toward its northern end. The purposes for which the remaining land will be used, have now to be stated.

Taking that portion of the property north of the intersecting axis, and to the east of the series of main quads, the stadium and gymnasium will be erected immediately behind the Library and Science Buildings,