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• John L. Parker is a former associate editor of *Mining World* and edits a Sunday mining column for the *Arizona Republic*. He has contributed to more than a hundred magazines and publications in this country and Europe, but is making his first appearance in these pages this month. His home is in Tucson. . . . Tony Hillerman is a former editor of the Santa Fe *New Mexican*. He is now an administrative assistant to the president of the University of New Mexico and makes his home in Albuquerque. . . . Ralph Reynolds was born in Catron County and calls himself a displaced New Mexican. He is managing editor of *The Furrow*, international farm magazine published by the John Deere Company. He now lives in East Moline, Ill., but returns to New Mexico whenever he can. . . . Cynthia Bridges and Lela K. Waltrip, of Artesia, have teamed up to tell the story of Logan in Quay County for this issue. Mrs. Waltrip has contributed poetry to these pages but this is her first article contribution. It is also the first appearance of Cynthia Bridges. . . . Ralph Looney is city editor of the *Albuquerque Tribune*. He has contributed to the magazine frequently—both with color photos and colorful articles. . . . Another Albuquerque photographer well represented in this issue is R. P. Meleski. He is in charge of the photo laboratory at the University of New Mexico. He made the photographs, both color and black and white, which illustrate Tony Hillerman's article, "Birthday for a College." . . . Dudley Lynch is news editor of the *Portales News-Tribune*. He is a journalism graduate, 1963, from Eastern New Mexico University and has won several editing awards in the New Mexico Press Association contests. This is his first appearance in *New Mexico Magazine*.

THE COVER: This month's cover shows a portion of the great colored window in the new College of Education center at the University of New Mexico. The girl in the picture is Segried Hoyt, of Santa Fe, who was Homecoming Queen at the University in 1962. The photograph is by R. P. Meleski.

FACING PAGE: The little Jemez Creek meanders out of the high country of the Valle Grande through forests and mountain meadows on its way to the Rio Grande. The stream is popular with fishermen. (Color photograph is by Harvey Caplin.)

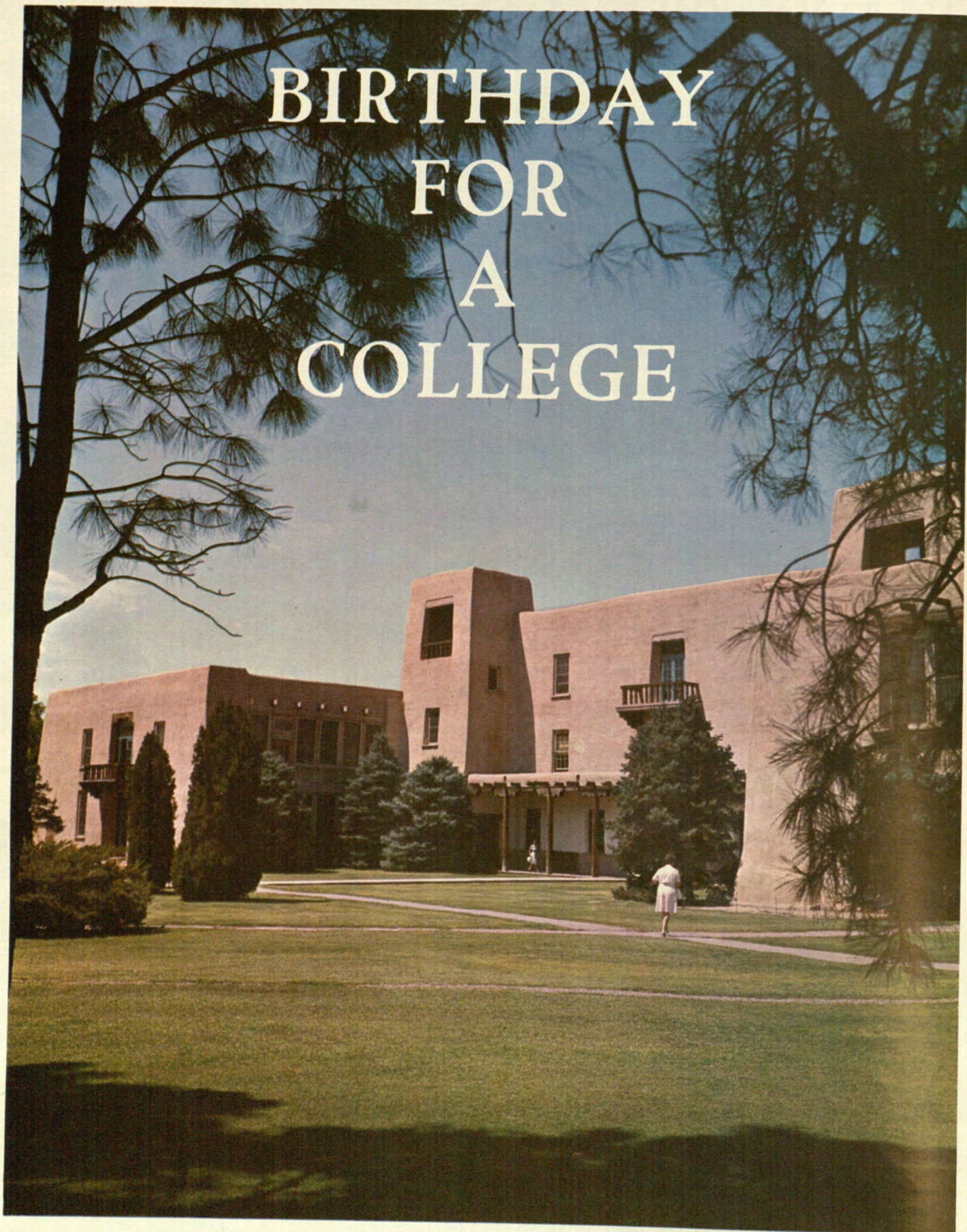
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BIRTHDAY FOR A COLLEGE



THE HANDSOME UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. THE STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE IS MODIFIED PUEBLO.

BY TONY HILLERMAN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY R. P. MELESKI

• Finding the broadest view of the University of New Mexico campus involves a trip up the self-service elevator to the eighth floor of the Zimmerman Library stacks. There the rows of small windows which light the floor-to-ceiling array of books look out upon a \$60,000,000 expanse of educational facilities—a 500-acre campus surrounded by the busy streets of Albuquerque and aswarm this sunny winter day with some 9,500 students preparing for semester examinations.

If one could look back—as well as out—from these lofty windows he would see a far different scene. On another sunny February day just 75 years ago the seed from which this great University grew was planted. Then the East Mesa was empty. The village of Albuquerque lay quietly in the Rio Grande Valley a full two miles to the west with more than 50 years to wait before the Atomic Age would touch it with destiny. No roads marked the grassland. The only occupants were the inevitable colonies of prairie dogs and occasional transient coyotes and range cows. Anyone in 1889 who foresaw a “great all-embracing university” at this lonely site—as did a young Territorial lawyer named Bernard Shannon Rodey—could justly have been called a dreamer.

Today, as the University of New Mexico marks its 75th anniversary, the view from amid the topmost books of its library shows how well Rodey’s dream has been realized. Beyond the windowpanes lie a College of En-

gineering of national prestige, and departments of languages and foreign studies whose brilliant reputations won the University the role as the nation’s training center for the Peace Corps. Just to the east stands the most modern College of Education plant in existence. To the north, the first building of the University’s new School of Medicine is taking shape. To the south, the first phase of a new Fine Arts Center awaits dedication. To the west lies the home of a UNM anthropology department rated second to none. And beyond it stands the University television station whose award-winning programs are beamed into the classrooms of 25,000 children and bring college-level courses to thousands of adults across the State.

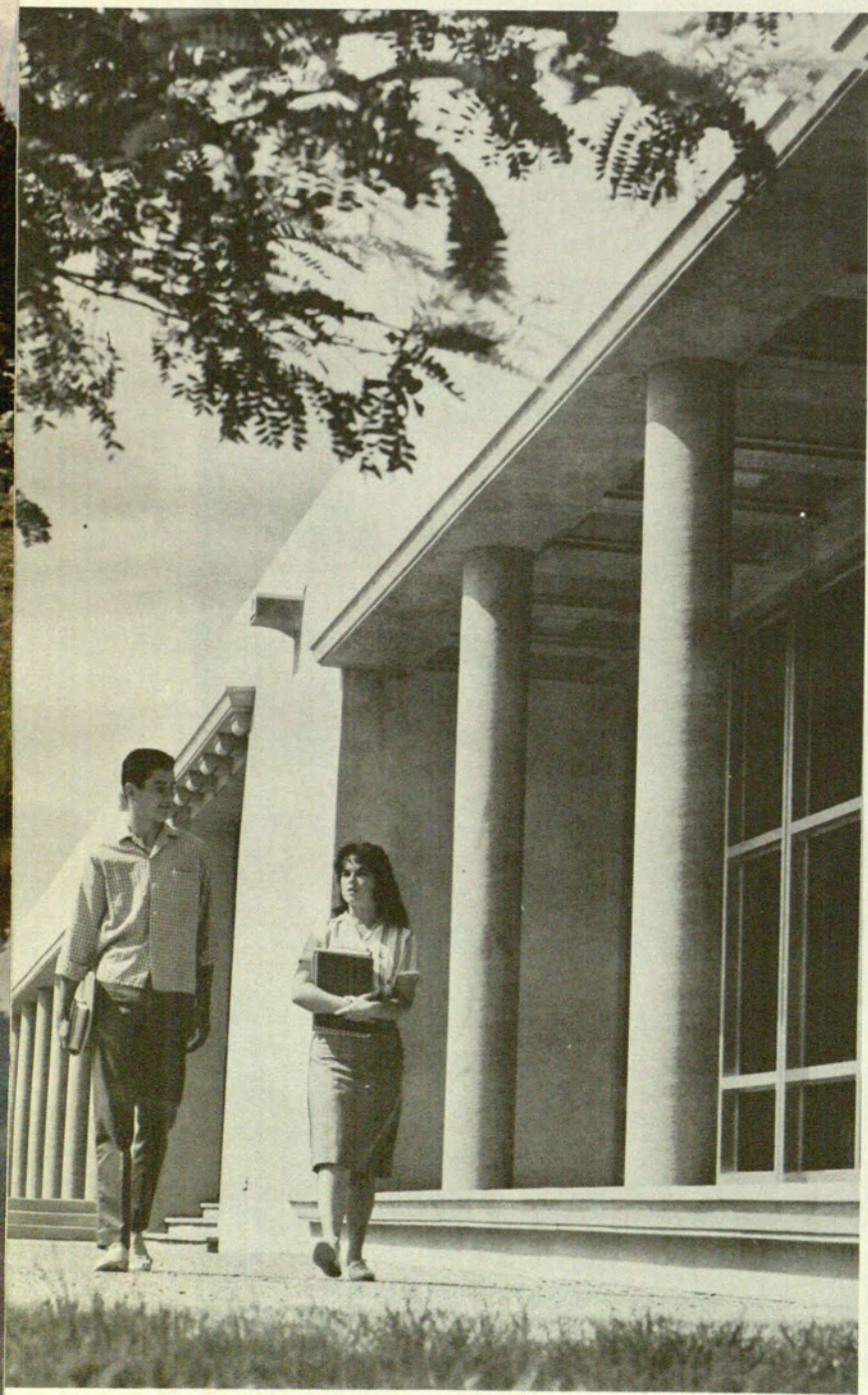
In the record books, all this had its beginning on February 28, 1889, when the Territorial Legislature passed a bill creating the University of New Mexico. But as a practical matter the birthdate was two days earlier and the birthplace a smoke-filled majority caucus room in the rococo splendor of Santa Fe’s famous old Palace Hotel.

Bernard Rodey had been there for days, arguing with a visionary’s eloquence that the Territory must have a university, and gradually persuading those who felt that a hundred other more pressing problems had prior call on what little cash the impoverished territory could muster.



THE ONCE-SMALL COLLEGE ON THE MESA THAT STARTED WITH A PREPARATORY AND A NORMAL SCHOOL HAS GROWN INTO A GREAT UNIVERSITY WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF NEARLY 10,000 AND A \$60,000,000 FACILITY ON FIVE HUNDRED ACRES.

How Rodey prevailed in the political struggle is lost to posterity. Then, as now, no minutes were kept of the hard-nosed bargaining sessions held behind the locked doors of the caucuses. Suffice to say that fortune gave Rodey and his handful of allies an opportunity. In this session the struggle centered around locating important territorial institutions—the penitentiary, insane asylum, agricultural experiment station, and others. Rodey's plan for a university would add another small plum to the spoils available. Perhaps it would be enough to swing the votes of a small county which otherwise received nothing. Whatever happened inside the room, when the meeting adjourned decisions had been made. Santa Fe would receive the prison and Las Vegas the insane asylum. Among the smaller parcels delivered was the University of New Mexico, to be located in Bernalillo County.



THE STUDENT UNION HOUSES CAFETERIA, SNACK BAR, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, OFFICES, HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.



MESA VISTA DORMITORY FOR MEN STUDENTS.

The omens at birth were hardly auspicious. The Territory was poor, its population scanty and divided by lack of roads. While a 20-acre tract of prairie, worth perhaps \$5 at 1889 prices, had been donated, no teachers were available. Worse, since New Mexico Territory had not a single public school, no student body was in sight to attend the college.

The first regents met month after month in the 10-chimneyed San Felipe hotel at Albuquerque, first disturbing the prairie wildlife with the planting of trees "not to exceed 150" and then erecting a barbed wire fence. But not until 1892 was the scene subjected to permanent change. A tall, two-story brick building with Gay 90's gables rose in lonely majesty, jutting like a red pinnacle amid unbroken oceans of grassland. A wagon trail wound two miles down the *mesa* to link (except in



THE MEMORIAL CHAPEL, BUILT WITH ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS, IS IN THE STYLE OF NEW MEXICO'S EARLY DAY MISSIONS.

wet weather) the center of learning with the center of civilization below. That autumn, the first 75 students who had been attending classes in rented quarters moved from the village to their isolated school.

Elias S. Stover, a vigorous merchant-politician selected as first president, had met the student shortage problem head-on by organizing the University into two departments. The "preparatory" school would substitute for the Territory's non-existent public school system to make students ready for the "normal" school. The "normal" school would train the preparatory grad-

uates as teachers to man a school system when it was formed. Virtually all of the first students were "preps" of the knicker-wearing age.

Among the relics left from those first days is the 1892 catalog—a 15-page pamphlet with its pink cover now faded which warned parents that the university "is not a reform school" and listed a faculty and staff of seven people. Lay this relic beside the 1963-64 catalog and the contrast is striking. The current catalog uses 336 pages to outline University activities. It includes 415 names on its faculty list, plus 25 at the University's Los Ala-



THE EXPANDING MAIN CAMPUS NECESSITATED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECOND CAMPUS AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW STADIUM.

mos and Holloman Graduate Centers. But the great growth represented here was a long time coming.

When the Gay '90's passed into the 20th Century, only one other small building with the ponderous name of "Hadley Climatological Laboratory" had joined the original brick structure to mar the virgin *mesa* landscape. Regent minutes note that "100 feet of common garden hose" sufficed to water the campus. The second president, Clarence Luther Herrick, was famed for his diverse scholarship, his ability to draw two pictures simultaneously with his two hands, and for a prodigious memory. But his tenure brought no great spurt of growth. The view in 1901 was little different from the

campus scene in 1892. Then in 1901 came William George Tight.

Dr. Tight was a scientist of international repute. An easterner who resembled Prince Albert except for his blacksmith's hands, he made his favorite costume a carpenter's overalls and his mode of transportation a cowpony named Billy.

He built a windmill of monumental proportions, to irrigate the campus, tried solar radiation to heat University water, dispatched platoons of students to the mountains to bring back young pines for planting, imported squirrels to occupy the trees, constructed a dragon mounted on 12 wagons to amaze the crowd at the Terri-

torial Fair, and scorched his luxuriant beard in a near-fatal experiment with oxygen gas. More significantly for the future, Tight decided that red brick buildings didn't fit the arid grandeur of the *mesa* scene.

Tight photographed Indian pueblos and built a pueblo-style powerhouse, laboring himself as carpenter and mason. Hokona and Kwataka dormitories rose, pueblo-style inside and out. Other buildings followed and even the Victorian lines of the original "university" were remodeled in Indian fashion. Tight was popular with the students, who slaved in unpaid enthusiasm on his endless building projects (and demonstrated their affection by painting Billy with zebra stripes), but his dream of a *pueblo on the mesa* was much too much for more conservative thinkers. One citizen suggested that soon Tight, faculty, and students would be wearing breech clouts and feathers.

In 1909 Tight was fired. In 1910 when Hadley Laboratory burned, plans for a pueblo-style library were shelved. Instead Dr. E. Dundas McQueen Gray, the fourth president, erected a concrete box suggestive of a

Maginot Line fort. But time proved Tight's only mistake was being too early on the scene. Soon Artist Carlos Vierra revived the pueblo style with his home on College Avenue in the Capital. The idea spread to change the face of old Santa Fe. Within a few years buildings which looked suspiciously close to Tight's pattern were again rising on the campus. In 1927, James Fulton Zimmerman, who was to extend Tight's idea to another dimension, assumed the presidency and officially adopted pueblo style for the campus. Tight's dream of a *pueblo on the mesa* was assured realization.

Dr. Gray, an austere Scot who wore decorations from four continents on his coat and was "British to the core," left his own sort of legends. Gray considered it a waste of time to educate non-gentlemen. Full formal attire appeared on the prairie campus, and Latin, Greek and classics received new emphasis. Back at Oxford University, where Gray had graduated as a rare "four honors man," another legend was born when the dour UNM president nominated one of his students for a coveted Rhodes Scholarship with a (Continued on Page 31)



DECORATIVE FOUNTAIN AT ENTRANCE TO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION CENTER.

SAN JUAN'S BLACK GOLD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

of such enormous loads over unimproved Indian roads, Ebasco turned to Eidal Manufacturing Company of Albuquerque. Eidal has an international reputation for the manufacture of custom trailers used in off-road haulage. Eidal built what is considered the world's largest custom trailer. Owing to the size of the job, the only standard components available were the tires, rims, bearings, brakeshoes and controls; all else was designed and fabricated by Eidal. The trailer was built to haul 200- to 275-ton loads over the roughest terrain. It is 16 feet wide, 14 feet high and weighs 204,000 lbs. without load. The 36-ply tires stand 7½ feet high and are 2½ feet wide on 16 wheels.

The massive trailer is push-pulled by a specially built 430 hp. White Autocar and a 600 hp. Hough Paydozer.

The haulage route over unimproved roads passes near some of New Mexico's best known ancient ruins at Chaco Canyon National Monument and crosses the Continental Divide at 7,200 feet above sea level.

Like all modern power generating plants, Four Corners is largely computer controlled. This system monitors, scans logs, alarms and performs result computation operations. A General Electric 412 Process Control Computer installation is used with the system.

Abnormalities are alarmed visually on annunciator displays and printed out on alarm printers each time scanned until returned to normal status.

The computer monitor and control system makes possible the operation of the plant with a three-man shift. In all 39 workmen are employed in the power plant of whom ten are Navajo Tribesmen taking on-the-job training.

Development of the tremendous coal reserves which made this plant possible was begun ten years ago by the Utah Construction and Mining Company, operator of the coal mine. The coal field, covering a 24-230-acre strip of land approximately 25 miles long and averaging one mile in width, lies immediately adjacent to the plant. Estimated total quantity of coal in the area leased from the Reservation is in excess of 400 million tons, enough coal to support a one million kw plant for 100 years at 100 per cent load factor.

The coal field runs north and south with overburden varying from 0 to 120 feet. The main coal seam is approximately 12 feet thick. At present Utah is mining 15,000 tons per day in a 7,500-foot long strip removing approximately 30 feet of overburden with a walking dragline. This is currently the largest equipment of its kind in the world and was especially designed and built for this job. However, an 80-yard bucket dragline is now being built by the same company for coal mining at Gallup and the Four Corners' monster will be demoted to second place. (Continued on Page 40)

BIRTHDAY FOR A COLLEGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

recommendation which began: "Not a bright boy, nor a good student. . ." Impressed with Gray's faint praise, Oxford granted the

young man the scholarship.

Fifth president of the University was David Ross Boyd, the man who pulled the young University of Oklahoma up by its bootstraps. He found a college enrollment of 70 with another 97 youngsters attending prep school. He left it on its 30th anniversary with a college enrollment of 344 and only four students remaining in the preparatory department. Dr. Boyd had changed the University from an academy to a college. Dr. David Spence Hill, who replaced him and served until 1927, completed the job with a program to improve academic standards which won the institution accreditation from the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

But the great periods of growth, both in size and prestige, would wait for the administrations of the University's two long-term presidents—James F. Zimmerman and Thomas L. Popejoy.

If the lofty view from Zimmerman Library had been available in the Roaring 20's, it would have looked down upon a campus still small but a far cry from the University's days of lonely isolation. By 1917, the school had been able to turn out to pasture the four-horse teams which had pulled countless hackloads of University students up the *mesa* from the depot at the W. Y. Walton Drug Store. That year the streetcar line was extended up Railroad Avenue to give town and gown their first transportation link. Football, once officially rated as a "foolish game," was now taken seriously. After posting a 54-0 victory over the downstate Aggies in 1916, the 1917 squad was nosed out 110 to 3 and players felt glum enough about it to refuse their athletic letters. As late as 1930, the great Roy W. Johnson was coach for all sports, but the clumps of cactus which hazarded ball carriers in 1920 had long since been rooted out. The prairie dogs had moved to a quieter locale.

When Dr. Zimmerman moved out of his office as a social science professor to the president's desk in 1927, the institution—with 610 students enrolled—was a mature 38 years old, but a bit stunted for its age. But Zimmerman was a man of vision. He brought rapid growth and a great deal more.

Like Dr. Tight before him, Zimmerman wanted to fit the school to its environment. Tight had objected to copying Eastern architecture; Zimmerman saw no profit in copying Eastern academic format.

In a state rich with the relics of bygone cultures, the UNM departments of anthropology and archaeology flowered to fame. The University became a center for study of Spanish and Latin American history, language and culture. A College of Education, deeply interested in bi-lingual teaching problems, was founded to provide the State with badly-needed teachers. The College of Fine Arts was added—again with orientation toward the Southwest. The long-neglected Extension Division was suddenly active in offering adult education to New Mexicans. The Graduate School was started to give New Mexico the full cycle of education. And important for our view, Zimmerman Library was built—big enough (it was

thought) to meet scholastic needs into the dim, distant future.

In this anniversary year, a \$2,000,000 project will be started to more than double the library—an example of the sort of dire necessity which was to make the current president the University's greatest builder. When Thomas L. Popejoy took office in 1948, the day had long since passed when a University president would find it necessary—as Dr. Tight had in 1906—to saddle his cowpony, round up range cattle ravishing campus greenery and drive them under cover of darkness into yards of sleeping Albuquerqueans thus to interest villagers in a contemporary UNM problem. Ahead lay a new set of problems. The Atomic Age had been born at Los Alamos and the wand of progress was touching New Mexico. Farmington, Hobbs, Artesia, Grants, Alamogordo and other communities were booming. Albuquerque had become the fastest-growing city in the United States. Demand for higher education was skyrocketing.

President Popejoy met this demand with an endless building campaign, but he never swerved from the philosophy stressed in his inaugural address:

"The success of a university rests on its qualitative, rather than its quantitative features."

And, he added, quality depended upon the excellence of the faculty. No effort should be spared to have a faculty second to none.

The view from Zimmerman Library can tell nothing of the quality of the faculty. To see this, one must look elsewhere.

The fact that more than 70 per cent of the permanent teachers have reached the highest plateau of scholarship in their fields—the doctoral degree—tells something. More revealing is the fact that students came this year from all 50 states and 40 foreign lands to study under these men and women. The spectacular growth of the UNM Graduate School to its present enrollment of almost 1700 is also a tell-tale clue. So is the fact that government, private foundations and the nation's industry have entrusted UNM faculty members with research projects totaling some \$4,000,000 to advance the frontiers of knowledge in scores of fields.

The measure of Mr. Popejoy's campaign for excellence can also be found in the finished project. Employers, many of them national concerns, rate UNM graduates worth a bonus in starting pay scales. The average UNM graduate last summer was offered \$570 per month, compared to nationwide average of \$556 for university graduates. The bonus is small but the reputation it represents is significant.

If Bernard Shannon Rodey were alive today to see the results of his efforts he would know he had planted well. A "great, all-embracing University" had replaced the prairie dogs on the *mesa* just as he dreamed it would. From the top of Zimmerman Library, the view looks promising.

—Tony Hillerman

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of two articles on the University of New Mexico. The second, on the new College of Education Center, by Amy P. Hurt, will appear next month.