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Moorhead State Teachers College

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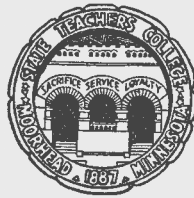
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THE BULLETIN
of the
Moorhead State Teachers College
Moorhead, Minnesota



News Letter

THE BULLETIN
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Dear Friends of M. S. T. C.:

We know that you are always interested in knowing how your college is progressing. In general this information is to be found in the weekly college paper, the annual, and in the regular college bulletins. But from time to time it is felt that some special medium is needed to carry news about general conditions and developments. Therefore this news letter.

Perhaps you would first like to hear something about how our students live.

The two dormitories, Wheeler and Comstock Halls, accommodate 146 women students and the rooms are all taken. In fact each term there is a waiting list of students who wish to live in the dormitories, and rooms have to be reserved well in advance of the opening of the school year.

Last summer all of Wheeler Hall was redecorated and the corridors of Comstock Hall were painted. We expect to complete the redecoration of Comstock Hall the coming summer. The beds in both dormitories were supplied with new inner-spring mattresses, a new roof was placed on Wheeler Hall, the out-side of the building was painted, and a new covered entrance was built at the south door.

Fourth-floor Wheeler Hall furniture was re-painted, new glass curtains were hung. Thirty new rugs were bought for the rooms, forty pull-up chairs were bought and furniture in the parlors was recovered.

The main dining room which accommodates 200 people was painted and supplied with new glass curtains as was the smaller dining room which accommodates 40 people and is used by organizations and for special dinners. A new piano was bought for the dining room. The entire ground floor, laundry, kitchen and serving room was repainted. All dormitory furnishings will be gradually replaced and this spring 50 pairs of blankets will be bought.

Of the women students living off-campus twenty-five board and room and 160 do lighthousekeeping in homes on our approved list within easy walking distance of the college. About sixty live at their own homes in Moorhead and fifty at their homes in Fargo. Twenty live with relatives, fifteen live at home in Dilworth, Glyndon, Comstock and Sabin driving to and from school each day, and twenty-eight work for room and board.

The men's dormitory facilities are limited, accommodating but twenty-eight men. With the increase in number of men attending the college, there is need for more room. Those who do not live in the dormitory find living accommodations in the neighborhood of the college in approved rooms. Some men club together to do light-housekeeping. Others board either in the main dininghall or in homes nearby the campus.

The increase in enrollment of men, especially in the degree course, has a desirable effect on the general college atmosphere and makes for a more truly coeducational college. Certain departments have found it advisable to broaden their offerings partly as a consequence of increases in the male enrollment, notably Physical Education, Industrial Arts, Journalism, Science, and Political Science. The variety of types of training that interest the men is noticeably broadening. To the usual fields that traditionally have interested the men of the college, including these named above, may be added Art, Music, Geography, and Elementary Education. Some men find that by the time that they are ready for graduation they have developed a particular interest in fields other than teaching. These seek and surprisingly frequently obtain scholarships in graduate schools offering special work in administration, government service, science, speech, and the like. Some students take advantage of the fact that pre-courses for law, medicine, dentistry, agriculture, and other fields, may be taken during the first one, two, or three years.

Even a cursory examination of the progress of graduates of M. S. T. C. reveals rather astonishing information. Men and women but a few years out of college have secured advanced degrees and found well-

paying and distinctly responsible positions as physical education directors in large cities, government positions of rank, headships in departments in colleges and universities, scholarships, and fellowships in such colleges and universities as Minnesota, Northwestern, Columbia University, Colorado, Clark, Harvard, and others. Several men have recently secured fine positions in Boy Scout administration. Their fine records pave the way for oncoming graduates.

A number of students take two years of training which qualifies them to teach in rural and small-town schools. Careful supervision, painstaking analyses of difficulties in frequent personal conferences with well-trained supervisors, and an originally carefully planned schedule of courses-to-be-mastered develops surprisingly efficient teachers even in so short a time. Most graduates of this course, realizing that proper professionalization and mastery of teaching requires a longer period of time than two years, return to the college for additional work toward the degree. Such work is often taken during the summer session.

Placement has been good—very good considering the general employment conditions. All the degree graduates with Elementary majors in the past five years have been placed, those with experience often in good administrative and supervisory positions. It is becoming a commonplace for successful teachers in the field, who do not have their degrees, to obtain leave of absence from their positions so they may come back for a year, six months, or less, to complete their degree requirements, afterwards going back to the same or other locations at higher salaries and in better positions.

This college does not hold to the idea that "working one's way through college" is most often a good practice. The best work cannot be done by those harassed by financial troubles. However, what with continued drouth, unemployment of family heads, and the like, some students find it necessary to work part-time. For good quality students in such circumstances, work is often provided. About one hundred and thirty students work part-time on the campus and many others in downtown homes and business places. College work and competition being what it is, those who have an interest in certain students—usually relatives—attending college, should make especial effort to aid them so that such students' loads may be lightened.

Moorhead State Teachers College is growing. This year we have the largest enrollment we have ever had during an academic year. Fourteen years ago we graduated one student with a degree. In 1939 we graduated seventy-seven.

Growth in numbers beyond a reasonable point is not a prime interest. Classes at present are of such size as to guarantee personal contact between student and teacher. Quality is the prime aim. To enhance the quality of the instruction definite and successful attempts have been made at improving the qualifications of instructors. All supervisors of student teachers have at least master's degrees from fine and widely spread universities. Several college instructors have recently taken leaves in order to complete work for the doctorate and others are in process. Quite a number already have their doctor's degrees, and most of the new appointees are Ph. D's.

A college plant and facilities second to none in the Northwest; an atmosphere of good will, ambition, service, and concern for proper living; a selected student body of fine, upstanding students with a will to do; a very well qualified faculty with a personal interest in the welfare of students; and an understanding, cooperative, and efficient administration; make for an excellent college. We believe we have all these at Moorhead State Teachers College.

Sincerely yours,

JESSIE H. ASKEGAARD,
Dean of Women.

CASPER P. LURA,
Dean of Men.

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