

# 4. THE TWENTIES BRING MATURITY

*We're thru' with tents and hovels,  
We're done with shingle stain.<sup>1</sup>*

THE END of World War I intensified the problems of University administration. Mounting attendance, the necessity of providing additional short courses as well as sessional courses for returning veterans, finding new staff to give the new courses, the uncertainty of government action on the vexed question of the University move to its permanent site — these were some of the problems confronting the Board of Governors on November 11, 1918. Related to all these was the urgent need for the appointment of a successor to Dr. Westbrook. This responsibility lay solely with the Board of Governors, whereas the first President had been appointed by the Government. The Board went about their task with calculated care. During the winter of 1918-19, letters were addressed to universities in Britain, the United States and Canada, in a search for possible candidates. As a result of this correspondence and of applications separately received, a large number of names were considered by the Staff and Organization Committee, and a select list presented to the Board for their final choice. At their meeting held on

<sup>1</sup> The Pilgrimage marching song. See page 91.

May 26, 1919, the decision was made to offer the position to Leonard Sylvanus Klinck, Dean of Agriculture at the University of British Columbia. During the five years of his association with the University, he had enjoyed the complete confidence of Dr. Wesbrook. He had travelled over much of British Columbia and familiarized himself with many of the special problems with which the University had to deal in a frontier province. He had given the Board evidence of his administrative ability as Acting-President in the periods of Wesbrook's illness and in the months following the latter's death. Dean Klinck hesitated at first to assume the responsibilities of the office but finally agreed and the Board was able to announce his appointment as President in July 1919.

Dean Klinck's reasons for hesitation are, perhaps, not far to seek. Born on an Ontario farm in 1877, his earliest ambitions were associated, through boyhood and early manhood, with agricultural pursuits and studies. His success as a student, first at Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, and later, in graduate studies at Iowa State College, won him the attention of agricultural scientists and, in 1905, he was appointed to the staff of Macdonald College, McGill University. Here his research work brought recognition and promotion until as Professor of Cereal Husbandry, nine years later, he was persuaded to accept the Deanship of Agriculture at U.B.C. He knew from his five years' experience in this office that the arduous task which he was now being invited to undertake meant an almost complete separation from the studies which had been nearest to his heart. The thoughts which made him slow to give an affirmative answer to the Board at this time may be divined from observations in an address he gave to the Vancouver Institute in 1924 when he said:

Appointment to the Presidency brings no new accession of physical endurance, no new moral force, no new intellectual power: but invariably it involves the sacrifice of opportunities for the acquiring of a mastery in any recognized department of learning. It is an elevation but rarely a promotion—an elevation which makes less than an empty phrase any conformity to the fine old British tradition of the President being "first among equals".

Such was the sacrifice which Dean Klinck saw was involved in his decision. The duties of his new office, however, while they kept him from pursuing his studies in agricultural laboratories, did not prevent him from taking an active part in agricultural affairs. A year later he was elected the first President of the Canadian Society of Technical Agriculturists to which, for many years, he gave informed leadership in both the formulation and execution of their policy.

The new President inherited from his predecessor a rich legacy of ideas in administering the University. With determination and thoroughness, he now set to work to clarify his own thinking in the light of experience. At the end of his first year of office he wrote:

## University Policy

More and more the University of British Columbia is coming to envisage its task, to formulate its policies, and to gauge more accurately its undeveloped powers.<sup>2</sup>

Four years later, he enumerated what may be regarded as the basic principles by which he administered the University during the 25 years of his Presidency:

First and foremost, never to forget that a University is an educational institution, ministered to by a company of scholars. Being what it is, its administration, aside from finances, cannot be modelled on the methods and ideals of an automobile plant or a company engaged in international trade. The fundamental difference between the scholastic and the administrative points of view must be recognized and ever kept in view. Executive ability must not be exalted over teaching ability, productive scholarship or research attainments. The love of large dimensions, the temptation to keep prominently before the public the material and visible accomplishments of the University, must be withstood constantly and resolutely. Spontaneity and inward strength must be cultivated and a liberal and enlightened individualism encouraged. Concisely expressed, the President's first duty is to secure the right men. His second duty, which is like unto the first, is to make it possible for them to succeed. In these two principles are summed up the "Law and the Gospel" of University Administration.<sup>3</sup>

With regard to the function of the University itself, President Klinck adopted and carried forward with enthusiasm the liberal views of Dr. Wesbrook. Speaking on this subject to a Victoria audience in 1924 he declared:

Today all are agreed that it is the function of a University both to extend the boundaries of achieved knowledge and to promote the extension of higher education; all are convinced that the demand for short courses, for extension lectures and for tutorial classes . . . is both widespread and genuine; all are of opinion that the Universities ought to meet these demands.<sup>4</sup>

Twelve years later, speaking at the "Coming of Age" dinner of Convocation, on May 7, 1936, he reiterated his adherence to these broadly-conceived views of educational policy.

For four years it was my happy privilege to be intimately associated with Dr. Wesbrook, the first President of this University. During that time I caught something of his vision (as who, so situated, would not?). I think I understand more of that vision now; and, in its broad essentials, I know I believe in it to-night as I have never believed in it before. . . . Like the motto he gave the University, his dream is a constant reminder of his abiding faith in the people of this Province and in this University as a great seat of learning—cultural, professional, vocational—a great provincial University without provincialism.

The first decade of President Klinck's administration was a period of substantial growth and solid achievement. The University had survived, with magnifi-

<sup>2</sup> President L. S. Klinck, "A Preface," *U.B.C. Annual*, 1920.

<sup>3</sup> President L. S. Klinck, "Basic Principles of Administration," *Address to the Vancouver Institute*, Feb. 28, 1924.

<sup>4</sup> President L. S. Klinck, "Adult Education," *Address in Victoria*, December, 1924.

### *Increase of Students and Staff*

cent courage, the holocaust of war—an experience which will be kept alive in the minds of all future generations of students by the symbolic khaki cord worn on the yoke of the undergraduate gown. As was expected, the first post-war session of 1919-20 saw a sharp rise in registration, when the flood of young men, whose careers had been broken into by war service, returned to their studies, bringing the number of regular students to 890, an increase of 350 from the previous year. Added to this number were 640 short course and vocational course students, giving a total registration of 1,530. What had not been foreseen was that this expansion would continue, though at a slackened pace, when veteran registrations were over. In a letter from the Minister of Education to the President, written in January, 1919, asking if it would be possible for the President to submit an outline of financial policy for the next 10 years, Dr. MacLean assumed "that the growth of the University will be gradual and that in 1930 we will have 1,200 to 1,300 students." In fact, the registration of regular students numbered 1,308 for the session 1923-24 and for the session 1929-30 it had increased to just short of 2,000.

This rapid growth in student population necessitated, among other things, a corresponding increase in instructional staff which, in 1919, numbered 58. By 1929 the numbers of full-time teachers had grown to 110, and part-time lecturers and term assistants brought the total staff strength to 162. More than half the full-time new appointments were made in the two sessions of 1919-20 and 1920-21, to provide instruction for the post-war bulge of new students. These appointments included several members of the Agriculture and Applied Science staff whose salaries, in the first instance, were provided by a Federal Government grant for the purpose of extending the number of short courses and vocational training classes already established by the University for returned soldiers. The greatest enlargement was in the Faculty of Arts, where, including assistants, the Department of Chemistry increased from 4, in 1919, to 11 in 1929; English, from 3 to 10; History, from 2 to 6; Mathematics, from 3 to 12; Modern Languages, from 3 to 11; Physics, from 2 to 8. The Department of Biology with a staff of 2 in 1919 was later divided into two Departments, Botany and Zoology, which, in 1929, had staffs of 7 and 3, respectively. Three quite new Departments made their appearance, viz., Nursing and Health, and Forestry, in the Faculty of Applied Science, and a Department of Education in the Faculty of Arts. The Department of Nursing and Health resulted from the fusion, in 1925, of the two Departments of Nursing and Public Health. The creation of a five-year degree course in Nursing in 1919 gave U.B.C. the distinction of being the first Canadian university to offer such a course. The work in Nursing and Public Health was made possible by generous financial assistance given the

### *Senior Teaching Personnel*

University by the Vancouver General Hospital and the Provincial Red Cross Society.

The end of President Klinck's first 10 years of office found the three Faculties and 24 Departments of the University complete in their organization. F. M. Clement, Professor of Horticulture since 1916, replaced Dr. Klinck as Dean of Agriculture. In the Faculty of Arts, the Deanship had twice changed hands. George E. Robinson, Acting-Head of Mathematics and First Dean of Arts, resigned the office of Dean in 1919, to be succeeded the following year by Dr. H. T. J. Coleman, who also became Head of Philosophy. Dean Coleman came to U.B.C. from Queen's, where he was Dean of the Faculty of Education. He resigned the Deanship at U.B.C. in 1928, and was succeeded by Daniel Buchanan, Professor and Head of Mathematics, who, like Dr. Coleman, had been a member of the Queen's University teaching staff before coming to U.B.C. in 1920. During the war years, most Departments of the University had Acting-Heads only. Chemistry, under D. McIntosh, Economics, under T. H. Boggs, Mining and Metallurgy, under J. M. Turnbull, were exceptions. In the early years of his regime, President Klinck moved to correct this unsatisfactory situation, and the majority of Acting-Heads of Departments were confirmed in their appointments. In the Faculty of Arts, H. Ashton was made Head of French, T. C. Hebb, of Physics, L. F. Robertson, of Classics, G. G. Sedgewick, of English; E. H. Archibald succeeded McIntosh as Head of Chemistry, when the latter resigned to entry industry; S. M. Eastman became Head of History. On his appointment, five years later, to the International Labour Office of the League of Nations, Eastman was replaced by D. C. Harvey. A. H. Hutchinson was made Head of Botany, R. H. Mullin, of Bacteriology and of Public Health. Similarly, in Agriculture, P. A. Boving was appointed to the Headship of Agronomy, and W. Sadler became Head of Dairying. As fresh appointments were made to the teaching staff, and new Departments were formed, President Klinck continued his policy of erecting a sound administrative structure for academic work and, by 1929, permanent Heads had been found for all Departments. In the Faculty of Arts and Science were added G. M. Weir, Head of Education, and C. McL. Fraser, of Zoology; H. W. Hill succeeded to the dual Headship of Bacteriology and Public Health on the death of Mullin in 1924. Archibald, forced to retire for health reasons, as Head of Chemistry, was replaced by R. H. Clark. In Agriculture, H. M. King became Head of Animal Husbandry, E. H. Lloyd, of Poultry Husbandry. The Faculty of Applied Science had three new Department Heads during these years—W. E. Duckering, Civil Engineering, H. Vickers, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, and H. R. Christie, Forestry.

In the meantime, the University administrative staff had undergone important changes. John Ridington was confirmed in the appointment of Librarian. Stanley W. Mathews, for 10 years Principal of King Edward High School in Vancouver, succeeded Thomas Pattison when the latter resigned as Registrar in 1919. In 1921 Miss Mary L. Bollert was selected for the newly-created office of Adviser to Women Students, and was to be known as Dean of Women.

Because of the growth in numbers of the instructional staff and the increased amount and variety of agenda to be dealt with, a combined Faculty meeting was gradually found to be an unsatisfactory instrument for transacting the business of the three Faculties. Accordingly, in the autumn of 1921, the unitary system inaugurated by Wesbrook was dropped, and each Faculty, under the chairmanship of the Dean, assumed the management of its own affairs, as provided for in the University Act. At the same time the Registrar was appointed Secretary of each Faculty. Membership of Faculties was limited to those holding the rank of Assistant Professor and higher. It was understood that joint Faculty meetings might be convened at any time to consider common problems.

Among the urgent problems requiring decisive action were those which had to do with salaries and annuities. During the lean years of the War, despite the rising cost of living, few salary increases had been found possible. The salary schedule approved by the Board of Governors in 1914 was generous enough, but the policy of making junior-grade appointments and Acting-Heads only, in most University Departments, restricted the salaries of the majority of the teaching staff to the lower-income brackets in the schedule. With regard to annuities, Dr. Wesbrook had laboured ineffectually to establish a system of retiring allowances. President Klinck addressed himself early to both these problems which were pressed upon him for solution by a restive and unanimous Faculty. From the outset, he laid down the principle that "salaries must be such as to attract and hold the most promising younger men." He realized that the University was competing, in this as in other respects, with the older universities of the North American continent. He adopted a generous policy of staff promotions and appointments within all grades. In 1920 and again in 1921 the salary schedule was revised upwards, especially in the lower grades, resulting in the following levels: Deans, \$5,500 - \$7,500; Professors, \$4,000 - \$5,000; Associate Professors, \$3,200 - \$3,800; Assistant Professors, \$2,400 - \$3,000; Instructors, \$1,600 - \$2,200; Assistants, up to \$1,500. This schedule was accepted by Faculty and remained for a number of years the basis for salary adjustments. Recurrent budget shortages postponed the bringing into operation of a scheme for Faculty insurance and annuities, prepared by Daniel Buchanan in 1920 in conjunction with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The plan, which re-

### *Victoria College Re-opened*

ceived the hearty support of the President and the Board, had to be held "in suspense" in the annual budget until 1924, when the \$20,000 required for its launching became available. Through Dr. Buchanan's efforts the University in that year received a grant of \$5,000 a year for 10 years from the Carnegie Foundation to provide supplementary annuities for older members of Faculty. The marked improvement in their financial status was welcomed by all members of the University teaching staff.

In 1919, a movement was started by the high school principals in Victoria and vicinity which had as its objective the re-opening of Victoria College. The people of Victoria had appreciated the work carried on at McGill College in their city and they felt the time was now ripe for the restoration by the Provincial University of the educational facilities which they had enjoyed under the Royal Institution. Negotiations, initiated by the Victoria School Board, were continued through 1919 and 1920. President Klinck and the University Board of Governors hesitated to give their approval to the proposal on grounds of both financial and educational policy. They were anxious to avoid commitments outside their already over-taxed budget, which might hamper University development. Also, they were opposed to taking a step which might be interpreted as lending their support to the principle of high school affiliation, fearing lest affirmative action in this case be taken as a precedent for similar requests in other school districts. The Department of Education, on its part, gave full support to the Victoria School Board. The financial difficulty was met by the Department's undertaking to supply equipment and to contribute a per capita grant to staff salaries. Satisfactory arrangements were completed in the summer of 1920. An agreement on the management of the College was entered into between the Victoria Board of School Trustees, the Provincial Department of Education and the University. Under this agreement, the sole administrative responsibility of the University was to give consent, subject to the approval of the Department of Education, to Victoria College staff appointments as proposed by the School Board. The College undertook to give instruction in the first two years in Arts in subjects which would enable students to take complete courses in those years. Examinations, both Christmas and final, were to be set by the Faculty of the University, who also marked all final examination papers. The regulations regarding courses, fees, attendance and other routine matters were to be the same as those in force in the University. On October 9, 1920, Victoria College was formally opened as an affiliate of the University of British Columbia. The staff was composed of Edward B. Paul, Principal and Associate Professor of Classics, E. Howard Russell, Registrar and Associate Professor of Mathematics, Percy H. Elliott, Associate Professor of Science, Jeanette A. Cann, Assistant Professor of English and

### *Theological Colleges Affiliate*

Philosophy, and Mme. Sanderson-Mongin, Assistant Professor of French. To begin with, classes were held, as before, in Victoria High School. In 1921 the School Board acquired Craigdarroch Castle, at first by rental, later by purchase, and this famous building in Victoria's oldest residential district became, and remained for many years, the luxury home of Victoria College undergraduates and staff.

The academic boundaries of the University were further enlarged by affiliation with various theological colleges. Westminster Hall was founded in Vancouver by the Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1908. The Anglican Theological College of British Columbia, incorporated in 1912, brought together St. Mark's Hall, established in that year, and Latimer Hall, established two years earlier, in 1910. By action of the Faculty, Senate and Board of Governors, the affiliation of Westminster Hall and of the Anglican Theological College, with the University, under consideration since 1916, was finally consummated in 1922. Approval was given in 1924 to the affiliation of Ryerson College which, in the previous year, had assumed the theological work formerly done by the Columbian Methodist College. The Church Union movement brought about the amalgamation in 1927 of the Presbyterian and Methodist Colleges and the Congregational College, incorporated in 1914. Union College, the theological institution resulting from this denominational fusion, was admitted to University affiliation in 1928. The United and Anglican Churches erected their residential college buildings on the campus at Point Grey in 1927.

The general plan for financing the University underwent radical change in the years immediately following World War I. Overcrowded conditions in the Fairview buildings forced upon the Board of Governors more urgent consideration of the move to Point Grey. The sharp rise in registration of regular students and the provision of a large variety of vocational short courses for returned soldier students brought about serious increases in the operating budget. Where would these rising capital and maintenance requirements be found? Already, in 1917-18, the Dominion Government was co-operating with the University in meeting costs of re-training courses in Telegraphy, Forestry and other subjects for war veterans. In the hope of enlisting its interest in the post-war expansion problem facing U.B.C., it was decided to approach the Federal Government for financial aid. The Provincial Government expressed its readiness to provide \$500,000 if the Federal Government would contribute \$250,000. With such sums of money in hand, plans could be made at once to move the University. The Minister of Education and Chancellor McKechnie made this request to the Government during a visit to Ottawa in April, 1919. The Federal authorities made an important grant of \$60,000 toward the interim cost of agricultural instruction, and

repeated it during the following three years, but they refused the larger capital grant. Their interest in fostering higher education was immediate and concerned the educational well-being only of those who had served their country in the armed services. British Columbia — and the rest of Canada — must wait more than thirty years before the Federal Government was ready, by significant financial aid, to recognize the national value of her universities.

So the Provincial Government faced alone the task of supporting her lusty, four-year-old infant University. This new responsibility had to be borne by a none-too-prosperous Treasury, besieged already by demands for funds required for material and social development throughout the vast areas of the Province, recovering slowly from the disorganization of the war period and the depression which preceded it. The Government had found it necessary, in 1918, to take over and operate the Pacific Great Eastern Railway; ten years later, in 1928, no less than \$13,000,000 had been added to the provincial funded debt in connection with this undertaking alone. Every constituency needed roads and bridges, elementary and secondary schools, health services, etc. Developing industries of lumbering, mining, fishing, agriculture, required services of all kinds. The Government, therefore, in 1919, felt justified in withstanding the Board of Governors' request for a supplementary grant of \$103,000 to provide necessary accommodation, instruction and supplies at Fairview for the session 1919-20. A letter from the Minister of Education, dated May 10, 1919, ended with these vigorous words: "May I remind the Governors that requests of this kind do not increase the popularity of the University with the Government." In this case, however, the Board of Governors remained adamant, and eventually, in January, 1920, the required grant was voted to enable the University to complete its sessional work.

The plight of the University, with its increasing enrolment (962 for the session 1920-21), was now seen to be serious, and the Government was impressed with the necessity of re-examining the financial structure which had been provided for its maintenance. Prospective cash income from the lands set apart under the University Endowment Act still appeared as remote as when the Act was passed in 1907. An alternative land endowment scheme was now devised whereby the 2,000,000 acres provided under the earlier Act were exchanged for "3,000 acres more or less" of Crown lands adjoining the University site in Point Grey. These lands were to be surveyed "for townsite purposes" and sold "for occupation and use." All lands reserved for University endowment under the 1907 Act reverted to the Crown, "to be administered and disposed of as Crown lands of the Province in the same manner as if the reservation, selection or setting apart thereof had never taken place." It was clear that the new

### *Imposition of Tuition Fees*

Endowment Lands would one day be valuable because of their proximity to Vancouver. The enhancement of their value could be quickened if the University were established on its permanent site near-by. The capital sums required for building the University and for clearing and preparing its Endowment Lands for the real estate market would be obtained by a Provincial Government bond issue of \$3,000,000, half of which sum would be used for each purpose.

Another feature of University finances was troubling the Government, namely, the annual growth of the operating budget. For 1920-21 the University estimates for the session at Fairview were placed at \$585,000, an increase of nearly \$200,000 over the previous year and including \$93,000 for capital account. Some formula, it was felt by the Government, must be found to stabilize the annual demands on the Provincial Treasury—demands which were certain to rise with the annual increase in student registration. The Government had recourse to a simple expedient in a proposal which it made to the Board of Governors that the University impose fees upon the students, the proceeds of which would defray costs in excess of the annual grant from the Treasury. For the session 1920-21, President Klinck and the Board were told the grant would be \$420,000 and no more. Until this time, no tuition fees had been charged at U.B.C. The University had been founded on the idea that higher education, like elementary and secondary education, should be free to all who could qualify for it by the tests of examinations. In this respect the University of British Columbia was unique among the provincial universities of Canada. Recognizing that this was so, the Senate and Board of Governors agreed on a decision to levy a fee of \$40.00 on all students for the session 1920-21, thereby raising an additional \$40,000. Five years later, for the session 1925-26, with 600 more students, an increase in enrolment of over 50%, when the University operating budget was \$647,000, the Treasury grant stood at \$480,000, while the fees for Arts, Agriculture and Nursing Students had risen to \$100, and for Applied Science Students to \$150. The formula was working well.

The acceptance in advance of the Government grant of \$420,000 for the session 1920-21, with the balance of the operating budget to be obtained from fees and with no hope of a supplementary grant, involved the University in very substantial reductions in their estimates. These reductions included certain salary cuts, the dropping of all-important capital expenditures at Fairview, including a students' Gymnasium, giving up the Faculty Insurance plan and the establishment of a Department of Home Economics, as approved by Senate. The Board's action in thus cutting the budget, as in the agreement to impose fees, was taken in the full expectation that this would be the last session at Fairview and that the University would be opened at Point Grey in 1921.

### *Opposition of Faculty and Senate*

The University grant of \$420,000 was voted by the House as agreed. The British Columbia University Loan Act was assented to April 17, 1920—"An Act to Borrow the Sum of Three Million Dollars for the Purposes Therein Specified," i.e., to erect University Buildings, to effect the exchange of Endowment Lands and to develop a portion of the University lands at Point Grey. But the Minister of Finance encountered unexpected difficulties in floating the loan, and the plans for the move became dormant once more. In the meantime the steady growth in numbers of the student body accentuated the twin problems of providing actual lecture room and laboratory space at Fairview and of budgeting for growing costs. Because of cramped conditions, lectures and laboratory work in some courses had to be repeated. The famous "Chemistry Tent" was put up on the "Campus;" classroom accommodation was found in a near-by church and in a more distant Sunday-School room. When, however, shortage of funds made it necessary to consider supplementing the Government grant of \$445,000 in 1922 by raising fees for the second time, the Faculty of Arts entered a vigorous protest and formally requested the Senate to withhold its approval. Their resolution stated, *inter alia*:

The present Arts and Science fee of \$50.00 is higher than that of any Provincial University in Canada at the present time. In every other respect than that of teaching—that is, in grounds, buildings, general equipment, athletic and other recreative facilities—the University of British Columbia is so much below these other Universities that comparison is hardly possible.

Senate agreed with the Faculty in its opposition to further raising of fees. The Minister of Education turned a deaf ear to the President's request for a supplementary grant. The Board of Governors were now in a dilemma. They had supported the President's policy of maintaining and developing all three Faculties, *pari passu*. This could only be accomplished if fees were raised again. They now took the drastic step of petitioning the Government to alter the University Act in such a way as to leave the right of fixing fees solely in the hands of the Board, independently of Senate's recommendation. When this legislation was passed in 1923, the Board had in their own power the means of providing for an operating Budget that was flexible within moderate limits. To everyone's surprise, registration continued to rise, especially in the Faculty of Arts and Science, despite the higher fees. The number of Winter Session Arts and Science undergraduates increased from 724 in 1921-22 to 1,484 in 1929-30. Total registration in the same period increased from 1,014 to 1,900.

The years 1921 to 1923 must be recorded as a critical period in the history of the University for reasons already apparent. In one of his several interviews with the Minister of Education, the President was informed that the Government was

### "Build the University" Campaign

constantly receiving protests about the cost of the University. The Minister was critical of University policy with regard to the Faculties of Agriculture and Applied Science. Dr. MacLean suggested a drastic curtailment of future plans for the latter Faculty. President Klinck appeared before a special meeting of the Liberal caucus to answer the attacks on University policy in general and on its agriculture policy in particular. Limitation of attendance was discussed as a possible measure of economy. Premier Oliver himself, who had succeeded Brewster as Liberal leader on the latter's death in March, 1918, lacked enthusiasm for the cause of higher education. His natural reluctance to press for implementation of the 1920 Loan Act was strengthened by the fact that he was not sure to what extent the electorate was in favour of larger money grants to the University.

Yet the lot of the 1,200 students in their congested, makeshift quarters at Fairview was intolerable and they were finally goaded into action by these very conditions. In the late spring of 1922, the Students' Council launched their campaign—to "Build the University." The general plan was to circulate a petition throughout the Province, to be signed by as many citizens as possible, requesting the Government, in the words of the petition,

to institute a definite and progressive policy toward The University of British Columbia, and to take immediate action toward the erection of permanent buildings on the chosen University site at Point Grey.

A committee was appointed to work out the details. Members of the committee included Ab Richards, Agriculture '23, President-Elect of the Alma Mater Society, Campaign Chairman; Marjorie Agnew, Arts '22; Percy Barr, Applied Science '24; Jack Clyne, Arts '23; Hunter Finlay, Applied Science '24; Jack Grant, Arts '24; and Aubrey Roberts, Arts '23. The youthful Alumni Society gave the movement their support through their President, John Allardyce, B.A. '19, who worked along with the Campaign Committee. Throughout the summer of 1922, wherever they went, the students took copies of the petition with them—sheets of paper, each inscribed at the top with the carefully worded appeal and with space below for 25 signatures. In this way 17,000 names had been secured when the session of 1922-23 opened in September. The Committee, with the Students' Council, planned the final stages of the campaign. To keep the students informed and to transmit instructions, they used the columns of *The Ubyssy*, which published two extra editions. A Varsity Press Bureau was formed with Don McIntyre, Arts '23, as Chairman, Hugo Ray, Arts '23, Secretary, Aubrey Roberts, Campaign Committee representative, and Harry Cassidy, Arts '23, Editor-in-Chief of Publications, as Adviser. News letters were prepared and sent by this agency to no fewer than 60 dailies and weeklies in British Columbia, a service which was continued to the end of the year, presenting the University's

## *The Great Trek*

case to a potential 200,000 readers. Co-operation was sought and obtained from the business firms in New Westminster and Vancouver who gave free advertising space, not only in the daily papers but also, in many cases, in the form of window displays, showing photographs which revealed the crowded conditions at Fairview. Messages of good-will were received from many Municipalities, Service Clubs, Women's Clubs, Ratepayers' Associations, Parent-Teachers Associations. The publicity programme, under direction of Jack Grant, was intensified during "Varsity Week," October 22-28, when numerous addresses were given to captive audiences in theatres, church halls and elsewhere. On Wednesday, October 25, a complete canvass was made of Vancouver City which swelled the total petitioners to 56,000.

The week's campaign features culminated with The Pilgrimage—a carefully-marshalled parade on foot of all the students, accompanied by floats and decorated cars, through down-town Vancouver. From the corner of Davie and Granville, they moved by street-car to the end of the line at 10th Avenue and Sasamat; there the parade reformed and marched to the Point Grey campus, beckoned there by the eight-year-old skeleton of the Science Building. The Pilgrimage marching song was specially composed for the occasion:

*We're thru' with tents and hovels,  
We're done with shingle stain,  
That's why we want you to join us  
And carry our Campaign.  
The Government can't refuse us,  
No matter what they say,  
For we'll get the people voting  
For our new home at Point Grey.*

On arrival at their destination, all the students climbed the concrete stairs of the empty frame structure, and hung their class banners precariously from its four unwallled floors—a ceremonial occupation of the lecture rooms of the future. The programme of The Pilgrimage ended with the dedication of the Cairn, a sturdy, graceful rectangle of masonry, designed by the University architects, carefully sited in the Main Mall. Its erection was suggested by Professor Paul Boving. The rocks of which its base and sides were built were gathered on the site. Into its hollow centre the students cast stones in token of their part in the symbolic pile. An account of the campaign was placed inside and the top was sealed. The inscription on the Cairn reads, simply: "To the Glory of our Alma Mater Student Campaign 1922-23." The words of Ab Richards, in his brief address of dedication, are indicative of the spirit of U.B.C. at its highest and best:

Our slogan during Varsity Week was, "Build the University". We, the students, are building the first unit in the permanent plans of our University. The work that we

## Government Yields

are doing is significant of the hope that the people to whom we appeal and the Government who represent them will carry on this work. . . . The building of the Cairn to me is full of meaning. It stands for the combined efforts of 1178 students. Each rock represents a personal contribution in a worthy and just cause. As the mason with his trowel shapes and cements the rocks together into a complete and unified whole, so the Campaign has bound the student body together by a bond as strong as the very granite itself. . . . To our successors let it be emblematic of a united student body. May it bring glory and honour to our Alma Mater.<sup>5</sup>

Such a spirit of determination and unity was not to be denied. The petition was presented to the Government a few days later by four members of the Campaign Committee, Ab Richards, Percy Barr, Jack Clyne and Jack Grant. They were introduced by Ian Mackenzie, M.L.A. for Vancouver (later Minister of National Defence in the Federal Cabinet), a brilliant graduate of Edinburgh University and a strong supporter of the U.B.C. cause. The petition was brought into the House by six page boys and placed, roll by roll, before the Speaker—an impressive ceremony such as, in all probability, the House never witnessed before or since. The Assembly then adjourned to the Members' Room where the delegation addressed them with buoyant confidence. A week later, on November 9, 1922, the Premier announced that the Government would float a loan of \$1,500,000 for the immediate construction of University Buildings at Point Grey. *The Ubyyssey* published the news the same day, under the punning title, printed in large type across the front page—GOVERNMENT SEES THE POINT! The stalemate between the University authorities and the Government was broken and the University moved forward at last into a new phase of its growth. Such an achievement, voluntarily undertaken, unselfish in its conception, and for which the student body must be given the entire credit, is surely unique in University annals. The Pilgrimage, later known as The Great Trek, has taken its place at the centre of the enriching traditions of the University. To freshly-enrolled students the story is re-told in the Cairn Ceremony, at the beginning of each University Year.

Having announced its new University policy, the Government lost little time in putting it into action. The work of building would start where it had been so tragically stopped in August 1914. The original plans could be made use of within the limits of present needs and available funds. In the words of the Architectural Commission's report of November, 1913, the plans had been designed

to provide for the needs of an institution potentially great, whose relatively small beginnings must be arranged with due regard to present economy and efficiency and in such a manner as to permit them to fall into place in the steadily developing general scheme.

<sup>5</sup> *The Ubyyssey*, Nov. 2, 1922, p. 1.

# The Ubyssy

Issued Weekly by the Publications Board of the University of British Columbia

Volume V.

VANCOUVER, B. C., NOV. 9, 1922

No. 6

## Government Sees the Point!

### VARSIITY WINS FROM EDMONTON

College Ruggers Surpass Score Registered By Vancouver Two Days Before

Over three thousand spectators witnessed Varsity's first fifteen in their history last Monday over the Edmonton "Rep" Team. British Columbia weather has been kind to the visitors from Alberta and the game was played under ideal conditions. The score was 16-0.

**Brilliant Play by Ternan**  
For the first ten minutes neither side had any marked advantage. Then the Varsity scrum heeled thirty yards from the Edmonton line—"Gee" Ternan came into possession, drew the visitors defence, with a masterly feint and slipped through followed by Alex Cameron. After making sure of the opposing full-back's intentions, "Gee" passed to Cameron with ten yards to go. Rex scored behind one of the posts. The whole manoeuvre was brilliant both in design and execution. The try was not converted. In five minutes in the middle of the first half Edmonton pressed heavily. The team played them off however and a run and kick by Palmer relieved the situation. Just before half-time came Varsity's second score. With play on the visitors' twenty-five line close to one side of the field, Ternan got the ball, made an opening, and scored a fine drop-goal with nearly a forty yard kick.

The second half opened with the score at 7-0. The college team pressed.

(Continued on page 3)

### The Week's Events

**Friday, Nov. 10**—Sing-Song in Auditorium.

**Saturday, Nov. 11**—Rugby: Varsity II vs. Native Sons. Brockton Point, 2:30. Varsity II vs. Normal, 12th and Cambie at 2:30.

**Soccer: Varsity vs. Poslats** (Mainland Cup), Kerrisdale.  
**Tuesday, 8 p.m.**—Sigma Delta Supper.

**Wednesday, 8 p.m.**—Women's Literary Society.

### CAMPAIGN DELEGATION BACK FROM VICTORIA

Last Minute Interview with Student Representatives Elicits Interesting Details Concerning their Reception and Activities

The Government has voted \$1,500,000 for the immediate construction of permanent buildings on the Point Grey site.

This news is too momentous to have missed a single member of the Student Body when it spread through these halls yesterday. The return of the Campaign Delegation from Victoria, and the confirmation they brought of rumors which many had hesitated to believe, was, in actuality, "the best news since the armistice."

A last minute interview which the "Ubyssy" obtained with members of the Delegation elicited these flash details.

The attitude of the Members of the House towards our delegates was cordial in the extreme—the Premier especially being most genial.

The speech which Mr. Richards made to the House was characterized as one of the most stirring and convincing speeches delivered in some time. According to one member of the Delegation, "Ab" was better than his best—his speech had the triumph of sincerity.

The Petition was brought in to Capt. Ian McKenzie, who piled it up on the desk in front of him until he was almost hidden by the rolls of signatures. It created a decided stir in the House when six pages were called, loaded with forms, nearby members assisting in the process, and sent to lay the fifty thousand—odd names—before the Speaker's Chair. The Speaker was nonplussed for the moment and there was a pause throughout the House. The impression registered was evident, and should satisfy the most hopeful of the Campaigns supporters, and confound the skeptics.

The Victoria Times gave strong endorsement to the Campaign, and assisted in influencing Public opinion in Victoria to a gratifying extent. The Colonist, of a more Conservative tendency, was somewhat lukewarm in its appreciation of the Student project, but the Delegation visited the Editor, and after showering him with facts and figures, won an admission of the justice of the Campaign cause.

### FINAL CASTS FOR XMAS PLAYS ANNOUNCED

Much interest has been aroused by the keen competition for parts in the Xmas plays this year. The judges have finally decided on the following casts: "The High Priest"—Constance Peter, Percy Barr, Peter Palmer and H. N. Cross; "Rococo"—Beth MacLennan, Mary Bulmer, Margaret Lewis, Frank Turnbull, H. Warren, and M. Dickson; "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets"—Beatrice Johnston, Dorothy Dallas, A. Zorn and T. Taylor; "Vengeance Heights"—Mildred Teeple, Molly Jackson, L. Edgett and G. Shore.

These plays will be presented in the Auditorium of the University on the evenings of November 23, 24, and 25. Thursday and Saturday nights will be reserved for students only, while Friday will be given up to the invited guests, including the Faculty, Senate, Board of Governors, old members and friends of the Players' Club. Owing to the increased number of students this year, the Players' Club regrets that the number of outside invitations must be reduced, none being given for Saturday night. Students are requested to watch for further announcements of the place and method of distributing tickets for Thursday and Saturday nights.

### MISS LOWE OUTLINES CONFERENCE PLANS

At a meeting held Wednesday noon, Miss Lowe addressed the students and faculty of the U. B. C. on the subject of the National Student Conference which is to be held in Toronto, December 28 of this year. The S. C. M. aim is to encourage sincerity and frankness in discussion of religion, and a willingness to seek the truth. It is aiming to find a solution to some of the greatest problems which confront Canadians: to-day, problems dealing with the rural, industrial, and international situations, and to encourage frank discussion among students. The S. C. M. is trying to create that harmony which must exist between the church and modern science.

There are now two B. C. people on the general committee, Mr. H. Higginson, and Miss Lila Coates. This year either 6 or 7 students from U. B. C. have the honor of going to this council, and of meeting some of the finest students from other Colleges. Miss Lowe stated all expenses would be pooled. She also gave an outline of the plans of the conference. Not only will there be lectures given by some of the college students, but each person will be expected to give his or her ideas on the various problems brought up.

### FAST PACE IN GAME WITH ELKS

North Vancouver Players Are Unfortunate Enough to Score Against Selves.

Con Jones' Park was the scene of another win for the Varsity soccer team Saturday afternoon, when they took the north shore "Brother Hills" into camp to the tune of three goals to two.

Play opened and the Elks pressed the ball going down the field, putting Varsity's goal in danger. Baker, driving beautifully, relieved a strained situation, but the Elks again chased the leather into Varsity's half. This time the efforts of the North Shore team bore fruit, Williams, their outside right passed neatly to center. Rorke trapped the ball and the resultant shot gave Mosher no chance to save.

#### Elks Score For Varsity.

Varsity was not long in equalizing. Dean took a corner, Wilson headed the ball to McInnes, who in turn headed it to Rorke, the latter beating his own goalkeeper for Varsity's first goal. U. B. C. representatives however, decided to procure a goal for themselves. Cameron passed neatly to Crute, who was playing well up. Crute by a clever play, succeeded in putting Varsity one up. The Elks worked hard, but Mosher was on the job every minute of the time and cleared on three or four occasions when the opposition became dangerous.

#### A Fast Second Half.

During the second half, the players did not spare themselves, and hit a fast clip, but for some time were unable to score. Cameron again starred, when, after a brilliant piece of work, he passed four of the opposition and tapped the ball to McLeod. Johnny took no chance, Wells was helpless and the score stood three to one in our favor.

Although the light was failing, the Elks refused to give up the game without a struggle. With but a few minutes to go, Williams who was always dangerous, secured the leather, and with a spectacular shot, just managed to beat Mosher who went full length in an effort to save. U. B. C. representatives came back strongly, the final whistle finding the Elks on the defensive.

#### The Players.

For the Varsity, Baker showed up extremely well, his drives, when clearing, being a feature of the game. Crute's work was also outstanding, his tactics helping the forwards considerably. Cameron, McLeod and

Front page of *The Ubyssy*, November 9, 1922, with punning headline which announced the Government's decision to build the University at Point Grey.

### *New Buildings at Point Grey*

The number of students to be accommodated was set at 1,500, a 25% increase over the 1922-23 registration. After due calculation and discussion between the appropriate Ministers of the Crown and representatives of the University, it was decided to proceed with completion of the Science Building, and erection of the Library and Power House according to the early plans. The remaining University needs were provided for by "semi-permanent" buildings, nine in all, viz., Administration, Auditorium and Cafeteria, Arts and Science, Applied Science—now Forestry and Geology—Agriculture, three Engineering Buildings (Mechanical, Electrical and Mining, Metallurgy and Hydraulics), and the Forest Products Building. The last-named building was constructed by a co-operative arrangement with the Dominion Government Forestry Branch. This larger group, with a life-expectancy of forty years, were erected on sites to which no permanent buildings were assigned in the Wesbrook campus plans. The architects' drawings and supervision of construction were done by the Provincial Department of Public Works. The University architects supervised the erection of the permanent buildings.

Contracts were let in the spring of 1923. The first of these contracts was for the Science Building, originally designed for Chemistry alone, but now compelled to house, in addition, Physics, Bacteriology, and Nursing and Public Health. A gymnasium, included in the first generous plans, had to be withdrawn in the face of the unexpectedly large costs of other work. Completion dates, set by the contracts for September, 1924, were found to be far too optimistic. It was the spring of 1924 before the construction of the Power House and the semi-permanent buildings really got under way, although the corner-stone of the Science Building was laid by the Minister of Education on September 28, 1923. Administration and Agriculture were the first to be finished. They were handed over to the University on March 7, 1925. From that date, one after another, through the next seven months, the buildings were announced as completed until, on October 31, the last of the workmen vacated the Library and the University entered into full possession of its new campus.

During these two years, 1923-1925, 250 more students had crowded into the Fairview buildings. The 1,451 registrants for the last session there, 1924-25, were already approaching the total number of undergraduates for whom accommodation was being provided at Point Grey. In spite of their great discomforts and inconveniences, when the time for the move at last approached there were many who felt twinges of sadness at the thought of discarding the garments of their Fairview Alma Mater, however torn and threadbare. Their feelings are defined in a *Ubyssy* editorial on January 15, 1925, entitled, "At Last We Move:"

Last year's *Ubyssy* files remind us that the New Year editorial for 1924 was an

### *Early Days on the Campus*

assurance that "This is our last year in Fairview" . . . And now that the time really is at hand, we for one are not so jubilant. Of course, it has been uncomfortable here, though after the first year or so one grows callous. Nevertheless, we have become too attached to our miseries to be very glad to part with them. And so this year's editorial is a wail for departing glory. (We are not expecting the pampered generation of Arts '29 to be at all sympathetic.)

The *Ubyyssey* editor, being a Senior, was clearly not without envy of the "pampered generation" of the first Freshman class to enrol at Point Grey.

Tuesday, September 22, 1925, was the opening day of lectures in the new buildings. The general assembly held at 9:15 a.m., at which the Chancellor, the President and the three Deans of Faculties made welcoming speeches, was noteworthy as the first such gathering at Point Grey. It made a lasting impression on the minds of all who were there because the seats had not yet been installed in the Auditorium and the students, therefore, had to sit on the floor. President Klinck, in his address, emphasized the significance of the day in the University's history.

Many generations of students have earnestly desired to see the things which we see, and have not seen them. To-day we enter into their labours. This morning, over all this land and in many other lands the thoughts of the graduates of this University fondly turn to their Alma Mater. Mere change of location does not separate us; rather does it unite us. Henceforth there is no "old", no "new", just the University of British Columbia.

The process of settling into the new environment put a considerable strain on student self-government. Official regulations for the use of buildings, of the Cafeteria, of the Library entrance, etc., caused irritation and resentment until satisfactory adjustments could be made. Graduates of the first session at Point Grey remember well the undergraduate Vigilance Committee and the controversy it created among the students. Such disagreements and accompanying protests were an indication of a vital interest in the day to day routines of University life rather than of any deep dissatisfaction. The underlying sentiment felt by undergraduates who had experienced Fairview was one of sheer joy. Their feelings found expression in the extra number of *The Ubyyssey*, published on September 23, in which the editor (Sadie Boyles) writes:

To those of us who began our academic careers in the catacombs at Fairview, this sudden accession to a wealth of light and beauty is positively bewildering. We are dazed with the appearance of architectural cleanliness and bewildered by our lineal freedom.

There were of course no wide-spreading lawns and shaded boulevards yet; roads and foot-walks were still being constructed; unsightly piles of builders' debris decorated open spaces on the campus; laboratory equipment and services in the Science Building were incomplete. Such and other like inconveniences there were,

### *Inauguration Ceremonies*

but they were borne, for the most part, with that patient good humour which the years at Fairview had made habitual.

Formal inauguration took place on Thursday and Friday, October 15 and 16. Both days were packed full with social events, academic activities and ceremonial speeches. The guests of honour included Principal Sir Arthur Currie of McGill who addressed Faculty and students on the first afternoon. In the evening of the same day at a dinner given in honour of the University's guests, Premier the Honourable John Oliver responded to the toast to the Province, proposed by the Honourable Mr. Justice Murphy on behalf of the Board of Governors. Congratulations and felicitations from the Prime Minister of Canada and from more than 100 universities were received. The ceremonial handing over of keys of the buildings to the University took place on Friday afternoon before an invited audience of representative professional and business men and women who filled the Auditorium. The Honourable Dr. MacLean assured the gathering that the Government was satisfied that its capital and maintenance expenditure on the University was money well spent, despite the fact that the cost of the buildings, \$3,000,000, was twice the amount visualized in the University Loan Act of 1920, which the Government had had to modify accordingly. Climax of the celebrations came on Friday evening when, at a special Congregation, the first Honorary Degrees to be given by the University were conferred on seven men who, in the words of President Klinck, when introducing them, "had pursued a course, a self-determined course, in the world of action or the world of thought." These Honorary Degree recipients were: The Chancellor, Dr. R. E. McKechnie; the Honourable W. C. Nichol, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia; Dr. Henry Suzallo, President of the University of Washington; the Honourable J. D. MacLean, Minister of Finance and Education in the Provincial Cabinet; Dr. J. S. Plaskett, Canadian Astronomer, Head of the Dominion Astro-Physical Observatory in Saanich; Dr. H. E. Young, "Father of the University" and Provincial Health Officer; and Sir Arthur Currie, who delivered the Congregation address. A prolonged ovation greeted Chancellor McKechnie when he was presented for his degree—a demonstration which showed the high esteem in which he was held by the University and her friends.

The events of these two days were a wholesome and much-needed tonic both to the University and to the community in its relations with the University. Many nice things were said by the speakers about the Faculty. The teaching staff felt encouraged to see that the fruits of their endeavours through ten difficult years were being recognized not only in the Province served by the University but by important and older universities elsewhere. The Government and the people realized now that their University had taken its place among the important centres

of learning. It was partly for this reason, no doubt, that the University's relations with the Government became somewhat easier for a few years following the inaugural ceremonies at Point Grey.

The University made every effort, both at Fairview and at Point Grey, to keep pace in academic development with its material growth, and to discharge its avowed obligations to the people of the Province as well as to its undergraduates. In the session 1919-20, the work of the Extension Committee, first appointed in 1918, became a permanent feature of University services to the community. Under the auspices of this committee, members of the teaching staff of any Faculty were sent to any part of the Province, on request of local organizations, to lecture on subjects of popular interest. Travelling and lecture schedules were fitted to the University time-table. Illustrated pamphlets describing the work of the University were made available. These were published in connection with the ceremonial opening of the buildings at Point Grey, an occasion which coincided with the tenth anniversary of the University. The booklets included an account of research done by Faculty members, a review of alumni achievements, and a brief sketch of the University's history. The service of the Extension Committee, which provided 24 lectures in its first year of operation, soon became so well and favourably known that it was frequently impossible to supply the many demands for lecturers.

Intra-murally, numerous alterations and additions were made to the curriculum, especially in the Arts Faculty. Honours Courses were introduced in the session 1920-21. The new Departments of Nursing and Health (1919), Forestry (1921), and Education (1925) have already been noted. In 1929-30 a sum of money was supplied in the budget which made it possible for the Board of Governors to approve, at long last, the establishment of a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Commerce. So it was that, after many years of advocacy, Commerce was given professional status similar to that awarded to other subjects of study in the University. Commercial subjects were taught in the Department of Economics, Sociology and Political Science by J. Friend Day, Associate Professor of Economics and Commerce. The same Department also, in 1929, became responsible for a two-year Social Service diploma course. This work, which was being prepared by Professor S. E. Beckett at the time of his death, was placed under the direction of Professor C. W. Topping. Other subjects, including Music, Fine Arts, Oriental Languages, Law, and Home Economics, were proposed by interested professional or lay organizations and, in some instances, received the approval of the University Senate. The Legislature actually included in the University estimates for 1929-30 amounts intended to establish a Chair in Home Economics and lecture-room accommodation for the teach-

ing of this subject. Unfortunately, in the case of all these subjects, shortage of funds prevented, for the time being, their introduction into the curriculum of studies.

The University was more successful in its endeavours to meet the educational needs of elementary and secondary school teachers, in whose interests two notable developments took place. In 1920 the University was able to announce the Summer School for Teachers with Dr. G. G. Sedgewick as Director; in 1923, a course in Teacher Training for University graduates was established in the regular session with Dean Coleman of the Faculty of Arts and Science as provisional Director. Both these innovations received the hearty support of the Minister of Education. They were indeed made possible by special grants from the Government. When Professor G. M. Weir, formerly Principal of the Normal School at Saskatoon, assumed his duties as Professor of Education at U.B.C. on January 1, 1924, he was made permanent Director of Teacher Training. All professional training of teachers had previously been the responsibility of the Provincial Normal Schools; now the Department of Education in Victoria, the Normal School in Vancouver, the Vancouver School Board and the University adopted a co-operative plan whereby graduates, after a one-year course of training under University auspices, might receive a Diploma in Education and a First Class Academic Teaching Certificate. An average of 60 students enrolled in Teacher Training classes in these early years. Summer School for Teachers quickly widened its scope. After two experimental years on a narrow professional front, the School blossomed into a University Summer Session, offering a wider range of subjects, both academic and professional. Here teachers who held First Class Certificates, and others whose work prevented them from attending the Winter Session, found a way of advancing toward a B.A. degree, without, at the same time, giving up their regular means of livelihood. Summer Session courses were supplemented by afternoon and evening classes conducted at the University. Finally, in an historic statute, passed on November 8, 1927, the University Senate set out detailed provisions by which it became possible for students to proceed to a degree without attendance at a Winter Session. In this first ten-year period of summer work the number of students taking courses was more than trebled, rising from 127 in 1920 to 427 in 1929. The growing popularity of the Summer Session was due, in part at least, to the ideal natural surroundings at Point Grey campus. But to the many elementary and secondary school teachers who were without Academic First Class Certificates, the credit courses of the Summer Session opened up the nearer possibility of a University degree and a consequent avenue of advancement in their careers. The liberal Summer Session policy, whose principal champion was Dean H. T. J. Coleman of the Faculty

of Arts, was therefore welcomed by the teaching profession of the Province and served not only as a link of friendship with the University but also as a vitalizing influence in the entire school system.

A notable feature of the Winter Sessions was, and continued to be, the large proportion of students in the Faculty of Arts and Science. The years 1919 to 1930 saw the graduation of more than 2,100 students of whom 75% were registered in Arts; the remaining 25% received their degrees in the other two Faculties, in the proportion, roughly, of three in Applied Science to one in Agriculture. The full development of degree work in these latter Faculties was retarded by budget shortages. Specially-arranged courses made it possible for H. F. G. Letson, who had returned from the War, seriously wounded, in 1918, to graduate in Engineering in 1919, but the first regularly-enrolled class to graduate in the Applied Science Faculty received their B.Sc. degrees at the Fifth Congregation in 1920. It was 1921 before the first degrees were conferred in Agriculture. The first Degrees of Bachelor of Applied Science in Nursing and in Forestry were awarded at the Eighth Congregation in 1923. In the meantime a few students had enrolled in graduate work. At the Fourth Congregation, in 1919, two U.B.C. graduates, Miss Ruth Fulton and Miss Isobel Harvey, of the class of 1918, received the degree of M.A. In the following year, C. A. H. Wright was awarded the first Master of Science degree. In 1923, R. C. Palmer, Gold-Medallist of the Graduating Class in Agriculture, 1921, became the first Master of Science in Agriculture. At the Tenth Congregation, the last degree-conferring ceremony held at Fairview, there were 200 graduands. Once again, appropriately enough, as at the First Congregation in 1916, the chief address was given by Dr. H. M. Tory, President of the University of Alberta and President of the National Research Council of Canada. Autumn Congregations had their beginning in an *ad hoc* ceremony held in 1926 to confer a Bachelor of Arts degree on H. V. Warren, Rhodes Scholar-elect, who had completed qualifications for the degree in the Summer Session. Autumn Congregation became a public ceremony in 1928 when the guest of honour was Premier the Honourable S. F. Tolmie. After the ceremony, which was held in the Auditorium on November 28, the Professor of History, D. C. Harvey, gave an address on Canada's Sixty Years as a Nation. Chancellor McKechnie then led the academic procession to the Library, where the Premier unveiled the Canadian Jubilee Memorial Windows, the generous gift of an anonymous donor.

The Twenties were a time of feverish activity and high achievement in every department of undergraduate life. The large number of returned-soldier students brought with them a quality of experience and character which impressed itself indelibly on the entire life of the University. Traditions begun in the Wesbrook

### *Students Win Distinctions*

regime were confirmed and new traditions established in the academic, literary, social and athletic life of the campus. Graduates who went forth with scholarships and fellowships to the older universities of Eastern Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom gave ample proof, by their successes in post-graduate study, of the soundness of their earlier education and training at U.B.C. As scholar-ambassadors of good-will for their youthful Alma Mater they made the way of entry easier for the long line of U.B.C. men and women graduates who would follow them to McGill, Toronto, Queen's, California, Stanford, Yale, Michigan, Illinois, Harvard, the Brookings Institute, Cornell, Columbia, Oxford, Cambridge, London, The Sorbonne and elsewhere among the centres of learning on two continents. A list of these scholar "pathfinders" shows how prolific the period was of scholarship and talent. Included in such a list should be: John Allardyce, Percy Barr, Geoffrey Beall, Earle Birney, Geoffrey Bruun, Harry Cassidy, Willson Coates, Geoffrey Coope, Walter Couper, Dorothy Dallas, James Dauphinee, George Davidson, Blythe Eagles, Conrad Emmons, Frank Emmons, Archie Fee, Dal Grauer, Phyllis Gregory, Joyce Hallamore, Maurice Home, Bert Imlah, Lucy Ingram, Hugh Keenleyside, Desmond Kidd, John Knapton, Cecil Lamb, Kaye Lamb, Harry Letson, Edith Lucas, F. Frank McKenzie, Lester McLennan, Murchie McPhail, Lester Mallory, John Mennie, Lennox Mills, Lorne Morgan, Don Morrison, Sally Murphy, Margaret Ormsby, Dick Palmer, Thomas Peardon, Allon Peebles, Harry Purdy, Geoffrey Riddehough, Alfred Rive, Norman Robertson, John Russell, Morley Scott, Pierce Selwood, James Sinclair, Jean Skelton, Anne Smith, Harold Smith, Ralph Stedman, Lionel Stevenson, Brian Sutherland, Otto Swanson, Tommy Taylor, Homer Thompson, Carl Tolman, Ross Tolmie, William Ure, Roy Vollum, Guy Waddington, Lloyd Wheeler, John Williams, Charles Wright, and many others.

Within the University, student self-government, implicit both in the Alma Mater Society organization and in administrative practice on the campus, was formally recognized by an amendment to the University Act in 1927. The amendment set up the Faculty Council, part of whose duties was to "exercise disciplinary jurisdiction with respect to the students." Provision was made also for the organization of a Student Court to which the Faculty Council might delegate its disciplinary powers, subject to the proper exercise of those powers by the students. The Act reserved the right of appeal to the Senate of any person who might be aggrieved by any decision of the Faculty Council. This piece of legislation bears eloquent testimony to Faculty-student relations and to the spirit of mutual understanding and trust prevailing at U.B.C. between the authorities and the students—a heritage which the University, at the time of its foundation, re-

ceived from McGill B.C. The undergraduate point of view in this matter is finely expressed in an editorial of *The Ubysssey*, as early as January, 1923:

The principle of student self-government which permeates this University is a constant challenge to the best side of student nature.

The Publications Board, responsible to the student body for news coverage of undergraduate activities, continued to produce *The Ubysssey* as an 8-page weekly until the move to Point Grey. At that time, in order to meet the needs of a growing student population, the size of the page was enlarged from 10 x 13-1/2 inches to 12 x 18 inches, and *The Ubysssey* became a semi-weekly paper. The undergraduate body, it is safe to say, was never better served in editorial campus leadership than during these years. Of the 11 editors-in-chief in the period 1919-1930, five became professors; three, prominent teachers; one, a Supreme Court Justice, and two entered the legal profession. From time to time gusts of controversy blew across the campus. The fraternity question recurred frequently. Session after session the respective merits of "English" and "Canadian" rugby were discussed. The gusts reached storm velocity in the prolonged discussions regarding the re-establishment of the C.O.T.C. in the session 1928-29. All such affairs received full and adequate consideration in the student paper. The Muck-a-Muck feature page gave a sophisticated, ironic, critical view of undergraduate life. The Literary Supplements of these years contain much fine writing. Special numbers named *Rugbysssey* and *Ubyssseygrad* were devoted to special events such as a McKechnie Cup Final and Homecoming. Like *The Ubysssey*, its sister publication, the *Annual* appeared in a new guise in 1926, under the now familiar title, the *Totem*. The editor's foreword explains the change:

The classes of '26 have been given the distinction for which so many hoped in vain—that of being the first to graduate from the permanent buildings. In their freshman year, the campaign was at its height, and the prophecy of the class song,

*"The Freshies of the U.B.C.  
Will see another Varsity"*

has now been fulfilled. It is fitting, then, that this book, in its new and more elaborate form, should symbolise the new life upon which we, as a University, are entering, and which the graduating classes must leave before it is well begun.

As the number of students increased, so did the number of their affiliated societies. A *Ubysssey* editorial February 7, 1930, refers to the "epidemic of new Clubs" on the campus. In 1918 the non-athletic clubs numbered 9; in 1930 these had grown to 21. Among them all, the Players' Club occupied a position of unrivalled prominence and affection in the heart of the University. In their new home in the Auditorium, with its well-equipped stage, made possible by the practical foresight

*Clubs : Formation of N.F.C.U.S.*

of their Honorary President and skilled mentor, Professor F. G. C. Wood, the artistry of their performances had full play and they moved forward from success to success. Forensic activities of the Men's and Women's Literary Societies flourished, both at Fairview and at Point Grey. Inter-collegiate debating attained a high level, under the watchful eyes of Professors Boggs, Angus and Soward. U.B.C. debaters met teams representing the Maritime universities of Dalhousie, Acadia and New Brunswick, the universities of Montreal and McGill, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and many American universities, including Washington, Southern California, Montana and Idaho. A trio from Oxford University, Mr. J. D. Woodruff, Mr. M. C. Hollis and Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, on a debating tour of Canadian and United States universities, visited U.B.C. in the autumn of 1924. Other visiting teams were an Imperial team from the universities of the United Kingdom—Oxford, London, Birmingham and Edinburgh—defeated by U.B.C. in a two-to-one judges' decision (March, '26), and a team from New Zealand (October, '29). Inter-collegiate debates for women's teams were also arranged with College of Puget Sound and other neighbouring colleges of the Pacific Northwest. Debates with the Eastern Canadian universities were held under the auspices of the National Federation of Canadian University Students which came into being following a meeting of representatives of 14 Canadian universities held at McGill in the 1927 Christmas vacation. At this conference, J. C. Oliver, A.M.S. President, represented U.B.C. In his official report of the meeting he wrote:

The first day was spent in a general discussion of the subject, after hearing a splendid outline of similar student movements in Europe from Mr. N. A. MacKenzie, Professor of International Law at the University of Toronto, whose work on the Secretariate of the League of Nations brought him into contact with the various National Student Unions.<sup>6</sup>

The report proceeds to give an outline of the proposed organization and aims of N.F.C.U.S. It is specially interesting to all members of U.B.C. because of this reference to the first contact of the student body, through their President, with the future President of the University, Norman MacKenzie, whose efforts on behalf of Canadian students in the intervening years have done so much to realize the early hopes and purposes of N.F.C.U.S.

The years 1919-1930 also established the reputation of U.B.C. for fine, all-round athletic performance. The 12-0 win of the Senior Rugby team over Stanford University on Christmas Day, 1920, has become almost legendary. No less famous was their game in February, 1927, when they held the touring New Zealand Maoris to a score of 12-3. Like other sports played at U.B.C. in 1919,

<sup>6</sup> *The Ubyssesey*, January 21, 1927.

rugby received a strong infusion of returned-soldier players and its teams soon made their way to the top in city competitions for the Miller and the Tisdall cups. In 1921-22, the "Varsity" team, entering for the first time in the competition for the Provincial Championship, won the McKechnie Cup, which they held for three successive years. Once again in 1926-27 this coveted trophy came back for one year to U.B.C. The post-war soccer teams were equally successful. Moving up from the Junior Alliance into and through the Second Division, they won their way into the First Division in 1923. Here they met and defeated veteran teams and won the Mainland Cup in their first year of play as a First Division team. In 1927-28, owing to the loss of some of their key players (including life-member Eb Crute, who had re-built the team in 1919), the standard of play fell away and the following year the Senior Soccer team withdrew from the First Division. Canadian rugby, which had travelled from the universities of Quebec and Ontario as far west as Alberta, found its way to the U.B.C. campus in 1923-24. By the session 1927-28 the Senior team had advanced to the Provincial Championship, by winning the Lipton Trophy. In the Western Canada Finals played that year in Vancouver, they went down to defeat, in two thrilling games with the Regina Rough Riders. They won the Lipton Cup again in the following year. In 1929-30, by defeating Saskatchewan University, they won the Hardy Cup, emblematic of the Championship of the Western Canada Inter-Collegiate Football Union. The development of track and field athletics is seen in the improved records in intra-mural annual competition and in higher standards reached by U.B.C. athletes in inter-collegiate meets. Basketball brought great kudos to the University when the Senior A Team twice reached the Dominion Finals, first in play-off games in Vancouver in the session 1924-25 and again in 1927-28, when they played the Windsor Alumni in Windsor, Ontario. The Dominion Championship eluded them in both series. From small beginnings in 1921-22 rowing made steady progress. Inter-collegiate competition began in 1924-25 when the Senior Four rowed against a Washington Four in Seattle. Two years later, in March, 1927, a Varsity eight-oared crew entered in the spring regatta at Seattle. The oarsmen did well on both these occasions. A high quality of tennis was played by men's and women's teams in both singles and doubles. Marjorie Leeming won the Dominion Championship in women's singles twice, in successive years, 1926 and 1927. The badminton club, like tennis, with men and women in its membership, was a success from its foundation in January, 1921. Men's grass hockey made its appearance in 1923-24. By 1929-30 there were two teams playing in the Vancouver City League. Other vigorous athletic clubs in the University included the Women's Basketball, Swimming, Gymnasium and Grass Hockey Clubs, and

Men's Swimming, Ice Hockey and Boxing Clubs. Of special historical interest among the annual intra-mural athletic contests was the Arts 1920 Relay Race. In this contest, each class of each Faculty might enter a team of 8 men. The original course was run as a relay road race between the Point Grey site and the University buildings at Fairview. In 1927 the starting and finishing points were reversed; the race started from the Fairview site and finished in the Main Mall, in front of the Administration building. When founded by the Class of Arts 1920 it was intended to symbolize the hopes of the students at Fairview. "Its unique significance reached its highest expression in the Spring of 1925, the last time it was run before its promise was realized."<sup>7</sup> Its renewal in the opposite direction was intended to "perpetuate the memory of the old University and the founding of the new."<sup>8</sup>

The athletic achievements of the student body in these years appear the more remarkable when it is remembered that the University had no playing fields of its own at Fairview, and none of good quality at Point Grey; it had no gymnasium and no boat-house; for all athletic facilities it was dependent upon the public parks and playing fields and had to rely upon the generosity of private clubs and organizations. Great credit must be given to the many men and women who gave freely of their time and skills to provide coaching in the various branches of athletics. Some were members of the Faculty, more were not: all were animated by the desire to give practical encouragement to student endeavour and to the admirable spirit of sportsmanship which inspires University athletics.

The undergraduate body itself showed keen interest in the athletic planning programmes of the University. When it became clear that the Government would have insufficient funds to include erection of a gymnasium and construction of playing fields at Point Grey, the Students' Council of 1923-24 set about at once to raise funds sufficient for these two objectives. A campaign committee was appointed with John Oliver as chairman. By the end of the spring term nearly \$8,000 was in hand, raised by surrender of caution money, by the proceeds of money-raising devices such as shoe-shining, hairdressing, manicuring, fortune-telling and begging; finally, a mammoth popular variety entertainment called *The Ceilidh* was staged at the University by the alumni. Each Saturday, gangs of students worked on the Point Grey site, clearing, levelling and draining. The work went on through the summer of 1924, under the Playing Fields Committee, of which Dal Grauer, A.M.S. President-elect, was chairman. This sustained co-operative student effort produced two rather inadequate playing fields,

<sup>7</sup> *Ubysssey*, January 28, 1927.

<sup>8</sup> Editorial, *Ubysssey*, January 21, 1927.

ready for use when the University arrived at Point Grey in the autumn of 1925.

An additional sum of \$30,000 was required for the gymnasium. How was this money to be obtained? Hopes were raised for a time that the Dominion Government would make sufficient funds available for a gymnasium-drill hall, if the University would re-establish the unit of the Canadian Officers Training Corps, whose work had been suspended at the request of the students in 1919. This proposal was eventually rejected because of the fear in the minds of many students that compulsory military training might become involved in carrying it out. An alternative plan was finally devised whereby the Alma Mater Society was incorporated under the Societies Act, and was thus able to guarantee a bond issue, without imposing any financial responsibility on the University Board of Governors. The student body agreed to an increase in the annual A.M.S. fee, sufficient to liquidate the bonds. These negotiations took time and it was four years after the move to Point Grey before the new Gymnasium was ready for use. On the afternoon of Saturday, November 9, 1929, the formal transfer of the building to the University took place in the Auditorium. The ceremony, arranged as a special feature of Homecoming, was attended by the Honourable R. Randolph Bruce, Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Joshua Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, Chancellor R. E. McKechnie and President Klinck. Sherwood Lett, whose suggestion had led to the incorporation of the Alma Mater Society, speaking to an enthusiastic audience of undergraduates and alumni, praised the untiring efforts of A.M.S. Past-Presidents Ross Tolmie and Leslie Brown, and of all the others whose planning and hard work had given the University a long-overdue athletic centre. Brief addresses were made by the Minister of Education, the Chancellor and the President. When the keys had been handed to Chancellor McKechnie by Russell Munn, President of the Alma Mater Society, the assembly made its way to the Gymnasium where the Lieutenant-Governor opened the door with a golden key. Those who were present at this impressive ceremony could not know that they were witnessing an event which was to become a landmark in U.B.C. history. This important gift and the method of its giving was later made a precedent for still more imposing gifts from the student body to their Alma Mater. Another significant though less spectacular contribution to the athletic well-being of the University consisted of the two concrete Memorial Tennis Courts, built on Memorial Road, near the Main Mall, on the site now occupied by the Buchanan Building. Their presentation was made by A.M.S. President John Oliver on November 8, 1926, as part of the first Alumni Homecoming programme. In his few words of dedication, Sherwood Lett said that the Tennis Courts would keep fresh, through many generations of undergraduates, the memory of those who had displayed on the

battlefields of France "the same spirit of courage and endurance that they had shown on the playing fields of U.B.C."<sup>9</sup>

In January, 1929, the U.B.C. contingent of the Canadian Officers Training Corps, which had been dormant for ten years, was revived under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel H. T. Logan, M.C., and Major A. H. Finlay, M.C. and Bar, as Second-in-Command. Other officers of the contingent were Captain G. M. Shrum, M.M., Captain L. B. Stacey, Captain G. B. Riddehough, Lieutenant D. B. Pollock, Lieutenant M. L. Bird and Captain G. A. Lamont, Medical Officer. Membership, which had been compulsory in the years of World War I, was now voluntary; the lectures and other work of the Corps, as previously, carried no academic credit. The Students' Council and the Senate, on petition of 160 undergraduates, had approved of the formation of the Corps a year earlier but the University authorities moved slowly because of strong opposition among the student body. The three Faculties, asked by Senate for their opinions, reported favourably. Fortified by these assurances, in the autumn of 1928 Senate proceeded to implement the recommendation of its special committee that the necessary steps be taken to organize the Corps. The number and keenness of its members guaranteed its success.

The decade of the Twenties is a truly remarkable period in the University's history. In these few years a youthful institution of higher learning grew into maturity. Both in the field of academic studies and in extra-curricular activities the University assumed an increasingly important place among the other universities of Canada. In its home community of British Columbia it was not without criticism. Criticism was to be expected from a population who, for the most part, had little direct acquaintance with universities. By very many of the taxpayers this new institution was viewed as an additional burden to the Provincial Treasury. On the other hand, there was much evidence of a growing public interest in the University and its various operations. The Student Campaign of 1922-23 and the self-imposed undergraduate annual tax to pay for the Gymnasium in 1928-29 made more than a superficial impression on the public mind. Returning from speaking tours which he made to all parts of the Province, President Klinck reported a cordial reception given everywhere to his story of the University. Extension lectures by members of Faculty were in demand in all areas. In 1928-29, 48 members of staff delivered a total of 248 lectures outside the University. They spoke in 45 different communities to an estimated total attendance of over 27,000. On the lighter side of Varsity life, U.B.C. athletic teams were popular, especially in those games where their successes were most conspicuous, such as rugby, soccer and basketball. The annual performances of the Musical Society

<sup>9</sup> *Ulyssey*, November 11, 1926.

at the University and of the Players' Club, both at home and on tour, drew large and appreciative houses.

More substantial evidence still of interest in the University was the growing volume of scholarships, prizes, bursaries and loans and the increasing number of important gifts and bequests. The University Calendar of 1919-20 lists 20 scholarships and prizes available to students of the three Faculties; in the Calendar for the session of 1929-30 are shown 60 scholarships and prizes, 3 bursaries and limited funds for student loans. With the exception of the Khaki University of Canada Scholarships and the French Government Scholarships, all the new awards were contributed by local clubs and societies or by private persons. Some of these scholarships were in handsome amounts. The H. R. MacMillan award was of \$1,000, to which was added return travel cost to Japan, China or Australia for research into trade and industry. The Nichol Scholarships, gift of the Honourable Walter C. Nichol, Lieutenant-Governor, tenable for a three-year period of post-graduate study in France, was of the annual value of \$1,200. All Faculties and most Departments were beneficiaries. Gifts to Agriculture included the R. P. McLennan Scholarships, the David Thom bequest of \$11,000 for scholarships and loans, and \$14,000 from Captain Dunwaters for the purchase of Ayrshire cattle in Scotland. The Faculty of Applied Science received from firms in British Columbia laboratory equipment valued at \$20,000 for Mechanical and Electrical Engineering studies. Among societies making scholarship awards were the Vancouver Women's Club, the Terminal City Club, Vancouver Chapter, Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the P.E.O. Sisterhood, the Native Sons of Canada, the Canadian Club of Vancouver, the British Columbia Fruitgrowers Association, the British Columbia Dairymen's Association, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, American Women's Club and the Engineering Institute of Canada. Generous grants for research were made by the Powell River Pulp and Paper Company, the Empire Marketing Board and the National Research Council. Notable among gifts of general interest were eight historical paintings by John Innes, depicting events in early British Columbia history. These were presented jointly by the Native Sons of British Columbia and the Hudson's Bay Company. Noteworthy also was the large collection of specimens, given by Frank Burnett, illustrating the life and customs of the South Sea Island peoples. All such benefactions were encouraging signs that the beneficiary had come of age.

The University of British Columbia had, in fact, established a reputation as a teaching institution. Her graduates who, in 1930, numbered over 2,100, were welcomed, as already stated, for post-graduate study in the older universities. In the years since 1915 they had won fellowships and scholarships of a value in

### *Faculty Research*

excess of \$350,000. Research, too, which is an important function of every university, was carried on with vigour in all Faculties. By their books and published articles, the names of the following authors, as well as the University, became widely known: in Agronomy, Boving and Moe; in Animal Husbandry, Hare and Jones; in Botany, John Davidson and Hutchinson; in Chemistry, Archibald, R. H. Clark, Harris, Marshall, McIntosh and Seyer; in Classics, Todd; in Dairying, Golding and Sadler; in Economics, Sociology and Political Science, Angus, Beckett and Boggs; in Education, Weir; in English Language and Literature, Larsen, Macdonald, Sedgewick and Walker; in French, Ashton and A. F. B. Clark; in Geology, Brock, Schofield, Uglow and Williams; in History, Eastman, Harvey, Sage and Soward; in Horticulture, Barss, Buck and Clement; in Mathematics, Buchanan and Nowlan; in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Letson, Vernon and Vickers; in Nursing and Health, Hill and Gray; in Physics, Hebb and Hennings; in Poultry Husbandry, Lloyd, Asmundson, and Biely; in Zoology, Fraser and Spencer. The considerable body of publications by members of Faculty, added to the achievements of graduates, brought prestige to the University. Here was ample evidence of academic standards and instruction of first-rate quality. Prime Minister Mackenzie King, who visited the University in November 1929, in an address to Faculty and students, expressed his amazement that "such a manifestation of growing power and leadership" should have come into being in 15 years. He predicted a great future for the University. In an article entitled *A Lay Sermon*, contributed to the first number of the *Graduate Chronicle*, Garnet Sedgewick wrote in characteristic style:

You Graduates really should be more fully and proudly aware of what your University has done in spite of its youth and in spite of all its bad fortune. Not all the plagues of Egypt nor all the limitations of our culture have availed to prevent this institution from doing a great deal of noble work . . . Like Saul of Tarsus, you are citizens of no mean city. And, like that same Apostle, you should refuse to allow the rulers of the darkness of this world to blind your eyes to the fact or to keep other men in ignorance of it.<sup>10</sup>

---

10 *The University of British Columbia Graduate Chronicle*, April, 1931, pp. 4-5.