

A New Pattern - - 48

Michigan State University Oakland, the nation's newest university, with a classic new accent, is planning a new kind of student residence.

When MSUO opened its doors in September, 1959, on the baronial 1,600-acre estate 25 miles north of Detroit given by Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Wilson, its budding campus had three buildings: a student center, a classroom building, and a combination administration—library—laboratory—faculty office building. The promise of a liberal arts-centered education of the highest quality and of developing the mind rather than skills for a graduate's first job, attracted students from a wide area. Many who wanted to live on campus had to commute or live in nearby homes since there were no dormitories.



- 48 Students in

This year there will be accommodations — not dormitories — but student houses, a much more descriptive term.

Indeed, these residences may well be the most appealing, if the most modest, of the several new structures now reaching out from the northwest corner of the estate into one of the loveliest college settings in the country.

First of these is a \$1,500,000 air-conditioned library of modern design given by the Kresge Foundation out of its interest in MSUO's ideals. On the crown of a high grassy knoll, it commands a view of the whole scene. It will be ready when classes start in September.

About one hundred yards southwest is the fleshing skeleton of a \$2,000,000 science-engineering building which will be ready by late fall.

Plans for a \$1,500,000 intramural building to the northeast of the library, with swimming pool and basketball courts, are nearing completion. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.

Construction will also begin in the spring on an expansion of the Student Center which will double its cafeteria capacity and provide bowling alleys, barber shop, table games, and more adequate space for the University bookstore. There will also be meeting rooms for various campus groups.

All of these buildings will be the most modern of their kind — effective, efficient and handsome. And all of those adjectives, plus another one — congenial — will apply to the houses for which students within and beyond commuting distance have been asking.



The first four houses will be just to the north of the college buildings and near the Pontiac-Rochester road on the north edge of the campus. They will look down a wooded slope to a pleasant stream whose meadowed valley bisects the

estate from north to south, and whose level areas will soon be playing fields.

These houses are intended to provide the friendships and warmth of small-group living without the disadvantages of fraternities and sororities. The architects accordingly have designed a cluster of four two-story houses, each accommodating 48 students, two to a room. The houses will be disposed in pairs as the wings of two L's, with each pair joined by an apartment for a faculty member or a resident adviser in the corner of the L. Two houses will be for men and two for women.

Residences of this kind have several advantages over large dormitories. They are home-like and personal rather than institutional and impersonal. They provide an easy and congenial basis for student groups — social, academic and athletic. They are more naturally a part of this gentle country-side and, surprisingly, make more efficient use of it than large dormitories. It is the University's plan ultimately to have a number of these houses clustered in appropriate parts of the campus.



Since MSUO's program requires that every student share in a common core of liberal arts studies regarded as the heart of a liberal education, and since this curriculum is not only rigorous, but also excites and stimulates, it seems logical that living groups should become natural forums for the exchange of ideas and for working together—bull sessions with a purpose.

To give them instruction, guidance and motivation, there has been assembled here a brilliant and friendly young faculty from the great universities of the world. Indeed, the competence of the teachers, plus MSUO's liberal arts ideals, have made it the object of national and worldwide attention.

The cost of room and board has been fixed at \$375 per semester.



Applications should be made at an early date to:

Dean of Students
Michigan State University Oakland
Rochester, Michigan

