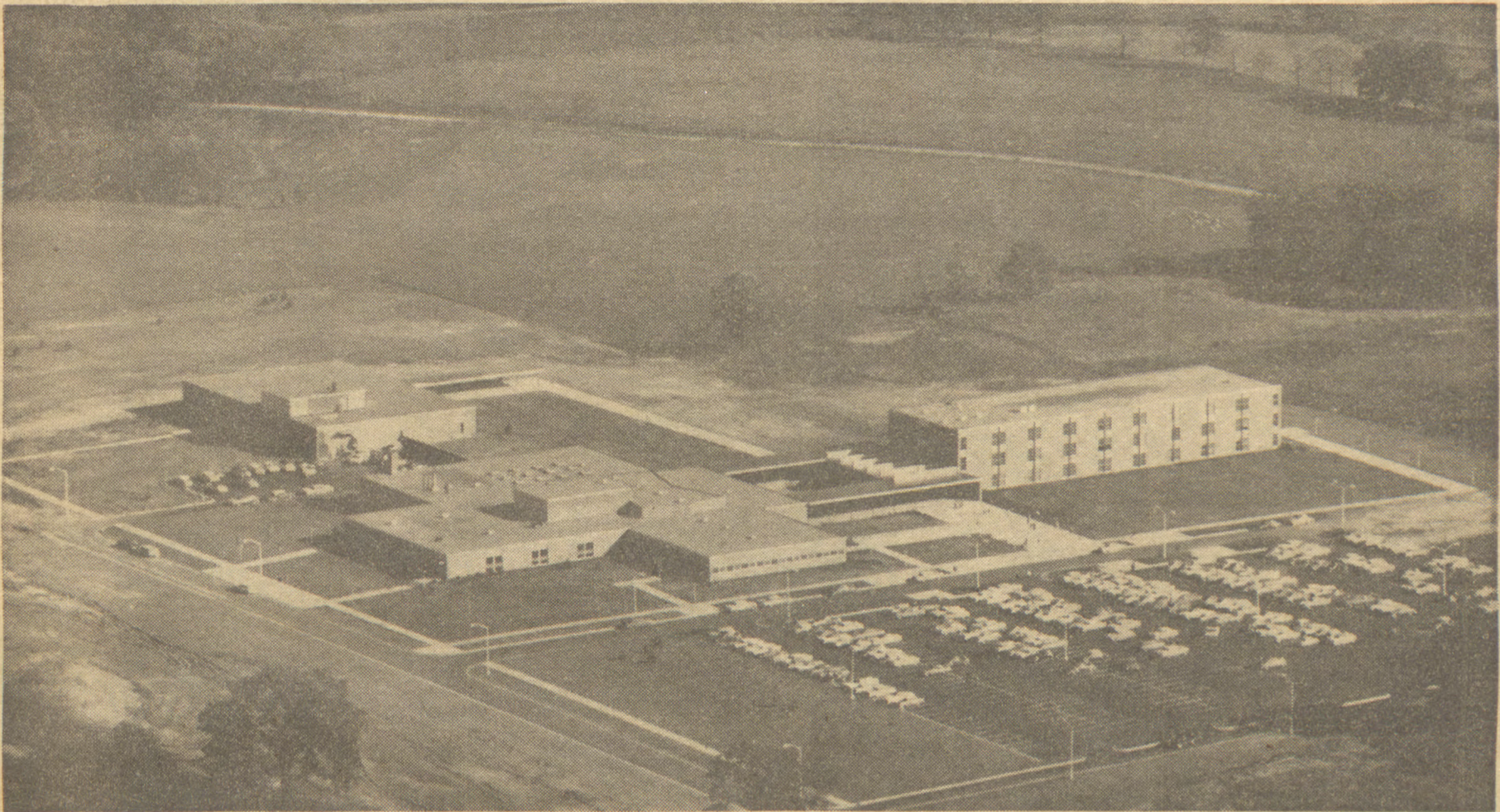


# ALMA MATER—HER FIRST FULL-LENGTH PORTRAIT



This aerial shot, taken October 10, shows North and South Foundation Hall, the Student Center and some of the room MSU-O has to grow in. The knoll just beyond these buildings and to the left of the grazing sheep will be the site of the next university building, the library.

Photo by H. C. Tinney, Pontiac.

## MSU-O Is Called A Trend Setter

Telling 570 freshmen they are an important part of "one of the most important and exciting ventures in higher education in recent times," Dr. Thomas H. Hamilton keynoted the student convocation September 17.

Dr. Hamilton, president of the 37-campus State University of New York and a former vice president of Michigan State University, said that colleges across the country could look to MSU-O for the kind of education Americans should receive.

Dr. Hamilton's address marked the beginning of academic life and the first time the entire student body had been assembled. Classes started September 21.

The occasion also marked the first time Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson and Miss Sarah Van Hoosen Jones had been introduced to the student body. The Wilsons gave 1600 acres and two million dollars to make the school possible. Miss Jones earlier had given her 360-acre farm northeast of Rochester to the University.

MSU president John A. Hannah reminded students of the charter class that they would be the first of thousands who would follow. "You will set standards, establish precedents, originate traditions—in short, help to set the tone of MSU-O," he said.

Chancellor D. B. Varner, in his opening remarks submitted the "courageous decision of the Wilsons" as a kind of positive action designed to achieve what those who cry out for the preservation of American ideals want.

Robert Hoopes, dean of the faculty, set the purpose of a liberal education: "not to stuff, but to discipline the mind, to train it so that you might use it."

The following Sunday, September 20, a convocation was held for the parents of the charter class. Mr. Varner cautioned parents that a work and school program was not feasible at MSU-O. He urged them to consider a student loan so that work and learning might not conflict. The chancellor added that, "to reap the full benefits of education here, the student should be at school from eight in the morning until five at night, five days a week."

## Student Group Maps Plans for A Government

### Election of Committee to Submit Specific Proposal To Take Place Tomorrow

A student committee will meet in two weeks to work out a proposed form of student government and procedures for electing its officers.

Members of this committee are scheduled to be chosen tomorrow, according to Dean of Students Roy J. Alexander, in a series of caucuses. There will be one representative on this group for each 22 students, or 25 members.

An elections committee decided Tuesday that for purposes of representation on the planning group the student body should be grouped on an alphabetical basis. Each group of 22 will caucus to elect its own member of the government-planning committee.

Three other methods of electing representatives had been suggested. One was by curriculum groups, another by high school and the other was to pick those who wrote the best essays on why they wished to serve on such a committee.

After the planning group draws up a student government proposal, along with a plan for electing its officers, the student body will vote on it.

Members of the election committee are Jack Stewart, chairman; Walter Ament, Arletta J. Case, Joseph Candela, Anthony M. Deller, Lesley Fingerhut, Bob Furness, William Haslock, Sandra Langeland, Harold Langtree, Janet Long, Tom McAllister, Jim Morrison, Judy Noren, George Penoyer and Carol Streeter.

## 570 Enrolled In Charter Class At MSU-O

Michigan State University-Oakland's charter class enrollment was 570 when classes began Sept. 21, Registrar Herbert N. Stoutenberg said last week.

Of these, 493 are full time and 77 part time students, making the equivalent of 527 full-time students.

The enrollment figure was 70 more than Chancellor D. B. Varner had predicted last summer and 30 fewer than the forecast of Dean Roy J. Alexander. But it made a survey done for Mr. Varner two years ago by the MSU College of Education seem clairvoyant. That study of probable first-term enrollment for a university here had forecast a figure of 552.

That survey also indicated that MSU-O is likely to have 3,000 students by the time this year's freshmen are seniors, 10,000 by the time they've been out of school six years, and 20,000 by the time their children are in high school.

Besides the 570 working for degrees, another 334 are taking non-credit, continuing education courses offered in the evening for adults.

The most popular field is teacher education, with 60 men and 141 women enrolled. Next come liberal arts with 97 and 63; engineering science with 135 and four, and business administration with 61 men and nine women.

Eighty-four percent of the students were in the top half of their high school graduating classes and 55 percent were in the top quarter.

Oakland county provided 441 of the total and Macomb 105. The rest came from seven other counties and three other states. The Michigan counties were Arenac, Delta, Lapeer, Muskegon, St. Clair, Tuscola and Wayne. Two students are from Alaska and one each from New York and Texas.

If the class here were to follow the national pattern, sixty percent of them, or 342, would still be here on cap and gown day. That is the percentage who graduate in four years from the same college they enter, according to a United States Office of Education study. However, Chancellor Varner expects the attrition to be much less here.

## Foundation Hall Is Dedicated

The first building on the MSU-O campus was dedicated October 1, and named Foundation Hall. It recognizes the work of the MSU-O Foundation, a group of 50 community leaders, whose work is responsible for its being a state university centered on the liberal arts. Chancellor D. B. Varner said that their efforts have been a vital factor in the transformation of an idea into a reality.

## News of MSU-O Evokes World-Wide Interest

### Dean Hoopes Getting Letters, Job Applications

Letters have been pouring in to Dean Hoopes' office from all over the world in the last two weeks. They have come congratulations, expressions of belief in the philosophy of MSU-O, and requests for teaching positions.

A California physician, citizens from Syracuse, Cleveland, Chicago, and several national organizations have sent letters of congratulations and support. Former students of Dean Hoopes' at Stanford and Yale have written. So did a counselor at an Air Force school in Japan. A Marine said he was inspired to finish high school and enroll at MSU-O.

A teacher at the U.S. Over-

(Continued on Page 3)

### CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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Louise Henry  
Fred Vest  
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Foundation Hall consists of two wings, one of which contains 39 classrooms. The other wing consists of the science laboratories, faculty and administrative offices, and also serves as a temporary library. The total cost of the building, including equipment, architectural services, site work, and utilities was \$2,000,000. The cost of the structure itself was about \$14 per square foot, or \$1,400,000. This is about half the sum some high schools cost. The furnishings are strictly functional and include no rugs or draperies.

Much use is made of color to lend variety and attractiveness to cinder block and brick construction. The furnishings are strictly functional and include no rugs nor draperies. It is, Chancellor Varner suggested, a Spartan setting for an Athenian concept of education.

Chancellor Varner told the audience, further, that there never would be any money spent for furnishings that could be used for library or faculty salaries. In so doing, he mentioned what is believed to be a unique feature of Foundation Hall: the smallest chancellor's office anywhere. It measures eight feet by thirteen.

"The quality of a university," he declared, "is not measured by the depth of the rugs on the floor or the size of the chancellor's office, but by the abilities of the faculty and the motivation of the students. It is on these things that we have bet our money and on which we will make our mark."

Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson, who with Mr. Wilson donated their estate and the money for the building, said to the students, "Show your appreciation for the efforts on your behalf by dedicating yourselves to bringing about a better understanding about a better understanding."

(Continued on Page 3)

# Name This Paper

A contest to pick the most appropriate name for the weekly University newspaper elicited original suggestions from the student body.

A screening committee selected the following contributions for you, the voice of the people, to vote on. Take the initiative. Name your paper.

- Five Point Star.
- Oak Leaves.
- MSU-O News
- MSU-O Comment
- The Word.
- Egg Head.
- The Outlook.
- Oaklander.

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## Varner Enables Texas To Make An Honest Boast

Texas has long boasted it produces the biggest and best of everything. After meeting Chancellor D. B. Varner, skeptics often are willing to agree, in part.

As vice president of Michigan State University, which he refers to as our "East Lansing branch," Mr. Varner was made responsible for developing the Wilson gift of \$2,000,000 and 1,600 acres into a new university. Three years of planning with Thomas Hamilton, a fellow MSU vice president, and some of the nation's leading industrialists and educators, resulted in Michigan State University-Oakland as it stands today.

"MSU-O can only become what the faculty and student body want it to become," Mr. Varner said. He offered the opinion that there was more seriousness of purpose in the first three weeks of classes here than in any other university in the country. He proudly pointed to the fact that less than one percent of the enrolled student body have dropped out as compared to five or six percent in other universities.

"The students are to be commended for their excellent conduct and for their performance in the classroom," Mr. Varner said. He expressed the hope that MSU-O students will continue to live up to the privilege of being governed by one basic rule—good conduct.

Mr. Varner is proud of the publicity MSU-O has received throughout the nation. "It's important because it tells the



D. B. Varner

world what we're up to," he said. He pointed out that wide publicity "will attract the kind of faculty we want, and give the students a greater sense of pride in their school."

Mr. Varner's early appreciation of education came to him through his father who was a high school teacher and superintendent of schools in Cottonwood, Texas.

In his senior year at the small Cottonwood school, "Woody" Varner was one of the nine who made up the high school basketball team. Without a coach or gym, the nine from Cottonwood were the talk of the state. "We almost won the state championship that year, but we were finally beaten by a school of 5,000 students," Mr. Varner said.

After graduation Mr. Varner entered Texas A. & M. as a student in marketing and finance. While earning his B.S. degree, he served as president of his class, Cadet Corps Commander, and captain of the basketball team. He graduated as valedictorian.

He became Dean of Students at Texas A. & M. before leaving the university to serve as a Second Lieutenant in the Army during World War II. He participated in campaigns in France and Germany, where he helped organize the Destroyer Tank Force and left as a lieutenant colonel.

After returning home, he earned an M.S. degree in Economics and completed most of the work for his doctorate at the University of Chicago. In

## This Librarian Flouts All Rules of Her Trade

The administration of this university prides itself on having no rule book for student conduct. The library is not only in tune but goes further.

Miss Audrey North, the librarian, not only believes that rules are unnecessary, but that Diogenes was a sorehead and time-waster. (If you are not an egghead, he was the Greek who lit a lantern to help him in his search for an honest man).

In substance Miss North's attitude is that all men (and most women) are honest. She, therefore, plans no check-out desk, no electric eye to discover library books on outgoing students, no due dates and no fines. It is hoped that students will make her honor system effective and keep the library from becoming a ghost town. She is already in enough trouble with librarians for her attitude on mankind.

By the end of this year, she said, the library stock will consist of 10,000 books. So far, 700 have been delivered and 500 are on the shelves. They are not all on display because the process of recording and cataloging is a laborious one that costs as much as the book itself, she said.

Another 1,800 books, 200 nationally-circulated magazines, and reference materials are on the way.

Books were ordered in four major categories: (1) Behavioral Sciences (2) Literature, Philosophy and Arts (3) Science (4)

1952 he left Chicago to become Director of Extension Services at Michigan State University, East Lansing. He was made vice president in 1955 and quarter-backed the campaign against vastly superior forces that got the legislative to change Michigan State from college to university. He was made head of MSU-O last year.

"Our goal is to develop a top-rate university designed to advance learning," he said. He said the study of academic subjects should always be the first aim of every student at MSUO.


Area Studies and History. Library hours will be set to accommodate the students, Miss North said. The hours now are: 7:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. The library may be open at night if future demands warrant it.

The new library, to be built on a knoll east of South Foundation Hall, is in the preliminary planning stages. Eventually, the new building will be MSU-O's center of focus.

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**DORR PRIZE**—Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson picks the lucky number for the prize at the first MSU-O dance on October 2. Mr. Wilson looks on and Carl Baber holds the box.

**Public Opinion On Leotards**

Do you remember when "morning socks," or sometimes referred to as leotards, were first introduced to the public? What was the general attitude toward them? Many of the girls didn't like them, and the male population thought they were ridiculous.

But now it seems that public opinion toward leotards has changed considerably, at least here at MSU-O. I asked several of the students what they thought of them and was I surprised. Approximately 75% of the ladies were in favor of them, and almost 90% of the fellows thought they were "great." The boys not only think leotards look good, but that they're practical in the winter as well.

Some of the replies were: **Danny Rogowski:** "I like leotards real well. They're sharp and seem to add color and class."

**Kathy Berry:** "I like leotards. They're very stylish when worn with the right thing."

**Phil Francis:** "It all depends on who is wearing them. But really, I like them."

**Mrs. Virginia McIntyre:** "I don't mind leotards. My daughter wears them. I'm trying to get up enough nerve to wear them myself."

**Lucille Younce,** school switchboard operator: "Leotards are very comfortable to wear for lounging at home or at football games in cold weather. But the present custom of wearing them to classes or for street-wear, I think, is just a fad and

**The Wilsons At Dance**

Over 350 students and faculty members attended the first dance at MSU-O Saturday, October 3. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson, Chancellor and Mrs. D. B. Varner were among the guests.

The theme of the affair, billed as a Frosh Mixer, was "Getting to Know You." Each person wore a name tag. The BJ Boys provided the musical atmosphere from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Potato chips and apple cider augmented a gift of cookies from the Wilsons. Door prizes, consisting of a circus cane and a stuffed dog, were won by Gary Wright and Joan Gibb. Masters of ceremonies were Carl Baber and Jack Stuart. The university paid the bill.

The consensus was that the dance was a success, and the students are looking forward to the next. One question remains unanswered: Who kept turning out the lights? Come to the next one and find out.

greatly detracts from femininity. In many cases they look positively grotesque.

**Dr. Paul Tombouljan:** "Girls' leotards. For me? I don't know. I don't notice things like that."

**Dean Robert Hoopes:** "I like them best on bear skin rugs in front of the fireplace, but even better on someone."

**Chancellor D.B. Varner:** "I want it understood that I do not notice girl's legs. I am more interested in reading Plato, Aristotle and Lyall Smith."

**"Beatnik Bounce" Is Next Dance On October 31**

The next dance, Beatnik Bounce, will be held in the Student Center on Saturday, October 31.

Jan Kelley, dance committee chairman, said the affair will be real "Beat." There will be jazz records for dancing and poetry to be read by a great beatnik. Also, there will be fruit juice with exotic names, boards to draw on just to express yourself, groups to get up and do beat dances, and artist, Al Higgins, to draw pictures.

Three days before the dance Jan said, there will be a special feature to publicize it.

**NEWS**

(Continued from Page 1) seas Mission in the Sudan desired a position in Teacher Education. This was just one of several applications for teaching jobs. Other letters were from a professor of psychology from Maine, a New York professor of musicology, an American abroad on a French government grant, and prospective faculty members in Arizona and Pennsylvania.

Many of the letters mentioned Life magazine, which in its lead editorial October 6, pondered that "although this country has been a smashing success politically and economically, a big question remains about its mass culture."

But, the magazine went on, things may not be as bad as one thinks, for over one million copies of the *Iliad and the Odyssey* have been bought, and "a new college with a credo Athenians would respect was opened at Oakland, Mich., by MSU staffed mostly by brilliant young Ph.D.s and dedicated by its 39 year-old dean Robert Hoopes to teach the art of living and pure knowledge . . ."

Other letters mentioned the New York Times. The Times called MSU-O "a new departure in state universities." A Detroit News article referred to "space-age concepts" and a "quality of freshness."

Many of the letters mentioned the story in Time Magazine. Time spoke of MSU's desire to build "a top-drawer liberal arts college." The Pontiac Press published a special section September 21, commemorating the opening of the nation's newest university.

Last year, when special seminars were held at MSU-O for prominent educators and business and professional leaders, comments came from around the country. Newsweek viewed "a succulent academic dish." Others commented: "utopia of engineering curriculums" (Pontiac Press), "unusual step" (New York Times), and a "new look in learning" (Chicago Tribune).

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**FOUNDATION**

(Continued from Page 1) ing between all groups and peoples."

An aluminum plaque, on which is engraved the names of the Foundation members, was unveiled and read by Mr. C. Allen Harlan, a member of the MSU Board of Trustees. The plaque reads, "Named in appreciation of the work of these men and women of the MSU-O Foundation, a unique community effort in creating and supporting a new kind of university made possible by gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson."

Mr. Harold A. Fitzgerald, who is President of the Foundation and publisher of the Pontiac Press, responded for the Foundation saying, "I should like to assure those operating

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Back to school often means back to bumps, bruises and playground "battle scars."

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The Rev. J. Douglas Parker gave the invocation and the Rev. Charles E. Cushing the benediction.

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