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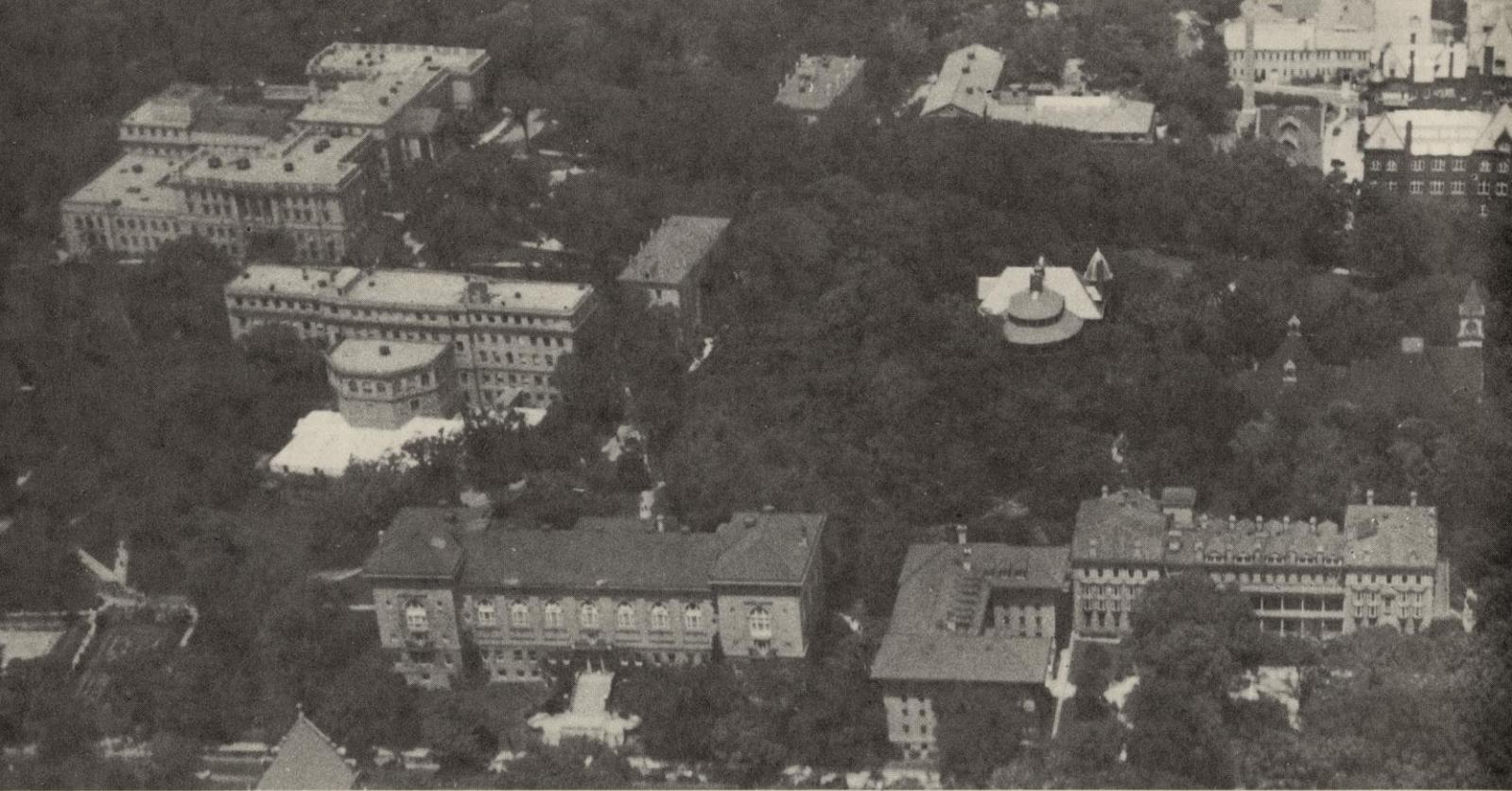
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Bulletin of the
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



DORMITORIES
FOR WOMEN



Lathrop Hall

Barnard Hall

Chadbourne Hall

The University of Wisconsin owns and operates two residence halls for women. Although these halls provide accommodation for only a fraction of the women students enrolled in the University, they testify to the early and continued interest of the Regents of the University of Wisconsin in the residence life of its women students. Situated on the campus, close to the center of university activities, Chadbourne and Barnard halls have served as university homes for generations of Wisconsin women students and have gathered to themselves traditions and loyalties which are closely linked with the University. More than this, they continue to house forward-looking communities of eager and friendly students.

An airplane view of a part of the campus of the University of Wisconsin reveals, in the foreground, the three buildings erected by the University to house its women students and to provide for their activities. Chadbourne Hall (formerly called Ladies' Hall), built in 1870-71, faces Park Street; Barnard Hall, opened in 1913, is connected with Chadbourne and has its entrance on University Avenue; Lathrop Hall, built in 1907, facing University Avenue, contains the offices of the Dean of Women, and quarters for the department of Physical Education for Women, in addition to gymnasiums, swimming pool and bowling alleys for the use of women students.



Coeducation has a longer history at Wisconsin than at many state universities. As early as 1857 the Report of the Regents anticipates the admission of women. We read:

"The completion of the central edifice" (now called Bascom Hall) "will open the way to the admission of female pupils to the normal and other departments of the University."

"The liberal culture of the female mind" could not be dissociated in the regents' plans from provision for housing. Looking forward to the admission of women the Report states:

"The residence of the families of the faculty in the buildings, and the admirable conduct of the commons hall will render the membership of the female pupils pleasant, economical and safe."

While it was taken for granted that the greater number would enter the normal department, all branches were to be open to both sexes.

South Hall (formerly known as South Dormitory)



By 1863, women were definitely on the scene at the University of Wisconsin, in that year actually outnumbering the men students. According to the records, 100 men were enrolled, and 117 women. The increased enrollment of women was due largely to the organization of the normal course and to the sore need in the schools of the state, for teachers to replace enlisted men. The problem of housing was solved by taking over for the women the north wing of South Dormitory.

South Dormitory continued to serve as a residence hall for women students for eight years, from 1863 to 1871. During the latter half of this period, the Civil War being over, pressure became increasingly acute for more adequate quarters for the growing University and, especially, for the return of South Hall to the men students.

The plan of Dr. Chadbourne (Chancellor, 1867-1870) for a segregated "Female College" and the need of a building in which to house it, coincided with this demand. In 1869 the legislature granted to the Regents an appropriation of \$50,000 for the construction of Ladies' Hall, which was opened in the autumn of 1871. Although Dr. Chadbourne did not remain to see his project completed and his "Female College" ceased soon to be even a catalogue fiction, he rendered signal service to Wisconsin women, because at a time when liberal education for women was still a subject of heated debate, he secured for them "Ladies' Hall." The satisfaction of the Regents in their accomplishment is voiced in their report of 1871, referring to the new dormitory for women:

"We are proud to say that Wisconsin is far in advance of her sister states in the noble provision which she is making for the higher education of her daughters."

In the following year (1872) the Board of Visitors included in their report this memorable paragraph:

"We hold that every human being has a natural and inalienable right to cultivate and use, as circumstances permit, the powers and faculties which the Creator has bestowed. Woman possesses a rational soul, and in this very fact she has a divine warrant for the exercise and improvement of her powers. Her development should be limited only by her capacities and powers. Whatever will make her wiser and better, that she may learn; whatever knowledge she may be able to use, either in adding to her own happiness or in promoting the happiness of others—that knowledge she may rightfully acquire."

In 1901 the name of Ladies' Hall was changed to Chadbourne Hall, in memory of the president to whose efforts it owed its existence. As fashions and ideas have changed, the original structure has been enlarged, transformed, and rejuvenated to meet the demands upon it. But always it has retained the old charm of spacious hospitality and friendly comradeship. Old "grads" return, the grandmothers and mothers of present residents, to pay homage to their Alma Mater and to renew undergraduate memories in the halls of their own university home.

The contrast between the old days and the present is in no respect clearer than in the changed attitude toward control of student conduct implied in the shifting of emphasis from supervision and guidance to self-government. The constitution of the student association of each hall places responsibility for government upon those to be governed:

"The object of this association shall be to regulate matters pertaining to the residence life of its members, to further in every way the spirit of unity among the residents, to increase their sense of responsibility toward each other, to keep the social standards high, and to maintain good scholarship."

In keeping with the spirit of this change of attitude no longer does a preceptress supervise "manners and habits." Rather, a hostess of academic experience and human interest, with University faculty standing, lives with the girls as leader, adviser, and friend, and cooperates with student officers in creating conditions conducive to individual achievement, and happy and successful community living.

Entrance Chadbourne Hall

The hostess of Chadbourne is "at home."

Talking it over in the Chadbourne parlor.



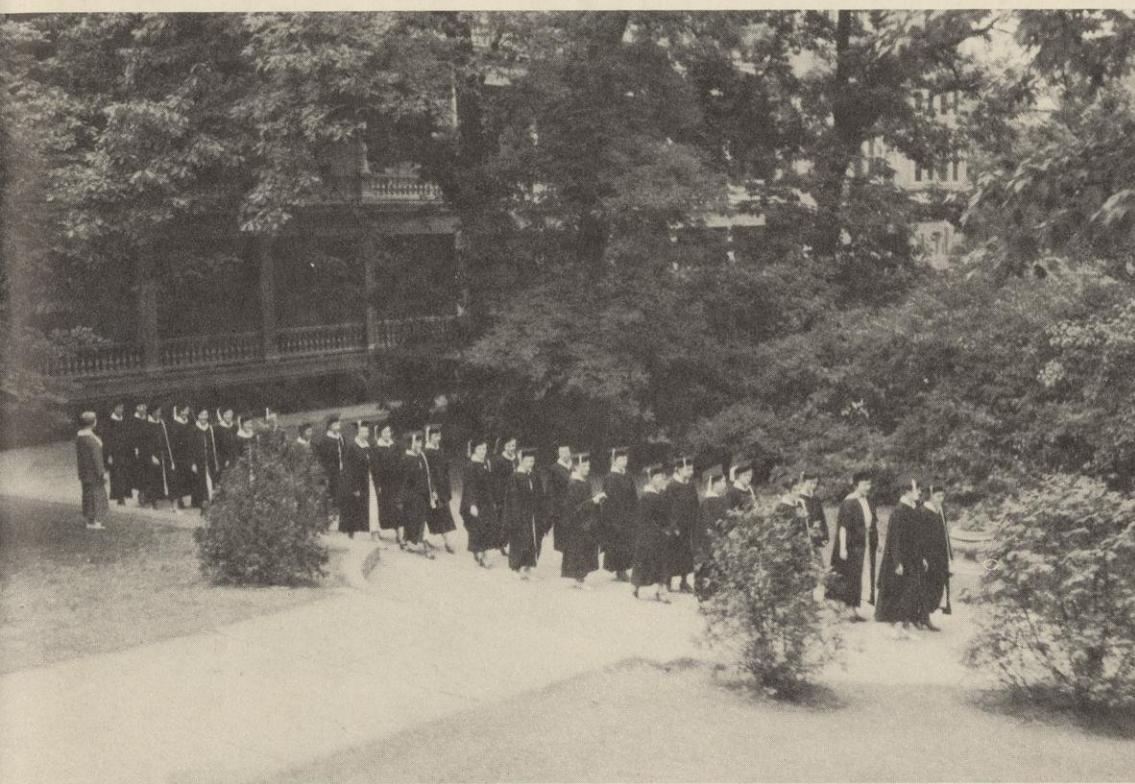


The Traditional "Swing Out" at Barnard.



Winter Sports.

The Seniors are ready for Baccalaureate.



Chadbourne as seen from the Barnard court.



Entrance Barnard Hall

Each hall has its library.

Barnard Hall, a second dormitory for women, was opened in the fall of 1913 and was named in honor of the distinguished Dr. Henry Barnard, Chancellor of the University, 1859-1861. Only after considerable discussion had it been decided to build the new dormitory in the space between Chadbourne and Lathrop halls. The choice of this site created a compact group of the three buildings constructed by the University to house and provide for the activities of its women students. Barnard Hall accommodates one hundred and fifty students, for the greater part in single rooms. Like its elder sister, Chadbourne, it impresses the visitor with dignity, comfort, and friendliness.

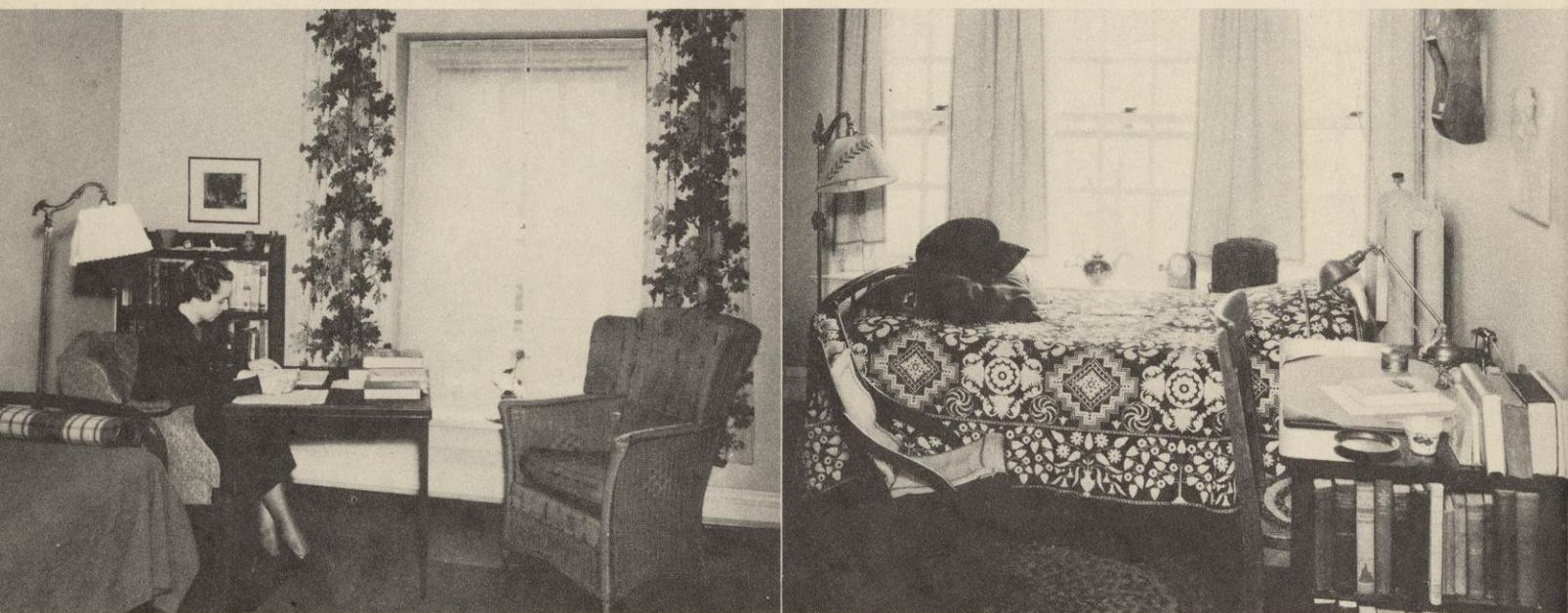
Tea is a pleasant institution at Barnard Hall.



In the dining room the informal life of the hall is at its best.

Each hall has its "fudge" kitchen.

The arrangement of her room becomes for the dormitory girl a laboratory experiment in self-expression.





Lathrop Hall stands for activities—swimming, bowling, dancing, out-door sports—sponsored by the department of Physical Education, and the Women's Athletic Association. It also stands for the friendship of sympathetic deans to whom it is easy, as well as convenient, to carry one's interests and concerns.

The Memorial Union is a second university home. Always there is something to do; in summer, on the terrace and the lake-shore, in winter in one of the living rooms, or at a concert, lecture or dance. At the Union each hall holds its own informal dance each semester and, jointly, the two halls give a formal dance in December and May in Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

Five minutes' walk brings one to a woodland or a lake shore path.

Campus Entrance, Lathrop Hall

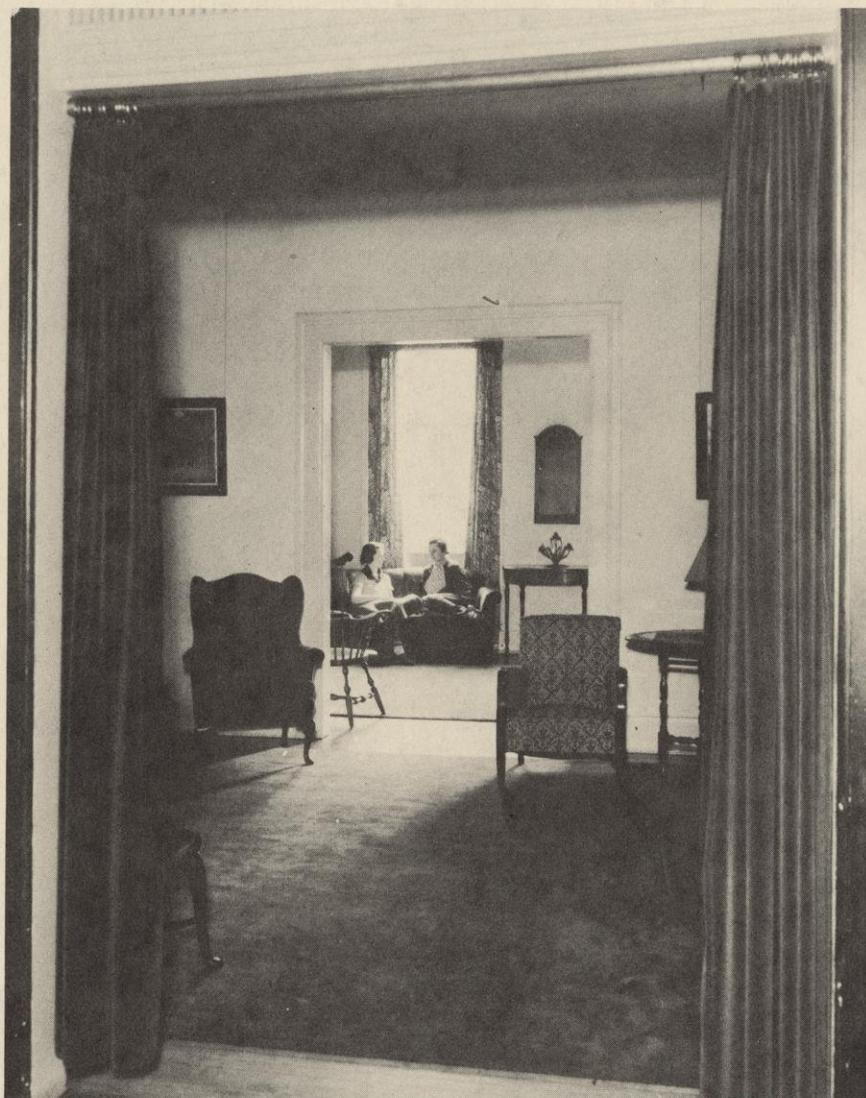


The Union Terrace





A vista in Chadbourne Hall.



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