

Large and Small Gifts Give Impetus To University Program

Ottawa University recently received several large gifts. The Ford Foundation, an anonymous alumni couple, C. O. Mammel, and others made impressive grants.

You can be excited about such gifts. But University officials are no less excited by the huge number of friends giving important, although small, amounts to O.U.

There is a need for both types of giving. Big donors will be encouraged to give if they know the University has a large number of loyal friends. Likewise, small donors will be stimulated by large gifts.

The University was awarded \$119,600 in the recent half-billion dollar Ford Foundation gift to colleges and hospitals.

The University share was in two parts. One share came as one of 615 to all four-year, accredited, non-tax supported colleges and universities.

The other part was an award for regional leadership in raising faculty salaries. Ottawa was one of 126 in the nation, the only one in Kansas, receiving this extra award.

The Ford Foundation hoped that the gifts would be helpful and that they would stimulate others to give to the various institutions.

The Ford contribution is to be paid over an 18-month period. The money for the major part is to be invested for at least ten years and the money used in raising faculty salaries. The added amount is to be used in the same way and for other pressing academic needs.

We point to other gifts. You may know about some of these:

\$229,000 from an anonymous alumni couple for the library (now under construction). This is marked as one of the finest of all contributions to the University. The character of the donors makes it even more important and appreciated.

\$10,000 from the Coleman Com-

pany of Wichita. This is the largest gift to the current fund. It is of vital importance in efforts to balance the budget.

\$2,000 from the Esso Foundation (Standard Oil of New Jersey and associated companies). This is one of two gifts to institutions in Kansas.

\$1,000 from the U.S. Steel Foundation. One of three in Kansas.

An annuity gift of \$11,000 from J. H. and Laura Bosworth Haigh, '95, Los Angeles.

An annuity gift of \$12,467.58 from Emma Simonson Franklin, '10, Ottawa. The gift will establish the Emma Simonson Franklin scholarship in memory of her husband, Walter P. Franklin.

Both of these are appreciated not only for the aid rendered but for the confidence expressed in the University by such excellent people.

We asked President Martin several questions about these gifts. Here are his answers:

What do these gifts mean for O.U.?

"They mean development.

"In the case of the library-art center the University will have a magnificent center of learning—an academic emphasis we have long needed. We will be able to do a better educational job than ever before.

"In the case of the Ford gift our ability to pay better faculty salaries will be increased. The income of this contribution will be around \$5,000 a year.

"These big gifts are votes of confidence in the University. They carry tremendous prestige.

"The idea of being selected is important. Ottawa was one of 128 institutions selected for an extra portion of the Ford gift, the only one in Kansas. The Esso gift was one of two in Kansas and the U.S. Steel one of three in the state."

How much effect on the 1955-56 budget?

"The Coleman, Esso, and U.S. Steel contributions were to the current budget. The Ford gift will eventually yield income for current operations, but not this year. Our total gift budget is \$156,000 this year. Of this the Kansas Baptist Convention through its unified budget will give around \$55,000. The balance will come from individual gifts. Alumni are being asked to give \$15,000, the city of Ottawa \$8,000, the trustees \$20,000, other friends \$58,000. We hope to raise \$35,000 for scholarship purposes.

"We are doing this work through our Resources office with Dale Purcell and Jack Higgins doing the contact work. As you may remember, I suggested the Resources Association plan to the Board a few years ago. The idea was adopted, an office organized, and an operating staff secured. Increasingly, I am confident that it is of great benefit to our program."

Will we get other large gifts?

"We would like to. We are working on some possibilities. Big gifts are apt to come more readily if potential donors know that the University has wide support among its friends and alumni. Big givers want to give to vital enterprises."

What building needs are most pressing?

"We need more residence halls as quickly as we can get them. We have other building needs, but living quarters are essential."

Is that the first thing you want?

"No. We want first to balance our budget each year. We want to establish a system of giving which will enable us to do that. We have our eye on the future, but we must pay our current bills to get to that future."

Plan now to attend Reunion-Commencement June 2-3. "1" and "6" classes have reunions.