



President and Mrs. Martin,
Leaders for 32 years.

They Came for Two or Three Years

Dr. Andrew B. Martin came to Ottawa University as president in 1935 to be here, as he says, for two or three years. Now, 32 years and several academic hurdles later, he is retiring.

The reason for his long stay is simple. The people and potential of the University and the area captured him.

He will leave the problem solving and decision making to a new leader, Dr. Peter H. Armacost who comes to the University in August.

Dr. Martin is proud of the accomplishments during his administration,

especially the development of the education program. He appreciates all of the new buildings—ten of them, but knows they are only housing the work of students and faculty.

He is always quick to say that he has had excellent cooperation from teachers, staff members, trustees, alumni and friends of the University in developing the program and the facilities.

He is also appreciative of the constant help of Mrs. Martin who in so many ways has aided in leadership tasks. The two have made frequent

visits to midwestern churches, alumni chapters, conferences and conventions cultivating extensive good will for the University.

Basically, Dr. Martin puts main emphasis upon the educational program. What the University is doing for the student here today is most important. Looking ahead to improvements in the program for future students is next in line. To be sure he has been interested in securing proper facilities and equipment not as monuments to development but as housing for the University endeavor.

Building on the good educational base developed by leaders who preceded him, Dr. Martin led in establishing the present program. Its seven divisions, its divisional and comprehensive examinations and its honors study plan are keenly appreciated by educators around the nation.

He himself is a competent scholar and so sets a good example for faculty and students. He reads extensively and writes as much as time permits. Often he is in Myers Library browsing through the stacks.

How the library building came about is an interesting story. Dr. Martin on several occasions conferred with the late Dr. George E. Myers on the subject of the University book collection. At one of these meetings Dr.

Myers said, "I'd like to give a library building to the University."

"So would a lot of people," said Dr. Martin not knowing then that Dr. Myers was financially able to provide such a structure and was considering doing so.

"I am interested in doing this and want to do something about it," Dr. Myers continued.

"I appreciate this and I will have Dr. Mizell come and see you about the matter," Dr. Martin replied, thinking that Dr. Myers wanted to give a few thousand dollars toward the building.

No one was more surprised or more pleased than Dr. Martin when the late Dr. E. S. Mizell returned from his visit to reveal the total involved.

Dr. Myers gave more than \$330,000 to the building and book collection.

During Dr. Martin's administration a dozen buildings have been built: Martin Hall, Wilson Field House, Myers Library, Mammel Art Center, Behan Hall, Atkinson Hall, Price Hall, the University Union, Centennial Hall, the Greenhouse, Pomona Lodge and the Chapel. The campus was expanded last year in the development of physical education fields southeast of the main campus.

The Chapel story is also a pleasant episode. One morning in the spring of 1962, Dr. Martin opened a letter from a New York law firm stating that an anonymous donor would give \$200,000 toward a chapel provided others would contribute \$300,000 by

1949 commencement group with Dr. Martin and Baptist leaders: John A. Ramsey, Dr. William B. Lippard, and Dr. Benjamin Browne



Dr. Martin shows a 1953 student group a drawing of a new residence hall. From the left: Dave Ryan, '55; Mike Ireland, '57; Clair Popp, '54; Dave Bishop, '53; and Fred Garber, '53





Dr. Martin and the late Dr. George Myers in the Myers Library



In 1954 Dr. Martin talked with students JoAnne Walker Pankratz and Joanne Witham Roush.

the next Thanksgiving. The University was just finishing its Centennial Drive, so how could it launch out on another big effort in so short a time? But Dr. Martin led in the movement and the goal was reached in a thrilling finish. Actually more than \$400,000 was given to go with the \$200,000 challenge gift.

His office has been open to students and faculty. He never turned a deaf ear to any proposal, suggestion or criticism, giving everyone the benefit of a good hearing. He was forthright in decisions for or against propositions presented. His Irish wit gave him a lift in any difficult situations.

When Dr. Martin arrived in 1935,

during the Great Depression, professors were not being paid regularly. He insisted that they be paid in full at the end of each month. No payday has been missed.

He loves sports, especially soccer, a game which is just now coming into its own in the U.S. He likes football, too, and is mildly interested in basketball and track.

All three of the Martin sons were sports enthusiasts, Spencer lettering in basketball and track and Richard in football. John, the youngest, participated in basketball during his two years at O. U. He is now a commercial artist in Kansas City. Spencer is a faculty member of Parsons College

in Iowa and Dick is a football coach in Rosy Poly, Terre Haute, Ind. (John's drawing of the campus is on pages 8 and 9 of this issue of Taui Talk.)

Dr. Martin and Mrs. Martin will continue to make their home in Ottawa. Dr. Martin expects to read and write in his favorite field—philosophy, and will teach a course in educational philosophy during the University spring semester. He and Mrs. Martin will have more time to travel, especially to visit their children.

(As Taui Talk goes to press, Dr. Martin is accepting an invitation to be a guest lecturer next fall in Marquette University, Milwaukee.)