TEN YEARS
OF THE
UNIVERSITY

STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

JUNE 4, 1910
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By PRESIDENT CHARLES WILLIAM DABNEY.

Figures are dull things, but once in ten years we have to use them. This is the census year, and as the people of Cincinnati have just permitted themselves to be counted for the government through a professor of the University, it is only fair that we of the University should stand up and be counted for the information of the people of Cincinnati. In the case of an institution like our University, this is not an easy thing to do, because the chief values we create are not material, but intellectual and spiritual. Colleges, however, like most things in this world, have a material side, and it is the endowments, properties, finances, organization, and attendance upon the University we shall report to you today.

The reports of the University yield the following information with regard to the comparative conditions in 1900 and 1910. The property of the University is separated into two classes: grounds, buildings, and equipments used for instructional purposes; and real estate and funds yielding income for support. It is impossible to estimate the value of the beautiful grounds constituting the sites of the University and the Observatory, but they are certainly worth far in excess of one million dollars.

Leaving these grounds out of consideration, however, the reports show that whereas the University had $375,502 invested in buildings and equipments in 1900, exclusive of the properties of the affiliated colleges, it now has, including the buildings under erection, $1,246,000 so invested. The additions for the decade aggregate thus $871,000.

The total productive endowments, which amounted to $950,000 in 1900, now amount to $1,156,480, exclusive of the endowments of our Law and Medical colleges. The income from endowments in 1900 was only $29,670; this income had in-
creased last year to $44,102. The income from tuitions, fees, and miscellaneous sources, which amounted in 1900 to $3,800, had increased last year to $43,232. The income from city taxes for current support, including the Observatory, in 1900 was $57,699.12, while last year the University received from this source, including the appropriation of the Board of Education for the Teachers College, a total of $155,707. (By reason of a back tax collection this was $8,000 above the normal.) The total income of the University, including the Observatory, was in 1900 $91,169.12, as against $243,041 last year.

Coming now to the colleges and faculties, we find that the University, which in 1900 consisted of a single College of Arts and Engineering, with loosely affiliated colleges of Medicine, Law, and Dentistry, has now become a well organized University, consisting of a College of Liberal Arts, of Engineering, and of Medicine, a College for Teachers, a Graduate School, and a cooperating College of Law. Eight new departments of instruction have been established during this period, and the total number of courses of study has increased from 150 in 1900 to 405 in 1910.

The administrative and instructional staff of the colleges in Burnet Woods, which was made up of 31 persons in 1900, has now grown to 96, and the attendance of students upon these colleges, which, omitting the Summer School, numbered 554 in 1900, has now increased to 1143, to which number must be added 84 students in law and 199 in medicine, making a total of 1426 regular students in the University in 1910. Some eight hundred other persons attended external courses and lectures regularly last year.

The number of graduates of the colleges in Burnet Woods in 1900 was 48; the total number of graduates of these colleges presented to you today is 107. In addition, there are 29 graduates in law and 41 in medicine, and 32 who receive teachers' diplomas, a total of 209 diplomas awarded.

These figures are not presented in a boasting spirit. These results are not the work of any one board or of any one faculty, much less of any one president; for during the last ten years boards, faculties, and presidents have all changed. These facts are presented merely to make record of the progress of the institution. If any people should have credit for them, it is the
people of Cincinnati as a whole, who have so steadily supported the institution, both morally and financially, during these years.

Our chief object in presenting these statistics, however, is to draw a lesson from them. Looking back over the record just presented, we see that while the attendance, the number of instructors, the buildings, and, in a lesser degree, the support given by the city, have all increased at a good rate, the productive endowments have not increased in anything like the same proportion. To put it in another way, the attendance, the number of courses, the number of instructors, and the total income have increased over 100 per cent, while the productive endowments have increased less than 20 per cent. What the University needs today, then, is more endowments for all its colleges and departments. I know of no more promising opportunity for investment than in the endowment of our Medical College, devoted to the task of training physicians to serve in our hospitals and families, or of our Teachers College, which is educating the women who shall train our children, or of our Engineering College, which is making men to build our industries.

It is impossible at this time to mention all the needs of the University, but there is one line of enlargement which should appeal especially to us. Among the most remarkable and valuable recent developments in our educational system are the continuation schools and the night schools, which offer opportunities for general and technical education to young people who have to work during the day in our commercial and industrial establishments. The night high schools, belonging to this system, now have almost as many students as the day high schools and are rapidly improving the character of their work. The graduates from these schools and the graduates of the day high schools who had to go to work form a class in which we are bound to feel the greatest interest. A recent investigation shows that several hundred of these earnest young men and women are anxiously awaiting the opening of night classes of college grade to prepare them for entrance upon professional, commercial, or technical courses, or to train them for the practical work of life. These young people do not want superficial or low grade work. Though they will certainly have to take a much longer time than usual to complete such a curriculum, many of them would like
to take regular academic courses. To aid them in accomplishing their ambitions would be a high privilege, as well as a great pleasure, to every member of our faculties. A people's college like ours should certainly provide facilities for the education of all classes, and especially for those who have to educate themselves. In my opinion, there is no more important work the University can do, and I regret exceedingly, therefore, that our means are so inadequate at the present time that we can not at once undertake this task. I can think of no better purpose to which a moderate fund can be put than the provision of suitable night courses of instruction for these young working people.

Many things have occurred during the year to encourage us to expect to realize these things. On this occasion and on this platform a year ago it was my privilege to present to the people of Cincinnati the immediate needs of the University for new buildings and equipments. The buildings asked for were an engineering building, a gymnasium, a power plant, and a medical building. Within two months after that time the Council of the City of Cincinnati voted a bond issue of $550,000 for the erection of the first three of these buildings. In view of the necessary delay in the erection of the great new hospital on the hill top, it was thought wise to postpone the appropriation for the medical college building, to be connected with it, which, however, we are assured will be provided later. Council had previously given the University $26,300 for completing the Technical building, so that this made a total of $576,300 given by the city since last Commencement for buildings and equipments at the University—five times as much as the city had given it in all the years before. Counting the $125,000 given during the session for current expenses, this makes a total of $701,300 appropriated by the city during the year for the building and support of the University.

More significant, however, than the money was the unanimity with which this appropriation was made. As far as known, not a single person lifted a voice against this appropriation. From our beloved fellow-citizen, the President of the United States, who honored us on that occasion by sending us a letter expressing his hearty approval of the measure, through all the trades and professions, down to the humblest laborer in our midst, our people were cordially united in this movement for
the improvement of their University. It has been said, in fact, that no proposal was ever submitted to the people of Cincin-
nati which met with such universal approval. For this unani-
mous support of all the people and for the active assistance
of the commercial and industrial societies, of the teachers' as-
association, of the members of the press, and of the alumni and
friends of the University, as well as for the effective action of
the Mayor and Council, we are profoundly grateful. To all
these and to hundreds of others who aided us in this splendidly
successful movement and can not be named here, we return
our sincere thanks.

The University is just finishing an athletic field with running
track and complete facilities for baseball, football, and field
sports, which will supplement the new gymnasium in a fine man-
ner. For raising a large part of the money and for carrying
the work to this handsome completion, we are indebted to
Dr. Archibald I. Carson, an alumnus and a Director, who has
laborated for this cause for some fifteen years.

We are happy to announce the donation of funds to estab-
lish several additional scholarships. We know of no better
way to invest moderate sums than in the education of worthy
young people. The Armstrong-Hunter Memorial Fund of some
nine hundred dollars was raised under the leadership of Mrs.
Daniel H. Sowers, Mrs. Harris Hancock, and Miss Helen
Hinkle to establish a scholarship in the University in memory
of Miss Sarah J. Armstrong and Miss Clara Hunter, teachers
in Cincinnati for twenty-five years. This fund was contributed
by eighty pupils of the Armstrong School, residing in this and
neighboring cities. It is to be used in establishing a scholar-
ship in the department of English Literature in the Graduate
School for a woman graduate of the University. This is truly
an appropriate and beautiful memorial of two honored and
beloved teachers, who did much to form the character of many
of our noblest women.

Mr. Robert William Hochstetter, an alumnus of the Uni-
versity of Cincinnati, has given to the University the sum of
one thousand dollars to establish a scholarship in Chemistry
in memory of his brother, Henry Hochstetter, also a student
of the University. All of our alumni can not give money, but
all can give service of some kind, and this gift from a rising
young alumnus is encouraging as the suggestion of what we may expect when our alumni grow older and wealthier.

Through Mr. William Harvey Anderson, a member of the Board of Directors, the University has received a pledge of one hundred and fifty dollars a year for four years from a generous citizen, who does not wish his name to be known, to establish two scholarships in the College of Liberal Arts for students who have attended the University for at least one year and need assistance. The gentleman who so modestly hides behind Mr. Anderson's genial personality requests that these scholarships be known as the Optimist Club scholarships. Whoever he is, he is evidently a helpful as well as a cheerful person. Will Mr. Anderson kindly convey to him our heartfelt acknowledgments and tell him that acts like this help to make optimists of us all?

The University has also received a number of valuable gifts for the equipment of its several departments. The Library, Museum, and the laboratories have received donations too numerous to mention here. A large and valuable gift to the Library was that of the Schloss collection of German literature, purchased for the purpose and donated by Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Renner, both enthusiastic workers for the University, the lady becoming an alumna today. Among the most notable donations to the Museum was a large paleontological and conchological collection made by the late U. P. James from the rocks and fresh waters of this region. This collection, which comprises hundreds of valuable specimens, was given to the University by Mr. Davis L. James and his sisters, Miss Catherine M. James, Miss Ellen W. James, and Miss Annie A. James. A collection of some five hundred specimens of shells, minerals, and fossils from coal measures, made by the late Miss Ida Murdoch, has been presented to the University by her sister, Mrs. R. N. Hollingshead. It is interesting for an institution like ours, which is educating so many women, to receive a gift from a woman of a scientific collection made by a woman.

It is a matter of regret that out of the large amount of geological and archaeological material collected in this vicinity so little has been retained in Cincinnati. Since the University now has a prospect of a fireproof building for a museum, it is
earnestly hoped that owners of such material will give it to us instead of sending it off to other places. If this is done, we may expect that scientific students will find opportunity to study Cincinnati archaeology and geology in the University of Cincinnati instead of having to go to Cambridge or to Chicago.

**SOME NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

Among the buildings most needed by the University at the present time are the following:

A Chemical Laboratory building must be erected soon to accommodate the growing classes of the Colleges of Engineering and Medicine, as well as of the College of Liberal Arts. Some $200,000 will be required to build and equip for this purpose.

One of the greatest needs of the present moment is a Medical Laboratory building. The union of the old colleges and the building of a great new City Hospital gives Cincinnati the opportunity to become one of the greatest medical centers in the country. The Hospital and the University will have most of the plant needed and only a college laboratory building is required to complete this equipment. The city has put several million dollars into the University and as much more in the Hospital and some $300,000 additional invested in a Medical College building would accomplish this.

There is also a fine opportunity to create in Cincinnati a great Natural History Museum. A number of collections are waiting to be brought together in a suitable fireproof building, which should be located in Burnet Woods near the University and the new High School. The sum of $150,000 would erect the first section of such a museum.

The University is in great need of dormitories. The development of the Engineering, Medical, and Law Colleges would be greatly promoted by the provision of living accommodations for students. College dormitories are not a gift to students, but yield good revenues to the institution. The new plans provide a site for dormitories and a college commons and $75,000 to $100,000 would be sufficient to erect the first dormitory, which would undoubtedly be immediately filled.

If it is desired to erect a more monumental structure, we would mention the need at the University of a great audito-
rium or assembly hall. The University has no hall large enough to contain all its students. It needs such a hall, which might well be made the Westminster of Cincinnati,—a place for assembling the memorials of our great men and women. The University grounds offer a noble site for such a building.

It has been suggested also that there should be a bell or flag tower on the University heights. This could be made highly ornamental, as well as useful, and a moderate sum would doubtless be sufficient for its erection.

The sum of $100,000 is the amount necessary to found a full professorship in any of the colleges. The donor has the privilege of attaching an appropriate name to the professorship.

Twenty thousand dollars endows an instructorship in a department and $10,000 a fellowship, the income being paid to the instructor or fellow, who devotes his time to University work and research. Three thousand dollars endows a free scholarship for the benefit of a student in any one of the colleges.

The President of the University will be glad to give any information pertaining to these subjects.

Note.—On the day following Commencement Mr. Julius Fleischmann informed the President that he would like to have the privilege of renewing his subscription of one thousand dollars for thirteen scholarships in the University during 1910-11 to students from accredited schools outside of Cincinnati who are distinguished for scholarship and are unable to meet the tuition. Mr. Fleischmann gave this sum for a similar purpose last year, and so brought thirteen excellent young people into the University. It is interesting to note that out of the six honorary scholarships awarded by the faculty to freshmen attaining the highest record this year three were given to Fleischmann scholars, while three other Fleischmann scholars were close behind the first six. Seven out of the thirteen attained distinguished scholarship, and all give promise of excellent success. Mr. Fleischmann's modesty undoubtedly prevented the announcement of his renewal of these scholarships until after Commencement, but his example is so good that we cannot let him escape from this report.