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COLLEGE HISTORY.
 (Continued from Page One)

that the competition of a school in a larger city with superior clinic facilities had a pronounced effect. The Omaha school just referred to was organized in the fall of 1880 when, on September 7th, in the office of Doctors Mercer and Denise, Dr. Moore (now an emeritus professor in our college, Dr. Livingston, and Dr. von Mansfelde (now at practice at Ashland) met and talked over the plan of a medical school in Omaha. On the 14th of September was formally established the Nebraska School of Medicine which held its course of lectures at Farnam and Eleventh streets, during the fall and winter of 1880-81. Dr. von Mansfelde has summarized the resources of the college at that time as follows: A two-story frame building known as the St. Joseph Hospital and a limited clinic, a faculty of nine and a student membership of 13, 11 men and 2 women. At that time the course included two years of five months each.

During this year of 1880-81 the name of the college was changed to that of the Omaha Medical College which name was retained throughout its subsequent history. This college suffered the usual ups and downs to which private institutions are peculiarly sus-

ceptible but on the whole made steady progress both in the number and influence of its faculty, the number and character of its students, the resources at its command, and the character of its curriculum. In the year 1901-2, which was the last year of independent existence, there were 152 students enrolled, the entrance requirements being nominally three years of high school work.

From the time when the first College of Medicine of the University had ceased to exist there had apparently been in the mind of each successive Chancellor the desirability of again attempting the re-establishment of the college. But the lack of clinical facilities in Lincoln interposed a serious obstacle. In 1883 Dr. Henry B. Ward came to the University as Professor of Zoology and since at this time it was quite the fashion for state universities to establish preparatory medical courses he was anxious that this should be done in the University of Nebraska. The proposition was viewed favorably by Chancellor Canfield and the following year the writer,

who had been recently graduated from the medical department of the University of Michigan, was invited to come and assist him in the organization of this work. From the first, this course attracted a considerable number of students many of them very able men who reflected honor upon the University at the eastern schools to which they went after finishing the course here and some of whom have attained positions of eminence in the profession. It was natural that as the movement toward higher standards in medical education began to take form that members of the faculty of the Omaha Medical College should appreciate the desirability of an affiliation with the University by means of which the students in that college might enjoy the laboratory facilities afforded here at Lincoln. Thus overtures were made which were welcomed by both Dr. Ward and Chancellor Andrews. Negotiations which were carried on for several months finally culminated, in May 1902, in signing of articles of affiliation by the terms of which the Omaha Medical College became an affiliated college of the University.

By the terms of this affiliation it was agreed that from the beginning of the following year students might be registered both at Lincoln and at Om-

aha but that the University should have the right to establish requirements for admission and pass upon candidates for graduation. It was also agreed that the Regents should not be financially responsible for the management of the college in Omaha, but that in case they desired at any time to take over the college and incorporate it in the University they might have the privilege of so doing, the compensation to be determined by a board of appraisers. Thus the affiliation at first was a loose connection which left the Omaha Medical College practically an independent institution. However, as years passed the connection became gradually closer and closer. The campaign for higher standards of medical education imposed constantly increased demands upon the college. The University gradually raised the requirements for admission from three years of high school work to four years and soon added to this the additional requirements of academic work of college grade. The number of students was

reduced from 152 in 1901-2 to 67 in 1908-9. Moreover with the year 1905-6 students ceased to be matriculated at Omaha in the first two years of the course but were all matriculated in Lincoln and thus the number of students in Omaha was reduced to the limited membership of the two higher classes. All of this made it difficult for the clinical faculty in Omaha to meet the financial demands of the work there. The members of the faculty responded generously by donations and the meeting of assessments from year to year. But as these demands became more and more onerous it became necessary for the Regents to assist in meeting the expenses of the clinical work. Thus gradually what was a loose affiliation at first became bit by bit a closer union, until the Omaha Medical College was to all intents and purposes an integral part of the University, though not until the removal of the whole four years to Omaha brought the assumption of complete control by the Regents did the individual members of the faculty cease to bear as individuals a share of the financial burden.

In the summer of 1909 Dr. Ward was called to the University of Illinois and the writer took his place at the head of the school. In pursuance of plans formulated in meetings of the faculty the entrance requirements, which included, in 1908-9, four years of high school work plus 18 college hours were increased to include 24 college hours in 1909-10, 36 in 1910-11, 48 in 1911-12, and 60 in 1912-13. It is probable that this marks the point at which these requirements will remain for some time to come. In spite of these advancing requirements the enrollment of students remained about the same, the figure varying from 70 to 76, and with stationary entrance requirements the number should now show a steady increase.

From the very first years of the affiliation difficulties had arisen unavoidable in connection with the administration of a school divided between two cities as was this college. With the increasing requirements of the course and the increasing demands of various agencies dealing

with the matter of college courses and requirements it became increasingly difficult to handle the work of the college effectively as a divided school. Thus when in the spring of 1910 plans were being considered looking to the development of a greater University it seemed highly desirable that the school should be either concentrated at Lincoln or at Omaha so that the course might be made a homogeneous one and there be the co-ordination between clinical and laboratory work which the higher standards were making constantly more imperative. It did not seem probable that Lincoln would offer the clinical facilities which the college needed for many years to come and thus it was that it was decided to remove the first two years of the course to Omaha and to build there a medical college which should be worthy of the state and the University whose name it bears.

The legislature of 1909 had voted \$20,000 for a medical campus in Omaha with which sum the tract at present occupied had been secured. The legislature of 1911 appropriated \$100,000 for a laboratory building and the legislature of 1913 gave an additional sum of \$45,000 for maintenance. The building which was begun in the spring of 1912 was not completed until last summer when with the sum allowed for maintenance and equipment the building was equipped and made ready for occupancy and removal was finally accomplished.

On the removal of the school to Omaha the reorganization of the faculty took place with which all are familiar. Dr. Bridges, who had been associate dean became dean, with Dr. Cutter as secretary of the faculty as his right hand man, while the writer became junior dean, remaining at Lincoln to look after the interests of the Medical College here. Thus after a period of change and transition which has extended over many years the Omaha Medical College has become in every respect the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska and a new chapter is begun which in the anticipations of all who are interested in the school seems destined to be a chapter of glorious achievement. It seems an assured fact that the



DEAN W. O. BRIDGES
 Dean of College of Medicine at Omaha, Nebraska

All Souls Church Sunday May 24

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ARTHUR L. WEATHERLY, Minister.

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Students' Liberal Religious Union, 12:15

an address by Prof. G. D. Swesey on

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