



# UNIVERSITY BUILDING PROGRAM INCLUDES ENGINEERING COLLEGE

## Construction Plans Approved For New Electrician Quarters

Nebraska Regents recently approved low bids for construction of a new \$600,000 electrical engineering building at the University.

Work is expected to start at once but the building probably won't be ready for students until 1950.

It will be the third major, complete university building financed

exclusively from state funds in 20 years. It will also be the first major complete building to come from the University's share of the special 10-year building fund levy enacted by the 1947 legislature.

Successful bidders are:  
General contract—Olson Construction company, Lincoln, \$473,226

Plumbing, heating, ventilating—Natkin company, Omaha and Lincoln, \$68,200.

Electrical—Commonwealth Electric company, Lincoln, \$49,335.

Hardware—Anderson Hardware company, Lincoln, \$3,868.

### Engineers Replace U Hall

The new building, including a finished basement and three stories with an observatory on the roof, will have over-all dimensions of 180 by 60 feet. It will cover, in part, the site of old University hall, the original university building constructed in 1870, on the Eleventh street line, north of R.

In 1926 dismantling of old U. hall was begun in the interest of safety. The original roof and two top floors were removed. About

12 years ago the remaining single floor and basement were declared unsafe despite the installation of steel rods to hold the walls together.

The general contract for the new E. E. building includes razing of what remains of U. hall and the removal of one wing from the present E. E. structure which is also on the building site. The north-south center line of old U. hall will be marked with a memorial plaque in the front entrance approach to the new building.

### Temporary Classrooms Used

The present E. E. building, a one-story structure to the north of U. hall, was converted in 1893 from an old "wood shop". The north end of the building is a laboratory which will remain in use temporarily. Electrical engineering classes, pending completion of the new building, will be held in temporary buildings—converted army barracks—already on the campus.

University officials expressed the hope that the excavation and footings for the new building will be completed prior to the arrival of bad weather this winter. If this becomes a reality, the excavation can be covered before snow, and the way will be clear for prompt installation of steel expected to be delivered next spring.



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