

Pugh Influences Bill's Passage

The struggle to secure passage of the Morrill Land-Grant Act in Washington and to gain acceptance of the act in Pennsylvania a century ago was sought by both partisans and the trustees of the University.

Foremost supporter of the act in Pennsylvania was Evan Pugh, distinguished scientist, educator and first president of the University. Pugh travelled to Washington to exert influence on the formulation and passage of the Morrill Act, since it was directly in line with his belief in schools established for practical, public education in agriculture and the mechanic arts.

Later, when the act had been passed by Congress and signed by President Abraham Lincoln, Pugh went to Harrisburg to persuade the state legislature that prompt acceptance of the act would enhance its value to the state. On April 1, 1863, Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin, ex officio

trustee of the University, which was then the Agriculture College of Pennsylvania, signed the act pledging the faith of the state to carrying the act into effect.

This act also assigned all funds from the act to the Agricultural College of Pennsylvania.

But Pugh's work on the Land-Grant Act was not over. On April 14, 1864, a bill was introduced into the state Senate proposing division of land-grant benefits among six institutions instead of granting the entire sum to the University.

Pugh wrote a letter to the Senate showing the private, sectarian and even local character of most of the other colleges in contrast to the qualifications of the Agricultural College. The Agricultural College was "a bona fide state institution, built and owned by the State" and established to provide a practical industrial education as advocated by the Morrill Act, he wrote.

It was while he was writing



EVAN PUGH
... first land-grant president

this letter that he collapsed at his desk from an attack of typhoid fever, from which he died one week later.

Shortly afterward, the Senate voted to postpone indefinitely the bill to split land-grant benefits. Three years later the entire sum went to the Agricultural College.

Three others, Hugh N. McAllister, Judge Frederick Watts, and Congressman James T. Hale joined Pugh in his fight for the Morrill Act.

McAllister, a Bellefonte lawyer who helped found the University also spent time both in Washington and Harrisburg to secure passage of the act.

Watts, of Carlisle, first president of the Board of Trustees, not only helped to win legislative approval of the act, but also called a national conference in 1872 which paved the way for the organization of the American Association of Land-Grant Colleges.

Judge Hale, Bellefonte, was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1858 to 1865 where he fought for the act. Also a trustee of the University, he helped obtain early legislative grants to complete Old Main.

Movie Features Public Universities

The University is one of six land-grant colleges and universities featured in the land-grant film, "Harvest of Learning."

The purpose of the movie, produced by the United States Information Agency, is to show public universities to audiences in underdeveloped countries.

The footage concerning the University was shot last summer and deals mainly with the extension education, both agricultural and general.

The film was first shown at the 1961 Convention of the American Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

A local showing will be arranged when the film is made available to the University.

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Group International Plans Rejected

International programs recommended by the National Land-Grant centennial committee will not be established here, Reed Ferguson, chairman of the centennial committee on campus, said recently.

The University already has many international programs and "historically has always been interested in establishing international programs here," he said.

Carrying out recommendations of the national committee for international studies would be a duplication of effort, Ferguson added.

One of the international programs recommended for Land-Grant colleges and universities was to encourage lecturers from foreign universities to study and lecture in this country.

Ferguson said the University has participated in the Fulbright Scholarship and Fellowship pro-

grams which incorporates the committee's recommendations, for years.

He said that the national centennial committee was probably interested in establishing these international programs at smaller colleges and universities which do not at present have such programs.

It would be "unfair" for the local centennial committee to take credit for the international programs already established on campus, Ferguson said.

The report of the international committee stated that much already is being done by land-grant colleges and universities in the field of international education.

With 16 per cent of the nation's

university students, these institutions have 26 per cent of the foreign students studying on their campuses the report stated and 36 per cent of the foreign faculty, 41 per cent of U.S. faculty serving abroad and 70 per cent of the Aid for International development, formerly the International Cooperation Administration, college contract funds.

Some of the other recommendations the Land-Grant centennial national committee made were to:

- establish a center to coordinate its international programs.
- find means of sharing information about work and research in international education.
- cooperate with other institutions in the basis of regional or

special interests when an international program is too large for a single institution.

• endeavor to establish a firm and continuing relationship with a university overseas.

• attempt to secure additional financial support for international programs.



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