

Storeroom Supervisor Retires After 32 Years of Service

By BARBARA SCHEFFER

John F. Bleich, the "man behind the scenes" to chemistry students officially retired on Jan. 1 after 32 years at the University.

Bleich, who was 65 on Jan. 14, has been responsible for receiving, dispensing and shipping chemicals and allied apparatus as supervisor of the chemistry storeroom.

HIS ASSOCIATION with the University did not end, however, with his official work day. Bleich's "hobby" as supervisor of tickets and ticket-takers was started 25 years ago when he was asked to take charge of all ticket personnel for a football game.

Soon Bleich was handling tickets, ticket-takers and arranging for ushers at athletic events, graduations, dances, concerts, lectures and Artists Series.

Bleich's "hobby" brought him in contact with many famous personalities. He has collected autographs of almost all of them, including Adm. Richard E. Byrd, polar explorer; Fritz Kreisler, violinist; and Lauritz Melchior, opera singer.

Bleich first became acquainted with the University when he was a student here. He was sent to the campus with the Army Training Corps in the field of electrical engineers.

The armistice ending World War I was signed shortly after his arrival and he had to return for a job in his native Pittsburgh.

FOUR YEARS later he returned to State College to marry his college "sweetheart," the former Mabel Gephart.

After his marriage, Bleich got a job with the University. He has watched the University grow "tremendously" just by the number of student chemistry desks.

"When I first came we had desks for about 350 chemistry students. Now we have something like 3,300."

He now plans to travel with his wife, to visit relatives in Utah



VETERAN EMPLOYEE in the chemistry storeroom, John F. Bleich, as he completed one of his last tasks before retiring Jan. 1. Known as "the man behind the scenes" to chemistry students, Bleich held the storeroom supervisor's job for 32 years and also directed ticket-taking at University events.

and California and also delve into his woodworking hobby.

"I have to keep occupied. It's no good for a person to sit down and do nothing. I guess I'll drop into the storeroom, now and then to see how things are running. I'll miss the day-to-day contact with everyone at the storeroom. They're the grandest people I've ever worked with."

Teaching Jobs Listed

Jobs available in public schools and colleges are now listed in 106 Burrowes. Candidates wishing to use this service must be registered with the Teacher Placement Bureau, 103 Burrowes.

Commonwealth Campuses

New Kensington Campus To Expand at New Site

(This is the thirteenth in a series of articles concerning the University's 14 Commonwealth campuses. Today's article features New Kensington campus.)

By DOROTHY DRASHER

Plans to construct the first building on a 30 acre site just outside of New Kensington are now underway.

This is the first step in a program of expansion for this Commonwealth campus. Student enrollment is expected to grow from the present 99 to 1,000 by 1970.

Meanwhile, a renovated public school in the town is being used for classes and offices.

SEVERAL YEARS ago a survey of students in area high schools was taken to determine the need for such an educational institution.

Although there are many other colleges and universities in the nearby city of Pittsburgh, there were no schools offering a two-year technical program.

The University's Board of Trustees then approved the extension of the two-year associate degree program to this area.

Following this approval a community fund drive was begun. The \$40,000 collected was used to

renovate the old school building. Its two-story columns and the entrance dated the building's construction to the early 1900's.

The multi-roomed building provides space for the 125 full time students, five full time and two part time faculty members.

THE ENGINEERING oriented faculty teaches the specialized courses offered to the all male student body in drafting and design technology and electrical technology, Eugene H. Heide, director of the campus, said.

Most of the students commute to their classes since the majority of them live within a 10-mile radius of the campus.

At the present time the school building is leased from the local school board for \$1 a year.

Study Abroad Shots Set

Students participating in the Liberal Arts Study Abroad program may take the first in a series of shots and vaccinations from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, Dagobert deLevie, director of the Study Abroad program, announced recently.

The free inoculations will be given at the Ritenour Health Center, he said.


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