HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1910 the General Assembly passed an act authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to locate two new normal schools, one in Northeastern Ohio and one in Northwestern Ohio. This commission chose Kent as the location of the school for Northeastern Ohio and Bowling Green as the location of the school for Northwestern Ohio. On June 30, 1911, the Board of Trustees, appointed by the Governor, organized and on February 16, 1912, elected the President of the College. A general building plan was adopted and with the initial appropriation of $150,000 the Board proceeded with the construction of the central feature of the plant—the Administration Building. In 1913 the General Assembly appropriated $41,000 for enlarging the auditorium and gymnasium in the Administration Building, and $218,000 for the erection of a dormitory for women, science building, and heating plant. Other available funds were added to the appropriation for the heating plant, making the total cost of this building and equipment $48,175. In 1915, $100,000 was appropriated for a training school building, and in 1919, $48,083.80 additional was allowed by the Emergency Board for the completion of this building. In 1921, $150,000.00 was appropriated for a second dormitory for women, and in 1923, an additional allowance of $34,522.16 was made. This new residence hall should be completed by January 1, 1924. Williams Hall, the first dormitory for women was opened at the beginning of the Summer Session in June, 1915, and the Administration Building in September, 1915. The Heating Plant was put in service in the autumn of 1915. Early in the spring of 1916, the Science Building was far enough advanced toward completion to permit the use of some parts of it. In May, four rooms of the Training School were transferred from the Administration Building to this building and other parts were used for college classes. The entire building was thrown open for use during the Summer Session. The contract for the construction of the Training School Building was let in July, 1916, but on account of protracted delays, it was not completed until November, 1921.

Early in the history of the college, a general plan for the improvement of the grounds was prepared by a competent landscape architect providing for present utilization and future development in such a way as to preserve the natural beauty of the site and add to its attractiveness by artistic treatment. In 1918, the central features of the plan, consisting of the circle, mall, main driveways, sidewalks, and campus illumination, were constructed at a cost of $21,784.10.

Further campus improvements were made in 1921 at a cost of $17,086.56. These included grading and planting, sidewalks, driveway from the circle to Wooster Street and service drive.

On September 15, 1914, the College opened in temporary quarters with a faculty of fifteen members including four critic teachers. In September, 1915, the faculty was increased to twenty-four members by the appointment of instructors to new positions as follows: Head of the Department of Rural Education, Extension Lecturer, Head of the Department of Geography, Head of the Department of History, Head of the Department of Physical Education, High School Inspector, Fifth Grade Critic, and Sixth Grade Critic. In September, 1916, additions to the faculty were made as follows: Head
position of Assistant Librarian was temporarily discontinued. No changes of faculty positions were made in 1920. In September, 1921, an Assistant was added in the Department of Physical Education. In September, 1922, the position of Assistant in the Department of Home Economics was revived, a Kindergarten was organized, and the position of Kindergarten Director created. In September 1923, the position of Head of the Department of Physics and Chemistry was created, and Assistants were added in Mathematics, Music, and Social Science.

GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

Bowling Green, the seat of the State Normal College, is a city of seven thousand inhabitants, situated near the center of the Northwestern Ohio Normal School district, in a beautiful and healthful location easily accessible from all parts of the district. It is a substantial business city in the center of a prosperous agricultural community and combines all the characteristics of a model school town. The citizens are deeply interested in the welfare of the college, and the educational and moral tone of the community is wholesome and helpful in the highest degree.

CLIMATE

The climate of Bowling Green is favorable to study, extremes of temperature being modified by the influence of Lake Erie.

RAILROAD FACILITIES

Bowling Green is situated on the New York Central Lines (formerly main line of the T. & O. C. Railway), and on a branch of the B. & O. (formerly C. H. & D.), which makes connections at Tontogany with the main line. It is also situated on a branch of the Toledo, Fostoria & Findlay Electric, which connects with the main line at Pemberville, the Hocking Valley Railway, and the New York Central Lines, (formerly Eastern Division of the T. & O. C.). It is also situated on the Toledo, Bowling Green & Southern Electric, which makes connections with the B. & O. at North Baltimore, and at Toledo with all railways entering the city.