A CENTENNIAL ALBUM

In 1970-71 Ohio Northern University will observe its 100th anniversary.

A Centennial . . . one hundred years of service . . . a time to remember . . . a century of progress . . . a significant point in time . . . an appropriate time to reminisce but a more significant time to plan the next steps.

A Centennial is the time for many of the hopes and dreams for Ohio Northern to be realized. It is the time to take inventory, to count and call upon friends, if they be deserved, to cooperatively determine the role of the university in its second century of service to Christian higher education.

On this and the following pages appear brief but interesting glimpses spanning one hundred years in the life of one institution that has served many thousands of students.

The Normal Building opened in 1871.

Members of the faculty of 1880-81: (standing, from left) Frederick Maglott, J. J. Jelley, W. D. Woodard, Mrs. L. M. Sniff, Miss Mallie Schoonover, unknown; (seated) F. Griffin, J. G. Park, H. S. Lehr, M. J. Ewing, L. M. Sniff.
President William Howard Taft speaks at the June, 1910, commencement in Ada. The 1911 "Northern" yearbook recorded:

"The sun was bright, the air was clear,
The breezes sang, when Taft was here.
It was a day that long shall stand
A memory sacred o'er the land.
From far and near the people came
To swell the chorus, shout the name
Of Northern and her glorious fame —
When Taft was here."

President Taft (left) with President Albert Edwin Smith. The "University Herald" on June 3, 1910, reported:

"When the President's train arrived in Ada at 10:30 a great throng had gathered at the depot to catch a first glimpse of the distinguished executive. President Smith entered the car to meet the President and escort him to his carriage. At the first sight of that characteristic broad smile, a mighty shout went up from the ground in greeting."

When President Taft Visited Campus

President Taft with university and state dignitaries at President Smith's luncheon in Ada.
The turn of the century

The closing days of the 19th century marked the purchase of the school by the Methodist Church. Ohio Northern is perhaps the only school to have been started as a single proprietorship, then to become a partnership and later a corporation. This church-relatedness provides a significant extra dimension of Christian higher education.
Famous Professors

Wilfred E. Binkley

Simeon D. Fess

Childe H. Freeman

Well known faculty members, only a few of whom can be pictured here, drew many students to Ohio Northern University. By 1900 there were 3,000 students enrolled at the school, and the campus had expanded to the buildings pictured below.
Three of the many student activities of the 1910 era are pictured above. Ohio Northern has always met strong competitors on athletic fields. Wheelbarrow races, snake dances in Lima, tug-of-war contests were part of the campus scene then... and some of these traditions continue today. Junior-Senior Day, Burying the Hatchet, Military Contest Day and other events will bring back fond memories to many alumni.

Administration Building
1878-79

Rudolph H. Raabe

Thomas J. Smull

Frank B. Willis
Smile pretty
Virginia

All good children
go to chapel

He’s mowed one
down already

Even the cat gets
some soup

Hey, come on kid,
look THIS way

We all must lose
our dignity sometime

Above photos and quotes are from the 1940 yearbook chronicalizing the year 1939.

The 1930s

The typical frosh co-ed: saddle shoes, beanies and books.

(Left and beneath) Students and faculty celebrate May Day with the annual “clean-up” of campus which began during World War II.

Flanked by applauding faculty, the graduates march from Lehr Memorial into the world.