Women's Athletics Will Enter New Home

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Women's Athletics Will Enter New Home

Details of the building that will reunite women's gym classes are explored and described by Jeanette Foster

SINCE physical education for women was first initiated at Iowa State, facilities for it have been inadequate. For as many years Miss Winifred Tilden, head of the Physical Education Department, worked, planned and lived for the day when there would be a women's gymnasium on the campus which would be the equal of any in the country.

This year her dreams have been given substance at last: winter quarter the physical education classes will be held for the first time in a building which has adequate room and equipment.

The building has been planned so that the Physical Education Department's two-fold program of physical training and recreation can be carried out.

The two-story gymnasium room is equipped with electrically controlled doors which close to divide it into two smaller ones. At one end of the room is a small stage so that this gymnasium can also be used as an auditorium.

For the first time since Margaret Hall burned in 1937, swimming can be offered to women. For the first time in campus history it can be offered to them in a pool large enough to accommodate a class of sixty without overcrowding.

Above the pool is a chromium-railed observation balcony. Two large curtains are hung in such a way that they can be lowered to cut off the end of the pool from the view of those in the balcony.

Above the balcony is a "nap" room where girls can rest. This room is furnished with beds and lockers and is also for use of students unable to take active physical education classes.

Coeds in search of a "tan" will find the sun deck on top of this building an ideal place to acquire it. The corrective gymnasium and the dance studio are provided with mirrored walls so the students can see how their posture and motions compare with those of the others in the class.

The basement should be considered as a floor for it is here that the archery range, the locker rooms and the dressing rooms for faculty and for men are located. The target wall at one end of the archery range is covered with a heavy carpet; this eliminates stooping to pick up the arrows which go wide of the target, for the carpeting holds them when they range.

A room has been set aside where equipment for badminton, ping pong and shuffle board is permanently set up. Here students or faculty can go during the day for exercise and relaxation.

The basket system is to be used in taking care of gym clothes. Each girl will be assigned a basket which will be locked and further guarded by the presence of a matron. To take care of other clothes full length lockers are provided in the locker room.

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Miss Winifred Tilden, head and professor of the department of Physical Education for women, will hold classes in the New Women's Gymnasium next quarter