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# The Bates Student - volume 105 Special edition - February 6, 1978

Bates College

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# The Bates Student

◉◉SPECIAL EDITION◉◉

ESTABLISHED 1873

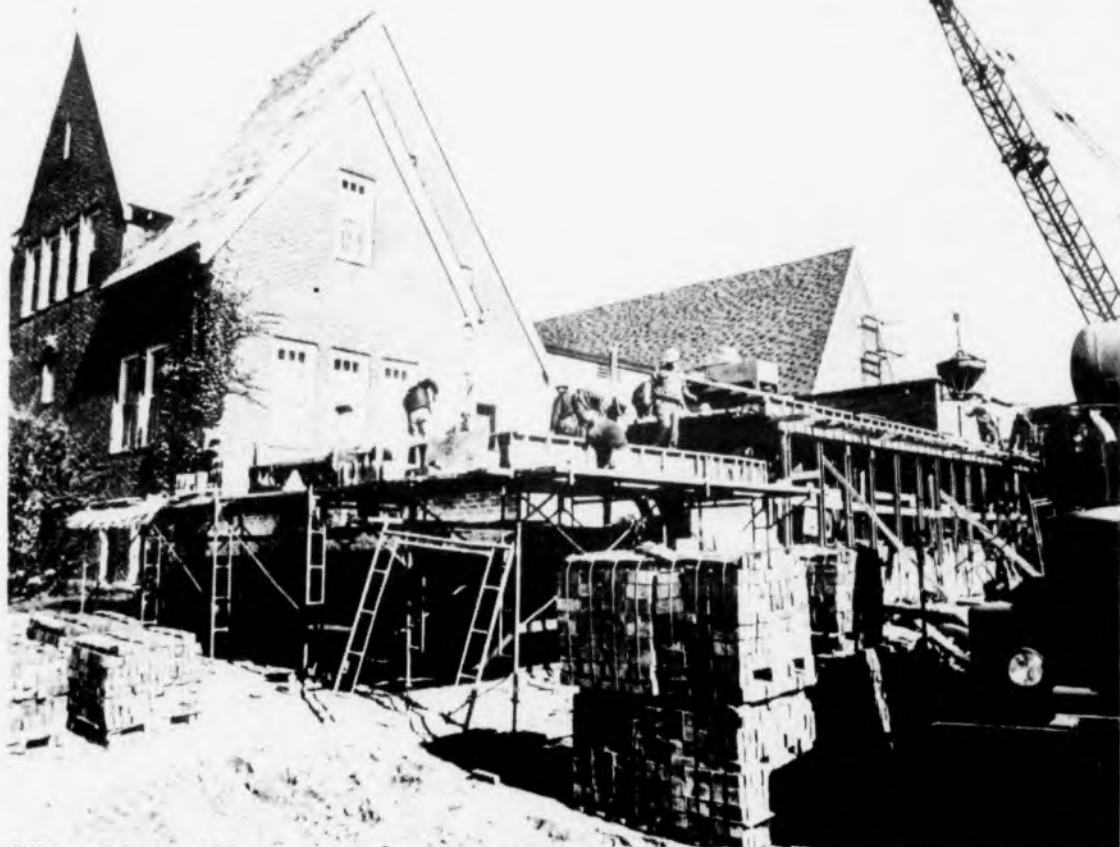
FEBRUARY 6, 1978

## COMMONS ADDITION NEARS OPENING DATE

As the weeks progress, all of us watch the construction of the addition, all sit in Commons listening to saws and hammers, all wonder what the new room is going to be like and try to catch a glimpse of what lies behind those boards. As time goes by, our patience is wearing thin and curiosity is mounting. Well, the months of wondering are about to come to an end, for the new addition is expected to be opened before February vacation - hope-

part of the heating for the building. When Bates applied to the Dana Foundation for a grant to offset the cost of such a building, and did receive a \$150,000 matching grant, part of the reason for the Foundation's interest in Bates was the fact that the building would include the solar heating system. Soon, it was realized by the College that the construction of a new building for dining facilities would not be efficient (expensive to build, ex-

in building the new dining facilities, and soon thereafter re-applied to the Dana Foundation for another grant - this time specifying that the new facilities would be an addition to the present dining area rather than a separate building. The request was evaluated by the foundation and again - partly because of Bates' energy consciousness - a grant was awarded. This grant had stipulations, however, that stated that \$150,000 would be



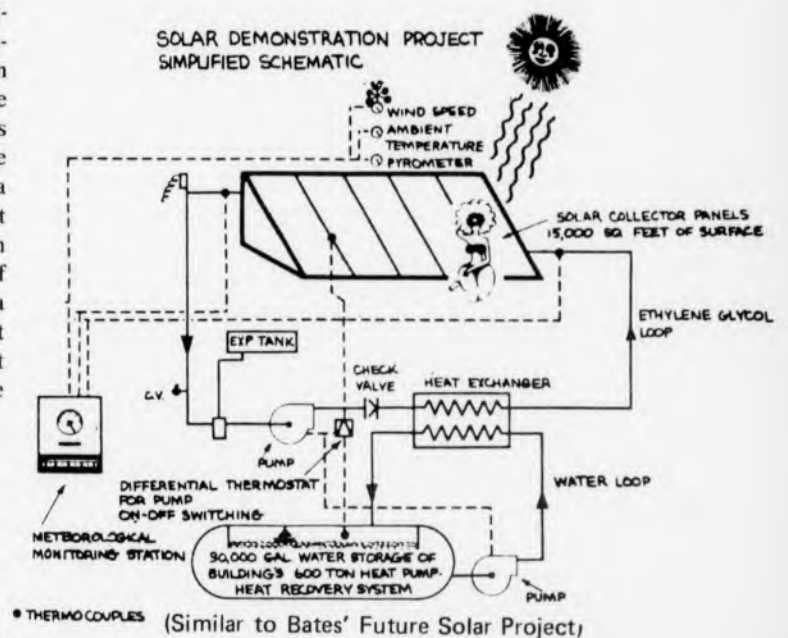
fully on February 14th.

The construction of this addition (by the Salter Corporation) symbolizes a positive step forward by Bates in the field of energy conservation. Bates subscribes to the philosophy that mankind must become more energy conscious; therefore, The Architects Collaborative in their initial plans for a new dining hall to be located at the base of Mount David called for solar energy panels to be installed to provide

pensive to operate, and less efficient in serving students' needs, for the building would not house its own kitchen), the grant money was returned to the Dana Foundation by President Reynolds. The College reevaluated its needs and ability to fulfill those needs, and decided that the best way in which to do so would be to build an addition onto Chase Hall. This decision made, the College realized the need for some sort of financial assistance

awarded to Bates College for construction of new dining facilities if Bates could raise twice that amount. The Alumni accepted the challenge and by June, 1977 had raised more than \$300,000 of the 3/4 million dollars the addition cost.

The College has now applied to the Energy Research Developmental Authority (now the Department of Energy) for a federal grant to offset the cost of installation. *Continued on Page 4*



## CHASE HALL TO HAVE NEW SOLAR SYSTEM

As Bates College prepares to enter the solar age, explanation should be made concerning the system of heating to be employed in Chase Hall. A careful study was carried out by Reardon and Turner, solar engineers, and it was determined that the most efficient system would be similar to the one shown above. In this type of system, Solaron collectors are placed on the south side of the roof over the Commons extension and across the sloped roof that runs along the east side of the addition. These collectors will be "highly efficient" in their capacity to collect heat from the sun. This hot air will then be drawn down to a 1000 gallon hot water tank located in the basement where the energy will be stored. This solarly-heated water will then be pumped to a "Heat exchanger" which will take the heat from the water and convert it to heat for the building's needs.

This is, very basically, the way in which the system will operate; however, it is by now means a

definitive explanation. The engineers are still in the process of finalizing plans, establishing the most efficient system for this particular building in this particular location. They must take into consideration the amount of sunlight that enters the building, the times of the day at which the warmest rays focus on the specific points of the collector locations, and the amount of time during each part of the day that the sun appears, along with other considerations. When the final plans are submitted, the "Student" will inform you more specifically concerning the details of operation.

One final note of interest is the intention on the part of the College to install, eventually, a "solar information center" in the area of the teletype and world map. This center will show at any given time how much energy is being used by Chase Hall and what percentage of that demand is being met by the solar heating system.

## Alumni Response Makes Chase Addition Possible

The new Chase Hall addition has become a reality partly as the result of an unprecedented response from Bates alumni. With \$300,000 their goal, 46 percent of the alumni joined forces and brought the final figure for the 1977 Annual Fund

to \$302,669. Theoretically, if a College is able to elicit contributions from 30 percent of its alumni, it is in good standing. One can see, therefore, that Bates alumni do take a very active interest in contributing to their alma mater.

According to Mr. Randall Webber 1936, Alumni Secretary, in recent years the degree of participation on the part of the alumni has increased tremendously to a recent average of a percentage in the low forties. This year, one can only presume that

an even greater number of alumni were interested in donating to the College with the knowledge in mind of exactly what funds were needed for - the new Chase hall addition. Ordinarily, contributions from the alumni are

placed in a general pool to provide money for unforeseen expenses.

Appreciation should be extended to all who donated to Bates so that we might enjoy more pleasant surroundings.



# Chase Hall History

In December, 1917, the Board of Trustees voted to proceed with plans for a Bates Union building on the corner of Campus Avenue and Bardwell Street, indicating that ground would be broken in the Spring. On the first floor, the building would have a large hallway directly connected with a large lounging room, the idea being that the two could be used together as an auditorium seating about five hundred people. In the lounge would be a huge fireplace. Also on the first floor, plans called for two rooms for the Athletic Association - one general office and private one for the treasurer of the Association - similar office space for the Y.M.C.A., a game room, a room for reading and writing, and a post office. On the second floor there would be a music room and a small hall which would seat approximately one hundred and fifty. The basement would be the recreation area complete with bowling alleys, pool and billiard rooms, a lounging room with a fireplace, and the College barber shop.

many alterations were made. New steps were constructed at the Campus Avenue entrance; a new floor was laid in the main ballroom on the first floor. (the floor was built in two layers using oak and cost more than \$1,000); and a phonograph, radio, newspapers, and magazines were placed in the basement lounges. A few months later, in March, 1933, the men were dissatisfied with the poor lighting and the noise in the basement and wanted the original reading and writing rooms in the east end of the first floor reopened. They had been closed when the new floor was laid in the main room. Other changes that occurred in the next few years included the permanent macadam drive that was laid to the Bardwell Street entrance, the complete refinishing (including plaster and paint) of the main room and offices in 1934, and the painting, lowering of lights, and rearrangement of furniture on the lower floor of Chase. In September of 1936, the former "Y" room was remodelled into a lounge complete with: expensive rugs, eight

ings and box oak beams, capable of seating the entire male population on campus, two smaller dining rooms, a serving room, and a dishwashing room. Both the Den and the Bookstore were co-ed. Total cost for this addition was \$305,000 and its dedication was held on November 4, 1950, being dedicated to the Bates men who died in World Wars I and II.

The next few years showed many changing uses of rooms. In January, 1951 the Lane Room was completed, named for Mr. George Lane, Jr. who, for many years, served the College as Secretary to the Board of Trustees and Treasurer. Later, in the Fall of 1953, the room formerly used for ping-pong and billiards was made into a room for use by off-campus men. The conversion of the old debating room to a faculty lounge was the next change, taking place in November of 1954. In June, 1955, a name alteration was made when the Trustees renamed a second-floor lounge the "Skelton Lounge" in honor of William B. Skelton, class of '92 who had been a Bates



Early Chase Lounge interior



Chase Hall before first addition, circa 1925 (looking from where library now stands)

In April, 1918, as hoped, work began. The plans for the building were somewhat changed, however. Instead of using the first floor lounge and hallway as an auditorium, it was decided that an auditorium wing would be added on at a later date. Also changed were the plans for the second floor. Rather than construct a small hall and a music room, rooms for visiting alumni were to be built.

Although the Hall was first used in September, 1919, it was not entirely finished until later that Fall. On December 16, 1919 the completed building was officially dedicated as Chase Hall (Men's Union) with the unveiling of a memorial tablet and a portrait of the late President Chase, for whom it was named, above the fireplace in the large first-floor assembly room. The building, when finished, also contained the College Bookstore and Alumni Offices. Made possible by gifts from unknown benefactors, the building cost approximately \$100,000.

Chase Hall remained unchanged until December, 1932 when, over Christmas recess,

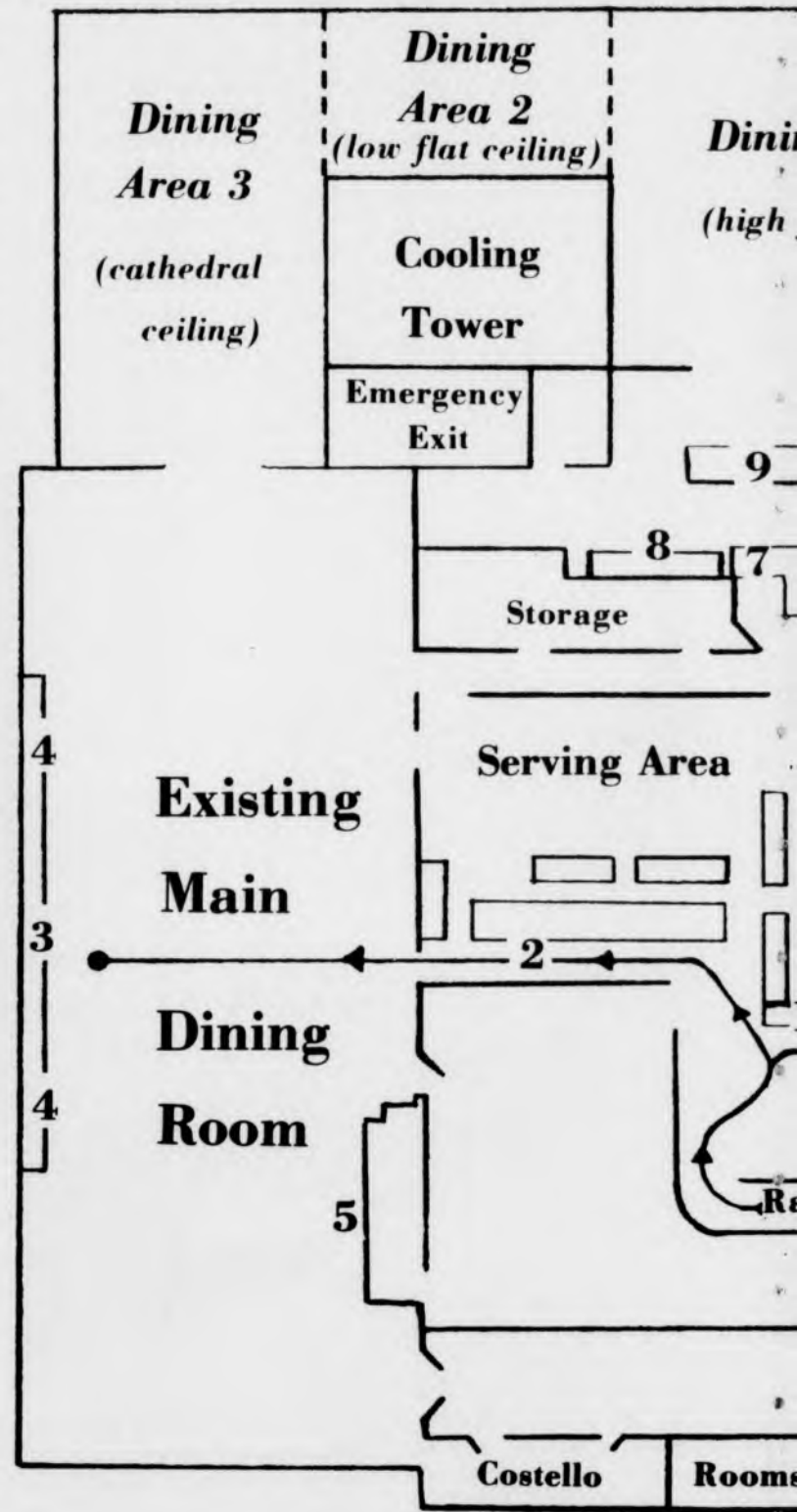
comfortable garnet-colored leather chairs, finely finished tables, smoking stands, richly colored draperies, beautiful lamps, and other accessories. This redecoration made the lounge an asset to the College.

As the Men's Union became more important to student life, and began accommodating more varied activities, one of the activities that found a new home in Chase Hall was the Bates radio station. Previously, it had been forced to operate out of a downtown Lewiston commercial radio station, but with the changing use of rooms in 1941, the broadcasting could be done right from the Bates campus.

In June, 1949, construction began on a Memorial Commons for Men, and addition to the north end of Chase Hall. By September of 1950, the Commons and the rest of the new building was opened for use. The two-story addition included: on the first floor, a snack bar (named the Bobcat Den), the College Bookstore, storage facilities, the kitchen, and the pastry room; and on the second floor a large dining room with high soundproof ceil-

ings and box oak beams, capable of seating the entire male population on campus, two smaller dining rooms, a serving room, and a dishwashing room. Both the Den and the Bookstore were co-ed. Total cost for this addition was \$305,000 and its dedication was held on November 4, 1950, being dedicated to the Bates men who died in World Wars I and II.

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Original Chase Hall with College St. trolley tracks in foreground





## Addition adds New Character



Upstairs room furnished for visiting Alumni

For those of you who are curious as to the truth about the new dining facilities, the "Student" interviewed Mr. Bernard Carpenter, Treasurer and Vice President of Business Affairs at Bates College. Mr. Carpenter dispelled all rumors and described for us what it is that we will all see when the new space opens on February 14th. First of all, the new space provides one with the feeling of three distinct "rooms" even though it is really one spacious room. This effect is gained in several ways: 1) the different textures of the walls; 2) the different types of ceilings; 3) the various sized spaces, and; 4) the new table arrangement. Each space has its own very distinct character which, hopefully, will provide enough variety of atmosphere to allow everyone to find a dining situation which he finds pleasing.

tem. When the library was built, the system did not fit into the design; therefore, it was decided that it would be installed on the back of Chase Hall and operate from there. At the time, there was no thought of building an addition onto Chase Hall; however, as it turned out, the tower provides a natural brick wall for one side of the new room and is aesthetically quite pleasing.

When one moves into the third area, a marked change is seen. When looking from the low flat ceiling of the second space to the cathedral ceiling of the third, one notices a definite contrast. This space is the one at the end of the present Commons and, like the latter, it has a beautiful cathedral ceiling which is proportionately lower due to the smaller dimensions of the space. This room is bright, being walled on two sides by windows with those on one

needed for regular meals; therefore, they will be free to be blueslipped by anyone for anything from faculty-student lunches to dinner for a group of friends who would like to merely eat dinner together in privacy. Obviously, priorities will be set in blueslipping policy; however, as of this date, nothing definite has been decided.

Perhaps, one rumor should be dispelled at this point. Gaining in popularity has been the idea that the new dining rooms would be available for parties and the like. This is not true. In order for the College to comply with certain codes and regulations imposed upon it by the State, the new facilities must be relegated only to food service. The rumor began as a result of the initial plans for a dining hall without its own kitchen facilities. In that instance, when food would not be prepared



Dining Hall nears completion in early winter

In the first space, the largest of the three (the one entered by continuing out line #2), the ceiling is high and flat, the walls varied. More clearly, some of them are covered with an off-white vinyl fabric; a part of the room is brick (the original outside walls have been cleaned and treated and now serve as inside walls); and a third wall is windows. this space is large and airy and furnished with the oak tables and chairs for four that are present in all of the new sections.

Moving into the second space (toward the tennis courts), one finds a much smaller area with very low ceilings, one wall of brick and one of windows. The space here is more cozy than airy. Looking up, one will notice that the tile in the ceiling of this part is only temporary, the reason being that a mechanical air circulation system which will eventually be placed in the ceiling here has not yet arrived. One also may wonder what the large brick protrusion is that forms the inside wall of this space. It is the cooling tower for the library's air conditioning sys-

side extending to the floor. On a third side, it is connected to the old Commons by an archway made by cutting down from the large window at the end of the room. This archway provides free access to either room, but provides a type of wall also so that the Commons space does not take on massive proportions.

With the opening of these three major spaces, there will be in addition three small, carpeted rooms at the Campus Ave. end of the addition. These three rooms are fully carpeted (one in green, one in orange, and one in beige) and are also furnished with four-person tables. Of the three rooms, one seats approximately twenty, and the other two both seat approximately twenty-four each. Along with the two Rowe Rooms and the two Costello Rooms, this new space will be used solely for blueslipped activities. Hopefully, the space will allow for several mealtime functions that have previously been stymied. Since there will no longer be an overcrowding problem, the rooms should not be

on the premises, when cooks would not need to be in the building and have it spotlessly clean by four a.m., the rooms could be used for other purposes. However, under the real circumstances, the rooms will not be multi-purposed.

The immediate result of this added space for dining is a less crowded atmosphere. Tables will be removed from the main dining hall along with the removal of the salad bar from the center of the room. These changes, along with the new rooms and the possible purchase of tray carts on which students who are in a hurry could place their trays when the conveyor is holding them up will create, all in all, a more relaxed atmosphere - one which is more conducive to enjoying a meal instead of just eating it. No longer will people be forced to stand holding their trays in the middle of a crowded, noisy room searching for a place to sit, for 850 people will be able to be accommodated at one time. These are marked improvements which should be noticed immediately.





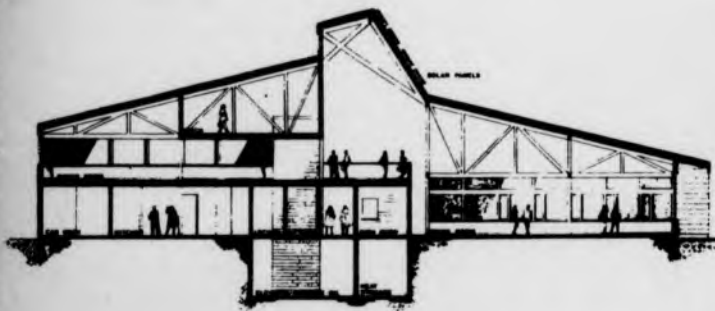


(Artist's conception of Dining Hall at Base of Mt. David)

The original dining hall site on Rand Field was the scene of much controversy. Even though plans were completely drawn up (including a ramp out to Mount David for indoor/outdoor parties) the construction never began. Because of complaints from neighboring residents, the Lewiston Zoning Board rejected the sight.

The College proposed to the Planning Board in June that an institutional zone be created for its property. President of the College Thomas Hedley Reynolds commented at the time that Bates building needs require complicated planning which would be hampered by having to go to the Zoning Board of Appeals for each individual project.

In its hearing held in September, 1976 the Lewiston Board of Mayor and Alderman voted 4-3 to create an institutional zone to include a large portion of the College's property.



(Interior of planned Dining Hall)

In October, 1976, after waiting thirty days for a recently granted institutional zone to become law, it was learned from Vice President for Business Affairs, Bernard Carpenter, that a new dining facility would be constructed between Adams and Page Halls at the far end of Lake Andrews.

The new facility would not have replaced the present commons but only supplemented it, relieving the crowding problem.

Construction of the new facility was to have started in the spring. Carpenter expected that the facility would be open for service early in the winter semester of 1978.

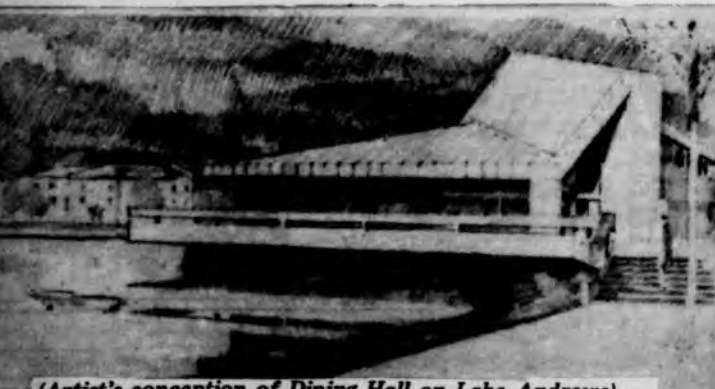
No firm price tag was placed on the project, but the Vice President estimated it at \$700,000. The bill for the new dining hall was to be paid with money already raised by the college.

The building was planned to be constructed of brick and approximately 100 feet square. The side facing away from Lake Andrews was designed to be two stories high, tapering down to one story high for the area which was to be partially extended over the Lake.

The dining hall was designed by TAC, the same company that engineered the recently constructed Bates Library. Included in the design was a solar energy unit, to have been housed in a portion of the roof.

A complete kitchen was not to be included in the new hall, but instead food would have been transported from the present kitchen facilities in the commons. A special truck was designed to be used for this purpose to link with an air tight seal on the door to the kitchen of the new facility.

The announcement of a sight for this building came in the wake of summer long negotiations.



(Artist's conception of Dining Hall on Lake Andrews)

Soil tests were conducted on the puddle site in the early spring, at which time it was determined that the area could not support the building without considerable added cost.



(Dining Area 3 ready to open)

The "Student"  
congratulates:

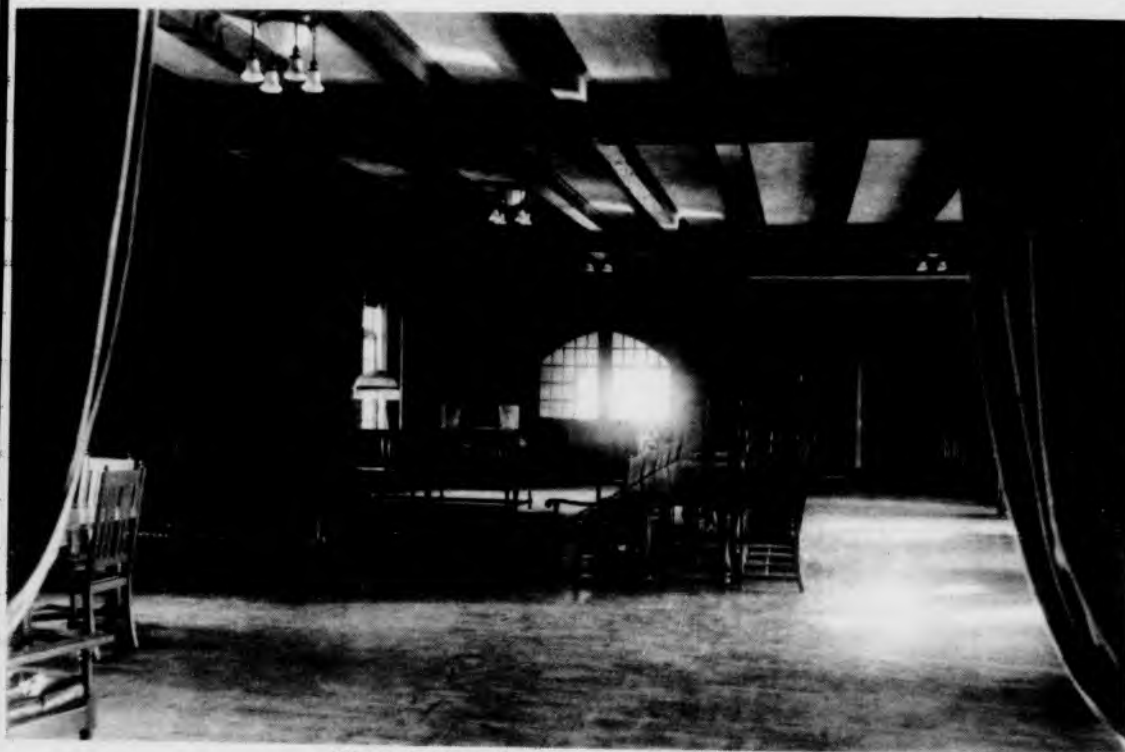
The Architects Collaborative

Reardon and Turner,  
solar engineers

Sousa True, Engineer

The Salter Corporation

and all others whose hard  
work made this  
improvement possible.



(Chase Lounge (looking toward the north end))

Cont. from 1

tion of solar heating panels. This department is accepting applications from all over the country and will decide who is worthy of federal monies based on the degree of energy conservation consciousness as well as other factors involved. A decision will be made sometime in March whether or not Bates College will receive any funds from this source. However, whether or not this grant is awarded, sometime this Spring work will be started on installing a solar heating system in Chase Hall. Sousa True, a solar heating engineer, has been working closely with the architects in anticipation of the installation. As soon as the College knows the results of their bid for the federal grant, installation will begin regardless of these results and, according to plans, will take approximately three months to complete. With the solar heating system for Chase Hall, Bates will take a big step ahead of many other New England colleges, hopefully one that will warrant solar heating to be installed in all new facilities.

#### PHOTO CREDITS

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## THE STUDENT

ROBERT COHEN

Editor - In - Chief

NANCY AREY

Special edition Co-ordinator

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