

University of Illinois Assembly Hall

DEDICATION CEREMONY

Honors Day, Friday, May 3, 1963

Many organizations, agencies, and individuals have contributed to the realization of the Assembly Hall since the Board of Trustees first considered building a structure of this kind. The University of Illinois acknowledges with deep gratitude the contributions of all those who have had responsibilities for its planning and construction and for formulating the policies governing its many uses. Special recognition is indeed due the architects, Harrison and Abramovitz, New York, and the general contractor, Felmley-Dickerson Company, Urbana, Illinois.

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Past Trustees who also were involved in planning the Assembly Hall include William G. Stratton, former Governor of Illinois; Vernon L. Nickell and George T. Wilkins, former Superintendents of Public Instruction; Cushman B. Bissell, Richard A. Harewood, Wirt Herrick, Mrs. Doris S. Holt, Park Livingston, and Herbert B. Megran.

Assembly Hall Dedication Ceremony

THEODORE PETERSON, Presiding

Executive Chairman of the Committee on the Dedication of the Assembly Hall and
Dean of the College of Journalism and Communications

PROCESSIONAL

Homage March *Richard Wagner*

THE UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

MARK H. HINDSLEY

Director of University of Illinois Bands

GUY M. DUKER, Conducting

Assistant to the Director of University of Illinois Bands

INVOCATION

THE REVEREND JAMES R. HINE

Pastor of the McKinley Memorial United Presbyterian Church and Director of
McKinley Foundation, Champaign

REMARKS

HOWARD W. CLEMENT

President of the Board of Trustees

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Governor of the State of Illinois

DAVID DODDS HENRY

President of the University

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

A Walt Whitman Overture *Norman Lloyd*

THE UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

The annual Honors Day Convocation will follow immediately after the musical interlude.

The University of Illinois Assembly Hall—unique in concept, design, and function—has attracted international attention since its construction began. We may now mark the large contributions which this impressive facility will make to the intellectual, cultural, and recreational aspects of campus life.

As a meeting place, convention hall, exhibit gallery, and center for music, theatrical, and athletic events, the Assembly Hall opens a wide, new range of activities and programs for student participation on a scale heretofore impossible because of space limitations. The enlargement of the student body at Champaign-Urbana, now over 24,000, and growing, makes the availability of such programs an educational necessity, a vital part of student experience.

The Assembly Hall reflects, also, the effort of the University to increase resources for capital improvements. Revenue bonds which were issued to construct the Assembly Hall will be repaid from student fees and from income from building operations. At a time when state tax funds are not available to meet all of the University's needs, the revenue bond plan accelerates the availability of some important facilities which could be procured in no other way.

During this opening season, the Assembly Hall brings to fulfillment the efforts of many men to construct here one of the most significant buildings in the nation. In architectural expression, its design, engineering, and construction by many talents have been pooled to achieve an expression of the spirit and enterprise of the contemporary university.

No one yet can predict the limits of the usefulness of this building. The results will transcend our greatest expectations. Thus, we look at this Hall with pride in a great achievement which will serve thousands of students and citizens of Illinois for generations to come.

David D. Henry

David D. Henry, President