A BRIEF HISTORY OF HOWARTH HALL

The corner stone for Howarth Hall was laid on graduation day, June 10, 1924. The building was completed in 1927. The Trustees borrowed the money in order to complete the building. The delay between 1924 and 1927 was the fact that there was difficulty in financing the construction. They finished the first floor and put a roof on it. For many months it was on the campus with the first floor being used but the three story building was not completed.

The building was named in honor of Mr. Leonard Howarth, who was a founder and officer in the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company. He was also a founder of the Everett Pulp and Paper Company. Mr. Howarth was a crippled man who never married. In his will he left one-hundred-fifty-thousand dollars to be used for the benefit of the City of Tacoma. There was considerable pressure of many organizations to secure the money for their special programs. I have had a good many people tell me in my years in Tacoma that they were very instrumental in having the one-hundred-fifty-thousand dollars come to the University of Puget Sound. In talking with Dr. Todd, he told me that one of the interesting things he discovered was that the City Council was not the Trustee of the fund but the real Trustee was a brother, William Howarth. William Howarth apparently analyzed the various presentations made to him and decided the money could be best used if it were to come to the College of Puget Sound. One of the interesting things required of the College of Puget Sound was
that the exercise books of Richard Thomas Howarth be kept on display in the building. There was a special case built for them and the books are kept on display always. From time to time the pages are turned so that the light will not deteriorate them. The original cost of the building was $166,300.26. However, with the changes that were made and the equipment, the final cost was $380,000 when it was finished. It is one-hundred-fifty feet by sixty feet and is three stories high. It originally had teaching stations for six-hundred-seventy students and housed the Physics Department, Chemistry Department, Geology Department, Biology Department, and Home Economics. There was also an area in the bottom story which housed the cafeteria and the lunchroom for the students in the earlier days of the history of the new campus.

With the coming of the new science building, a careful evaluation was made by the faculty and administration and it was decided that Howarth Hall should be made into the School of Education. The faculty of the School of Education, together with some of their majors, carefully analyzed how the space should be used. It was completely renovated from top to bottom. The renovation cost in the neighborhood of six-hundred-thousand dollars. It was an ideal location for the School of Education. For many years it housed the heating plant for the University until the new heating plant was built beyond the field house.