

AN ERA

low.

And, as the value of space increased, the value of the two-floor-high amphitheatre could no longer be taken for granted. Space won out. Where there was only one, there *could* be two. It was decided to dissect.

The operation is almost over now, and according to the blueprints it will certainly be called a successful one.

The result of the operation, when completed, will be two new areas. On the first floor level there will be a new lecture hall, and directly underneath on the ground floor will be the

new home of Medical Art and Illustration and a pediatric hematology laboratory.

It is the new lecture hall, however, with which this article is concerned; for the new hall will be a twentieth-century edition of its elder, the amphitheatre.

The new lecture hall will have many features to enhance the atmosphere of learning. There will be 196 upholstered seats placed on a carpeted floor. A stage will have a projection screen flanked by sliding chalk boards. When a backdrop is desired, a motorized curtain will slide quickly and quietly across the stage, hiding both the screen and the chalk boards. An acoustically tiled ceiling will feature not only speakers for projection of sound, but also several television monitors.

Special lighting will also be a feature of the new hall. With one turn of a dial control, the hall can be illuminated by either direct lighting, minimum lighting, or indirect lighting. With minimum lighting, even when the hall is darkened for a film, students can take notes and late arrivals will not have to grope to find seats. The stage area will be lighted with ultraviolet lights, enabling lecturers who diagram on the chalk boards with fluorescent chalk to refer to the diagrams when the lights are dimmed or out.

At the back of the new lecture hall there will be a visual aids booth which will be the television control center. From this point, televised pictures can originate from three different cameras interconnected with the audiovisual control in the Central Television Facility

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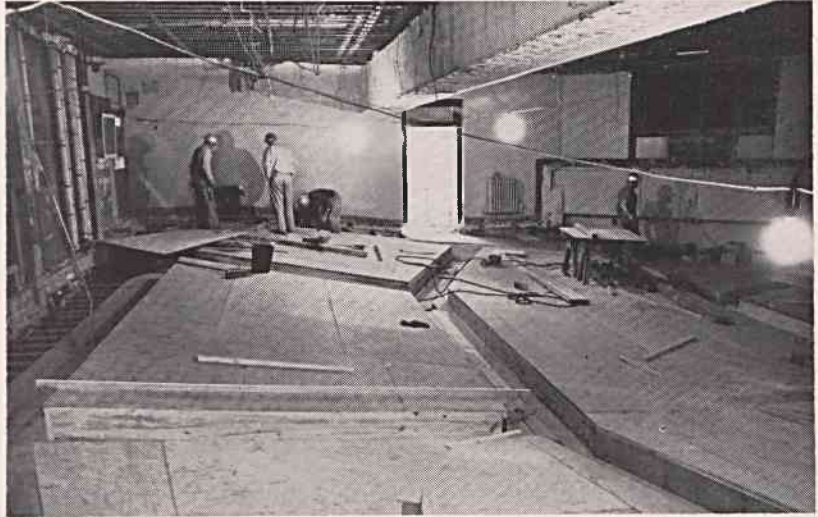


Photo by Sparks

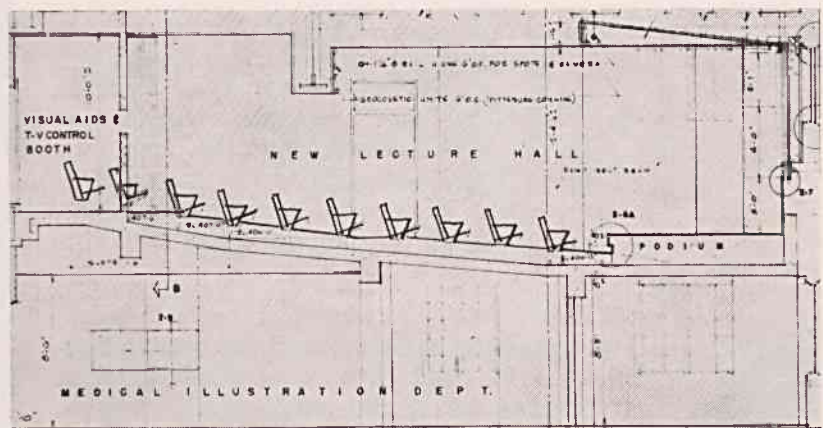
on the fourth floor of Davison Building. This means that students in room 2031 can see on a television set in that room what is taking place in the new lecture hall. There will also be a remotely controlled slide projector in the visual aids booth, which can be set up prior to a lecture and operated from the stage by the lecturer during his presentation.

Oh yes, it's all an improvement. It's all for progress and carpeting and because of televi-

sion and is to offer bigger and better advantages.

Ladies can now high-heel their way down a gentle slope. Professors can remotely control their slides. Maids and janitors can vacuum instead of sweep. Students can sit in comfort and learn in style.

But, considering it all, the amphitheatre will be missed. And historically something has happened to the medical center, for with the demise of the amphitheatre an era ended.



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