

He died in 1994.

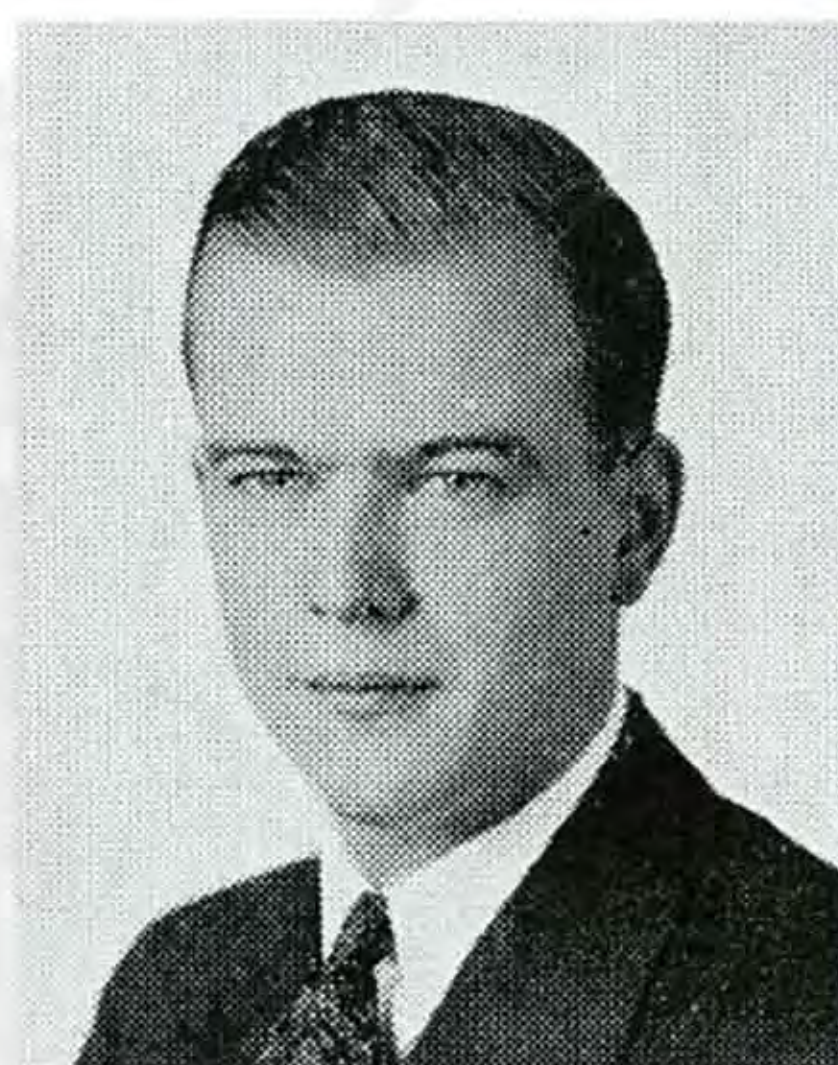
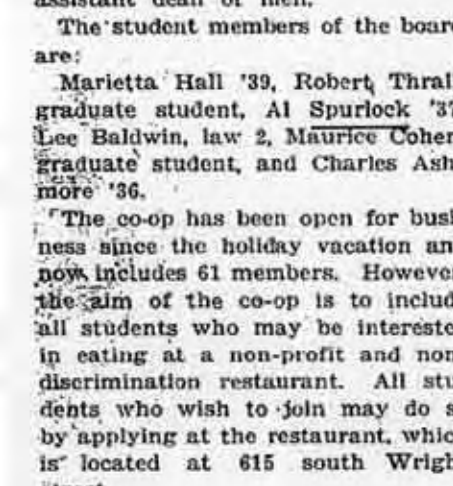


Fraternity members and their friends get ready to ride in a Ford Roadster parked outside of the Kappa Alpha Psi house, ca. 1936

Daily Illini, Jan. 11, 1936.

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Like in 1935 Spurluck joined a group of students and faculty members in a plan to organize a restaurant open to everyone regardless of race. A contemporary survey found that African-American students had to walk over a mile from campus to find a restaurant that would serve them (with the notable exception of the Home Economics Cafeteria in the Woman's (English) Building, which, however, only served lunch). The cooperative restaurant slid into debt and closed its doors in the fall of 1936. A decade later this discrimination by campus-area restaurants toward African-Americans as a result of a picketing campaign waged by a multiracial group of students and community members

George Fell in the 1938 *Illio*[illegible]

Course registration at the Library, 1938, and letter, Fell to "Mama and Everybody," September 16, 1934, describing the "pretty bad" registration process. In 1955 student registration was moved from the Library to the Army. In 1995 the course registration process went online.



Group photo of M.I.D.A. (from 1938 *Illio*). During the Depression era the influence of Greek organizations waned (between 1930 and 1934, 26 campus fraternities disbanded for financial reasons), and independent students filled the resulting social vacuum, taking an increasing part in athletics, dramatics, student publications, and student government. The Men's Independent District Association was a product of this trend: the group published its own newspaper, held dances, and even established a dating bureau.



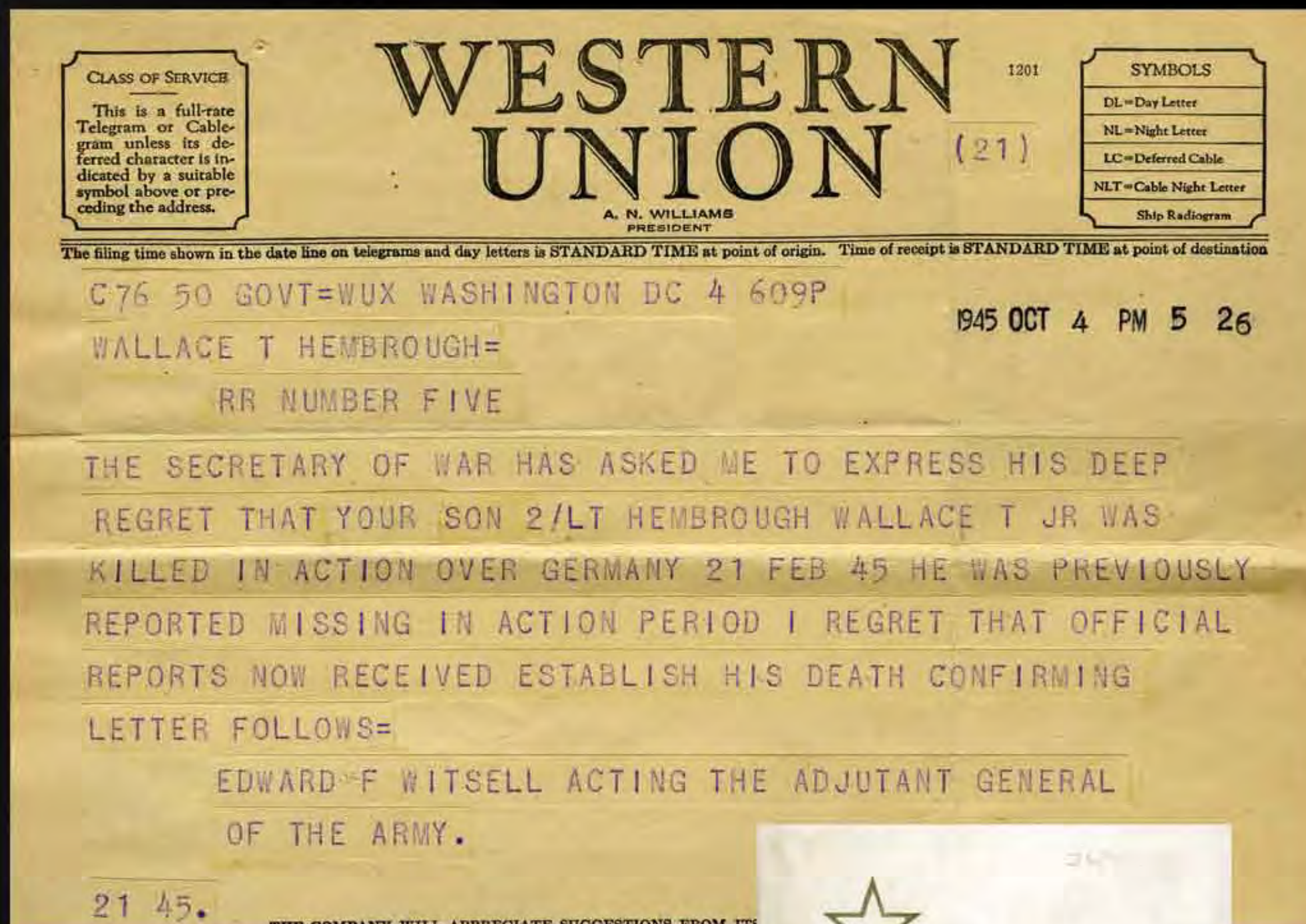
Construction of Men's Residence Hall, 1941. The M.I.D.A. lobbied for the construction of a residence hall for men. Sustained by this independent group, University officials braved the wrath of boardinghouse operators and fraternities and oversaw the building of the first men's dorm on campus since the days of "the Elephant" sixty years before. (The Women's Residence Hall was opened in 1919.)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ARCHIVES

A black and white portrait of a man in a military uniform. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. He has short, dark hair. The uniform is a light-colored, possibly olive drab, with a high collar and a tie. There are several medals and ribbons on his left chest. The background is a plain, light color.



Page from *Shack*, San Angelo (Texas) Army Air
Field yearbook, 1944



Telegram reporting the death of Hembrough, Oct. 4, 1945. Hembrough was originally reported as missing in action, and his death wasn't confirmed until after the war had ended.



Wallace Hembrough, Jr., 1939-42, withdrew from the University in his senior year when he was called to active duty in the Air Force. After receiving training at various air bases in Texas, the Jacksonville (Illinois) native graduated as a bombardier-navigator with a rank of second lieutenant in July 1944. In October 1944 he went overseas and was stationed in Scotland, England, and finally France as a member of the 9th Air Force, 585 Bomb Squadron, 394 Bomb Group. During a mission on February 21, 1945, he was killed when his B-26 bomber was shot down over northwestern Germany near Munster. The Purple Heart was awarded to him posthumously.

Millicent Sloboda Lane, 1940-44, the first woman editor-in-chief of the *Daily Illini*, used the student newspaper to champion the cause of the military trainees and veterans on campus during the war years. A native of Argo, "Milcy," as she was popularly known, had the complete respect of her mostly female *DI* staff. "Anyone will work for Sloboda and work hard," an associate remarked. "Milcy has spent six semesters doing big tasks and dirty little jobs with a thoroughness and drive that leaves no doubt of her efficiency and ability." After leaving the University, Lane worked for the Associated Press, the Globe Wire Service, the East Lansing *Town Courier*, and the Lansing *State Journal*. She married newspaperman Roger Lane and they had two daughters.



Millicent Sloboda
Lane in 1877. Millicent

Helstad, R. C.
President

July 25, 1945

President A. C. Wilard
300 Administration Building
Dear President Wilard:-

Following my conference with you yesterday morning, I talked to Miss Millicent Sloboda, Editor of the Illinois Independent. She stated that she had the front page of the thirtieth, July 20, 1945.

Miss Sloboda stated that to date the Illinois had received three large letters complaining about the conference being conducted by civilians by the army students and that at least a half dozen more were being written and would be sent out. She stated that the letters had been tossed in the wastebasket immediately. She stated also that a good many rumors about unsatisfactory allegations, most of them of rather obscure origin and incomplete details, had been floating about the University. She stated that she had further than that quite a number of A.S.U. and I.S.U. men had been talking to her about the conference and that a great much of the talk came from the soldiers themselves. She stated that she had been talking to the Editor of the Illinois Independent in the Union where a man, who is apparently a faculty member, had been talking to her about the conference and that some of their uniforms were very offensive to her and that she had been talking to the Editor of the Illinois Independent about the conference and that she had been talking to the Editor of the Illinois Independent about the conference and that she had been talking to the Editor of the Illinois Independent about the conference.

Miss Sloboda said that her editorial was intended to be the first editorial in the Illinois Independent and that she had no further letters to the editors would be printed, and that she had no further letters to the editors would be printed, and that she had no further letters to the editors would be printed. She expressed regret that the editorial was unsatisfactory and said that she had no further letters to the editors would be printed to try to clear what seemed to be a troublesome situation.

I talked to Mr. Elsieb yesterday afternoon about the editorial and he said that any rumors that he may have heard in general, he confirmed Miss Sloboda's statements that there was no further letters to the editors would be printed and that he would talk and tell practically all of it of the rumors and gossip type.



Students and servicemen lounging in front of the Illini Union, ca. 1944. During the latter years of World War II, women students outnumbered men at the University for the first time ever. In 1943-44 there were 3,429 women out of a total of 5,824 students. These figures, however, did not take into account the thousands of Army and Navy men who were taking specialized training courses on campus.



Members of the Women's Auxiliary Training Corps drilling, ca. 1943. For the first time in UI history, women students received military training during World War II. Under the voluntary WATC program, women drilled without weapons and received instruction in such subjects as military customs and courtesy, sanitation and first aid, and map reading. Lane was a member of the WATC.

Abstract

LET'S FACE FACTS...

Daily Illini editorial, July 22, 1943, and letter, Fred Turner to A. C. Willard, July 23, 1943. Relations between civilian students and servicemen were not always smooth. In July 1943 Lane published a rare front page editorial defending the soldiers on campus against "malicious rumors and slander." The editorial attracted the notice of Dean of Students Fred Turner, who then arranged a meeting with Lane. In this letter to UI President Arthur Willard, Turner described what was said at this meeting