and equipment not normally available on the farms within the districts. During the year, Soil Conservation Service demonstration work on privately owned land was continued and expanded. Operations were started on 18 new projects, and 59 demonstration projects were placed on a maintenance basis. At the close of the year, regular operations were being carried forward in 55 demonstration areas. In 111 other areas, erosion control measures were being maintained for continued demonstrations.

These projects, together with the erosion control work areas adjacent to Civilian Conservation Corps camps under technical direction of the Soil Conservation Service, comprised approximately 11½ million acres of privately owned land, and involved the cooperation of over 61,000 farmers and ranchers. Under terms of the cooperative agreements between the farmers and the service, more than 850,000 acres of land originally in cultivation will be converted eventually to uses less conducive to erosion. By the end of the year, 490,000 acres in the demonstration areas had been retired from cultivation and were being developed as permanent pasture, meadow or woodland.

Another development was the extensive spread of erosion control practices from service demonstration areas to outlying farms. Such soil-defence measures as strip cropping, contour tillage and winter cover cropping were adopted on a far wider scale than in any previous year. Land protection by terracing gained support in virtually every state. The service continued to direct an extensive erosion-control and land management program on four large western watershed projects where nearly 80 per cent. of the land is in public ownership. Efforts to reestablish the range cover in these areas were continued. During the year, conservation nurseries furnished 145 million trees and shrubs, mainly for use in demonstration areas; although some were supplied to Federal and state agencies cooperating in erosion control. Over two million pounds of field-crop and grass seed were furnished to cooperating farmers and agencies.

The service continued its program of basic research. By the close of the year, sixteen experiment stations were developing and testing principles and measures for combatting wind and water erosion. A new experimental watershed project was established near Hastings, Nebr., and work was continued at two similar projects near Coshocton, Ohio, and Waco, Texas. At these three watershed research projects, rainfall and stream flow over relatively large areas are being studied in relation to soil erosion and flood control.

EXPANSION OF FACILITIES AT THE WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

THE trustees of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute have recently authorized a $1,000,000 building program. However, expansion of the facilities at the college does not mean any increase in the restricted enrolment. The freshman class each year is limited to 180 students.

The first building to be erected will be a student activity center to cost $350,000, including a library and auditorium with a seating capacity of 975. Funds have been given the college as a memorial to a man prominent in the early development of the institute and his name will be given to the building at the time of its dedication. It will be erected on the west campus adjacent to Sanford Riley Hall, the freshman dormitory. Ground will be broken before commencement and the building should be completed by June, 1940.

The program also embraces an addition to Salisbury laboratories, now in construction, and remodeling of the old building, at a cost of $100,000; erection and equipment of a mechanical engineering building, $400,000; refitting the old mechanical engineering laboratories for the civil engineering department, $65,000; erection of a footbridge connecting the east and west campus, relocation of the tennis courts, development of a quadrangle on the west campus and remodeling of Boynton Hall for the use of the department of mathematics and construction of a faculty lounge, $85,000.

Plans for the mechanical engineering laboratory are being prepared and it is expected construction will be started within a year. Erection of this building has been made possible by bequests in the wills of Willard L. Ames, of New York, who was graduated in 1882, and Moses B. Kaven, of Worcester, who received his degree in 1885. Trustees and alumni propose to obtain additional funds for endowment and equipment. It is expected that the entire program will be completed by the opening of the fall semester in 1942.

LABORATORIES OF THE DELAMAR INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

THE new laboratories and classrooms of the DeLamar Institute of Public Health of Columbia University will occupy the top three floors of the seven-story city health and teaching center nearing completion at the Presbyterian-Columbia Medical Center, 168th Street and Broadway. The building has been erected through an agreement by the Presbyterian Hospital, the trustees of Columbia University and the Department of Health of the City of New York. Its facilities will enable medical students at Columbia to receive practical training in public health similar to that which they receive in medicine. The laboratories and courses will also be open to physicians, dentists, nurses and graduate students. The plan has been worked out under the general direction of Dr.