

# TU's Technical College Planned For Scott Park

## University Official Testifies During Hearing To Give School State Status

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS, July 1—The University of Toledo is planning to build its new community and technical college in Scott Park, the Ohio House Finance Committee was told here yesterday.

The committee is considering a bill that would enable the municipal university to become a state university.

In response to a question about what assets TU could turn over to the state, Willard Smith, TU vice president and treasurer, mentioned the 155-acre park "where we plan to build a new community and technical college with our bond issue money."

The Ohio Board of Regents has earmarked \$6 million for the TU project in a capital improvements bill now before the committee.

### No Formal Decision

After the meeting, Mr. Smith said that TU directors have not formally decided on the Scott Park site yet, but it is the likeliest prospect. He noted Mayor Potter has suggested a downtown spot in an urban renewal project. Another possibility would be on the main campus should the new Toledo State Medical College not be put there, Mr. Smith added.

He estimated that about one-third of the park would be needed for the new college buildings. The remainder, he said would be enhanced as a recreational facility by parking spaces and other assets added by the university.

The doors would be opened by the fall of 1968. Meanwhile, the community college will continue to function in existing buildings on the main campus.

### Senate Passes Bill

The TU bill, along with a nearly identical bill to confer state status on the municipal Akron University, passed the Senate unanimously two weeks ago.

The House committee is giving the measures much closer scrutiny than they received in Senate Committee.

Mr. Smith also told the committee:

► State status would result in lower tuition and enable TU to more effectively serve non-Toledo students, now detoured to Bowling Green state University and other state universities because their tuition is lower.

► Other assets that would be turned over to the state include the 200-acre main campus, a relatively meager endowment fund of less than \$1 million, and grants and scholarships worth some \$300,000 to students in the last academic year.

While both Mr. Smith and Sen. Frank King (D., Toledo), a sponsor of the bill, told the committee they know of no opposition to state status for TU, an Akron spokesman said opinion there is not so unanimous.

Rep. William Nye (D., Summit Count), said some of his constituents fear legal complications over transfer of municipal property to the state, lack of guarantees against state conversion to

something other than a four-year university, possibility of a speaker's rule such as exists at Ohio State University, and conversion of the university's tax levy to municipal purposes.

The Akron levy is written into the city charter in similar fashion to the 2-mill, TU levy.

Mr. Smith said afterward these fears are groundless as far as TU is concerned.

#### Fate Of Levy

Fate of the levy, he said, would be a subject of negotiations between TU directors and the regents. The agreement would have to be ratified by City Council and the Toledo voters before state status is achieved July 1, 1967. Target date for an election is probably next May or thereafter, Mr. Smith said.

In any event, he said, the levy could not be converted to municipal purposes without voter approval.

Rep. Charles Kurfess (R., Wood County), indicated he is dissatisfied because the Legislature will not be required to ratify any agreement reached by the regents and TU.

Rep. Robert Reckman (R., Hamilton County), questioned a requirement that five of the nine members of the governing board of the state universities be residents of Lucas County, in the case of Toledo

and Summit County, in the case of Akron.

#### Student Expense

Replying to a question from Mr. Kurfess at a further hearing today, Dr. John Millett, chancellor of the board of regents, said that the student expense in the operations of the municipal universities is not much different from that in the state colleges.

He estimated that with state status, beginning with the 1967-68 fiscal year, the net increase in state subsidies would be about \$2.5 million annually for Akron and \$2.7 million for TU. Both institutions now receive subsidies for freshmen and sophomores.

Another committee member, Rep. Thomas Thomas (D., Summit), suggested that the names of the two municipal institutions, which would be continued as now under the bills, be changed to reflect their becoming state universities.

Dr. Millett opposed this. He said that keeping the present names would assist continuity, acknowledge the tremendous municipal contributions in building the universities, and be in keeping with the variety of names in other state colleges.

The TU and Akron bills were referred to a subcommittee for further consideration and will be discussed again by the full committee next Wednesday.