MOREHEAD, Ky., Dec 5.—From its humble beginning as a normal school for training of elementary teachers, Morehead State College has reached maturity under the guidance of its seventh president, Dr. Adron Doran. The college, halfway between Lexington and Ashland on a half-mile campus of 300 acres, is growing rapidly and is lending a cultural atmosphere to the town of Morehead, the Rowan County seat.

Before the establishment of the college in 1922, the town was little more than a village trying to live down its frontier past. Now, like the college of which it is so proud, Morehead is drawing itself up with new business houses and gracious homes. All that can be traced to the college influence.

In an attempt to keep pace with the increase of its student body, the college is undergoing an expansion program.

Two new buildings already are under way; plans for four others in the drawing-board stage. Because the campus itself is becoming crowded, efforts are being made to expand it through acquisition of additional acreage along U.S. 60.

A row of duplex apartment buildings is under construction part way up the ridge behind the main campus, to provide living quarters for faculty members. What was formerly a narrow trail through that area is being made into a paved street.

In the planning stage are another dormitory for men, still another for women students, a classroom building and a structure to house the Maintenance Department.

This expansion of the physical properties of the college has been the vision of Dr. Doran since he assumed the presidency in 1934. During that time he has seen the construction on the campus of the Doran Student House, named in his honor, and a fieldhouse. The Student House is just across the boulevard from the president's home. The fieldhouse, with a seating capacity of 5,000, was completed in 1938.

The political background of the college is indicated by some of the names of its 19 buildings, excluding the housing center.

For instance, there is Allie Young Hall, a dormitory for women, built in 1938. It was named for the late Judge Allie W. Young, who, as a member of the State Senate, used his influence to get the college established in his home town. At that time the Legislature was considering Pikeville as a likely site for one of the two planned normal schools. The other normal school authorized by the Legislature in 1922 became Murray State College, located in the home town of another political warhorse, the late State Senator Raining Wells.

There's Fields Hall, named for the wife of Governor William James Fields, the Breathitt Training School, named for the late Robert J. Breckinridge, then State superintendent of public instruction, and the library named in honor of the late John Odell, once a United States senator from Kentucky.

The campus history predates the Legislative Act of 1922. Before that date there was a church-supported normal school on the present college grounds. It was a small institution with a few scattered frame buildings.

And the first president of what is now Morehead State College was the late Frank C. Baten, a dedicated little man whose mother had been head of the missionary normal school. The college auditorium now bears his name.

Although primarily an institution for the training of teachers, with most of its students representing the Big Sandy, Licking and Kentucky River valleys, Morehead offers degrees of bachelor of arts, bachelor of science and master of arts in education. It also offers 23 agricultural courses for future vocational agriculture teachers and farm agents.

Morehead State College is affiliated with the School of Professional Nursing of the Memorial Hospital Association at Harlan. The college facilities are utilized for the preclinical phase of the program.

Lured Elsewhere

Morehead graduates are respected elementary and high school teachers throughout Eastern Kentucky as well as in other sections of the state.

Many of the best-qualified teachers, according to Dr. Doran, are lured to other states by offers of salaries higher than those Kentucky pays. Teacher recruiters, especially those from Ohio and Florida, bend over backwards to offer as they march out of the auditorium carrying their brand new diplomas.