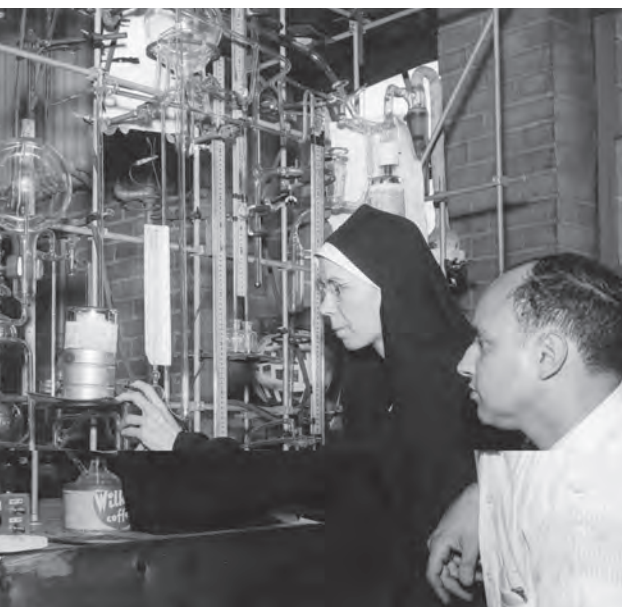


## FROM THE VAULT

University Archives



## MALONEY HALL'S BEGINNINGS

It seems appropriate that the former chemical laboratory bearing Martin Maloney's name will now serve as the home for the Busch School of Business, since Maloney himself was a prominent businessman. Both an industrialist and a philanthropist, Maloney was known as the authority on the process of gas production by the time he was 33. He had a hand in developing many gas and light companies in Philadelphia.

A devout Catholic, Maloney was also known to be very generous. After donating \$120,000 for Maloney Hall's construction on Catholic University's campus, Maloney said he hoped his gift would "help our Catholic young men and women rise to the level of the great opportunities, which our nation offers them."

"May it always hold an honored place among those American schools of scientific thought and life which are the pride of our citizens and the hope of all durable economic and social progress," said Maloney during the building's dedication ceremony on Nov. 15, 1917.

The importance and opportunity presented by a brand new chemical laboratory opening in the midst of World War I was not lost on anyone. James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, spoke at the dedication.

"There are now being pressed into the service of the country, the physicist, the engineer, the naval architect, and the sailor of the air," he said. "But no one has contributed more to the progress of the past and no one will contribute more to the progress of the future, than the student of chemistry."

Almost immediately this statement was put to the test, and Maloney Hall, at the request of the United States government, was turned over to the U.S. Army and found itself at the forefront of chemical research during the war.

Afterward, Maloney Hall continued to serve as an academic building. The building's defining feature was its impressive auditorium which served as a large lecture hall for chemistry classes. The auditorium was built in 1920, three years after the building opened, funded by an additional \$100,000 donation from Maloney.

— L.S.

Photos courtesy of The American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives