

CHAPTER I

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Early Development

The financial support of higher education in general during the early years of development cannot be identified separately from that of the church and religious orders. Scholars would get together at a designated meeting place, even on the street at times, to discuss topics of scholastic importance. In the early part of the Middle Ages, the monasteries became meeting places. Eventually the discussions were grouped under four heads: philosophy, medicine, theology, and law, and it was with this division of learning and the establishment of academies as meeting places for scholars that our present day higher education had its origin. The more formal beginning, however, was with the establishment of the University of Bologna in 1158, which later became famous for its courses in law. Universities had existed before this date, but Bologna was the first to which a university charter was granted. To Frederick Barbarossa is due the distinction of being the first person to establish a university in a formal way. He not only granted a charter to the University of Bologna but bestowed his protection upon it and conceded privileges to it as well.¹

The Spread of the University Idea

During the next five hundred years similar institutions spread throughout Europe and the British Isles, and it is from this beginning that the present university and college institution has developed. They were at first known as academies and in Germany a type known as "manual labor institutes" developed for the training of teachers. The idea of the "manual labor institute" spread to the United States as late as 1825-1840 and was the nucleus of some of the institutions of higher learning which are still in existence in this country. Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, started in this way.²

Motives in Higher Education

At first education combined spiritual and secular training with the emphasis on the former. Hence religious orders were closely involved and practically the entire financial support came from the church. Little

¹ F. P. Graves—"Evolution of Our Universities", *School and Society*, Vol. 8, pp. 691-702.

² Paul Monroe—*History of Education*, p. 723.