

Annual Report
to
Board of Trustees



Agnes Scott College

Decatur, Georgia

May 28, 1931



BUTTRICK HALL—THROUGH NATURAL ARCHWAY

**THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

1930-1931

Board of Trustees,

Agnes Scott College.

I have the honor to submit to you my Annual Report as President of Agnes Scott College for the session 1930-1931, and I welcome the opportunity to lay before you the general condition of the college.

Development Campaign

The most absorbing matter since the last meeting of our Board has been the campaign for further development. A year ago we reported that three hundred thousand dollars more would be needed to complete our objective of a million and a half dollars. Although conditions were very bad indeed, as every one knows, we felt that it was imperative to make the effort to secure the needed subscriptions. While we did not limit the territory over which we would conduct our efforts, there was a concentrated appeal to the Atlanta area. We were fortunate in securing Mr. George Winship as General Chairman of the Campaign, and he proved to be most effective. The real general of the campaign, as well as one of the most active workers, was Mr. J. K. Orr, the Chairman of our Board, who has been a great leader in all previous drives. Under the leadership of Messrs. Orr and Winship there was organized a group of one hundred and twenty men and another of ninety women, exclusive of the campus organization.

The faculty and students, who opened our campaign in 1928 with subscriptions totaling about eighty thousand dollars, requested the privilege of initiating this final effort

with a campaign to increase their subscriptions to a total of one hundred thousand dollars. The Campus Campaign closed on October 17th, the same day on which the general city wide effort opened. We had a banquet in the Gymnasium in which the whole College community gathered with the general campaign workers and at this time the Faculty-Student pledges were announced. They had gone fifty per cent beyond their objective and brought the whole amount pledged by them to somewhat more than \$110,000.00.

It was not easy to secure pledges in the Atlanta area, but our teams held together remarkably well, and on the evening of October 27th we were able to show a total of \$1,468,000 toward our \$1,500,000 objective.

Since that time we have secured some \$15,000, but as we now check over the whole situation and allow for expenses and for absolutely certain shrinkage we estimate that it will take \$51,000 more really to enable us to say to the General Education Board with a clear conscience that we have met their requirements. We must make our final report to them on July 1st, and we are exceedingly anxious to get the balance of this money cleared up so as to keep our hundred per cent record with them for meeting their requirements on time.

Future Progress

Our Campaign has been beneficial from many stand-points besides the financial one. We have made friends through the publicity that was given, and the College work has been brought to the attention of people far and near.

It is more and more evident, however, that we will not be able to build a greater Agnes Scott by having an occasional campaign. It will be necessary for us to have better bases for our growth. There seem to be two principal sources to which we may look. One of these consists of the great

Foundations like the General Education Board, The Carnegie Corporation, The Rockefeller Foundation, The Rosenwald Fund, The Presser Foundation, The Juilliard Foundation and the like. Our location in Atlanta and the fine record which we have made in the past are in our favor as we approach such friends. The fact that this is the greatest center of Negro education in the world, and that our College can have some influence at least in working out race problems, is another factor in our favor.

The second and more important source of our development for the future must lie in our getting Agnes Scott into the wills of its friends. We will need to get an Agnes Scott clause as a sort of habitual thing in Atlanta and Southern wills. Even though the gift be nothing more than a picture or a set of books, it is worth while for the College to be **mentioned**. We need the help of our Trustees particularly in the development of this aspect of our program. If we ourselves are convinced as to the soundness of our achievement, and the worthwhile quality of our graduates, it will help us to win the support of others.

Buildings and Grounds

It would be hard to exaggerate about the tremendous impression which has been made on our friends and on the public in general by Buttrick Hall, our new Administration-Recitation Building. Its splendid appearance and its most unusual arrangements and equipment have been a delightful surprise to almost all campus visitors. The building was dedicated on December 5th, 1930, with representatives of nearly two hundred institutions in attendance. For the first time since Agnes Scott became a college, do we have room enough for all our classes and for adequate administrative work.

While Buttrick Hall is the supreme achievement of the college in a building way, costing from two to ten times as

much as our other major buildings, there have been quite a number of other developments on our campus since the last meeting of our Board of Trustees. One of the most important of these is the beautification of the campus. This includes quite a bit of landscape work, the putting in of a new driveway in front of Buttrick Hall, the laying out of walks all over the campus, the elimination of our previous light and telephone wires, the installation of a White Way System, the putting out of a great deal of shrubbery, and other allied developments. These various improvements have cost about forty-five thousand (\$45,000.00) dollars, but they are permanent and add almost as much in value as a new building in the general improvement of the campus.

The transformation of Main Building, or Agnes Scott Hall, as it is sometimes called, has perhaps made almost as great an impression on the students as the erection of our new building. The old class rooms and dingy offices have been transformed into most attractive parlors, and these have added tremendously to the social life and enjoyment on the campus. We have also put down a number of new floors and have erected two new entrances at the rear to correspond to the architecture of Buttrick Hall. While these changes have cost only about ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars, they have been splendid investments. Since this building is to be the social center of the campus and since it is being made into one of the most attractive halls, there have been several suggestions that we ought to name the building for Col. George W. Scott. It has never been given a definite name. Since it was the gift of Col. Scott and since he supervised personally its erection, and because it will always be our keystone, or main building, there is a good deal to be said in favor of its bearing the name of the Founder of the College.

Under the leadership of the Alumnae Association we are trying to develop a formal garden between Inman Hall and

the Alumnae House. This will be a very beautiful and interesting addition to our campus.

Finances

The report of the Treasurer which accompanies this statement will show the general developments of the past year. In common with all other educational institutions we have faced many difficulties. While our student enrollment is practically the same as last year, we have found it necessary to grant more scholarship and loan aid, and the proportion of our students who find difficulty with their finances has increased.

We are using the strictest economy in the operation of the college, and so far have not found it necessary to reduce salaries. Unless conditions do improve within the next year it does seem likely that we will be forced either to reduce salaries or to cut down the number of our staff. We are determined that the College shall not run into debt.

This has been a hard year from the standpoint of the keeping up of our investments. Mr. J. C. Tart, the Treasurer, has done an immense amount of work in checking week by week all the securities which we hold and in making recommendations as to changes that ought to be made. We do not believe that any list of any educational or even banking house will show fewer unfavorable developments among the securities than ours. Even at the present low prices, our whole list shows appreciation over the purchase prices.

Trustees

While we have had no regular meeting since last May, our Trustees, particularly the local ones, have been called on for a great deal of service. It is a genuine satisfaction

to have those associated with us who are so willing and prompt to co-operate.

The terms of the following Trustees expire at this meeting: J. K. Orr, C. M. Candler, F. M. Inman, Mrs. S. M. Inman, D. H. Ogden, Miss Mary Wallace Kirk, and Miss Nannette Hopkins. These have been helpful and effective throughout their connection with our Board. As Dr. D. H. Ogden, who represented the Synod of Alabama, has withdrawn from that State, he has presented his resignation.

Educational Progress

We regard this session as one of the most successful in our history from an educational standpoint. We have never had a Freshman Class which showed such a good combination of preparation, ability and industry. The proportion of failures in this class is the lowest we have ever had.

We are holding a larger per cent of our students for graduation than do most other institutions, and a larger percent than we ourselves formerly secured. Were it not for the financial pressure, it would be still easier to graduate a large percent of those who enter.

We have made very few changes in our faculty. The Bible Department has been strengthened by the coming of Dr. James Thornwell Gillespie who takes the place of Miss Margaret Engle, here for two years on temporary appointment. He has his A. B. degree from Davidson, his Master of Theology from The Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, and his Ph. D. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Miss Melissa A. Cilley, B. A. University of New Hampshire, M. A. University of Wisconsin, has been chosen Assistant Professor of Spanish to replace Miss Roberta Hollingsworth, who resigned.

Miss Marian Leatherman, A. B. Cornell University, B. L. S. University of Illinois, A. M. L. S. University of Michigan, has replaced Miss Lois Bolles, who resigned as Librarian.

Miss Katharine T. Omwake, who was away from the college for a year, has returned to continue her work in psychology and education.

Miss Frances Rainey, B. A. Agnes Scott College, M. A. Emory University, has been appointed temporarily to take the place of Miss Augusta Skeen, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, who resigned.

Our students may be classified under various headings, as follows:

Geographical Distribution

Alabama	32	Ohio	1
Arkansas	5	Oklahoma	2
California	1	Pennsylvania	6
District of Columbia.....	2	South Carolina.....	20
Florida	21	Tennessee	14
Georgia	234	Texas	3
Indiana	1	Virginia	18
Iowa	2	West Virginia.....	10
Kentucky	15	China	2
Louisiana	1	France	1
Maryland	1	Germany	1
Michigan	2	Japan	2
Mississippi	13	Korea	1
Missouri	4	Mexico	1
New York.....	1	Venezuela	1
North Carolina.....	37		
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			455

Resident Students	328
Non-Resident Students	127
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Total.....	455

Denominational Affiliation

Presbyterian	209
Methodist	98
Baptist	72
Episcopalian	37
Jewish	6
Lutheran	5
Congregational	3
Reformed	3
Protestant	2
Moravian	2
Catholic	2
Church of Christ.....	1
Christian Science.....	1
Seventh Day Adventist.....	1
Christian	2
None	2
Not Specified.....	7
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	455

Class Standing

Senior	78
Junior	84
Sophomore	119
Freshman	156
Irregular	1
Graduate	3
Unclassified	3
Specials	14
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	455

Religious Life

The ultimate test of the value of Agnes Scott, as viewed from the ideals of the founders, is the religious element. We have a mission in preparing young women to fill worthy places in life; we have a missionary program in raising the standards of education in the South; but we agree with the Founders that if our College does not make a vital contribution to the advancement of the Kingdom of God there is no need for the sacrifice and labor so many people are putting into Agnes Scott. We believe that the results fully justify all that has been invested here either in time, or life, or money. Our girls are going out nearly one hundred per cent active Christians, and the Alumnae are filling far more than our share (so far as numbers go) of the positions of religious leadership in the Southern Presbyterian Church and in other denominations also.

A week of special religious exercises was conducted in February by Rev. W. M. Anderson, D. D., of Dallas, Texas, and the spiritual life of the College seemed to be greatly revived as a result.

For the maintaining of the Christian life in our institution we earnestly ask for the interest and prayers of the Trustees.

Staff

No President has ever been blessed with a more faithful and effective staff of officers and teachers than we have at Agnes Scott. Miss Nannette Hopkins as Dean, Prof. S. G. Stukes as Registrar, Mr. R. B. Cunningham as Business Manager, and Mr. J. C. Tart as Treasurer, are due special mention, for they go far beyond what may be reasonably expected of such officers in advancing the interests of the College.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. McCAIN.