

Agnes Scott College

Decatur, Georgia

The President's Annual Report

To The

Board of Trustees



June 2, 1939

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

June 2, 1939.

The Board of Trustees,
Agnes Scott College.

I have the privilege of presenting herewith my annual report as President of the College. It is the sixteenth such report that I have presented. You will remember that we are closing the fiftieth session of the institution.

Trustee Losses

The current session is memorable because of the loss of two outstanding Trustees. These are: Mr. J. K. Orr, a member of the Board for thirty-four years and its Chairman for nearly twenty-four years; and Miss Nannette Hopkins, a member of the Board for eleven years and an outstanding officer of the College throughout its entire history. Resolutions of love and respect have already been adopted by the Board of Trustees; and some account of the services of these leaders has been given in "The Story of Agnes Scott College," which is a part of this Annual Report.

Attention has already been called to the fact that October 4th, 1938, Mr. George Winship was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He is the fifth such officer that Agnes Scott has had during its fifty years, and he is already proving himself a worthy successor of the remarkable group who have been leaders of the Board through a half century.

The terms of the following Trustees expire at this meeting: Mr. F. M. Inman, Mrs. S. M. Inman, Mr. W. J. Rush-ton, Mr. T. Guy Woolford, Mrs. George C. Walters. All of these have rendered fine service to the College, and their connection with the institution gives it valuable prestige and helps to win friends for us.

University Center Developments

The last twelve months have proved to be very interesting and important in the development of plans for a University Center. The following general agreement has been signed by Agnes Scott College, Columbia Theological Seminary, Emory University, Georgia School of Technology, High Museum of Art, and the University of Georgia.

Agreement

We, Agnes Scott College, Columbia Theological Seminary, Emory University, High Museum of Art, and the University of Georgia System (the University of Georgia and the Georgia School of Technology), wishing to cooperate more effectively toward the end of making a greater contribution to the educational development of Georgia and of the South, and, specifically, for the purpose of establishing a University Center in Georgia, agree upon the following points, subject to the laws of the State of Georgia and the regulations of the Board of Regents of Georgia and of the other authorities concerned.

1. It is understood that our principal efforts will be centered on the development of graduate work of a high order so that the Ph.D. degree may be offered under conditions of high efficiency. For this purpose, we realize that there may need to be exchange of students as well as of faculty.
2. We will seriously undertake to make available for one another as many of our resources and facilities as may be practicable—including an exchange of library books, laboratory equipment, faculty services, and the like.
3. In order that there may be a continuous study of admissions, curriculum problems, advanced standing, educational costs, and the needs of students, we hereby set up An Advisory Faculty Council, with representatives from each of the cooperating institutions, and with the responsibility of making suggestions and recommendations. However, it is clearly understood that such will not be binding on any institution.
4. An earnest effort will be made to avoid needless overlapping and duplication of effort and of expense. To this end, we agree to give careful study to the programs of study now in operation among our group, and to study our own offerings in the light of what our neighbors are attempting.
5. Realizing the need for a Joint Committee from the Boards of all the cooperating institutions to consider the broader aspects of joint undertakings, to promote the idea and spirit of cooperation, to bring the need for higher education before the

State and the South, to assist in raising funds for particular needs, and to distribute undesignated gifts, we agree to appoint representatives to such a joint committee. It is understood that this committee, which will have advisory powers only, may associate with itself other distinguished people not now officially connected with any of the co-operating institutions.

6. It is definitely understood that no attempt will be made to merge the institutions involved. Each is to maintain its identity; each will operate under its own regents or trustees or directors; and each will keep separate and distinct its own assets of every kind.

Mutually agreed to this 15th day of October, 1938.

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Of considerably more significance in the whole program and for Agnes Scott in particular is the agreement signed between our institution and Emory University. You will notice that it goes considerably more into details and particularly arranges for Emory to discontinue competition with us in the taking of women. The full agreement is as follows:

Agreement

This agreement, entered into on the date below named, between Agnes Scott College and Emory University, both institutions chartered under the laws of the State of Georgia, and located in DeKalb County, Georgia,

WITNESSETH, as follows:

I.

OBJECTIVES

It is intended that the joint efforts of the two contracting institutions shall accomplish some very definite results, namely:

1. The strengthening of the basic work at the undergraduate level in each institution.
2. Economy in operation through the elimination of duplicate courses and the combining of other courses with very small enrollments.
3. Economy through a general exchange of services between the institutions, including faculty and students.
4. The elimination of competition as far as possible.
5. Augmenting the facilities for graduate work at the higher level with a view to raising educational standards in the Southeast.
6. Improving the quality of work in the professional schools now operated by Emory University.
7. The combining, merging, or eliminating professional schools within the State so as to have only one medical school, one law school, and one engineering school.
8. Creating opportunities for professional training of a high order in fields where such is now not available, including business administration, social service, the fine arts, and possibly others.
9. A very distinct emphasis on quality in higher education and a joint effort to secure funds for the maintenance of quality work in the Southeast.

II.

SPECIFIC STEPS ALREADY TAKEN OR APPROVED:

1. The change of the Agnes Scott calendar to correspond to that of Emory.
2. The organization of the Agnes Scott work on the quarter basis so as to fit in with the Emory program.
3. The adoption of the Emory Summer School by Agnes Scott on an official basis, and the giving to it a unique status so that it is the only summer school of any institution whose credits Agnes Scott will accept at par, or count for "merit" grades.

4. Emory accepts the Agnes Scott student for summer work without a matriculation fee and for such programs as are arranged by the Agnes Scott faculty and committees. The reports are sent directly to Agnes Scott.
5. Both institutions have appointed a joint Faculty Committee on Summer School Work so as to consolidate and unify the programs, and to make possible fuller offerings for students.
6. Emory University is discontinuing the enrollment of women for undergraduate degrees, and all of these must matriculate at Agnes Scott College to be eligible for Emory courses.
7. The closest cooperation has been arranged by the library committees of the two institutions with particular reference to purchases, inter-institutional loans, joint catalogue plans, and free use by the students of either institution of the facilities of the other.
8. Both institutions will push as rapidly as possible the securing of a union catalogue for all the libraries in the Atlanta area.
9. The giving to Emory and Agnes Scott faculty members the same financial consideration for the education of their children that Emory now permits to its faculty, and an effort to work cooperatively, providing for both faculties hospital insurance and retiring facilities.
10. The appointment by both institutions of a joint Faculty-Student Committee on extra-curricular activities and student organizations. It is intended that there be inter-student privileges and opportunities on both campuses for such organizations as the Lecture Association, the Glee Club, the Dramatic Club, and others.
11. The continuance of joint sponsorship by Agnes Scott, Emory, and the Georgia School of Technology for the Institute of Citizenship, which for a long time Emory sponsored alone.
12. The assumption by Emory of the responsibility for developing a graduate school of a high order, capable of giving the Ph.D. degree on a sound

basis. It is understood that, while this responsibility is centered at Emory, Agnes Scott will use its resources as far as possible to make the development a success.

13. Agnes Scott accepts the responsibility for planning developments in the Fine Arts on an undergraduate basis on the Agnes Scott campus, with the understanding that Emory University students may share in the facilities provided; and the College further agrees to promote, when funds are available, a Fine Arts program which may include several institutions of the vicinity and which would be open to others besides the regular undergraduate students.
14. For allocation of emphasis on undergraduate subjects, it is tentatively agreed that Emory will give particular attention to Archaeology, Economics, Geology, Journalism, and Philosophy. Agnes Scott will give emphasis to Latin, Greek, French, Education, and the Fine Arts. It is understood that both institutions will undertake jointly the promotion of other departments not specifically named herein.
15. In undergraduate work, it is agreed that the objective will be to give the individual student the program most nearly conforming to his or her individual need (in accordance with sound educational policy), regardless of the institution in which the particular courses are offered.
16. Both institutions will encourage the work of the Joint Faculty Committee, with a view to the development of continuous cooperation within the departments as well as between the institutions in general.
17. Agnes Scott agrees to accept a division of 20% for itself and 80% for Emory in the case of gifts that are undesigned, provided the resulting efforts will make possible the very much desired graduate school of a high order.
18. Both institutions will seek to promote a hearty spirit of cooperation not only between themselves but also with the University of Georgia, Georgia School of Technology, Columbia Theological Seminary, and the High Museum of Art.

19. It is definitely understood that no attempt will be made to merge the two institutions. Each is to maintain its identity. Each will operate under its own Board of Trustees. Each will keep separate and distinct its assets of every kind and such affiliations as have hitherto been maintained.

In token of the acceptance of both institutions of the terms above outlined, the signatures of the presidents of the institutions are herewith attached, and the seals of the contracting parties are herewith affixed, this 15th day of October, 1938.

AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

President

EMORY UNIVERSITY

President

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It is to be noted that the educational program of the University Center idea is to be carried on by a Faculty Advisory Council. Dean S. G. Stukes and Professor Philip Davidson are the Agnes Scott representatives on this Council, and they have rendered notable service. Professor Davidson is the Secretary of the Council and he has had a greater opportunity than any other person connected with it in smoothing out difficulties and in unifying the programs of the various cooperating institutions.

The General Education Board have recently appropriated a special grant of \$22,500 to finance the Advisory Council for a period of three years. During this time, we believe that it will prove to be of great service and will advance greatly the cooperative idea in the South.

The agreements also provide for a Joint Committee of Trustees. We have been so occupied with the educational aspects of the development that we have not as yet had time to organize the Committee. Agnes Scott will probably be requested to have two representatives on it, and we hope very much that it will be organized and ready for active service by the opening of the next school year.

As we have previously notified the Board, our efforts to interest the General Education Board of New York in the

local development finally bore a happy fruitage. The Board offered Agnes Scott College \$500,000 and Emory University \$2,000,000, on condition that the two institutions raise, either jointly or severally, \$5,000,000 for the general purposes of the University Center. The money given by the General Education Board is to be used for endowment. The funds which we raise may be used for any of the objectives which have been outlined in our Semi-Centennial program. It is a very remarkable offer, and gives to the local institutions a great challenge. Since Emory is doing the expensive training in graduate and professional schools, it received the larger offer and will, therefore, be expected to take the lead in raising the additional funds; but Agnes Scott certainly expects to do its part.

The Agnes Scott financial objectives are the same which the Board of Trustees has approved for the last two years as our Semi-Centennial program. The principal items are as follows:

Fine Arts Building and Auditorium-----	\$ 150,000
New dormitory and dining room-----	200,000
New Science Hall-----	200,000
Modernizing present dormitories-----	100,000
Department of the Home (building and endowment) -----	150,000
College Infirmary-----	50,000
Additional land and improvements-----	90,000
Faculty apartments-----	50,000
Equipment and furniture-----	85,000
General Endowment-----	1,425,000
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Total	\$2,500,000

One of our most needed additions to the plant is the Auditorium with the addition of music facilities which are contemplated. The Presser Foundation of Philadelphia now seems ready to proceed with its contribution toward this purpose, and a form of contract between the College and the Foundation will be submitted for approval at this meeting of the Board. We hope very much that the other funds may be available so that we may begin this building in September and have it ready by the opening of College in 1940. It will be the initial step taken by Agnes Scott in the promotion of the Fine Arts as requested by the other institutions in the University Center development. Even when this building is erected, we will be able to promote the Fine Arts

only on an undergraduate basis. It will take considerably more endowment and a much larger teaching staff than we now have in prospect to do much inter-institutional promotion or to organize adult work in the Fine Arts.

One of our most urgent needs at Agnes Scott is the furnishing of better living quarters for our students. Very properly, through many years, we have placed the emphasis on good equipment for academic work and for educational purposes; but we cannot longer postpone improved living quarters. Patrons and prospective patrons who visit the College are unhesitating in their expressions of surprise that we have so long delayed the improvement.

We are very eager, indeed, to begin the erection of the new dormitory which is to be called Hopkins Hall, in memory of our beloved Dean, Miss Nannette Hopkins; and we have been hopeful that we might be able to begin this fall so as to have the building ready for occupancy in September of 1940, but the way does not yet seem clear. It will evidently be necessary for us to raise additional funds before we can proceed with this.

Our Science quarters are badly crowded, and the equipment for this part of our educational program is not up to the standard which we have set for other phases of our work. In 1934, you may remember that the General Education Board offered to allow us to use \$100,000 of the money they were furnishing for the erection of a Science building. Partly because the sum was not large enough to put up the building which we need and partly because operating funds for the additional expenses which were involved would not be available, we persuaded the Board to let us use the money for general endowment. We still have an implied obligation to the Board, as well as to our own interests, to secure this building as soon as possible.

As soon as the offer of the General Education Board was made public, our faculty and students became interested in taking the lead for raising such funds as Agnes Scott would need to provide. In February of this year, the campus campaign was organized under the general leadership of Professor Philip Davidson for the faculty and of Miss Amelia Nickels, President of Mortar Board, representing the students. An objective of \$40,000 was set for faculty and students, and the results of the ten-day campaign showed \$52,202. It was a very enthusiastic and impressive endorsement of the whole University Center and Agnes Scott's

Semi-Centennial objectives from the standpoint of those who are closest to the work and who are the most ardent believers in it.

We hope to be able to organize a general campaign to be put on early in 1940 which will undertake to secure the remainder of the money necessary. In all of the steps to be taken, it is necessary for Agnes Scott to work in close harmony with Emory. The joint campaign is much more difficult than one for our institution alone, but we believe it is going to work out successfully.

Semi-Centennial Celebration

As is explained in "The Story of Agnes Scott College," our official celebration of the developments of fifty years will be very simple. The home-coming plans for the alumnae are working out nicely, and we believe that there will be a record attendance on Saturday, June 3rd, at the luncheon which the Trustees give for the alumnae and senior class. The musical and dramatic features of the Commencement program promise to be the most interesting for several years and are all arranged without charge for our visitors.

During the session 1939-1940, we will have many important events and quite a number of prominent visitors on our campus. All details are being arranged by the very competent Semi-Centennial Committee which was appointed two years ago by the Board of Trustees.

We hope that our celebration may culminate at Commencement 1940, when we may lay the corner stone of the Fine Arts Building and Auditorium and possibly of Hopkins Hall. We hope by that time, also, we may be able to give some definite account of the progress of the campaign for meeting the offer of the General Education Board.

The 1938-1939 Session

The College year has been an active one from the standpoint of campus improvements. We have forty-one different buildings, and some of these are rather old, so that the general upkeep and maintenance are serious problems.

Most of our buildings are heated from a central steam plant. Some of our lines had become worn out and so last summer we expended \$12,000 in renovating and modernizing our entire heating system. We think we will secure some returns for the investment in lower fuel costs.

We bought ten new upright pianos for practice purposes, and find that this has added considerably to the satisfaction and efficiency of our Music department. Our cooking ranges for both dining rooms were too much worn for repairs, and we bought eight new gas ranges, which will be very satisfactory when we erect a new dining room and kitchen.

In accordance with instructions from the Board of Trustees last year, we have been making intensive investigations as to the best fire protection for our large dormitories. Through the years we have been anxious as to the safety of our students in case of serious fire in one of these buildings. At a recent meeting, the Committee on Buildings and Grounds authorized the installation of the Grinnell Sprinkler System in each of the three large dormitories. Work is in progress, and the installations will be completed by the opening of College in September. The total improvements above mentioned represent an expenditure of approximately \$35,000, but there will be some benefits in reduced insurance rates and in added efficiency for doing a thoroughly good job.

The current expenses have been under a considerable strain on account of the improvements already outlined and will be heavily taxed during the next session to complete the payments which will fall due in the autumn. Our students and patrons feel that there are a number of improvements which ought to be made, but we cannot go beyond the money that is actually in sight.

Mr. Tart, our Treasurer, has collected his accounts 100 percent again, and this fact contributes to the sound financing which we have followed. He is completing 25 years of hard work for the College.

Reverend John McSween, D.D., conducted the exercises of our religious week and was very helpful in his ministry both in the pulpit and in personal conferences. The religious life of the campus has been very satisfactory, though we have an increasing number of young women who are not professing Christians. It is rarely that a student leaves the College without an active membership in some church, but occasionally it does happen.

The indications are that we will have a capacity enrollment of boarding students for the session 1939-1940 and that the day student group will be quite satisfactory as to size and as to college preparation.

Faculty

During the current session, the faculty have kept up their remarkable record of loyalty and generosity. In the campus campaign, they subscribed more than \$20,000. The students were an entirely new group. Most of the faculty have been paying subscriptions to the College over a long period.

Considerable pressure is now being brought by members of Congress for including in the Social Security program all independent and church-related institutions, so as to provide for old age and unemployment on the part of all people connected with the colleges. The matter was first proposed a few years ago when I was President of the Association of American Colleges; and at that time the Executive Committee of the Association was unanimously opposed to any taxation from the United States Government, however alluring might be the benefits proposed. I still feel that it would be a great mistake for us to go into any Social Security program; but it does mean that we must take care of our own faculty and employees voluntarily because they deserve it, and because sooner or later there will be pressure for it. We have a committee of the faculty studying now the best plan for retiring employees, and we hope by the next meeting of the Board to have some proposal that will be the result of careful study.

The College was unfortunate enough to lose Miss Martha Stansfield by death last summer. She took her B.A. degree at Agnes Scott and returned almost immediately for service in the Latin and Greek department and had been an effective teacher and officer for several years. Her death came quite unexpectedly, and she is greatly missed by the entire College community.

Miss Mildred Mell, B.A., University of Wisconsin, M. A., University of Georgia, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, is a new Professor of Economics and Sociology, taking over the work which has been done for several years on a part-time basis by Dr. J. M. Wright and Dr. Arthur Raper. Miss Mell was formerly Principal of Lucy Cobb Institute in Athens and, more recently, Dean of Shorter College.

Miss Kathryn Glick, B.A., Franklin College, and M. A. and Ph.D., University of Chicago, is taking the place of the late Miss Martha Stansfield.

Miss Margaret Phythian, who has been studying in France for two years, having received a fellowship from the General Education Board, has completed her Doctor's degree and has returned to her position in the French department, which was filled last year by Miss Virginia Gray.

Miss Laura Colvin, who studied last year for her Master's degree at the University of Michigan on a scholarship from the Carnegie Corporation, has returned to her position as chief cataloguer for the Library. Miss Josephine Nunnally has resigned her position in the Library, and her place has been filled by Miss Evelyn Houck, a graduate of Alabama College and Emory University.

Miss Charlotte Hunter, B.A., Agnes Scott 1929, who has been recently teaching in Charlotte, North Carolina, is Assistant to the Dean, doing in part the work handled last year by Miss Alberta Palmour, but having the freshman class as her particular responsibility.

After long and faithful service, Mrs. Jennie D. Finnell and Mrs. Lena Davies have retired from service as the heads of the dining rooms. Miss Jessie Harriss has been placed in general charge of this work on the whole campus, being assisted by Miss Mildred McElreath and Mrs. J. W. Hartsook. Misses Harriss and McElreath are both graduates of Georgia State College for Women.

The housekeeping arrangements have been supervised for many years by Miss Emma Miller, who resigned this year, and the work is now supervised by Mrs. Annie Mae F. Smith, a graduate of Florida State College for Women. Mrs. Lena Davies is assisting her.

Miss Gladys Rogers, who has been Secretary for the President, resigned in order to be married, and her place has been filled by Miss Laura Mayes Steele, an honor graduate of Agnes Scott.

Other recent graduates of the College who have been brought back are: Miss Ann Worthy Johnson, to have charge of the College book store, and Miss Jeanne Matthews, an Assistant in Biology.

Heavy responsibilities for the operation of Agnes Scott always rest on Dean Stukes, Dean Scandrett, Business Manager Cunningham, and Treasurer Tart, all of whom are most efficient; and next year they will have heavier duties, as the President will be campaigning to meet the General Education Board offer.

Students

Last year, on a voluntary basis, the members of Mortar Board experimented with the faculty in taking comprehensive examinations. The results indicated that probably it would be unwise to require such examinations of all graduates; but we are continuing the experiment this year by requiring all who hope to graduate "with high honor" to take such examinations.

The various student organizations have been unusually cooperative and effective this year, particularly the Student Government Association, Christian Association, and Mortar Board.

Our students may be classified in various ways as follows:

Geographical Distribution

Alabama -----	32	New York -----	6
Arkansas -----	1	North Carolina -----	25
California -----	1	Ohio -----	3
Delaware -----	1	Oklahoma -----	1
Florida -----	27	Pennsylvania -----	3
Georgia -----	253	South Carolina -----	45
Illinois -----	1	Tennessee -----	26
Kentucky -----	11	Virginia -----	16
Louisiana -----	4	West Virginia -----	12
Maryland -----	1	China -----	5
Massachusetts -----	1	France -----	1
Mississippi -----	7	Brazil -----	1
Missouri -----	1		
New Jersey -----	5	Total -----	490

Class Enrollment

Seniors -----	94
Juniors -----	96
Sophomores -----	124
Freshmen -----	168
First Year Irregulars -----	1
Unclassified Students -----	1
Special Students -----	6
Total -----	490

Residence

Boarders -----	323
Day Students -----	167
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Total -----	490

Denominational Distribution

Presbyterian -----	184	Unitarian -----	2
Methodist -----	108	Christian Science ----	1
Baptist -----	78	Moravian -----	1
Episcopal -----	35	Lutheran -----	1
Jewish -----	20	United Brethren -----	1
Christian -----	13	Union Church of Manila	1
Roman Catholic -----	8	Reformed -----	1
Congregational -----	3	Non - Members -----	31
Church of Christ -----	2		<hr/>
		Total -----	490

Committees

Most of the work of the College is done by its officers under the direction of the various committees of the Board of Trustees. These committees will doubtless bring definite recommendations which may be a basis for discussion and final action in regard to most of the points above mentioned.

Respectfully submitted,



President.