

# Agnes Scott College

Decatur, Georgia

The President's Annual Report

to the

Board of Trustees



May 29, 1942

# GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

No. 86702

JAN 26 1942

NEW YORK

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Agnes Scott College -----

\$350,613.41

THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTEEN DOLLARS AND THIRTEEN CENTS

THE CHASE NATIONAL BANK 1-24 38

110 WALL STREET NEW YORK

111 FIFTH AVENUE MANHATTAN

TREASURER

ASSISTANT TREASURER

INCREASED ENDOWMENT FOR THE COLLEGE

This check represents the second payment from the General Education Board on the recent development campaign for Agnes Scott. It will be invested, and the income used to improve the educational program of the College.

## THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

May 29, 1942

Board of Trustees,  
Agnes Scott College.

I have the privilege of presenting herewith my nineteenth Annual Report as President of the College. We are closing our fifty-third year as an institution.

### University Center Developments

Through letters or informal reports you have already received general information about the financial campaign which Agnes Scott and Emory University brought to a close on December 31; but it seems wise to have the Annual Report summarize the important events of a session, and so I am taking the liberty of repeating some of the details at this time. It was in January, 1939, that the General Education Board of New York offered Agnes Scott \$500,000 and Emory \$2,000,000 if together we would secure \$5,000,000 additional for certain specified developments. As you will recall, we worked quietly for about a year while we were organizing groups of alumnae or alumni and preparing for leadership in our Atlanta and in national efforts.

It was two years ago this spring when the whole matter was brought to a focus by the Atlanta campaign, and we raised the largest sum of money locally that had ever been raised in any city in the South in any general campaign. However, we still needed at least \$700,000 more to complete our objectives for the specific purposes designated by the General Education Board. We had been allowed until July 1, 1942, to complete the securing of subscriptions; but the war clouds were gathering so rapidly that we felt it was absolutely necessary to close the campaign by December 31, 1941. Under great difficulties, particularly after Pearl Harbor, our program was persistently presented. We were not able to secure an average of more than one gift out of ten approaches, but during the closing days we received some very fine gifts and were able to complete the campaign.

When the final count was made, the results showed a total subscription of \$10,027,000. In addition to the \$2,500,000 pledged by the General Education Board, six other foundations contributed \$2,890,000. The sum of \$4,637,000 was subscribed by more than 7,000 individuals whose gifts ranged from ten cents to \$1,000,000.

One of the gifts which helped to make this showing was the presentation to Emory University of the Crawford Long Memorial Hospital, which was valued at approximately \$900,000; and another item included was an even larger sum contributed in cash for the development of this Crawford Long Hospital, while there were numerous smaller gifts for hospitalization or medical service. All these were fine gifts and are valuable to Emory and to the community, but they could not be counted in matching funds with the General Education Board. When all deductions had been made for such specialized contributions, we still had in the clear more than the required \$5,000,000 subscribed.

We have until June 30, 1944, for the payment of the pledges which have been given. Our collections have been quite good to date. We realize that they are going to be increasingly difficult as war economy develops, and we may have troublous times in securing the total funds from the General Education Board. They pay in proportion as we collect. It would certainly be a very splendid thing if we might make our collections in full by January 1, 1943, but I am afraid this may not be possible. We will certainly do our best. The Agnes Scott quota for this University Center effort was \$1,500,000. We barely got it subscribed because the large gifts in the campaign, even excluding hospitals and hospitalization, were principally for medical development or buildings; and it takes people of real understanding and vision to realize the values and needs of a quiet liberal arts program such as Agnes Scott develops.

### **Other Institutions Helped**

While this particular campaign was waged by Agnes Scott and Emory, the other institutions in our general University Center program have also received some substantial gifts during this period. Columbia Seminary has been given more than \$200,000. A bequest has been made for the Atlanta Art Association which ought to yield more than \$700,000. The University of Georgia has received through bequests and gifts perhaps \$800,000, and the Georgia School of Technology has received more than \$100,000.

The program of cooperation among the six institutions has been severely tested by economic changes, world difficulties, and political considerations in Georgia; but they have certainly gone forward in a very encouraging manner when all these interruptions are taken into account.

The University Center in this state has attracted wide and favorable attention throughout this country and Canada, and we have received hundreds of inquiries about it.

### Aid for Science Hall

One of the really *great* gifts of our entire Agnes Scott history came during the closing days of December and really "put us over" in raising the Agnes Scott quota. Humanly speaking, we could never have accomplished our part without this fine contribution. It was a check for \$200,000 which may be used toward our very much needed Science Hall. The thing which I appreciate most about the gift is that it came without seeking on our part, constituting one of the very rare experiences which I have had, because we have been rather persistent, some people think, in pressing the Agnes Scott cause.

The gift is anonymous, but it comes from real friends whom we value for what they are as well as for what they have done. The check for \$200,000 will provide approximately two-thirds of the cost of the Science Hall (which will include working quarters for the "Department of the Home"), and we are permitted to use any interest which may be earned on the fund to help in furnishing the building when it is completed. Plans for the building are well advanced, and we are hopeful that we may be able to have in hand sufficient funds to proceed at once with the construction, as soon as our government may clear the way for such activities. We would like very much to have this as a memorial building, and I believe the way may become clear in due time for this to be arranged. For a long time, competent visitors on our campus have said that this is our greatest single need.

### Hopkins Hall

One of our most important items in the semi-centennial objectives, and also in our University Center campaign, has been a new dormitory to be named for Miss Nannette Hopkins and which may represent particularly the affection and loyalty of the alumnae for both Miss Hopkins and the College. Under the very able leadership of Mrs. Sam Inman Cooper (Augusta Skeen), a campaign for \$100,000 toward the erection of this building has been vigorously prosecuted, and I am pleased to announce that it has been fully subscribed.

As plans for the building have been developed and as we have realized that it ought to be one of the most beautiful and

attractive of our rather notable group, we find that the cost will be approximately \$150,000, besides furnishings. I am sure our Board of Trustees would not wish to ask that the alumnae take on this additional sum, but we will welcome gifts which our "old girls" may choose to make and will be applying all of these toward Hopkins Hall and its equipment unless they are particularly designated for some other purpose.

Because we are putting up a more expensive building than was originally contemplated, it is going to be more important than ever that the alumnae subscriptions be paid in full so that we may have as small an amount as we can arrange for the supplementary sum.

### **Main Building**

At the last meeting of our Board of Trustees, permission was given for the administrative officers to proceed with the renovation of Main building. The Committee on Buildings and Grounds gave serious thought about the possibility of fire-proofing the building, but it seemed quite an expensive undertaking and one which would prevent our having the use of the dormitory for an entire session. Besides, building materials were already becoming scarce in the early part of last summer, and so it was decided to make the basement fire resistant as far as possible, and to depend on our automatic sprinkler system for general protection.

The building was renovated at a total cost of nearly \$75,000, including the furnishings. It has been the joy and pride of the students, who have talked about it more than even the addition of a new building like Presser Hall. The changes were really very considerable, and the cost was almost the same as when the building was originally erected.

All the plumbing and lighting installations were taken out and new equipment provided. Hardwood floors were laid on three levels, and concrete floors in the basement. An elevator was put in, and the entire building decorated. New offices were provided on two floors, and the bedroom furniture was provided on a new and up-to-date basis. We feel that it has been a very good investment.

It was intended that similar treatment might be given to Rebekah Scott Hall and Inman Hall, but we could never have gotten so many buildings completed, and so their renovation must wait until times become more normal.



## Current Funds

There has rarely been a time in my forty years of educational experience and administration when there have been anything like so many difficulties in making plans as now. As each Trustee from his own or her own experience is daily meeting with the conditions, there is no need to recount them in detail. For a large "family" like ours, we know that there will be complications in getting table supplies of a quality and variety to which we are accustomed. If the problems of a small family are multiplied many many times, you can realize something of what our administrative officers will face.

We have had more difficulty this session than during any other year in securing competent servants. In various phases of our work, we employ about seventy Negroes. Many of these have been offered twice as much as we pay for employment elsewhere, and we have not felt that we could justly ask that they stay with us; and we are quite sure that we will not be able to compete in prices with wages paid by many government activities.

The problems that grow out of rationing travel and tires and gasoline and other items can hardly be estimated just now. They may involve the attendance of both boarders and day students. At the present time, our enrollment prospects for next year are about as usual, though we have somewhat more applications for aid than during the past two years.

We are keeping in very close touch with all educational and government groups so as to protect ourselves and our patrons as fully as possible.

Mr. Tart has made another 100% collection record, and he and all the administrative officers share with the President the responsibilities that come, and they make a very wonderful group of cooperating friends.

## Agnes Scott's War Council

Even before Pearl Harbor, our entire college community had been organized under the leadership of a joint committee known as "the Agnes Scott War Council." Miss Scandrett, Dean of Students, is chairman of the Committee; and it is composed of both faculty and students.

With the hearty cooperation of all members of the community, including students, faculty, officers, and even servants, plans have been made to assist our country in every possible

way for the winning of the war. A great deal of study has been given to the background of the present struggle and the conflicting ideals which control the belligerents. Lectures and study classes have been well attended and have been a real educational factor on the campus.

Both faculty and students have enrolled in classes in First Aid, Advanced First Aid, Instructors' First Aid, Nutrition, Home Nursing, and the like. A large number of the faculty and officers and some students have qualified as Air Raid Wardens, taking the full program which has been outlined. Provisions for black-outs both in dormitories and in air raid shelters have been arranged, and every student on the campus has an assigned place in the basement of Presser or of the library where she is to go immediately on notification of any danger.

The sale of stamps and bonds has been promoted. Enrollment centers have been provided for the enlistment of volunteers for civilian defense, for rationing sugar and other articles, and for any other purposes which may be needed.

A large number of our students are cooperating with government agencies and will go into government service as soon as they graduate.

The contrast between present campus activities and organizations and those which prevailed during the first world war is very marked. The students and faculty at this time have gone far beyond anything that could be imagined twenty-five years ago.

### Trustees

The terms of the following Trustees expire at this meeting: Dr. J. Sprole Lyons, Miss Mary Wallace Kirk, Dr. D. P. McGeachy, Dr. R. O. Flinn, Mr. J. J. Scott, Dr. E. D. Brownlee, Mr. George W. Woodruff, and Mrs. Murdock Equen. All of these have rendered fine service to the College, not only during this year, but during their whole connection with the institution.

During the last month, it has been my privilege to study, in behalf of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, forty-two colleges or universities which rank quite well in the United States. I have given minute study to seven of these. One of the interesting points of my investigation has been the Board of Trustees for each institution involved. After the study, I came home with a great feeling of thanksgiving for our Trus-



tees, for what you represent in the communities where you live, and for the harmonious and cooperative associations which we have had together.

Under present world conditions, we need the advice and suggestions of all our Trustees. I hope you will feel free to make them individually or in committees or in groups.

### Faculty

In accordance with the resolutions passed at the last meeting of our Board, the officers of the College arranged with the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company to inaugurate a plan for building up retirement allowances. For this year, we felt able to include only teaching members of the staff and those who are major officers. We feel that all the employees of the College should be included, both white and black. In view of the fact that it seems practically certain that the United States government will apply social security rules to colleges like ours, we feel that it is best to wait for the present until we can ascertain what the requirements of the government may be.

In order that the training of teachers may be better carried on in this vicinity, the General Education Board has made a grant to Agnes Scott and to Emory on a two-year basis for the employment of Dr. L. D. Haskew as an Associate Professor of Education. He gives part time with us and part time to Emory. He took his B.A. at Emory and his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia.

On account of the expansion of our demands for Spanish, Mrs. Florene J. Dunstan, M.A. Southern Methodist University, Ph.D. University of Texas, has been employed as an instructor.

In view of the need for more work in music, Miss Nell Hemphill, B.A. Agnes Scott, with a certificate in Piano, was added to the staff. She was married this spring, and we were not able to fill her place for the remainder of the session.

Miss Narka Nelson, Assistant Professor of Latin and Greek, resigned, and her place has been supplied by Miss Susan Parker Cobbs, B.A. Randolph-Macon Woman's College, M.A. New York University, Ph.D. University of Chicago.

Miss Thelma Albright, instructor in English, was elected Dean of Queens College, and her place has been taken by

Miss Clara Morrison, B.A. Agnes Scott, M.A. Emory University.

On account of the continued absence of Dr. Robinson of the Mathematics department (who is with the army), we have had this year Miss Ann Vann, B.A. Salem College, M.A. Columbia University, as instructor in Mathematics.

On account of the resignation of Mrs. Mary W. Fox, Mrs. Margaret W. Davis, B.A. Agnes Scott, has served this year as an instructor in Chemistry.

We have found it desirable to bring in two of the Emory staff in the department of Business Administration, Messrs. J. L. Campbell and Lloyd Alkema, to give some courses in Statistics which the present emergency has made important both in Economics and in Mathematics.

Other new members of the staff include Misses Carolyn Hewitt and Caroline Dunbar, resident nurses; Louise Will, assistant dietitian; Beverly Coleman, assistant to the librarian; Elizabeth Kendrick, in the bookstore; Beryl Healy, fellow in Biology; Grace Walker, fellow in English; Mrs. Pearl H. Ashley, assistant housekeeper; and Mrs. L. A. Hunt, assistant to the dietitian.

The Agnes Scott faculty and staff give unstinted loyalty to the institution and are generous in giving time and strength to the College or to individual students.

Dean Stukes and Dean Scandrett should be particularly mentioned for their able leadership, not only on our campus, but in the broader fields of education.

### Students

The enrollment of students for the current session is somewhat larger than normal. A number of these have been taking music only, as has been true in all of the years when our total registration passed the 500 mark.

Our 520 students for this session may be classified in various ways as follows:

### Geographical Distribution

Alabama .....	12	Ohio .....	5
Arkansas .....	5	Pennsylvania .....	5
Delaware .....	1	South Carolina .....	42
District of Columbia.....	4	Tennessee .....	19
Florida .....	23	Texas .....	5
Georgia .....	321	Virginia .....	11
Illinois .....	1	West Virginia .....	7
Kentucky .....	3	Wisconsin .....	1
Louisiana .....	1	Brazil .....	1
Mississippi .....	8	China .....	4
Missouri .....	1	Cuba .....	1
New Jersey .....	2	France .....	1
New York .....	9		
North Carolina.....	27	Total.....	520

### Class Enrollment

Seniors .....	94
Juniors .....	81
Sophomores .....	134
Freshmen .....	158
Special students.....	17
Students taking music only.....	36
Total.....	520

### Residence

Boarders .....	296
Day students.....	224
Total.....	520

### Denominational Distribution

Presbyterian .....	177	Unitarian .....	2
Methodist .....	92	Christian Science.....	2
Baptist .....	72	Church of Christ.....	1
Episcopal .....	59	Greek Orthodox.....	1
Jewish .....	18	Lutheran .....	1
Catholic .....	18	Non-members .....	27
Christian .....	10		
Congregational .....	4	Total.....	484*

\*This total does not include the 36 music students.

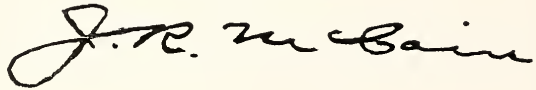
## Religious Life

We feel that there is no excuse for the existence of an institution like Agnes Scott unless it may have a real spiritual life. We are pleased at the attitude and development during the current session.

Under the leadership of Dr. William M. Elliott, Jr., who is a member of our own Board of Trustees, we had a week of special services. Both faculty and students feel that it was unusually helpful and fruitful. Without any pressure of any kind, four of our students made profession of faith and approximately 150 expressed a re-dedication of life and service.

We believe it is a time when all who are connected with Agnes Scott, whether as trustees, officers, faculty, students, alumnae, patrons, servants, or friends, ought to unite in prayer, individually and in groups, for these days in which we live.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. R. McBain". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered below the text "Respectfully submitted,".