

# Agnes Scott College

Decatur, Georgia

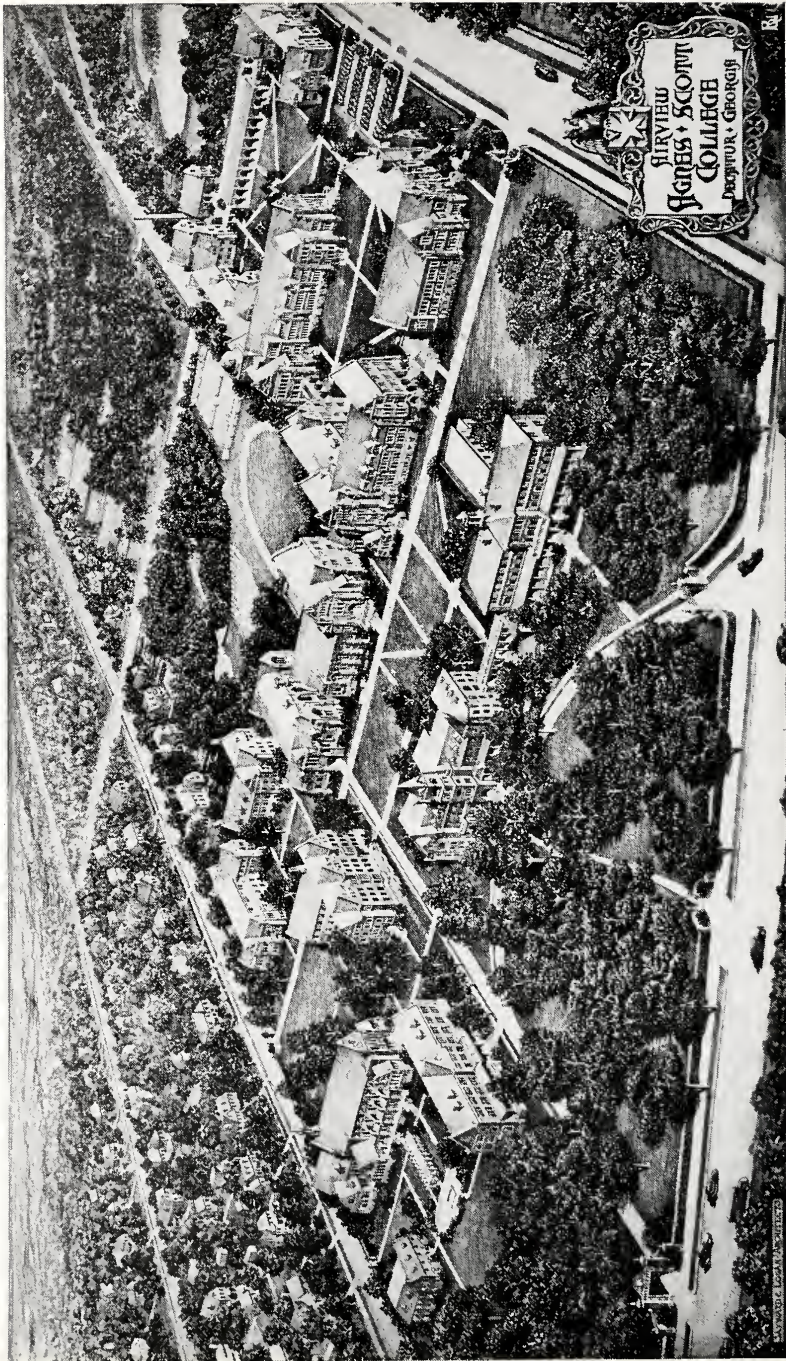
The President's Annual Report

to the

Board of Trustees



May 28, 1943



Development Plan for Agnes Scott College

About two-thirds completed from a cost standpoint. We hope to begin two more buildings as soon as the emergency is over.

## THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

May 28, 1943.

Board of Trustees,

Agnes Scott College:

I have the privilege of presenting herewith my twentieth Annual Report as President of the College. We are closing our fifty-fourth year as an institution. I was elected President at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 25, 1923.

### Part I. A REVIEW OF TWO DECADES

When Dr. F. H. Gaines, first President of the College, passed away suddenly in 1923, he left a strong organization with which a new President might begin his work with confidence. Mr. J. K. Orr was Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and all members of the Board were devoted to the institution and ready and willing to assist in any way possible.

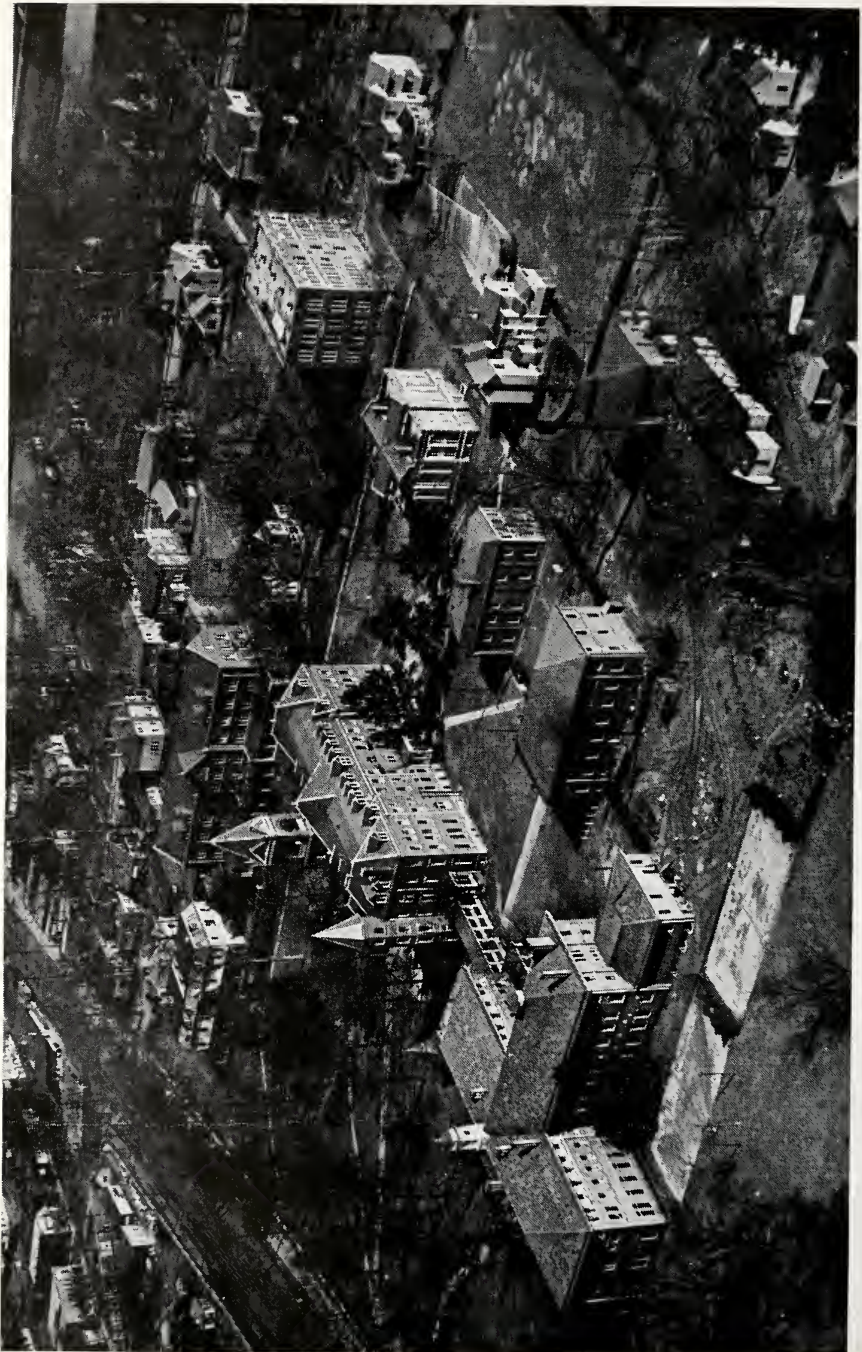
Miss Hopkins, the Dean; Mr. Stukes, who was to become Registrar; Mr. Cunningham, the Business Manager; and Mr. Tart, the Treasurer, had been with the College for quite a number of years and were able to carry on their duties with loyal enthusiasm.

During the thirty-four years of Dr. Gaines' connection with Agnes Scott, a plant valued at more than a half-million dollars had been provided and endowment of nearly \$200,000 had been secured. A constituency of a very high order had been enlisted, and fine ideals of intellectual and spiritual achievement had been set forth.

During the last twenty years, earnest efforts have been made to maintain and to promote the intellectual and spiritual emphases; but attention has been given, also, to the physical development of our students and to their development of Christian personalities, including attractive appearance, poise, dignity, restraint where proper, frankness, simplicity, and the avoidance of extremes. We feel that progress has been made in the development of the democratic ideal of student life.

So far as the institution as a whole is concerned, an effort has been made to secure adequate buildings, grounds, and equipment for a first-class college, and to provide sufficient endowment to insure the permanence of the College on a sound basis. Much attention has been given, also, to extending the influence of Agnes Scott so that it might be recognized as of national and international importance.

The accompanying pictures and diagrams will show something of the material progress which Agnes Scott has made during two decades.



A Bird's-Eye View of the College in 1923

The total cost was estimated at about \$50,000. At that time, the college was in its infancy and the buildings were in various stages of completion. The photograph provides a unique perspective on the early development of the institution.



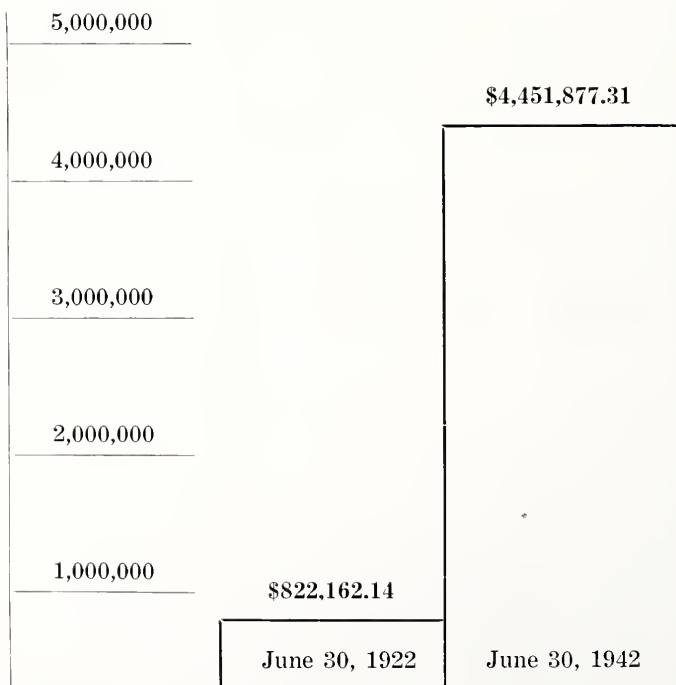
A Bird's-Eye View in 1943

The plant and equipment are valued at somewhat more than \$2,000,000. The new buildings are of modified college Gothic type.

## GROWTH IN TOTAL ASSETS

### 440 Per Cent Gain

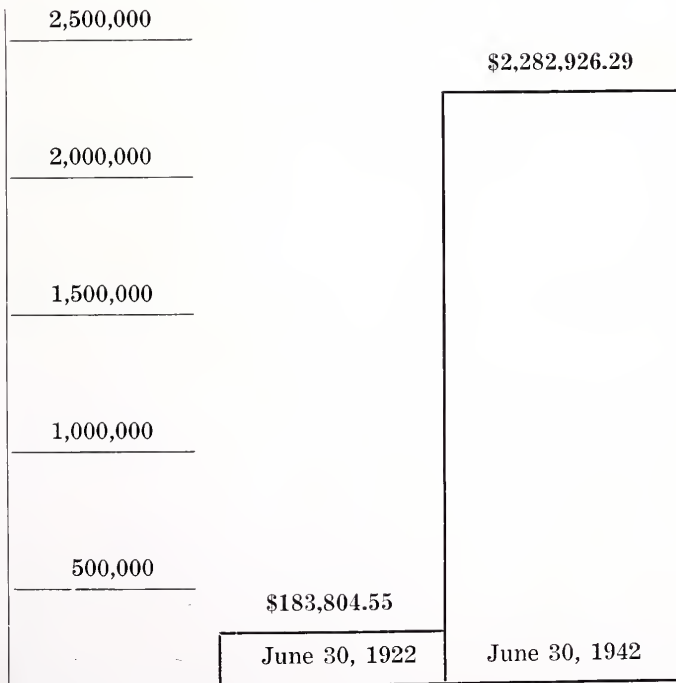
(These figures are from the official audits. In both years, collections from campaigns were in progress, but the audits show only items which had been officially entered on the College books.)



## INVESTED FUNDS

1,140 Per Cent Increase

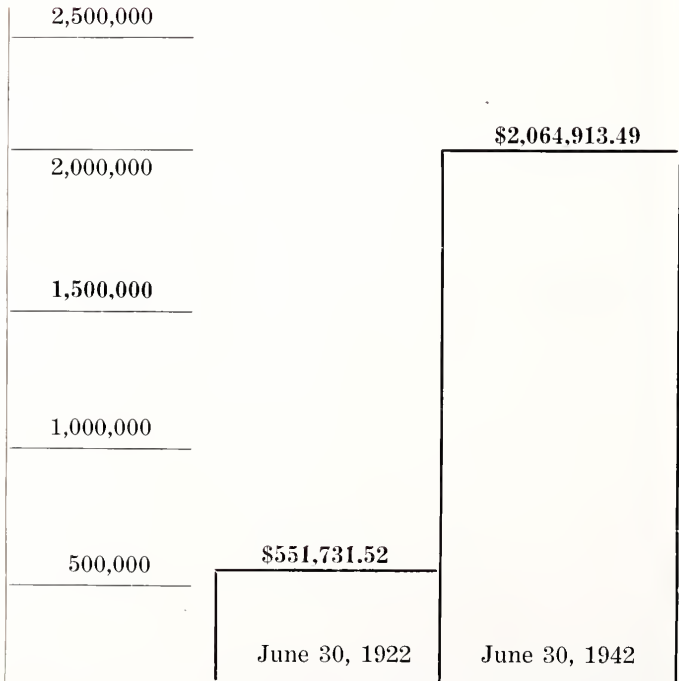
(This includes unrestricted endowment, scholarships, development funds, and funds subject to annuity.)



## BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT

### 274 Per Cent Gain

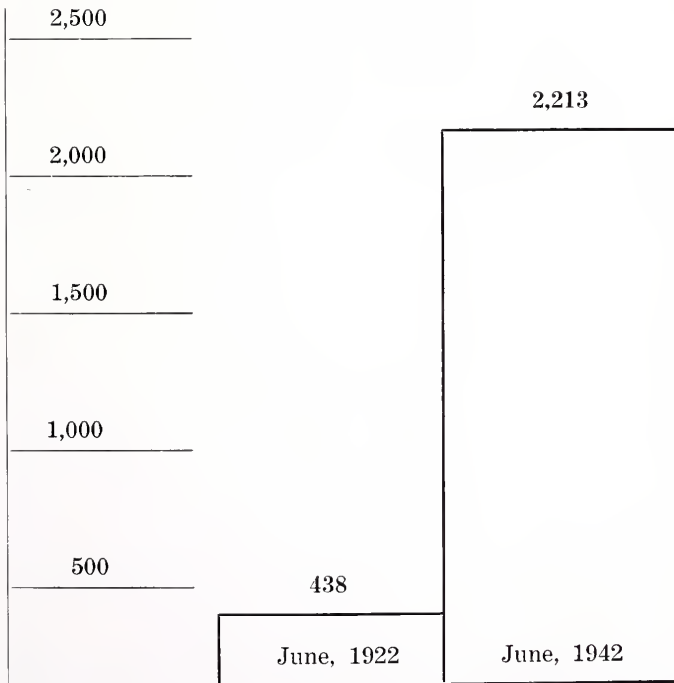
(In 1922 there were 21 buildings of all kinds, and approximately 20 acres of land. In 1942 there were 42 buildings and 45 acres.)





**B. A. GRADUATES**  
**400 Per Cent Increase**

(As Decatur Female Seminary, and later as Agnes Scott Institute, the school did not give degrees. It was in 1906 that the first B.A. awards were made.)



## Specific Details

Shortly after the death of Dr. Gaines, Agnes Scott was granted a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the best-known honor society in the United States. Much of the groundwork of this success had been laid by the late Dr. J. D. M. Armistead, Professor of English at the College for many years. A chapter of Mortar Board, national honor society for women in the field of service, has been more recently established.

Agnes Scott officers and faculty have participated very actively in the educational work of the United States. For several years the College has been represented on the Senate of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa and also on some of the other important committees.

In the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, Agnes Scott has held the chairmanship of the Committee on Standards, of the Committee on New Members, and of the Committee on Member Reports.

Agnes Scott was one of the organizers of the Southern University Conference, which promises much in the way of better standards for the South; and its officers have ranked high in the leadership of the Conference, serving as president, secretary-treasurer, and on the Executive Committee.

The College has been active in the Association of American Colleges (having more than 600 universities and colleges in its membership), and its officers have held the vice-presidency twice and the presidency once. It has also been represented in the important work of the American Council on Education.

For many years it has been represented on the important committees of the American Association of University Women.

One of the most significant honors that has come to the College is to be represented in the membership of the General Education Board of New York.

The faculty and officers of Agnes Scott number more than 80 men and women of unusual training and personal qualifications, revealing always a remarkable loyalty to the institution and to the ideals which it represents. They have received their academic training in more than 45 first-class colleges and universities and represent a variety of experience and training, which helps to give a cosmopolitan spirit to the campus.

Our representatives have been very active in the promoting of the University Center program in Georgia and have been unselfish and effective in carrying on its responsibilities.

## Building Progress

In 1923 Agnes Scott was poorly equipped with buildings for a strong educational program. In 1925, through the efforts of faculty, students, and alumnae, funds were raised for the Bucher Scott Gymnasium at a cost of approximately \$165,000.

In 1928 a modern steam plant and laundry were erected. The steam plant is capable of supplying adequate heat and hot water for an institution at least twice as large as our present status. The cost of this new equipment was \$135,000.

The greatest single addition to the Agnes Scott building program to date has been the erection of Buttrick Hall, which serves as an administration-recitation building. It cost slightly more than \$300,000, and is one of the important educational structures in the South. It was erected in 1930.

In 1936 the new library was secured at a cost of \$240,000, and it has proved to be one of the most interesting and satisfactory of our investments. Institutions all over the United States and even abroad have written for the building plans of the library and have followed some of its interesting features. As soon as it was opened, the former library building was remodeled for student activities and was named in honor of Honorable Charles Murphey Candler.

In 1940 Presser Hall, one of the most impressive and successful music buildings in the South, was completed at a cost of \$280,000. Included in it is a very beautiful chapel named in honor of Dr. F. H. Gaines, and a delightful auditorium named in honor of Mr. Joseph Maclean, former head of the Music department.

The latest building activity on the campus has been the remodeling of the interior of Main Building and the providing of new equipment for it. This was done at a cost of \$75,000 and has proved to be a great satisfaction to the entire campus community.

During the last twenty years the College has purchased 20 cottages in the vicinity of the campus and about 23 acres of land. This was done at a cost of more than \$200,000. It now has the land which may be needed for the development of a much larger institution if the trustees should decide in the future to increase its size.

The annual audits for the 20-year period make an interesting exhibit of progress, and they are available if any trustees care to see them.

It is impossible to express adequate appreciation for what the friends of the College have done. In the financial development, the General Education Board of New York has meant most. Dur-

ing the twenty years, it has contributed of its own funds about \$1,200,000, and its confidence in Agnes Scott has stimulated other givers. The Presser Foundation and Carnegie Corporation have assisted liberally. Mr. John Bulow Campbell and the Foundation which he established have been most generous. Mrs. Frances Winship Walters, Mr. George W. Woodruff, and the late Mr. J. T. Lupton have helped notably.

We could never have succeeded in our efforts if Mr. J. K. Orr, Mr. George Winship, and other trustees had not given of their time, means, and leadership through all the years. They have had at all times the whole-hearted support of faculty, officers, alumnae and students.

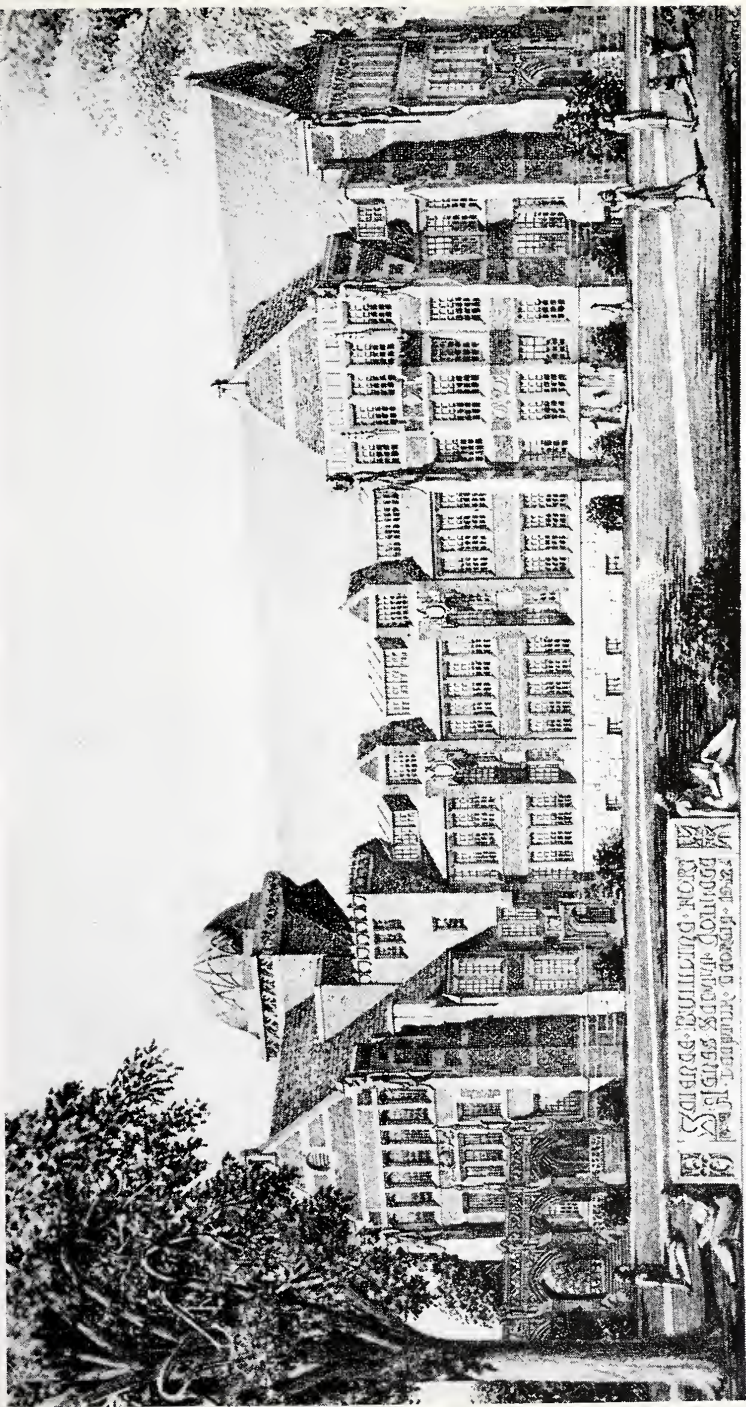
## Part II. PLANS FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS

While great progress has been made in the equipment of the institution during the last twenty years, we still lack some important buildings in the rounding out of an adequate plant.

The most important of these deficiencies is a *science hall*, and we were very fortunate in December of 1941 to receive a gift of \$200,000 toward the erection of this building. We have drawn careful plans for the proposed development and find that it will take approximately \$325,000 to build and to equip a really adequate structure for our rapidly developing science department. The proposed science hall will be the largest building on the campus and one of the most attractive. We deem it of the utmost importance to complete the raising of the money for this need so as to begin work immediately when our present emergency is over. It is planned for this unit to be located just south of Buttrick Hall and Presser Hall so as to make a very beautiful quadrangle between these academic structures.

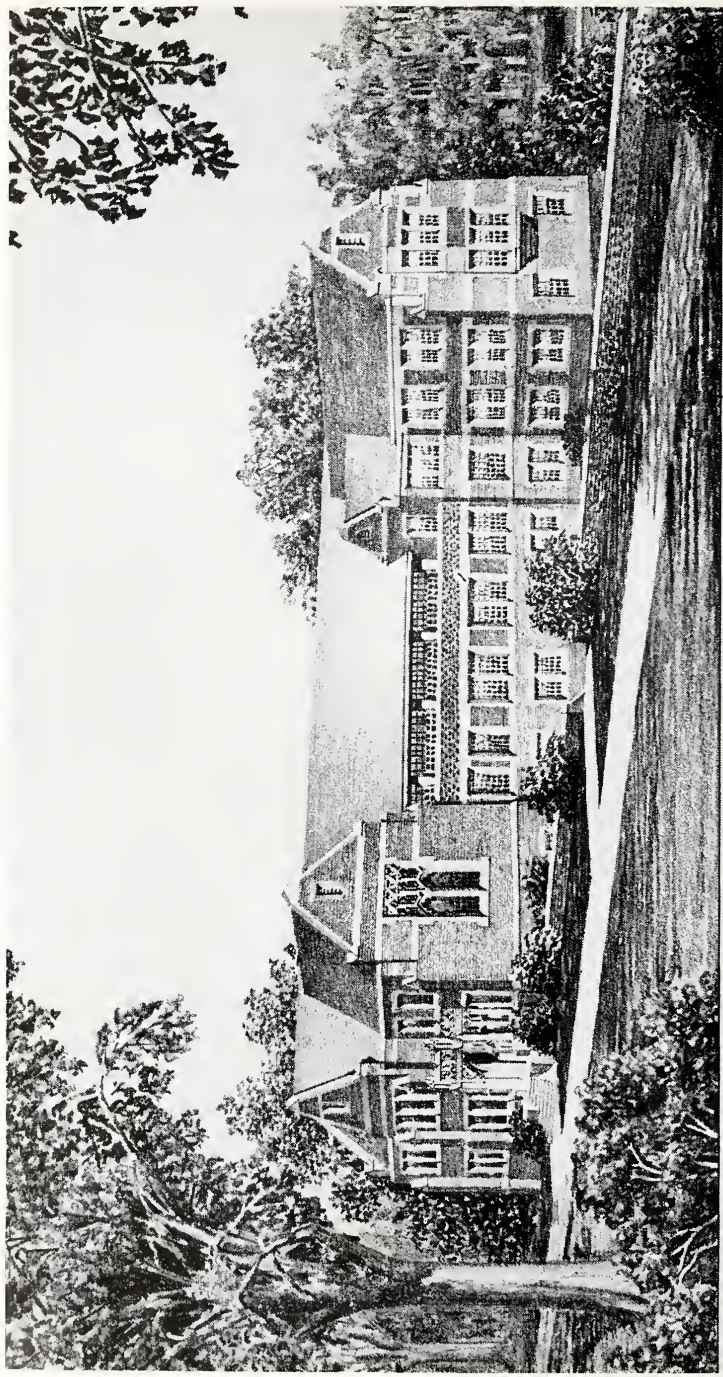
A second very important building which should be erected at the earliest possible moment is a *dormitory*. Alumnae and other friends have pledged approximately \$150,000 which may be used for this building. Somewhat more than one-third of the money is yet to be collected, but we hope that it can be fully paid in so as to proceed with the erection of the dormitory at an early date. Since it is to be located on the site of our present science building, it will be necessary for the new science hall to be completed and in operation before we can make way for Hopkins Hall, as the new dormitory will be named.

A third important item in the development of our physical equipment will be the new *dining hall*. It was originally intended that this should be attached to Hopkins Hall, but it is now thought best that it be an entirely separate building which would be large



**Proposed Science Hall**

This cut does not do justice to the plans which have been drawn. If we are able to build as proposed, this will be our most imposing hall and a most useful one.



INFIRMARY BUILDING - AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

### Proposed Infirmary

The medical service at Agnes Scott has been largely preventive and constructive. We wish to enlarge the service for our own girls and at the same time assist the community.

enough to care for the resident students and faculty. The kind of building can be noted in the general plan for future development, but the detailed drawings are not yet available.

A fourth item which ought not to be postponed long will be a new *infirmary*. It is proposed that this be located on Candler Street just east of the present gymnasium. It is hoped that we may develop services for the community through clinics which may be handled by our college physician and nurses, and we would hope to have an entirely separate entrance into the building for such activities. The principal part of the building would be devoted to a first-class hospital for the health services of the campus.

Other items for future development will include a practice home for the Department of the Home, faculty apartments, a president's home, improved facilities for student activities, and the remodeling of the interiors of Rebekah Scott Hall and Inman Hall. It is desirable that additional faculty houses be constructed on or near the campus.

In order to do even a reasonably good educational job, we have found that it is necessary to secure one dollar of endowment for every dollar of permanent improvement which we make. We cannot go forward with increased building and equipment facilities without at the same time making provision for stable income for the support of these enlarged activities. Among the colleges of the South, such a ratio has been about the best which could be expected; but, if we are to compete seriously with the strong colleges of the East, our endowment should be three or four times as great as our fixed assets.

### **Educational Needs**

The Agnes Scott faculty have no desire to see the institution develop into a university. We do not care to have a great deal of stress on vocational training. We are anxious to make it one of the very best small colleges in the country.

I think we can conservatively state that the College has done creditable work in the traditional courses and that the faculty and students have handled well classwork and the usual activities. We have done a better-than-average job in promoting the welfare and interests of the student who has difficulty with her work.

Our greatest immediate need seems to be further stimulus for the girl of unusual promise and ability. We have never advertised in our catalogue a program of honors work, but we have been experimenting with it for several years; and former President Aydelotte of Swarthmore College, who is the leading exponent of

such training in this country, has commented very favorably on our program. This needs to be enlarged and developed so that a greater number of our good students can have the advantage of it. It is an expensive program, but I think Agnes Scott is the best situated college in the South for expansion in this field, and we are anxious to do it.

In Music, Art, and Speech, Agnes Scott ought to have quite a substantial development as soon as possible. We do not anticipate trying to make professional musicians, artists, or dramatists; but we are anxious for all of our students to become well acquainted with Music and Art from a cultural standpoint and for the whole student body to improve in its use of speech.

### **Spiritual Growth**

It is not possible to tabulate the development in spiritual things during the last twenty years or to set specific goals for the years that lie ahead. From its earliest days, the College has been dedicated to God, and it has no real excuse for existence if it does not fulfill this high mission. We feel that religious objectives are best reached through careful selection of faculty, officers, and students. The planning of the curriculum is also a contributing factor.

All indications are that we are coming to a great period of moral decadence and of spiritual laxness. We are very anxious that Agnes Scott College be a great power for good in standing for the highest things.

## **Part III. CURRENT SESSION**

### **Trustees**

Since the last annual meeting of the Board, Agnes Scott has suffered the loss of one of its ablest and most faithful trustees, Dr. J. Sprole Lyons. He died July 11, 1942. Dr. Lyons had served continuously as a trustee since 1914 and had rendered conspicuous service in many of the important activities of the College. He will be greatly missed. Resolutions of appreciation were adopted by the Executive Committee and a copy was sent to the family.

The terms of the following trustees expire at this meeting: F. M. Inman, Mrs. Samuel M. Inman, W. J. Rushton, T. Guy Woolford, Mrs. George C. Walters, G. L. Westcott, C. F. Stone. All of these have taken a great interest in the work of the College and have been valuable to the institution in many ways.



## University Center Campaign

During the current session Agnes Scott has collected somewhat more than \$150,000 toward its total objective of \$1,500,000. The largest item was from the General Education Board, amounting to \$72,976.30. The next largest was from the Carnegie Corporation, and was a gift of \$30,000. Both of these donations have been added to our endowment fund. We may note in passing that we have not included most of the collections for this year in the tables previously exhibited in this report, since we have listed there only items which have shown in the official audits. These additions will appear in the audit of June 30, 1943.

It will be necessary for Emory and Agnes Scott to raise slightly more than \$508,000 between now and July 1, 1944, when the offer of the General Education Board expires. While the institutions jointly have enough subscribed to cover this amount, we are quite sure that some of our friends will be unable to pay in full on account of the present emergency. It seems practically certain, therefore, that we will need to secure funds from some other source or sources in order to collect on time from the General Education Board.

We have never had a campaign in which our subscribers were more cooperative than in this one. Even though it is evidently impossible to do any building at this time, many of our friends have continued their gifts toward our building projects, and others who were not able to pay immediately have told us that they expect to do so when it is possible.

One of the brightest spots in the entire University Center campaign has been our Agnes Scott alumnae effort among the former students for Hopkins Hall. This phase of the campaign has been under the able leadership of Mrs. Sam Inman Cooper (Augusta Skeen of the class of 1917).

The total alumnae gifts for all purposes reach the gratifying figure of \$171,024.07. In quite a number of cases special designations were made for gifts, and the amount actually available for the erection of Hopkins Hall is \$109,346.73. Payments on these subscriptions are coming in in a gratifying manner. It will be necessary to supplement from other sources the funds for the erection of this building, as the present estimates indicate it will cost perhaps \$150,000 in addition to the furnishings.

A gift which we appreciate very much has been made by Mr. C. Alison Scully of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, of \$1,000 to establish the Mary Scott Scully Fund in memory of his mother, a grand-daughter of the original Agnes Scott for whom the institu-

tion is named. The Scott family is certainly well represented among the memorial gifts which have been made through the years.

### **Current Funds**

We believe that we will finish the year with a small balance from the current session. We have not run a deficit during any year that I have served as President. This has been an unusually difficult one from a budget standpoint. We have found sharp increases in costs in many of our fixed operations, and we are finding it necessary to face a considerably larger budget for the next session.

The Finance Committee has authorized an increase in charges for 1943-1944 of \$30 for boarding students and \$10 for day students. We hope that these increases will cover the necessary rise in prices. We cannot be sure of it. It is increasingly important that all of our endowment be productive in order that we may have as large an income from that source as possible.

For the twenty-fifth consecutive year Mr. Tart has collected in full all the charges which have been made against students. This is a remarkable record.

### **Faculty**

We have had relatively few changes in our staff in comparison with what most institutions have suffered. Professor Henry A. Robinson continues on leave of absence for military service and Professor Philip G. Davidson, Jr., has resigned as professor of History in order to become Dean of the Graduate School of Vanderbilt University. During the current session, we have secured the services of Dr. Bingham Duncan and Dr. James Harvey Young, of Emory University, for courses in our History department.

In the library there are three new assistants: Misses Carolyn Black, Mary Lucy Cline, and Emily Susan Philips.

Several members of the class of 1942 have been brought back for special services at the College. These include Miss Claire Purcell, in the bookstore; Miss Alta Webster, assistant in Physical Education; Miss Jane Stillwell, fellow in Biology; and Miss Ann Gellerstedt, fellow in English.

### **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.

This has been one of the best sessions in the history of the College from the standpoint of student cooperation and helpfulness. A larger proportion of our present students are registering for 1943-1944 than ever has been true in any previous year. This is gratifying to us because it indicates that the students have been doing satisfactory work and have been happy.

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

### Geographical Distribution

|                           |     |                      |     |
|---------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Alabama .....             | 13  | North Carolina ..... | 27  |
| Arkansas .....            | 6   | Ohio .....           | 4   |
| District of Columbia..... | 3   | Pennsylvania .....   | 5   |
| Florida .....             | 27  | Rhode Island .....   | 1   |
| Georgia .....             | 327 | South Carolina ..... | 41  |
| Illinois .....            | 1   | Tennessee .....      | 19  |
| Kentucky .....            | 9   | Texas .....          | 5   |
| Louisiana .....           | 2   | Virginia .....       | 18  |
| Maryland .....            | 1   | West Virginia .....  | 4   |
| Michigan .....            | 1   | Wisconsin .....      | 2   |
| Mississippi .....         | 7   | Puerto Rico .....    | 1   |
| Missouri .....            | 4   | Peru .....           | 1   |
| New Jersey .....          | 1   | China .....          | 1   |
| New York .....            | 10  |                      |     |
|                           |     | Total.....           | 541 |

### Class Enrollment

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Seniors .....                   | 79    |
| Juniors .....                   | 98    |
| Sophomores .....                | 132   |
| Freshmen .....                  | 189   |
| Special students .....          | 19    |
| Students taking music only..... | 24    |
|                                 | <hr/> |
| Total.....                      | 541   |

### Residence

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Boarders .....     | 317   |
| Day Students ..... | 224   |
|                    | <hr/> |
| Total.....         | 541   |

### Denominational Distribution

|                         |     |                       |      |
|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------|------|
| Presbyterian .....      | 182 | Lutheran .....        | 1    |
| Methodist .....         | 108 | Unitarian .....       | 1    |
| Baptist .....           | 76  | First Community ..... | 1    |
| Episcopal .....         | 59  | Quaker .....          | 1    |
| Jewish .....            | 22  | Greek Orthodox .....  | 1    |
| Christian .....         | 13  | Brethren .....        | 1    |
| Catholic .....          | 11  | Army Protestant ..... | 1    |
| Congregational .....    | 3   | Non-members .....     | 32   |
| Christian Science ..... | 3   |                       |      |
| Church of Christ.....   | 1   | Total.....            | 517* |

\*This total does not include the 24 music students.

### War Council

The activity of our War Council, which is composed of faculty and students, has been very gratifying. Under its leadership, the community has cooperated in all of the various campaigns and conservation programs. There seems to be no doubt but what both faculty and students have enjoyed the sacrifices which have been made and have been pleased to have even a small part in the total war effort.

Both curriculum and extra-curriculum studies which grew out of war conditions, or are affected by them, have been welcomed; and bi-weekly lectures have been given in chapel about the changing conditions and the issues which are involved.

The sale of stamps and bonds has been promoted. War casualties have come to the families of a number of our girls, and these have served to draw the entire community closer in the bonds of sympathy.

### Religious Life

The spiritual tone of the campus has been very satisfactory. Attendance at all of our religious services is voluntary, and at times we feel that it falls below what we would like to have. At the same time we do have an average attendance of two-thirds of our student body for five days per week, and we feel that this is much better than that of most congregations.

Under the leadership of Bishop Arthur J. Moore, of Atlanta, we had a week of special services in February. Without any pressure, there were four professions of faith, and 262 signed re-dedications of life and service.

We earnestly request the prayers of all our Trustees for the institution.

The following Prayer Covenant was drawn up and signed by some of the most influential Trustees and faculty members in the very early days of Agnes Scott Institute:

"We, the undersigned, believing the promise of our Lord concerning prayer (Matt. 18:19), and having at heart the largest success of the Agnes Scott Institute in its great work for the glory of God, do hereby enter into covenant with each other to offer daily prayer in our 'closets' for the following specific objects:

1. For *each other* in our work in and for the Institute.
2. For the Board of Trustees and Faculty.
3. That God would convert every unconverted pupil before leaving the Institute.
4. That He would graciously build up in the faith, and prepare for highest usefulness, all who are His.
5. That He would baptize the institution with the Holy Spirit, and make it a great fountain of blessing.
6. That He would give it so much of endowment and prosperity as He sees would be for His own glory.
7. That He would have the institution *constantly* in His own holy care and keeping, that His name may be glorified."

Respectfully submitted,

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