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Agnes Scott College Bulletin

Series
Fifteen

MAY, 1918

Number
Five

Published Bi-Weekly, February-May
Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Post Office
Decatur, Georgia



SCIENCE HALL
AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

Shall I Study Science?

Rapid Developments—The present period of the world's life is known as the age of science. Never before have so many people been engaged in the pursuit of the subject. The colleges and high schools were paying attention to the various branches of science before the Great War began in 1914, and now under the stimulation of Government requests and as a patriotic privilege all are ready to emphasize the study of science more than ever before. It is worth while to note some ways in which scientific research is helping to win the war and will help later to reconstruct society; merest hints can be given.

Physics—The great hydro-electric plants established by our Government for the manufacture of nitrates are wonderful examples of the developments of Physics and Chemistry combined. These plants will extract from the air constituents for the manufacture of explosives now and later, when peace comes, of the finest fertilizers. Wireless telegraphy, and to some extent wireless telephoning, has made rapid strides under Physics experts, and it has been the means of saving thousands of lives both on land and sea. The "Liberty motor" is another physical production that we are counting on for greater efficiency in flying machines and automobile

service. In the construction and destruction of long range guns, in making searchlights and periscopes, in perfecting electrical apparatus for service at home and abroad, and in countless other ways, Physics has proved to be invaluable.

Chemistry—Our enemies have shown us the many, many uses to which a knowledge of Chemistry may be put both for purpose of destruction and for those of self-preservation. The deadly gases used by the Germans called forth more wonderful ingenuity in masks by the Allies. This is merely illustrative of how each side has compelled the other to make chemical research and discoveries. Before the war, the United States was almost wholly dependent on Germany for chemical supplies; we are now rapidly becoming independent. Our own chemists have taught us how to make dyes, photographic supplies, and like needful articles. They have showed us how to substitute metals so as to conserve the more valuable, and how to utilize products of all kinds that were formerly regarded as mere waste.

Home Economics—This department of Science has been closely related to Chemistry. It has been especially valuable in planning for the soldiers a diet that will give the maximum strength and efficiency. It has dealt with sanitation, the disposal of sewage, the obtaining of pure milk, meat,

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