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FOR HOLLINS COLLEGE ALUMNAE MAGAZINE  
February 26, 1970

RELEASE DATE:

SUBJECT: MERLE GRUBBS WALKER, '31: Articulate Spokesman on Education, Womanliness, Youth, Social Justice

"The educated woman's problem is to stay a woman and not be a blob," Merle Grubbs Walker, '31, says of the problem that is common to both the students of today and to her own generation. Not a feminist of the soap box variety, Mrs. Walker sees women of all ages rejecting innocuous and innane femininity and realistically asking to be judged on their own merit. She further sees the surfacing discontent among many groups as a plea that merit and excellence be recognized for itself.

Mrs. Walker has been in tune with the student generation since her own college days. First, as a graduate student at Radcliffe, where she earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, then as a teacher at the branch of the University of Georgia in Atlanta (now Georgia State University), and now as associate professor of philosophy at Agnes Scott College, a liberal arts college for women in Decatur, Ga., where she returned to teaching in 1958, after raising her family.

Sought after by students who call Mrs. Walker "the best," she reciprocates that respect. "Youth today are a grand sort despite the press they get. Their idealism is really the only hope that we have for the correction of social evils." They are "intelligent, honest and rightly distrustful of sentimentality and hypocrisy; very exciting, but not always easy to get along with." "You may find yourself to be the straw man that they are debunking. At the same time, almost every protest they are making is a right protest, although I don't always go along with their means of making it." Speaking from her vantage point of sympathy and involvement, she doesn't think there has "ever been a more exciting time to be involved in education."

While at Hollins, Mrs. Walker was editor of CARGOES, the literary magazine, and was a member of Freya. She has since followed the development of the creative writing program (at Hollins) with "great pride," and has continued her own writing, which has appeared in church periodicals and professional journals.

Mrs. Walker is still convinced that the liberal arts educated person is the only truly educated person, unless one has achieved the equivalent on his own. She is a little less sure that segregation of the sexes in college is essential, but sees a vital need for the continuation of relatively small institutions.

Her affinities are indicated by membership in St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, which she calls "social justice oriented," the Georgia Council on Human Relations and the Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity, plus several metaphysical and philosophical societies.

An articulate example of "how to stay a woman without being a blob," Mrs. Walker is the wife of Dr. Andrew J. Walker, who this year retired from 21 years as chairman of the English department at Georgia Tech and is now teaching full time. Their older daughter earned her Ph.D. and was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at Harvard, where she is now assistant professor of medieval intellectual history, and the wife of an attorney now studying for the priesthood at Episcopal Theological Seminary. Their younger daughter is teaching elementary school, and her husband is an ethologist at Williams College. The education-oriented family has lived in Atlanta since 1935, and are frequent visitors to Virginia, where Mrs. Walker's parents still live.

September 24, 1970

RELEASE DATE: Upon Receipt

SUBJECT: ELECTROCHEMIST AT AGNES SCOTT RECEIVES GRANT

Dr. Alice J. Cunningham, assistant professor of chemistry at Agnes Scott College since 1966, has received a \$4,500 grant making possible the continuation of her research into "Some New Approaches to Biochemical Syntheses and Mechanisms Through Electrochemistry."

The grant from the Brown-Hazen Fund of Research Corporation is a renewal of the original award to the electrochemist in May, 1969. Her research centers on the problem of how the properties of enzymes are altered when electrons are added (reduction) or removed (oxidation) from the enzyme system.

Dr. Cunningham has presented two papers, one co-authored by Agnes Scott students, on preliminary phases of her investigation, and she has been invited to present a third in May, 1971, at a special symposium on "Electrochemistry and Biological Processes" at the Electrochemical Society meeting in Washington, D.C.

Research Corporation grants in the physical and biomedical sciences are made to help initiate scholarly research by young faculty members and to foster pioneering or speculative research by established investigators. The Brown-Hazen Grants Program is named for the inventors of nystatin, who donated their royalties to Research Corporation in 1951.

Dr. Cunningham was graduated from the University of Arkansas, holds the Ph.D. from Emory University, and studied as a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Texas.

Agnes Scott News Service

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DECATUR, GEORGIA 30030

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October 5, 1970

RELEASE DATE: Immediate

SUBJECT: SERVICES FOR ANN WORTHY JOHNSON, AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE DIRECTOR

Graveside services for Ann Worthy Johnson will be held at Westview Cemetery Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 2:00 p.m. The Rev. J. F. G. Hopper, rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, and Dr. Wallace M. Alston, president of Agnes Scott College, will officiate.

Miss Johnson, a native of Atlanta and director of alumnae affairs at Agnes Scott College since 1954, died Monday in a private hospital. The daughter of the late Rockwell Worthy Johnson and Ludie Harvey Johnson, she was graduated from Agnes Scott in 1938 and earned the master's degree in English from the University of North Carolina.

Miss Johnson was an editor for the University of North Carolina Press, served as American National Red Cross field representative in the South Pacific during World War II and as field representative for the southeastern states prior to joining the staff of Agnes Scott.

She was a former president and director of the Atlanta Y.W.C.A., a district director of the American College Public Relations Association, and a member of the Board of Directors of the American Alumni Council.

Miss Johnson was chairman of the Altar Guild Committee of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Decatur and a member of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta College Division Committee.

Surviving is a sister, Mrs. T. Allen Crouch of Gainesville, Fla. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to Agnes Scott College.

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October 22, 1970

RELEASE DATE: Week of Oct. 26-30

SUBJECT: PROF. DUNSTAN TRAVELS TO PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

Mrs. Florene J. Dunstan, professor and chairman of the Department of Spanish at Agnes Scott, is one of the ten-member Nominating Committee of the Association of University Women meeting this week in Chicago.

On November 5, Mrs. Dunstan will represent independent colleges in a panel discussion before the South Atlantic Modern Language Association conference to be held in Washington, D.C. Other panelists are from the University of Florida and the University of Georgia.