

REPORT OF THE
PRESIDENT OF LINDENWOOD COLLEGE
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 21, 1955

It is a pleasure to make this report on the opening of college this fall.

ENROLLMENT

The enrollment of 363 students represents an increase of 7% in the enrollment. This increase is encouraging but probably is less than the over-all increase in colleges and universities in the Middle West. Increases in enrollments in women's colleges in the Middle West have been lagging behind the increase in state colleges and universities during the last few years. The following enrollment figures for five four year colleges for women for the last four years are significant:

<u>College</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Lake Erie	161	215	252	316
Lindenwood	321	360	337	363
Milwaukee-Downer	171	176	148	147
MacMurray	457	429	456	452
Western	255	261	273	300

The morale of the entering class of 221 Freshmen is excellent. 54% are in the upper quartile.

It is believed that with the use of "The Linden Leaf", the new moving picture of campus life, we shall have to use Ayres Hall next year.

FACULTY

New faculty members appointed since the last meeting of the Board are:

Mr. James A. Gardner as Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Government to replace Dr. Dorothy Williams. Mr. Gardner has a B.S. and M.A. degrees from Washington University and is working on his Ph.D. He has been teaching at Ritenour High School in Overland since 1949.

Miss Emma Purnell as Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Office Management to replace Mrs. Greta Larson. Miss Purnell received her bachelor's degree and her master's degrees from Washington University. She has had office experience and has taught at Miss Hickey's School and at Washington University.

Miss Elizabeth Severson as Instructor in the Art Department.

Miss Severson received her bachelor's degree from Lindenwood last June.

In addition to one regular faculty meeting this fall, we have had one meeting of department heads at which the President and the Dean led a discussion of the holding power of the College. We are seeking to emphasize with the department heads and have them emphasize with their colleagues the fact that the College can hold students who wish to study under a particular teacher, who wish to study a particular curriculum, or who wish to study in a college whose purpose is to develop their faith as well as their minds. The quality of work in these areas just might become such that our holding power would not be that of the ordinary college for women in the Middle West.

A part-time arrangement with Dr. Gill brings him to the campus for Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays for this semester, but the rest of the week he devotes to his work as co-editor of the CHRISTIAN CENTURY. At the Sunday evening vesper services he is making a series of talks on "What A Christian Believes". He is exploring with the Sunday evening congregations the topics of "How God Speaks", "How We Hear", "What God Says (and what we say to that!)", "What God Does", "What We Do", and "How It All Turns Out". He has given the first two talks and they

have been exceedingly significant and provocative. Students have been talking about them on campus throughout the week.

STATUS OF THE CHAPEL BUILDING PROGRAM

Pursuant to the action of the Board of Directors of Lindenwood College and the congregation of the St. Charles Presbyterian Church, the Joint Committee representing these institutions has employed Mr. Robert Wright, building contractor, to erect the proposed chapel and church building at a guaranteed maximum cost of \$458,288. Grading on the lot has been done and construction of the building was begun late in August.

The total amount of pledges and gifts to the chapel fund is about \$280,000. The campaign is being pursued through the Alumnae Association and where opportunity is afforded before the Sessions of the churches. The St. Charles people, both in the church and on the faculty of the College, have done, it seems to me, exceedingly well by this campaign. Several members of the faculty have given \$1,560 and a smaller number have given \$2,000. The church has secured a subscription from practically every member holding membership within it. Further effort must be made to increase the amount given from the outside.

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

Although we have had an increase in enrollment, the increase is somewhat less than we had expected and our estimated income from students will be \$34,178.50 less than we had estimated in making the budget last spring.

Last spring the Ford Foundation set up a committee to disperse \$50,000,000 to private colleges for faculty salaries. We were invited, along with accredited privately supported four year colleges throughout the nation, to make a report to the Ford Foundation. In many respects we had a very strong report should they decide to support one of the small colleges for women. I think it is unlikely that more than one college for women will be selected, and also unlikely that more than one Presbyterian college will be selected.

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The preparation of the report, however, has been of some benefit to us. The number and total amount of gifts from alumnae to the College is exceedingly disappointing. For example, 459 of something like 7,000 former students on our mailing list made contributions during the last year to Lindenwood College. This includes subscriptions to the chapel which was a special campaign.

At Bennington College, for example, 42% of the almost 2,000 alumnae solicited gave \$13,947; at Mills College 20% of the alumnae gave \$25,000 for current expenditures; at Wells College with 3,700 alumnae solicited responses were secured from 48%, totaling \$20,000; at Wellesley 46% gave \$252,000 for current expenses and \$504,000 for capital funds; Agnes Scott, which has an enrollment of 300-600 students and which is supported by the southern Presbyterian Church, received gifts from 27% of its former students, totaling \$28,733.

The only encouraging thing about gifts to current expenses in our report is that the largest amounts we have recorded are in the last two years, and we were asked to give the two consecutive years in which we received the largest total amount of gifts.

Both corporations and foundations are asking of colleges seeking additional funds specific information on the support received by the church constituency, the alumnae, and in some instances the members of the Board of the institution.

MISSOURI COLLEGE JOINT FUND COMMITTEE, INC.

The Missouri College Joint Fund Committee, Inc. has received so far this calendar year \$32,400, as compared with \$16,600 received during the calendar year 1954. It is hoped that we shall receive more than \$50,000 and it will be possible for us to set up an Executive Secretary who can push this movement more than we can through the voluntary effort of the various college presidents.

CONFERENCES

Both the Presbyterian College Union, which meets in connection with the Association of American Colleges, and the Presbyterian College Conference on Campus Christian Life will hold their annual meetings on the Lindenwood campus this fall and winter.

It is likely that we shall also have a conference of the young people of the Episcopalian Church in the St. Louis Diocese, and an invitation has been issued to the Methodist Conference to meet here.

POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

We shall hold student political conventions, to which accredited colleges and universities in the Middle West will be invited to send delegates, at Lindenwood April 19-21.

FOUNDERS' DAY

For the last two years we have had Founders' Day and alumnae reunions at the same time and have found it very successful. We had a good response again this year. About 160 alumnae were present for dinner, a program, and a reception on Friday night, October 7, and for the Founders' Day address Saturday morning, the 8th, by a distinguished alumna, Mrs. Dorritt Stumberg White.

REHABILITATION OF BUILDINGS

While we believe that we shall have a further increase in enrollment next year that will make it necessary for us to use Ayres Hall, we do find that the furnishings in Sibley and in Butler are a handicap to us in filling these buildings, and the furnishings in Ayres are even less adequate. The students in Niccolls and Hobbs have the Hollywood type beds which are new. No other new furniture has been bought for the other dormitories generally, except the parlors, for a great many years. The plumbing in Sibley is especially inadequate.

It is estimated that remodeling of the rooms in Sibley and to provide adequate plumbing in the bathrooms would cost \$25,000. The estimated cost of refurnishing rooms in Sibley and providing new furniture in Butler and Irwin is \$9,250. The redecoration and refurnishing of Ayres Hall would cost approximately \$5,000. Air conditioning of the administrative offices and the dining room and the installation of an acoustical tile ceiling in the dining room would cost approximately \$19,685. (This estimate is on the basis of a definite bid made recently.)

A careful study of our whole furnishings throughout the dormitories will reveal other spots in which improvements will seem to be essential.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the following appointments to the faculty be approved:

James A. Gardner, Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Government, at an annual salary of \$3,950.

Emma Purnell, Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Office Management, at an annual salary of \$4,500.

Elizabeth Severson, Instructor in the Department of Art, at an annual salary of \$3,400.

It is recommended that the attached Articles of Incorporation for the establishment of a non-profit corporation representing the College and the St. Charles Presbyterian Church to hold title to and provide for the maintenance of the chapel and church building, be approved.

It is recommended that the administration be asked to secure precise bids for the rehabilitation and refurnishing of the physical properties as described in the above report and in any other areas as may appear necessary, and that the administration be authorized to plan such work with the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the House Committee of the Board at a contemplated expenditure not to exceed \$300,000 in two years and to bring to the Board recommendations of specific work to be done this spring understanding that any such work is to be undertaken only after Board action.

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It is recommended that the Board authorize the administration of the College to obligate the College for its share of the expense for an Executive Secretary of the Missouri College Joint Fund Committee, Inc. on the assumption that such cost be shared equally by the member colleges.

Respectfully submitted,



F. L. McCluer
President

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