

May 17, 1948

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is a pleasure to make this report on the year's work at Lindenwood College.

STUDENT BODY

There have been five hundred and six students enrolled in Lindenwood College this last year. The students were drawn from thirty-four states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Mexico. Fourteen of these students are special students. Approximately 50% are freshmen, 25% sophomores, and the remainder are in the junior and senior classes. There is a concentration in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa, and a secondary concentration in Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and Ohio.

Of the freshmen 53% came from the upper third of their high school classes. On the whole the students are prepared for college work and have been doing good work in the class room. At the conclusion of the first semester no student had failed in more than two courses.

The student body is one of fine character and a good spirit prevails among the students. Girls from cities and from farm areas, from homes of some wealth and from homes in which great sacrifices are made in order to place the girls in college, and from many parts of the country are benefited greatly by living together at Lindenwood in a democratic community.

Four members of the senior class will receive fellowships or assistantships for work in graduate school. Other evidence of fine achievement of the students and their teachers is the fact that at the Young Artists' Concert,

sponsored by the Women's Association of the St. Louis Symphony Society, two of the winners chosen from eighty contestants were Lindenwood students. One was Lucette Stumberg, a senior student of Dr. John Thomas, who was selected as one of the two pianists. The other was Barbara Jean Watkins, a junior student of Miss Pearl Walker, who was selected as vocalist.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The student Council has had a keen sense of responsibility for the performance of its duties which have included enforcement of college regulations which do not relate to housing, health, academic performance, and college property. (The Council also does not have authority to drop a student from college without the consent of the Administrative Council of the college, but does have authority to impose penalties for violation of some rules and to recommend to the college suspension in case of more serious violations.) There have been very few cases of discipline come before the Council this year, and they have been handled in a very splendid way.

The government of dormitories has been turned over to students so that house rules are enforced by a Residence Council composed of students in a given house. The Head Resident becomes a counselor and friend and is not thought of as a disciplinarian.

RECREATION AND SOCIAL LIFE

The college seeks to provide facilities and opportunity for a healthful recreational and social life, for this life is quite as significant in the development of character and maturity as is study.

The tea room and the facilities of the Physical Education Department are available for the students throughout the week. (The tea room is, of course, inadequate in that it does not include separate game rooms, is not large enough

to take care of all the students who would like to make use of it on certain occasions. The ideal situation would be to have a recreational center apart from the Physical Education Department to include game rooms, a soda bar, student activity rooms, and perhaps a small dance hall for small groups of students on date nights when we had no dance in the gymnasium. Music could be provided by a record player.)

In addition to the college dances which we have had once a month, small dances have been arranged this Spring to which certain fraternity groups were invited.

Arrangement has also been made with the Sheraton Hotel in St. Louis to hold rooms for our students on week-ends so that they may remain at the hotel over night and check in and out of the hotel at the regular hours instead of being back at the college at that time. One of the Head Residents from the college accompanies the girls to the hotel as chaperon.

FACULTY

The members of the faculty have conducted their class room work with fine skill and genuine devotion to the best interest of the students. The group has a good morale and the successful work of the year is to be attributed very largely to the faithfulness of our teachers.

Members of the staff who were given aid for summer study made reports to the faculty as a whole.

The faculty was represented at meetings of various associations throughout the winter. Dean Gipson, Dr. Schaper, Dr. Thomas, Miss McCrory, Mr. Huse, Mrs. Burkitt, Dr. Talbot, and Miss Hurster were among those who attended meetings of national professional associations.

The faculty meets regularly not only for business sessions but as a professional group to hear programs prepared by members of the group. These discussions are stimulating both to those who are on the program and to the college community.

There has been organized on the faculty a chapter of American Association of University Professors. This association is interested in the maintenance of high standards in the profession and in the continuance of tenure and academic freedom which will promote the strength of an academic institution. The chapter is ready to co-operate with the administration any way in which it can and has helped us in surveying the housing needs of the faculty.

FACULTY HOUSING

The housing of the faculty continues to be an acute problem of the college. Four members of the staff are interested in securing houses, four are interested in securing four-room apartments, one is seeking a two room apartment, and five are seeking efficiency apartments for one person. In addition, there will be need for housing of six new teachers and a business manager.

The Committee on Building and Grounds is making a recommendation to the Board that will partly meet the situation.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The public programs of the college are designed to supplement the instructional program. Some of them have been arranged to include a large number of student participants. The series of programs has greatly strengthened the service the institution has given its students.

The least publicized but most significant of these programs are the vesper services held each Sunday evening. These services are formal worship services for which the Lindenwood Choir provides special music and a guest minister preaches the message. Among the guests during the year were Dean

Sidney E. Sweet, Dr. James W. Clarke, Dr. E. Frank Hall, Dr. Gavin Reilly, Rev. Raymond McCallister, Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Dr. Harry Scherer, Dr. Hampton Adams, Dr. William Lampe, Dr. Frank Tucker, Dr. Clark W. Cummings, and President Henry G. Harmon, of Drake University.

Special convocation programs included the inauguration in the Fall and later lectures by Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, Dr. Henry Sleane Coffin, Bishop Karl M. Block, Dr. Ralph Sockman, May Barton, well known American poet, Seumas MacMan John Scott of "Time's" European staff, and a forum convocation in which two students participated with Dr. Herman Finer on the situation in Germany.

The public musical programs included recitals by members of our own staff and senior students and concerts by the English Duo with Viola Morris as soprano and Victoria Anderson as alto, and by the Yaysnoff Sister, a duo piano team.

The radio conference was held at the college in April. Representative of the St. Louis stations and two stations in Iowa were here to lead informal discussions. Dr. Keith Tyler, head of the Radio Department at Ohio State University, was the guest speaker. The colleges and universities of the St. Louis area and most of the high schools of the St. Louis area had representatives here for this conference. Dr. Tyler's talk was broadcast over eleven stations in Missouri and Illinois.

The student political conventions constituted a real service to the student body and brought favorable comment from the forty-nine colleges and universities represented here. Each of the forty-nine colleges was allowed to have two representatives at each convention. Voting was done by colleges in proportion to the number of students in the student body, each college having at least five votes. The conventions were conducted under the rules of the

respective national conventions after which they were patterned, and not only gave the students acquaintance with political processes, but also great interest in political issues. Copies of the proceedings of each of these conventions are attached to this report.

The addresses of the visiting keynote speakers, Senator Taft and Senator O'Mahoney, were broadcast over KHD. The conventions were widely publicized and received comment in New York and California papers as well as in papers of this vicinity.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The college maintains contact with the alumnae through the Bulletin in which news items of interest to the alumnae are given prominent space. Alumnae chapters are encouraged to have annual dinners. During the year the President of the college and Mrs. McCluer and Mr. Motley attended such dinners in Kansas City, Des Moines, Chicago, and St. Louis.

The alumnae evidenced a great deal of interest and pride in the college but do not seem to be aware of the need of the college for their financial support. Several chapters have, however, indicated a desire to raise money for needy students and it is probable that the alumnae as a whole will be responsive with gifts of money when these gifts are related to specific needs of the institution. Several leaders of the Alumnae Association have indicated that the alumnae would be more interested in helping to provide a building than in helping to provide scholarships.

It is planned to promote the organization of patrons' clubs in those areas where we have had a large number of patrons. This Spring the parents of our students were invited to the college for Parents' Day. More than three hundred and twenty-five persons from the families of our student body were present on May 9. A special worship service was held in Roemer Auditorium with

Dr. Kenneth Neigh, Vice President of McCormick Theological Seminary, as the speaker. Seven hundred and forty people had dinner at Ayres Dining Room after this service. In the afternoon we had a reception in the Fine Arts Building followed by songs sung by the students from the various dormitories and then showed moving pictures of the inauguration and political conventions.

Wherever the college is known, it is respected but it is not nearly so well known as its strength of program and its character through the years would make reasonable. A college like any other business which seeks more than a local market will have to do some "advertising." Its public relations program ought to be a well organized and well directed effort to sell definite ideas and not just an opportunistic effort to get newspaper publicity. Such publicity the institution has been receiving through news releases handled by the Professor of Journalism at the college and through stories sent to newspapers about the students. This in itself is an important part of any program of public relations.

If we wish to make Lindenwood nationally known to people who have had no immediate contact with it, we shall have to invest in a Director of Public Relations, or at least in a full time reporter.

The mailing list of the college consists mainly of alumnae and a few close friends of the institution. It should be built up to include Presbyterians throughout Missouri and the neighboring states and our Bulletins should be designed to interest influential people in the higher education of women in a church related college.

THE PRESIDENT'S VISITS TO WOMEN'S COLLEGES

During the month of March Mrs. McCluer and I visited Randolph-Macon and Sweet Briar in Virginia, Smith and Wellesley in Massachusetts, and

Vassar in New York. We also made stops at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and Radcliffe in Boston.

These visits would make one more appreciative of Lindenwood and at the same time suggested things that would be adaptable to that program and that might strengthen it.

It was interesting to note that in the first five colleges mentioned there was a strong student government set up with an honor system on examinations and with the Student Council having very large authority in the administration of discipline. As far as the curriculum was concerned, these institutions adhered more rigidly to liberal arts education than we have at Lindenwood. At Smith there is extensive work in social service administration and at Wellesley physical education, but at most places there was very little attention to vocational training. As I indicated in my inauguration address, it is my feeling that we can achieve here a partnership between liberal education and vocational education that will strengthen both.

BUILDING NEEDS

In addition to the need for faculty housing, the college is prevented from making the most of the opportunity that appears to be before it by the inadequacy of the physical plant. To be sure few colleges have an entirely adequate plant, but some of our needs are urgent.

For example, a Christian college should have a chapel, a fine and impressive building designed for worship. We conduct our worship services now in a very inadequate auditorium which cannot be made to resemble a church.

The gymnasium is small for a student body of five hundred and there is difficulty in scheduling our physical educational activities because of this lack of space. The swimming pool is exceedingly small and entirely inadequate.

The need for a recreational center has been mentioned above, and unless it is proposed to have a chapel which would also be used for public programs of a secular nature, there is need for an auditorium which will enable us to invite the public for our public programs.

EXPANSION OF OFFERINGS FOR 1948-49

It is planned to expand the curriculum in the fields of social science, philosophy and religious education, art, home economics, and psychology in order to provide more upper class courses. This will make possible a major in each of these departments.

Expansion in art would include work in sculpturing, lithography, and commercial design in which students have expressed a great deal of interest. A large number of majors in psychology are planning on courses in counseling and guidance. The additional courses in the social sciences will enable us to prepare young women for graduate work in social work and will enable them to do some work for churches and social agencies before they go to graduate school.

The Educational Policy Committee is studying requirements for graduation. It is possible that some changes will be recommended so that all students will be required to take a larger number of courses in the liberal arts. A recommendation from the faculty will be made on this later.

There will be some expansion in the work of radio too but an additional teacher for this work will not be required. During the year the college has presented twenty-four telecast programs over KSD-TV, eighteen programs over KFUC's Little Theatre, and several other special programs. These programs have been prepared to show special work at the college and under the direction of Miss Boyer and Dr. Karel have been well done. The experience in presenting the programs has been fine training for the young women in radio.

The service of the personnel office is to be expanded to include work in placement. We have secured the name of every personnel office in every nationally known concern that employs women and the type of positions open to women. We plan to contact these officers so that the nature of our work will be known and when our graduates seek positions in certain fields, we shall try to find positions for them in the part of the country they want. Those who do good work and win the unqualified recommendation of their teachers can be successfully placed in whatever part of the country they choose, if we take the pains to do it.

WASHINGTON SEMESTER

Arrangement has been made with the American University and five other co-operating institutions to set up what is called the Washington Semester. The plan is to have selected students spend one semester of study in the field of social or political science in the American University. The student will take three courses at the University which she chooses and will take a seminar course with the group of students from the other colleges, and will have one field project on which she will write a paper. Co-operation of Federal agencies and departments has been secured and opportunity will be given a junior student to use the facilities of Washington, D. C. and to become acquainted with the processes of national government.

The student pays her tuition at Lindenwood and her board and room in Washington. American University is compensated for their part in the program by having the service of a member of our faculty one year in five.

ENROLLMENT OF NEW STUDENTS

While it appears that we shall have every room taken in the Fall, our

enrollment counselors tell us that the competition for new students is becoming keener and keener. The increased rate has led some students who are here not to make application for Fall, and the increased competition of State universities to keep their peak enrollments up is effecting the readiness with which we secure applications.

The consensus of opinion at an administrators' meeting this winter is that maintenance of full enrollments will require more effort on the part of private colleges in the next few years than at any time since the war. Our own experience shows that in withdrawing enrollment men from the territory in Oklahoma and Texas we have lost patronage in these states.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

In co-operation with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and with the Institute of International Education, Lindenwood is providing places for at least ten foreign students. It is hoped that we may be able to make room for a few more. Among those already accepted are two from Lebanon, two from France, one from Denmark, one from Costa Rica, one from Bolivia, and one from Finland. The bringing of students to an American college and later sending American students to a foreign university may be of real significance in promoting international goodwill and certainly it will next year provide an excellent opportunity for these young women.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report indicates that we have operated the college within its income. We were fortunate in being able to avoid some expenses that had been authorized. Our expenses in other particulars were in excess of what had been expected.

A tentative budget for the ensuing year is submitted. It should be understood that the budget made in preparation for this meeting may be

subject to some changes made by the Finance Committee and the Administration of the college.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that a Committee of the Board be appointed to revise the by-laws and submit the revised by-laws to the Board for action.

It is recommended that a Committee be appointed to plan for the solicitation of funds for additional buildings for the college and to study the over all promotional work of the institution.

It is recommended that a lagoon or lake be provided this summer in the ravine just in back of Ayres Hall. A representative of the Conservation Commission has surveyed the land which would give us a lake of one square mile where there could be outdoor swimming and boating at a cost of between \$1,200 and \$1,500.

It is recommended that an effort be made to provide an indoor ring for riding at a cost of approximately \$10,000.

It is recommended that the Washington Semester program be approved and that the curricular expansions approved by the faculty be approved by the Board.

It is recommended that a campus radio station, at a cost of approximately \$1,000, be installed.

It is recommended that Miss Kathryn Hankins and Miss Anna Wurster, who have served on the faculty for a number of years and who are applying for aid, be allowed \$300 summer scholarships each.

Respectfully submitted,

F. L. McCluer, President
Lindenwood College