

ANNUAL REPORT

L I N D E N W O O D   C O L L E G E

to

THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI  
of  
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U.S.A.

June, 1942

On January 24, 1941 I accepted the presidency of Lindenwood in succession to my beloved friend, Dr. John L. Roemer. On October 23 I was formally inducted into that office. My first report to the Synod presents both an opportunity and an obligation to make clear my conception of our mutual responsibilities. I do so as a Presbyterian by birth, the son of a Presbyterian minister and grandson and brother of Presbyterian ministers. I enter your fellowship as a graduate of a Presbyterian college and as a member of our church Board of Christian Education and following thirty-seven years of service as teacher, dean and president in three Presbyterian colleges. My whole life has been devoted to higher education under the auspices of our church. With this background I feel that the past is reassuring and that "goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life".

Education is inherent in any Christian program. It is traditional in Presbyterianism. At a long last our church has an organized program of Christian education. It extends from cradle to grave. Of first importance in that program is the church school. If it does not prosper nothing else in the program can. Next comes the responsibility of our church for professional training on the graduate level of ordained ministers and lay leaders. Finally there is responsibility for college education. Church school, theological seminary, training school, and college are named in descending order of church responsibility for each one although in order of time college precedes seminary and training school.

Lindenwood is a four-year liberal arts college for women. It is a child of the church. It is directly responsible to the Synod of Missouri. As a part

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of the body politic it is a part of the commonwealth of the State of Missouri.

Its articles of incorporation require that "the whole course of instruction and discipline shall be based on the religion of Jesus Christ as held and taught in the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A."

The articles further require that the college shall be "established on a large and liberal plan and on a lasting foundation", that the course of instruction shall prepare for "useful living" giving attention to "cultivation of intellectual, physical and moral faculties" and, furthermore, shall "convey instruction appropriately so as to give a decidedly national bias to the youthful mind".

In a rapidly changing and revolutionary world I am heartened as this Synod is by the conviction that some things including the purposes of our church and of Lindenwood College do not change. Mindful of my obligation to perpetuate the traditional, historic and corporate purposes of Lindenwood I said in my inaugural address last fall, "Lindenwood is a college and it is Christian. These points are north star and sun for me". Furthermore I said, "It is not for the president to be officially religious for the whole college. Religious requirements are not satisfied by catalogue statements" and, I might have added, by presidential declarations. "Religious living and the fine art of meditation and prayer are not departments of life or of the institution". The institution in its entirety and in its personnel must be Christian. Therefore, in taking the oath of office I definitely committed myself then as I do not to a statement in the induction ceremony which included these words: "The purposes of Lindenwood College as a Christian educational institution in affiliation with the Presbytery of St. Louis and the Synod of Missouri of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. are set forth in the Articles of Incorporation and in the deed to the land which constitutes the original and present campus." I answered in the affirmative the following question, "Do you now accept the Presidency of Lindenwood College and do you promise in the exercise of your office to render diligent service, having special regard to the will of the founders that Lindenwood College 'be set up on a



large and liberal plan and on a lasting foundation' in order to produce 'useful members of society' possessing the Christian spirit and the 'national mind'?

You will be interested to know that the physical properties of Lindenwood, its plant, including campus, buildings for educational purposes and auxiliary enterprises, equipment and furnishings were valued, June 15, 1941, at \$1,834,475.00. This represents an investment of \$3,800.00 per student. This sum should be increased by building a chapel for exercises of worship. We wish to interest our friends in that project. Suspension of building activity now should not divert us from our purpose. Invested funds amount to about \$4,000.00 per student. This sum should be increased because prices increase while interest rates decrease. It will always be necessary to maintain a generous supplement to student fees in order to keep open a door of opportunity to students from homes of limited income. Current expenditures for educational purposes were \$256,618.00, or in excess of \$530.00 per student. A national average is about \$300.00 per student. Total disbursements, not including expenditures on plant, were \$424,316.00 or in excess of \$880.00 per student. The instructional staff numbers 47 or approximately one teacher to ten students. Other employees in offices and on campus number about one hundred.

The enrollment 1940-41. was 481. In June, 1941, certificates and diplomas were issued to 60 students, bachelors' degrees to 48. The enrollment in 1941-42 is 471. There are 53 candidates for certificates and diplomas and 43 candidates for bachelors' degrees. A slight decrease in enrollment is due entirely to employment demands which reduced enrollment of day students to 20. The dormitories have been full all year. Advance applications for admission received and approved greatly exceed the record for any previous year.

War has come to the campus. Our program is fully organized in recognition of that fact. Lindenwood is on the alert. Students and teachers are fellow American citizens. The "national mind" mentioned in our charter is again written in letters of red. Our independence is our most precious possession. We believe in a free church and a free school in a free state. Once again in an acute crisis we are

*R. M. G.*

admonished that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty". Rights and privileges that are neither known nor appreciated nor exercised will most certainly be lost.

Respectfully submitted,

President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "H. H. H.", written in a cursive style.