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A HISTORY OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

An Abstract of a Thesis

Presented to

the Faculty of the Department of Social Studies
Appalachian State Teachers College

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by William Richard Bracey August 1962

A HISTORY OF FLORA MACDOBALD COLLEGE

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AN ABSTRACT OF A HISTORY OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

The purpose of this study was to collect, evaluate and relate the data of Flora Macdonald College. Since the college under that name officially closed in May, 1961, it was important to preserve the story of that institution. It is possible that with the passage of time, some of the present records might be unavailable and the factual account of the struggle for financial support, the dedication of the teachers, and the effort to provide a quality Christian education for young women would have been difficult to trace.

The methods of research which were used in this study involved a great deal of documentary work. The official records of Flora Macdonald College, including the "Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the College," were all available in the archives of St. Andrews Presbyterian College. In addition to these records the catalogs of the institution, which were on file in the library of St. Andrews, were studied. The Historical Collection of the Presbyterian Church in the United States at Montreat, North Carolina, contained the Minutes of Fayetteville Presbytery, the Minutes of Orange Presbytery and the Minutes of Wilmington Presbytery. A search of these records and of the pertinent

periodicals of the church which were available yielded valuable information. The study of certain books gave information which was useful for the preparation of a chapter on the background of the community where the college was located. A review of newspapers and promotional literature yeilded vital information about the consolidation of Flora Macdonald with other Presbyterian institutions.

Another very important source was the publication,

The Church and Higher Education, a report of the Educational Institutions Committee of the Synod of North
Carolina, Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The findings of the committee included the story of the establishment, growth and decline of Flora Macdonald College and of the heroic efforts which were necessary to operate the college. Not only did it reveal the Christian character of the leaders but also the cooperation of the students and alumnae.

The committee found that, while the college had many dedicated and generous supporters, the uneven battle against rising costs and falling revenues made operation of the institution impractical. The Synod, concurring with the committee, recommended the consolidation of Flora Macdonald College, Peace College and Presbyterian Junior College.

The result of this action was the establishment of St.

Andrews Presbyterian College at Laurinburg, North Carolina.

The hopes for the future of Presbyterian higher education in Eastern North Carolina were largely based on the new college, its Christian concepts, and liberal arts curriculum.

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PREPACE

The research which was done in connection with this study would have been extremely difficult had not the officials of St. Andrews Presbyterian College given me their wholehearted cooperation. Therefore, I would like to recognize some of the people who were directly responsible for making research materials available to me.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Dean of Admissions, Rodger W. Decker, and his associates, William Fauley and Jim McRae, who very kindly gave me access to the archives of Flora Macdonald College. Thanks are due also to Sebastian Sommer, Development Officer of St. Andrews Presbyterian College, and his associate, Gloria Blanton, who lent me their extensive collection of information on the consolidation of Flora Macdonald College with Presbyterian Junior College and aided in collecting material for the appendix. Mrs. Carl Bennett was very helpful in locating and making available the library's collection of Flora Macdonald College Catalogs and deserves my gratitude.

I would like to thank my thesis advisor, Ina W. VanNoppen, and Julian C. Yoder, the chairman of my thesis committee, for their many suggestions and patient help during the writing of this thesis. My appreciation also goes to John G. Barden, the third member of my thesis committee, whose reputation for requiring excellent work

had such influence on this study.

My appreciation goes to James whose typing and editing of this study contributed much. And to my wife, Sillie Hart Bracey, I give my special thanks for her helpful suggestions and encouragement.

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CHAPTER I

THE SCOTTISH HERITAGE OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

The purpose of this study was to examine the records and publications of Flora Macdonald College in order to collect the facts and relate, in narrative form, the story of a worthy institution. It will attempt to bring to light the efforts of the descendants of Scottish Freeby-terians to establish educational opportunities for their daughters and to show the effects of Flora Macdonald College's contribution to its students, community and state.

An effort was made to inform the reader of the facts concerning the faculty, the curriculum, the finances, the achievements, and the graduates of the college under the administration of its three presidents and, finally, to acquaint the reader with the eventual consolidation with Fresbyterian Junior College, resulting in the establishment and erection of St. Andrews Fresbyterian College at Laurinburg.

An effort has been made through this study to record the story of an important institution of higher learning so that its story would be preserved for posterity.

The Scots of the Highlands were a strong and examerant people and many legends of personal bravery are preserved to this day. For centuries they were able to keep their English, Danes and others. Their heroes, William Wallace and Robert Bruce among others, led small armies to victory against odds and impressed upon their descendants the necessity for courage and valor.

These Highland Scots were organized into clane with very powerful chieftains and strong senses of loyalty to the clan and to their oath. The English spent centuries trying to conquer the highlanders and were able to join the two kingdoms, in 1603, only by accepting James VI of Scotland as James I of England.

The removal of the Stuart family from the throne after the death of Queen Anne, in 1714, resulted in very strained relations between the Scots and the English. The highlanders rebelled against the house of Hanover in 1715 and suffered defeat; many of the Scottish leaders were exiled and some came to America. The final effort against the English and their Hanoverian rulers occurred in 1746 when Prince Charles Edward Stuart returned to Scotland and raised an army of highlanders to help him to gain the throne of England. This army mot with disastrous defeat at the field of Culloden. The Scots were persecuted, hunted down and killed by the avenging Duke of Cumberland.

The Duke and his men established a base at Inverness and proceeded to search out and kill as many of the rebellious Scots as could be found. Their widows and orphans were left to starve and their land was confiscated, given to Englishmen and turned from farms into sheep ranges.

The survivors of "Butcher" Cumberland's bloody messagere were given the opportunity to take the cath of allegiance to the English Grown and to emigrate to America. Many were unable to endure the new order in Scotland and thousands of Scots came to North Carolina and followed the Cape Fear River to the Scottish settlements at Little River and Campbell Town, present-day Payetteville, which had been established around 1729.

From the Cape Fear area the highlanders began to settle in a great fan until they occupied the areas of present-day Harnett, Mocre, Montgomery, Anson, Richaend and upper Robeson counties.² The people who settled along the Lumber River, in Robeson County, brought with them their language, customs, dress and their Presbyterian religion. Gaelic was replaced by English, the clan lost its importance and the wearing of the kilt was reserved for coremonial occasions, but the Presbyterian Church grew and flourished in the early Scottish settlements.

North Carolina, The Dowd Fress, Incorporated, 1950. pp. 27-29.

²Ibid., p. 30.

The Scots who made the emigration of 1746 were true to their eath to uphold the English king whereas the earlier settlers had no such notion and this led to a serious division of the people during the Revolutionary War. Hany of the highland clans were reorganized in North Carolina and marched to join the British army at Wilmington. They were defeated in the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge and the loyalist movement among the Scots was practically ended. Plora MacDonald's husband, Allan MacDonald, was one of the leaders in the loyalist movement and was captured after the battle of Moore's Creek Bridge. He was imprisoned at Halifax, North Carolina, and remained there until after the war.3

Flora MacDonald, for whom Flora Macdonald College was named, was a Scottish heroine of great renown. She was bern at Milton, South Wist, in 1720 and was the daughter of Ranald and Marion MacDonald. Her finest hour was to come when, after the disastrous defeat of the Socts at Culloden, the fleeing Frince Charles was bessed in by the pursuing British army at a place near Flora MacDonald's house. She hid him in her house for several days while arrangements could be made to sauggle him over to the Isle of Skye.

Although the British had offered a reward of almost a

³¹bid, pp. 66-67.

half-million dollars for his arrest and his hiding place was known to hundreds of destitute people, his presence was not revealed.

Plora RacDonald applied for passports for herself, ber gillie and her spirming woman, to make a trip to Skye. These were granted by the British, and the Prince, dressed as a spinning woman, embarked in a small boat and made his escape.

when the English learned of Flora MacDonald's part in the escape of the Frince she was arrested, imprisoned and sent to London to await trial. She was not placed in a common prison but was allowed to stay in the custody of some friends in the city. Her trial never came up; she was pardoned and returned to Scotland.

In 1750, Flora was married to Allan MacDonald. The English took, by fine or confiscation, most of the lands and possessions of the MacDonalds and they were reduced to an unaccustomed state of poverty. Allan and Flora decided to give up their home in Scotland and emigrate to America, where they landed in 1774.4

When the MacDonalds arrived in Wilmington, a ball was held in their honor, and their daughter Anne was especially well received by the populace. The settlement at Gross

⁴Ibid .. P. 55.

Creek gave them a truly highland velocme and they resided in that community for several months. The MacDonalds lived at Cameron's Hill in Cumberland County for a time and they attended both Longstreet and Berbecus Presbyterian Churches.

Allan MacDonald purchased some land in Anson County and named the plantation Killigray. The family moved to this plantation in 1776 and it was from this place that Allan MacDonald answered Governor Martin's call for a loyalist army of highlanders to march to Brunswick to aid in the English cause against the Americans. The clans gathered at Gross Creek and marched toward the sea but they were intercepted at Moore's Creek Bridge and defeated. Allan MacDonald was among those who were captured. He was imprisented by the patriots at Halifax, North Carolina.

Flora was harassed and the family was often mistreated by their whig neighbors and the Provincial Congress confiscated their plantation under the Confiscation Act of 1777. She returned to Scotland in 1779, leaving her husband in prison, at his insistence. Her five sons remained in America and were actively engaged in the war. Allan was released at the war's end and he joined Flora MacDonald on the Isle of Skye, where he lived comfortably until his death. Flora died a few years later and was buried in Skye, S

⁵¹bid., pp. 58-67.

Flora Macdonald College was located in Red Springs, Robeson County, Borth Carolina. Robeson County was formed from Bladen County in 1787 and was named for Colonel Thomas Robeson, the Whig hero of the battle of Elizabethtown. Its first settlers were Scottish Righlanders, who settled the eastern and western portions of the county, and English and some French, who settled in the scuthern areas. Early inhabitants of this county were Groatan Indians who have claimed to be Cherokee and more recently Lumbes. They have been recognized as a tribe by the North Carolina General Assembly and have their own schools and a college at Fembroke. Tembroke State Gollege has admitted non-Indian people for several years and is now well attended by whites.

Index, swamps and some sandhills. It is located in the southeastern coastal plain and has a large area under cultivation. The economy of the county is based chiefly on tobacco and cotton production. Its tobacco markets, at Lumberton and Fairmont, are quite large. The primary industries, located in Red Springs, Lumberton, St. Fauls and Marton, are textile manufacture and lumbering.

by Counties. Raleigh, North Carolina, A Description Company, 1948, unpaged.

⁷ Ibia. 8 Ibia.

The first records of Red Springs go back to 1775, when Sailor Rector McWeill was given a grant of land from George III of England. This land remained in the hands of the McWeill family until after the Civil War. The town was originally known as Dora but the springs became somewhat popular as a health resort and, after the railroad came through in 1884, the name was changed to Red Springs.

The Scottish settlers of western Robeson County and their church, the Presbyterian, took the lead in establishing educational opportunities for the young people of the community and concentrated, quite naturally, upon the emphasis of Christianity in education. Many of these Scottish Presbyterians were settled around Centre Church, which was located near the towns of Nexton and Red Springs. One of their number was John Gilchrist, a graduate of the University of North Carolina and a lawyer of some renown in Rebeson County. He became the leader of a movement to establish a school for young women in the Centre Community.

Gilohrist and his fellow trustees were successful in their efforts and Floral Gollege was granted a charter by the Borth Carolina Legislature in January, 1841. The College was opened in June of the same year under the leadership of the Roverend John R. HacIntosh, of Laurel

⁹cates, op. cit., pp. 658-664. 101bid., p. 661.

Hill, Borth Carolina, the first president. The members of the first Board of Trustees were: John Gilchrist, chairman; Daniel Mackinnon; John Malley; Malcolm Smith; Peter MacEachern; Angus D. MacLean; the Reverend Archibald McQueen; John MacNeill; John C. MacLeurin; W. A. Sellers; Malcolm Furcell and four others whose names were not recorded. 12 The faculty was composed of the following persons: The Reverend John R. MacIntosh, Frincipal of the school, who taught chemistry, natural philosophy, evidences of Christianity, etc.; Mrs. C. M. MacIntosh, who taught drawing, embroidery, painting, botany, etc.; John G. Sutherland, the mathematics and intellectural philosophy teacher; Elizabeth Jewett, who taught grammar, geography, history, etc. and the Reverend F. W. Plassman, who taught vocal and instrumental music. 12

In April of 1847, Floral College received a loan of \$2,000.00 from the state of North Carolina Literary Fund. 13

This fact probably added much strength to the financial condition of the college and increased the

llybid.

College. Payettoville, North Carolina, printed by Edward J. Rale, 1048.

¹³Lather L. Gobbel, Church-State Relationships in Education in North Carolina Since 1776. Verhes, Duke University Fress, 1930, p. 33.

optimism of the founders considerably, as evidenced by their rather confident ennouncements in the lökö catalog. This catalog included the following information:

Floral College is located on the east side of the Lumber River in Robeson County, North Carolina. While the citizens of this section of country had long deserved well for their attention to the education of their sons, they seemed for a while wanting in attention to that of their daughters; but the establishment of this institution is evidence that this is no longer true.

It is now furnished with many of the helps of imparting instruction; such as Felton's outline maps, astronomical charts, Orrery, Globes and a well selected chemical and philosophical apparatus.

With all these helps and with an able and experienced faculty, the founders of the Institution hope now to afford their daughters as complete and thorough an education, both literary and ornamental, as can be obtained anywhere and at a comparatively moderate expense.

The Reverend Mr. MacIntosh served as president until 1855 when he was succeeded by the Reverend Daniel Johnson of St. Fauls, North Carolina. He was, in turn, succeeded by the Reverend Luther MacKinnon, who served during the years 1865-1867. The Reverend John Coble, Jesse R. MacLean, the Reverend Archibald Baker and J. Luther MacLean were presidents between 1867 and 1878 when the school was closed. 15

Cates states, in his article on Floral College, that the college was closed during the Civil War years. 16 A

lh Gatalogue, op. git.

¹⁵ Cates, op. cit., p. 661 16 Ibld., p. 662.

reference has been found, however, that indicated that the debt ewed to North Carolina from the 1847 loan was repaid in full during July, 1864. The exact status of the college during the Civil War is, therefore, not very clear but the evidence shows that the hard years of Recenstruction finished it.

Hamilton MacMillan opened a military school in the cld Floral College buildings and operated it until 1863. Dr. H. G. Mill, well-known Presbyterian minister, purchased the property in 1885, but his efforts to revive the college were unsuccessful. 18

North Carolina. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, The University Press, 1930, p. 247.

¹⁸ oates, op. cit., p. 662.

CHAPTER II

THE ESTABLISHMENT AND GROWTH OF FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

The Reverend Samuel Mock Rankin, paster of the Red Springs Presbyterian Church in 1895, was one of the resimients of western Robeson County who was interested in better educational opportunities for the young woman of the area. He suggested to F. R. Law, stated clerk of Payette-ville Presbytery, that a recommendation should be made to the presbytery that some of the towns in the area might be interested in having a college and that bids from various communities should be sought. This recommendation was made and two communities responded; Payetteville, which offered the old Donaldson Academy property, worth about \$3,000.00, and \$2,000.00 in cash; and Red Springs, which offered four acres of land and \$2,500.00 in cash.

After an extended debate, the Red Springs proposal was accepted and the Reverend Sr. Rankin was empowered to begin the necessary work, with the help of the members of the Board of Trustees. The Trustees were: S. M. Rankin, W. B. Arrowwood, F. M. Thom, J. W. NcLaughlin, J. L. MacNillan and G. B. Fatterson. Their first meeting was

¹ Minutes of Payetteville Presbytery, April 23, 1896. Lumberton, North Carolina, Ed. B. Freeman, printer, 1896, p. 17.

held on June 11, 1896. They decided to name the new school "Red Springs Seminary for Young Ladies of Payetteville Presbytery" and to open the school on September 30, 1896, with a faculty of five.2

The first President, Charles Graves Vardell, D.D., was born in Charleston, South Carolina, on February 12, 1860. He was the second son of the Reverend V. G. Vardell and Jane Dickson Bell Vardell. His early education was seanty and informal and after the death of his father be was obliged to give up school and manage the family plantation and work as an interpreter to a Scottish tea farm manager in order to support his mother and four brothers and sisters. As a result of his experience on the tea farm he gained employment at a tea factory in St. Faul, Minnesota, and resided in that city for a time.

When he was twenty-three years of age, young Charles received a call to the ministry and enrolled in the preparatory department of Oberlin College in Chic. He returned to the South in 1885 and entered Davidson College from which institution he was graduated in 1888. He then entered Princeton Theological Seminary and received the Bachelor of Divinity in 1891. Davidson College conferred

^{2&}quot;Hinutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Red Springs Seminary," June 11, 1896. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Cerolina.

the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him in 1903.

The Reverend Mr. Vardell accepted a call to the pasterate of the Fresbyterian Church at New Bern, North Carolina, in 1891 and in the same year he married Miss Linda Rumple, the daughter of a prominent Fresbyterian minister. He served in this pasterate for five years and then "resigned to accept the unanimous call to become the paster and the shepherd of a substantial part of the young woman-hood of the Carolinas;" the presidency of Red Springs Seminary.

he devoted the remainder of his life to the growth and nurture of this institution and served as its president until 1930. Vardell had known poverty during his life but at Flora Macdonald College he became well acquainted with it. His struggle to build and maintain the College was heroic and the results of his labors were magnificent.

The Doctor is a man of great personal charm and magnetism. His scholarship is deep; his tastes are diversified; his interests are broad; his ideas are liberal; his views are tolerant. No one can long be in his company without the instinctive feeling that he is in the presence of a great soul.4

President and Hrs. Verdell had six children, one of whom is Charles G. Vardell, Jr., who was the last Acting

York, J. J. Little and Ives Company, 1939, p. 260.

^{4&}lt;sub>1514</sub>., pp. 262-263.

President of Plore Macdonald College and is presently Dean of the Gonservatory of Music at St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Mrs. Vardell was a very talented musician and was the founder and chief motivating force behind the growth and development of the conservatory of music at Flora Macdonald College.

Charles G. Vardell continued to serve Flora Macdonald as President Emeritus until his death in 1958 and took pride in being present at commencement and at many of the college functions. He was the honoree at the college's fiftieth anniversary colebration in 1946 and continued to command respect among the educators throughout the years of his association with the college.

began to make preparations for the opening of the College. The first faculty member employed was Maggie R. Rose of Fayetteville who was elected as instructor in art at a salary of \$30.00 a month and room and board. The Reverend Charles G. Vardell was persuaded to leave his pastorate at New Bern to become the first president of Red Springs Seminary. The remainder of the first faculty were:

^{53.} M. Sankin, "The Beginnings of Flora Macdonald College" (A paper read by S. M. Rankin to the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College on May 19, 1931)

E. E. Bill of Huntsville, Alabama, principal and instructor; Fannie M. Seawell of Jonesboro, North Carolina, member of the faculty; Christiana McFadyen of Raeford, North Carolina, principal of the primary department; B. S. Krider of Salisbury, North Carolina, assistant music teacher; and Mrs. J. D. V. Rumple, physical culture. Emma Blue of Bladen County was elected matron and J. L. McMillan, M.D., was employed as college Physician.

Board for all students was \$0.00 per month. Tuition was: Collegiate department, \$4.00 per month; Intermediate department, \$2.50 per month; Frimary department, \$1.50 per month; Music school, \$40.00 per year under the Frincipal and \$30.00 per year under the assistant; School of Art, painting \$30.00 per year, drawing \$25.00 per year. Fees were payable quarterly in advance.

These fees were extremely low as judged by today's school expenses. President Vardell's first annual report, however, showed a surplus of \$593.69, most of which had not actually been collected at the time.

The fall of 1896 found 112 pupils in all departments attending Red Springs Seminary. These girls were enrolled from the first grade through college and included town girls

⁶ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Red Springs Seminary, July 25, 1897. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina

and boarding students.7

Fresident Vardell and the Trustees expected a certain amount of growth because they very shortly began plans for expansion and improvement. Efforts were made to purchase a tract of land known as the fairground property as early as February 26, 1897, and a committee was appointed to attempt a union between Wilmington and Payetteville Freebyteries for the purpose of supporting the Seminary. The efforts to secure support from Wilmington Presbytery failed at this time but part of the fairground property was secured.

Growth was indeed experienced. During the summer of 1897, three faculty members were employed, in addition to replacements, and by January of 1897, the President reported an enrollment of 162 scholars. The beginning of the importance of the school of music sould be seen even then for of the 162 pupils enrolled, 102 were music students. A total of five new planes were purchased and the gymnasium was cut up into music rooms.

Fresident Vardell was given the authority to employ teachers, with the approval of the Board and was also given the responsibility for selecting all materials and textbooks.

⁷ Mankin, op. cit.

^{8.} Minutes of the Moeting of the Board of Trustees of Red Springs Seminary," Pebruary 26, 1697. Archives of St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, R. C.

he employed a teacher of Latin and History; a French instructor; an additional music teacher; a teacher of stenography, typowriting, and telegraphy; and he instituted a normal department, for the purpose of educating teachers, and Emily Goo of New York, New York, was selected as the teacher.

The financial position of Red Springe Seminary was not strong at any time and financing continued to be a big problem for Fresident Vardell and the Trustees. Student fees were small but teachers salaries were not large, some receiving only \$30.00 per month with room and board, and other expenses were not as great as would be the case today. It has previously been reported that the first year ended with a small surplus and this was actually the case during the first several years.

The April 15, 1898, financial report of the treasurer showed an excess of assets over liabilities in the amount of \$12,024.78 but it also showed that cash on hand was only \$116.24. 10 References have been found which indicate that the Board of Trustees gave their notes for varying amounts to cover pressing obligations at different times. A later financial report showed a balance of assets over expenditures

^{9&}lt;u>Ibid., Ney 23, 1898.</u>

¹⁰ Ibid., April 15, 1898.

of \$484.50.11

The efforts of President Vardell and the Board of Trustees toward raising the necessary funds were at least partly successful and by 1901, a new auditorium had been built and much equipment had been bought. Vardell, in his October, 1901, report states that "finances are under control" and a detailed financial report of October 5, 1903, shows the books balanced. The Seminary's financial position had been strengthened by gifts and notes from members of the Board of Trustees and by the establishment of the D. F. McKinnon scholarship. Mrs. M. M. McKinnon donated this fund in order to give a scholarship to deserving girls from Barium Springs Orphanage. 12

The Music Department of Red Springs Seminary had from its beginning shown great promise and during the first years over half the students were listed as music students. Mrs. C. G. Vardell was the principal of this department from the very first and the purchase of several planes helped give the students the equipment they needed for good instruction.

The construction of an auditorium and the purchase of a pipe organ were indications of the progress made by the music department by 1901. At this time the department had a

^{11&}lt;sub>Ibid.</sub>, August 1, 1898

^{12&}lt;sub>1b1d</sub>., October 5, 1903

faculty of four and offered lessons in plano, organ, violin and voice.

The apparent success of the school of music seems to be borne out by the fact that in 1903, Fresident Vardell recommended that the name of the college be changed to Southern Fresbyterian College and Conservatory of Music. 13 This recommendation was accepted by the Board of Trustees and on February 21, 1907, the North Carolina State Legislature ratified the change in the charter. Under this charter, the control of the college was shared by Payetteville and Crange Fresbyteries.

The college now had prospects for additional growth and Mark Morgan of Laurel Hill, North Carolina, one of the trustees, donated a new building to the college known as Morgan Hall. In return for this generous gift, the trustees granted to him, his heirs and assigns a perpetual scholarship to the college which would provide for all cash and dues except the contingent fee and the medical fee. The

Mark Mergan, who was the founder and long time president of Morgan Cotton Mills, Incorporated, of Laurel Hill, North Carolina, was to be additionally helpful to the

^{13&}quot; Minutes of the Meeting of the Scard of Trustees of Red Springs Seminary," October 5, 1903. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian Gollege, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

^{14 151}d., May 17, 1904.

Southern Freebyterian College and Conservatory of Rusic.

Not only did he denate the new building but when it seemed
that reliaf was needed from some bonds that were due, he
assumed the debt by redoming the bonds and lending an
additional amount of \$2000.00 in each. 15

This made possible a new financial situation at the college and fresident Vardell was able to report in February, 1905, that a surplus of \$2000.00 had been realized from receipts during the first term and that increased patronage of the college because of the space in Morgan Hall should enable the college to pay its debte from earnings. 16

Fresident Vardell's report to the trustees showed an enrollment of 353 students of whom 206 were boarding students from fourteen states. He praised the faculty for outstanding teaching during the year and announced that West Hall had been completed and steps were being taken to erect a new central building.

Increasing financial support seemed available because of the fact that Orange Presbytery had voted to join with Payetteville Presbytery in the support of the college.

¹⁵ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Southern Fresbyterian College and Conservatory of Music." July 5, 1904. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina

¹⁶ Ibid., February 8, 1905.

Other good news was that George W. Watts had offered a gift of \$4,000.00 if an additional \$6000.00 could be reised. The trustees accepted both the gift and the condition. 17

The Trustees of the Southern Fresbyterian College and Conservatory of Music under its new charter were as follows: From Payetteville Fresbytery: The Reverend W. B. Thom, Mark Horgan, J. L. McMillan, B. B. Pearsall, E. L. James, John F. Eckair, E. H. Williamson, and A. L. Bullock. The following trustees were elected from Grange Fresbytery: The Reverend S. K. Rankin, the Reverend E. L. Siles and Shepherd Strudwick.

President Vardell reported that the value of the buildings and equipment of the college was \$100,000.00 with an indebtedness of \$23,057.35. Secause of increased costs and the desire to retire the debt, the trustees voted to reise tuition and board charges from \$150.00 to \$160.00 per year. Dr. Vardell reported that B. F. Bullard of Savannah, Georgia, had donated \$1000.00 to establish the Eliza J. EcFarland Scholarship. 18

On May 21, 1907, John Blue and the Reverend C. E. Bodgin were added to the Board of Trustees. The Board elso took action on a form of tenure for the teachers of the college. They established the rule that three consecutive

¹⁷ Ibid., May 22, 1906. 18 Ibid., March 21, 1907.

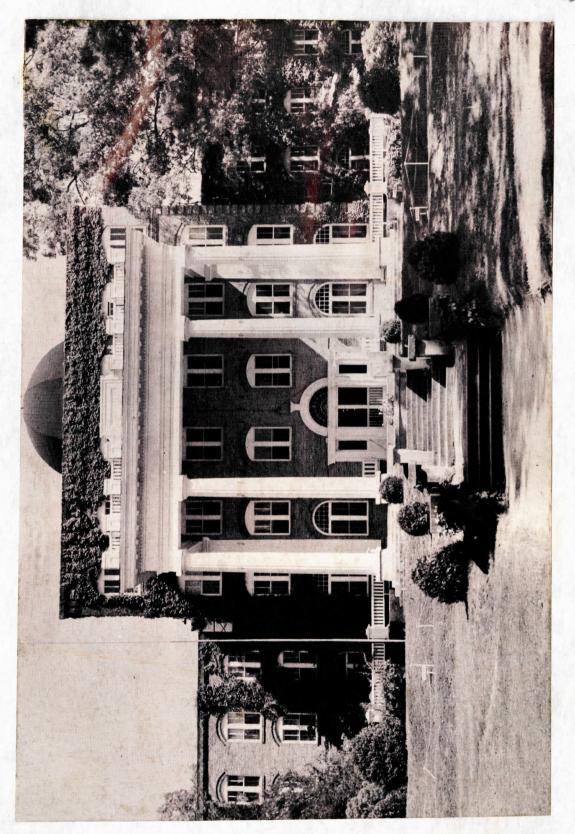
elections as teacher would suffice without further re-election. 19

The alumnae of the college made plans to raise funds to aid in the erection of the new central hall and the Board of Trustees commended them for their efforts. Furthermore, the trustees approved the erection of the central hall and recommended that its name be Vardell Hall. They pladged to aid in securing funds for its completion. This building was completed and ready for inspection on May 16, 1911.20

During 1909, 1910, 1911, and 1912 efforts were constantly made to persuade Wilmington Fresbytery to join
Fayetteville and Orange Presbyteries in rendering support to the college. President Vardell reported on May 20, 1912, that Wilmington Fresbytery had finally agreed to join in offering support to the college. The Board of Trustees immediately asked the three Presbyteries to join in a fund drive to raise \$200,000.00 to provide a permanent endowment for the college. The Presbyteries wished to postpone the drive until January 1, 1914, because of other monetary commitments so the Trustees began to investigate other possible sources for an endowment fund. 21

¹⁹ Ibid., May 21, 1907. 20 Ibid., May 16, 1911.

²¹ Winutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Music," May 20, 1912. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Caroline.



A View of the Main Building of Flora Macdonald College. Figure 1.

President Verdell began a series of trips to northern cities which continued for several years. The purpose of these trips was to approach prominent northern man and to solicit their financial support. It was on one of these trips that President Vardell met the Monorable James A. MacDonald, LL.D. of Toronto, Canada, HacDonald became very interested in the college and suggested that a Plora MacDonald Hemorial Training School for Christian workers be established at Red Springs. The Trustees discussed this plan and thanked MacDonald for his interest but took no action. 22 By May of 1915, however, a serious financial shortage had developed. Many students were unable to pay their fees in cash and some had to be admitted on credit. 23 Prior to this time, the President had reported that 47 students were working their way through the college and that the demand for work exceeded the supply. 24 The financial report of 1914 showed a deficit of \$2030.84 which could hardly be overcome without additional funds. A campaign for reising funds within the presbyteries brought such a small amount that it was of practically no benefit to the college.

²²<u>Ibid.</u>, May 21, 1913. ²³<u>Ibid</u>, May 18, 1915. ²⁴<u>Ibid.</u>, May 20, 1912.

LIBRARY Appalachian State Teachers College Boone, North Carolina

25

These new events had a great deal to do with the Trustees' second consideration of James MacDonald's suggestion to change the name to Flora MacDonald College. MacDonald believed that an endowment fund might thus be raised from among the people of Scottish descent in America. The plan was published in the Scottish America magazine and was endorsed by John Gordon Gray, past president of the St. Andrews Society of America. The name of the college be changed to the Trustees that the name of the college be changed to Flora MacDonald College and permission was granted by the Trustees, Grange and Payetteville Fresbyteries on October 14, 1915. The Board of Trustees was to be reorganized under a new charter and was to consist of twenty-four members, twelve from Payetteville Fresbytery and twelve from Grange Presbytery. 26

The motto of the college as adopted by the trustees was "Disciplina Feminarum Christo."27

The Fresident's report of the twentieth year of operation showed the appraised value of the buildings and

²⁵ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Plora Macdonald College, "October 15, 1915. Archives at Bt. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid. The motto is translated, "For the training of Christian women."

equipment to be \$200,000.00 with an indebtedness of \$50,000.00. Vardell reported that his northern visits had gained much moral support for the college but not much real cash. He stated that the college's indebtedness was caused by the expressed college aims of providing the highest quality of education and at the same time keeping the fees reasonable enough to permit girls of the poorer families to attend. 26

On Harch 16, 1917, a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Hacdonald College was called at Fayette-ville, North Carolina, for the purpose of considering a possible merger of Flora Hacdonald College and Peace Institute of Raleigh. This was a joint meeting of the Trustees of both institutions and they decided to approve the merger if the Presbyteries and the owners of Peace Institute could come to terms. These efforts and discussions continued through 1918 but were finally ended with no positive action taken. 29

During 1916-1917 a large enrollment was experienced and Jemes A. Headonald gave to the college \$10,000.00 from the Scottish Society of America to endow the first Chair of

²⁸ Ib16., May 23, 1916.

^{29&}quot;Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Plora Macdonald College" at Fayetteville, Borth Carolina, March 16, 1917. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

the College. This was the beginning of what was hoped would be a large endowment fund for the College to perpetuate the memory of the Scottish heroine, Flora MacDonald. Fresident Vardell reported to the Trustees that Payetteville Fresbytery had agreed to try to raise \$50,000.00 for the college and that Deorge Watts had offered to give the College \$50,000.00 if a sum of \$100,000.00 could be reised elsewhere.

Seminary and Dr. W. R. Grey of Davidson College had both enrolled their daughters at Flora Macdonald College.

In 1919 the World War was over and most of the servicemen had returned to their homes. Conditions at Flora Macdonald College returned to normal also and the cases of restlessness which had plagued the girls during the previous year came to an end. This was the year in which the honor system was introduced at the College.

³⁰ minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Plora Meedonald College," May 21, 1918. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina

had been very successful; three hundred and twelve students were enrolled and one hundred and seventy-five had to be refused for lack of space. He stated that other institutions which possessed greater wealth and better equipment were in keen competition for the best minds and were sometimes able to lure away the best students after the sophomero year. The Fresident urged the Board of Trustees to increase the funds available for the improvement of the science department and the library and to see about securing more land for the campus so that Flora Macdonald College could attract and hold good students.

President Vardell reported that a fund of \$160,000 was invested for college use. Nest important, he said, was the feeling of confidence in the college which was spread among the people by the alumnae who had kept in touch with each other and with the college. The public school people of the state had commended the college for its good work. They had endorsed the college emphatically and had often sought ways to advance its cause.

Verdell's Philadelphia friends had recommended that a secretary for endowment fund raising be employed. They recommended that if possible, a man from Scotland who had been in America long enough to have American ideals be considered. Dr. Vardell reported that he had found such a

men in the Reverend Dr. D. McIntyre. The Trustees turned this matter over the endowment committee.

The President stated that lack of space was causing some inconvenience and recommended that the first two years of high school work be dropped. This was approved by the Trustees. He further asked that the business department be temporarily discontinued. John Gribbel, Director of Curtis Fublishing Company, offered to donate a total of one thousand dollars to the college if the commercial department could remain open. A. W. Nolean made a similar offer and approval for dropping the commercial department was demied.

The financial needs of the college continued to be a source of concern. A. W. McLean, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, offered to canvass the Trustees in an effort to raise around \$25,000.00 to be applied on the college debt of \$90,000.00. His offer was enthusiastically endorsed by the other Trustees and they pledged themselves to help in this drive to the extent that they were able. The Alumnas, too, were helpful in financial matters and they were commended by the Trustees for their efforts to raise \$30,000.00 for retirement of the debt. The Fresident was authorised to work through the endowment committee to raise the balance of

^{31&}quot;Minutes," op. oit., May 25, 1920

funds needed to complete the payment of the debt. 32

The financial troubles of the college were the rost of a most serious problem which confronted the officials in the spring of 1921. The Fresident reported to the Trustees that the State of North Carolina was undertaking a project to rate the colleges of the state on the basis of their curricula and the preparation of the prefessors. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction which had control of teacher certification notified President Vardell that Flore Eacdonald College would be rated at 90 per cent and that her graduates would be given credit for only three years of college until certain conditions were set.

One of these conditions, a slight change in ourriculum, could be easily met but the second condition, that
three-fourths of the faculty should have the master's degree,
was more difficult. The dilemma arose from the fact that
Flora Macdonald was in direct competition with colleges
which paid higher salaries and urged the Trustees to try to
raise additional funds. In 1921, both Grange and Fayotteville Presbyteries endersed a proposal to raise one million
dollars for the use of the college and several new scholarships and endowed chairs.

^{32&}lt;u>1bid</u>., Cetober 12, 1920

J. Kennedy Tod of New York gave a valuable collection of paintings to the college with the idea that they
could be sold and the income used for the endowment fund.
The trustees draw up a resolution of appreciation for the
paintings and decided to keep them and display them in the
college buildings.33

The valuable and unselfish manner in which President and Mrs. Vardell had served Flora Macdonald College was recognized by this touching tribute from the Board of Trustees.

On this the 25th anniversary of the founding of Flora Bacdonald, the trustees wish to record their sincere appreciation of the able, courageous and faithful service of Dr. and Bro. G. G. Vardoll; to commend their unfailing confidence in the success of the institution, and their perseverance under serious difficulties and handicaps; to approve the results achieved and to wish for Flora Macdonald College an enlarged sphere of usefulness in the years to come. 34

Vardell, in an effort to bring about a more complete acceptance of the new million dollar campaign, offered to return to the college some of his selary but the trustees unanimously refused to accept this generous and sacrificial offer.

The campaign to raise one million dollars was undertaken in a serious way when, at a special meeting of the trustees in Greensboro, a committee, composed of the most

³³ Told., May 24, 1921. 34 Told., May 25, 1921.

influential of the trustees, was appointed to expedite the campaign. Serving on the committee were A. N. Scales, J. Harvey White, A. R. HcBachern, E. E. KcLean and Angus W. HcLean. 35 Payetteville Presbytery was asked to endorse beartily the campaign and the Carnegie Corporation of New York offered a total of \$50,000.00 to the college if an additional \$150,000.00 could be raised from other sources by January 1, 1925.

One of the sad items of business brought before the Trustees at their annual meeting in 1922 was the drawing up of a resolution honoring the late J. Luther McMillan, one of the original trustees and the first college physician. They commended him for his fine service to the college and expressed their deepest sympathy to the family. 36

In 1923, the college was faced with impending ruin because of a lack of operating funds. The Trustees made a resolution to the effect that if the present campaign for funds should fail, the college would be reduced to ruin and that, if necessary, the controlling presbyteries should take steps to liquidate the college.37

Friends of the college made many outstanding gifts to the endowment fund during this period. Mrs. Cameron

³⁵ Ibid., December 9, 1921. 36 Ibid., May 20, 1922.

³⁷ Ibid., May 22, 1923.

Morrison paid the President's salary for several years and, at one time, gave stocks valued at \$20,000.00. Mrs. L. Richardson gave \$30,000.00 to endow the chair of Bible. Many others including John Gordon Gray, John Sloans and John P. McMair gave considerable sums for the benefit of the college.

The college continued to operate with a deficit and much of the funds raised had to be spent on operating expenses. The regulations governing curricula, preparation of instructors, and endowments which were set up by the State of North Garolina for institutions which educated teachers caused an added burden on the finances of the college.

Fresident Vardell succeeded in obtaining a provisional "A" rating from the State Department of Fublic
Instruction on the basis of changes in the curriculum and
the addition of science equipment which was denated by John
Gerden Gray. He reported that all the conditions for a
permanent "A" rating had been fulfilled on February 25,
1925. The college was full to overflowing and four students
were living in the president's house. This house was burned
on March 11, 1925, and funds had to be raised to rebuild it.
It is evident that the college could not have survived these
trying times had it not been for the generosity of many of
its friends. Robert Stuart and John Sloane each denated

\$1,000.00 toward the rebuilding of the Fresident's house.

A. W. McLean, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, loaned

\$3000.00 for this purpose. It was the custom of several of
the trustees to lend or to donate money in order to keep the
college in operation and their timely support saved it on
more than one occasion.

During this period, James A. HacDoneld of Toronto, Canada, who was one of the great benefactors of Flora Hac-donald College, died. Patty Watkins, long-time Dean of the College, was forced to resign because of poor health. A touching tribute to her Christian influence and faithful interest in the students and alumnae of Flora Hacdonald College is included in the records of the College. 36

The need for funds caused the trustees to borrow money to meet pressing obligations from time to time. The Reverend Herman Jones and Malcola Lockhart worked to collect pledges due and to solicit new gifts on behalf of the college. Their efforts met with some success but the goal of a \$500,000.00 endowment was not reached. 39

Even though the college officials found it most difficult to locate the funds necessary for current operation, an average of three hundred students were taught annually for the decade of the nineteen twenties and the

³⁸ Ibid., May 19, 1925. 39 Ibid.

educational influence of the college was doubtless great.

On Pebruary 18, 1930, Charles G. Verdell submitted his resignation as president of the institution. He stated that the responsibilities of the Fresidency were beginning to weigh heavily on him and he requested that he be elected professor of Bible. This request was granted by the Trustees and they took this opportunity to commend Vardell for his thirty-four years of outstanding service.

Senry Graybill Bedinger, paster of the Presbyterian Church of Hartsville, South Carolina, was elected as the second president of Flora Macdonald College on July 17, 1930. He immediately set to work, with the aid of Genevieve McMillan and some of the alumnas, to visit students and prospective students. He also attended the Men's Work Conference at Montreat and helped to enlist support for the college. He was invited to preach at many of the churches in Payetteville Presbytery and spoke to several high school groups in the vicinity of Red Springs. The result of this work was a net gain of twenty-three students over the previous year.41

The story of Flora Macdonald College, during the first thirty-four years of its existence, was one of constant struggle for financial support. The work was carried

⁴⁰ Ibid., July 17, 1930. 41 Ibid., October 6, 1930.

On with courage and determination and the effects of the Christian influence of this college continue today. The stated purpose of the institution was to provide a Christian education for young women at a cost which would allow the children of the poorer families to attend. This purpose was adhered to with great single-mindedness and student fees were kept to a minimum.

The story of the college is also the story of its first Fresident, C. G. Vardell, who devoted the better part of his long life to Flora Macdonald College. His untiring efforts as Fresident and later as Fresident Emeritus had a great deal to do with the success of the institution. His friendliness to strangers and his courageous personality often led him to the very people whose generous donations and staunch support provided the foundation on which Flora Macdonald College was built.

It is the story, too, of men like 3. H. Rankin, Locke Shaw, A. L. Sullock, Mark Morgan and J. L. Hemillan who were bound together by the dress of building a fine college for the education of Christian women. The story includes an account of the efforts of Scottish-Americans to make this college a shrine to their great heroine, Flora Macdonald.

It is a moving story of earnest prayers and hard work and of a recurring theme of Christian ecoperation and con-

outstanding teaching of the dedicated faculty and the excellent reputation given the college by its loyal alumnac.

In 1930 North Carolinians were beginning to feel the first pinch of the great depression. This was manifested chiefly by a lack of confidence in the future and a very eautious attitude on the part of the businessmen of the eres. Flora Macdonald College felt this when the merchants of Red Springs began requiring cash payment for goods which had been bought on credit in previous years. By December a financial crisis developed and the college was unable to pay her teachers or creditors. An emergency meeting of the Trustees was hold on December 6, 1930, and loans were arranged to finance current expenses. Much of the financial distress was caused by the depressed business conditions of the times. Some of the students were unable to pay their bills and collections of pladges were extraordinarily unsuccessful. Prospects for future collections were not considered bright.42

The financial storm was weathered for the time being and in 1932 Flora Macdonald College gained recognition from the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools on the non-member list and was entitled to the rights and privileges of an "A" grade four-year college.43 In order

⁴² Ibid., June 23, 1931. 43 Ibid., January 22, 1932.

to fulfill the requirements for an effective teacher education program, student teaching arrangements were made with the Red Springe Public Schools.

Depression conditions brought about several changes in the financial structure of the college, and teachers' salaries were reduced by 20 per cent, in 1932-1933, in an effort to balance the books. The same year saw a reduction in the number of students to one hundred seventy thus reducing the income of the college and causing an operating deficit of \$1000.00.

The Trustees instructed the business manager, Ernest Graham, to make a strong effort to collect student fees and to withhold the diplomas from those graduates who had not paid their fees. 44 They also authorized a reduction in fees for the next year and as a result the college enrolled 277 students with 215 boarders. The commercial department was unexpectedly crowded with students and a large profit was expected. 45 Euch of this increase in enrollment was the result of the work of Genevieve McMillan who continued to visit prospective students and to publicize Flora Racdonald College largely at her own expense.

Dean Hazel Morrison's report to the President showed a total of 283 students for the school year 1933-1934. She

⁴⁴¹bid., May 30, 1933. 451bid., February 19, 1934.

recommended that the term be lengthened to 170 days and that the commercial department have a limited enrollment since it was already filled to capacity. The students were exhibting a fine attitude toward their work and, in the Dean's opinion, were developing a real love for the college.46

The business manager, Ernest Graham, reported that the college finances were such improved and that prospects for the coming year were bright. The Board of Trustees commended Graham for his service to the college. He had performed this service at no salary with the help of Brown Morrison who was also commended for her loyal and efficient service when additional work fell on her.47

The upward surge of student attendance continued and in Pebruary of 1935, a total of 325 students were carolled. A small monetary surplus was reported for the first semester and the teachers were granted small increases in salary contingent upon a surplus at the end of the year. The money was available and those teachers with at least five years' service had their salaries raised. The President reported a

^{46&}quot;Report of the Dean of the Paculty," May 30, 1934. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁴⁷ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," May 29, 1934. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

year of operation. The reported a gratifying increase in prospective students for the next year and estimated that between fifty and seventy-five girls could be registered if room was available. The president recommended that some housing facility be erected on the campus and the Trustees authorised him to investigate the proposal.

of Trustees, died in the spring of 1935. The Trustees ordered a floral tribute for his funeral and adopted a fitting resolution, referring to his services to Flora Hac-donald College. The resolution was prepared and sent to his family. A. R. Hequeen was elected Chairman to succeed McLean.

Standard Life Insurance Company had offered to donate the old Thrower Hotel building to the sollege if it could be torn down and removed from its present site. The matter was left in the hands of a special committee and in 1937 Vardell, with the help of some friends, began to supervise the construction of a symmetium from the materials gained from the old hotel. His plan was to convert the room fermerly occupied by the symmetium into a suitable expension for the

⁴⁸ Ibid., July 23, 1935. 49 Ibid.

library. His actions had the complete approval of the president and the Board of Trustees. G. G. Verdell appeared before the Trustees on May 24, 1937, and reported on his activities during the year. He reported that the new gymnasium would be ready for occupancy by September, 1937, and would be presented to the college free and clear of debt. He had also been engaged in building a shrine to the children of Flora MacDenald, the Secttish heroine, on the campus. The Trustees unanimously expressed to him their thanks for these two outstanding achievements. 50

The number of students remained large and the financial situation of the college was sound with the exception of the debt of about \$34,000.00.51 The Board of Trustees approved a campaign for a minimum of \$150,000.00 in done-tions to pay the debt and increase the endowment fund. They gave their personal notes as collateral so that the college might borrow a sum of from \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 in order to conduct the campaign. 52 Edwin Morgan, grandson of Mark Morgan who was the denor of Morgan Hall, followed the tradition of his family by spearheading this fund-raising resolution. The Trustees voted, at their January meeting, to increase the goal of the cempaign to \$350,000.00 in order

⁵⁰ Ibid., May 24, 1937. 51 Ibid., February 25, 1936.

^{52 1}bld., December 29, 1936.

tional equipment and properly paying the teachers. The presbyteries were requested to approve this campaign but they had already decided to conduct a Ministers' Annuity Campaign and asked that the college campaign be postponed. The fund-raising activities were finally started in the fall of 1930 and the management of the campaign was entrusted to L. A. Davis of Atlanta, Georgia. 53

It is interesting to note that Helbert McNair Jones of Laurinburg, North Caroline, was welcomed to the Board of Trustees at the January, 1937, meeting. He was later to become a very prominent figure in the affairs of Flora Macdonald College.

President Sedinger reported that a valuable statue,
"Robert Burns at the Flow," had been denated to the college
by Mrs. R. W. Magna, daughter of the late Colonel Walter
Scott, a benefactor of the college. He noted also that Mrs.
C. G. Vardell had been severely injured in an accident and
recommended that the Trustees send a resolution of thanks
for her great contribution to the conservatory of music and
an expression of their sympathy for her suffering and their
sincers hope for a speedy recovery. This resolution was so
executed. St. Mrs. Vardell did recover her health and lived

⁵³¹bld., March 23, 1938. 541bld., May 30, 1938.

there had been a noticeable decrease in the number of music students during the past few years and requested that some scholarships be offered for music study in an effort to gain more students. A committee was appointed to survey this situation but action was not necessary since a sufficient number of additional students was enrolled by 1939.55

The Chairman of the Investing Committee, A. T.

McLean, submitted a report showing a total endowment fund of \$130,042.59 which yielded an average interest of 5.25 per cent. 56 Lawrence A. Davis, the fund raising director, reported that radio station WFTF of Raleigh, North Carolina, had denated a fifteen-minute weekly broadcast to the college and that for fifteen weeks during the summer of 1938, a series of programs publicizing the college had been presented. His fund-raising efforts were rewarded by the receipt of \$40,491.33 in cash and pledges. He reported that the churches of Fayetteville, Orange and Wilmington Presbyteries had agreed to help and that plans were underway to hold a drive in the Robeson County area when economic conditions were better.

^{55&}quot;Report of the President to the Scard of Trustees," February 22, 1939. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Sorth Carolina.

⁵⁶ minutes," op. oit., May 30, 1936.

President Bedinger reported that the Reverend S. W.

Rankin, one of the founders of the college, had died on

April 12, 1939, at his home in Greensboro. An excerpt from
the tribute written by the Trustees in his honor is included
as follows:

The Trustees desire to put on record the fact that Mr. Rankin was the prime mover in accoring the location of the college at Red Springs. He first suggested that an effort be made to accure the college for the town, and later canvassed the community and raised \$2500.00 as a bid for the location of the college at Red Springs. He also canvassed the Presbytery for funds to erect the first building and, as chairman of the building committee, supervised the erection of the building. As a member of the first Board of Trustees he was given the responsibility of recommending a president and faculty of the institution. Ferhaps his greatest service to the college was in accuring Dr. C. G. Verdell as president.

Mr. Hankin did a great work for the cause of the church and Christian Education. In addition to his work in the establishment of this college, he was the founder of Glade Valley School in Allegheny County. 57

The Trustees promised their loyal support to L. A. Davis in the continuation of the development campaign and authorized the charges to students to remain \$350.00 per year. They sent a letter of sympathy to Miss Mary McColl, who had managed the college laundry for 41 years and was now ill and unable to continue her work. 58

⁵⁷ Minutes of the Meeting of the Scard of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," May 21, 1940. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carelina.

^{58 101}d., Pebruary 22, 1939.

The decade of 1930-1939 was one of the most successful periods of the college. President Sedinger concentrated his efforts on securing an ever greater number of students. He was very successful in this task. The student body grew from 170, in 1930, to 344, in 1940, and the college debt was greatly reduced. When the depressed concition of the country during this time is taken into account, the college's rate of growth was phonomenal.

A large part of the credit for the growth of the student body should go to President Bedinger, and to Genewieve McMillan, the college field representative. They spent a great deal of time traveling and speaking at schools and interviewing students. Bedinger was often invited to preach in the churches of the presbytery and took every opportunity to bring the college and its program to the attention of the people. Another of his great accomplishments was the improvement of the facilities and the faculty at the college to a point that was acceptable to the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The college was placed on this Association's non-member list in 1932 and remained on this list throughout the decade. This gave Flora Macdonald College the privileges of an "A" grade, four-year institution.

The fund-raising duties of the college were chiefly left in the hands of the Soard of Trustees. They performed

edsirably by acquiring additional endowment funds and by retiring a large part of the debt. These financial campaigns also served as a basis for future fund requests.

President Bedinger reported that many repairs had been made on the buildings and that some classroom equipment had been purchased. He was very well pleased with the quality of the work of the faculty but warned that an increase in salaries was needed in order to retain the college's rank with the various accrediting associations. Gifts to the library of both books and money had provided an acceptable number and variety of books. He stated that an addition of five hundred books a year would be needed to maintain adequate standards.

President Bedinger said that the college debt had been reduced from \$137,250.46 in 1931 to \$86,785.38 by July 1, 1939, and that additional funds, collected through the development program, would reduce it even more. The alumnae had advanced a plan to raise funds for the endowment in honor of C. G. Vardell and had already contributed \$5,000.00.59

Enrollment figures continued to be large. Three hundred forty-four students were enrolled in 1940 and the

⁵⁹mPresident's Report to the Board of Trustoes, February 20, 1940. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Although the college was operating without a deficit it had no surplus and not much progress toward meeting the standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools could be made. The development program failed to yield a large amount of revenue during 1940 and a request for the assets of Elise High School, which had been closed, was left ungranted.

Ettic Brown, teacher of French at Flora Escendid College for ferty-one years, died on April 26, 1940. She left the college a valuable collection of French books and a set of historical clippings dating back forty years. 60 Dean Eberly of the Conservatory of Eusic asked if permission could be granted by the Trustees to sward a degree to two man who had studied under his direction. This request was denied on the ground that the Trustees had no authority to grant such a request. 61 It is interesting to note that President Bedinger's report of February 18, 1941, records a general restlessness among the students because of war conditions. He regarded the general world situation as the cause of the students behavior and of a drop in

⁶⁰m Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College, " May 21, 1940. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁶¹ Ibid., September 24, 1940.

enrollment. This is similar to a statement made by President Verdell during the first World War. 62

President Sedinger informed the Trustees that the financial goals of the college would need an upward revision under the new regulations of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the regional acorediting sguncy. The requirements for an accredited college, for full membership, were now an endowment of \$300,000.00 without debt. Flore Eacdonald College's endowment, counting scholarship funds, was \$157,000.00 and the debt was \$85,000.00. The development compaign had yielded only \$638.33 during the year, the alumnae campaign had raised \$1,500.00 and the debt liquidation committee had raised \$3,855.00.63 The situation might have changed for the better in the following years if the plans of the General Assembly of the Fresbyterian Church in the United States had been successful. The General Assembly proposed that a special committee make a survey of the needs of the educational institutions during 1941, 1942 and 1943 and publicise the work of these institutions for the purpose of paising the money which was necessary for the better

^{62&}lt;sub>1516.</sub>, May 21, 1918.

⁶³mReport of the President to the Board of Trustees," February 18, 1941. Archives at St. Andrews Freebyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

operation of these schools and colleges. Unfortunately, World War II sharply curtailed the attention and activities of this committee, although the college received more than \$2,000.00 from the estate of the late John W. McLauchlin, a former trustee, and \$5,000.00 from the estate of P. C. Hawley. 64

In September, 1941, A. R. Requeen resigned as Chairmen of the Board of Trustees and Edwin Morgan was elected to
that office by acclamation. J. Harvey White resigned from
the Board after thirty-two years of faithful service and a
resolution of appreciation for his past service was presented to him.

Student enrollment began to rise in 1942 and 320 students were in attendance. A slight surplus of money was evailable at the close of the year and the fees were raised \$25.00 to a total of \$92.50 a quarter. The financial situation was much improved. The debt liquidation committee had raised \$10,000.00 in cash and the alumnae had contributed nearly \$15,000.00.65

In 1943, the Trustees authorized Fresident Bedinger to accept charter membership for the college in The Council

⁶⁴mReport of the Freeident to the Board of Trustees," February 16, 1942. Archives at St. Andrews Freebyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolins.

⁶⁵Tbid., May 19, 1942.

recommended that a committee be appointed to work with Presidents Bedinger and Vardell on preparations for a fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the college to be scheduled for the school year 1945-1946.66

Brown Morrison, the college burser, was commended and her salary was increased because of the additional work that she was doing in the absence of a business manager. Vardell reported on his plans to raise \$100,000.00 as part of the semi-centennial activities of 1946. The Trustees pledged their cooperation and help for the completion of this tack.

In a special secting of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees in September, 1943. Edwin Morgan, Chairman, reported that the work of the debt liquidation committee had shown some success and that the college debt had been reduced to \$53,000.00. The endowment fund was now \$181,110.73 and a small operating surplus was shown by the annual audit. Morgan offered a challenge gift of \$5,000.00 to the debt liquidation fund. This gift and one later offered by Halbert Jones were contingent upon the fact that

⁶⁶ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College, February 16, 1943. Archives at St. Andrews Freebyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁶⁷ Ibid., May 18, 1943.

additional matching funds be raised by the other Trustees. At the October, 1943, meeting, Morgan reported that funds had been received and that the debt had been reduced to \$45,000.00. The work of the debt liquidation committee continued to be very effective and in Pebruary, 1945, the old debt of the college was completely paid. 68 The financial picture of the college was considerably brightened by this event and plane were authorized for the repair and renovation of some of the buildings. Edwin Norgan resigned as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Halbert McMair Jones was elected to that office. 69

The students of the college requested permission to have social dancing on the campus and the request was turned over to a committee of the Board of Trustees for study and recommendations. The committee later submitted a report which favored the students' request. The Trustees heard this report and referred the question to the control-ling presbyteries. The presbyteries upheld the report and authorized social dancing on the campus of Flora Macdonald College for the first time in its history. The first

⁵⁸ Ibid., February 13, 1945.

⁶⁹¹b1d., Hay 27, 1947.

⁷⁰mReport of the President to the Scard of Trustees, " Pebruary 11, 1947. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

cance was held on Pebruary 22, 19h7.

The semi-contennial year, 1945-1946, was colebrated at Flora Racdonald College by many events. The series of celebrations included a homecoming day in Cetober for the alumnae, a dinner and susical program honoring G. G. Vardell on the occasion of his eighty-sixth birthday in February, and a special two-day celebration in connection with the May Day exercises. The May Day program included a speech by the Fremier of Nova Scotia, Angus L. Macdonald, who was introduced by Josephus Daniels, distinguished editor and public servent from Raleigh; a symphonic drama, "Flora Macdonald," presented by Mrs. Claire Johnson Merley, its author; and a musical program by the college glee club and the Kiltie Sand of York, Fennsylvania, a drum and bagpipe band. 71

The commencement program included an alumnae luncheon with Era. E. J. McGuire, the first graduate, as a principal speaker; a sermon by J. J. Murray, son-in-law of C. G. Vardell; the presentation of a portrait of Era. Vardell to the college by members of the Linda Vardell Music Club; and an address by Frank Forter Graham, Freedent of the University of Eorth Carolina. 72

⁷¹ Report of the President to the Board of Trustees," May 27, 1946. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁷² Ibid.



Figure 2. The Highland Fling Dancers -- May Lay Celebration, 1959.

On May 7, 1946, the Saint Andrews Society of Charleston, South Carolina, sent a letter of appreciation to Flora Macdonald College on the occasion of the fiftieth enniversary of the founding of the college and the two hundredth anniversary of the rescue of Bonnie Prince Charlie by the Scottish heroine, Flora MacDonald.

While the college had operated with balanced books for several years, it was now faced with a small deficit. This was because of the inflationary condition of the postwar times and because of a decrease in enrollment. Only 270 were in attendance on September 24, 1946.73 The finance committee, therefore, proposed the commencement of a financial campaign. This campaign was to be called the Plora Racdonald College Improvement Program and was approved by the Board of Trustees. By May 24, 1947, \$219,097.17 in subscriptions had been received and the Board recommended that the campaign continue until the full goal of \$300,000.000.00 had been reached. 74

The report of the business manager for January, 19h8, showed that his tentative budget forecast was that a deficit of over \$3,000.00 would be sustained. He stated

⁷³ Tb14., September 24, 1946.

Theminutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flore Macdonald College, "May 26, 1947. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

that the buildings and much of the equipment were so old that constant repair funds were needed. He was dismayed with the lack of margin between income and expenditures and recommended that student charges be raised \$90.00 a year to a total of \$600.00 per student per year. He stated that. based on three hundred students, the additional income would provide money for necessary contingencies. The business manager. William G. Coxhead. also recommended that the Trustees launch a campaign to have Flora Macdonald College made the beneficiary in the wills of the friends of the college. 75 He reported that a recent study, made by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, concluded that an enrollment of 1050 students was a minimum figure for the maximum in efficient operation. 76 The Trustees, after hearing Combasd's report, recommended that a new dormitory be built to house additional prospective students.

During 1948, the Freeldent made application to the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for full membership. The application was accepted and a survey

^{75&}quot;The Business Manager's Report to the Fresident of Flora Macdonald College, "January 22, 1948. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁷⁶sminutes," op. cit., Jonuary 22, 1948.

team was sent to evaluate the college. 77 The efforts which were made to raise salaries, improve buildings, and buy equipment to mest the high standards set by the Southern Association proved too great a burden for the resources of the college. An operating deficit of \$16,232.08 was forecast for the fiscal year, 1948, in spite of increased student fees and increased support from the college's benefactors. 78

On May 29, 1948, the Board of Trustees expressed their appreciation for the life and services of Mrs. C. G. Vardell, who had recently died. A resolution was also sent to the femily of the late Charles G. Rose, a trustee and friend of the college. 79

On August 19, 1948, Henry G. Sedinger submitted his resignation as second President of the college, to the Board of Trustees. He stated that he wished to return to the pastorate and had accepted a call from the Pineville Presbyterian Church in Necklenburg Presbytery. 80 The

^{77&}quot;Report of the President to the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," February 17, 1948. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁷⁸ Business Manager's Report," op sit., May 25, 1948.

^{79&}quot; Minutes," op. cit., May 29, 1948.

^{80&}quot;President's Report," op. cit., August 19, 1948.

Trustees accepted his resignation and approved a resolution praising him for his eighteen years of faithful service to the college. 81 The Trustees asked President Bedinger to make his resignation effective on October 15, 1948, and he agreed to do so.

tess, reported to them that C. G. Vardell had made additional funds available to the Catherine Halcolmson Vardell Scholarship and the Jane Dickson Sell Vardell Scholarship.

Thus continued the beneficence of the first President of the college. President Sedinger announced that the Reverend B.

E. Fleming, Secretary of the Scard of Trustees, had died.

The Board authorized a fitting resolution of sympathy to the family and appreciation for his long and interested service to Flora Macdonald College. 82

Hazel Morrison, Dean of the Faculty, included in her 1948-1949 report that 283 students were enrolled. The enrollment had decreased during the last three years and much of this was caused by the addition of the twelfth grade first to the North Carolina schools and then to the South Carolina schools, thus postponing college entrance

ElaMinutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," August 19, 1948. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Caroline.

^{82&}lt;u>161d.</u>, October 14, 1948.

for some students by one year. She reported that some equipment had been bought and that the primary needs of the college were a modern classroom building and a new junior-senior dermitory. 83

On October 17, 1948, the Trustees elected to the office of Acting President, Halbert M. Jones, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees. William G. Coxhead was made Acting Vice-President as well as Business Manager. 84 In his first report, President Jones announced that he had attended the meeting of the Southern Association of Col-leges and Secondary Schools at Memphis, Tennessee, and that full membership for the college was denied. He listed four major reasons for this: The absence of a permanent President, the need for approval of the Conservatory of Music by the National Association of Schools of Music, the lack of a full endowment fund of \$300,000.00, and the presence of an operating deficit for the past three years. 85 he urged that the Trustees make stronger efforts to secure more

⁶³ Report of the Dean of the Faculty," 1946-1949. Archives at St. Andrews Freebyterian College, Leurinburg, Borth Carolina.

Ohn Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," October 17, 1948. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

⁸⁵ Report of the Acting President," February 15, 1949.

support for the college.

During the spring of 1949, Margaret Horgan McGuire, the first graduate of Red Springs Seminary, died. She had been a loyal alumna and staumch supporter of the college during her lifetime. The Trustees adopted an appropriate resolution of sympathy to the family and ordered that a copy of the resolution be included in the minutes of their meeting. 86

Flora Macdonald College entered the year 1950 with a new Fresident, Marshall Scott Woodson. Woodson came to Flora Macdonald from Themasville, Georgia, where he had been paster of the First Fresbyterian Church. He immediately began to work on full accreditation of the college by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. He recommended various financial changes which would be necessary to meet the accreditation requirements. The college's efforts to improve its facilities and faculty were successful and Flora Macdonald College was admitted to full membership in the Southern Association on December 7, 1950. The Conservatory of Music had been admitted to membership

Somminutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Racdonald College, " May 2h, 1949. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

⁸⁷aReport of the President to the Board of Trustees of Flore Macdonald College," February 13, 1951. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

in the Bational Association of Schools of Music on November 24, 1950.88

The generally decreased enrollment of the 1940-1949 decade continued into 1950-1951 when the number of students fell to 250. The average enrollment for the 1940-1949 period was about 260 students and the resulting loss of income caused a severe reversal of forward progress. These difficulties were caused by war conditions and the ravages of monetary inflation. The combination of reduction in income and rising prices prevented a sound financial operation. The college was, therefore, unable to pay the salaries required by the best young professors, and as the older members of the faculty retired, suitable replacements were difficult to obtain. The evidence shows that if the growth which was experienced during the 1930-1939 period could have been sustained, the future of the college in Red Springs would have been assured.

enthusiass and the spirit of progress which was so desperately needed at this time. He announced in his February, 1951, report, that Hrs. F. P. McCain had accepted the position of Dean of Women and that her capable work had already had a beneficial effect upon the students. In the

⁸⁸ Ibid.

same report he announced that Frice H. Gwynn, Jr. had accepted the position of Dean of the Faculty and that he expected this illustrious educator to lead the college to an honored place among the institutions of higher education. 89

Robert Smith, Dean of the Conservatory, resigned in the spring of 1951 and Charles G. Vardell, Jr. was elected to that position. 90 Vardell came to Flora Macdonald from Salem College where he had achieved national recognition as a leading music educator. 91 This was the second time that he had served as Dean of the Conservatory. He had previously served as Dean during the 1920-1921 school year. 92

Dean Gwynn's work began with the installation of a new curriculum for educating young women to serve as pastors' assistants in Christian education. The general strengthening of the faculty proceeded but the Dean

^{89&}quot;Report of the President to the Board of Trustees of Flora Racdonald College," February 13, 1951. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

⁹⁰ Einutes of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Flora Racdonald College, April 13, 1951. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

^{91&}quot;Tresident's Report," op. cit., May 29, 1951.

P. 72. 92 The Catalog of Flora Macdonald College, 1920-1921,

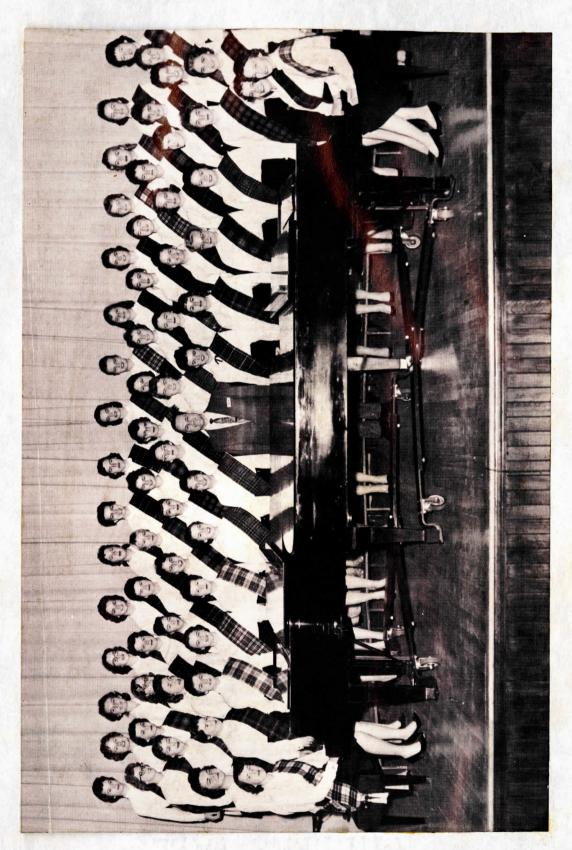


Figure 3. Professor L. M. Skinner and the Flora Macdonald College Choral Club, 1959.

reported that he had great difficulty in securing the desired type of teachers with the low salaries which were then available. 93

Further strengthening of the college's educational position was accomplished by the establishment of a vocational guidance center under the direction of Rodger W. Decker. Since Flora Macdonald College was one of the first church-related colleges to have such a center, it attracted many prospective students to the campus. 94

In the spring of 1952, the Trustees heard a petition from the students which requested that compulsory Sunday school attendance be abolished. This request was granted and one of the older customs of this Christian school passed into oblivion. 95

President Woodson opened his report of Pebruary.

1953, with a prayer of thanksgiving in which he stated that

"every single hope and expectation we had for the college
three years ago has been fulfilled."96

His optimism seemed hardly appropriate in view of the

^{93&}quot;Minutes of the Hesting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Hacdonald College," May 27, 1952. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

^{94&}lt;sub>Tbid</sub>. 95_{Ibid}., October 28, 1952.

⁹⁶ President's Report, " op. cit., Pebruary 10, 1953.

facts that enrollment had decreased slightly from 1952 and that gifts to the college had been reduced by more than one-third. He was forced by lack of revenue to recommend an increase in student fees and stated that Flora Macdonald's fees were still lower than many church supported institutions. 97

Be announced that the Ford Foundation had granted \$50,000.00 to the Synod of North Carolina for the purpose of making a survey of the educational institutions under the control of the Fresbyterian Church. President Woodson reported that a panel of the best qualified men and women would be named to serve as field representatives for the survey. The stated hope of the Synod was that this survey would serve to win new loyalty and support for Christian higher education. 98

President Woodson expressed his feelings about Flora Macdonald College in this report and the following excerpt is a statement of those views:

Flora Macdonald Gollege lives by faith and is suetained through prayer. And, because our dependence upon God is absolute, He has been and continues to be the very life of this institution. Where God is needed, desperately needed, He is real. The operation of this college is an act of faith and a demonstration of the power and adequacy of prayer. God is indeed in our midst. And students who live in this atmosphere of

⁹⁷ Ibld. 98 Ibld.

faith, and prayer, and devotion to Christ develop into Christian young women of strong belief and ardent plety.

This I believe -- is the uniqueness of Plora Macdonald Gollege. 99

The third president, Warshall Woodson, seemed to possess a fine talent for public relations. He spent a great deal of his time in the field, recruiting students and establishing a rapport with the Freebyterians of North Carolina. He spent the last half of 1953 in building friendships and gaining support for the college.

The Trustees authorized a fund-raising campaign to begin in 1953 with the expectation of raising one million dollars by 1956. 100 The campaign management was turned over to the firm of Marts and Lundy, fund raising specialists, who had recently completed a successful campaign for Davidson College. They raised \$127,000.00 by April, 1954, and approximately \$400,000.00 by February, 1955. 101 The financial campaign fell short of its goal. This was an indication of the basic weakness of the college, the

⁹⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰⁰ minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College, "April 18, 1953. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

^{101.} Report of the President to the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," Pebruary 8, 1955. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Morth Carolina.

inability to secure adequate funds to make Plora Macdonald a first-rate college. One of the fund raising problems, that of competition with other Presbyterian colleges, was emphasized during the campaign.

The Synod survey of the Presbyterian colleges
brought out this fact and the survey team recommended that
the three eastern Presbyterian colleges, Peace College,
Presbyterian Junior College, and Plora Macdonald College,
be consolidated. 102 The Synod of North Carolina heard this
recommendation and voted to proceed with the consolidation
and the Trustees of Flora Macdonald College voted to abide
by this decision and to cooperate in the consolidation.

alumna of Flora Macdonald, sent a letter to all the alumnae urging them to use all their influence to have the new college built at Red Springs. 103 A great deal of effort was expended by the people of Red Springs and by many of the Flora Macdonald College teachers to see that the consolidated college would be located on the campus at Red Springs. Part of the effort to preserve the name and heritage of the college resulted in a resolution which the

^{102&}quot;Kinutes," op. cit., May 24, 1955.

¹⁰³ Letter from Hannah McMelll McMillan to the Alumnae, July 24, 1955.

Trustees approved "to confer the bonorary degree of Litt.

D. to the Reverend Donald McKinnon, in view of his eminent scholarship, his devotion to the memory of Plora Macdonald, and his relation to the Clan Donald. The hope was expressed that the name of Flora Macdonald could someway be preserved in the new institution. This wish was not realized. The new college was built in Laurinburg, North Carolina, and given another Scottish name, St. Andrews Presbyterian College. 105

The first seven years of Woodson's administration were years of progress at the college. He was able to secure for the college three very fine administrators,

Dean Gwynn, Dean McCain and Dean Verdell who contributed greatly to the success of its undertakings. The academic program of the college was marked by the addition of a competitive scholarship program, an intensive course on methods of study, and new courses which led to a major in Christian Education, business and economics, medical technology and nursing. The courses in medical technology and nursing were given in cooperation with other institutions.

¹⁰⁴ Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flore Macdonald College," May 29, 1956. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian Gollege, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

¹⁰⁵ Greensboro Daily News, September 24, 1960.

Various improvements and repairs had been made in the buildings and the financial situation had been stabilized. The guidance center, established in 1952, served a large group of young people and contributed substantially to the overall program. The great strength of the institution lay in the closeness of the students to the faculty and in its Christian influence on the daily lives of its students.

Price B. Owyrn, Jr., Dean of the Faculty, wrote perhaps the most memorable statement of Flora Macdonald College's purpose and character. The following is an excerpt from his February, 1957, report:

All my life I have beard the school here referred to as a poor college. In one sense this is still true. We merely need additional funds. However....Plora Macdonald College is rich in spiritual resources. Flora Macdonald College is rich in the character of its student body. Flora Macdonald College is rich in the skill and fidelity of its faculty. Flora Macdonald College is rich in its past and potential service to society. Flora Macdonald College is rich in its sacrifices for Christian higher education. These values we are determined to conserve at whatever cost as we move into the great opportunity that lies before us.

Even though the Synod of North Caroline had

^{106&}quot;Report of the President to the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College," February 12, 1957. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

^{107 &}quot;Report of the Dean of the College," Pebruary 12,

definitely decided to build the new college at Laurin-burg, 100 the people of Red Springs continued to hope that semething could be done to save Plora Macdonald College. The Scottish College Foundation was organized and offered to donate a sum of \$75,000.00 annually for the support of the college at Red Springs. The Trustees declined this offer and continued to support the decision of the Synod. 109

Certain citizens instituted a suit against the Soard of Trustees in an effort to obtain an injunction to halt the merger. Woodson wrote to them and stated the reasons for the consolidation. He asked them to stop the suit and to join in the support of the consolidated college. 110

Those people who had been long associated with Flora Macdonald were saddened during its final years by the deaths of three of its most prominent leaders. The Reverend A. R. McQueen, D. D., former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, died on December 7, 1957. Charles G. Vardell, Sr. died on May 3, 1958, at the age of ninety-eight, and Henry G. Bedinger died on January 29, 1960. Proper

¹⁰⁸ The Laurinburg Exchange, March 6, 1956, p. 1.

¹⁰⁹ Kinutes of the Resting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Racdonald College, " Way 26, 1957. Archives at St. Andrews Fresbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina

lid Letter from Dr. Marshall Scott Woodson to the litigants, July 4, 1957.

resolutions, honoring these men were approved by the Trustees and included in the minutes of their meetings.

Springs were carried on in the grand tradition of its
founders. They were years of transition as the faculty
prepared for the move to Laurinburg. Dean Frice Gwymn
served as chairman of the curriculum committee of the new
college as well as Dean of Flora Macdoneld College. Leslie
Bullock was actively engaged in helping to prepare the new
curriculum which was later known as Christianity and
Culture. Leslie
President Woodson was granted a year's leave
of absence and Charles G. Vardell, Jr., was elected acting
President. Dean Price Gwymn was elected Vice-President
in charge of academic affairs and Modger W. Decker was
elected Vice-President in charge of administration. Decker
performed these duties while serving as Dean of Admissions
at St. Andrews Presbyterian Gollege.

The enrollment at Red Springs was 443 students during the finel year. 113 An operating surplus of

lll Report of the President to the Board of Trustees of Plora Macdonald College, May 19, 1959. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

^{112 &}quot;Kinutes," op. cit., February 9, 1960.

^{113&}quot;Report of the Dean of Administration," Nay 23, 1961.

\$14,337.13 was available and the college was free of debt. 114

The final commencement exercises on the Flora

Macdonald campus were held in May, 1961. The speakers were

Hugh Anderson of the Divinity school of Duke University, and

United States Senator Sam J. Brvin, Jr. Sixty-three seniors

were graduated.

The students of Flora Macdonald College expressed their views on the consolidation through their newspaper The Skirl. The May 1961 issue contained the following statement:

Through the merger and consolidation of Plora
Macdonald College, Feace College, and Fresbyterian
Junior College into Saint Andrews Presbyterian College,
the name of Flora Macdonald will be lost. But its
Scottish traditions and ideals will greatly enrich this
new school even as Flora Macdonald College students have
contributed greatly to their communities through the
years. This is not the end of a great Scottish school.
It is the beginning of its finest days.

Charles G. Vardell, Jr. expressed similar thoughts in his statement at the 1961 graduation exercises.

Nor will Flora Macdonald (Gollege) ever be forgotten. She is going to change her name. She is, if

lluIbid.

¹¹⁵ Report of the Acting President to the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College, " May 23, 1961. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

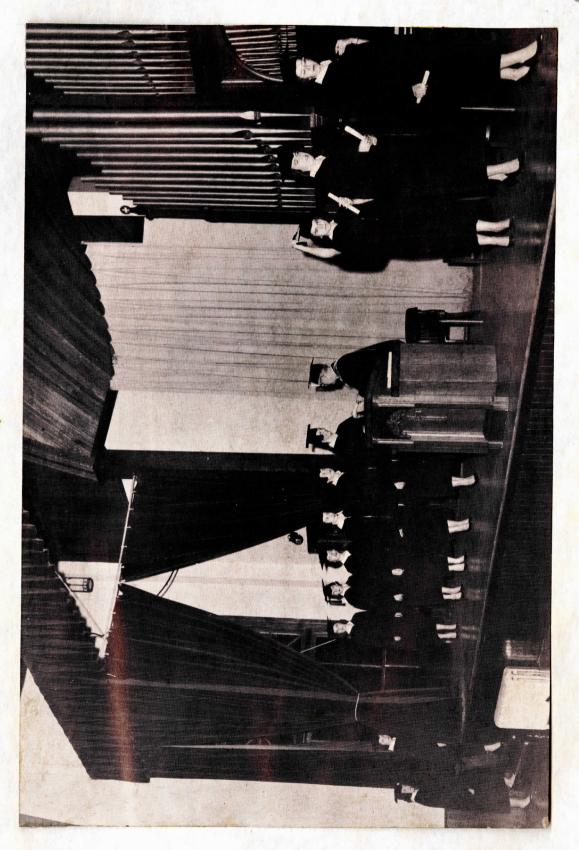


Figure 4. Graduation Day in the Flora Macdonald College Auditorium, 1959.

you please, planning to be married. And we are predicting that the marriage will be a success. 116

^{116&}quot;The Spirit of Continuation," a statement made at the 1961 graduation exercises of Flora Macdonald College by Charles G. Vardell, Jr.

GHAPTER LII

THE CURRICULUM

The purpose of Flora Macdonald College was stated in the 1902-1903 catalog as follows: "The development of earmest Christian character is the principal aim of Red Springs Seminary." The curriculum was, therefore, composed of courses which would produce a well-rounded, Christian education for these students.

Since the school was designed to teach students of various ages, it included a primary department, a college preparatory department, and a collegiate department. The primary department took the place of the first eight grades of the present-day public schools and the college preparatory department was the equivalent of a high school. The subjects which were taught in the primary department differed little from a standard curriculum of today. Reading, writing, spelling and diotation were taught as well as elementary science, numbers, geography, vocal music, free-hand drawing, and physical culture. It can be seen that, while the terminology is slight different, ideas of

P. 15. Line Catalog of Red Springs Seminary, 1902-1903,

²¹bld., P. 18.

subject matter have changed little in sixty years.

The college preparatory department was organized into four years. English, reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, music, drawing and gymnastics were taught in all four years. In addition United States history and Bible were taught in the first two years. Latin was taught in the second through fourth years and physiology and geography were added in the third year. The fourth year had, in addition to the universal subjects already mentioned, courses in civil government, ancient history, algebra, and physical geography.

It is evident that the sequence of courses offered in 1902 were quite different from present day curricula. It was notably weak in science and advanced mathematics since it offered only physiology and one year of algebra. This type of education, though, was the accepted rule for women's preparatory schools and was adequate for college entrance. The college entrance requirements at Hed Springs Saminary were Latin grammar, composition and three books of Cassar, algebra as far as quadratics, English grammar and rhetoric, United States and general history, and physical geography.

The college was divided into ten departments. They

³¹bld., p. 19.

English language and literature, ancient language and literature, modern language and literature, history and political science, natural science, mathematics, mental and moral science. Bible Christian evidence, doctrine and history. physical culture and hygiene, and business, The names of the departments are indicative of the subjects which were covered. The lack of many mathematics and science courses in the college preparatory department was not evident in the college department. Freshmen studied algebra, geometry, physiology and zoology in addition to English. Latin and Bible. Sophomores were required to study solid geometry. trigonometry, chemistry, Latin, English, Bible, and either French or German. The courses for the first two years of college were all required. There were no electives. Juniors and seniors were allowed to choose sertain electives in addition to the required curriculus. College Juniors were required to study history, phychology, moral science, physics, botany, Bible, and Latin and could elect one course from the elective list. Junior electives were analytics, French, German, trigonometry, English, and chemistry. A more liberal policy of electives was followed in regard to the senior class. Their required courses were history, Obristian evidence, geology, and astronomy. They could

SIDLA.

choose six simester hours of electives from the following list: English, three hours; Latin, two hours; French or German, four hours; physics, two hours; calculus, two hours; church history and church doctrine, two hours; botany, two hours; and Bible, two hours. Physics and botany followed each other in series on a one-semester basis. Hours of credit were based on the number of weekly recitations.

A student who successfully completed the course just outlined was granted the Bachelor of Arts degree. Red Springs Seminary also granted a Bachelor of Science degree and a Bachelor of Letters degree. The curriculum for the Bachelor of Science degree was similar to the Bachelor of Arts degree except that more courses were required in science. The requirements for the Bachelor of Letters degree were based on more extensive study of languages.

The Conservatory of Music offered courses in plane, voice, harmony, theory, and music history. Courses were also taught in drawing and painting. The commercial department offered instruction in bookkeeping, stenography and typewriting.

Expenses for the first students at Red Springs
Seminary were: fuition and fees, \$108.00 per year; laundry,
\$9.00 per year; medical fee, \$4,00 per year; and contingent

^{6&}lt;u>Tbld.</u>, p. 20. 7<u>Tbld.</u>, p. 21.

fee, \$4,000 per year. Private music lessons were available at \$40.00 per year and piano rental was \$5.00. Art fees were \$30.00 for oil painting and \$25.00 for drawing.

The curriculum of Red Springs Seminary changed very little during the years 1896 to 1903 and a review shows a well-balanced liberal arts course of study. The quality of instruction would be difficult to measure from the information in the catalogs, but there is little reason to doubt that it was not at least adequate if not superior for that period.

A review of some selected courses of study will present a more complete picture of the subject matter which the stadents were taught. The English language and literature occurses used some textbooks and required reading from important classical literature. Shetoric and composition were taught in the freshman, sophomore and senior classes while the junior classes were devoted almost entirely to reading and discussion of literature. Swinton's Word analysis was the spelling textbook for freshmen and sophomores. In addition the freshmen studied one of Shakespears's plays, Scott's Lady of the Lake, Macaulay's Lays of Ancient Rome, Stevenson's Treasure Island, and the works of other English writers. The junior classes studied such

Sphe Catalog of Red Springs Seminary, 1896-1897,

Literary works as Goldsmith's <u>Vicar of Nakefield</u>, Macamlay's <u>Essays on Addison</u>, <u>Milton and Johnson</u>, and Shakespears's <u>Healet</u>. Sincteenth century literature, Pancoast's <u>Standard</u> <u>English Posss</u>, Tennyson's <u>Idylls of the Eing</u>, and works by Dickens were part of the senior course of study.

Latin students were required to study Gassar's <u>Gallie</u>

<u>Wars</u>, Cicero, Virgil, the history of Rome, Norsce, facitus
and others.

The German department used Otis' <u>Elementary German</u> and Hewett's <u>German Reader</u> for texts and translated selections from Lessing and Schiller including the latter's <u>Wilhelm Tell</u>. Those who studied French used the Serlitz textbooks and studied the history of France. They also studied the literature of selected French writers.

There was little change in the organization of the departments of the school until 1912 when the first five grades of the primary department were discontinued. The public school movement had provided Red Springs with a graded school and the primary department of the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Rusic had ceased

Conservatory of the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Eucle, 1905-1906, p. 17.

¹⁰ Tbld., p. 19

to be of significant value. In 1920 the first two years of high school were discontinued for lack of space. 12

Department of Public Instruction began to accredit colleges which prepared teachers. Since Flora Macdonald College prepared many teachers, President Vardell reorganized the curriculum to conform to the regulations prescribed by the state. Classes in clothing and foods were added and the Bachelor of Science degree was granted to those students who completed the home seconomics course.

Freshmen studied Sible, English, mathematics, French or Spanish, Latin or science, and had a list of six electives from which to choose. Sophomore courses were Sible, English, mathematics, French or Spanish, Latin or history or science, with a list of five electives. The junior class studied Sible, education, history and science and could choose from ten electives. Is Senior courses were education, history, accence, and sociology. The senior student could choose her electives from a list of nineteen subjects.

ll"President's Report to the Board of Trustees of the Southern Fresbyterian College and Conservatory of Music," Nay 20, 1912.

^{12&}quot;Minutes of the Neeting of the Board of Trustees of Flore Macdonald College," May 25, 1920.

¹³ The Catalog of Flora Hacdonald College, 1921-1922.

Same of the electives were: American government, Bible, clothing, foods, English, education, French, Spanish, Latin, and mathematics.

These who wished to receive the Sachelor of Rusic degree studied the required courses and in addition studied music theory, harmony, ear training, history of music, and applied instrumental or voice training.

Changes in the content of courses were evident. A brief study of the content of English courses offered in 1921-1922 indicated an almost complete change from earlier years. The freshman classes studied composition with practice in narration, weekly themes, written exercises, and oral reports. Their study of literature was in the form of a general survey. Sophomores studied literature from Chaucer to Wordsworth and drilled on oral English and speech habits. English III, which was an elective, included a study of the Romantic Novement and its authors, Wordsworth, Scott, Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, and Keats. This course also included the works of Tennyson and Browning. English IV was also an elective and was a course in ten plays of Shakespeare. English V, another elective, was a course in composition of the short story and journalistic writing.

Ligatalog of Flore Macdonald College, 1921-1922.

and psychology were a very interesting example of meeting the needs of the students. Courses offered included general psychology, child psychology, emotional psychology, a study of types of teaching and school administration, history of education in the United States, ethics, community recreation ---especially games for the county community--and Sunday school pedagogy. This indicates that many of Flora Mac-denald College's graduates would teach in rural schools and would almost certainly be expected to teach Sunday school.

The home economics department offered alk courses in cooking and home management and six courses in sewing and dressmaking.

Symmastics were included in the 1921-1922 curriculum and consisted of marching, floor work, dumbbells, and folk denoing. Athletics were also available in the forms of basketball, tennis, volleyball and baseball. The catalog announced that tournaments were held. These were intramural activities and were not intended to be inter scholestic, competitive sports.

The Conservatory of Rusic gave instruction in pieno, pipe organ, violin, cello, viola, voice culture, sight

¹⁶ Catalog of Plora Macdonald Collage, 1921-1922.

singing, theory, harmony, counterpoint, history of music, ear training, musical form and appreciation, ensemble playing, and choral work, 17

In 1930-31 the requirements for receiving the Bacheler of Arts degree were successful completion of twelve
semester hours of biology, chemistry or physics, twelve
semester hours of English, twelve to eighteen semester hours
of foreign language, ten semester hours of history, six
semester hours of mathematics, three semester hours of
psychology, and electives.

The Sachelor of Salence degree was awarded to students who majored in home companies. Requirements for this degree were forty-four semester hours of home economics in addition to the requirements for the Sachelor of Arts degree.

The daily time schedule for college students in 1930-1931 was:

	Rising boll	40	*	*	*	*	*		16	*		*		*	*	7:20
	Brenkfast	*	*		*	平	*	*		10	*	*	*	*		7125
	Quiet hours First period Second period	-	*	*		ik	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	8:10- 8:25 8:25- 9:25 9:25-10:25
			300	*	98	9	*	*	*	*	*	-	*		*	
			w	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*		4	
	Chapel	*	*	-16	-	*	*	*	*	*		*	*			10:25-10:50
	Third period					*	*	*	*	de		*	*	*	*	10:50-11:50
	Fourth period		*		-	45	*	*	*		44:		*		-	11:50-12:50
	Lunch	4		160		-	4		-	*	10	de				12:50- 1:k0
	Fifth period	100							*			*				1:40- 2:40
	Sixth period					*	16:		4	-	**	-	**			2:ho- 3:ho
	Laboratories		*		-	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3140- 4140-9

¹⁷ Told. 18 Told., 1930-1931, p. 58.

¹⁹ Hand written note from the Catalog of Flora

It is interesting to note that the catalog of 19301931 contained this announcement: "No visitors will be
received on the Sabbath." The 1940-1941 catalog contained
this revision: "No visitors will be received on the Sabbath
except members of the issediate family." The rule concerning Sunday visitors was dropped during the 1940 and 1950
decades as were restrictions on social dancing and computsory Sunday school attendance. 22

The requirements for the Bechelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees did not change significantly during
the years 1931-1961. A few minor changes in semester hours
credit in certain courses were made and a few courses were
shifted from the freelmen to the sophomore year but the
basic curriculum remained the same.

Student teaching as a part of the preparation of teachers was begun in 1932 when President Sedinger effected the arrangements with the Bed Springs Public Schools. 23

Handonald College, 1930-1931 which was formerly owned by Ers. C. V. Ewing, who was professor of Spanish and German at the college.

²⁰ Catalog, op. cit., 1930-1931, p. 24.

²¹ Catalog, op. olt., 1940-1941, p. 25.

²² Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald College, " October 28, 1952.

^{23&}quot;President's Report to the Board of Trustees of Plora Hacdonald College, January 22, 1932.

In 1952, Dean Frice H. Gwynn, Jr., introduced new courses which would prepare students to major in Christian education, business and economics, and, in cooperation with other institutions, medical technology and nursing. 24 Another of Dean Gwynn's curricular ideas was a course in methods of studying.

A large part of the decade 1950-1960 was spent in formulating the curriculum for St. Andrews Presbyterian College which, though interesting and significant, will not be covered in this study.

^{24&}quot;Kinutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Plors Macdonald College," May 27, 1952.

CHAPTER IV

COMSOLTDATION

The first attempt to unite Flora Macdonald College with Peace College was made in March, 1917. The Trustees of both institutions approved the merger but the actual consolidation was contingent upon an agreement between the owners of Peace College and Payetteville Presbytery. The owners and the presbytery never came to terms and the consolidation discussions ceased.

The second effort to consolidate Flora Macdonald College with other Presbyterian institutions actually began when the Symod of North Carolina of the Presbyterian Church in the United States authorized a study to be made in order to determine ways and means to make the Symod's educational program more efficient and businesslike. This was in 1952. Representatives of the Symod asked the Ford Poundation for funds to finance this study and The Fund for the

lekinutes of a Special Reeting Between the Trustees of Flora Hacdonald College and the Trustees of Peace College," March 16, 1917. Archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, Borth Carolina.

The Church and Higher Education. Raleigh, North Carolina, The Pittman Printing Company, July, 1955, p. vii. (The Education Institutions Survey Report by the Committee on Educational Institutions to the Synod of North Carolina, Presbyterian Church in the United States).

Advancement of Education of the Ford Foundation granted the Synod of North Carolina a sum of \$50,000.00 with the understanding that the Synod would implement the findings of the study. The Synod accepted the conditions and the study began.

Bisheaticnel Institutions was enlarged by the addition of a representative from each of the seven colleges to be studied, two women representing the Synodical, and certain persons of known interest in education and proven service to the church. This created a group of thirty-four persons and was named The Commission to distinguish it from other committees involved. This commission had no ecclesiastical power but actually served as a Synod committee. The Commission's Chairman was Warner L. Hall and its secretary was Harold J. Dudley.

Seven college Presidents of the Synod, chose an outstanding panel of experts to act as consultants. This group, known as the Advisory Committee, consisted of Francis C. Rose-orance, Associate Dean of the School of Education of New York University; Sarah C. Blanding, President of Vassar College; John G. Gross, General Board of Education of the

³ Ibid., p. vili.

Methodist Church: John D. Hillett, President of Missi University, Oxford, Chic; and Thomas A. Spragens, President of Stephens College.

The Commission and the Advisory Committee selected Hoger 7. McGutcheon of Tulane University to direct the survey and Donald C. Agnew of Ogelthorpe University was named to assist him. These men were assisted by Robert Taylor Cole of Duke University, Paul S. Bears of Yale University, Roble Hendrix of the University of Alabams, Myron F. Wicke of the General Board of Education of the Hethodist Church, and Hoyt Blackwell of Hars Hill College.

Each of the seven colleges involved in the survey-Davidson, Queens, Plora Macdonald, Mitchell, Peace, LessMcRae, and Presbyterian Junior College--was asked to make
a complete self-study so that the strengths and weaknesses
of each could be brought out. Flora Macdonald College
cooperated fully with the Commission and with the survey
team.

The survey revealed that North Carolina had too many Presbyterian colleges in the estimate of the Commission. So other state in the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States had more than one Presbyterian college except Termessee which had King's College at

habid., p. 47.

Bristol and Southwestern College at Memphis, 7t disclosed that the colleges within the Synod of North Caroline varied greatly in prestige, fund-raising abilities, and in the value of their physical plants. Davidson College faculty members with the Ph. D. degree numbered twenty-nine of a total of sixty-five or his per cent while at Flora Macdonald College there were six members out of a total of thirty-five or 17.1 per cent who had the Ph. D. degree. The laboratory facilities at Davidson College were listed as excellent while those at Plora Hacdonald College were described as very inadequate. The new student life building at Davidson College was adequate, pleasing, and functional while the facilities for student activities at Flora Macdonald College were very limited. The endowment was \$7,000,000.00 at Davidson College and \$22,25,00 at Plora Macdonald College. Other disparities were listed but the directors of the study wrote:

In all the Presbyterian institutions studied in the survey, there are worthy people teaching with consecration and devotion, and believing sincerely in the vital importance of their work. These people are never to be forgotten. They have been remembered in the estimates of the comparative excellence of the several institutions. The difficulties that have been noted are difficulties not of their making but are inherent in the situation itself.

⁵¹bld., p. 16. 61bld., pp. 18-19

Oaroline, The Pittman Frinting Company, July, 1955, p. x.

The Commission concluded from the information revealed by the survey that funds in excess of \$18,000,000.00 would be needed to bring to an acceptable level the plants and andomments of the seven colleges. The survey pointed out that the potential support that could be expected from the approximately 175,000 Presbyterians who formed the constituency of these seven colleges could not provide adequate funds to finance such an undertaking. Previous experience of other denominations indicated that a church sembership of 500,000 would be needed to support all seven of the Presbyterian colleges in Borth Garolina. Therefore, the Commission concluded that adequate support was not available and that the Synod of North Carolina had too many colleges. 10

The Commission recommended that Flora Eacdonald College, Force College, and Presbyterian Junior College be consolidated into one co-educational four-year college which would be located in eastern North Carolina. They made several other recommendations concerning the other four colleges which are not pertinent to this study and will not be mentioned here. The Commission recommended that a Board of Trustees for the Consolidated Fresbyterian College be

BIbld., p. 22.

⁹ Ibid., pp. 24-25.

¹⁰¹bld., p. 27.

named and that the membership be composed of eight members from the Trustees of each of the merging colleges, and eight members-at-large. 11

The report of the Commission was approved by the Trustees of Davidson, Queens, Flora Macdonald, and LeesMcRae. Feace College and Mitchall College dissented. The Trustees of Flora Macdonald, Feace, and Presbyterian Junior College met during the summer of 1955 and elected trustees to the new Board of Trustees which was organized on Gatober 3, 1955. One of the duties of the new Board of Trustees was the selection of a site for the Consolidated College. Eastern North Carolina communities were invited to bid for the new college and mineteen towns responded. They were: Durham, Feyetteville, Goldsboro, Menansville, Minston, Laurinburg, Lumberton, New Barn, Oxford, Baleigh, Red
Springs, Rocky Mount, Roxboro, Sanford, Snow Mill, Southern Pines, Tarboro (later merged their bid with Rocky Mount), warrenton, and Wilmington, 12

The Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College sent representatives to visit these communities and invited each town to submit information concerning its resources and qualifications. Laurinburg, North

¹¹ Told., pp. 39-40. 12 Told., pp. 42-43.

Carolina was officially selected for the new college site on Harch 6, 1956. The people of Laurinburg and Scotland County had presented an effective brochure to the Trustees which had been prepared by a committee led by A. B. Gibson. The Site Selection Committee headed by Edwin Morgan, long time trustee of Flora Macdonald College; the Financial and Pledge Committee led by R. D. Sanders; and the original General Committee, C. L. Moore, Chairman, had done their work well. Nore than \$3,000,000.00 had been pledged to build and support the new college by the people of Scotland. County. 13

The building site was chosen by the Trustees on May 12, 1956. It was a five-hundred-acre tract located about two miles south of Laurinburg. It has site was later enlarged to 838.53 acres and the final purchase price was 8395.534.85.

Narshall Scott Woodson was appointed Acting President of dent of the college and Louis C. Lakotte, President of Presbyterian Junior College, and William C. Pressly, President of Peace College, were appointed Vice Presidents. Woodson and Lakotte accepted these appointments but

¹³ The Laurinburg Sachange, March 6, 1956, p. 1 14 Oreensboro Daily Nows, May 12, 1956.

Pressly declined. The Trustees of the new college authorized the building committee to employ architectural counsel and to proceed with plans for building the new plant on Hay 7, 1957.15

ciation of Flora Racdonald College presented patitions to the Synod of North Carolina at its June 18, 1956, meeting. They asked that both colleges be kept open but the Synod rejected these proposals and reaffirmed its original position of supporting the consolidation. On Narch 13, 1957, the Trustees of Peace College asked the former owners, the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh and five presbyteries, to resume control. Albert Edwards, paster of the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh, asked the Synod to furnish separate support for Peace College on June 17, 1960, but the request was denied. The First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh then entered a "friendly" lawsuit against the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College for the purpose of regaining control

^{15&}quot;Report of Progress to the Presbyterians of North Carolina." A phemplet published by the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College. Haxton, North Carolina, June, 1957.

June 19, 1956. Revs and Observer, Releigh, Worth Carolina,

¹⁷ Ibid., Merch 13, 1957.

later joined the Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College in the suit. Testimony in the suit, which was heard beginning on September 18, 1961, indicated that the deed to the land was still held by Peace Institute and had never been transferred to the Synod. Judge William Y. Sickett granted an injunction restraining the Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College from taking over the assets of Peace College. The Peace College stand was upheld by the courts on November 4, 1961, and the appeals which followed this decision were dropped on January 29, 1962. 18 In the face of this decision, control of Peace College remained with the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh.

on January 17, 1961, to seek an injunction to restrain the Trustees of Consolidated Presbyterian College from assuming control of the assets of Flora Macdonald College. 19 This injunction was not granted and on Cotober 26, 1961, the Flora Macdonald College property was sold to the Red Springs Development Corporation for the sum of \$50,000.00.20 This

¹⁸ The Raleich Times, January 29, 1962.

¹⁹ The Laurinburg Exchange, January 17, 1961.

group assumed control and offered to property and plant to the General Board of the Baptist State Convention but the Baptists declined the offer on January 24, 1962. As of July 18, 1962, no appoundement had been made which would indicate what disposition would be made of the Flora Mac-donald College compus.

The Presbyterian Junior College property was sold to the town of Hazton which in turn sold it to Colonel Leslie C. Blankinship. He proposed to operate the Carolina Hilitary Academy on the former college campus. 22

Willist H. Seal of Winston-Salen served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College from Cotober 3, 1955, to October 5, 1956. He led the Trustees during that important year when the site selection issue was foremost. Neel's successor was Rector MacLean of Lumberton, son of the late Governor ingus Wilton MacLean, who served Flora MacLeand College as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for many years. Nector MacLean stated his views concerning the importance of the new college at the ground breaking ceremonies at Laurinburg on April 15, 1959. He said:

²⁰ The Red Springs Citizen, Cotober 26, 1961.

²¹ The Greensboro Daily News, January 24, 1982.

²³The Payetteville Observer, January 8, 1962.

We have long since learned that education is an integral part of civilization. But we have also learned that education is not enough. It must be education with a moral core, or Christian education. The future of the world may well depend on the church related college. . . I firmly believe that in this Consolidated College we will find the answer to the ago old question—what do ye more than others?

Silas M. Vaughn was appointed business manager of the new college and in June, 1959, moved his offices to a building on the college campus. Halbert M. Jones, former Acting President of Flora Macdonald College and Chairman of its Board of Trustees, was selected as Chairman of the building committee for the new college. Construction of the first building on the new campus began in June, 1960. This was preceded by almost a year of grading and construction of the lake which was to be the center of the campus.

On November 27, 1959, the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College named Ansley Cunningham Moore, pastor of the Sixth United Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the first President. Harshall Scott Woodson, President of Flora Macdonald College and Acting President of the Consolidated Presbyterian College, accepted the Presidency of the Edgar Tufts Memorial

^{23&}quot;The Future Challenge to Higher Education," a speech by Hector MacLean, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College, at the ground breaking ceremonies at Laurinburg, April 15, 1959.

The Laurinburg Exchange, Sovember 27, 1959.

Association of Banner Elk, North Carolina, and moved there on January 8, 1960. The Association included Lees-HoRse College, Grace Hartley Hemorial Rospital, and Grandfather Home for children. 25

The Board of Trustoes chose for the new college the name, St. Andrews Presbyterian College, on September 27, 1960. It was selected from a list of more than one hundred names which had been considered. St. Andrews was a name which was rich in Section tradition and heritage. It was rooted in Christian and Presbyterian history and was the name of the oldest university in Sectiond.

One of the outstanding features of St. Andrews

Presbyterian College was the new course called Christianity
and Culture. This course was devised and planned by Leslie
Bullock, Professor of Bible, and Carl Bennett, Professor of
English, under the general supervision of Dean Frice H.
Geynn, Jr., of Flora Macdonald College. These men were
joined in the preparation of this course during the summer
of 1960 by Professor David Hawk and Professor Harry Harvin
and later Professor William Alexander. The initial study
was financed by a grant from the Denforth Foundation.
Christianity and Culture was a team-teaching effort which
intended to cover the Hebreic, Greek, and Roman cultures

²⁵ Ibid., Jenuary 8, 1960.

together with the New Testament and a study of non-western cultures. The twentieth century was also be to covered and in the senior year, students were to be encouraged to formulate their own philosophy of life in the light of their cultural and Christian heritage. 26

St. Andrews Presbyterian College opened its doors for the 1961-1962 term with six dormitories, the student center building, the liberal arts and science building, and the conservatory of music and the heating plant. In addition there were several buildings which temporarily housed the infirmary, the guidance center, the gymnasium and others. The new buildings were completely air-conditioned. Seven hundred forty-four students were enrolled for the first term.²⁷

The administration officials of Flora Haedonald College became a part of the St. Andrews administration in the summer of 1961. Price H. Gwynn, Jr., was elected Dean of the Faculty, Hodger W. Decker was chosen Dean of Admissions, and Charles G. Vardell, Jr., became Dean of the Conservatory of Husic at St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Hany Flora Haedonald College faculty members joined the St. Andrews Presbyterian College faculty. The aim of St.

²⁶ The Leurinburg Exchange, August 6, 1960.

²⁷ The Charlotte Observer, September 26, 1961.

Andrews Presbyterian College was stated in the January, 1961, catalog. A portion of that alm was:

perpetuity for the purpose of nurturing and strengthening faith in Christ as Savior and Lord, of prosoting
Christian education, and of extending the influence of
Liberal education of high quality. To this end it will
ever maintain an emphasis upon Christian living and
scholarship in an academic community made up of persons
dedicated to the promulgation, and practice of Christian
ideals in all areas of life.

Thus the Christian ideals and the faith in Christian education of the founders of Flora Handonald College lives on in the aim and spirit of St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

Jamuary, Tyol, P. 7. of St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

ned Springs Seminary was founded in 1896 for the purpose of providing a Christian education for young women. It was located in an area which had been settled chiefly by Scottish Presbyterians and became more conscious of this heritage as the years passed. Its first president, Charles Graves Vardell, and his talented wife succeeded in making the Conservatory of Rusic a very important part of the college. The name was changed to the Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory of Rusic in 1903.

In spite of early financial difficulties, a college plant of outstanding appearance was built by 1911. A number of prominent businessmen and ministers served on the Board of Trustees and their donations and fund-raising efforts kept the college in operation. In 1915, the Trustees changed the name to Flora Kacdonald Gollege with the hope that Scottish-Americans would contribute funds for an endowment for the college. Several members of the Scottish spoieties in America did contribute to the college and some furnished continued support through the years.

The graduates of Flora Macdonald were generally held in high esteem by their employers. Many were educated for public school teaching and were in constant demand for

teaching positions even during the great depression. The Alumnae Association was very loyal and active. The Alumnae raised and contributed funds for the college and made friends for Flora Escaphala College whenever possible.

Fund raising proved to be one of the hardest tasks which faced the Trustees and administrators. The influence of C. G. Vardell, A. W. MacLean, Edwin Horgan, Ernest Graham, Harvey Shite, and many others was responsible for the continued operation of the college.

Senry G. Sedinger became President of Flora Nacdonald in 1930. His special talent was his ability to
attract students to the college and during the 1930-1940
decade a period of growth was accomplished. This was in
spite of the depressed business conditions and monetary
shortages of that period.

Var conditions and the mometary inflation which followed World War II brought a downward turn in the college's financial condition and the number of students decreased. Competition from other colleges for financial contributions became an increasing problem.

Marshall Scott Woodson was elected President of Flora Macdonald College in 1950 and his contributions to the college were great. He possessed a telent for promoting desirable public relations and his personal appeals for funds gained both financial support and friends for Flora

Macdonald College.

atudy of seven of the Presbyterian colleges within its jurisdiction. This study revealed that the Presbyterians of North Carolina could not adequately support that many institutions. The Synod then decided to merge Flora Macdonald College with Peace College and Presbyterian Junior College. This finally resulted in the establishment of St. Andrews Presbyterian College at Laurinburg, Borth Carolina. This new college opened in September, 1961, and based its curriculum upon a concept of team teaching. Its basic course was a combination of several academic disciplines and was called Christianity and Gul-ture.

The following conclusions were made from this study:

(1) Flora Reedonald College served a very useful purpose by providing low_cost Christian education for the young women who attended, (2) Its graduates were generally believed to be well educated and were usually very loyal to their alma mater, (3) The college was served by a dedicated group of able men and women whose contributions to the cause of Christian education was outstanding, (h) The name, Flora Recdonald College, is now a part of history and the future is, of course, unknown but the available evidence indicates the conclusion that St. Andrews Presbyterian College will

continue the fine Christian ideals of Flora Hacdonald College and through its improved facilities make an even greater educational contribution to its constituency.

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APPENDIX

Appendix A. Charter of Floral College

A B111

To establish a Female Literary Institution in the County of Robeson

together for the purpose of establishing a Female Literary institution near Centre Church in the County of Robeson and have subscribed to stock for the purpose aforesaid, THEREFORE,

- of North Carolina and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same That the Rev. John R. Holntosh, Dr. Angus D. Malean and others, who are all stockholders for the purpose aforesaid be and they are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name and Style of the "Floral College" and by that name shall have perpetual succession and a common Seal and be able and capable to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, either in Law or in Equity, and to acquire, receive, hold, possess, enjoy and sell, both real and personal property;
- II. BE IT FURTHER BRACKED That all the articles of association, agreed to and adopted by the Stockholders aforesaid are hereby incorporated into this charter as a part thereof; and if at any time the company should be

desirous of increasing their capital for the purposes contemplated by this charter, the same may be done at any
general meeting of the Stockholders Provided the aggregate
capital shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars;

III. RE IT FURTHER EMACTED That a President and fifteen
Trustees shall be annually chosen by the Stockholders to
hold the appointment for one year, none of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the
institution;

IV. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED That the President and Trustees or a majority of them are hereby authorized and empowered to make, ordain and establish such by-laws and regulations for the government of Said College and for the preservation of Order and good morals as to them may seem expedient and necessary; subject, however, to the control of the Stockholders provided such by-laws and regulations shall in no instance be repugnent to the law and Constitution of the State and of the United States and that in meetings of the Stockholders a majority at least of the Stock shall be represented, and that as many as fifty acres of land owned by the Company and appropriated to the building end other objects of the institution shall be exempt from taxation; BE IT FURTHER ENACTED That the President and Trustees of the the faculty shall have power to confer degrees or testimonials of merit on such as by their

literary acquisition may deserve the honor of the institution.1

This Charter was copied from a microfilm of the original which was obtained from the North Carolina Lepartment of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina The Charter was ratified on January 8, 1841.

Appendix 8. Graduates of Floral College

Numbers of the Early Graduating Classes of Florel College

Class of 18h3:

Muphemia MoMeill	Robeson County,	11.	0.
Plora McNelll	Robeson County,	N.	0.
Flora Bunting McGueen	Robeson County,	31.	C.
Hary Morrison			
Mary Jane Davis	Robeson County,	N.	0.
Eliza Devisororororororororororor	Robeson County,	N .	C.
Ann Catherine Shew	Richmond County,	24	0.
Mary Jano Shaweeeeeeeee		N.	C.

Class of 18hh:

Mary	ann	Monryde	County,		C.
Mary	Ann	Sulo	County,	新 *	C.
		is the a libero			
		1110mman-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a-a			
Ann l	iar Le	i McLean	Countys	10.	C.

Class of 1865:

Mary Lyansonous as assessment of the second and the long	County,	2.	C.
Sarah Margaret Bule Sichmond			
Mary Ann SmithRobeson	County,	22.	C.
Lucy C. Bulessessessessesses Richmond			
Mary F. Fuller			
Ann H. McEachernRobeson	County,	He	C.
Isabella McLauchlin	County,	M.	C.
Catherine W. McMeill Cumberland	County.	N.	C.

Class of 1846:

	achern			
Sarah McLache	LOS OQUE manamana manamana manamana manamana de SOU	County,	11 .	C.
Euphomia Jano	McEachern	County,	24	C.

Appendix C. The Charter of Red Springs Seminary

PRIVATE LAME OF SORTH CAROLINA, Section 1897, Chapter 210.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE RED SPRINGS SENIMARY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That S. W. Rankin, W. B. arrowood, P. N. Thom, J. W. McLauchlin and G. B. Patterson, their associates and successors, be and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate for the purpose of maintaining a school of high grade in the town of Red Springs, in the county of Robeson, for the intellectual, moral and religious development and training for young ladies, under the name and style of Red Springs Seminary, and in that name may sue and be sued, may plead and be impleaded, contract and be contracted with, acquire, hold and convey in their corporate capacity, property, personal and real, to an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and exercise all acts in relation thereto incident to the ownership of personal property and real estate.

Section 2. The members of the corporation shall have perpetual successors, and may, if they so elect, have and use a common seal.

Section 3. That the officers of said corporation shall be a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary

and a board of six trustees, four of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all of whom shall be elected by Payetteville Presbytery of the North Carolina Symed of the Presbyterian Church at its spring meeting of each year, and shall hold their office for a term of three years: Provided that at the first meeting of Payetteville Presbytery, after the ratification of this act, the said board shall be divided into three classes of two persons each; the term of office of the first class shall be one year from the meeting of said presbytery; of the second, two years; and of the third, three years.

Section 4. That the board of trustees of said corporation shall not have the power to mortgage or sell any of the real estate belonging to the same, without first having obtained the consent and permission of Payetteville Presbytery.

Section 5. That the said board of trustees shall have the exclusive right to elect a president of said Red Springs Seminary, and such professors, tutors and officers as they shall think proper.

Section 6. That the president and professors of said Red Springs Seminary shall be the faculty thereof, and with the advice and consent of the trustees shall have power to grant diplomas, conferring such degrees and marks of literary distinction as are usually conferred in colleges.

Section 7. All bequests and donations to the seminary shall be the property of Fayetteville Prosbytery.

Section 8. The individual property of the trustees of said corporation shall not be liable for the debt of the same.

Section 9. The officers of the corporation, until the election and qualification of their successors, shall be as follows: G. B. Fatterson, president; the Reverend W. B. Arrowood, vice-president; and the Reverend S. M. Bankin, secretary and treasurer, and S. M. Bankin, W. B. Arrowood, F. H. Thom, J. L. McMillan, J. W. McLauchlin and G. B. Fatterson, board of trustees.

Section 10. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified the 8th day of March, A. D. 1897.1

¹ The Charter of Red Springs Seminary was copied from the microfilm copy in the archives at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Appendix D. Early Graduates of Red Springs Seminary

Class of 1899:

Margaret Jane Morgan	A. B.
Ellen Lytch	A. B.
Catherine Verdell	A. B.
Mary Mearton	A. B.

Class of 1900:

Lulu Pherr Arrowood		B.	8.
Mary Agnes Brown		23.	An
Mary C. Meartan		B.	20
Martha B. McCall		В.	4.
Minnie McKinnon		B.	Low
Janie Schood		33.	8.
Nola McLeod		B.	An
Irene McQueen		33.	A.
Emma Ritch	,	13.	8.

Certificates:

Florence Pearsall Mary McLauchlin Lulu Arrowood Ella Finley Kate Robinson Ellen Lytch	Art Art English, English,	
and the end of the en	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

Class of 1901:

Annie Black	A.	B.
Bessie Carmichael	A.	3.
Joanna E. Clark	A.	23 4
Annie B. Farley	A.	B*
Flora Forguson	A.	8.
Lessie Jones	A.	8.
Lida Lane	Aa	B.
Margaret McIntyre	A.	B.
Isabella McLeod	A.	D.
Jamie B. Patterson	A. w	33.
Isabella Robertson	A.	D.
Mota Stewart	A	B.
Lizzie M. Brooks	D.	Liba
Beatrice McEachern	D.	Lib.
Bettie Oibson	A.	B.

Cortificates:

Lida Lene Mary Isabella Martin Mia Richardson Miriam McMeill Mortha Davis Watson Mais Rowland Bollo Smith

Appendix D.	The Presidents	of Plora	Macdonald	College
Charles O. Verd	011	-		18961930
Henry Graybill	Bedinger	-		1930-1948
Halbert McMair	Jones, Acting P.	resident		1948-1950
Marshall Scott	Woodson	que may have eller qual accessivants some entre	NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF	1950-1960
Charles G. Vard	ell, Jr., Actin	g Presiden	*	1960-1961

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

TO

FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE

RED SPRINGS, N. C.

Full Name
Street AddressTelephone
CityState County
Date of Birth
Name of Parent or Guardian
Is your father living? Mother?
Father's occupation
Mother's name before marriage
Did she attend Flora Macdonald College?
Are you a church member?
Denomination?
What life-work do you prefer?
Name of last high school attended
AddressCounty
Is it accredited?
Did you graduate?
Are you making application for the Freshman Class?
Are you making application for Advanced Standing?Class
If so, from what college?
If from Junior College, did you graduate?
Do you plan to complete your college education?
For what degree are you a candidate, B.A., B.S., or B.M.?
Are you planning to take music? If so, what?
Are you planning to take a Business Course?
One-year Four-year Four-year
Are you planning to be a Boarding Student? Day Student?
Are you a Veteran?
Address
(over)

Reverse Side of Plora Macdonald College Admission Form, 1960

I hereby apply for admission as a stud	ent at Flora Macdonald College.
I have studied the catalogue and accept	the terms and regulations for
the scholastic year beginning September	, 19
Signature	
Street address	
City	State
Dated	, 19

NOTE—A registration fee of \$10.00 must accompany each application.

Make checks payable to FLORA MACDONALD COLLEGE.

A certificate of honorable dismissal must be sent from last school attended.

The Spirit of Continuation

A Statement Made

at the 1961

Graduation Exercises

of Flora Macdonald College

By Charles G. Vardell, Gr. B. A., M. A., Ph. D. President

The Spirit of Continuation

My friends, on this Commencement Day, as we look backward and forward, we think on continuation as the word that best expresses, not only what lies behind us but also the task, the hope, the challenge of the years ahead.

And when I say we, I speak carefully and advisedly. I speak for thirty members of the faculty and administration who plan to continue. I speak for the Senior Class of Flora Macdonald College who have given as their class gift the sum of \$1,563.75 to be used as a scholarship fund at St. Andrews Presbyterian College. I speak for more than 180 undergraduates of this College who are registered to continue at St. Andrews Presbyterian College and who expect to graduate one, two or three years from now under the continued requirements of the Flora Macdonald College catalogue. I speak with the written assurance from both the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and the National Association of Schools of Music that the initial accreditation of St. Andrews Presbyterian College rests on the continuation of Flora Macdonald's accreditation. And I speak for those church members of the Synod of North Carolina who continue to believe in the Presbyterian system of church government, and who continue to honor the decisions of their own church courts.

Continuity --- Our Tradition

We are, and always have been, and always will be, in a continuing and changing situation. Things have always changed at this College. Things have never been, will never be, as they were. Red Springs Seminary—some of us remember it with affection—changed continuously from the start. The Southern Presbyterian College and Conservatory continued and changed through the years. And now, Flora Macdonald College has a curriculum and a set of social regulations—I should rather call them free-

doms—utterly beyond the wildest dreams of students and faculties of the past. Continuity and change, stability and development, sturdy root and steady growth—such has been our tradition, our vision, our vocation.

Some of you girls are on the verge of changing your names. Moreover—and this is an understatement—you are looking forward to the change with some degree of enthusiasm. Most of you are going to change not only your names but your dwelling places. But let no man say, not even your husband, that you have lost your identity. You may be married to Jim, but you will continue to be Jane and don't you ever forget it nor let him forget it.

Marriage ... A Predicted Success

Nor will Flora Macdonald ever be forgotten. She is going to move. She is going to change her name. She is, if you please, planning to be married. And we are predicting that the marrige will be a success. And leaving all metaphor aside, we base our prediction on the following facts and figures:

There are ten magnificent fireproof and air-conditioned buildings under construction, grouped around the 70-acre lake. An administrative staff and faculty of sixty are now under contract. The music faculty has been increased from six to nine teachers. They will teach in a modern building that is not only fireproof but soundproof as well. To those of us who for years have sung and played and taught and tried to listen intelligently, with several dozen pianos going full tilt, and with assorted pipe organs, flutes, clarinets and sopranos in vigorous and unrelenting competition, this will mean not just relief and pleasure, but efficiency, accuracy and artistry.

But buildings, equipment, numbers are not the real heart of the thing. I have been touched by one word that recently has been used over and over by our devoted alumnae. It is the word **Spirit.** They honor, love and respect the spirit of Flora Macdonald College. Now that word spirit is a very interesting word. It expresses the very opposite of the word matter. It dwells in the hearts of men and women and therefore is not necessarily bound to places.

It can transcend bricks and mortar and can leap over boundary lines.

"Lengthened Shadow"-- A Continuation

Some of us recently heard a speaker quote Ralph Waldo Emerson to the effect that Flora Macdonald College is but the "lengthened shadow of one man." I should like to say that I agree. Like Gratiano in the great trial scene from the "Merchant of Venice," I thank him "for teaching me that word." That shadow is a long, long shadow. It has fallen for many continuing years in Japan, in Scotland, in England, in South America. It has reached into Africa; it has penetrated Korea and China. Surely it is good for twenty miles more!

We all honor and will continue to honor the spirit of Flora Macdonald College. But we worship and adore the Spirit of God, the precious heritage from our Lord Jesus Christ to his church on earth. In His Spirit, let us now stand to praise, not only men and women, not churches, not even colleges, but God our sovereign ruler, arbiter of all things earthly and heavenly, as we sing together "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow."

Charles 9. Vardell, Jr.

RED SPRINGS, N. C.