

**Fontbonne
At
Fifty**

Fontbonne At Fifty

A nostalgic and forward-looking

review of a half century of

Fontbonne College

Clayton, Missouri

1923 - 1973

by

Sister Marie Vianney O'Reilly, C.S.J.



*Motherhouse of Sisters of St. Joseph
of Carondelet*



*Mother Mary Agnes Rossiter succeeded
Mother Agnes Gonzaga as Superior-
General and saw the plans of Fontbonne
College to completion.*



Mother St. John Fontbonne

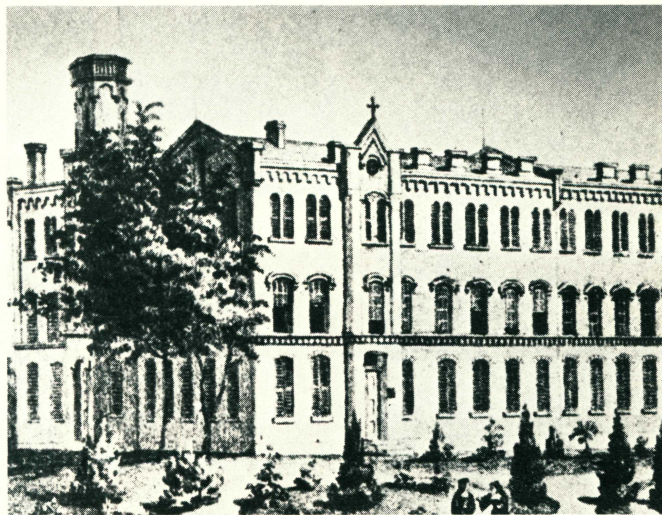
Fontbonne's beginning may be traced to Lyons, France, for it was there that, after the French Revolution, a group of Sisters of St. Joseph who had survived the massacre were regathered under the leadership of Mother St. John Fontbonne, for whom the college is named. It is altogether fitting that Fontbonne should find its setting in the city of French origin named for that country's saintly king, Louis IX.

So it was in 1836 to this now great city that Mother St. John Fontbonne at the request of Bishop Rosati, sent six sisters to minister to the needs of the inhabitants of various races and backgrounds.

It might be said that Fontbonne College grew out of St. Joseph's Academy, the first educational institution of the Sisters of St. Joseph in this country, which was opened in the log cabin residence of the sisters. On the site of that first foundation Fontbonne College came into being.



Bishop Rosati



Sketch of Carondelet, 1860



Inner Court at Carondelet



Aerial View of Carondelet



*Mother Agnes Gonzaga Ryan, Superior-General of the Sisters of St. Joseph.
1905-1916*



The concept of a new college in St. Louis began to take shape in the mind of Mother Agnes Gonzaga Ryan, Superior General of the community. In 1908, with the approval of Archbishop John J. Glennon, she began to look for possible sites. The Archbishop, with eyes ever turned westward and with his keen vision of future trends, selected a location at Wydown and Big Bend in Clayton.

From the first step of approval in 1908 until the opening of the doors in Clayton, 17 years were to elapse. They were not wasted nor fruitless years. In 1917 a charter was applied for and on April 23 of that year it was announced that a charter had been granted by the State of Missouri. Until the building of the college could be completed, it was planned that classes would use the classrooms and other facilities of St. Joseph's Academy. War and postwar problems prevented immediate steps for the erection of buildings. In the meantime, plans were being drawn, funds accumulated and the future faculty being prepared. When the college finally opened, a competent, well-educated faculty was ready to assume its new role in the higher education of women.

September, 1923, witnessed the opening of college classes, with a full curriculum and with the number of students equalling that of teachers, nine of each. Of the faculty members, six were Sisters of St. Joseph. Besides regular classes, there were opportunities for the study of music and art and a program of physical education, not then included in the regular curriculum.



Archbishop Glennon at Fontbonne

After this small beginning, events occurred rapidly. On April 14, 1924, ground was broken in the field at Wydown and Big Bend. On July 13, 1924, the cornerstone was laid and in September, 1925, the first classes were held in the new buildings. These buildings, five in number at that time, were constructed of rough-hewn Missouri granite, whose strength is compared to the loyalty of Fontbonne's students in their song, "as strong as the granite which builds thy firm walls."

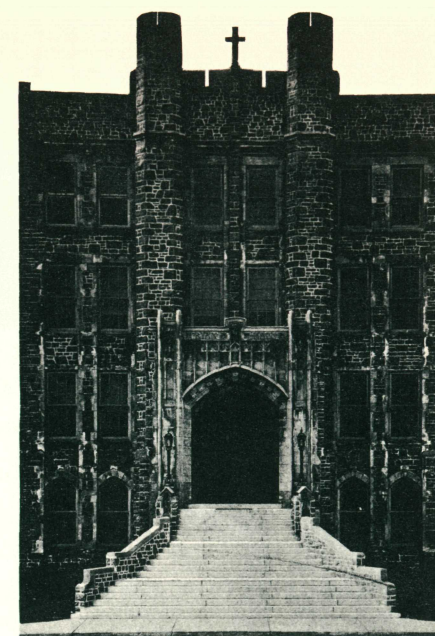
The official program of the Greater St. Louis Exposition of September, 1926, featured Fontbonne College and included the following statement:

"One who would know the progress made in St. Louis in the education of women during the past 90 years has but to look on the little log cabin which housed the first school of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and then turn to the five magnificent buildings on Wydown and Big Bend."

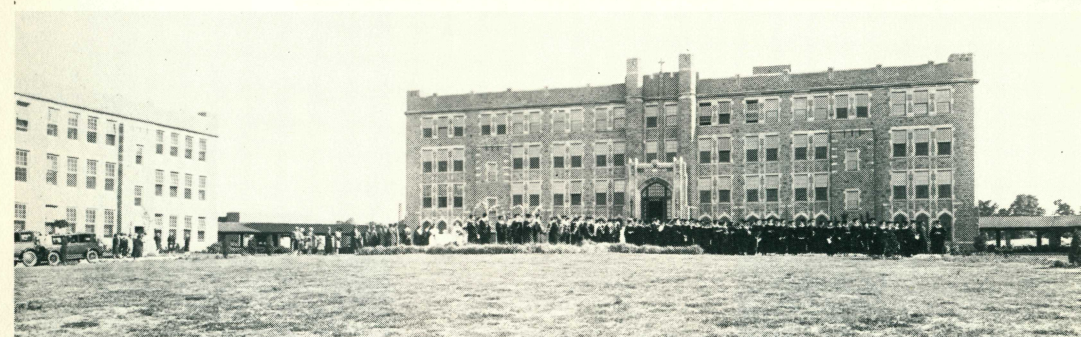
The Administration Building, Ryan Hall, was named in honor of John J. Ryan of New York, a generous benefactor. On the fourth floor of this building was housed the library, the equipment for which was the gift of St. Joseph's Academy Alumnae Association. Through the years, as the holdings became greater and the library expanded to occupy practically the whole fourth floor, the very walls of Ryan Hall were being threatened. A separate library building became a new goal and once again the alumnae, now of the college, entered into the project. The result of their dreams and efforts is the modern building which stands as the center of intellectual life on campus. A special feature of the ground level of the library is the Lewis Room, a theatre type audio-visual room, seating 125. This room was named for Mrs. James A. Lewis, mother of Sister Mary Teresine Lewis, for her generous bequest to the library.



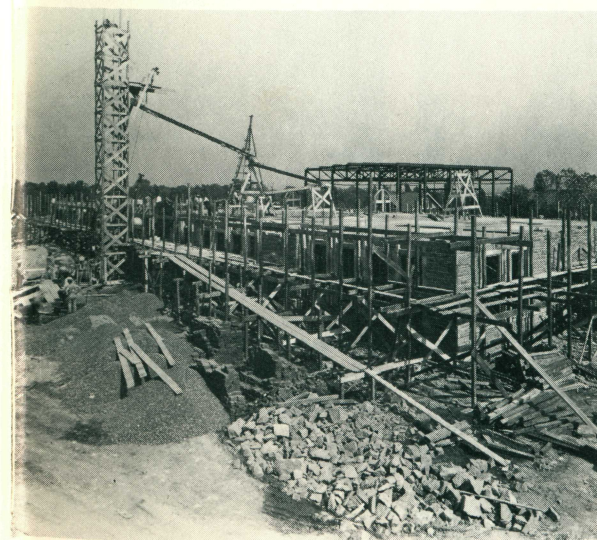
Cornerstone laying, July 13, 1924



Entrance to Ryan Hall



May Day, 1928



Fontbonne under construction, 1924-1925

A place of prominence in Ryan Hall is occupied by the chapel, which has been and still is the focus of spiritual life of students and faculty and the center from which has radiated the joy of many occasions—baccalaureate, May Day, Sodality receptions, retreats and Masses for numerous celebrations. To it the alumnae return when they are celebrating some special event.

With the opening of classes in 1925 on the new campus, Sister M. Irene O'Hara became the first president, and Sister Marietta Jennings retained the office of dean, which she had held from the start of the college. That fall an agreement was signed with St. Louis University whereby Fontbonne College became one of its corporate colleges. This arrangement was approved by the North Central Association and Fontbonne was accredited in this way until achieving full accreditation in its own right in 1948.



*Sister Mary Irene O'Hara,
President, 1925-1928*



*Sister Mary Palma McGrath,
1928-1935*



*Sister Joseph Aloysius Geissert,
1935-1941*



Sister Mary Pius Neenan, 1941-1942



*Sister Mary Berenice O'Neill,
1942-1948*

Presidents of Fontbonne College



Sister Mary Marcella Casey, 1948-1954



*Sister Susanne Marie Vachon,
1954-1957*



*Sister Mary Marguerite Sheeley,
1947-1960*



Sister Mary Alfred Noble, 1960-1966



Sister Roberta Schmidt, 1966-1972



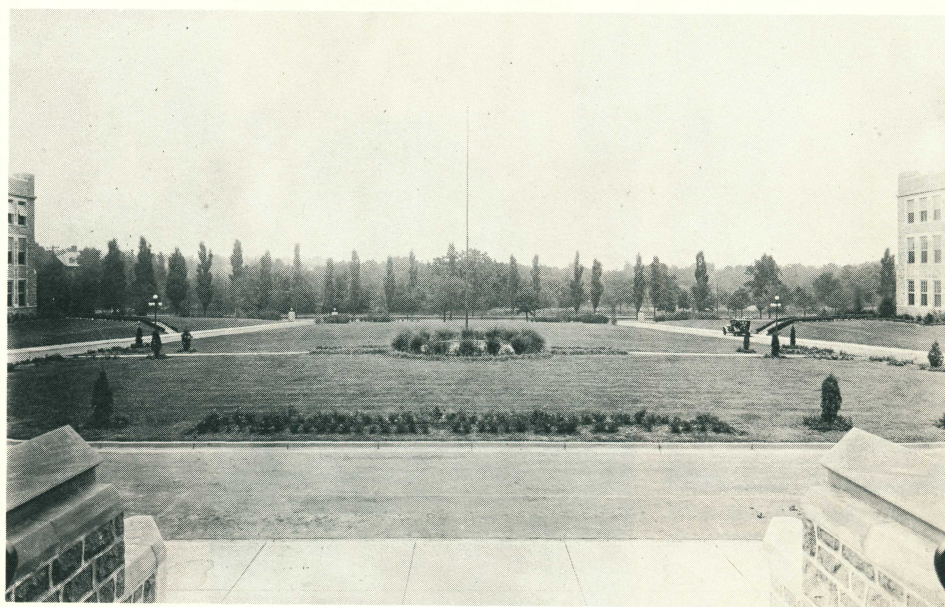
Sister Jane Hassett, 1972-



Basketball team, 1926



Boarders' dining room

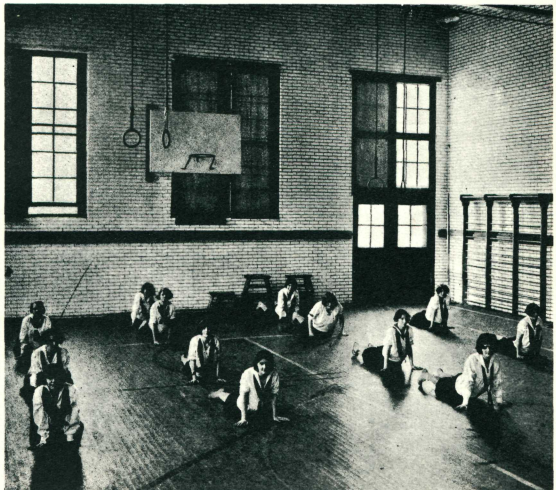


Horseshoe, 1928

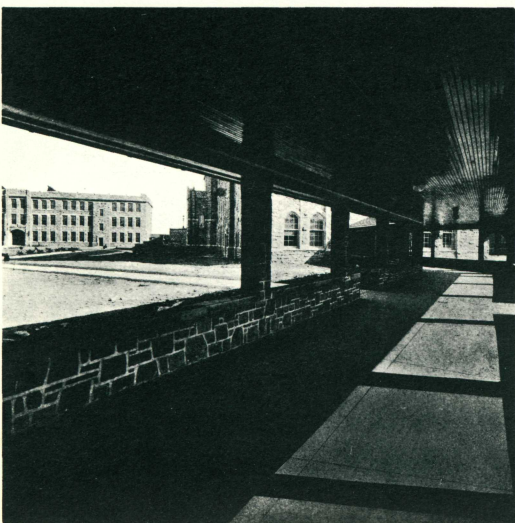
The move to Clayton immediately attracted more students. More spacious quarters of the new location provided better accommodations for resident students, while increased enrollment necessitated expansion of course offerings, in number and variety and also an increase of faculty. New departments were added as well as new courses in existing departments. The Department of English introduced courses in Journalism. The Department of History and Government became the Department of Social and Political Science, recognizing the relationship of history to the economic and social life of people. Although music and art had been taught in the college from the beginning, in 1926 these areas of study became departments. The following year the Department of Physical Education came into existence. The faculty in the fifth year of the college's life had increased to fourteen sisters, three priests, five laymen and four laywomen. In the same year, after the college had sent out its first eight graduates, the enrollment rose to one hundred and one.



Swimming under difficulties



Gym Class, 1926



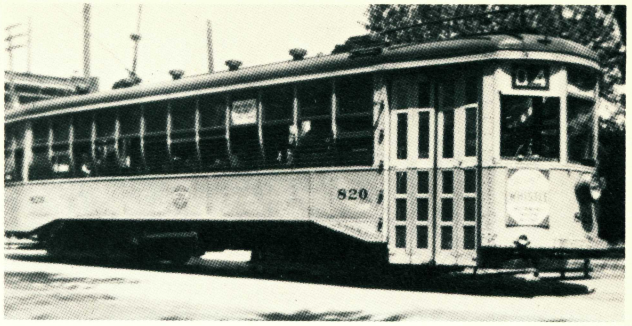
West Arcade, 1928

What kind of education did Fontbonne College offer in its first years? From the first opening of its doors, the college was dedicated to excellence. Solidly based in liberal arts, the first year's curriculum was comprehensive enough to prepare students to build toward any future pursuits. In the second year the way was paved for career-oriented students by the addition of the departments of Education, Home Economics and Business. At that time the Department of Business awarded a certificate at the completion of two years. The Education Department provided opportunity for state certification.

The development and expansion of the departments of education and home economics have been phenomenal. As the demand for teachers increased, more young women turned to the educational field for a career. For a number of years majors in elementary and secondary education formed the backbone of the future teachers' preparation. There were always areas of subject concentration demanded for secondary certification.

Later, as preparation in special fields in the elementary as well as in secondary schools was emphasized, majors in content subjects were required, with the additional education credits necessary for certification. The trend toward careers in teaching was so strong that eventually the majority of Fontbonne's graduates became teachers and could be found in public and private schools not only in the St. Louis area but in many school districts in far-flung places. The capstone of Fontbonne's achievement in preparing teachers came with the NCATE (National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education) approval in 1965. Not until 1970 did the demand for teachers in regular classrooms slacken somewhat.

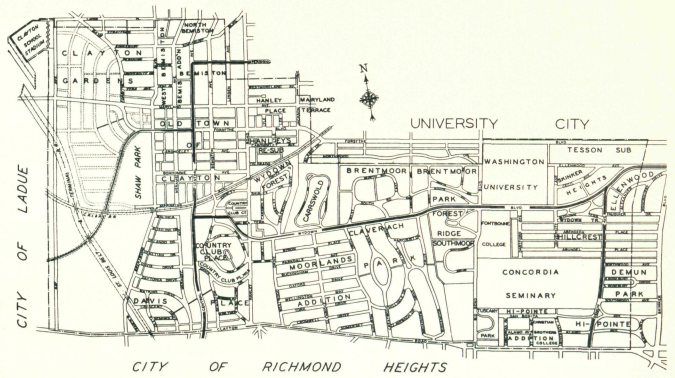




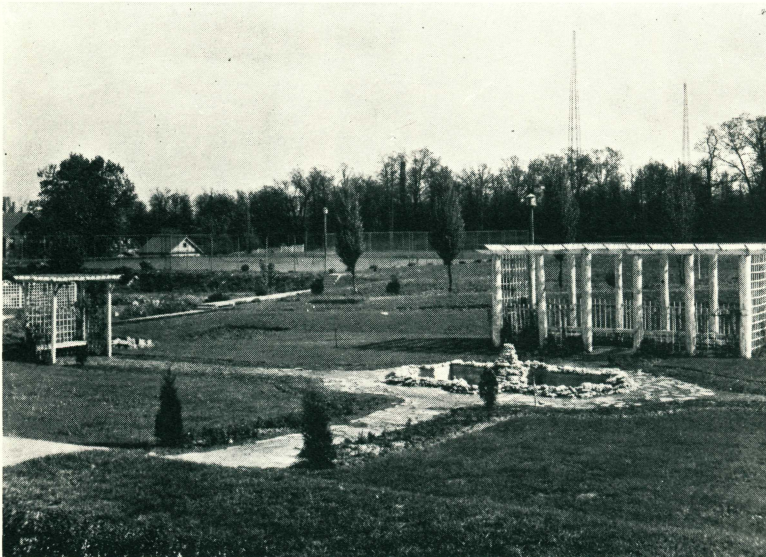
Clayton "Dinkey"



CITY OF CLAYTON



Clayton today

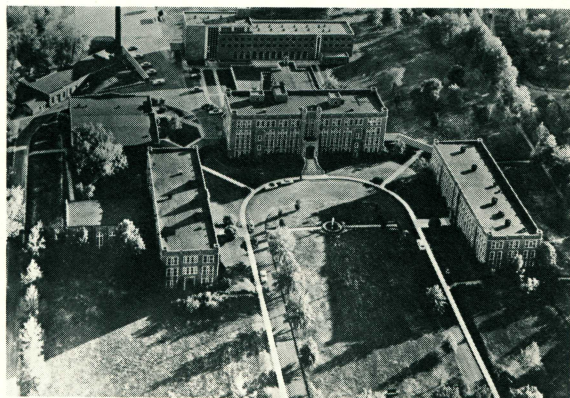


South Campus, 1940

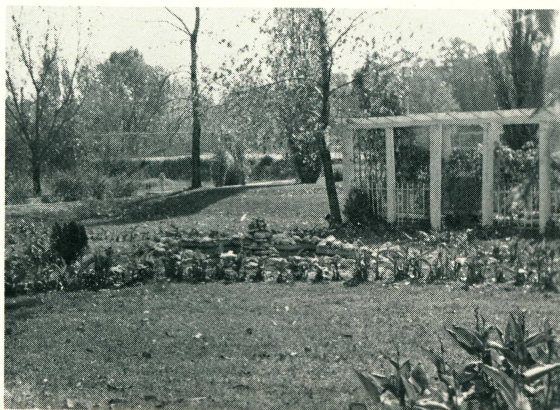
*Medaille Hall ground breaking,
July 16, 1946*



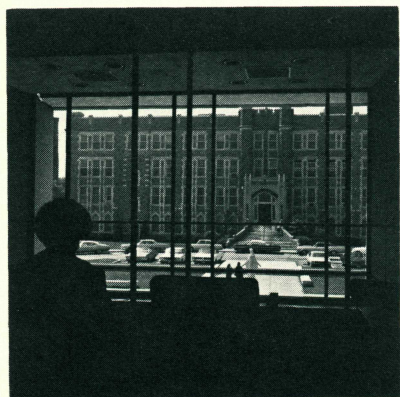
Window in Medaille Hall



The campus, about 1960



South campus, 1941



Ryan Hall from library



Medaille Hall entrance

View of campus from Big Bend



St. Joseph's Hall under construction



Blessing St. Joseph's Hall cornerstone



Student's room in Medaille Hall



The campus, about 1965



Breaking ground for St. Joseph's Hall



The library





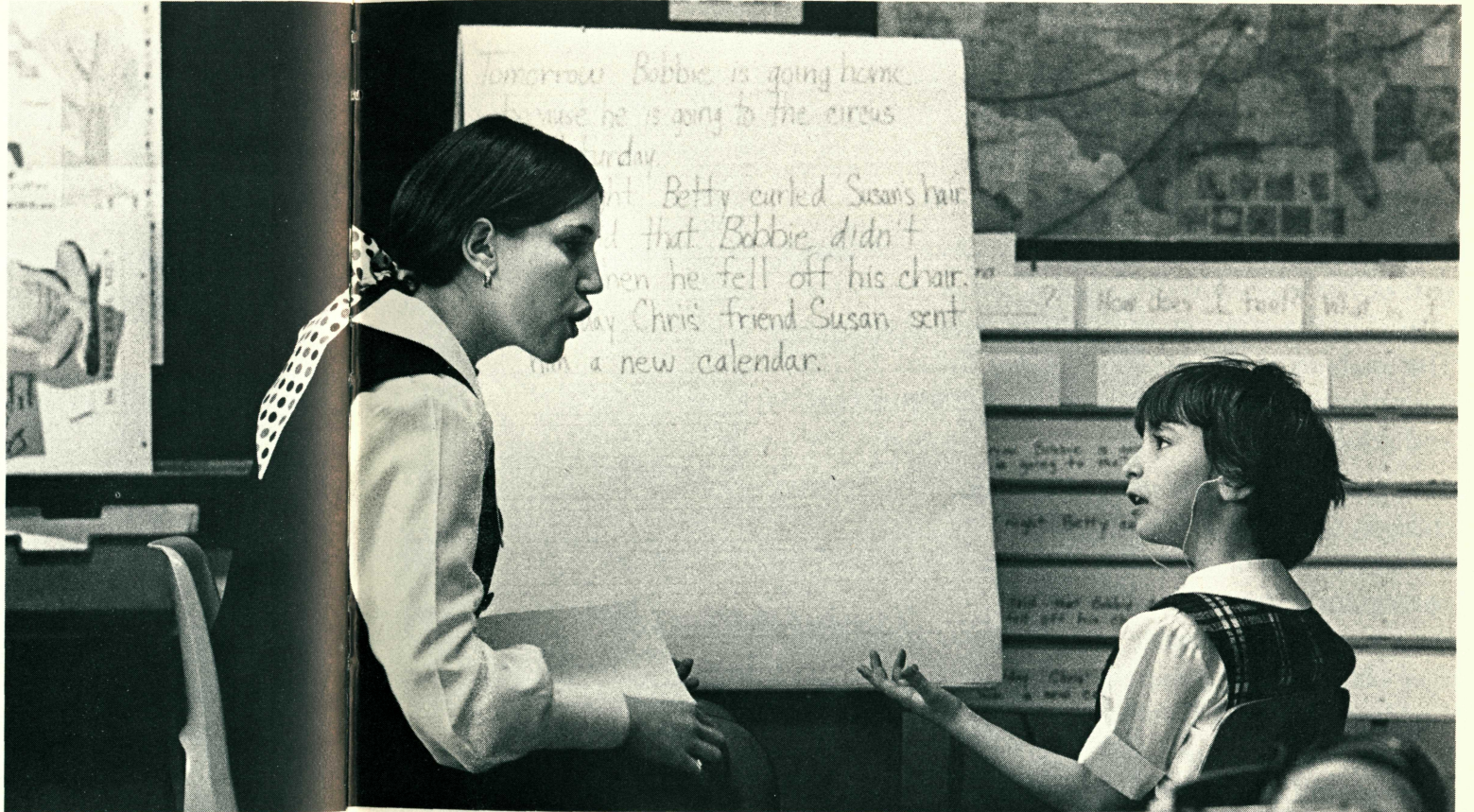
Correcting communication disorders

In the meantime, the Education Department had come to encompass the preparation of teachers for more specialized fields. One of these was the training of teachers for the deaf. This development is interesting in the light of the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the United States. When Bishop Rosati requested sisters to come from France, he asked specifically for sisters who could teach the deaf, and one year after the sisters' arrival at Carondelet the first Catholic school for the deaf west of the Mississippi was informally opened. This small beginning eventually developed into a full-fledged school for the deaf at 901 Garrison Avenue and finally the present St. Joseph Institute in University City. This school enjoys an international reputation as an outstanding school for the deaf.

Fontbonne College is the only Catholic college west of the Mississippi with a teacher training program for the deaf, and is one of the few colleges and universities of any kind in the United States offering a degree program in connection with a school using a completely oral method, that is, teaching the deaf to speak.

Teachers at the Institute, from whom the deaf children and Fontbonne students learn, hold higher degrees in hearing and speech therapy, audiology, psychology, and related subjects. The first seven students majoring in education for the deaf received their degrees in May, 1963. The significance of the deaf education program at Fontbonne has been acknowledged by the number of invitations tendered faculty members to conduct deaf education workshops and classes in various parts of the United States and in Mexico.

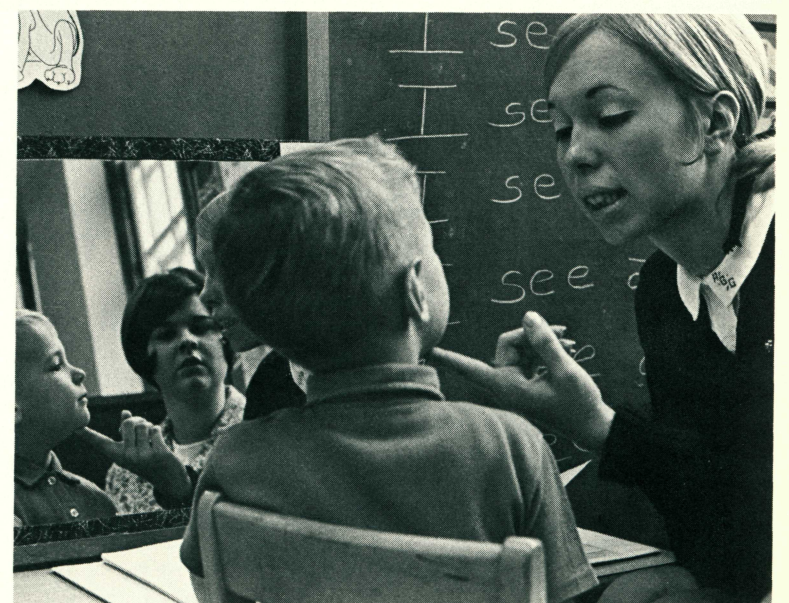
Another special area of education in which students are being trained is that of educable mentally retarded. This program has not been conducted for as long a time as that of deaf education, but is one of the fastest growing academic programs at Fontbonne.



Teaching the deaf to speak



Special education



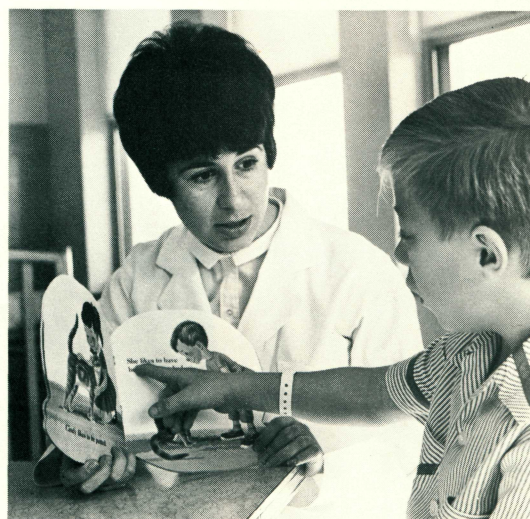
There are several areas in the field of teaching the retarded and students can obtain certification in one or more of them. Students in the teaching of retarded children observe and practice teach at St. Mary's Special School, the Hubert Wheeler State School #13, and the Epiphany School's special classrooms.

The Department of Communication Disorders is not part of the education department, but is somewhat related to the other areas of special education. The students in this department are trained for the therapeutic treatment of speech handicapped children and adults.

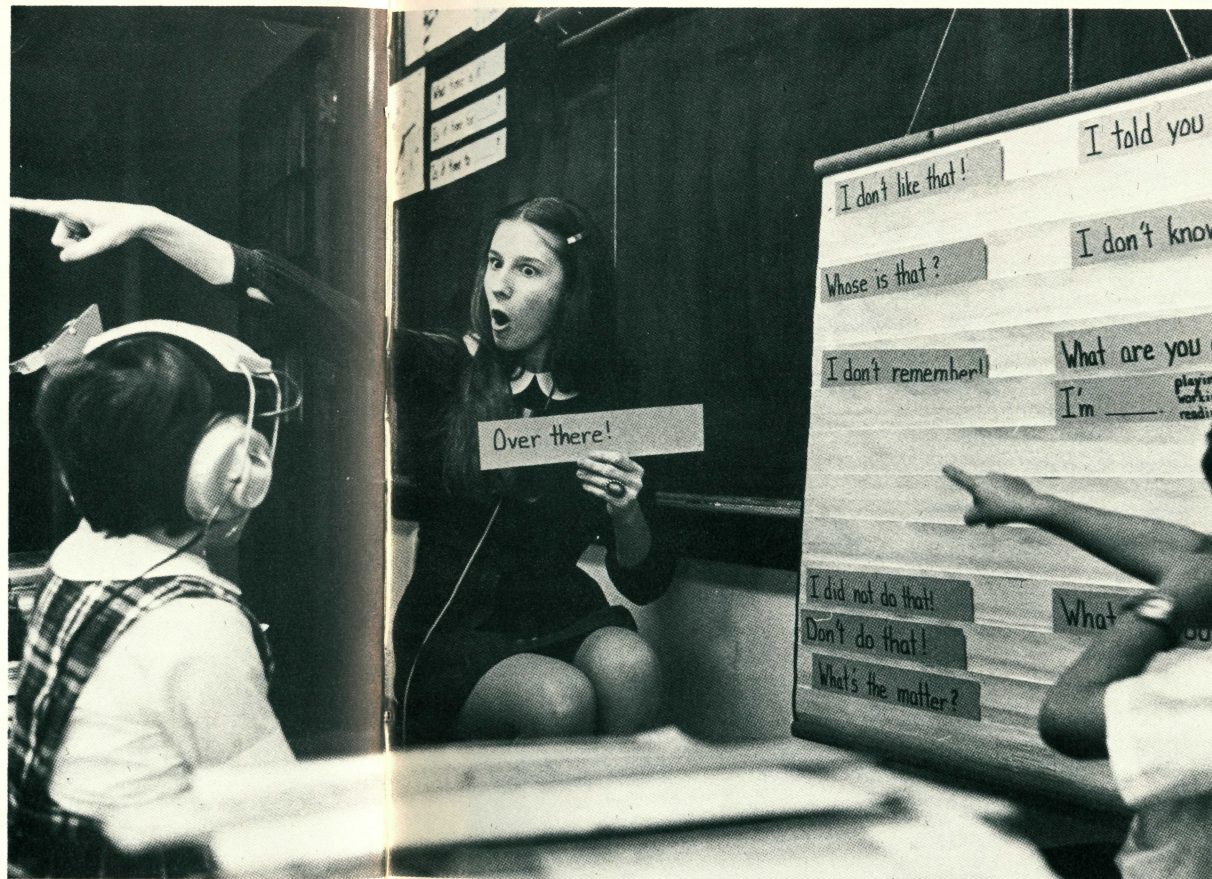
In connection with the department a clinic daily serves children with speech disorders of various kinds. Under the supervision of experienced clinicians, the students participate in the work with the children and learn the necessary therapeutic techniques. In addition, they obtain teaching experience at Shriners Crippled Childrens Hospital, Cochran Veterans Hospital, the County and St. Louis City Public School Systems, Carondelet Child Center and Jefferson Barracks Veterans Hospital. Through the staff and students of the department, about 4,000 persons have been served in the 14 years of the department's existence.



Social work at Plymouth House



Don Sutton, Psychology



Deaf education



Sister M. Teresine, Mathematics





Sister Hilda, Treasurer for 43 years



Special Education



Speech Therapy at Veterans Hospital



Sister Margaret Eugene, Life Sciences

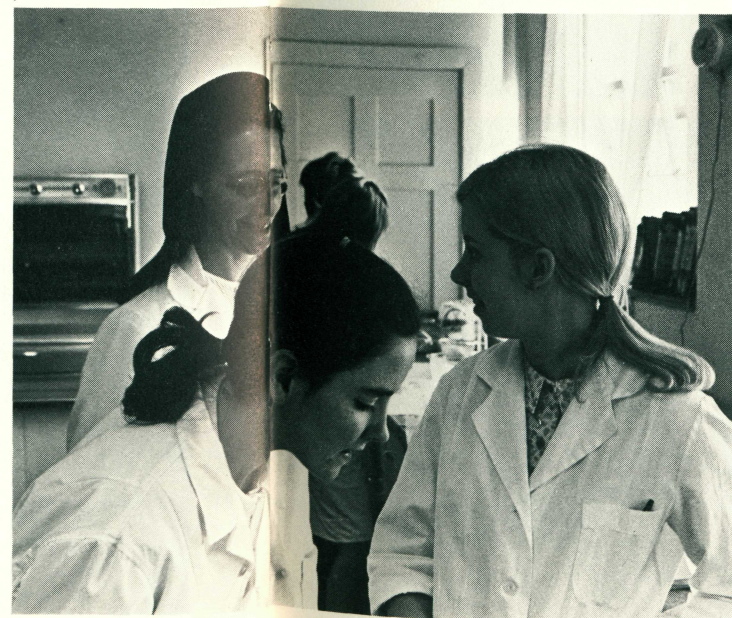
Sister Helen Joseph, Chemistry



The Home Economics Department has enjoyed great success and achieved a well-deserved high reputation. Beginning in the college's second year with a limited number of the usual home economics courses, the department has grown to include major studies in both home economics and dietetics. A graduate who has majored in home economics at Fontbonne can be prepared for a number of careers—education, industry, research, utility home service, to mention a few. Graduates in dietetics are found in the dietetics departments of hospitals, schools, restaurants, or any place where a trained dietician is needed. Dieticians educated at Fontbonne are so well established in St. Louis area hospitals that it has been said, "you can't be decently sick anymore without somebody from Fontbonne deciding your menu."

The Business Department has had a varied history. When the department opened in 1924 it offered a 2-year course, leading to a certificate in business. Later a 2-year secretarial course was introduced, with an expanded program. A certificate was given for the satisfactory completion of the course. After several years, the secretarial course was incorporated into the Business and Business Education Department, but a 2-year course was still offered.

The Business Department in 1962 increased its offerings, and provided three majors in the business field. Finally, the 2-year course was dropped and the emphasis was placed on preparing young women to achieve positions of administrative responsibility in a wide variety of fields. A practicum was added to the curriculum, making practical application of business theory to actual experience in the business world.



Sister Cecile Therese,
Home Economics

Home Economics students, late 1940's

Home Economics students,
Sister M. Martha



Sister Rose Genevieve, Dietetics



Miss Theresa Camody,
Home Economics



Sister John Joseph, Music



Dr. Madge Skelly, Department of
Communication Disorders, receiving
Alumni Merit Award from St. Louis
University



Sister M. Victor, Cafeteria Manager
for many years

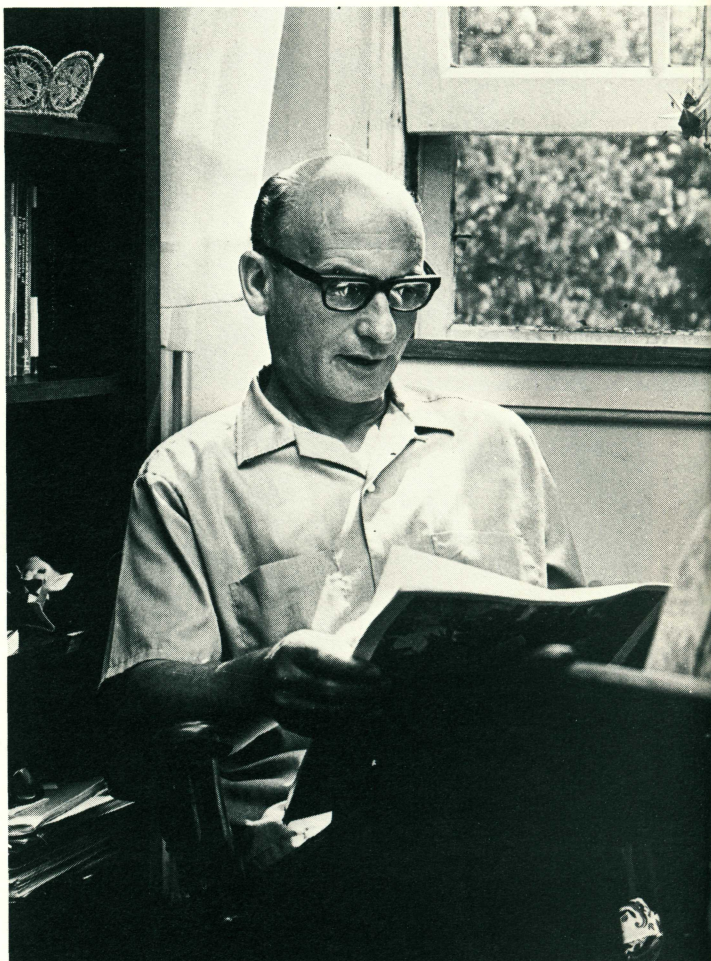


Sister Stephanie, English



Sister Mary Alfred, receiving Alumni
Merit Award from St. Louis University

Faculty Conference at Rock Haven



Father Sean Quinlan, Theology



Francis Kinkel, English



Sister Jane De Chantal, French



Sister Berchmans, and Sister Catherine De Ricci, long-time faculty members



Anatomy students, 1941



Play Production student, 1941

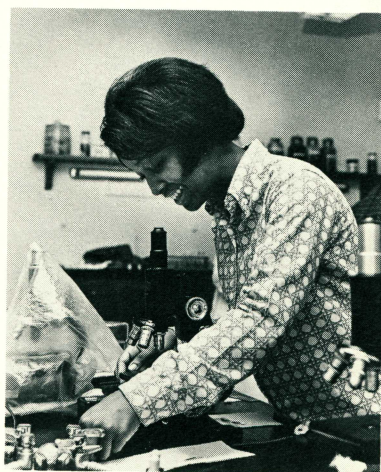




Class in Clothing Design



Learning the computer



Arts and sciences have continued to furnish a background for the special studies just described, but have not lagged behind them. New approaches and new methods have kept pace with the explosion of knowledge and the constant research in educational theories and practices. By expanding in scope and deepening in the intensity of studies all departments have met the challenge of ever-changing needs of society through the education of the students preparing to serve that society.

Some departments have manifested changes in ways that attract attention more than others. The Art Department has expanded to include sculpture and affords the opportunity for students to obtain the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts. In music, methods in teaching have changed in the areas of practice and theory. Classes in piano are taught with the aid of electronic pianos. Music theory makes use of various techniques of sound to exemplify the theories being taught. The Theatre Department has done much experimenting in the production of a wide variety of presentations ranging from Euripides to Ionesco. The staging as well as the directing has displayed much creativity in interpretation.

For the past eight years the Theatre Department has given summer productions for children. This is an extremely popular program, as is proved by the ever increasing attendance year after year.

The many course offerings at Fontbonne have provided and still provide the chief impetus toward intellectual growth. However, this impetus has always been augmented by fine speakers of local, national and international distinction.



Student music director



Rudy Tomini and his St. Patrick



Sculpture student



Bobo—Children's theatre



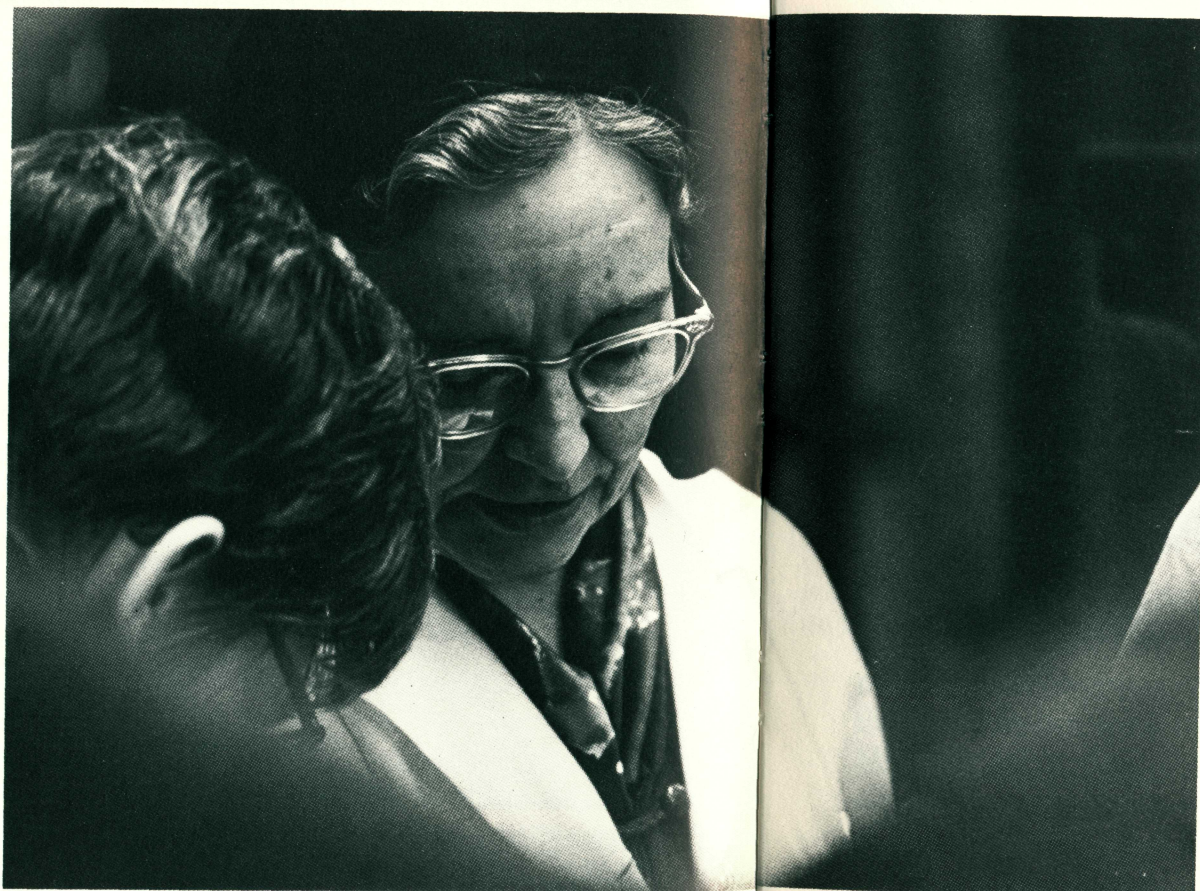
Modern dance class



"Mini strings" musicians



Dr. Relford Patterson, Voice



Sister Mary Grace, Chemistry



Students at electronic pianos



Dr. Ellen Lissant, Life Sciences



Sister Mary Anselm, Home Economics





*Fontbonne representative at St. Louis
University Prom, 1929*



Junior Prom, 1929

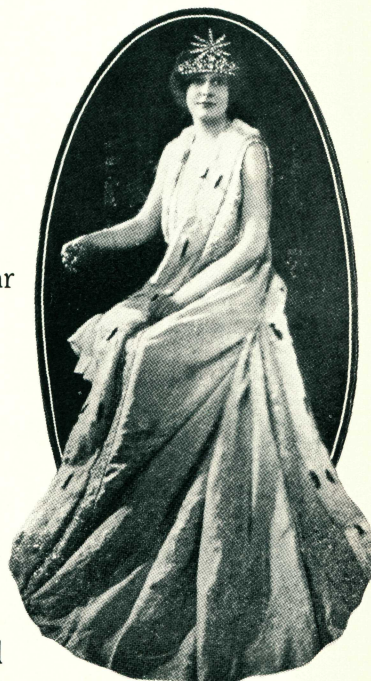
While the students have been chiefly engaged in intellectual pursuits, their physical development and social life have not been neglected. Classes in physical education were offered from the college's first year and the fine gymnasium and swimming pool witnessed many games and contests. Tennis and field hockey were favorite sports. Basketball, intermural and intramural, helped rouse school spirit. The favorite outdoor exercise was horseback riding, with the horse show being an important annual event for over twenty years. While St. Joseph's Academy was on the Fontbonne campus, the horse show was a joint effort and after the academy moved to a new site on Lindbergh Boulevard in 1955, the horse show became its special project.

Social life was the usual round of dances, teas and parties. Some events combined other interests with the social aspect. Such a one was the celebration of May Day, primarily a religious ceremony, but an occasion to take part in something beautiful and emotionally stirring and to include the social element. Other annual events of moment on the social calendar were the junior-senior prom and College Day. Later, the father-daughter banquet was added to the list of important happenings.

The first prom, as all the early dances at the college, was held in the Fine Arts building, when two spacious parlors could take care of the crowd, with some dancers moving out into the corridor. The musicians occupied the entrance to the theatre. Those two spacious parlors are now a recital room, an office and a classroom. After Medaille Hall was completed in 1949, its ballroom became the scene of proms and other dances.



May Queen, 1934



*Queen of St. Louis University
Conclave Prom, 1926*



Riding class in early years



May Queen and court, 1939

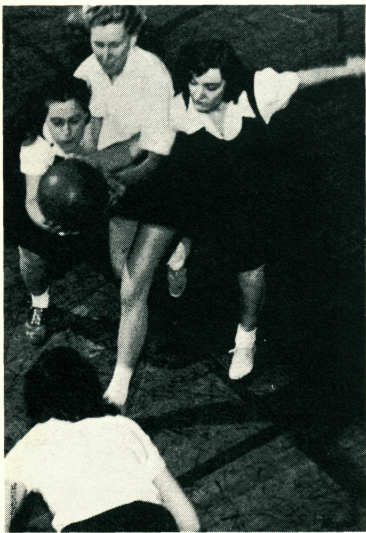


Student activities, 1937





May Day, 1943



Basketball, 1945



Footlights Club, 1945*May Court Maids, 1944*

Medaille ballroom now has much greater use, since its renovation in 1969. The entire first floor underwent changes, the west end being remodeled into offices for student services and the ballroom being converted into a multipurpose room. Furnished as a living room, it is equipped with stereo, color TV and a pool table. It is still suitable for dances, receptions and other festive events.

All this remodeling was made possible by a gift from Mrs. Cecil Price Arnold, whose aunt was Sister M. Claude of the Sisters of St. Joseph and whose daughter was a student at Fontbonne at the time. The area has been named Arnold Memorial Center, in honor of Mr. Arnold, in whose memory Mrs. Arnold made the gift. Mr. Arnold had been Executive Vice-President of Peabody Coal Company. His death occurred in 1962. A brilliant and successful but unobtrusive man, he did not allow his success to overshadow his natural compassion and generosity toward less people. A commemorative plaque is a reminder to those using the center of the generosity of Mr. Arnold and his family.

When the dormitory space in Medaille Hall became inadequate, another dormitory building, St. Joseph's Hall, was opened in 1962. In 1968 the building which had been the Juniorate for the St. Louis province of the Sisters of St. Joseph was acquired by the college. After some remodeling it became available as a dormitory for Fontbonne students in the fall of 1969, with some of the first floor being designated as classrooms and art studios. Since then music classes also use parts of the building.



Penny Circus Queen, 1951



Sodality reception, 1958

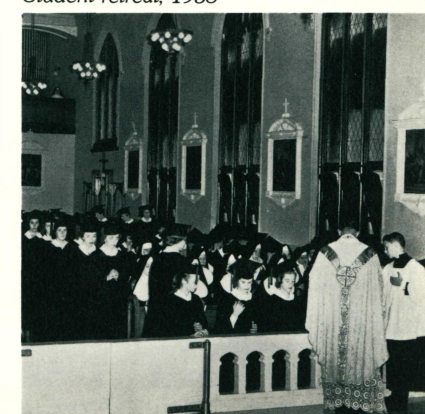


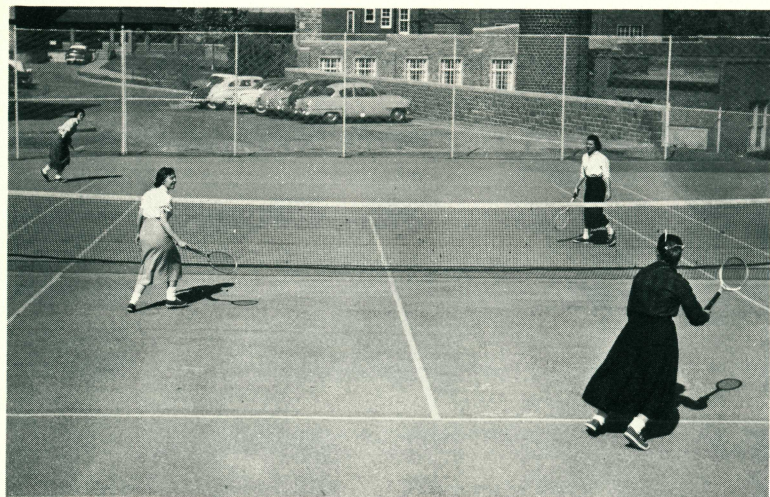
Junior Prom, 1958



College Day, 1953

Student retreat, 1958





Christmas Carolers



Freshman induction



Visiting Thomas Jefferson

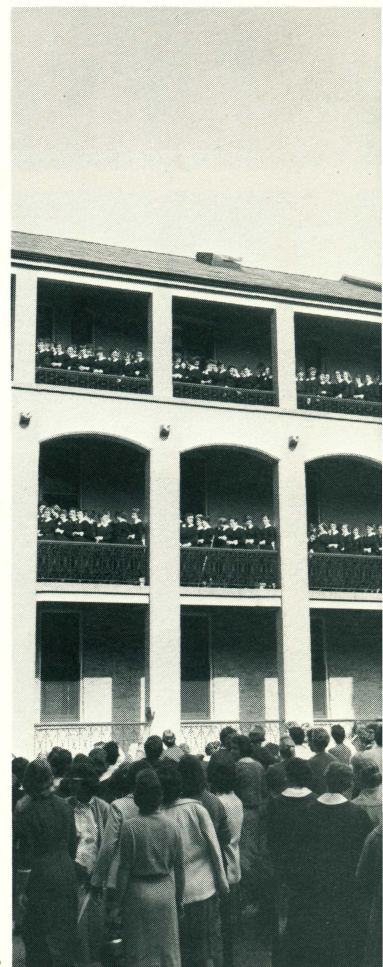
College Day was for years one of the highlights of the year. The celebration originated in the first years of the college, when classes were conducted at Carondelet. The date was always on or as near as possible to the Feast of St. Teresa, October 15, since that is the traditional day of the founding of the Sisters of St. Joseph in the seventeenth century. College Day was packed with a variety of activities: religious, festive, fun-filled. For many alumnae "College Day" means the parade to Carondelet in gaily decorated cars, with competition and fun connected with that special feature of the day.

Another annual competition that is remembered nostalgically was the Penny Circus as part of a bazaar. The Queen was the one whose class gave her the strongest support with their pennies. As any alumna can recall, great ingenuity was exercised in raising "pennies."

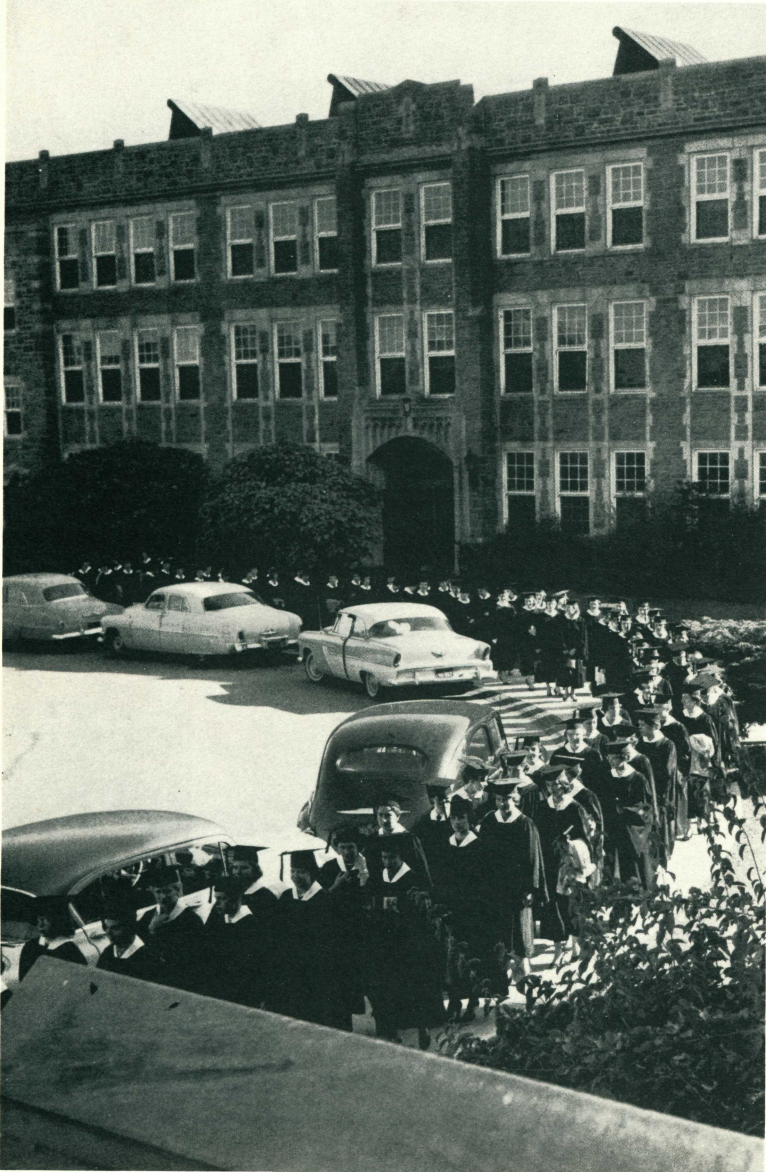
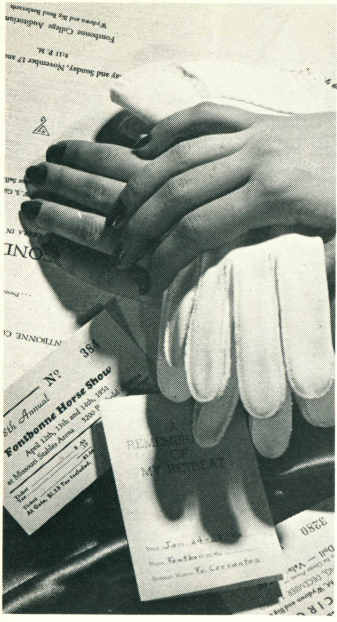
Penny Circus



Carondelet Chapel, College Day



At Carondelet, College Day

In the "Cafe"*College Day, 1955*



Mixer, 1969



Moving to the new library, May 17, 1967



Fontbonne students greet
Pope John XXIII, 1959



Supporting the Billikens



Preparing for Mass



Cardinal Pacelli (Pope Pius XII)
at Fontbonne, 1936



The proof of Fontbonne's effectiveness in education is found in its alumnae. Scattered throughout all the states of the United States, Canada, South America and other foreign lands, Fontbonne's graduates are spreading the good word of their *alma mater*. Among the hundreds of former students of Fontbonne are many unsung heroines of whom the college is justly proud. From their midst from time to time arise some who, because of unusual and noteworthy accomplishments attract public attention, and are duly honored. Fontbonne is also justly proud to acknowledge these daughters of hers.

While pursuing their personal goals and accomplishing many great things within the sphere of their personal influence, the alumnae have not forgotten their college. They have assisted Fontbonne's every effort, offering generous moral and financial support. Without such support, Fontbonne would not present so bright a picture as it does at present.

Throughout the years service and particularly volunteer service has been a tradition at Fontbonne. In its first year a unit of the Catholic Students Mission Crusade, with eight members, was organized, evidence of interest beyond immediate concerns. The first fruits of this interest were three missionary sisters: Sister Lucy (Mary Louise Mee, class of 1927) who became the American Provincial of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, a missionary order; Sister Olivette (Charlotte Whalen of the class of 1929) who, after laboring for years in Brazil, became and still is superior-general of the Holy Cross Sisters; Mother Mary Acchileus (Eleanor Riley of the class of 1932) who, as member of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, was a missionary in China for several years before her untimely death in 1942.

Later, more opportunities for personal involvement brought the same generous response. This became especially evident during the war years. Fontbonne went "all-out" for the Red Cross. Examples of this cooperation were: giving blood, aiding soldiers, sewing for refugees, operating a war stamp bank, and helping the gas rationing board on Sundays and holidays. In another category, some students engaged themselves in transcribing books into Braille for the blind. During these years activities were mostly confined to campus or local endeavors, although the mission fields continued to beckon and Fontbonne alumnae could be found in Hong Kong, Japan and South America.

As communications and transportation took on a wider scope and offered more and diversified opportunities, Fontbonne's students and graduates grasped such opportunities and responded to the needs of different people. Members of the Peace Corps, Papal Volunteers, and Extension Society workers have traveled to Africa, Central and South America, Mexico and the southwestern sections of the United States. Others have extended their interest in the Red Cross at home to offer their services in Mexico and South America. The needy of Appalachia drew Fontbonne students to that area and even inspired one alumna, Kathleen Barloi Sandknop of the class of 1967, and her husband David to set up a store to provide an outlet for Appalachia's art and craft objects.



Blood donors, 1959



Gifts for servicemen, 1944



Student teach-in



Father Beiting from Appalachia



Mr. and Mrs. Perkins at Earth Week



Congressman Symington at Earth Week



"Soup-In" for Biafrans

One area of volunteer service which reflects little or no glamour but requires real dedication is the swim program for handicapped children. Many Fontbonne students have spent hours on Saturdays assisting these children in a very beneficial program.

Perhaps the most unusual volunteer effort is that of Faith House in St. Louis. Nancy Cowell Speilman of the class of 1960, and her husband George have a large home in mid-town, where for the past three years they have been ministering to the spiritual and physical needs of all who come to them for help. They depend for support on donations, which seldom seem to have been lacking.



Alumnae at Carondelet



Alumnae brunch

Alumnae Dinner Dance





*Estelle McCarthy receiving
Alumnae Award, 1971*



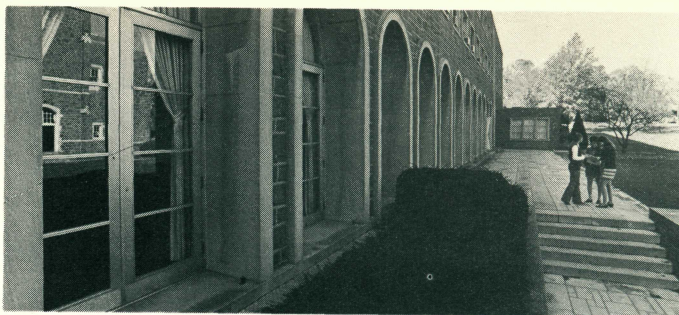
Alumnae reception for freshmen



*Mrs. Charlotte Gund receiving Alumnae
Award, 1972*



Alumnae Party at Municipal Opera, 1973



Medaille Hall



The Library



Campus view



Medaille and Southwest Halls

Fontbonne and Clayton.

The location of Big Bend and Wydown is a few blocks outside the limits of St. Louis and in the city of Clayton, the center of government for St. Louis County. Clayton came into being in 1876 and was incorporated in 1913, just ten years before Fontbonne's opening. The city is named for Ralph Clayton, an early settler who donated 100 acres of land to the new city.

In the 60 years since its incorporation, Clayton has grown tremendously, especially since World War I. Besides being the governmental hub, Clayton may well be called the major retail and commercial area of the county. Known at first as an exclusive residential district, it has also become the "downtown" of St. Louis County. As Clayton began and continued to attract business and banking firms, the zoning laws were changed in 1958 to permit commercial high-rise buildings above four stories, the previous limit. Now the city is known for its high-rise business district as well as its high-rise quality apartment buildings.

Relationship between the City of Clayton and Fontbonne College is obvious. Fontbonne is the only college completely within Clayton's boundaries and the city and college have both grown through the past 50 years and become increasingly of mutual benefit.

To assist in building for the future of the college, Mayor James Laflin and former Mayor Hy Waltuch of Clayton serve on the Board of Trustees, as do other business and professional men of Clayton. Likewise, some business and professional persons serve on committees and councils of the college.



Cardinal Ritter at commencement, 1958



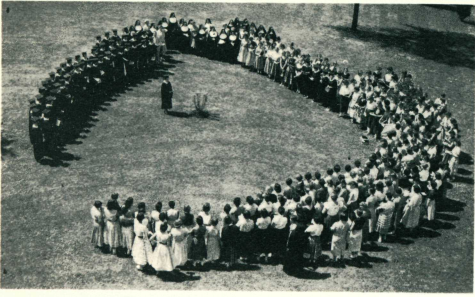
*Sister Jane Hassett, Cardinal Carberry
and Senator Eagleton at Commencement,
1973*



Commencement, 1960



*Cardinal Carberry and Dr. Martin Marty
at commencement, 1969*



Planting the class tree, 1955

The overall benefit to Clayton of having Fontbonne within its boundaries is having an educational and cultural center in its midst. Thus the citizens of Clayton can enjoy educational, cultural, religious and recreational advantages from the proximity of Fontbonne. Under these categories may be included: classes in all the academic subjects, programs for adults, lectures open to the public, plays, recitals, choral programs, art exhibits, library facilities, swimming lessons, religious services. Added to these is the faculty participation in areas of interest, such as giving lectures and serving on committees.



Commencement, 1957



Board of Trustees, 1972



Sister Jane Hassett, new Fontbonne president, and Board Chairman August L. Griesedieck.



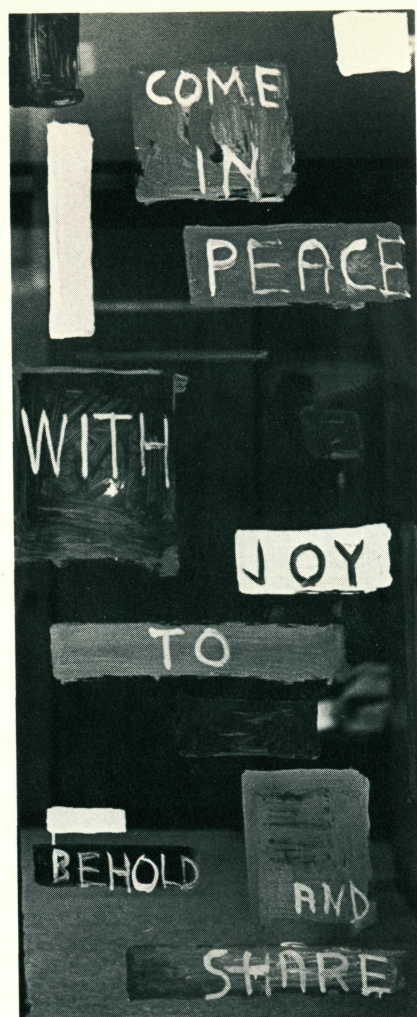
Parents' Committee, 1967

Governance.

For forty-five years the college was controlled by a board of trustees composed entirely of Sisters of St. Joseph. They were the chief officers of the St. Louis Province, headed by the Provincial Superior. The president of the college and other administrative officers were appointed by the provincial. The president of the college was also the superior of the local community.

The first change in this arrangement was the separation of the two responsibilities of president and superior. This took place in 1960. This meant that a president's term was no longer limited to six years and that her relationship with sisters living on campus and engaged in college work was the same as with other members of the faculty and staff, purely professional.

Before the end of the decade, an even greater departure was in the making. After much study and deliberation, it was decided to change the structure of the Board of Trustees from an all-sister group to a board that would include lay persons, men and women. The transfer of control took place July 19, 1968 and the complete board was announced in January, 1970. Phillip Lucier, President of Continental Telephone Corporation, was elected first chairman. August Griesedieck, of Keefe, Schlafly, Griesedieck & Ferrell, Attorneys, was elected to the position after the tragic death of Mr. Lucier in July, 1970. The by-laws contained in a revised charter specify that the president of the college be a Sister of St. Joseph. The sisters continue to be the "core" group. The board has been enlarged and at present consists of twenty members, including seven Sisters of St. Joseph, one priest, nine laymen, and three laywomen.



In the "Cafe", 1969



"Powder Puff" football



Watching the game



Campus in the fall

While growing from a college of a few classrooms at Carondelet in 1923 to a beautiful campus of eleven buildings in 1973, Fontbonne has undergone many changes, too numerous for all to be mentioned in a brief account. As a necessary condition of life and growth, changes continue and will continue in the development of Fontbonne within the next fifty years.

Notable changes taking place at present are in the presentation of new programs. One of the new programs in progress is PACE (Program for Adult College Education), which was initiated last semester. It is designed to enable women over 25 to begin or continue their college education. The Biology Department has inaugurated a program of concentration in medical technology which allows a student to finish her year of internship within the four years of college work. Another innovation is the Division of Humanities and Science, a new approach to these fundamentals of higher education. It is planned to get under way this fall. The following year students who enter this division will be able to obtain a bachelor's degree in three years. An expanded special education program and a major in early childhood are other programs to be introduced this year.

As Fontbonne College moves into its second half century, it looks back on the past with gratitude to God for the good accomplished and looks forward to the future with hope and confidence in His never-failing guidance.



"Book of Hours" in Library



