

# Palmer Hall: Dreams Come True

By ETHEL BARNETT

**B**EAMS of steel thrust in mid-air. Rafters held by mighty bolts. Cement poured into great forms. Materials being transformed into a building, plans and dreams coming true.

Reynolds Hall has embodied the student body of Alabama College as an intimate small group; Palmer Hall shall embody the people of a state. Memories of Reynolds Hall crowd closely together, press upon each other; plans of Palmer Hall extend far into the future.

Upon its steps shall gather those from far and near, in its spacious lobby they will stand about in groups. Many softened footsteps shall tread its long aisles. Freely students will pass up and down the wide stairs, freely that will pass before rows of service windows, patiently they will await admittance into the office, waiting room and thence into the inner office. From the balcony there will be seen a sea of human heads. Soft music, dying echoes, a profusion of audible tones. Dim lights, mingled hues, shifting shadows, the spot-light upon the stage. Art, drama, the accomplishments of an age. These shall be Palmer Hall, the central point of our state.

Even in its unfinished stage Palmer Hall is a thing of undescrivable wonder. The marvel at its singular features, we are amazed with it as a unit. The auditorium, the central place of interest of the building is 110 feet in length and 82 feet in width with a floor slant of eight feet from the entrance to the stage. The balcony is supported by an iron beam which extends entirely across the building. No columns are used in its support. The simplicity of the auditorium will be made more striking by a color uniformity of blue in the draperies, curtains,

and leather upholstered seats. The stage opening is 34 feet wide. The equipment is such that the most difficult plays may be produced. Shifts in scenery are facilitated by raising and lowering. The switchboard makes possible any desired lighting effect.

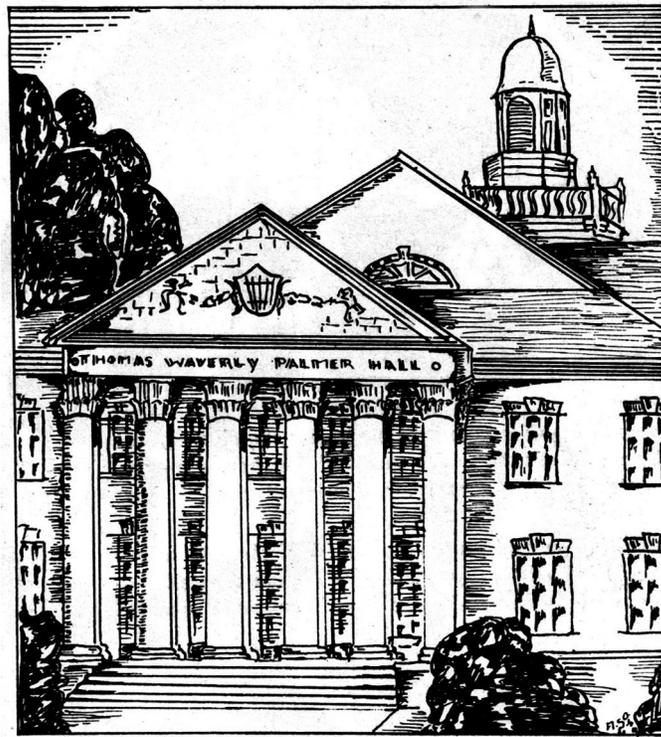
The pipe organ has been from the formation of the blue prints one of the chief items of interest. Apparent-

ly the building has been constructed about this organ which is second largest in educational institutions of the South. It consists of four organs; the great Organ to the right of the stage, the choir organ to the left, the solo organ in the ceiling above the orchestra pit and the echo organ in the ceiling above the balcony. These different organs are played from the console located in the orchestra pit so as to disappear under the stage when not in use. Four thousand six hundred pipes comprise this mammoth organ. In this building also are located, first floor, the trustee's room and information bureau; second floor, all offices of administration, and third floor, the projection room for motion pictures

with wiring provision for the "talkies." The basement contains four dressing rooms and a rehearsal room. Later the installation of a broadcasting room will be made on the third floor.

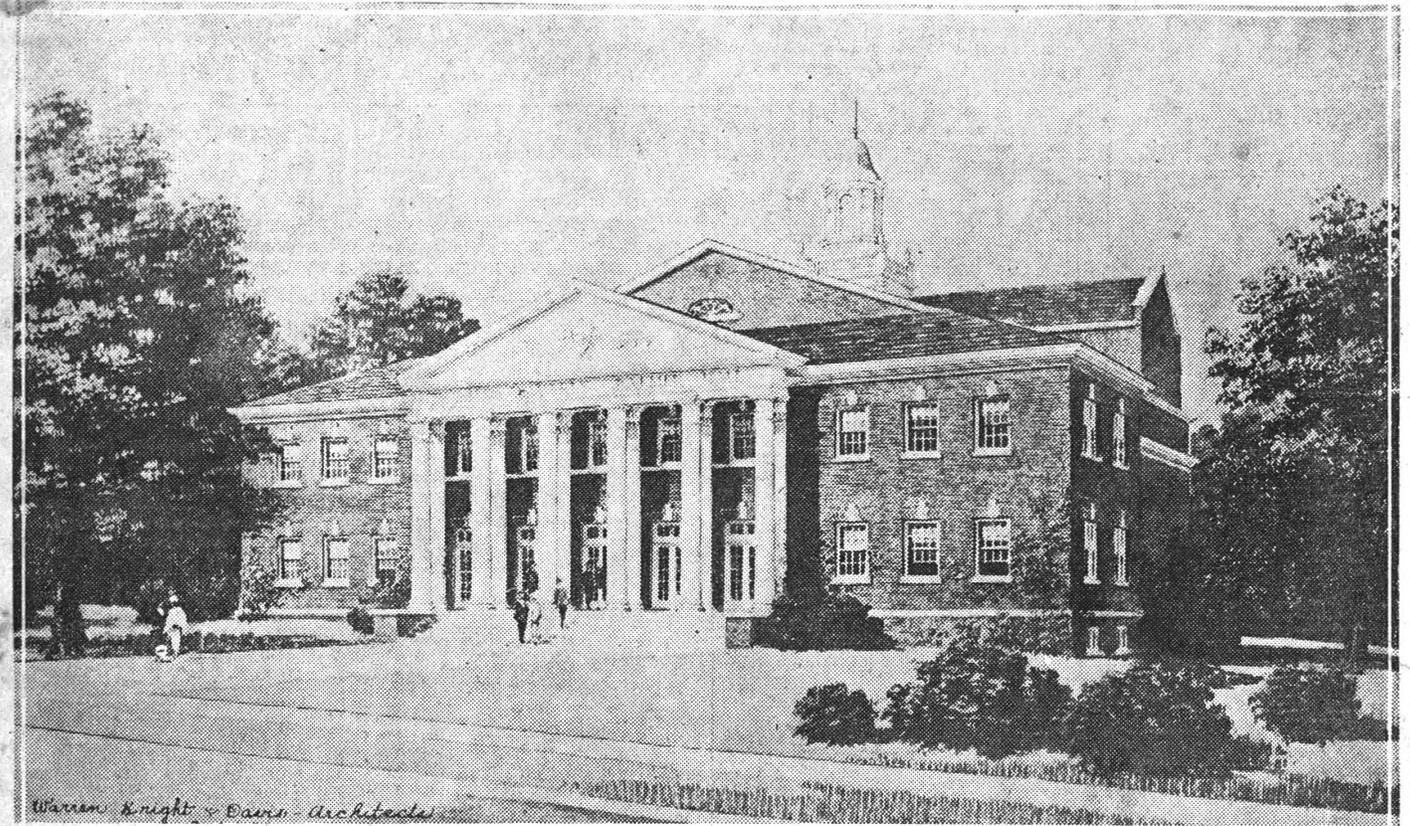
It is not surprising that so many of the girls and faculty members go over every day to count the bricks, examine the huge switch board and look at the beautiful new office of the president.

From the aspirations of some has come this, one of the most complete theatres of the South. Time has brought a realization of their plans, of our hopes; time has effected a building of a dream come true, a building when dreams shall come true!



PALMER HALL

# BEAUTIFUL NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT ALABAMA COLLEGE IS NEARING COMPLETION



This beautiful building, as visualized by the architects, Warren, Knight & Davis, is rapidly assuming shape at the Alabama College, Montevallo, where it will bear the name of Thomas Waverly Palmer Hall, in honor of a president who labored long and successfully at the college. The hall was recently dedicated by Gov. Graves, and will cost \$200,000. The work will be finished by Sept. 1, and the Thomas Waverly Palmer Hall will be used as administration building and auditorium.

## WARREN, KNIGHT & DAVIS

*Architects for the College and the Following Buildings:*

Alabama Power Co., Birmingham, Ala.

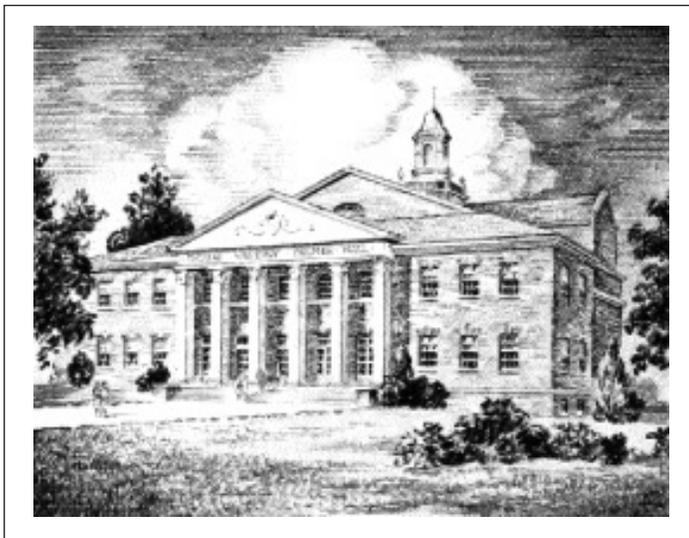
Protective Life, Birmingham, Ala.

Watts Building, Birmingham, Ala.

Merchants National Bank, Mobile, Ala.

Chemistry Building and Graves Hall at the University of Alabama

Erskine Ramsay Hall at Auburn



# We Dedicate Palmer Hall

By MELLIJO WILLIAMS

ONE by one the dreams and plans for Palmer Hall have been shaped into a beautiful reality.

First, there was the reality of the building itself, an edifice that will be dedicated to the memory of the late President, Dr. Thomas Waverly Palmer, whose spirit, firmly incarnated in the hearts of his followers, has played a large part in fostering and developing more than mere wood and stone on the campus.

For a year we have watched this building, with ever swelling pride, pass through the slow stages of construction from the first spade of broken ground to the final polishing of its stone and brick cornices.

Then breathlessly we watched the blue leather lined seats fill in the beautifully curved and perfectly elevated auditorium. Next we stroked with awed wonder the exquisite softness of the blue velvet draperies and stage curtains; examined with wordless admiration the pipe organ chambers, the perfect view from the balcony and the maze like switch-board with all of its intricate levers and drops.

Then, one night, with bated breath we awaited the rise of the curtains on the first program, given in the new hall. "Beggar on Horseback," the College Theatre's second production of the season.

And with even wider enthusiasm there again, we saw unfolded the matchless pageantry of College

Night before the largest audience in the history of Alabama College.

Then on March fifteenth a varied and lovely program of music, presented by the Glee Club and assisted by their guest artist Walter Sprey, pianist, was broadcasted direct from the new auditorium – another triumph for those who had dreamed and planned.

On this same day yet another step forward – lumbering trucks weighted with furniture, books, files, and papers, wheezed and rattled all day between Main, Bloch, and the new building, and night found Palmer Hall sheltering permanent occupants – the administrative staff.

And so we come to the dedication program announced for Saturday morning April the twenty-sixth. The program will include the presentation of the third college theatre play "Antigone" on Saturday night, a devotional service Sunday morning, and an organ concert Sunday afternoon.

Then, May brings for the Seniors, who have watched with perhaps even more interest than others the erection of this magnificent building, the final triumph – graduation and Commencement, with the same ideals and aspirations that made Palmer Hall a reality firmly implanted in their hearts and lives.



**PALMER HALL**—Within this building the offices of the administration demonstrate—with quiet efficiency—how work is done well. Here, too, students develop an evaluation of abilities and skills, an appreciation of the aesthetic and a recognition of the need to play together, to work together, and—to laugh together.