

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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Word has reached us at the moment of our going to press that the Board of Higher Education on February 26th elected Dr. George N. Shuster as the fifth President of Hunter College.

THEATER PARTY

The Alumnae Committee of Lenox Hill Neighborhood House is planning a great theater party for the benefit of our work at the Settlement, and especially to help us establish a work-shop for the boys. We are counting on Alumnae support to make this a successful undertaking.

That delightful book, *The Nutmeg Tree*, has been dramatized, and the play, "Lady in Waiting", will be given a preview on March 26th, at the Martin Beck Theater at 8:30 P. M. Miss Gladys George of "Personal Appearance" will take the leading rôle, and a distinguished cast should assure a most enjoyable evening.

Tickets may be obtained through the chairman or the following sub-committee: Mrs. Helen Needle, Miss Babette Levy, Mrs. J. Crotty, Miss Dorothy Doob, Miss Emilie Fries, Mrs. R. Draddy, Mrs. Edward Weil. The earlier your application is received the better we can serve you. Regular box-office prices will be charged, as follows:—Orchestra, \$3.30; Mezzanine, \$2.75 and \$2.20; Balcony, \$1.65 and \$1.10.

Come and have a grand evening at the theater, and without added expense help our worthy charity—Lenox Hill Settlement.

IRENE B. GRAFF, Chairman,
41 West 83rd Street.

CALENDAR, MARCH

Wed., Mar. 6—Officers-Directors, evening
Wed., Mar. 13—Executive Council, evening
Tues., Mar. 26—Lenox Hill Theater Party

HUNTER IN THE WEST

Mrs. S. Malis of Los Angeles has informed the Editor that the California Chapter of the Associate Alumnae held its sixteenth annual luncheon on Saturday, February 10th.

HUNTER IN THE SOUTH

The New York Retired Teachers Group of St. Petersburg, Florida, held a Valentine Luncheon on February 12th at which the high light was a salute to Hunter College. This meeting initiated a plan for paying tribute to various New York colleges at each meeting.

Word of this interesting event was sent by Mrs. Silas Scudder (Jane Brady, 1883) to Mrs. Valet, who mailed it on to Mrs. Simis, who forwarded it to the Editor of the *News*.

ALUMNÆ BREAKFAST

A spirit of genuine joy and deep pride marked the opening celebration in honor of the seventieth birthday of Hunter College—the Annual Breakfast of the Associate Alumnae, held at the Hotel Astor on Saturday, February tenth.

The Alumnae Valentine to Alma Mater on her seventieth anniversary, Helen Luckey Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, stated, is the manifestation of the same ideals, the same love, the same coöperation, and the same loyalty in Hunter women throughout the different generations.

Dr. Ordway Tead brought the message of the Board of Higher Education. The college of to-day is a new problem, he explained; it lacks the blitheness and the gaiety of the alumna's selected reconstructions of experiences which are highly delightful to recall.

Dr. Tead asked the Alumnae, "Are you completely satisfied with what college was for you? Should the liberal arts subjects be presented so that they may have some vocational training and value?" He asked these questions, he pointed out, because, if in this experimental era we wish to conserve the true essence of the cultural, we must re-examine our premises, our objectives, and our methods of reaching them. We must believe, he concluded, that, although a good job has been done, there is a better job that we all now can do.

Acting President George N. Shuster, introduced as a new friend, said that he hardly felt it necessary to remind the Alumnae of the necessity for their interest and co-operation to-day. Many gifts representing real sacrifice and real sentiment have been presented by loyal Alumnae, Dr. Shuster reported.

Opportunities for all to make their interest and coöperation concrete were listed by Dr. Shuster. They included, first, the program of Alumnae Adult Education proposed for the fall semester, with a series of lectures made possible through the generosity of Lucius Littauer; second, the chance to help in the expanded personal work in the College, "a work which offers a new avenue for the spirit"; third, the exploration of opportunities for young women, as one attempt to solve the problem of joblessness. In connection with these avenues of assistance, the Alumnae are asked to fill out two questionnaires, the first to explore their fields of interest in the program of Adult Education, and the second to be sent out by the American Association of University Women in connection with the problem of joblessness.

Dr. Shuster, in conclusion, affirmed the

promise that "nothing that is good in the traditions of the College will ever be wastefully thrust aside".

The greetings of the Silver Anniversary Class of 1915, present seventy strong, were brought by the President of June 1915, Professor E. Adelaide Hahn, who presented Mrs. Simis with a check for \$150 for the Organ Fund. The class gift to the College, the beautiful reproduction of the statue of a votary of Athena, purchased from the Greek Government, was unveiled by Miss Joan Marie Terranova, daughter of Josephine Soldano Terranova, President of January 1915.

Mrs. Alice Isaacs Popper presented the greetings of the Golden Jubilee Class of 1890, and announced that their gift to the College would probably take the form of pictures for the English Department. Forty-eight members of the class were present.

"Theater and College" was the subject of the talk of Mr. Lee Simonson, Director of the Theatre Guild and designer of the new Hunter College Theater. "Amateurs in the best sense of the word need a certain amount of technical equipment," Mr. Simonson explained. Since the best understanding and appreciation may be gained from participation, the need for college theaters such as the one the New Building will contain may be understood easily. "The enlightened, intelligent, skillful amateur," Mr. Simonson asserted, "will bring new life to the theater throughout the country."

Dr. Eugene A. Colligan expressed his thanks for the resolutions passed by the Alumnae and his "sincere wish and earnest prayer that happiness and good fortune may always attend you".

The illuminated birthday-cake was, as usual, brought in to the tune of "Hunter", accompanied by a group of children from the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House who gathered in front of the dais and sang "Happy Birthday to You". The first slice was cut by Mrs. William Eagleson, '71, believed to be the College's oldest alumna.

Miss Rena Trachtenberg, winner of the contest among the undergraduates for the best Valentine to Hunter College, recited her winning composition.

"Three Score Years and Ten", a pageant written by Professor E. Adelaide Hahn, was presented by the students under the direction of Miss Dorothy Doob of the Department of Speech, assisted by Mrs. Alona Henning of the same Department. The students participating, who represented Alma Mater and the seven Decades of the College, were Jocelyn Ann Meyerson, Estelle Stern, Sylvia Sperling, Pauline Kissel, Margaret Estergom, Gloria I. Valentine, Beverly Nason, and Tatiana Samarin. The musical interludes that were a part of the pageant included "The Good Ship Alma Mater", sung by Regina Resnick; "The Ivy Leaf", sung by the Golden Jubilee Class of 1890 and the Alumnae Choir; "Hunter",

sung by the Silver Jubilee Class of 1915, led by Lillian Busch Milyko of the class, and accompanied at the piano by her daughter Carol (known to the Class as the "Jubilee Baby" because she was born at the time of Hunter's Golden Jubilee—just 20 years before the Breakfast); and "Fame", sung by the Alumnae Choir led by Mr. Anders Emile.

The students also demonstrated a gym class of 1870 and one of 1940; Miss Anna D. Mackay of the Department of Physical Education coached the 1870 class, and Miss Eugenie Schein managed the group of 1940.

The musical portion of the program included songs by Mrs. Philip Kraus, and instrumental music furnished by Beatrice Brown, violinist, Selma Adinoff, cellist, and Mildred Hirsch, pianist.

Those at the guest table in addition to the speakers included Miss Jenny Hunter; Mrs. George N. Shuster; Miss Pearl Bernstein, Administrator of the Board of Higher Education; Dean Emeritus Annie Hickinbottom Mills, and Dean Hannah Egan; Professor A. Broderick Cohen, Director of the Hunter College Evening Session; Mr. James Boswell, Director of Lenox Hill Neighborhood House; two former Presidents of the Associate Alumnae, Mrs. Leslie Graff and Dr. Elizabeth Jarrett; Dr. Ruth Lewinson, First Vice-President; and three undergraduates, Miss Ernestine Friedl, President of the Student Self-Government Association, Miss Leila Harrison, President of the Senior Class, and Miss Shirley A. Simpson, Editor of the *Bulletin*.

Mrs. Genevieve Burke Crotty was the efficient Chairman of the Breakfast Committee, which also included Mrs. Mary A. Curtin, Miss Dorothy Doob, Mrs. Louise Flynn Draddy, Mrs. Irene B. Graff, Mrs. Rosa R. Heintz, Miss B. Elizabeth Kallman, Miss Babette M. Levy, and Mrs. Simis.

Perhaps it was the spirit of the seventieth birthday, perhaps it was the highly interesting and diverting program, perhaps it was the combination of both with the usual good fellowship of the reunions, but every one agreed that this had been one of the best breakfasts ever. JULIA A. DUFFY.

THE COLLEGE BIRTHDAY

On February 14, 1940, Alma Mater celebrated her completion of three score years and ten by a grand birthday party, with many daughters and granddaughters gathered together at the old homestead in honor of the occasion. They recalled Alma Mater's humble beginnings on February 14, 1870, in the metropolitan equivalent of a log cabin, and they looked forward to her moving before her next birthday comes around into the palatial new residence that Father Knickerbocker has been building for her; but meanwhile they felt happily at home in the Auditorium on Lexington Avenue that has been doing duty for over a quarter of a century.