

THE ALUMNAE NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During the past month, one of the most important matters concerning the College came to our attention. It was the news announcement that the Navy was releasing the Bronx buildings. These buildings with their campus are extremely important to the student life at Hunter College. The use of the Bronx property constitutes the only campus facilities that our students have, and the return of these buildings for the use of the College would mean a substantial increase in enrollment, and certainly an improved morale.

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors was called for November 16th. Because of the shortness of the call, and the fact that people are extraordinarily busy, and the further fact that the Faculty was meeting on the same subject at the same time, the attendance at the Board of Directors meeting was unhappily small. Some of those who were necessarily absent, however, reached your President and expressed an opinion. As a result of discussion and deliberation, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

"WHEREAS Hunter College through the Board of Higher Education patriotically during World War II released the Bronx Buildings of Hunter College to the United States Navy for the training of Waves, and

"WHEREAS the Navy Department is prepared to relinquish said Bronx Buildings of Hunter College as no longer needed as a training center for the Navy, and

"WHEREAS the Bronx Buildings of Hunter College provided the only real campus for Hunter College students, and

"WHEREAS the said Bronx Buildings are historically, educationally, and civically essential to the development and future good of Hunter College and her students,

"THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College urge upon the Board of Higher Education that the Bronx Buildings of Hunter College be returned to Hunter College at the earliest possible date to be used as heretofore, and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the members of the Board of Higher Education."

By the time this NEWS reaches you, the Nominating Committee will be conducting its meeting, with a view to selecting a slate of officers. This should not be only their responsibility. Those of you who have any suggestions or any views to express should be heard from.

A Membership Drive is under way, and I again urge each of you to participate actively in securing members by inducing your close friends and classmates to join. It is more than likely that many important problems in connection with Higher Education affecting Hun-

ter College will develop very shortly, and the voice of the Alumnae will be the more cogent and powerful if the numbers are great.

RUTH LEWINSON, President

BACK TO THE BRONX

At a meeting of the Board of Higher Education held on November 19th, the Chairman, Dr. Ordway Tead, reported that notice had been received from the Navy with respect to termination of the contract for the Bronx Buildings. He also reported that the Administrative Council, consisting of the Presidents of the four Colleges (Dean Grady acting for President Shuster), had at his request considered the question of the use that should be made of the buildings. The Administrative Council, after considering this matter, recommended that the buildings be returned to Hunter College. Negotiations are under way with the Navy to restore the buildings to their original condition.

OUR VICTORY BREAKFAST

On February 12th, at 12:30 o'clock, the annual Alumnae Breakfast will be held in the Grand Ball-Room of the Hotel Commodore.

Last year's Jubilee Dinner was an outstanding occasion, with an attendance of over 1200. Let us match it this year with our Victory Breakfast—our best ever to celebrate the war's ending.

Presidents and class representatives should start immediately to reach their class-mates. This takes time, and postponement inevitably causes difficulties.

Watch for further notices!

MARY LOUISE DRADDY, Chairman
(Mrs. R. E.)

FROM ONE OF THE DELEGATES

The American delegation to the London Conference on Education had varied travel adventures (part of it arrived by plane without heat) and struggled valiantly to conquer the contemporary British diet. But the work done in helping to set up UNESCO, which when spelled out becomes United Nations' Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, was most agreeable and rewarding. The new constitution carries the work of intellectual cooperation far beyond the limits set by the League of Nations. When finally ratified by the constituent nations, it will concern itself with educational as well as scholarly cooperation, and will attempt to initiate international agreements designed to render the work of the mass media of communication more effective in the service of peace. Mr. Atlee told the Conference that "wars begin in the minds of men". We all hope that those same minds can preserve a peace based on justice and amity.

GEORGE N. SHUSTER

ALUMNAE DAY

The Alumnae Day Assembly on November 21st was not quite complete without President Shuster, but we were proud of the reason for his absence—his service in England at the Conference setting up a new organization under the U.N.O. to deal with education, science, and culture—and he had an able representative in Dean Grady, who, after opening the exercises by reading Psalm CVI, delivered a gracious speech of welcome in which she spoke of President Shuster's important mission, and asked for cooperation in making Hunter known to the city's high school students, and also in the purchase of bonds from Mrs. Bitterman's committee.

The large gathering celebrated Thanksgiving by listening to President Truman's Proclamation read by Miss Arline Feinstein, and to a delightful rendering of two Thanksgiving songs, the well-known hymn "We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing" and "Over the River and through the Wood", charmingly rendered by a trio consisting of Marjorie Jones, Ruth Buswell, and Marian Jones (Hunter has another musical sister-pair to succeed the Myersons).

And they celebrated Alumnae Day by listening to a stirring address by our Alumnae President, Dr. Ruth Lewinson, who stressed the success of Hunter graduates in many different fields; to a friendly talk by Miss Jenny Hunter, who attributed her remarkable ability to make herself heard throughout the huge Assembly Hall to the training given her by her distinguished father; and to the greetings of the Alumnae Day Chairman, Miss Josephine Burke, who presented some of the notables on the platform, and then conducted a roll-call of the classes, revealing the presence of a graduate of 1876 (Miss Katherine D. Blake) and of four graduates of 1878.

One of the outstanding young graduates so proudly referred to by Dr. Lewinson was present to entertain us with the gracious unaffected friendliness that she always displays. This was Miss Pearl Primus, '40, whose success as a dancer has won her a part in the coming revival of "Show Boat". Miss Primus' rendering of native African dances is remarkable not only for its grace and skill but also for the genuine anthropological research that has gone into it. With characteristic generosity she gave us two numbers, an African play-dance and a Trinidad religious dance, between which Miss Rhea Jackson beautifully rendered two songs, "Still wie die Nacht" by Bohme, and "La Gironetta" by Sibella.

The assembly closed with the singing of "The Ivy Leaf" and "Fame", and was followed by class-visiting and a tea tendered the Alumnae by the Faculty Club.