

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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HELEN GRAY CONE FELLOWSHIP

The Helen Gray Cone Fellowship Committee takes great pleasure in reporting the completion of the \$10,000 endowment fund in June, 1928. A gift of \$700 from Student Council and proceeds of the Wistarion marked the final step towards achievement of the goal set in 1926 when the idea of the fellowship was conceived.

Of the \$10,000 now constituting the endowment, the sum of \$1,862 was contributed by members of the faculty and administrative staff, \$3,544.77 by members of the Associate Alumnae, \$112.25 by members of The Poetry Society of America, and \$4,519.87 by the students.

The first award of the fellowship in English established in honor of Professor Emeritus Helen Gray Cone will be made in July, 1929. Any qualified graduate of Hunter College who has displayed exceptional ability in English work may apply for the award of \$550, to be used towards defraying the expenses of graduate study in an approved institution outside New York City. Preference will be given to an applicant not over thirty years of age at the beginning of the year in which the graduate work is undertaken. A Committee of Award consisting of five members, two of whom are members of the Associate Alumnae, will pass upon the credentials and qualifications of all candidates.

Application blanks may be secured after November 1 from the Chairman of the Committee of Award, Dr. Blanche Colton Williams, Hunter College of the City of New York. Application for the award of 1929 must be filed before March 1 with the Chairman of the Committee of Award.

EMMA K. TEMPLE,
Chairman for the College,
Helen Gray Cone Fellowship Committee.

THE CLASS OF '78

"Grow old along with me.

The best is yet to be."

So sang the poet; and if one questioned his philosophy a glimpse of the women assembled at the Biltmore on Saturday, June the second, in celebration of the Golden Jubilee of their graduation from Hunter College, would have completely dispelled any lurking doubt.

Mrs. Carrie Smith Gibson, their president ever since the Class organization, presided, and with her inimitable charm and grace, bade her guests welcome. There were one hundred and seventy in all, ninety graduates of the Class of '78, their daughters, grand-

daughters, and friends. Auld Lang Syne preceded the very good luncheon, the chef d'oeuvre of which was a huge birthday cake with fifty-one glowing candles, born aloft by two daughters of '78. The Class Ditty followed; and then came Mrs. Gibson's message, during the course of which, in the name of her beloved class, she presented her Alma Mater with the Class of '78 Fellowship Fund—\$6000 contributed by the members of the Class, the interest of which is to be awarded each year to a member of the graduating class for graduate study. Mrs. Hannah Goldenberg Ottenberg, Class Historian, presented a most interesting history; and to judge by the applause her humorous reminiscences were appreciated.

Mrs. Fanny Gibson Titus read letters and telegrams from those who had been prevented from attending the festivities, and President Kieran's address followed. A unique birthday cake in the form of a telegram was sent to the Class of '78 by Ruth Helen Davis of California.

Four of the "Girls" journeyed from afar. Mrs. Maud Doake Fitzgerald, President of the California Chapter, came by automobile from her far western state. Mrs. Minnie Jerome Day, her daughter, and Annie Goethals Prout, sister of General Goethals, also came from California; and Jane Burgess Crooks and her two daughters from Dublin, Ireland.

Sitting at the Guest Table were President and Mrs. Kieran; Mrs. Maxwell Hall Elliott, President of the Associate Alumnae; Mrs. William C. Popper and Miss Emma Huebner, past Presidents of the Associate Alumnae; Miss Laura Friend, one time instructor at Hunter College; Miss Jane McElhinney; Mrs. P. J. Casey, recipient of the first diploma issued by Normal College; and Mrs. James MacGregor Smith, Vice-President of the Associate Alumnae, all of whom said a few words. Mrs. Smith brought the message that she had discovered the whereabouts of the trowel used in the laying of the cornerstone of the old Normal College at 68th Street and Park Avenue, and that this same trowel would be used in the laying of the cornerstone of the new building on Jerome Park Reservoir.

Special mention must be made of two guests who had "crashed in" on the festivities, Mr. Campbell and Mr. Leubusher, both of the Class of '78, College of the City of New York. Regally were they welcomed by their sister class, and both entered into the spirit of the occasion.

ALUMNAE DAY

On June 9th, in our loved old chapel, we were told to "follow the Lavender and White Line,"—and it was a most pleasant journey. The silken thread led through a labyrinth of joys, a panorama of the evolution of a Hunterite. Most of these "lines" to be followed lead ultimately to "congestion"—witness the numbers in Hunter's crowded quarters! But this jaunt began with plenty of space for the participants, for the little group of "Pre-Hunterites" on which the curtain first drew were almost lost on the big stage. These wee tots, daughters of the Hunter family, stood in awe—some delighted, others distressed—as the curtains swayed back and forth; one, indeed, chose to leave the limelight. Despite their heritage, they "need the Hunter training"! This training was at once in evidence, in the second episode. The children of the Hunter Kindergarten marched in sturdy rows. These were an orchestra, a glorious ensemble of bells, drums, tambourines, and triangles. With their teacher, Miss Margaret Rooney (another Hunterite), at the piano, they performed most elegantly—encored happily—marched off in style.

The Hunter training proceeds—the silken thread of Lavender leads to the Hunter Model School. These girls and boys (last appearance of the masculine until Faculty!) of Mrs. Topping's class, gave us a unique setting of "The Walrus and the Carpenter," with clear ringing voices, full of the joyousness of loving the immortal Alice.

And now the silken thread leads quickly upward,—to Hunter High School. This group of Hunter's family sent two of its musicians: Esther Levy, who gave a violin solo, *Air for G String* by Bach, and encored with Shubert's *Moment Musical*; and Ruth Waldman, who gave a piano solo of *Waltz* by Chopin and encored with the *Mazurka*. The Hunter High School may well be proud of these two talented girls.

And still the silken thread led on, and once again we found ourselves in College. To many of the younger Alumnae, the College Song, "Hunter", must have seemed like a new song. Lillian Busch Milyko, '15 (who wrote the music), led the singing with all the enthusiasm with which she first taught us that song back in—oh, never mind the year! And to complete the picture, there was Professor Hahn—no, there was E. Adelaide (who wrote the words), enthusiastically helping along from the platform, her dignity as Chairman of this big day for the moment forgotten.

A Song and Dance from *Iolanthe*, in which Augusta Truell, Martha Eckl. and Bella Kimbrig took part, recalled that notable College production. Several very striking scenes from the last Varsity Play, *Rip Van Winkle*, were presented by Dorothy Gillam and Hilde Graf. The tumultuous applause

with which both these productions were greeted was richly deserved.

Dr. Kieran spoke—after having been introduced to us by a vociferous rendering from the Senior Class and its Sing Leader, Charlotte Hochman, of "Dean Professor Doctor President Kieran". Dr. Kieran told us, among other things, of the reunion of the Class of 1878 which he had recently attended. After fifty years, there were ninety members of the Class present, and one of them had traveled all the way from Ireland to attend the reunion. This class has had a reunion every single year since its graduation. What an inspiration to the younger classes! What a reminder of the strength of this same silken thread which had led us back this Alumnae Day!

There was a warm greeting from Mary Gilmartin, President of the Student Council, and the Senior Class, so soon to become Alumnae, sang its "miscellaneous song" from the 1928 College Sing.

Are we really at the end? At the end and the beginning. Mistily, we heard the strains of *The Good Ship Alma Mater*. We saw Lil Busch Milyko draw us to our feet with a wave of her hand, and we heard ourselves singing the beautiful verses of our beloved Professor Cone—those verses, alas, almost unknown to our younger Alumnae. And we thought back to the old Commencement Days, when the members of the Senior Class would stand and sing those verses, sing them sadly, and at the end of the song, would solemnly turn the tassels on their mortarboards.

And so the silken thread has led us to the Alumnae. Rosel Benda, '18, who has done some splendid things with her voice in recent years, gave a group of three songs: *Caro Nome*, well known and very well received by her audience; *Il Neige*, beautifully rendered by Miss Benda; and *The Toy Balloon*, a lovely little thing by Julia Fox.

Charlotte Hochman once more led the audience in singing "Give This Little Girl a Great Big Hand"—and that meant Mrs. Elliott. Mrs. Elliott spoke mainly to the Seniors, urging them to follow the example of the Class of 1878 and remain a unified body, working for College as Alumnae even as they had worked during undergraduate days. She told, also, of the plan to erect a fence around the new College buildings, and suggested that the various sections of the fence might well be the gift of various classes.

The singing of *The Ivy Leaf* marked the end of a lovely, lovely afternoon.

And thanks in abundance be to that hard-working and most efficient of chairmen, E. Adelaide Hahn, who still maintains her undergraduate habit of carrying to a triumphant close whatever she undertakes. And to her splendid committee!

R. and L.