

# ALUMNI CELEBRATE

## HUNTER'S 93rd BIRTHDAY

The alumni who gathered for the celebration of Hunter's ninety-third birthday exclaimed with pleasure as they entered the Americana's Imperial Grand Ballroom on Saturday, February 16, for the great room radiated such a splendid effect.

It was a gala crowd, in a holiday spirit that bubbled over and could scarcely be quieted for the serious moments of the program. It was definitely a reunioning crowd, for whom two hours in the meeting rooms before lunch had not sufficed to bridge the years since the previous meeting.

Private rooms had been provided for the milestone class meetings in the morning from eleven to one. Consensus was that this was a wonderful way of holding class reunions and celebrating the College Birthday at the same time, with a minimum of work and worry for class leaders.



*Rose Sigal Golomb '18, Chairman of our Luncheon Committee*

The festive luncheon began with the singing of the national anthem and the Invocation by the Reverend Frederick Hill of St. James' Episcopal Church.

Our Luncheon chairman, Rose Sigal Golomb '18, welcomed the assembled alumni: "You have today the distinction of being a part of the largest gathering of Hunter graduates ever to assemble in one room under the banner of the Alumni Association. There are almost thirteen hundred of us here today.

"This record turnout is due to the loyalty of this year's milestone classes, and, in addition, to the long and continuous diligence of their leaders and other class officers who have gathered you in from the four corners of the country for this reunion. We thank you and we thank them for this upsurge of interest in the Alumni Association.

"This record number created more than the usual amount of work, more than the usual number of problems for the members of the Luncheon Committee — that band of valiant women who gave hundreds and hundreds of hours of labor over the past few months in order that this might be a smooth-functioning affair, and that you might have a happy afternoon of reunion. No words of mine can adequately express our appreciation to them; but your continued active interest in the Alumni Association will amply repay them."

During the luncheon, at dessert time, came the singing of "Happy Birthday" by the children from Lenox Hill, led by Mira Golomb, and the presentation of Lenox Hill's gift of the Birthday Cake.

The program following began with a tribute by Rose Golomb to our Association President, Anna Michels Trinsey, who presided for the afternoon.

Greeting the Alumni and their guests, our President said, "We are mindful when we gather to celebrate this birthday that we have special cause for thanks, that the benefits of our education at Hunter continue to prevail. And all of us who could not have gone to College, had there not been a free Hunter, remember that we have a special debt to pay in terms of service to our College, in terms of support for our Alma Mater.

"We learned at College that education is ongoing, that our books would always provide knowledge and solace and delight. Some of us who grew up in an earlier day knew no greater pleasure than the book.



Some of us remember clearly the day when there was no screen in the home.

"But this is another day, and the all-pervasive influence of that screen in our way of life — its value for entertainment, for instruction, in our culture — is a subject for the most careful study and scrutiny . . .

"One definition of the purpose of an education I have long cherished. 'What shall we say?' asked a group of College dons, at Oxford, 'when we are asked, what the purpose of education is?' They answered their own question, 'To teach what is important and what is not — what is in good taste, and what is not.'

"They were foreseeing the day when, through wisely chosen television programs, we might be thus further enlightened."

Our President then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Samuel B. Gould, President, Educational Broadcasting Corporation.

(Extracts from Dr. Gould's address, in which he urged a fanning of the embers of intellectual curiosity, follow on pages 6 and 7.)

Thanking Dr. Gould for his address, Anne Trinsey reminded the Alumni that Channel 13 depends on popular support, on contributions by listeners for the development of its all-important programs.

The next speaker was Dr. John J. Meng, our College President, who, after greeting the Alumni and complimenting them on their good works, particularly the development of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund, directed his remarks to the "one cloud on the horizon" for the College — the possibility of tuition charges. He said that it seemed odd and sad that, at a time when the nation is discovering the crying need for teachers, and enrollments are increasing, the great State of New York proposes to impose tuition charges for the training of teachers.

Dr. Meng urged the alumni to help actively in the free tuition campaign, in seeking a solution fair to taxpayers, students and the educational institutions.

Following Dr. Meng's plea, our President urged the Alumni to write to their representatives in Albany on the free tuition issue.

She also urged all graduates present to become active members of the Association. "Our hope of success in all our present endeavors for the College, and in all our plans for our Centennial in 1970, lies in our strength, in the number of our graduates who are affiliated with us."

The guests of the Alumni on the dais were then introduced, and a tribute paid to the late Ann Anthony, by our President.

Speeches and presentations of gifts on behalf of the special Milestone Classes followed; for the Diamond Anniversary Class, '03, by Dorothy Bildersee and Ber-

tha Levisohn; for the Golden Anniversary Class, '13, by Elizabeth Goodman; and for the Silver Anniversary Class, '38, by Lillian Leight.

(See pages 16-26 for a summary of their remarks and presentations; also page 14, for a listing of all gifts presented by Classes and Chapters on February 16.)

Catherine F. O'Hara, Chairman of the Alumni's Scholarship and Welfare Fund, presented citations to representatives of all those classes and chapters who had established permanent "name" scholarships in the Fund by gifts of \$3000 or more (see page 14, for list) and expressed the great gratitude of the Board of Directors.

"The great tradition of giving enhances all our College-Alumni relationship," said our President, in bringing the program to a close and in expressing good wishes to all the Alumni.

The benediction followed the singing of the "IVY LEAF," and the 93rd Birthday Celebration was over.



*Jessie Rosenfeld '88*

#### SENIOR ALUMNAE

There were at several tables near the dais little groups of alumnae whose graduations dated from 1888 and on, through the early 1900's. Quieter than some of their younger Hunterite friends, they were absorbed in all that went on, pleased with the program and impressed with the decor of lavender and white.

The senior member of these very special groups was, of course, the lady who was celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of her "commencement exercises" — *Jessie Rosenfeld '88*.

There was plenty of reminiscing at these tables — about what Doctor Hunter used to say; about all the teachers they used to have; about their old clubs; and the way of life at the beginning of the century.