

The Hunter College

ALUMNI NEWS

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BASS ART COLLECTION ON DISPLAY IN LIBRARY

A collection of paintings and sculpture, assembled by Mr. and Mrs. John Bass of New York, has been given to Hunter College by them. It is on exhibition in part in a wing of the library on the eleventh floor of the Park Avenue building.

Lack of space limits the exhibition. A collection of old instruments, composers' autographs and first editions of musical works also given to the College by Mr. and Mrs. Bass cannot as yet be displayed.

The paintings and sculpture are predominantly early Christian and medieval art. Shown are a stone Pieta by Hans von Judenburg, made about 1400, a wooden bust of a young lady by Desiderio da Settignano and several Gothic altars of the XII to XV centuries. A Gobelin tapestry hangs on one wall and an ivory inlaid cross-bow is also displayed.

Dr. John Meng, president of the
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From the Bass Collection: a stone Pieta
by Hans von Judenburg, circa 1400

ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION

The Annual Meeting and Reunion of the Alumni Association was held in the Playhouse the evening of May 18. E. Adelaide Hahn, president, read a letter from Dr. Meng expressing his regret at his inability to attend and his wishes for continuing mutually beneficial relations between the College and the Association.

Isabel McLaughlin, chairman of the Nominating Committee, read the slate. There had been no other nominations made and the adoption of the slate was moved by Miss McLaughlin. The following directors were then unanimously elected (those starred were re-elected): Ann Anthony*, Ethel Garfunkel Berl, Frances Schonfeld Grossman*, Grace Campus Krajcovic, Miriam Freithal Larus, Lillian Leight*, Babette Levy, Frances Frolich Lewin, Harriet Trosten Lewis*, Evelyn Tonkonogy Mallamud, Augusta Cooperstein Marcus, Mary Meade, Sylvia Nadworny*, Ann Stern Peskin, Clara Reid, Ann Kahan Segal, Helen Hochfelder Taffel, Edith Younghem, Gabelle Ross Zanzphir*, Virginia Zuckerman.

Miss Hahn inducted the new directors and thanked the retiring ones for their service. She then read a report of the year's activities, which follows this article.

A pleasant surprise was the presence of Bob White, who sang three songs accompanied by Jeffrey Shea, an undergraduate. (Friends of Bob's will be delighted to learn that he is studying in Italy on a grant this summer.)

The Alumni members were then privileged to see the premier of "Mihi Cura Futuri", the second picture to present the activities of College to the outside world of educators, friends and future students. "Mihi Cura Futuri", written and directed by one of our alumni, Edna Wells Luetz, chairman of the Art Department, is a beautiful and interesting portrayal of our college life, which we hope will be widely shown to future students. (Your reporter kept thinking, "College wasn't like this in my day," as scene after scene of students at work and play, both artfully stressed, unfolded.)

Our hats are off to Professors Luetz, Doob and Woodcock who all had a hand in making this beautiful picture.

After viewing the film everyone adjourned to the North Lounge for refreshment and talk. Our thanks to the Reunion Committee, whose members, Florence J. Bloch, Clara Ruth Reid and Madeline Stretz, put such a pleasant finishing touch to the year.

REPORT OF THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

This has been a busy and momentous year. It saw the inauguration, on October 21, of Hunter's sixth President, Dr. John J. Meng, and, on April 24, of the Municipal Colleges' first Chancellor, Dr. John R. Everett. At both these functions, members of the Alumni Association were specially invited to attend; and its President as its regular representative was asked to deliver one of the speeches that followed the luncheon in President Meng's honor on the day of his induction. It is always gratifying to receive such recognition on the College's part of the important place that the Alumni Association should and does occupy in College affairs.

Educational Legislation

The year was also important because of some very vital legislation. We were happy over the enactment of a law creating a University out of the seven municipal institutions of higher learning, the four degree-granting colleges and three two-year community colleges, and placing the responsibility for the University, where it had been for the colleges and where we wished it to remain, in the hands of the Regents of the State of New York. We were less happy over the decision as to tuition fees for the degree-grant-

ing colleges. There was great danger at first that these fees might be made mandatory, and the four Alumni Associations united in a vigorous campaign to prevent such a catastrophe. Our Executive Council established a special committee, under Carol Mendelson, to work against this disastrous plan. Representatives of the four Alumni Associations, with the President and Mildred Intner Thaler acting for Hunter, saw both the Mayor and the Governor. The Mayor was most sympathetic, and assured us of his opposition to any tuition fees. The Governor gave us over two hours of his time and listened courteously to us, but he remained adamant. At least the idea had been given up of making tuition fees compulsory, but the new idea was that their establishment should be optional in accordance with the will of the Board of Higher Education. From this position, which, incidentally, is opposed by the Chairman of the Board as well as by the Alumni Association, the Governor could not be moved; and, to our regret, the Legislature passed, and he, of course, signed a bill in the form desired by him. Hence we must be vigilant, and watch for any danger signal that the Board may contemplate the exercise of its option;

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BASS COLLECTION (*Continued*)

College, has said, "We are grateful for this remarkable and valuable gift. It not only enhances our college art instruction but provides the public with new treasure."

Mr. Bass, who was born in Vienna, has retired from business. He devotes himself to his artistic interests and to his cattle ranch in Florida.