

# THE HUNTER COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

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## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

This has been for me the most rewarding of the three years that it has been my privilege to serve as President of your Association.

For the first time in years we have attacked systematically the problem of correcting the files of all the 50,000 graduates of our College. As a result of the work which has been done in the Alumni office during this last year we now have more than 14,000 corrected names and addresses of Hunter graduates.

These corrected files will be the basis of a greatly intensified membership campaign to be waged during the new fiscal year beginning June 1, 1957.

You, every member of this Association, can play a part in this campaign. How? By helping to bring the rest of our files up-to-date. The more corrected names and addresses we have, the more appeals for membership can be sent out. By volunteering to work on your own class list and by helping with any of the other chores in the office, you can have a share in making next year's campaign an overwhelming success.

Nothing would please me more than to turn over to my successor, in May 1958, an active membership far exceeding any in the past. It will also be very gratifying to me to hand over to my successor a reorganized Office which will make her task easier than mine has been.

I wish to express my thanks to the Officers, members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Council, Chairmen of committees, and the Alumni who have cooperated with me. In particular, I want to thank Shirley Graf, our Executive Secretary, for her arduous labours on our behalf.

May you all have a very enjoyable summer.

FRANCES ROTH ABRAMS

## SPRING REUNION

The Alumni gathered in the Hunter College Playhouse on the evening of May 16 for their annual meeting.

Mrs. Frances Abrams, in a review of the year's achievements, summarized the work of the various committees and thanked the retiring members of the Board of Directors. She then read a citation of Irene Brandon Graff, 1898, who for a period of over sixty years, begun while she was still an undergraduate, has been serving the Alumni, notably as President of the Associate Alumnae for three terms, and as Chairman of our Committee on Lenox Hill for many years. In response Mrs. Graff, to whom this well-merited distinction came as a complete surprise, spoke extemporaneously and excellently. She expressed deep gratitude to the alma mater for its gift of education, and in this connection quoted a definition of education as "every-

thing one has left after one has forgotten what one learned". She urged an attitude of pride in the College and loyalty to it on the part of all Hunter graduates; and in conclusion, after confiding that the next day was her birthday, she said, "In my wildest dreams I could not have imagined a gift as wonderful as this. With a very full heart and very great humility, I thank you."

Mrs. Rose Golomb for the Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors (already published in the News for February), all of whom were elected unanimously.

After the introduction of Dean Kathryn Hopwood, President George N. Shuster brought greetings to the Alumni. He told of two important events at the College: the establishment of the Louise Draddy Memorial Lectures, for which a substantial sum of money has already been collected; and the award, at the Honors Convocation held the previous day, of the President's Medal for distinguished service to the College to our generous alumna Evelyn Picker. He ended by thanking Mrs. Abrams for all she has attempted to do for Alumni membership.

There followed a scene from Act III of Jules Massenet's *Werther*, admirably presented by two students of the Opera Workshop, Janet Seymour as Charlotte and Patricia Underwood as Sophie, under the guidance of Madame Rose Landver, Stage Director, and Mr. William Tarrasch, Music Director. Mr. Tarrasch played the accompaniment.

A group of nine students from the Modern Dance Club of the College next gave an impressive demonstration of modern dance technique, after which their trainer, Miss Lida Whitesel of the College staff, herself performed an original dance composition. For these two numbers the accompanist was Miss Sarah Malament.

An opportunity for audience participation was then provided in the form of a jolly original round led in infectiously lively style by two former Sing Leaders, Alumni Vice-President Beatrice Kohn Weinberg and Alumni Director Augusta Truell Wollheim.

Then in jolly mood, with class banners gayly waving, all mounted to the North Lounge to partake of delicious refreshments, served from tables bright with flower decorations provided by the courtesy of the Chapters.

Heartiest thanks for the success of the occasion are owed to the able Reunion Chairman, Professor Josephine Burke, and her faithful committee, consisting of Mrs. Cigal, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Mallamud, Mrs. Mendlow, Mrs. Schechter, Mrs. Weinberg, and Mrs. Wollheim. A special word of appreciation must be offered Mr. Joseph London for valuable technical assistance.

E.A.H.

## CITATION FOR MRS. GRAFF



MRS. LESLIE GRAFF

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff has been a loyal member, an untiring worker, and an inspiring leader of the Alumni Association of Hunter College during the sixty years since her graduation in 1898; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff has been associated since her undergraduate days with the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association, formerly known as the Normal College Alumnae Settlement; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff, as Student Worker, as Committee Member, and later for many years until the present time as Chairman of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association Committee of the Alumni Association of Hunter College, has organized, year after year, notable projects to raise funds for the Settlement; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff has served as member of the Board of Directors of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association for many years as the distinguished representative of the Alumni Association of Hunter College; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff, as Chairman of the Alice Rich Northrop Memorial Camp of the Alumni Association of Hunter College, worked zealously for the development of the Camp in its early days; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff served very successfully for eight years as Chairman of

the Committee on the Alumnae Breakfast, now known as the College Birthday Luncheon; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff served with great success as Chairman of the Committee on the Annual Meeting and Spring Reunion for many years; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff served as a member of numerous other committees of the Alumni Association of Hunter College, working steadily for the success of these many activities all through the sixty years of her membership in the Alumni Association of Hunter College; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff has served continuously as President of the Class of 1898 and has led her class in a great variety of projects; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff served with great distinction as President of the Alumni Association of Hunter College during three terms of office and led the Association in notable service to the College; and

Whereas, Irene Brandon Graff, by her graciousness and kindness and her great wisdom and tact, has shed an ennobling influence on the growth of the Alumni Association of Hunter College during the six decades of her participation in all the affairs of the Alumni Association of Hunter College;

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of Hunter College hereby express, on behalf of the Alumni Association of Hunter College and all the members thereof, their great appreciation for her services and their heartfelt thanks to Irene Brandon Graff, and be it further

Resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of Hunter College hereby express their pleasure that, as a former President of the Association, and as the Chairman of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association Committee of Hunter College, she will continue to serve Hunter College, its alumni, and the community; and be it further

Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of Hunter College; and that a copy be sent to Irene Brandon Graff in the name of the Alumni Association of Hunter College and all the members thereof.

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