

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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No. 2

ANNUAL BREAKFAST

The annual breakfast of the Associate Alumnae will be held
at the
Hotel Astor
on
Wednesday, February 22nd

WE WANT YOU TO BE THERE

Make it a real reunion and greet your fellow-classmen
as in the good old days of yore.

YOU WILL MEET

at the reception at 12:30, the President and Trustees of the
College as well as the President and Officers of the Association.

YOU WILL HEAR

Mrs. Corinne Roosevelt Robinson, who will deliver the principal
address of the afternoon.

YOU WILL SEE

Well, come and see what you will see.

RECEPTION AT 12:30

LUNCHEON AT 1.

Music by the College Orchestra.

Soloist, Mrs. Estelle Bloomfield Adler

Tickets \$2.50.

For reservations, address Mrs. Leslie Graff, Chairman, 348 Central Park West.

No requests will be received later than February 17th.

COLLEGE DRAMATICS

[This account was crowded out last month because of lack of space—Editor.]

The College has secured much publicity of a most desirable kind by offering two noteworthy dramatic productions within a single fortnight. The city press was very generous with its space and very flattering in its comments. The effect produced on the newspaper reporters is thus summed up in the *Globe* of December 10: "Hunter College girls are rapidly earning an enviable reputation on the amateur stage. Following the success achieved by the Classical Club in presenting 'Iphigenia Among the Taurians' the Pipers of Hunter College last night scored a big hit with a notable production of one of Oscar Wilde's earliest plays, 'The Duchess of Padua'."

Both tragedies were presented with due regard to the beauty and dignity that belong to their backgrounds—classical antiquity in the one case, the mediaeval period in the other. Truly artistic scenery and costumes delighted the eye, and appropriate music, well-rendered, charmed the ear. The music in both cases was supplied by the College Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Flora Rubin, '20, now a member of the College staff. Miss Susan E. Van Wert, head of the Latin Department of Hunter High School, was responsible for the very lovely "Iphigenia" costumes, worthy in their graceful lines and harmonious coloring of the beauty-loving race from whose statues, frescoes, and vase-paintings they were painstakingly copied; while the rich and effective scenery and garments of "The Duchess of Padua" were prepared by the College Arts and Crafts Club, under the able guidance of Miss Edna Wells, '16, of the College Art Department.

For the excellent coaching in both cases we have to thank the Spoken English Department. Miss Elizabeth Vera Loeb, '15, who likewise found time to play a rôle in "The Duchess of Padua," produced and managed the "Iphigenia," while Professor Henrietta Prentiss was in charge of this recent production of the Pipers, as she had been of its earlier offering, of appropriate name, "The Piper."

"The Duchess of Padua" likewise shared with "The Piper" its charming hero and heroine, two seasoned players whose acting has now attained a fineness and a finish almost professional—Helen Luckey and Minna Ast, as the ill-fated lovers. New-comers to the stage, well-worthy of mention, were two undergraduates, Mina Rees as the cruel Duke, and Lillie Herstein as the sinister Moranzone; but many of the other names and faces were familiar as belonging to the younger graduates or the older undergraduates, well-known through former varsity plays, or "The Piper." Particularly interesting was the reappearance, although unfortunately only in a small part, of Marguerite Jones, '09, whose work in the title-rôle of "Dr. Faustus" is one of the

College traditions.

An interesting contrast is offered by "Iphigenia," which brought to the fore several girls who had not formerly taken a large part in College dramatics. Judith Rosow, to be sure, who gave a really remarkable performance of the title-rôle, had already appeared in two Varsity plays, but never before in a very important part, or as a woman. Hope Erion, who looked like a picture—or, rather, a statue—as Pallas Athena, had also played a small part in a Varsity performance; but the other leading actors, the Misses Wilcke, Roach, Hermes, Brand, and Stollak, were all new to the College stage, though one would not have guessed it from their performance. The chorus, on whose success so much depends in a Greek tragedy, the picturesque attendants, and the vigorous soldiers, all likewise deserve a word of commendation.

While participation in the "Iphigenia" was open to the entire College, which responded with wide-spread interest and enthusiasm to the call for talent, naturally it was the Classical Department that was most closely concerned. Five of the seven leading characters are members of this department, and three of these, it may be interesting to note, while they were memorizing their rôles in English, were at the same time reading the "Iphigenia" in the original in one of their Greek classes, and making a serious study of the character of the Attic stage and the ancient productions. The play was given under the auspices of the Classical Club, three of whose five officers took part, and many of whose members worked loyally on the various committees that looked after the business side of the production, while Professor Jane Gray Carter, its faculty adviser, oversaw all with such skill and success that she must stand side by side with Miss Loeb when final honors are assigned. Hearty thanks are also due to Witter Bynner, president of the Poetry Society of America, who generously granted free use of his translation, and graciously attended both performances of the tragedy, making a charming curtain-speech at the first one.

"The Duchess of Padua" was likewise presented before a most distinguished audience. The long list of patrons includes, besides members of the College Faculty and Board of Trustees, a number of persons well-known in the world of art and drama, such as Mr. William Faversham, Miss Elsie Ferguson, Mr. Walter Hampden, Miss Theresa Helburn, and Mr. Otto H. Kahn.

Both plays attained financial as well as artistic success, each realizing about \$400.

E. A. H., '15.

The Menorah Alumni has changed its meeting place to the Stockton Chambers, 306 W. 109th Street. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Membership is open to all college graduates.

L. C., '15.