

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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VOL. XXX

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., JANUARY, 1925

No. 1

A GREETING FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Alumnae:

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

How often we say these words without any realization of what a big greeting it is. Could anything mean more in our lives than to be joyous and fortunate, and to receive three hundred and sixty-five days of opportunity for renewal?

May 1925 have all of this for each of you individually, and for our Alumnae Association. As a group of College Women, let us strive to make this year, three hundred and sixty-five milestones of progress in increasing the power of our Organization for helping all things educational. Again,

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Marion R. Elliott,
President.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ALUMNAE

A special meeting of the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College will be held in the Music Room, on Wednesday, January 28, 1925, at 4 o'clock, to vote upon the following changes in the By-Laws, as adopted by the Executive Committee at its meetings on October 15 and November 12, 1924, respectively.

Art. II, Section 3—to change the words *thirty dollars*, to *fifty dollars*.

Art. III, Sec. 7—to add, after the words, *incurring the expense*, the words, *or that of the treasurer of the said committee*.

Art. IV, Sec. 2, to be amended as follows: "Classes having a membership of twenty or less shall have one representative on the Executive Committee; those having a membership of more than twenty shall have two representatives. When two classes graduate in the same year, they shall each have one representative. No member of such classes shall serve two terms in succession. The term of office of the members of the Executive Committee shall be four years."

By order of the President.

Elsie Earle,
Recording Secretary.

CALENDAR, 1925

- Wed., Jan. 14. Executive Committee.
- Wed., Jan. 28. Special Alumnae meeting.
- Tues., Feb. 3. Finance Committee.
- Thurs. Feb. 12. Alumnae Breakfast.
- Mon., Feb. 23. Moving Pictures.
- Sat., Mar. 7. Patriotic Service Com.
- Wed., Mar. 11. Executive Committee.
- Tues., Apr. 7. Finance Committee.
- Thurs., Apr. 9. Tea to Seniors.
- Wed., Apr. 15. Alumnae Day.
- Tues., May 5. Finance Committee.
- Wed., May 13. Executive Committee.
- Sat., May 16. Reunion. Election.

ALUMNAE BREAKFAST

Plans for the Annual Breakfast on February 12th at the Hotel Astor are nearing completion, and it is urgent that reservations be made *now*. Final details of the program are not ready for publication at this time, but the Committee is happy to state that Mr. Wilton Lackaye will be one of the speakers, this in itself assuring an enjoyable afternoon.

Hostesses will please apply to the Chairman for tables seating ten (10), sending the names of all guests with their checks. Tickets are three dollars (\$3.00) each and seatings will be assigned in the order in which applications are received. *No applications will be accepted after February 7th.*

Be sure to attend the Reception at twelve-thirty (12:30) to meet the Officers and Guests. Luncheon will be served at one o'clock sharp.

Irene B. Graff, Chairman.
Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y.
Telephone Irvington 573.

ALUMNAE MOVING PICTURE PARTY

The Associate Alumnae will give a moving picture party and entertainment at the Plaza Theater, 59th Street and Madison Avenue, on Monday morning, February 23, at 9:45 o'clock. What better way is there to celebrate the birthday of George Washington, than to assist in supporting the united philanthropies, Lenox Hill Settlement, Northrop Memorial Camp, Bureau of Occupations, and the Veterans' Camp?

The performance will be especially suited to children. The tickets are \$1 for box seats, \$.75 for orchestra seats. Write for them to Florence Goldstein, 254th Street, Newton Avenue, New York City, or Hunter Alumnae Rooms, Madison Square Hotel.

AWAY TO ALUMNAE HALL

On the first Tuesday afternoon of the "Happy New Year to all", and each Tuesday thereafter, Mrs. H. R. Brown and other members of the Class of 1889 will welcome any Hunter graduates with their friends, who enjoy Bridge or Mah Jong, to "play the game" at our Hunter Alumnae Rooms, 40 East 26th Street.

The small charge of 50 cents a head helps to maintain these rooms for the use of all Alumnae.

Mrs. Ralli, of the Class of 1879, will teach advanced Mah Jong, while our Executive Secretary, Mrs. Sparks, is past master at Bridge. Lessons in either of them may be had at 75 cents a lesson.

A. D. S.

COLLEGE NOTES

The main activities at Hunter for the past two months have centered around two leading sources of interest: debating and dramatics.

The extreme enthusiasm for debating is rather a new one at Hunter—or perhaps we should say the revival of an old one, for in former times, the present scribe has heard, intense interest was manifested in the annual prize debate between those good old hosts of yesteryear, Alpha Beta Gamma and Philomathean. But Alpha and Philo passed on; and their successor, the English Club, though it did for a time maintain a Debating Chapter, which engaged in (and won) one highly successful debate with the Suffrage Club on the question (now vanished as completely as Alpha and Philo) of "Votes for Women", directed its energies mainly along other lines.

But the time for debating—and a new type of debating—has come. Debating is the order of the day. Front-page publicity was given by newspapers to the accounts of the visit of a team from Oxford that crossed the seas to match wits with our American college boys. *The New Student* carries reports of the Intercollegiate Debating League, and of the Mid-West Conference that drew up resolutions in favor of a new system of non-decision debates followed by open forum discussions. A debate of this type, in which New York University (affirmative) and City College (negative) argued on the subject, *Resolved: that the Volstead Act be amended to permit the sale of light wines and beers*, was staged in our own Auditorium on December 5. Professor Prentiss of our Department of Speech and Dramatics acted as chairman on this occasion, and Miss Parks of our English Department summed up the arguments on both sides.

When there is any vigorous intellectual movement on foot, Hunter girls may be depended upon not to be satisfied with limiting their participation to a mere lending of their Auditorium and their faculty, and serving themselves as nothing but audience. An interest in informal discussion has manifested itself by the forming under student direction of a Discussion Club, which weekly holds well-attended meetings. And an interest in formal debating, which perhaps might have been trusted to develop in any case, has received a tremendous incentive from the wise and generous gift of the sons of Mrs. Ottinger, who, as a memorial to their mother, our cherished Associate Member, established this year the Amelia Ottinger Prize for Debating.

The subject of the first Amelia Ottinger Debate, held on December 19, 1924, was "The Relation of the United States to the International Problem of China." Tess Lipschutz was declared the winner, with Ruth Goldstein in second place. At the time of going to press, it is too late to find opportunity for a more detailed announcement than this; but a full account of both preliminaries and final has been promised for the February News by Miss Helen Kunte.

As for Hunter's other dear charmer, the Muse of Dramatic Art, she is truly in a flourishing state.

Hunter is busy producing plays not only in the sense of presentation but also in that of actual composition. The Play Shop, under Professor Bilderssee's guidance, is the organization devoted to fostering the gifts of our budding playwrights. Of these Alice Glasgow, '26, must at present be accounted the fairest flower, for to her the Century Theater Club Prize has just been awarded in recognition of her one-act play, "Orientale." This charming fantasy has been published in the December *Echo*, and will doubtless shortly be put on the stage. The second prize play, "A Slipper for Cinderella", by Florence Hass, an amusing little comedy staged in a shoe-shop, which adds to its delightful realism a touch of still more delightful romance at its close, has just been given a most successful performance by the College dramatic association, the Make-Up Box.

This same organization has embarked, with laudably high ideals, upon a most ambitious program for the current year—the presentation of a series of plays that shall epitomize the entire history of English and American drama. At each performance the most interesting or important scenes from some significant play are acted out, summaries of the omitted portions being read. The girls have already put on in this way their first three offerings: a Nativity play from the Coventry Cycle, "Ralph Royster Doyster", and Marlowe's "Edward II". The next number on the program is Kyd's "Spanish Tragedy", and the young actors will continue to trace the development of English drama from the reign of Elizabeth to that of Victoria; then, crossing the Ocean, they will perform the same service for American drama, starting with some such play as "Fashion" or "Uncle Tom's Cabin", and ending up with Eugene O'Neill or some one still more modern—if such there be.

While the Make-Up Box is the official dramatic society of the College, a keen interest in dramatics is likewise manifested by various other organizations, such as the departmental clubs. The Classical Club at two successive meetings showed the versatility of its talents, and the impartiality of its allegiance to both Melpomene and Thalia, by staging first a tense tragedy of the Trojan War by John Masefield, and then an uproarious burlesque on Greek tragedy by Stephen Leacock. The alumnae members of the French Club entertained their undergraduate sisters, from both day and evening sessions, by a rendering of Molière's merry farce, "La Jalousie du Barbouillé", given at an evening meeting held at the Alumnae Rooms. The German Club, as usual, just before Christmas held a Yuletide festival of a dramatic character. The Spanish Club has announced try-outs for parts in a Spanish play. And at an assembly which took place early this term, under the auspices of the

Inter-Club Council, the various departmental clubs combined their efforts to amuse their fellow-students in a series of dramatic "stunts" that constituted a sort of glorified vaudeville performance.

Classes as well as clubs have entertained in Chapel. The Sophomores, and the soon-to-depart Upper Seniors, have each had an assembly assigned to them for the display of their theatrical gifts. And of course the Play Year enjoyed its traditional privilege of putting on the College Christmas Plays on December 24, "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals", by Barrie, and "The Proposal Under Difficulties", being this year's offerings.

Two dramatic events of still greater importance are scheduled for next term: the Varsity Play, "Much Ado About Nothing", to take place probably some time in April; and the Classical Club play, "Antigone", to be given in the City College Stadium on May 23.

This move to the Stadium will not mark the only occasion of Hunterites' taking "to the road." On December 14 they gave a performance at the College Settlement House, at which various colleges in turn have been providing entertainment for the neighborhood. Beside songs from the Choral Club, the program included scenes from the Italian Club's production of last year, and a one-act play in which the leading rôle was portrayed by Mabel Burke, the present College star, whose performance as *Beau Brummel* in last year's Varsity Play will undoubtedly go down to history with Marguerite Jones' *Dr. Faustus* and one or two other unforgettable examples of College's superb achievements in dramatic art.

And last but far from least, we must not omit to mention that Hunterites have actually trod—or rather tripped—the professional boards, at Al Jolson's Theater; for it was the pupils of Mrs. Carr (or Miss Neidhardt, as she is better known among the Alumnae)—students from the evening session, and graduates of the day session—who served as the dainty little dancers in Gémier's production of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme."

Next month, the Editor permitting, we hope to tell you something about some of the interesting meetings that have been held at College recently, including Chapel assemblies, Forums, and Departmental Club sessions.

E. A. H., '15.

THE CLASS OF JUNE '12

The Class of June 1912 will meet and greet at the Alumnae Breakfast. Tables will be reserved. Amy Woodall Dochtermann, 232 West Tremont Ave., New York, N. Y.

THE ALUMNAE BREAKFAST

For tickets or tables apply to
Mrs. Leslie Graff,
Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y.