

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

Published Monthly by the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College of the City of New York

Entered as second class matter, 1895, at the post-office at New Rochelle under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. XXXVI

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., NOVEMBER, 1931

No. 8

CALENDAR—1931-1932

Sat., Nov. 7	Patriotic Service Bridge
Wed., Nov. 11	Executive Council
Sat., Nov. 14	Northrop Camp Movies
Sat., Nov. 21	Alumnae Day
Fri., Dec. 4	Lenox Hill Bazaar
Sat., Dec. 5	Lenox Hill Bazaar
Fri., Dec. 18	"Mikado"
Sat., Dec. 19	"Mikado"
Wed., Jan. 13	Executive Council
Fri., Feb. 12	Alumnae Breakfast
Wed., Feb. 17	Birthday Celebration
Wed., Mar. 2	Officers and Directors
Wed., Mar. 9	Executive Council
Wed., May 4	Officers and Directors
Wed., May 11	Executive Council
Sat., May 14	Reunion, Election
Wed., June 15	Commencement Day

Meet is it, that our Alma Mater, grown
To fuller stature with the ripening years,
Should take fit place, acclaimed and nobly known,
In the fair order of her marshalled peers.
What name then like a proud plume shall she bear,
Or scarf of favor, or bright banneret,
Dear as the purple flower her old walls wear,
Which, torn away, shall bloom in memory yet?
Ah, what brave name but his, whose faith forecast
In darkest dawn, what now the noontide sees?
So shall she bind her future to her past
With silken bonds of gracious loyalties;
So, blent forever with her mounting fame,
Reverent remembrance triumphs in her name.

HELEN GRAY CONE

Dr. Kieran presented the final address of the program, speaking for the College itself. He praised the work of the man who perhaps more than any other moulded the ideals of teacher-training in New York, contributing so much to its advancement from that early standard in which the only quality required of the teacher was a passing aptitude in the academic work of the school, rounded off by a period of training as a "monitor" who combined the roles of assistant teacher and drudge at a salary of \$50 a year. Following this came a period when all stress was laid upon the pedagogical education of the teacher, and none at all upon her academic background. Such lack of balance could never gain the approval of Dr. Hunter, who insisted upon, and incorporated into the course of study, those academic subjects which he felt should be part of the teacher's equipment.

In tracing the history of the buildings that have housed the College since that earliest home which consisted of a floor and a half in the building at Fourth Street, Dr. Kieran demonstrated also how indebted Hunter is to its Founder for its present development.

At the Bronx College, the centenary was commemorated at a student assembly held on October 19, and presided over by Professor Elliott. On the program arranged for this occasion were addresses by Miss Jenny Hunter, Mrs. Michael Mulqueen, senior trustee, and Dean Hickinbottom, who related anecdotes of the College under the administration of its first president. Miss Anna Hunter was another guest of honor. That the opening of the new buildings should coincide so closely with this notable anniversary, and that the commemorative exercises should be practically the first formal event to take place in the new auditorium, cannot fail to be regarded as particularly fitting.

MARY ROSE SHEEHAN

THE COLLEGE OBSERVANCE OF THE HUNTER CENTENNIAL

The Centenary of Dr. Thomas Hunter was formally observed at the main building in the chapel exercises of October 21, the first formal chapel of the term. Among the guests of the College on this occasion were the Misses Anna and Jenny Hunter, Dr. Darlington, President of the Thomas Hunter Association, and Professor Emeritus Helen Gray Cone.

Dr. Darlington presented the first tribute as a representative of the "Boys of 35", describing the honor in which that man is still held by his pupils, whose sincere ardor and natural gifts as a teacher and organizer made the school of which he was once principal known throughout the city as one of the best. In the days when New York above 42nd Street was "country", boys came to P. S. 35 from all parts, and it lists among its graduates many outstanding men, one of the greatest perhaps being the Honorable Charles Evans Hughes. By thus contributing so much to the world in the training of its youth, Dr. Hunter fulfilled the noblest function of the teacher.

On behalf of the Alumnae Association, Professor Cone paid a tribute to the Founder of the College by reading again a poem which she wrote and read in his honor twenty-five years ago on the occasion of his retirement as President of the College—then Normal College. A sonnet also by Professor Cone, written at the time the name "Hunter" replaced "Normal", was read by Miss Adelaide Robinson, a student chosen by the Speech Department from the interpretative reading class. The dignified beauty of the lines can be shown best by quoting them:

THE NEW ALUMNAE HALL

In this joyful year of opening new quarters for new Hunter girls, it is fitting that new quarters be established for old Hunter girls.

The Alumnae Rooms now consist of a duplex apartment. The former quarters on the seventh floor have been connected with the floor below by a winding metal staircase, which is both a charming ornament and a possible argument for Prohibition. Most of the partitions of the seventh floor have been taken away, so that it now provides a good-sized ball room which connects with cloak rooms and a serving pantry. The lower floor has a number of smaller rooms which may be used for smaller gatherings. All the walls, even the telephone booth, are a delicate green. The effect of the whole is gracious and satisfying.

On October 19th, the enlarged Alumnae Rooms were formally opened with a tea in honor of Thomas Hunter. Many old friends and pupils of the former President of the College were present, in testimony of the love and admiration which his name still inspires.

The guests were received by President James M. Kieran, Dean (and President!) Marion Rhoads Elliott, the Misses Anna and Jenny Hunter, and Mrs. William Valet. Other guests of honor and prominent members present were: Professor-Emeritus Helen Gray Cone, Dean Annie E. Hickinbottom, Miss Grace B. Beach, Miss Frederica Constantini, Miss Betsy B. Davis, Mrs. Robert Fridenberg, Mrs. Leslie B. Graff, Mrs. Daniel P. Hays, Mrs. Otto Hahn, Miss E. Adelaide Hahn, Miss Margaret Henry, Miss Emma A. Johnson, Mrs. Henry Mottet, Miss Hester A. Roberts, Mrs. Harry Content, Mr. Lockwood of the Thomas Hunter Association, Mr. Bingham of the Hotel Woodward.

SUE MOSKOWITZ,
Chairman of Press

IMPRESSIONS OF THE RECEPTION

In commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Thomas Hunter, founder and beloved first president of Hunter College, the Associate Alumnae held a gala party in the newly enlarged Alumnae Rooms on Monday, October 19. On the receiving line were the Misses Anna and Jenny Hunter, beloved for many more reasons than that they bear the name of "Hunter"; Mrs. Maxwell Hall Elliott, representing the Associate Alumnae; President James M. Kieran, representing the College; and Mrs. William Valet, sponsor and most ardent spirit of the reception.

More than a hundred and fifty alumnae, representing most of the older classes—alumnae who had known and loved President Hunter—came to do honor to his name. There was nothing studied or formal about the affair; there was no program; there was just a group of old classmates, friends, com-

ing together, talking of old times and of Dr. Hunter, recalling the wise old sayings they were wont to hear from his lips, asking about each other's children and grandchildren, exclaiming at the life-like appearance of the new portrait of Dr. Hunter which hangs in the Alumnae Rooms. The spirit was genial, charming; the musical background lent color and vivacity. And, from the youngest alumna (the register of guests showed that 1929 was the youngest class represented), to whom Thomas Hunter is only a name, to those oldest ones (including that courageous spirit who came, supported on one side by a cane and on the other by her daughter's arm), to whom Thomas Hunter is a fine tradition, all were delighted with the opportunity of paying tribute to a fine man and great educator, loved teacher and true friend.

Many of the guests had never seen the Alumnae Rooms before, and exclaimed over their charm and spaciousness. Most of them climbed the winding staircase to the upper floor, where long tables, beautiful with flowers and old silver, held a fine collation.

Miss Jenny Hunter cut the big anniversary cake, so generously donated by the Hotel Woodward. Another very beautiful cake, in the shape of a lavender and white heart, was sent by Mrs. Harry Content—one of our thoughtful and interested alumnae—and was presented to the Misses Hunter.

For this successful gathering of alumnae, especial thanks are due to Mrs. Valet, who conceived the idea, to Mrs. Baird, Hostess of the Alumnae Rooms, and Mrs. Powell, Clerk of the Associate Alumnae, who, together with the members of the Alumnae Hall Committee, helped Mrs. Valet to execute it with distinction.

ROSE SIGAL GOLOMB

REMARKS OVERHEARD

Cheery faces, happy hearts, friendly hand-claps! What a delightful afternoon!

It is a joy to "broadcast" to you all, Alumnae, the appreciative words that hummed through the beautiful new rooms of our Alumnae Hall. The good taste of our competent and never-tiring Esther Valet was everywhere noted in the subdued colorings of the draperies and soft-shaded lamps and by the "home-feeling" created in these lovely rooms.

One guest remarked, "What perfect rooms for a wedding-party!" Another, "How delightful and homey for a card-party!" "May any Alumna entertain here?"—Why not?—a dance, an engagement-party, a dinner,—a class-reunion.

Have you seen our Hunter Alumnae Hall?—204 West 55th St. We're so proud of it!

And what fun we had mounting the circular staircase of our duplex! Now, didn't we?

Deepest appreciation and thanks to you, Esther Valet,—and your wonderful associates!

V. Y. H.