

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

Published Monthly from October to June, inclusive, at 12-14 Lawton Street, New Rochelle, N. Y.,  
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. XLV

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., JANUARY, 1940

No. 1

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College, held on Wednesday, December 6, 1939, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas: Dr. Eugene A. Colligan has resigned as President of Hunter College, and

Whereas: Under his able leadership the Scope of the College Curriculum has been greatly widened, and

Whereas: his devotion and untiring efforts have helped to further the plans for the New Building, and

Whereas: during his entire administration he gave the fullest and most gracious coöperation to all activities of the Associate Alumnae, now therefore be it

Resolved: That we the Associate Alumnae desire to record our deep regret at his resignation, and are moved to voice our sincere appreciation of his outstanding work for the fame and prestige of Hunter College.

IRENE B. GRAFF  
GENEVIEVE B. CROTTY  
RUTH LEWINSON.

## ALUMNÆ BREAKFAST

Make your first reservation on your new 1940 calendar for the Alumnae Breakfast on Saturday, February 10th. It will be a gala occasion. Jean Starr Untermeyer, the well-known poetess, will be the guest speaker. Mrs. Philip Kraus, a Hunter alumna, will be the guest soloist.

The committee has arranged a delightful program. The winner of the valentine contest will read her poem to the Alma Mater. This contest was inaugurated last year and is being conducted throughout the College with the kind coöperation of the English Department under the guidance of Professor Wyman.

Round up your classmates and make this a grand reunion. Send your reservations early for good locations. Tickets are \$2.50.

GENEVIEVE BURKE CROTTY, Chairman.  
Mrs. James A. Crotty,  
200 West 90th Street.  
Telephone Schuylar 4-6274

## CORNERSTONE LAYING

Anticipated for almost three years by faculty, alumnae, and students of Hunter College, the laying of the cornerstone of the new \$6,000,000 building at 68th Street and Park Avenue took place on December 6, with Mayor LaGuardia and administrative officials taking part in the ceremonies.

The Mayor pleaded for national child labor legislation, development and perfection of pension and retirement systems, and realization that the youth which is graduating from colleges to-day must be provided

with an opportunity to earn a decent living. This is a national problem, the Mayor warned, since hopeless youth unable to find necessary occupation will believe any propaganda, even if false, which offers hope. "Personally, we know that not only our hope, but the hope of all the world lies in the salvation of the American system of government. But the only way to offset propaganda is by being realistic and doing something actual for the youth of America." He said it would be necessary for some time to come to continue the National Youth Administration and to create employment artificially for some people. "But is it not better," he added, "although risking a charge of extravagance, to spend millions of dollars for youth of the land in keeping them usefully employed, instead of spending billions of dollars to put them in the army to kill and be killed?"

Dr. Ordway Tead, Chairman of the Board of Higher Education, said: "We are here to seal the cornerstone of a habitation of shared learning, of associated truth seeking, of organized and sustained inquiry into the ways of mankind's mastery of its world. Here will be forwarded a deliberate conservation of the body of human culture and a devoted attempt to enrich that culture through our own effort."

The copper cornerstone box was presented by Mrs. Theodore E. Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, to Acting President George N. Shuster, who placed it in the cornerstone, which was closed by Mrs. Walter S. Mack, Jr., Chairman of the Administrative Committee. Among the contents of the box were: copies of the College catalogues; a copy of "What To Do in the World's Work", the bulletin issued by the Faculty Committee on Vocational Guidance; the latest issues of the *Hunter Bulletin* and the *ALUMNÆ NEWS*; copies of the metropolitan newspapers; and signatures of the members of the Board of Higher Education, of the executive officers of the College and its instructional and administrative staffs, and of members of the faculties of the Hunter College High School and Model School. Also included was a motion picture film, "Hunter College Prepares Women for the World of To-morrow", which was shown at the World's Fair.

Among the guests of honor who attended the exercises were Mr. Albert Weiss of the Board of Higher Education; Miss Pearl Bernstein, Administrator of the Board; Miss Millicent Baum, aide to Mayor LaGuardia; Dr. Ruth Lewinson, First Vice-President of the Associate Alumnae; and Miss Jenny Hunter, daughter of Thomas Hunter, founder of the College. CLAIRE GLASSBURG.

REMARKS AT THE  
LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE  
OF HUNTER COLLEGE

By ORDWAY TEAD

Chairman, Board of Higher Education.

I find myself asking why we are here. We have turned away at this noon hour for a few brief moments—away from the hot, ceaseless pursuit of familiar habits of conduct, and insistent preoccupations; away from all our random and often irrational action in a highly disorganized world which keeps a surface appearance of organization and of sense.

And we have turned to what? To a symbolic act of the preliminary dedication of a building. Not just another building, we hope and believe. But a building erected for and consecrated to a special kind of use.

It is not a domicile of ordinary shelter. Even this short ceremony would not be thought necessary to commit it to that familiar purpose.

It is not a house of universal public use, like a city hall; for admission to its halls is determined by special qualifications of prior accomplishment and present fitness in the realm of intellectual attainment.

It is not a house of worship. Were that the case, the particular rituals of specified religions leaders would undoubtedly be observed to make the consecration most authentic.

We are here to seal the cornerstone of a habitation of shared learning, of associated truth-seeking, of organized and sustained inquiry into the ways of mankind's mastery of its world. Here will be forwarded a deliberate conservation of the body of human culture and a devoted attempt to enrich that culture through our own effort.

We are here to symbolize the dignity of man's search for his own salvation; to acknowledge the validity of man's aspiration for a life that shall realize more and more of truth and beauty and righteousness in the processes of living.

To come out from the ordinary ways of men thus to symbolize and to acknowledge the need for reenforcing the search for more truth and beauty and goodness—this is itself good.

The college stands to-day as one of the few reminders of sanity, of devotion to freedom of thought and utterance, of the beneficent potentialities of reasonableness and orderliness and planfulness in human affairs. The college in its ideal role is, indeed, the great conservator of the spirit of truth-seeking through intellectual integrity, freedom, and passion. This is its unique function—its momentous function. It is a function so crucial to the preservation of civilization, so indispensable to keeping the lights of rationality and of goodwill among men aglow, that in comparison with its reason for being, all our personal stirrings on its behalf can only seem pitifully inadequate in their effectiveness.

Occasions like this give us pause. We hang our heads in shame at the contrast between the functions of the college and the contribution of ourselves to the fulfillment of that function. All that we can do and be, all devotion, all zeal for positive gain in wisdom and in ability to impart wisdom—these seem puny beside the task the college summons us to. For it summons to excellence, to continuous growth, to unparalleled masteries, to complete commitment to whatsoever things are true and beautiful and good. Before its summons, every lesser motive, every limited intention, every self-seeking desire,—these are dwarfed so that they would become ridiculous did they not become tragic in their consequence.

If I seem to set a place for the college which is superlatively high, if I ask much of it, that is only because in all honesty we must face the fact that it (or some other institution which might replace it) shares with the home and with the church a historic role which *has* to be filled in human society. Indeed, like both of these, it seems to me to share such a position of human trust and sanctity that it would be impossible to accord it too high an estate. I, for one, am prepared to say of a college, as I would also say of a home or of a house of worship,—and I say it of Hunter College—"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it."

Nothing less than universal, ultimate, and more than human validation seems to me the fitting assumption and mood for the consecration of a college structure. For we are concerned here to implement the outreaching of the human spirit—veritably a holy enterprise if we but know in our hearts that the human enterprise is holy.

It is true that the public college in our feeble vocabulary is rightfully regarded to-day as a secular institution. But what I am saying is that any secular institution which takes for its allegiance the zealous pursuit and impartation of truth, beauty, and goodness is by that effort far more than secular. It shares a human purpose made sacred by its very audacity, its historic persistence, and by the inclusiveness of the realms in which it searches.

I must personally agree with a friend who in a recent book says: "The search of the mind for beauty, goodness, and truth is its search for God, and our modern irrationalistic prophets do not help us when they beckon us to other paths. For what doth the Lord our God require of us if not to do justly and to love beauty and to walk humbly with the spirit of truth? And how, if not through these, is his way to be made manifest among men?"

These are the considerations that come to mind when I ask why we are here foregathered. Here we are preparing not just another impressive structure on a famous worldly highway. We are adding a temple beside the highway mankind is treading, a

temple of learning, where successive generations can come closer to the spirit of things, closer to understanding, to mastery, to fraternal regard, and to zeal for all these.

My deepest prayer as we perform this symbolic rite is that in very truth as we build, we shall not be found to be laboring in vain.

\* CITATIONS MADE BY ACTING PRESIDENT SHUSTER AT THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE

Excerpts from the Dedication of the new Normal College Building in 1873.

*From the address of William H. Neilson, President of the Board of Education*

"I have spoken of this building as costly, more costly than the present Board would have felt justified in making it. But that which costs us much we should, and usually do, value much, and this magnificent building, which, with the ground on which it stands, and its furniture and appliances, costs the city one million of dollars, should be highly appreciated and carefully watched lest it be perverted from its high and holy purposes. Now it is far up town; very soon it will be in the center and heart of the city."

\* *From the address of William F. Havemeyer, Mayor of the City of New York*

"There are those now present who will live until millions of persons will dwell within a circle of less than fifteen miles from this spot. What vast crowds will then swarm through all the central avenues of this great city. Such immense masses, animated by a common purpose, would be as resistless as the ocean, unless controlled by an agency equally powerful. That agency can operate only upon their fears or their consciences, and must be either the sword of despotic power or the intelligence of the people. Let every wise man, therefore, as he loves his children, and would secure the welfare of those who are to come after him, give an earnest support to the great cause of universal education."

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

The Faculty Club of the High School honored Acting President George N. Shuster at a tea on November the twenty-eighth at the Hotel Biltmore.

One hundred and eighty guests attended, including members of the Faculties of the College, High School, and Model School, and members of the Board of Higher Education of the City of New York. Among those present were Mrs. George N. Shuster, Miss Jenny Hunter, Mrs. Walter S. Mack, Jr., Mrs. George Z. Medalie, Mr. Albert Weiss, Miss Millicent Baum, and Dr. Jean F. Brown.

Mrs. Emily E. Boggs, President of the Faculty Club, was hostess. Dr. Thelma B. DeGraff served as Chairman of the Reception Committee. ROSE-MARIE DAELE.

COLLEGE NOTES

Members of the Metropolitan Opera Company are visiting the Hunter College Music Department classes in Wagnerian opera at the Park Avenue Building this month. Karin Branzell, who has a leading rôle in "Tristan" and "Lohengrin", and Eyvind Loholm, who recently made his début at the Metropolitan, have already spoken about their interpretations of the roles they have played; and others in the company will probably accept the invitation issued by Harold Strickland, Instructor in the Music Department and member of the editorial staff of the *Musical Courier*.

The third in a series of round table discussions of current problems by members of the Hunter College faculty was broadcast over Station WEVD (1300 on the dial) on December 28, with Professor James O'Gorman, Dr. Mary R. Sheehan, and Professor Bernard F. Riess of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy speaking on "The Psychologist Analyzes Propaganda".

Professor Emma K. Temple, Chairman of the Radio Committee, invites alumnae to listen to these broadcasts, which are given every other week, and to send to the Radio Committee suggestions for future panel discussions. The next program will be on January 11.

Dr. Georgia L. Dunn, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Philosophy and an alumna of the College, was awarded third prize of \$100 in the annual essay competition sponsored by the New History Society. Dr. Dunn wrote on "What Influence Would a Bible of Mankind Exert on the World of Tomorrow?"

Dr. Dunn is the former Georgia Littlefield Nobis, an alumna of Hunter College, who graduated at the head of the Class of January 1914.

A motion condemning the action of the Soviet Union in invading Finland was passed last month by the Student Council.

The present European conflict is, to some extent, shaping the interests and thinking of American students, the results of a survey of more than 980 of the approximately 1200 incoming freshmen indicate. Several of the students questioned said that their hobbies were analyzing newspaper propaganda, collecting war cartoons and leaflets, oratory, building airplanes, flying, and historical research. Science also rates high with the freshmen, both as a hobby and as a major.

Although 417 students hope to teach after graduation, many expect to branch into fields not common to women, such as electrical engineering, exploration, psychometry, publishing, horticulture, dentistry, aviation, and animal breeding. Only two students listed marriage and being a housewife as possible careers.

The incoming freshmen range from fourteen to fifty years of age, more than half being seventeen years old and below the average college entrance age of eighteen. About one-fifth of the students were graduated from Hunter College High School, and 378 won scholastic prizes and awards while at high school.

Results of a summer employment questionnaire answered by 5162 students revealed that more students obtained summer work this year than in the summer of 1938, it was announced last month by Mrs. Dean Schloss, in charge of undergraduate placement at the Hunter College Bureau of Occupations. Of the students who answered the questionnaire, 1504 were employed and earned a total of \$81,789.82. More students this year found positions for themselves without the aid of the bureau.

Mary Lukomnik, a graduate of June '38, and Kathleen Farmer, an undergraduate, have been selected as psychological assistants for the Normal Child Development Study 1939-1940 to be made at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

Forty-eight students were initiated into membership in the Nu Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa last month. Dr. Arnold Dresden, Professor of Mathematics at Swarthmore College, spoke at the ceremonies.

The annual Ottinger Prize Debate will be held on Monday, January 8, at 8:30 P. M., in the Auditorium of the 68th Street Building. Alumnae are invited to attend the debate, which will be on the subject of teacher tenure. Six students have been selected to try for the \$100 prize to the best individual debater.

"Girls in Uniform", Christa Winsloe's successful drama of life in a girls' school, has been selected as the Varsity production this year. It will be given on January 5, 6, and 7, Friday and Saturday nights, Sunday matinée and evening, at the Heckscher Theater, Fifth Avenue and 101st Street, with four students alternating in the leading roles. After several weeks of tryouts, Pearl Breit and Gertrude Eisenstadt have been selected for the part of Manuela, the sensitive child who cannot endure the discipline of the rigidly ruled boarding school. The other principal role, Fraulein von Bernburg, the sympathetic teacher, will be shared by Betty Rehnstrom and Dorothy Grodner.

Miss Nancy M. Ferguson of the Department of Speech and Dramatics, who coached the last two Varsity plays, "Another Language" and "Stage Door", will coach the forthcoming production.

Tickets may be obtained from Lois Uttal, 240 West 98th Street, and Ruth Kearns, 37-27 221st Street, Bayside.

CLAIRE GLASSBURG.

#### THE CLASS OF JUNE 1910

The opportunity to meet former instructors at London Terrace as planned for the Class of June 1910 will be postponed until Saturday, February 17th. Doris Spier Harman will be hostess for the afternoon.

KATHRYN KRAFT ADLER,  
35 Stewart Ave., Arlington, N. J.

#### THE CLASS OF JUNE '15

The Class of June '15 is striving to reach all its members in preparation for its Silver Jubilee celebration. Aid is sought in locating the following:—

Bern, Clara	O'Brien, Kathleen M.
Boolowsky, Ida W.	(Mrs. Sheridan)
Carney, Mary Agnes	Olenin, Florence V.
Clayton, May E.	Reis, Daisy C.
(Mrs. S. B. Gibbons)	Rosansky, Anna
Costigan, Dorothy	Rosenthal, Ruth J.
Coulter, Marion	Russo, Elizabeth Anna
Farrell, Adelaide D.	Sanderson, Olive H.
(Mrs. Ralph Healy)	Schmidt, Dora E.
Flynn, Mary	Schwarz, Gertrude M.
(Mrs. Wm. Euztes)	(Mrs. Melvin Hirsch)
Focht, Elizabeth D.	Schwarz, Gisella
Freezer, Celia	Schwarz, Irma
Friedman, Miriam	Sharts, Grace E.
Goldfarb, Pauline	(Mrs. Fred'k Schultz)
Grenelle, Alice N.	Shaw, Bessie
(Mrs. Shunk)	(Mrs. H. L. Mahon)
Hogan, Gladys	Sieber, Caroline M.
Hubbell, Laura	Smolensky, Elizabeth
Jacobs, Lillian C.	Walsh, Mary E.
Mackin, Agnes L.	Wimpie, Anna
Malbin, Sarah	(Mrs. Ben Heyman)
Marcus, Anna	Worden, Alice M.
McHale, Madeline G.	Wunder, Clara F.
Miceli, Johanna R.	Wurthmann, Wilhelmina
Monaghan, Margaret	(Mrs. J. A. Schmick)

E. ADELAIDE HAHN, President,  
640 Riverside Drive.

#### THE SING ALUMNAE, CLASS OF '38

What a grand time we had at the first Sing Alumnae meeting of the year, held on December 13. Even the heavy downpour could not hold back the enthusiastic members, who have already suggested the following program: a formal dance, a gossip sheet, a theater party, the celebration of our first anniversary this spring, and our annual visit to the current Sing.

Our next meeting is to be held on Wednesday, January 24th, at 8:00 P. M., in Room 604, Hunter Alumnae Hall, 204 West 55th Street. We are looking forward to seeing every one of the 175 girls who presented such "a dainty dish" to the Sing audience of '38. . . . Sing-ly and together until January 24th!

MINI MOSCOVITZ, Chairman.

#### GRADUATE PHYSIOLOGY SOCIETY

The Graduate Physiology Society is continuing its policy of one speaker a month on various physiological topics. On November 4th Dr. Jean Huddleton gave a very interesting talk on Tuberculosis, and during the month of January we plan to have our third speaker. On January 15th the topic of mental hygiene will be discussed by an expert in the field. All are welcome.

FLORENCE EISNER, Secretary.