

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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## GREETING FROM THE CLASS OF 1876

Comrades in loyalty: We'd have you know  
We are the Golden Girls of long ago.  
Think not of us as yellow leaves and sere,  
The sad survivors of the faded year;  
But rather as a gallant golden row  
Of late chrysanthemums just touched with  
snow.

We from the first were favorites of fate:  
Distinction was our birthright—mark the  
date!

Though not born in the purple, it is true  
That we were born in the red-white-and-  
blue.

Tricolored ribbons our diplomas tied,  
When, spotlessly appareled like a bride,  
And trailing trains of glory, we descended  
The platform steps, our stately ordeal ended;  
And "Yankee Doodle" was the class-day tune  
That timed our march, that hot historic June.  
We felt through all our ceremonies mix  
Ichor divine, the Spirit of Seventy-six,  
As with a new flag fearlessly unfurled,  
Blithely we marched out to an unknown  
world;

Blithely we marched, as to a fiving shrill—  
And blithely, blithely, we are marching still!

Though modest individuals, naught shall  
smother -

The hearty pride we feel in one another.  
Collectively we dare assert our worth:  
We have done our bit to better the old earth.  
We have lived bravely, as befits our Year,  
And face our golden west without a fear.

Though Youth and Age are matters of the  
soul,

Some call us old, having reached the golden  
goal

And proud half-century of our pilgrimage.  
But She, our Alma Mater, knows not age,  
Being forever tall and lovely and young.  
Ever she grows more beautiful and wise,  
New light of loftier purpose in her eyes,  
New speech of larger import on her tongue,  
New gifts held forth in her outstretching  
hands.

Perpetual renewal, from far lands  
Our City draws fresh youth in a bright  
stream,

And in that leaping fountain rainbows gleam,  
High hopes for years to come.

We who are old  
(You say) salute you, and like coins of gold  
Shower golden wishes. May your youngest  
be

Haply, five decades hence, as young as we!

HELEN GRAY CONE

## THE ALUMNÆ BREAKFAST

The seven hundred alumnae who met on  
February twelfth for one of the most de-  
lightful luncheons which the association has  
ever enjoyed, had, quite aside from the inter-  
esting variety of speakers and the excellent  
musical program, three very special contri-  
butions to their common happiness.

The first was the fact that the occasion  
marked the golden anniversary of the Class  
of '76. What could bring greater pleasure  
to the hearts of either their contemporaries  
or those who, like myself, have followed  
them at a distance of many years, than the  
sight of twenty-two honored women still  
loyal to their Alma Mater after a period of  
fifty years? Professor Cone's spirited poem,  
written and read by herself on behalf of  
her classmates, set by its very vigor and  
enthusiastic acceptance of life a standard  
which we younger women can only strive to  
reach.

The second, a very welcome surprise, was  
the presentation by Mrs. Elliott of a wrist-  
watch to Mrs. Otto Hahn, as a slight  
expression of her many friends' appreciation  
of fifteen years of loyal and capable service  
as editor of THE ALUMNÆ NEWS. Those of  
us who had not had the pleasure of contribut-  
ing toward this little gift were delighted at  
the opportunity of publicly acknowledging  
our deep sense of what this type of service  
means to Hunter graduates.

The third contribution came from Presi-  
dent Davis, who came to us instead of attend-  
ing other functions where college matters  
were to be discussed, because he was unable  
to be with us last year. Dr. Davis called our  
attention to the fact that the student body  
of Hunter, which numbered 530 when he be-  
came president in 1908, now numbers 3200.  
This increase continues despite the fact that  
entrance requirements are constantly made  
more stringent, no student with a single  
condition having been admitted during the  
past two years. We were also glad to learn  
that Dr. Davis has been in direct communi-  
cation with the Board of Estimate and the  
city officials, who have permitted him to  
state Hunter's needs in full detail, so that  
assistance for the new building is assured.  
Furthermore an effort is being made to have  
the Board of Trustees represent all the  
boroughs instead of only Manhattan as is  
the case at present, so that the establishment  
of evening branches, etc., may be facilitated.

Mrs. Elliott in her speech of welcome  
urged a closer sense of their interdependence  
and importance upon the upper and lower  
branches of the collegiate alumnae tree, so  
that a more intimate sisterhood may develop