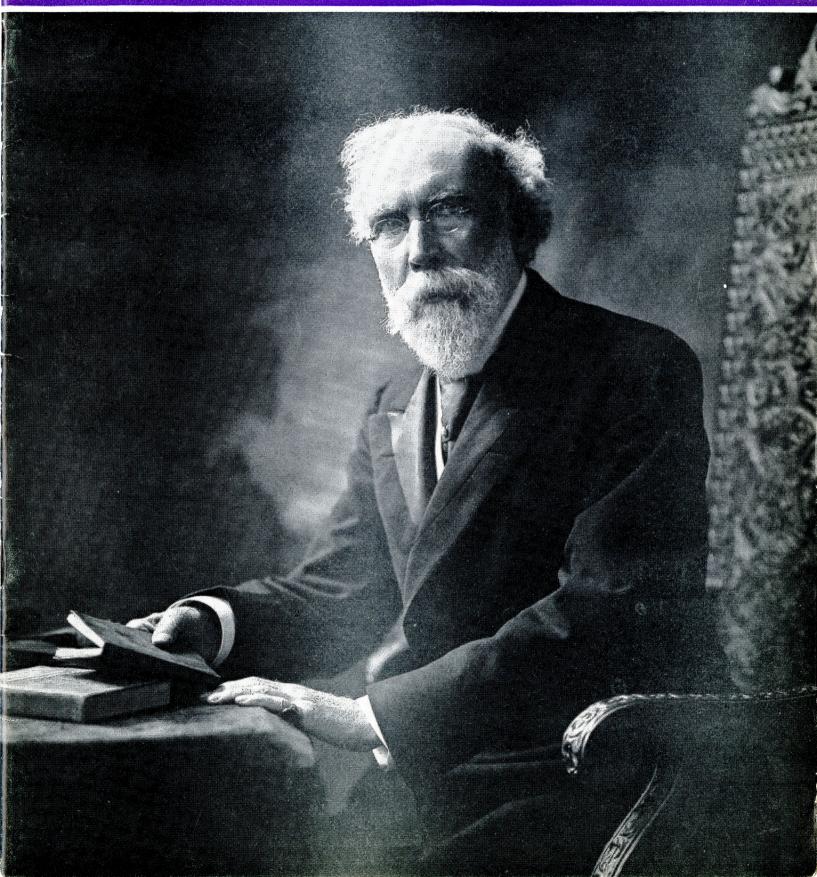
HUNTER ALUMNI Quarterly

Dr. Thomas Hunter, 1831-1915 President of the College, 1870-1906 JANUARY 1963



have provided a key to the understanding of the variety of chemical processes taking place at exact sites. We are just starting to learn where in a neurone or a specific nucleus of the brain, various drugs, tranquilizers, energizers, hallucinating agents etc. are facilitating or inhibiting reactions. We know now that the brain is a veritable constellation of chemical factories. We are struggling to associate this information with the pathology of mental illness.

The second technique is that of determining the electrical voice of the inner recesses of the brain and the inner surfaces of the neurone. By our stereotaxic instruments that we can set at supremely exact depths into the brains of anesthetized monkeys, cats or rats (or even during brain surgery into man) we have been able to stimulate and to record electrical activity of neurones covered by masses of cortex and as well by eons of evolutionary development.

By these new techniques, and many others, we have refashioned our concepts of the operation of the nervous system.

One major change in concept is in the overall view of the brain's activity. Long ago we gave up the switchboard concept as being a distortion in simplicity. The glorious complexity is just now being appreciated. We know that there are reverberating electrical waves which appear to sweep across the cortex. We know that when a sense organ is stimulated it not only generates impulses which eventually reach that cortex and evoke a sensation by some as yet undescribed change in these scanning waves, but that it produces some change, probably at a molecular level, that appears to remain imprinted in the neurone. Stimulation with the stereoscopic instruments has opened up whole rooms of memory of specific events. We know that the impulses from the sense organ will not affect the cortex to make their imprint if they do not feed into special arousal mid-brain areas and thalamic focusing regions which in turn affect the cerebrum. We have learned that these impulses feed not only into the brain and cord from the sense organs, but that there are feed backs from brain to sense organs.

We have learned that there are not only sensory and motor areas in the brain, but that there are punishment and reward areas whose stimulation makes an animal seek to repeat or interrupt the stimulation. We know, in sum, that when a stimulus evokes a new volley of impulses this volley is fed into a complex, ever active mass of circuits — circuits which become more complex as we ascend the scale of animals to man.

"HOME ECONOMICS IN A LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE"

Professor Gertrude M. Borgeson

The land-grant colleges, often called the people's colleges, which were established as a result of the passage in 1862 of the Morrill Land Grant Act, were an important factor in the development of the teaching of Home Economics, especially in the Middle West. Gradually women began to enroll in the land-grant colleges and the administrators initiated "ladies' courses" which grew into courses called domestic science, domestic economy or household arts and sciences. In these programs the principles of the arts and sciences as applied to the home were stressed. In 1909 the American Home Economics Association was founded; the modern Home Economics movement thus is a little over fifty years old.

In recent decades educators and women's groups have been giving increased attention to the wider need for training in home economics. Despite the dramatic changes taking place in the pattern of women's lives—e.g., earlier marriages, employment of married women outside the home, the smooth running of the home is still their central responsibility. Dr. Carmichael of the Carnegie Foundation has set as one task of women's colleges "a crusade to pioneer in educational reforms that would exalt home life and family living."

Career openings for home economists are today constantly increasing, in teaching and research, and in public and private institutional work.

In the liberal arts college, the B.A. in Home Economics is firmly grounded in the liberal arts and sciences which first nourished it. A brief history of Home Economics at Hunter and its present curriculum may be of interest.

Seated: President Meng and Dean Gambrell.
Standing: Alumni President Mrs. Trinsey and First Vice-President Mrs. Schechter, Miss Marcia Rosenfeld and Professor Stoessinger.



The teaching of the subject began in 1888, with one course entitled, "Food Composition and Preparation", which was required as a part of Physical Science and was taken by every student.

In 1909, a minor in Home Economics was introduced, under the direction of Professor Margaret Barclay Wilson, Chairman of the Department of Physiology and Hygiene. In 1937, a Home Economics major was first offered to students. In 1944, plans were developed, with the assistance of leaders in the field and members of the New York State Department of Education, for a separate Department of Home Economics. Professor Dora S. Lewis became the head of this new Department in 1945, and work toward both a B.A. and B.S. in Home Economics was begun. Today, a B.A. in Home Economics is also available in the School of General Studies, and adult education courses in the field, without degree, are offered.

In 1948 an M.S. in Home Economics had been introduced; in 1957, an M.S. in Nutrition. Hunter graduates of the Department are building fine reputations for themselves and the College, and there is ever-increasing demand for their services.

"THE PRICE OF PEACE: WHO SHOULD PAY?"

Professor John G. Stoessinger
Director of the United Nations Finance Project
at the Brookings Institution

Despite the recent World Court advisory opinion, which declared the costs of the two U.N. peace forces in the Middle East and in the Congo to be obligations legally binding upon the entire membership, a financial crisis continues to threaten the life of the U.N.

The immediate cause of the crisis is the cost of the two peace forces. This cost threatens the U.N. with a deficit of \$200 million by the end of the year — just

Mira Golomb '59 entertaining children and grandchildren of the alumni.



about the amount of the proposed U.N. bond issue.

Actually, compared to national defense budgets, \$200 million is a pittance. But seldom have so many important people argued so tenaciously about so little money. Why? Because, at present, fiscal problems in the U.N. cannot be divorced from their political context...the struggle for power being waged among the U.N.'s member states.

The Soviet and Polish justices have taken the view that the two peace forces were illegal under the U.N. Charter and that only the Security Council, in which the Soviets have a veto, has the authority to control them. The French, Peruvian, and Argentinian justices have held that, since the two peace forces had been assembled on a voluntary basis, payment, too, might be voluntary.

Article 19 of the Charter provides that a nation may be deprived of its voting privileges in the Assembly if it is more than two years behind on its assessed payments. Now that the Court has placed the finances of the peace forces on the same legal basis as the regular budget, the question of testing Article 19 will undoubtedly arise.

Guatemala, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Yemen have paid their shares as a result of American prodding. The Soviet-bloc countries have refused to contribute to either of the two peace forces. France has agreed to pay for UNEF only.

To ignore the court opinion and Article 19 altogether would be to make a mockery of the Charter. To insist on sanctions according to the letter of the law might lead to a mass exodus by disgruntled states from the United Nations.

In view of this dilemma, the Assembly may be forced to "accept" or even "endorse" the opinion in principle that the costs of the peace forces are obligations binding upon the entire membership, but let nations pretty well ignore it in practice: over two-thirds of the members now owe money for the peace forces. . . . By the end of the year, perhaps one quarter of the amount due will be paid. But what about the future expenses of the two peace forces?

There is now the legal basis for a special scale of contributions for peace-keeping operations. Several variations of such a scale are possible: it may be necessary to adopt a sliding scale in which the percentage contributions for the richer nations would go up and those for the poorer ones would go down; it may be well worth considering whether to give special rebates to nations that contribute troops to peace forces; in case of a new peace force, the initial resolution authorizing it might contain a section clearly setting forth the terms under which it would be financed.