

# 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. XLIII

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., JUNE-JULY, 1938

No. 6

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR RETIRING PRESIDENT

To my Friends in the Associate Alumnae:

The beautiful tribute you paid me at our Spring Reunion is still filling my heart with gladness, and I am happy to have this opportunity to thank you all for your generosity and praise.

To those of you who made possible the gorgeous bracelet of diamonds and sapphires, I offer added thanks and deepest appreciation,—not only for the tangible gift, but for the beauty of the spirit in which you responded.

This final demonstration was but the climax to your years of generosity; and you gave me that day the most precious thing in the world, the assurance of your friendship. And for this there is no thanks. For friendship is priceless and can be paid for only by the return of friendship. And this I *can* do with all my heart. For I have, for each and every one of you, an abiding affection, and the sum of that affection is love and friendship.

The years of my service have been richly rewarded, and the bracelet will be a constant reminder of the circle of my friends.

I cannot adequately thank you, either for your never failing support, your coöperation, your praise, or your lovely gift, but I do want you to know that the pleasure and joy you have given me is so great that it can be spread over the years and will last forever.

IRENE BRANDON GRAFF.

## THE SPRING REUNION

A crowd of well over six hundred Alumnae, gathered by the splendid efforts of Mary Abbott Curtin and her committee, made the Spring Reunion of 1938, held in the Belvedere Room of the Hotel Astor on Saturday, May 14, a memorable event.

Mrs. Leslie Graff, retiring President of the Associate Alumnae, welcomed the members with the reminder that, since spring is the time of hope and promise, the reunion should mark for the Association a season of "hope for a stronger Associate Alumnae, hope for a new college, and hope for peace, with a promise of our loyalty, our love, and our effort to fulfill these hopes".

She remarked on the change of room for the function, made necessary by the large attendance, and explained Mrs. Curtin's plan to increase the interest of the younger groups by allotting them a more active part in the program, featuring, at the Spring Reunion, the fifth and tenth anniversary classes.

In keeping with this idea, Mrs. Anne Moore Donnelly of the Class of 1928 opened the program when she sang "O Little Tune

of Tears" by Galloway, and Wells' "I Dunno". The selections were new and different, and the singer charming in voice and manner. Mrs. Evelyn Back Zuckerman, 1928, was the accompanist.

The Hunter College Reading Chorus, under the direction of Miss Helen Gertrude Hicks of the Department of Speech, presented choral readings of three selections: "The Highwayman", by Alfred Noyes; Lewis Carroll's famous "The Walrus and the Carpenter" from *Alice in Wonderland*; and "Jazz Phantasia", by Carl Sandburg. Solo parts in the first two selections were read by the Misses Christina Marchisa, Sylvia Epstein, Hazel Grauer, Iola Dollinger, Molly Green, Pearl Shottland, Ruth Margolin, Caroline Manville, and Mary O'Connor. The readings were interesting and beautifully done.

Miss Catherine A. Weigl represented 1933 with her fine, spirited playing of an arrangement by Pablo De Sarasate of *Gypsy Airs*, and a *Toast to the Alumnae*, arranged by Miss Beatrice Brown of the Department of Music. When the audience heard the familiar strains of "Fame", voices were raised and Mrs. Graff led the singing.

A gift in the form of a bracelet, as an expression of the gratitude of the Association for an administration marked by "clarity of vision, sincerity of purpose, unselfish devotion, singular loyalty, and a dignity and charm which has been the admiration of all", was presented to the retiring President by Mrs. Genevieve Burke Crotty, who recalled to the members that Mrs. Graff had spared neither time nor effort in facing the two great problems of her terms of office—the work for the new college building, and the tangled affairs of the Lenox Hill Settlement.

Mrs. Graff found it difficult to express, she said, her feeling of "very deep regard, sincere appreciation, joy, and pride". She promised that the love and joy given her were so great that they could be spread over the years and still last forever. The President then turned to surrender the gavel, symbol of office, to Mrs. Helen Luckey Simis, newly elected leader, who, she said, brought to the task courage, enthusiasm, and a youthful outlook.

Mrs. Simis, former President of the Student Organization of Hunter College High School, the Alumnae of the High School, and the Student Council of Hunter College, and retiring Treasurer of the Associate Alumnae, declared that she accepted the many responsibilities of her new office without a specific platform, but with a prayer for a harmonious Hunter family of alumnae, students, and staff.

Despite his very busy day, President

## IN MEMORIAM

Hunter College has suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Professor Anne Bush MacLear, of the Department of History and Social Science. A distinguished teacher who gave unstintingly of herself, she inspired countless girls and showed them the way to real scholarship. A trainer of teachers, she was responsible for the high standards exemplified in the teaching of Hunter girls throughout the city. An understanding, sincere friend, she was always interested in what Hunter girls were doing. It is not possible for one of Professor MacLear's stature to really die. Her influence was too vibrant and too far-reaching for it to be lost. Rather it would seem that her death would instill in us the desire to rededicate ourselves to the ideals for which she strove: devotion to real scholarship and truth, and devotion to the training of young people.

At a meeting of Alpha Chi Alpha, the honorary history fraternity, a proposal was made that an Alumnae Committee be formed to coöperate with the College Committee to create a memorial fund to buy books in her honor for the new college library. The Committee has been organized on the basis of one member for every five years. If you are one of those people who have derived great benefit from Professor MacLear's influence, we hope you will respond to the call of the Committee or that you will send your contribution directly to the chairman of the Committee.

SARA GARRETT, '18, Chairman.  
324 East 26th Street, Brooklyn.