

THE ALUMNAE NEWS

Published Monthly from October to June, inclusive, at 204 West 55th St., New York 19, N. Y., by the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College of the City of New York

Entered as second-class matter, December 28, 1945, at the post office at New York, N.Y., under the act of March 3, 1879

VOL. LI

NEW YORK, N. Y., JUNE, 1946

No. 6

Greetings! As the new President of the Associate Alumnae, I wish to express my very sincere appreciation of the honor you have conferred upon me. My one wish is that our Association may continue to grow in harmony and members. Increased membership is a most vital factor in the growth of any group. Will each of you please consider yourself a member of this Committee and do your share in building up the Alumnae?

Constructive criticism and suggestions will be most welcome. I shall serve to do the best of my ability—man can do no more!

MARY LOUISE DRADDY
President

SPRING REUNION

In spite of unpleasant weather a capacity crowd of Alumnae assembled in the Playhouse on May 18th for the annual Spring Reunion. This occasion marked for Dr. Ruth Lewinson, who presided, the completion of twenty-five years of active service to the College in an official capacity, that started when she became a Trustee, and has ended, temporarily we hope, with her fine service as President of the Associate Alumnae for the past two years.

In her address of welcome Dr. Lewinson stressed the importance of the role of the President of the Associate Alumnae, and therefore the responsibility of the Alumnae to choose a good representative. In this connection she feels that not only more cognizance should be taken of the part that the younger women might take in leadership, but also the Alumnae should avail itself of the material that is at hand and start the younger women in activities in order to develop future leaders. Dr. Lewinson stressed too that the Alumnae must steer clear of bias in any form, in the selection of officers, and in any way connected with the activities of the organization, and that it is time for them to become a powerful factor in the City of New York as a voice for good government, and for greater expenditure for free education, etc. The first obligation of the Associate Alumnae is to Hunter College, and then to the Community which gave us our free education.

Dr. George N. Shuster, President of Hunter College, brought news of the College in his message to the Alumnae. During the past year over 156 graduates of the College received scholarships or fellowships in the universities of the United States. Hunter is looking forward to a "family reunion" in the fall when most of the staff will have returned from war service, and expects to have the new class of Freshmen settled in the Bronx buildings, which will be vacated by the United Nations, the meeting of which has brought much publicity to the College during the past spring.

President Shuster feels that the role that

women played during the war was a difficult one, and that Hunter College should have a war memorial "to represent the same kind of service that the men who went away and the ones who stayed behind gave". This, he feels, should take the form of endowments to support the work of the College in drama and music. For this purpose Hunter would need the sum of \$5,000 a year. Dr. Shuster will welcome any other suggestions from alumnae.

War-Time Service Awards were presented by Dr. Lewinson to those who, as members of the Patriotic Service Committee, gave much time and service to the Canteen. The following received awards:

Miss Katherine Burns	Miss Dorothy Oelert
Miss Natalie Finklestein	Miss Jean Paul
Miss Shirley Greenberg	Mrs. Beatrice Powell
Miss Edyth Horne	Miss Ray Richter
Miss Barbara Keller	Miss Miriam Rokeach
Miss Edna Lewinson	Miss Eloise Simonson
Miss Rita Martocci	Dr. and Mrs. Gray
Miss B. Elizabeth Kallman, Chairman	

Mrs. Beatrice K. Weinberg, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers. Since no other nominations had been received, the entire slate was elected. The following were elected officers:

President	Mrs. Robert E. Draddy
First Vice-President	Mrs. Samuel Bitterman
Second Vice-President	Miss B. Elizabeth Kallman
Third Vice-President	Miss Marie K. Gallagher
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Peter Zaphir
Assistant Recording Secretary ..	Miss Dorothy C. Oelert
Corresponding Secretary	Miss Lillian Corrigan
Ass't Corresponding Secretary ..	Mrs. Wilbur D. Thorne
Treasurer	Miss Elsie R. Kengla
Assistant Treasurer	Miss Babette M. Levy

Mrs. Robert E. Draddy, the newly elected President, was introduced by Dr. Lewinson. After expressing her thanks and asking the support of the Alumnae in the Association's plans for the coming year, she in turn expressed the thanks and appreciation of the Alumnae for the outstanding service rendered by Dr. Lewinson as President for the past two years, and presented to her on behalf of the Alumnae, in appreciation, a solid gold fountain-pen, an onyx ash-tray, and a set of bronze bookends, the latter guaranteed by Mrs. Draddy to be the only pair available in New York.

If the keen sense of humor revealed in her presentation and the persistence shown in achieving her goal of obtaining the bookends are samples of the qualities of Mrs. Draddy as a leader, then the Alumnae may look forward to a very successful year.

The fine playing of Miss Elaine Odesser, '46, pianist, and the excellent singing of Miss Molly Lippenholtz, '47, who was accompanied by Miss Odesser, added much to the enjoyment of the program. After the singing of the Ivy Leaf, led by Miss Lippenholtz, the alumnae repaired to the lounges for a period of fellowship and for refreshments arranged under the chairmanship of Miss Thelma Vint.

DAISY A. CLOUX

PROFESSOR EDGAR DAWSON

On April 30, 1946, Dr. Edgar Dawson, Professor at Hunter College for thirty years (1909 - 1939), died at his home at the age of seventy-three. Born in Virginia, Professor Dawson received his B.A. from Davidson College in 1895, and, in 1899, his M.A. from the University of Virginia, which he liked to remember as the college founded by his idol, Thomas Jefferson. He studied at the Universities of Heidelberg and Leipzig, receiving from the latter a Ph.D. degree in 1902. Before coming to Hunter, he was Headmaster of New Providence Academy in Virginia, Professor at Delaware College, and Assistant Professor of History and Social Science at Princeton University. He lectured at the University of Oregon, the University of Colorado, and Columbia University; in 1920 he was Visiting Professor at the University of California.

As his student and a teacher on his staff, I was impressed by two of Dr. Dawson's engrossing interests: one, his concern for the improvement of teaching in the City's schools, maintaining a consistent effort to recommend for appointment at Hunter only those who would add to the stature and scholarship of his Department; the other, his desire to improve the governmental structure, not only of the state and city, but also in the realm where "the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world" seeks to solve the obstacles to permanent peace. He served the Association of History Teachers of the Middle States as President (1912-13) and Secretary (1913-18); the State History Teachers' Association as Chairman; the City History Club as Trustee; and he was a founder of the National Council for the Social Studies, functioning as Secretary (1921-28) and as President (1929-30). When the American Political Science Association met in Philadelphia in 1937 at the sesquicentennial of the Constitutional Convention of 1787, Professor Dawson led the discussion on "Teaching the Constitution in the High Schools". As a reformer of government, he was a trustee of the Short Ballot Association and a member of the Executive Committee of the Civil Service Reform Association. Here, as in the field of teaching, he made numerous contributions in the form of books, articles, and reviews.

His publications include *Moore and Byron* (1902), *The Public Archives of Delaware* (1908), *Teaching of Government* (with others) (1916), *Organized Self-Government* (1920), *Preparation of Teachers of Social Studies in Civic Education* (1923), *Outlines of Responsible Government* (in part) (1923), *The History Inquiry* (1924), *Teaching the Social Studies* (1927), *Classroom Teacher* (in part) (1927), *Civil Service in Modern Government* (1937), also articles and reviews on educational subjects. He was joint editor of *A Practical History of the World*, and Editor of the *City History Series*.

Dr. Dawson was instrumental in instituting a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at Hunter College in 1920, and later served as its President. In 1938, he effected the division of his Depart-

ment into three parts, a reorganization made necessary by the expansion of enrollment in the social studies.

It is fitting to close this tribute with a statement of his embodied in the initiation ritual of Alpha Chi Alpha, the honorary society of the social science departments, of which he was one of the founders in 1928.

"You have been selected for initiation into an 'aristocracy of virtue and talent'—that aristocracy of which Jefferson was so fond of speaking in his discussion of education and democracy. Having been initiated into this aristocracy in a democracy, you carry the burden of leadership." ELSA DE HAAS

PATTY HILL

In the long eulogy and account of the life and interests of Dame Patty Hill published in the press, no mention has been made of her connection with the Hunter College Settlement House on East 72nd Street. One afternoon while visiting the house, Miss Hill spoke to us and suggested that if a place could be secured, she would address the company and procure help much needed for the Settlement. An evening was arranged at my home on West 126th St. I had invited some of the teachers of P. S. 68, my own friends, and the wife and daughter of Professor Compton of C.C.N.Y., also the lawyer Felix Jelinek, who had married Harriet Joffe, a teacher of the College Training Department, and many others. Asking dues of \$5.00 per annum, we secured an income of \$65.00 per annum. It was a very pleasant evening, enhanced by a buffet collation.

JOSIE F. WOLF
(Mrs. Henry J. Wolf)
Class of 1881 and '82

ALICE ISAACS POPPER

The death of Alice Isaacs Popper has brought sorrow to the hearts of her many friends, and great loss to the Associate Alumnae which she loved and served so loyally.

She was descended from a fine and distinguished family, and in her own person exemplified those qualities of mind and spirit which are the mark of a woman of culture and rare breeding.

Graduating in 1890 from Hunter, she immediately became a moving force in her class organization, and started to work for the Alumnae Association.

She was intensely interested in the founding of Lenox Hill Settlement—then called "Alumnae House of Normal College"—and to the time of her last illness was a valued member of that Board and an ardent member of the Lenox Hill Committee.

Her appointment as teacher of Botany at College increased her influence, which spread to many hundreds of girls who to-day remember the sweetness of her nature, her modesty, and her ability to induce enthusiasm for the subject which she taught.

And her enthusiasm knew no bounds! For twenty-five years she worked untiringly for the School Nature League, and was justly proud