

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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I welcome the opportunity to report to the loyal army of Alumnae of Hunter College regarding recent activities which have led to the appointment of George N. Shuster as Dean and Acting President of the College.

On June 20, 1939, Dr. Colligan requested a year's leave of absence. At that time his wife was seriously ill in the hospital; and his own physical condition was drained both by illness and by overwork arising from New Building problems and the heavy administrative load of a scattered plant. This leave was granted by our Board as of September 1, 1939. And it became necessary in the Board's judgment to act promptly in order to assure an immediate successor who would handle the large administrative responsibilities which Hunter faces at this time. From the budgetary angle it was fortunate that there happened to be available the vacant line of an Academic Dean. We were not unaware that the Faculty Council had appointed a committee to search for such a Dean; but we were assured that by the end of the last academic year this search had not yet been narrowed down to one or two candidates. The College was on a vacation, and since time was of the essence of the problem the Administrative Committee of Hunter College decided upon a course of action of which the present facts are the outcome. It undertook an intensive, careful survey of the field, for a scholar who could at once serve effectively as Acting President as well as occupy the position of Academic Dean.

It selected for this position Mr. George N. Shuster, former editor of the *Commonweal*, who was working at Columbia under a Carnegie grant on a three-year research study of the history of the Weimar Republic. Mr. Shuster was unanimously recommended to the Board for this joint position and was unanimously elected by the Board at its meeting on July 6, 1939. I shall not take the space to recite Mr. Shuster's distinguished career in the academic field in the teaching of English, nor in the field of letters to which he has contributed a dozen volumes. But I can assure you that he comes to us with literally the most superlative recommendations as a man, as a democratic citizen and educationist, a keen scholar in the field of English and German, a true gentleman of high integrity, liberality of outlook, sensitiveness of feeling, and genuine piety in devotion to the best spiritual heritage of mankind.

I am confident that as soon as the Alumnae have an opportunity to meet Acting President Shuster face to face, they will share in my confidence that under his leadership the College is in splendid hands.

ORDWAY TEAD, Chairman,  
Board of Higher Education.



GEORGE N. SHUSTER  
Acting President of Hunter College.

## THE ALUMNÆ AND THE COLLEGE

Permit me to say first of all that though my acquaintance with everything that is being done to maintain Hunter College at its traditional high level is necessarily limited, I have already seen enough to assure me that the coöperation given by the Alumnae is cordial and worth its weight in gold. This is a most encouraging fact.

The College needs its Alumnae more than ever before. I am thinking primarily of the fact that it is an institution unusually dependent upon public interest and good will. Hunter girls have the great advantage of living against the background of a metropolitan community; but their ability to utilize this opportunity to the full must in large measure depend upon the attitude of others towards them. This problem is recognized by the Alumnae. They are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that if they talk Hunter, represent Hunter, the students of the present will profit by this assistance more than by any other thing.

May I add also that we for our part are consumed with anxiety to associate the graduates more intimately with the life of the College? It is hoped that when the new building opens next year, a program of Alumnae activities can be inaugurated that will interest, in one way or another, every graduate. And of course we shall be only too glad to welcome any suggestions as to what that program might desirably be. If interest can be developed, the College will become what it might ideally be—an institution which binds the past and the present together in a living tradition. GEORGE N. SHUSTER,  
Acting President.

## IN MEMORIAM

Miss Eva C. Wood of the Class of 1886 died on August 28 at the York Hospital after a long illness.

Miss Wood entered the public school system in 1898, when she was appointed as a teacher in P. S. 1 Manhattan. She became Assistant to Principal in 1904. From 1919 to 1937, when she retired, she was Principal of P. S. 4.

She was well known and highly respected among the Associate Alumnae, whom she served loyally and efficiently as Recording Secretary from 1908 to 1924, and as a Director from 1925 to 1933.

Mrs. Rosalie Loew Whitney of the Class of 1892 died on September 3 at Mt. Sinai Hospital after a brief illness. Extensive comments on her distinguished career appeared in the news and editorial columns of the city press. Services were held in the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn.

Mrs. Whitney was graduated from New York University Law School in 1894, and is believed to have been the first woman to engage in active law practice in the state.

In 1921 she was appointed by Governor Miller a member of the Industrial Commission of the State Labor Department. In 1930 the laundry industry in Brooklyn appointed her Director of the Brooklyn Laundry Owners' Association to smash alleged racketeering in the industry; she completed her work eight months later, with the statement that she had accomplished what she set out to do. In 1935 she was appointed to the bench for a ten-year term by Mayor La Guardia, and on January 6, 1936, began her work as a Justice in the Family Court Division of the Domestic Relations Court in Brooklyn. In 1937 she was admitted to the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, being one of twelve women-lawyers who were the first women to gain admission to this body.

She was one of the leaders in the Republican Party, having served as Chairman of the Republican Educational League, and as Chairman of the Women's State Executive Committee, and Vice-President of the Women's National Republican Club, which club she had helped found. She served a year as Deputy Commissioner of Licenses. She was an attorney of the Legal Aid Society for many years, and was interested in the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities and the Catholic Charities.

Mrs. Whitney's family came from Hungary; that of her husband from England, settling in Massachusetts in the seventeenth century. Her husband, Travis Harvard Whitney, whom she married in 1903 and who died in 1934, had been a Public Service Commissioner and City Civil Works Administrator. She is survived by three sons, Travis H. Whitney, Jr., John Loew Whitney, and William T. Whitney.

In the passing of Leah Wiener, our beloved treasurer, the Class of '95 and the Associate Alumnae have lost a most faithful and loyal friend. Dora, her only sister, with whom she lived, was called to her eternal home on July 1st, and on July 25th God called our dear Leah.

We shall all miss Leah. She was the spirit of gentleness, was charitable in word and deed, broad-minded, and constant in her application to any duty she assumed. It was this last trait that made her our efficient Class Treasurer for many years.

"He giveth His beloved, sleep."

MARY E. S. DAVIDSON,  
Secretary of '95.

## GRADUATE GLEANINGS

Anna Florence Hertz of the Class of June 1938 married Samuel Goldman on July 2.

The Class of June '38 announces the birth of a son, Gerald Richard, to Mr. and Mrs. Abraham P. Tauchner, on July 26th. Mrs. Tauchner is the former Frances S. Gaffner.

Two Classics Department graduates of the Class of 1936 have obtained particularly congenial positions.

Mary-Louise Morales Garrison has been permanently appointed a teacher of Latin in the Roosevelt High School at Yonkers. Mrs. Garrison, who won the Ernst Riess Scholarship of \$100.00 in 1938, is at present studying for the degree of Master of Arts in the Classics Department at Hunter.

Johanna Fritsche has been appointed Reviser in the School of Library Service at Columbia University. Miss Fritsche received the degree of Bachelor of Library Service from Columbia last June after a year's study at the School to whose staff she has just been named. Admission to this school as a student is an honor, as the entrance standards are very high; and appointment to its staff is a distinction which we are pleased to see a Hunter graduate attain.

Mildred Elsie Kimble, June 1938, is employed as an Ediphone operator with the Community Service Society. Miss Kimble took the Business Major in College.

More than 350 members from all parts of the country worked to raise New York's quota in Phi Beta Kappa's drive for funds last spring. The Hunter division, headed by Sylvia F. Porter, 1933, included Rosemary S. Mullen, '06; Edna Hamburger, '20; Mrs. J. Graham, '24; Marion Richter, '25; Alice Kober, '28; Anne Kenny, '29; Sylvia J. Russell, Ethel Schnipelsky, '30; Mrs. Mark Rosenbluth, '31; Henriette Judels, '32; Elizabeth Hayword, Jeanette Josephs, Sophie Knapp, '33; Ruth Kirsch, '35; Ida Arbeit, Barbara Brill, Claire Glassburg, Edith Grossman, Mary Joy Isaacs, Evelyn Mooney, Ruth Rothenberg, Phyllis Schwartz, June Sherman, '37; Selma Goldstein, Jeanette Harris, Sylvia Shafran, '38.