

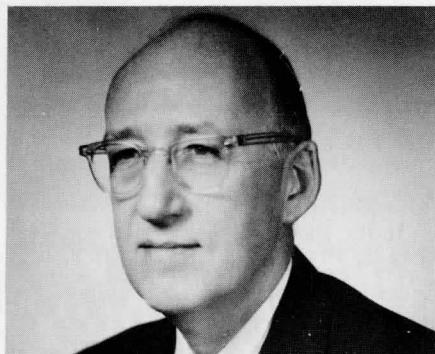
**JOHN J. MENG, SIXTH PRESIDENT  
OF HUNTER COLLEGE**

by Harry L. Levy

Dean of Students,

Hunter College in the Bronx

As Dean John J. Meng becomes President of Hunter College, the Faculty and Staff welcome to his new post a man whom, through his decade and more of service to Hunter, they have



come to know well and to hold in deep affection and esteem. Coming to us as Professor of History in 1949, after eleven years on the Faculty of Queens College, John Meng was appointed Dean of Administration and Executive Officer of the Bronx Center in 1952. It is in the latter capacity that he is best known to the students of the College, for they deeply appreciate his constant efforts to develop the Bronx campus as a fully equipped four-year co-educational college.

Born in Cleveland, President Meng studied both as an undergraduate and as a graduate student at Catholic University of America, where he earned the Ph.D. in 1932. Prior to his attainment of the doctorate, a year of study at the Ecole Libre des Sciences Poli-

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## Mrs. Roosevelt and Dr. Shuster Address Alumni Luncheon

Excitement engendered by over 1,250 Hunterites gathering for a three-star event on February 13 filled the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor. The "stars" of the day were our Alma Mater, whose ninetieth birthday we were celebrating; Dr. George N. Shuster, our retiring president, who was making his last formal appearance as president; and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, speaker of the day. An added star was President-elect John J. Meng who made his first extramural bow.

After the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, which was played by Theresa Molloy '22, Florence Serxner Strenger '28, chairman of the Luncheon, presented the Reverend Phyllis Taylor, Assistant to the Minister of Riverside Church, who gave a moving invocation in which she asked a blessing on the College and on all present.

Toward the end of a delicious meal, children from Lenox Hill Neighborhood Association brought their traditional gift of the College birthday cake. After they warbled "Happy Birthday, Dear Hunter", Irene Brandon Graff '98, former alumnae president, chairman of the Lenox Hill Committee and devoted alumna, cut the first slice of the cake. Mrs. Roosevelt cut the second piece for Dr. Shuster.

Mrs. Strenger then presented E. Adelaide Hahn '15, president of the Alumni Association, as one imbued with love of Hunter from the moment she was born. Professor Hahn responded that Alma Mater becomes more beautiful the longer she lives. There was a delighted reaction from the audience when Miss Hahn said that Mrs. Roosevelt has promised to speak at the College's one hundredth birthday celebration.

We have never heard Miss Hahn speak more effectively than when she introduced Mrs. Roosevelt, who spoke on "The Changing World and the Responsibility of Education." Miss Hahn said, "Mrs. Roosevelt has been First Lady by marriage, but now she is First Lady because of her achievements. By her own right she will be the United States' permanent First Lady."

Mrs. Roosevelt paid tribute to President Shuster who, she declared, "has broadened the vision of his students because of his interests. He has helped them meet responsibilities because he himself accepted them."

Mrs. Roosevelt's universality of viewpoint was emphasized when she said that it is the responsibility of universities, colleges and schools to have adult education concerning the world. "We cannot meet the challenge," she continued, "if we do not know there is a challenge. . . . What we want of education in our country is to have the children learn to cultivate their minds, and to make their minds an instrument for learning. It is important to think freely because this

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Seated: left to right; 1st row: Dean Rees, Mrs. Shuster, Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Hahn, Rev. Taylor, Mrs. Graff, Mrs. Strenger. 2nd row: Mrs. Weintraub, Mrs. Simis, Dean Hopwood, Miss Lewinson, Mrs. Thaler, Mrs. Abrams. 3rd row: Mr. Greene, Professor Stewart, Dean Meng, President Shuster, President Gallagher, Dean Levy.

## THE HUNTER COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

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### PRESIDENT-ELECT MENG

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tiques in Paris established the leit motif for the major portion of his later writings: the diplomatic relations between France and the United States in the early years of our Republic. His doctoral dissertation, *The Comte de Vergennes: European Phases of His American Diplomacy*, was followed by other works on French archives as they illumine our own history. Apart from his writings on the subject, Dr. Meng served as Associate Editor of *The French-American Review* (Yale University Press) from 1950 through 1952.

John Meng's deep interest in Catholic education is reflected in several extensive articles, as well as in his editorship of a number of volumes for the U.S. Catholic Historical Society.

When he became Dean of Administration here at Hunter, Dean Meng at once embarked upon wide studies of the College's future needs, creating the College Planning Board to aid him in this task. Composed of Faculty members and several of his colleagues in the Administration, this Board, after mapping out a broad plan for Hunter's future development, has served as a consultive body for the Dean in his supervision of the extensive program of Bronx construction.

As one who has worked closely with our new president during the last decade, I have come to appreciate highly his talents as a leader and a coordinator. Quiet and rather restrained in demeanor, John Meng has great reserves of strength, steadfastness and moral courage, which become apparent as one works with him.

As a classicist, I am happy to report that, unlike many who have made administration their major interest, President Meng is a sworn foe of bureaucratic jargon, an enemy of "gobbledygook" in its every manifestation. His letters to Faculty, Staff and students pleasantly reflect his determination to

## GRADUATE GLEANINGS

**1925** ALICE HERMES RADOSAVLJEVICH has been coaching the cast of Lillian Hellman's new play, "Toys in the Attic", in sounding like Southerners. This is not the first time Alice has helped actors sound more like the roles they are portraying. She worked with Ralph Bellamy before he opened in "Sunrise at Campobello." Alice quit the school system about ten years ago and has been working privately with individuals in losing or gaining an accent. She also works with student actors at the Paul Mann and Berghof Studios and with professionals at the Actors Studio.

**1926** LOUISE GURREN, PH.D., has been made Deputy Director of Speech Improvement of the city schools by the Board of Education. She has served as assistant director since 1953 and was an assistant examiner for the Board of Examiners prior to that. Louise has been teaching at the School of General Studies at College and has written and lectured extensively on behalf of good speech.

**1939** RICHLANE McLAUGHLIN GOODING was granted her M.A. by Columbia in June.

**1944** RUTH ULMAN has served as a member of the Committee on College Reading which has just helped produce a new revised edition of "Good Reading", a descriptive bibliography of 2,000 of the world's best books, representing all subjects and periods. (Obtainable in paperback or cloth, in case you are looking for a source book.)

**1951** EILEEN WALSH is teaching at Cheam, England, on a Fulbright Teacher Award Program.

**1955** ARNOLD FALLEDER participated in the Ford Foundation sponsored

find within the ample resources of standard literary English all the necessary elements of communication.

No account of President Meng would be complete without some words about his family, which all at Hunter will of course come to know better. Mrs. Meng is the former Marjorie Brunini of Vicksburg, Mississippi. The Mengs have eight children, ranging from Mary Louise and Kathryn, 21 and 20 years old respectively — they are students at Trinity College in Washington, of whose lay Board of Trustees their father recently became a member —

American Opera symposium at the New York City Center during the American Opera season of the New York Opera Company. Mr. Falleder is a member of the Poetry Society of America. He is author of two one-act operas for children scored by Raymond Meltzer, a full length musical play, "The Gentleman", and other non-musical dramatic and verse work. He is a member of the New York University, General Library Staff. He was recently designated Music Librarian.

**1958** BETH WIEDER is teaching at the Agnes Russell Center at Teachers College, Columbia University. Children of Columbia faculty are in attendance there. Beth received her Master's in educational psychology at T. C. and plans to earn her doctorate there, too.

**1959** GLENDA R. AXEL is working for her doctorate in clinical psychology at Columbia University, where she is an assistant in that department, and also the recipient of a Regents College Teaching Fellowship.

### Engagements

**1959** EVA LOUISE MASTER to Gerald Stanley Kaplan.

### Births

**1948** To MRS. DAVID BERGRIN (Patricia Jacobson) a son, Jan Keith; January 9, 1960, in Savannah, Georgia.

**1959** To MRS. DONALD DEDERICK (Arline Montgomery), a son, Donald, Jr.; June 1959. ♀ To MRS. HENRY OLKO (Marie Tobolka), a daughter, Christine Marie; December 1959.

### Deaths

**1887** AMELIA POPE LAWRENCE (Mrs. John), died July 1959.

**1900** AMELIA JACOBS RACHMILL (Mrs. Hyman), died January 1960.

**1905** CLARA M. KLOTZ died June 1959.

down through Joseph, George, Alexander and the twins Charles and Matthew, to the youngest of the Mengs, the six year-old Michael.

It may be that his experience as *paterfamilias* of this establishment is what particularly fostered in President Meng the talents of administration and coordination which have won him acclaim and advancement at Hunter. One thing is sure: Hunter College is destined for many years of continued growth and vigorous well-being under the leadership of this genial, wise, humane and honorable man.