

## FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

We hope to see many of our members at two meetings in May, on successive Wednesday evenings, the thirteenth and twentieth.

It was long the custom of the Association, in the days when the Executive Council and not the Board of Directors was the governing body of the organization, that the final Council meeting of the year should serve as the annual meeting, with reports from officers and committee chairmen. This year we are trying the innovation of arranging a meeting of this sort, to be held on the regular meeting date of the Board of Directors, May 13, but to be attended jointly by the Council members and the Directors; and all other members of the Association are cordially invited to attend. Probably many who do not belong to either group are hardly aware, at least in detail, of the devoted, the dedicated service rendered quietly by so many of our members, both young and—not so young. One valued chairman who attended a Directors' meeting for the first time not long ago told your President how deeply she was impressed by the evidence she met there of such service. The usual meeting place of the Council, the North Lounge, will not be available for us that evening, and neither will any other room of suitable size, so we shall perforce have to gather in the Assembly Hall. It will be much too big for us, but at least there is the consolation that there will be plenty of room for all.

Providing for reports at the meeting

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## SING: A DYING TRADITION

Inertia has sickened Sing and threatens to destroy it. Should Sing materialize this year, it may be making its last appearance. Student apathy is directed toward extra-curricular activity and Sing is not exempt. It is tragic that this traditional interclass competition which originated at our College forty-two years ago and which has been spread to camps and schools with which our graduates have been associated seems about to expire.

The writer of this article led her class for four years — never once to victory. But not one member of the Class of 1927 who participated in those exciting competitions has forgotten the exhilaration of them. Alumni who merely watched caught the contagion of the fire generated.

Alumni can help prevent the disappearance of Sing. Their purchase of tickets for the performance would assist in the production of the income it is necessary for Central Sing Committee to raise.

Are the alumni less apathetic than the undergraduates? Are their memories of the excitement of Sing sufficiently stirring to stimulate action? Is the desire to maintain this tradition strong enough to cause them to turn out en masse to support it?

Tickets are reasonably priced: \$1.00, 1.10, 1.25, 1.30 and 1.50. Should the NEWS reach you early enough you can reserve tickets by writing to Miss Dorothy Dunbar, Chairman of Tickets, % Council Room, Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue, New York 21, N. Y. Make checks payable to Hunter College Sing 1959. Should the NEWS be delayed (which is not unusual), buy your tickets the day of Sing—Friday, May 8—at College. The time is one-thirty.

A.T.W.

## CENSUS

We are interested in knowing how many couples among our alumni are comprised of Hunterites only. Will all such conjugal twosomes please identify themselves? Send your names and address and that of any similarly composed couples to the editor. Thank you.

## CITY COLLEGE STATE AID ENACTED

State aid for the four municipal colleges was enacted into law at this session of the Legislature.\* It represents an important innovation sought by the Board of Higher Education, i.e., state contribution toward support of the city's colleges.

Under the new law, the State will pay 1/6 of the current operating costs of the first two years of undergraduate study, based on a plan prepared by the Board of Higher Education (subject to approval by the Board of Trustees of the State University and the Budget Director). In addition to admitting residents of New York City, as in the past, residents of New York State will be admitted subject to conditions prescribed by the Board of Higher Education. State financial assistance will commence with the amount to be paid in January, 1960 (calculated on operating costs of the 1958-1959 fiscal year). The municipal colleges may charge such out-of-city students 1/3 of their operating costs; the municipal colleges may charge the out-of-city counties sending such students 1/3 of their operating costs. Heretofore, enrollment was limited to New York City residents, and the State did not contribute to the support of the city colleges (except for partial support of the teacher training program and the community colleges — which programs are not affected by the new legislation).

Every day the news alerts the country to the urgent need of preparing more and more well trained young people in strategic fields. Pressure for admission to the municipal colleges rises each year — from 10,359 in 1953 to 17,677 in 1958. The current enrollment of the municipal colleges is about 84,000 students. The 1957 enrollments are expected to double by 1970.

This new state aid program is intended to enable the municipal college system to help meet this serious challenge. The aid formula reflected in this legislation, namely \$2,700,000, was tailored closely to the money available in the budget and the extremely tight city and state fiscal situation.

FLORENCE RAIDER ZIMMERMAN

\*As we go to press, the bill has not yet been signed, but the Governor is expected to do so.

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## SPRING REUNION — THE PLAYHOUSE

Wednesday, May 20 at 8:30 p. m.

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on May 13 will free the Reunion from all business items except the report of the Alumni President (I'm afraid I'll have to ask you to listen to that!) and the election of Directors (this is required under our constitution, but fortunately will not take very long). The newly elected Board will be duly, but briefly, installed by the President.

Note will be taken of a special anniversary of importance in Alumni annals, the hundredth anniversary of the birth of our beloved poet-professor, Helen Gray Cone. This anniversary was already referred to in two items in the April NEWS. One was the announcement of the completion of a lovely project which was conceived and executed single-handed by one of her devoted pupils, Ethel Feuerlicht Guttman '17 — the garden in her memory on the Bronx campus, to be dedicated on May 1st. The other was the fine tribute to her by another devoted pupil, Anna Michels Trinsey '22 (we hope the author's identity was recognized behind the modest signature of initials only). Now at our Reunion, one of her poems will be read and three of her songs will be sung — "The Good Ship Alma Mater", "A Song of Goodwill", and of course our own Alumni song, "The Ivy Leaf".

Helen Gray Cone once wrote to a cherished colleague: "And still you build, still looking toward a star." Hunter is still building, still looking toward a star. One of its recent projects, carried on under the intelligent and inspiring guidance of the Dean of Faculty, Mina S. Rees '23, has aimed at providing intellectually gifted students with both the incentive and the opportunity to engage in independent intensive work commensurate, quantitatively and qualitatively, with their potentialities. Dean Rees herself will be with us at the Reunion to present to the Alumni what we know will prove a stimulating address on "What Hunter College Is Doing for Superior Students."

After the program, we shall adjourn from the Playhouse to the North Lounge for general refreshments.

Now please make a note of both events! Open annual meeting of Executive Council and Directors, Wednesday, May 13, Assembly Hall, 8:15 SHARP. Spring Reunion, Wednesday, May 20, Playhouse, 8:30 SHARP.

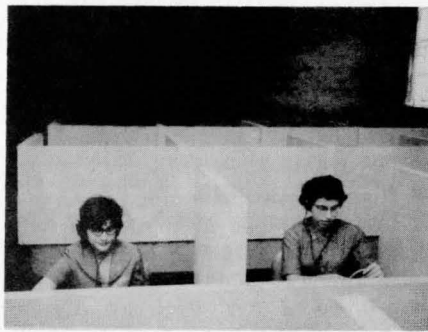
E. ADELAIDE HAHN,  
President

## LANGUAGE LABORATORY

The Foreign Language Departments proudly announce the recent opening of their Language Laboratory, which serves students of all the languages taught at Hunter: French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Russian and Spanish.

What is a Language Laboratory?

The Hunter Laboratory has at present twenty-two individual sound-proof booths, each containing a tape-recording machine, head-phones and a microphone. Here a student may listen to the language he is studying and practice using it to his heart's content. The Laboratory



can thus approximate conditions of residence abroad insofar as the acquisition of a new language is concerned, and in some respects may even prove more beneficial to the student's progress. For here he has access to material of various degrees of complexity and can choose recordings best suited to his needs; he can listen to a statement as often as he wishes without the risk of boring the native speaker; he can repeat what he hears as often as he wishes, and he can even "converse" with his teacher and repeat this conversation as often as is necessary for the development of fluency.

The Laboratory is using tapes with two tracks, one for the teacher's voice, which is permanent, and the other for the student's, which is automatically erased each time a new recording is made on it. The teacher records in a professional type master recording room which contains, besides the master recorder, a duplicator which can make up to six copies in half the time it took to make the original, and a four-speed

## CALENDAR

- Tues., May 5—Class of '27 Reunion, Faculty Cafeteria, 6 p.m.  
Thurs., May 7—Class of '20 Reunion, Roosevelt House, 4 p.m.  
Fri., May 8—Sing, 1:30 p.m.  
Sat., May 9—Class of '44 Reunion, Roosevelt House, 2 p.m.  
Wed., May 13—Joint Meeting, Board of Directors and Executive Council, 8:15 p.m.  
Sat., May 16—Nassau-Suffolk Luncheon, Garden City, 12:30 p.m.  
Sun., May 17—Class of '54 Reunion, Belmont Plaza Hotel, 2 - 5 p.m.  
Wed., May 20—Alumni Reunion and Election, 8:15 p.m.  
Sat., May 23—Class of '33 Reunion, Roosevelt House, 1 p.m.  
Sat., June 6—Queens Garden Party.

turn-table for transferring commercial recordings to tape.

In the very near future, a listening lounge is to be installed at one end of the Laboratory. Here it will be possible to hear recordings of literary masterpieces performed by outstanding native artists, historical documents, U.N. meetings and other foreign material of general interest.

The Laboratory equipment was chosen after a careful study of laboratories in the East by a committee composed of Milton Arfa, Dora Schatzberg Bashour '23, Lucia Bonilla, Maurice Friedberg, Harry Levy and Jean Topplitz Wilde '13. The Laboratory was designed by Dora Bashour who is its director for the present academic year.

You are cordially invited to visit the Laboratory which is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:15 to 9:15. The Laboratory occupies a newly constructed section of the Reserve Library, Room 1100, at Park Avenue.

D.S.B.

### VOLUNTEERS FOR COFFEE HOUR

The Membership Committee seeks alumni to be hosts at the annual Coffee Hour for graduating seniors. This "Hour" runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 11.

The Committee would also appreciate the donation of cake (finger kind preferred) for that day.

Please notify the undersigned at UL 7-4468 or at the alumni office if you will be able to serve.

CARMEN VARELA RUSSO, *Chairman*

### DO YOU KNOW

that the present day session registration at Hunter College is 5,640? There are 2,846 students downtown, counting 35 men. In the Bronx the men outnumber the women: 1,421 men and 1,307 women.