

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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No. 2

Calendar, 1916.

Tuesday, Washington's Birthday, 1916.
Annual Breakfast.

Wednesday, March 8, 1916. Executive
Committee.

Wednesday, April 12, 1916. Tea, Col-
lege, Music Room.

Wednesday, May 10, 1916. Executive
Committee.

Saturday, May 20, 1916. Reunion,
Election of Officers and Directors.

★ Memorial Exercises for Dr. Thomas Hunter.

In the old chapel, endeared by many as-
sociations, and particularly filled with mem-
ories of the man they came to honor,
his devoted "old boys" of the Thomas
Hunter Association, and the loving gradu-
ates and the faculty of Hunter College,
met on the evening of January 15.

The Rev. Henry Mottet, D. D., opened
the exercises with an invocation and read-
ing of the beautiful portion of Ecclesiast-
icus beginning, "Let us now praise famous
men."

President Davis paid an earnest tribute
to the President Emeritus, giving a moving
account of the latter's last visit to the col-
lege, and his impressive parting from his
successor, with a long look and lingering
hand-grasp, and an expression of satisfac-
tion in the college he so loved, as it is to-
day.

Hon. Alrick H. Man, on behalf of the
former Board of Trustees, gave a detailed
account of his work with President Hunter
in 1902 and 1903, at the crisis when the
man of seventy, still vigorous and courage-
ous, was suddenly faced by new problems
and unexpected hostilities. The quiet nar-
rative of Mr. Man, to those who under-
stood its points, was really epic in its qual-
ity; and he ended the brave story on the
note of triumph.

Hon. Thomas W. Churchill, on behalf
of the present Board of Trustees, gave a
glowing address, in which he brought out
the true spirit of the occasion,—a spirit
of gratitude, enthusiasm, and cheer, rather
than of mourning. He emphasized the hu-
manness of Dr. Hunter's teaching, and the
immense importance of the teacher's per-
sonality, quoting in illustration an inspir-
ing passage from Emerson.

Professor Cone, on behalf of the Fac-
ulty, spoke of the relation of President
Hunter to the college, characterizing it as
not merely an official relation, but some-
thing warm and vital, like a blood-re-
lationship. Dr. Hunter was a practical
idealist, attentive to necessary details,
but inwardly paying his devotion to the se-

cret shine of the ideal. His dominant idea
was that the teacher, even in the elementary
school, needed not only a technical training,
but a liberal education. This idea is the
corner-stone on which the President and
Faculty of Hunter College are building to-
day. It relates itself to the conception of
the ideal teacher, and so brings us back to
the thought that Dr. Hunter was from first
to last a true teacher, such a teacher as
"sets in the midst of the city the spire that
points to a star."

In the regretted absence of Mrs. Kramer,
who was too ill to be present, Miss Grace
Beach spoke briefly and feelingly of Presi-
dent Hunter in his contact with the stu-
dents,—his interest in their studies, his
recognition of their individuality, his won-
derful memory, and his optimistic attitude.

Mr. Charles Putzel, representing the
Thomas Hunter Association, dwelt with
loving enthusiasm on the old days of Gram-
mar School 35; and told of the happy oc-
casions when Thomas Hunter met, at the
yearly dinner given in his honor, his for-
mer pupils. One of the reunions is remem-
bered with especial pleasure, since it took
place in the old school building, and the cus-
tomary exercises of the old time were re-
peated—with a difference.

The Rev. Charles P. Fagnani, D. D., the
speaker of the occasion, also recalled in his
address these delightful reunions of "the
boys" of old 35, and dwelt upon the wide
influence of the great schoolmaster. Dr.
Fagnani opened his address by quoting
from Matthew Arnold's "Dover Beach:"

"Ah, love, let us be true
To one another! For the world, which
seems
To lie before us like a land of dreams
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor
light—

* * * * *

And we are here as on a darkling plain,
Swept with confused alarms of struggle
and flight,
Where ignorant armies clash by night."

The speaker brought out suggestively the
striking contrast between the confused
clash of armies on the other side of the sea,
and the assembly of men and women, true
to their love of their friend and teacher,
gathered together for memory's sake.
Memory is like the lingering light of sun-
set, keeping alive the beauty of some noble
mountain. Memory is the earthly im-
mortality; so long as we lovingly remem-
ber, those who are called dead abide with
us. So he, who has joined the Choir Invis-
ible, remains with us "in minds made better
by his presence."

From Our Sister College.

December 1, 1915.

Mrs. Samuel J. Kramer,

President of the Associate Alumnae of
Hunter College.

Dear Madam:

At a meeting of the Directors of the Associate Alumni of The College of the City of New York held at the College, October 23, 1915, the following minute was unanimously adopted:—

The Directors of the Associate Alumni of The College of the City of New York note the death of Dr. Thomas Hunter with profound appreciation of his surpassing service to the cause of free education in this city.

As Principal of the school he made famous, old Grammar School 35, he prepared many of our alumni for admission to the City College and greatly influenced their characters, ideals, and lives. He was the pioneer in governing our schools and maintaining high discipline without physical punishment. As principal of the first Evening High School he was the founder of this branch of the city's widespread beneficence which offers every wage-earner the opportunity of self-improvement.

To the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College, we offer our sympathy in a bereavement which to them is both personal and institutional. As graduates of the City College, some of us remember Dr. Webster as our president, some General Webb, and others Dr. Finley, but, except for the very latest classes, every graduate of Hunter College cherishes the memory of Dr. Hunter as Founder, President, Counsellor and Friend. The College was his creation. He devised it, shaped its beginnings and raised it to a splendid maturity of efficiency. For every day of every collegiate term, his students were privileged to hear words of wisdom which fell from his lips and to feel the inspiration of his character. As sons of one of the city's colleges, we assure the daughters of our sister college that we sympathize with them in their loss and in their pride in his memory. He held a unique place as leader and benefactor in our common cause.

If the pupils of his pupils be included in the estimate of his impress upon the community, many thousands of men and women of New York owe him a debt of gratitude.

To the daughters of Dr. Hunter we beg to offer our respectful sympathy in their great bereavement, and our appreciation of the great heritage of widespread honor, gratitude, and affection which their father's lifework has won.

GABRIEL R. MASON,

Secretary of The Associate Alumni of
The College of the City of New York.

College Notes.

The work of producing the college play in the spring, partly to commemorate the Shakespearian tercentenary and partly to remind us that by so doing we are carrying out the plans of Mrs. Sargent, late associate professor of English, is begun.

We would again remind all those interested in the college that our production of "Judith Shakespeare" will be only a part of a city- and country-wide celebration. The colleges in and near New York will cooperate under the direction of a Committee on Celebrations in Colleges. We want to make *our* contribution a noteworthy one and we need the support of every Hunter woman in order to accomplish this.

Information will be given later as to when and where tickets may be procured for the performance, which will be given on the evening of April twenty-seventh.

The following alumnae who have been teaching in college on temporary assignment have now received appointments as assistant instructors: Miss Sallie Kutz, '09; Miss Mable Ritti, '13; Miss Blanche Brine, '13; Miss Augusta Neidhardt, '12; Miss Hannah M. Egan, '11; Miss Jule McGrath, '11.

It may be interesting to some of the Hunter alumnae, not already acquainted with the fact, to know that Hunter in her student activities is entering more and more into cooperation with other eastern colleges.

For the past two years the Echo staff has been represented at the annual meeting of delegates representing publications in a number of neighboring colleges.

During the Christmas vacation delegates from the Menorah Society of Hunter College attended a convention of representatives from the Menorah Societies of forty colleges in the United States and Canada. The convention was held at the University of Pennsylvania, December 27th to 30th.

On Saturday, January 8th, the Orchestra and the Glee Club gave a fully appreciated concert at the Home for Incurables. A similar entertainment was given last year and led to a request for another one this year.

Recently in the New York "Times" appeared a statement to the effect that the honor system was in full swing during the examinations, despite the fact that the reporter had visited the college and had been informed to the contrary. The old system of the supervision of examinations by proctors is still being used, and we, therefore, take this opportunity of correcting any erroneous impression due to the above-mentioned article.

M. K. G., '14.