

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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No. 3

GREETING FROM THE CLASS OF 1876

Comrades in loyalty: We'd have you know
We are the Golden Girls of long ago.
Think not of us as yellow leaves and sere,
The sad survivors of the faded year;
But rather as a gallant golden row
Of late chrysanthemums just touched with
snow.

We from the first were favorites of fate:
Distinction was our birthright—mark the
date!

Though not born in the purple, it is true
That we were born in the red-white-and-
blue.

Tricolored ribbons our diplomas tied,
When, spotlessly appareled like a bride,
And trailing trains of glory, we descended
The platform steps, our stately ordeal ended;
And "Yankee Doodle" was the class-day tune
That timed our march, that hot historic June.
We felt through all our ceremonies mix
Ichor divine, the Spirit of Seventy-six,
As with a new flag fearlessly unfurled,
Blithely we marched out to an unknown
world;

Blithely we marched, as to a fiving shrill—
And blithely, blithely, we are marching still!

Though modest individuals, naught shall
smother -

The hearty pride we feel in one another.
Collectively we dare assert our worth:
We have done our bit to better the old earth.
We have lived bravely, as befits our Year,
And face our golden west without a fear.

Though Youth and Age are matters of the
soul,

Some call us old, having reached the golden
goal

And proud half-century of our pilgrimage.
But She, our Alma Mater, knows not age,
Being forever tall and lovely and young.
Ever she grows more beautiful and wise,
New light of loftier purpose in her eyes,
New speech of larger import on her tongue,
New gifts held forth in her outstretching
hands.

Perpetual renewal, from far lands
Our City draws fresh youth in a bright
stream,

And in that leaping fountain rainbows gleam,
High hopes for years to come.

We who are old
(You say) salute you, and like coins of gold
Shower golden wishes. May your youngest
be
Haply, five decades hence, as young as we!

HELEN GRAY CONE

THE ALUMNÆ BREAKFAST

The seven hundred alumnae who met on
February twelfth for one of the most de-
lightful luncheons which the association has
ever enjoyed, had, quite aside from the inter-
esting variety of speakers and the excellent
musical program, three very special contri-
butions to their common happiness.

The first was the fact that the occasion
marked the golden anniversary of the Class
of '76. What could bring greater pleasure
to the hearts of either their contemporaries
or those who, like myself, have followed
them at a distance of many years, than the
sight of twenty-two honored women still
loyal to their Alma Mater after a period of
fifty years? Professor Cone's spirited poem,
written and read by herself on behalf of
her classmates, set by its very vigor and
enthusiastic acceptance of life a standard
which we younger women can only strive to
reach.

The second, a very welcome surprise, was
the presentation by Mrs. Elliott of a wrist-
watch to Mrs. Otto Hahn, as a slight
expression of her many friends' appreciation
of fifteen years of loyal and capable service
as editor of THE ALUMNÆ NEWS. Those of
us who had not had the pleasure of contrib-
uting toward this little gift were delighted at
the opportunity of publicly acknowledging
our deep sense of what this type of service
means to Hunter graduates.

The third contribution came from Presi-
dent Davis, who came to us instead of attend-
ing other functions where college matters
were to be discussed, because he was unable
to be with us last year. Dr. Davis called our
attention to the fact that the student body
of Hunter, which numbered 530 when he be-
came president in 1908, now numbers 3200.
This increase continues despite the fact that
entrance requirements are constantly made
more stringent, no student with a single
condition having been admitted during the
past two years. We were also glad to learn
that Dr. Davis has been in direct communi-
cation with the Board of Estimate and the
city officials, who have permitted him to
state Hunter's needs in full detail, so that
assistance for the new building is assured.
Furthermore an effort is being made to have
the Board of Trustees represent all the
boroughs instead of only Manhattan as is
the case at present, so that the establishment
of evening branches, etc., may be facilitated.

Mrs. Elliott in her speech of welcome
urged a closer sense of their interdependence
and importance upon the upper and lower
branches of the collegiate alumnae tree, so
that a more intimate sisterhood may develop

ON THE HOME STRETCH

To the Editor of the ALUMNAE NEWS:

In the effort to get again into touch, after a brief illness, with the affairs of the Association, I have been rereading the issues of the NEWS for January and February. The strongest impression made upon my mind was caused by the statement in the January NEWS that we are actually in sight of the completion of the Graduate Gift Fund of one hundred thousand dollars, to be devoted to the establishment of Alumnae Hall.

Preoccupied as I have been with other affairs, I have, I greatly regret to say, taken no part in the raising of this fund, except by that initial contribution which was made by most of us as a matter of course. The idea of Alumnae Hall, when it entered my mind, has been a remote, intangible conception, a distant, illuminated dream. And now to learn that we are within about \$4,700 (I believe it is now even less) of the sum required for this highly desirable end, gives me a distinct shock, in which surprise, pleasure, and personal mortification are equal elements. I feel somewhat as Crillon must have felt, when Henri IV said to him: "Hang yourself, brave Crillon! We fought at Arques, and you were not there."

Feeling as I do, that it behooves us all to put our shoulders to the wheel, and complete at once the good work begun so long ago, I am now sending to the Treasurer of the Graduate Gift Committee, or Alumnae Hall Committee, if that is now to be its name, a check disproportionate indeed to my wishes, but representing all that I can do at present to forward the completion of the fund. Will not others who have been similarly moved by the tidings that the end is in sight, take the same action?

In connection with this matter, let me add that I am one of those who have voted for the third proposed plan, i. e., to rent a suite or apartment as a "home meeting ground", maintained by the interest on the completed endowment fund. I assume that this would be done, whatever temporary arrangement might be made, with the intention of ultimately establishing such a home in conditions not, indeed, literally permanent (literal permanence being difficult to attain in New York City), but approximating permanence. Such conditions might be found, I should think, in connection with the building project of the Women's University Club, as suggested at the end of the Report of the Federation of Hunter Activities, in the January NEWS; or, failing that, in some similar setting which would combine convenience and dignity.

Yours very truly,

HELEN GRAY CONE

LOVELY LEAF OF LOYALTY

For an Ivy Pin, send a check for \$4.17 (payable to Mrs. John H. Kelly) to Mrs. H. R. Brown, 1140 Jackson Avenue, New York City.