

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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No. 6

SARA DELANO ROOSEVELT HOUSE

It is with great pleasure that I can announce the gift to Hunter of the Roosevelt houses on East Sixty-fifth Street. The funds were raised by a group of citizens interested in the religious and character-building activities of the College, and the project has had the constant, sincere endorsement of President and Mrs. Roosevelt. All groups of the city's population are represented in the list of sponsors, the honorary chairmen of whom are Mr. John S. Burke, Mr. Henry Monsky, and Mr. Charles Tuttle. The House is to be known as the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House, and is to be enriched by a portion of the White House Library generously donated by the President. One part will provide offices and meeting rooms for the religious clubs which are active at the College, notably the Hillel Foundation, the Newman Club, the Y.W.C.A., and other student groups. The counselors will be furnished with adequate rooms. The other part will be at the disposal of House Plan, a social and intellectual organization of all students. The plant as a whole is dedicated to "interfaith activities and democratic living".

The Associate Alumnae have generously taken an interest in furnishing the houses, and already notable contributions have been made to the fund. A report on these actions by the Alumnae will be ready for a subsequent issue of the ALUMNÆ NEWS. At the present time, I wish to thank sincerely all who have promised to participate in the venture.

GEORGE N. SHUSTER.

You have, of course, read elsewhere in the NEWS the long-awaited announcement of the acquisition of houses in which student activities may be conducted. That it is the Roosevelt Houses with their charm, spaciousness, and tradition of fine living, represents undreamed-of good fortune for our Hunter girls.

As Chairman of the House Plan Committee of the Alumnae, I have already undertaken to get funds and pledges toward the furnishing of these houses. The Westchester Chapter has generously agreed to furnish one room; the husband of Evelyn Picker, 1905, a Westchester Alumna, has given \$1,000.00 to furnish one of the larger rooms in Mrs. Picker's name; the Washington Chapter has agreed to make a contribution; the Philadelphia Chapter had the matter on its agenda on June 24th; the Associate Alumnae itself will furnish at least one room.

A very large sum of money will be needed to furnish the houses suitably, comfortably, and without extravagance. Everything that goes into the houses will be bought under the supervision of a Central Committee to be named by President Shuster. This is the

first chance that we, as graduates, have had to do something directly and specifically for the students themselves. I hope that each one of you who reads this will send a contribution before you put the NEWS aside, and will help gather further funds. The College counts on you for a prompt and generous response.

RUTH LEWINSON.

COMMENCEMENT

Commencement this year—on June 24—was a particularly memorable and momentous occasion.

In the first place, Hunter was once more honored, for the third time in a little over a year, by a visit from the First Lady. Mrs. Roosevelt's address was characterized by her usual earnest sincerity and ardent sympathy with youth. She passed on to the Hunter girls advice she had received at her own graduation. "Never take injustice to any one placidly. Whatever you work for you must be sure you believe in. Put into any work you do everything you have to give; never give half of yourself." She stressed the great opportunities and the equally great responsibilities of the girls of to-day, and the country's need of convictions and a knowledge of the objectives for which we fight—freedom of worship, freedom to choose our government, freedom from want, freedom from racial prejudice; and she wished our youth courage to bear what they have to bear, and the joy that comes with knowledge of work done. She closed by urging her hearers not to fear love but to love all people and desire to alleviate their sufferings. "If you live in that spirit, in twenty years you will report on a better world."

In the second place, Mr. A. C. Horn spoke for the committee—of which he had been treasurer—which, thanks to contributions from many diverse sources, was presenting to the College the houses of President Roosevelt and his mother to serve as a center of religious and social activity. President Shuster in accepting this munificent gift spoke of its two-fold dedication, to inter-faith activity and to democratic living. He introduced several committee members, and asked Mrs. Roosevelt to convey our gratitude to the President.

The over 900 candidates for degrees, presented by Dean Grady, were told by President Shuster that their generation was dedicated to the task of bringing order out of chaos; and heard from Mrs. Simis, Dr. Tead, and Mrs. Mack of the importance of well-rounded development and service to the community. Music was provided by Dr. Inch at the organ, and the Choir under Mr. Emile. Dr. E. R. Clinchy delivered the Invocation and the Benediction. E. ADELAIDE HAHN.

OUR LITERARY HERITAGE

A committee appointed by President Shuster from the Departments of Classics, English, German, Romance Languages, and Philosophy is announcing a new undertaking which will be of interest to the Hunter Alumnae. This committee felt that under present world conditions, it is the destiny of America to preserve the vital spiritual values of western mankind, and thus they will offer in 1942-43 a coöperative course in world literature under the title "The Literary Heritage of Western Civilization". In three lectures a week (Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, from 4:10 to 5 P. M.), the two-semester course will present the most important literary currents and characters of the Western World, beginning with the Bible, and finishing with the trends of contemporary letters. The eighty-four lectures will be given by fifty-seven instructors, who will speak on their special fields of interest and research. President George N. Shuster will lead off the course with a lecture on the Old Testament as literature, and will return to discuss the New Testament from the same point of view. Every period, Ancient, Mediaeval, Renaissance, and Modern, will be introduced by a lecture on its civilization as determined by the prevailing political, economic, and spiritual forces. This mighty panorama of the enduring values of Western letters is designed to fill up the gaps that departmentalization must unfortunately leave in the education of the undergraduate, and to integrate into a harmonious whole what the various departments cannot possibly give within the limits of their specialized fields.

The lectures for September and October, which will deal with the Bible and Classical Antiquity, are listed below. Subsequent subjects will be given in later issues of the NEWS.

22. The Old Testament. President Shuster.
 24. Greek Civilization. Prof. E. A. Hahn.
 28. Greek Epic: Homer. Prof. P. C. Wilson.
 29. Greek Lyric and Idyl; Sappho, Anacreon, Pindar, Simonides; Theocritus. Prof. Hahn.
 Oct.
 1. Greek Drama: Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides; Aristophanes. Prof. Wilson.
 5. Greek History, Oratory, Criticism, Novel: Herodotus, Thucydides; Demosthenes; Later Writers. Mrs. V. S. Chworowsky.
 6. Greek Philosophy: Plato, Aristotle. Dr. L. Reis.
 8. Roman Civilization. Prof. L. B. Lawler.
 13. Roman Comedy: Plautus, Terence. Prof. H. L. Livy.
 15. Roman Oratory and History: Cicero, Caesar, Livy, Tacitus. Prof. M. Stuart.
 19. Roman Philosophy: Lucretius, Seneca, Marcus Aurelius. Dr. A. D. Simpson.
 20. Roman Lyric: Catullus, Horace. Prof. Hahn.
 22. Roman Epic: Vergil. Prof. Hahn.
 26. Roman Elegy, Epigram, and Satire: Tibullus, Propertius, Ovid, Martial, Juvenal. Prof. J. Hammer.
 27. The New Testament. President Shuster.
 29. The End of the Ancient World: St. Augustine. Prof. Hammer.

Professor A. Steiner of the Department of German will gladly furnish more information on the course if requested. It is hoped the Alumnae will attend. A. S.