

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

Published Monthly from October to June, inclusive, at 12-14 Lawton Street, New Rochelle, N. Y., by the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College of the City of New York.

Entered as second class matter, 1895, at the post office at New Rochelle under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. L

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., JUNE, 1945

No. 6

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

The first year of my term as President of the Alumnae was both historic and encouraging. The Diamond Jubilee, in which I represented you with the public, was something of which we can long be proud. The events attracted wide interest and attention in both scholastic and government circles, and served the added purpose of bringing into the fold many Alumnae who had allowed their interest to lag.

Under date of May 23rd, 1945, the Board of Higher Education has added its word of thanks to that of President Shuster for the gift of \$7,500.00 from the Associate Alumnae on the occasion of the Jubilee. To this have been added the gift of the Silver Class, and at the Annual Reunion, on May 19th, the gift of the 50-Year Class.

The meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Council were well attended, and many problems and plans were vigorously discussed. We have made a good start toward increasing the membership among recent graduates, who are ably represented at the meetings of the Board by young chairmen who speak for them, and who, through the Committee on Special Activities, are creating projects of particular interest to the younger graduates.

It is, of course, the view of your President that every Hunter graduate should pay the nominal dues of \$2.00 and be a member of the Associate Alumnae. To that end an appeal was made in the *Hunter College Bulletin* to the students, asking them to secure for membership their grandmothers, their mothers, their aunts, and their sisters; notices were published in medical journals and the *Key Reporter*, which brought hundreds of answers. During the course of the year your President personally brought in over seventy-five members; but the membership picture is still far from satisfactory. We are, therefore, formulating a statement of what membership carries with it by way of concrete benefits, so that those who find it not enough to belong merely in support of the great College which gave them an opportunity for a free higher education, will know that they get far more for \$2.00 than any one would dream could be furnished. There are the Alumnae Day in the Fall, the Spring Reunion and Tea in May, the Sunday night Supper Dances for servicemen at the Con-teen, invitations to College events, Officers' Dances at Roosevelt House, opportunities to meet classmates and friends at the Alumnae Breakfast and the Bridge, and, above all, the ALUMNÆ NEWS.

For the coming year, we had planned to have gymnastics and swimming at the College on Friday nights in classes and groups,

for the Alumnae only. Although there seemed to be a substantial demand, the response has been disappointingly small. We plan an evening meeting for those who are not free during the day. Just what form that meeting will take has not been determined. If any of you have any suggestions, we would be glad to get them.

I hereby publicly express my appreciation to my Officers, Directors, Chairmen, and all of the workers who have made the past year a success. I trust they will all come forward with greater plans and new members, and that every activity which is announced will have unqualified and enthusiastic support.

RUTH LEWINSON, President.

## SPRING REUNION

In spite of a dreadful downpour an enthusiastic audience assembled in the Assembly Hall of Hunter College on May 19th. The rain could not keep away many who look forward to the Annual Spring Reunion to meet and say Hello to old friends.

The program began with organ selections by Miss June Zinckgraf of the Class of '46, followed by singing of the National Anthem.

Dr. Ruth Lewinson, our President, welcomed the members, and with a good supply of humorous stories got the audience into a jovial mood. In a more serious vein she went on to recount the numerous activities of this past year, our Jubilee Year, paying tribute and giving thanks to Mrs. Helen Simis, Mrs. Louise Draddy, Mrs. Edna Luetz, and all other members who have helped in any capacity whatsoever to make this year as productive as it has been. A special tribute was paid to well beloved Mrs. Otto Hahn, who symbolized "the News itself".

Our membership has increased, our younger members have begun to participate more actively in the Association, our Patriotic Service has continued. Our sale of bonds, thanks to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Samuel Bitterman and all her co-workers, is steadily mounting.

Dr. Lewinson urged continued cooperation with the College, support of concerts, funds, and the Roosevelt House League.

The Hunter College Alumnae Choir delighted the audience with a program of charming music well sung. This included Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes, Humperdinck's Prayer, and Grieg's My Johann.

President George N. Shuster extended his greetings to the Alumnae of the College. He outlined briefly the extensive work toward the war effort in which Hunter College is participating. He mentioned the money being raised for Victory Ships, one of which will be called *S. S. Hunter*, the Bond Drive,

## ROOSEVELT HOUSE

As the 1944-45 college year draws to an end, I should like to express my appreciation of the fine coöperation given to Roosevelt House by the Associate Alumnae. Under the chairmanship of Miss Thelma Vint, assisted by Miss Ray Miller, the alumnae who serve regularly as hostesses on Wednesdays and week-end evenings, render a great service to the students and to the House.

Perhaps it is difficult to evaluate properly the importance of that service when apparently it consists merely in being on duty at the reception desk, taking telephone messages, and answering the innumerable questions that arise during the students' use of the building. When it is understood, however, that without a hostess in the building students and guests cannot be admitted to the House, the value of the service rendered can better be realized. The presence of an alumna makes it possible for student groups to carry out uninterruptedly the cultural and social activities scheduled at the House when the Social Secretary is off duty.

In the fall semester 139 events were held in the general rooms of the House. These events brought to Roosevelt House 6,287 persons. These figures do not include the regularly-scheduled meetings of the religious and social clubs, nor the study groups and committee meetings held in the various club quarters. Neither do they include visits to the House of individuals and groups from other communities who are attracted to Roosevelt House because it was once the home of our late immortal President, or because they have heard of this unique House under whose roof the major faiths are demonstrating their ability to coöperate in brotherhood and mutual understanding.

It is important that all these visitors be greeted by a friendly and competent representative of the Hunter College community. That this has been done, with the exception of the few occasions when it was not possible for a hostess to keep to the schedule, is praiseworthy. It is desirable that a larger number of hostesses be available next year in order that these few occasions may be eliminated. To those alumnae who are planning to enlist next season under Miss Vint and Miss Miller, a grateful welcome. To the alumnae who now participate, a grateful "Thank you", and our hope that after a pleasant summer, they may again be willing to help us next year.

RUTH G. DEICHES,  
Social Secretary.