SAMUEL J. SILBERMAN donor of *4,000,000 GIFT to HUNTER for a New SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



"Quiet Philanthropist" was the title the New York Times gave, in the issue of September 24, 1964, to its profile of Samuel Joshua Silberman, donor of this unprecedented gift to Hunter.

Announcement of the gift was made at City Hall, at a meeting with Mayor Wagner, on the morning of September 23, which a distinguished group of leaders in civic affairs and social work, as well as members of the Board of Higher Education and College officials, had been invited to attend.

No one who heard Mr. Silberman speak in presenting his gift can ever forget the impression made. "Modesty is a way of life" with Mr. Silberman, as the Times said.

Mr. Silberman was born in New York City in 1915. When he was a year old his family moved to Hartford, Connecticut where he grew up. He went to Hartford public schools and then attended Harvard for two years. In 1934 he entered the family business. Today he is the chairman of the Board of the Consolidated Cigar Corporation.

During World War II he was commissioned in the United States Coast Guard Reserve, and remained on

active duty in the amphibious forces overseas for almost five years. He left the service with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

In 1962 Mr. Silberman received the Who's Who in America Twelfth Biennial Citation for Exceptional Educational Philanthropy, for a gift to Fairleigh Dickinson University of which he is a trustee. In the same year he also received the Brotherhood Award of the Tobacco Division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

He is a Trustee-at-Large of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. It is Dr. Maurice Hexter, Executive Vice-President of the Federation, who first drew Mr. Silberman's attention to the need to expand Hunter's School of Social Work.

Mr. Silberman's parents were active in civic affairs in Hartford and he says that this accounts for his own interest in social work. His philanthropic parents set the example, he diffidently points out.

No expression of thanks on behalf of all Alumni can prove adequate for Mr. Silberman's great gift and for the support for the proposal by Dr. Hexter and other friends of Hunter's School of Social Work.