

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. XLVIII

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., NOVEMBER, 1943

No. 8

SARA DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL HOUSE IN NEW TOGS

Now that we can look forward to November 22nd as the date on which the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House will formally open, I am sure the Alumnae will be glad to have an inside story about the inside. For although the premises were given a year ago last June by a group of friends, the task of altering and equipping the building was a formidable one. We discovered first of all that City regulations insisted that before a private dwelling could be used for quasi-public purposes, any number of major operations would have to be performed. Mr. Harmon, of Shreve, Lamb, and Harmon, conducted our negotiations with the Building Department, and money was got together for the purpose. Anonymous donors, responding to an appeal from Mr. A. David Benjamin, agreed to furnish lighting fixtures for the Houses. Then Mr. Samuel Lemberg generously agreed to undertake supervision of the contractual work, free of charge. Our debt to him is very great. We have not succeeded in doing everything we should have wished to do, but on the whole the place is beautifully and serviceably repaired and painted.

The furnishing problem caused us many headaches. As will be remembered, the House has two floors which are devoted to common rooms. In addition, three floors on one side are occupied by the Protestant Clubs, the Newman Club, and the Hillel Foundation, reading from top to bottom. Two floors on the other side are the property of the House Plan Association, while a third is reserved for the Social Secretary. In addition, there are two first floor suites, one of which will be furnished by the Pan-Hellenic Association, while the other challenges the decorative genius of the members of the Athletic Association.

Let us look at the common rooms first. There is a beautiful salon on the third floor, the exquisite furnishings of which we owe to Mrs. James Picker. One library has been equipped by President Roosevelt, who has generously added a large number of books from the White House collection, and a number of precious mementos of his mother. Book-cases were required for this library,

and funds to build them were given by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The other library has been furnished through the generosity of Mr. John S. Burke, of B. Altman and Company. Donations with which to purchase books for this library have been received from Mrs. de Sola Pool and others. Particularly memorable also are portraits of President Roosevelt and his mother, which will hang in the libraries. That of the President is a copy of the famous painting by Mr. Frank Salisbury which is the property of the Metropolitan Museum. Mr. Myron Taylor, responding most generously to a request from Dr. Ruth Lewinson, arranged with Mr. Salisbury to duplicate this portrait, which was thereupon loaned by the Metropolitan and despatched to London. The portrait of the President's mother is a copy of the favorite painting by Mr. Douglas Chandor. This copy has been most unselfishly donated by the artist.

The rooms on the second floor have been tastefully furnished by the Associate Alumnae. It is impossible to enumerate the many contributors, who include in particular the Class of 1918, the friends of the late Professor Henrietta Prentiss, and the Westchester Alumnae. I must, however, single out a gift of \$1,500 from Professor Emeritus Margaret Wilson, who has taken a deep personal interest in the House. Mrs. Helen L. Simis, President of the Alumnae, has given most generously of her time and energy. In fact, she has been a veritable godsend during these months of preparations. Her able assistants, Mrs. Louise Draddy, Mrs. Katherine Horgan, and Dr. Ruth Lewinson, also deserve more credit than the writer of these lines can ever give. Mention should also be made of the Committee on Furnishings, members of which include Professor Margaretha Brohmer and Mrs. Edythe July of the Art Department, and the benevolent senior counsel of which is Professor Joseph C. Chase, who has also painted a triptych for the House, memorializing Hunter girls in the services of their country. Expert interior decorators, especially Mr. Raymond Toucher, of B. Altman and Company, and Mr. James Blauvelt,

An elaborate program has been planned for the Dedication ceremony of the Sara Delano Roosevelt House, to be held on Monday, November 22nd, at 2:30 P. M., in the Assembly Hall at Hunter College, 695 Park Avenue.

Three hundred tickets have been made available to the Alumnae. It has been decided to distribute them to the first three hundred members of the Alumnae to apply and enclose with their request a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please address your request to the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College, 204 West 55th Street, New York 19, N. Y. Reservations will be given in the order in which they are received.

HELEN L. SIMIS, President.

have given immensely helpful counsel. It should be added that without the Julia V. Josefson Fund, placed at the disposal of the President of the College a year ago through the will of a deceased alumna, many things simply could not have been done.

The former home of the President will house on the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors the three religious Clubs. Auxiliaries of the B'Nai B'rith Women's Grand Lodge of District No. 1 raised the funds for decorating the Hillel Foundation suite. The furnishings were chosen by Mrs. Ida Cook Farber, with the assistance of Miss F. P. Engelhardt, of Sachs Quality Furniture, Inc. Mrs. Katherine R. Molinoff has presented three pictures for these rooms. A group of the faculty have collaborated with Monsignor William A. Scully, Secretary for Education of the Archdiocese of New York, in furnishing the Newman Club rooms; and Mr. Toucher, of Altman's, has once again been guide and mentor. A stained glass panel with Cardinal Newman's coat of arms, given by Mr. Maurice Lavanoux, suggested the decorative color scheme. The College Protestant Association has worked hard, through a faculty committee, the treasurer of which is Professor Helene Hartung, to furnish its rooms. Decorating has been entrusted to W. and J. Sloane. Let me add that directors for the religious clubs have been named. They are Mrs. Theodore Thornton, for the Protestant Association, Rabbi Henry M. Rosenthal, for the Hillel Foundation, and the Rev. John C. Mulcahy, Ph.D., for the Newman Club.

The corresponding rooms in the former home of Sara Delano Roosevelt will be occupied by House Plan and the Social Secretary. Student members of the House Plan Association have paid for their own furnishings, under the friendly aegis of their faculty adviser, Dr. Ethel Berl. Altman's have once more been the chief source of supply. Alumnae groups, in particular the Class of 1894, have helped generously. For the rooms of the social secretary numerous donations have been received, particularly through the kindness of Mr. Ira A. Hirschmann, of Bloomingdale's. In addition there are two suites on the first floor, one of which has been assigned to the Pan-Hellenic Association, and the other of which is to be put to good use by the Athletic Association. Eighteen undergraduate sororities have pooled their wits and resources, and are supporting a committee the chairman of which is Mrs. Jack Goldberg. Dr. Henrietta Tichy is faculty adviser to this group. Furnishings for the Athletic Association rooms are being procured under the supervision of Professor Augusta W. Neidhardt, who for years has worked hard to build up the Association.

Thus a great enterprise, necessitating endless effort and the close, friendly coöperation of many groups and individuals, has been brought to the threshold of completion. The House will be open to every student of the College. Mrs. Maurice Deiches will be the

social secretary, and her enthusiasm as well as her personal generosity have already become apparent. I hope likewise that every alumna will come to feel that here is something to enlist her interest. Please permit me to breathe a sigh of relief and to thank every one as heartily as I can.

GEORGE N. SHUSTER.

AN APPEAL!

The Sara Delano Roosevelt Houses are well on their way to being completely furnished. Each piece of furniture, the rugs, lamps, and pictures, have been chosen with extreme care. Now to make the rooms complete, we are appealing to the loyal Alumnae for funds, or gifts of such articles as clocks, leather waste-baskets, complete sets of ash trays, and other minor accessories. The rooms are things of beauty, and these gifts will be the final and perfect touch.

Give with your class-mates, or make your own personal gift, but please do it *at once!* The houses will be opened soon.

(Mrs. Robert E.) MARY LOUISE DRADDY,
611 West 156th Street, New York 52, N. Y.
Telephone Edgecombe 4-5348.

IVY PIN

Ivy Pins are most old-fashioned:

Strange to say, they aren't rationed!

So order pin (\$4.67) from Mrs. Joseph T. Mulligan of 141 East 88th Street, and go to the opening of the Roosevelt House proudly wearing the Hunter emblem.

ALUMNAE DAY

Once again our gracious Dean invites all Hunter's daughters to return to dear Alma Mater for the Thanksgiving Chapel. This is a tradition at Hunter, so reserve the day, November 24th.

AGNES CLARE MULLIGAN, Chairman.
MRS. JACOB HEIDEN, Co-Chairman.

MOVIES AT HUNTER

The College is again inviting all interested to attend a series of moving pictures relating to the war which are being shown in the Assembly Hall at 4 P. M. They vary from pure documentary material to imaginative interpretation of actuality, but all alike address a single message to all Americans summarized in the title given the series, "Attack to Win". The series opened with Noel Coward's *In Which We Serve* on October 22nd, and will continue as follows.

Nov. 5. *Prelude to War* and *Message from Malta*.

Nov. 8. *Journey for Margaret*.

Nov. 12. *Desert Victory* and *One Day at War*.

Nov. 19. *Farmers at War*, *Doctors at War*, *War Town*, and *Japanese Relocation*.

Dec. 3. *The Moon Is Down*.

Dec. 10. "Remember Pearl Harbor". *Day of Battle*, *Navy and Nation*, *Mission Accomplished*.

Dec. 17. *Assignment in Brittany*.