

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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## COLLEGE BIRTHDAY

Alumnae, staff, and undergraduates, with representatives from the High and Elementary Schools, thronged the Assembly Hall on Wednesday, February 18th, to celebrate Hunter College's seventy-second birthday.

This birthday celebration honors the graduates of all classes from the beginning, President George N. Shuster explained in his greeting. He listed the Alumnae gifts for Student Aid, for the Graduate Scholarship Fund, and for the Library.

Dr. Shuster described the "inspiring picture of Hunter students eager to help the common cause, representative of young America", and thanked the donors of gifts in the name of those young people and of the College.

The gift of the Mobile Unit to the City of New York for use in any emergency in the metropolitan area was projected as a token of appreciation for the opportunities of free higher education, Mrs. Theodore Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, pointed out. Despite the brevity and simplicity of the campaign, \$2,200 had been subscribed to date, she said.

The Westchester Chapter of the Alumnae had sent \$150 for the Student Aid Fund, and the Association as a whole had given \$100 for N.Y.A. work in the Library, Mrs. Simis added, declaring that these gifts, with those of the Silver and Golden Anniversary Classes, announced at the Breakfast, come "wrapped in loyalty and tied with the bonds of real love for Alma Mater".

Miss Naomi Block, President of the Student Self-Government Association, presented the undergraduate body's check as a start in the student drive for the Mobile Unit.

"The Palace on Park Avenue", written by Robert P. Tristram Coffin in 1941 especially for the dedication of the New Building, was read by Miss Laura Kessler. The Choir, under the direction of Mr. Anders Emile, sang Stringham's "Dream Song", "My Lover Comes on the Ski" by Clough-Leigher, and the well-loved Hahn-Busch "College Birthday Song". Miss Clara Loomanitz was the accompanist.

The college of the future was forecast in the Elementary School presentation of original tributes to Hunter by Isa Stableford and Irene Saachy of the 7B Class, and the performance by a group of remarkably trained High School seniors of a special arrangement of Stephen Vincent Benet's "Listen to the People" and Walt Whitman's "Pioneers! O Pioneers!"

After community singing of "God Bless America" and "Fame", the Alumnae visited and enjoyed the tea served in their honor by the Faculty Club.

J. A. D.

## THE ALUMNAE BREAKFAST

United in their will for service "to college, country, and education", over 450 Alumnae met to celebrate the seventy-second birthday of Hunter College at their annual breakfast on Saturday, February 14th, at the Hotel Astor. Helen Luckey Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, presided.

Asserting that we stand at the beginning of a new, a decisive time, Dr. George N. Shuster, President of Hunter College, told the Alumnae that they must face this time with vigor and determination to help the young meet the burdens that must inevitably fall on them.

"The College has a task and you have a task," Dr. Shuster continued, "for the College must live through this difficult time to make clear to young people the meaning of the past, the present, and the future."

Dr. Harry D. Gideonse, President of Brooklyn College, assured the Alumnae that the existence of their organization must be a comfort to the President of the College, since a well-established Alumnae indicates a stabilizing influence; it is a "live demonstration of agencies through which the college gets proportion and balance in times of storm and stress".

Greeting the Alumnae on behalf of the Board of Higher Education, Dr. Harry J. Carman reported that it is a matter of greatest satisfaction that the Alumnae are so wholeheartedly behind their Alma Mater and are doing so much to serve college, community, and country.

Helen Luckey Simis listed some of the accomplishments of the past year, including progress in the collection of the fund for the mobile unit. She thanked the Faculty and the High and Elementary Schools for their contributions.

Miss Catherine F. O'Hara presented, for the Silver Anniversary Class of 1917, the sum of \$233 for the library and an equal amount for the ambulance fund. Twenty-five members of this class had also agreed to donate blood to the Red Cross Blood Bank.

A check for the scholarship fund was given by the Golden Class of 1892, represented by Miss Jessie Ziegler.

Elizabeth Ortquist, of the Class of 1943, read Helen Gray Cone's "Valentine". Miss Concetta Alba sang "Caro Nome" from *Rigoletto* and Victor Herbert's "Italian Street Song". Other music was furnished by Shirley Fischler, violinist, Lucille Fisher, pianist, and Harriette Silverstein, cellist.

On the motion of Mrs. Hahn, seconded by Miss Hahn, it was voted to take up a collection for the Ambulance Fund. This collection, made by Mrs. Hahn and her daughter, netted \$73.98, which a generous alumna

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## THE SPANISH ALUMNAE

The Spanish Alumnae of Hunter College attended a special performance at Macy's Latin-American Fair on Thursday evening, February 5, as guests of Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish honorary society. A program of Latin-American songs and dances was presented, and the members were then taken on a guided tour of the Fair which included a survey of the art, literature, and home-life of the Latin-American people.

Miss Ann Sugamelli, a member of the Spanish Alumnae, and director of the Central School of Languages, 33 West 42nd Street, announces the presentation each Tuesday evening at 7:45 p.m. of Spanish Conversational Sessions, at the Hotel Woodward, Room 604. There will also be a musical program at each session. Fee is 50c. All those interested are cordially invited to attend.

HELEN HOCHFELDER,

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