

# THE ALUMNAE NEWS

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## A NEW POST FOR PRESIDENT SHUSTER

President George N. Shuster has received a new distinction and a new responsibility. As was recently announced by American High Commissioner John J. McCloy, President Shuster has been named Land Commissioner—i.e., State Commissioner—for Bavaria. He and Mrs. Shuster will sail for Germany early in July. E. A. H.

## A NEW HONOR FOR MRS. DRADDY

The Scholarship and Welfare Fund Committee is happy to announce that once again our President, Mrs. Robert E. Draddy, has been singled out for a signal honor. On June 14th, at the Commencement ceremonies at Fordham University, New York, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters will be conferred upon her. We all share in this distinction bestowed upon a fellow Alumna by so great an institute of learning. We are proud of this outstanding addition to an already remarkable wreath of achievement laurels.

MRS. EPHRAIM BERLINER, Secretary

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In the name of the Alumnae, I would like to thank Miss Thelma Vint most heartily for a very enjoyable program at the reunion, so important to all Alumnae. Two particularly delightful innovations were the Ukrainian Bandurist Ensemble and 11-year-old Emil Pizzingrillo. The Bandurists, dressed in the colorful costumes of their ancestral country, presented a selection of six varied and tuneful old Ukrainian melodies. Young Emil, a student of the New York School of Music, gave two accordion selections.

Appreciation is also due to Miss Vint for the refreshments after the performance.

Dr. Shuster's gracious words of greeting warmed the heart of every one present.

Our gratitude is also extended to Dr. Helen E. Witmer and her mother for the beautiful hand-crocheted cloth which they made and donated to the Alumnae.

And finally, I wish for all the Alumnae a very happy and enjoyable summer.

MRS. ROBERT E. DRADDY, President

## CALENDAR, 1950-51

Wed., Oct. 4—Board of Directors, 8:15.  
Wed., Oct. 11—Executive Council, 4:15.  
Wed., Nov. 1—Board of Directors, 8:15.  
Wed., Nov. 15—Alumnae Day.  
Wed., Jan. 3—Board of Directors, 8:15.  
Wed., Jan. 10—Executive Council, 8:15.  
Thurs., Feb. 15—Birthday Celebration.  
Sat., Feb. 17—Luncheon, Waldorf-Astoria.

VIOLA LURCH COX

## STAFF AND STUDENT SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT SHUSTER

(It is possible that some members of the Alumnae may have seen, or at least heard of, the attacks on President Shuster which were published in the *Compass* and the *Mirror* after the announcement of his appointment as Commissioner to Bavaria. Documents of similar import were circulated among staff members and students. In response statements were issued by both groups. Believing that this important matter is of concern to our graduates as well as to our faculty and our students, the News prints both these statements.—Editor.)

## FACULTY STATEMENT

(The following statement, prepared by a group of members of the Hunter College staff, was signed by 163 staff members on the first day of its circulation. Opportunity was provided for the subsequent addition of other signatures, and the original number has now been considerably augmented; but at the time of our going to press, the final figure was not yet available.—Editor.)

The undersigned, members of the Hunter College staff, deeply troubled by the circulation of a pamphlet containing excerpts from President Shuster's writings and conclusions drawn from these excerpts, have asked the President for a statement on the subject. The President has made the following statement, which he has authorized us to quote:

"My writings on Germany, which cover the period of the past twenty years, constitute an indictment of the brutality, the inhumanity and the viciousness of the Nazi regime. They have always been so regarded by the overwhelming majority of critics and historians. My analyses of conditions obtaining in Germany during the early 1930s, however they may now be judged in the light of subsequent events, represent a conscientious attempt to trace the origins of Nazism to their sources and to give an account of what was happening at the time. They were in no sense of the term justifications of this nefarious movement or of those who were its leaders. Indeed, they were violent pioneer attacks on Hitlerism. That there may now be found in them remarks which, regarded as separate utterances, can give offense to some while failing to mirror my present point of view, is true. I think that an honest critic will weigh them in the light of the context in which they appear. Perhaps it should also be added that it was only after my personal efforts to help prevent the seizure of Austria and my share in the appalling

events which followed that I understood fully the evil that is in Racism and determined to dedicate the rest of my life to the task of combating it. But I am nevertheless wholly confident that any one who reads my earlier writings will find in them a defense of human dignity and an abhorrence of racial and religious prejudice. They mirror the faith by which I have always lived and in which I have found ever increasing strength with the passing of the years."

With respect to his writings, we believe that the President's statement speaks for itself. We should like to record our considered opinion of his actions and his words as President of Hunter College during the past eleven years. We have been associated with him, many of us very closely, in every phase of his college activities. During his entire term of service, his deeds and his statements have shown him to be a man whose treatment of students and staff is never prejudiced by considerations of race, color, or creed. He has been most solicitous for the well-being of those belonging to minority groups, and has labored incessantly to the end that persons of all races, religions, and ethnic origins share harmoniously in the life of the college community. His establishment of Roosevelt House as an interracial and interreligious center, his support upon the campus of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, his recruitment of Negro instructors for the college staff, his sponsorship of the Passover Assembly, his services as Chairman of the Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital, his presidency of the World Student Service Federation, and his membership on Governor Dewey's Committee on Discrimination are known to all. We firmly believe that such a record, maintained over a period of many years, offers compelling evidence of an admirable attitude toward all human beings as such, and is incompatible with the charges which have been made.

#### STUDENT STATEMENT

In view of the fact that there has been so much discussion about President George N. Shuster, the Student Self Government Association would like to say that it has never found him lacking in understanding toward any group or individual. He is a fair, unbiased person both in thought and in action. Quoting President Shuster seems to be a new fad, and the Student Self Government Association would like to reprint a paragraph from an article he wrote about sororities at Hunter.

"At Hunter College we have witnessed a most interesting and heartwarming attempt by students to establish an inter-racial sorority. The task is admittedly difficult and requires tact, courage, and idealism. Parents must be won over to the idea and made to feel that social comradeship which

transcends racial barriers can be inspiring as well as rewarding, and not merely dangerous. Restrictions in force at hotels and restaurants must be reckoned with shrewdly and openly. Finally the organization must be so planned that the number of Negro, Jewish, and Christian girls who are admitted will remain relatively constant. For obviously if the sorority does not succeed in this respect it will soon cease to be inter-racial. I believe I may say that this group of Hunter girls has contributed something to our campus life which is beyond any price one could set on it."

President Shuster was one of the first to realize what a wonderful thing the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House would be for the college. Working with prominent representatives of various community groups (including Mr. Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith Foundation and chairman of the National Hillel Foundation) he was able to provide Hunter students with a place which would foster inter-group understanding.

As a delegate to the United Nations Educational, Social, and Cultural Organization and as chairman of the World Students Service Federation, President Shuster has shown his deep interest in international problems, particularly in regard to education.

President Shuster proved his desire to work with people of all races and religions by actively participating in organizations such as the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Working as a member of the Committee on the Right of Religious Minorities of the National Conference of Christians and Jews and as chairman of the National Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital he worked hard to further inter-group cooperation.

There is no one who can say that during his eleven years at Hunter College he has shown discrimination against any group or individual. All of us who have been associated with President Shuster not only respect him as a man and educator but have come to feel a real affection for him as well. We, therefore, feel that the leaflets which have been distributed did not present a true picture of him.

#### STUDENT SELF GOVERNMENT

ASSOCIATION (STUDENT COUNCIL)  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PAN  
HELLENIC ASSOCIATION  
B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION  
COLLEGE PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION  
NEWMAN CLUB

#### SPRING REUNION

The annual Spring Reunion was held in the College Assembly Hall on May 13. Mrs. Draddy welcomed the members and told of Dean Trinsey's suggestion for an outdoor meeting on the Bronx campus next year. Dean Trinsey spoke of the beauties of the campus and graciously invited us to enjoy