

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. XLV.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., MARCH, 1940

No. 3

Word has reached us at the moment of our going to press that the Board of Higher Education on February 26th elected Dr. George N. Shuster as the fifth President of Hunter College.

THEATER PARTY

The Alumnae Committee of Lenox Hill Neighborhood House is planning a great theater party for the benefit of our work at the Settlement, and especially to help us establish a work-shop for the boys. We are counting on Alumnae support to make this a successful undertaking.

That delightful book, *The Nutmeg Tree*, has been dramatized, and the play, "Lady in Waiting", will be given a preview on March 26th, at the Martin Beck Theater at 8:30 P. M. Miss Gladys George of "Personal Appearance" will take the leading rôle, and a distinguished cast should assure a most enjoyable evening.

Tickets may be obtained through the chairman or the following sub-committee: Mrs. Helen Needle, Miss Babette Levy, Mrs. J. Crotty, Miss Dorothy Doob, Miss Emilie Fries, Mrs. R. Draddy, Mrs. Edward Weil. The earlier your application is received the better we can serve you. Regular box-office prices will be charged, as follows:—Orchestra, \$3.30; Mezzanine, \$2.75 and \$2.20; Balcony, \$1.65 and \$1.10.

Come and have a grand evening at the theater, and without added expense help our worthy charity—Lenox Hill Settlement.

IRENE B. GRAFF, Chairman,
41 West 83rd Street.

CALENDAR, MARCH

Wed., Mar. 6—Officers-Directors, evening
Wed., Mar. 13—Executive Council, evening
Tues., Mar. 26—Lenox Hill Theater Party

HUNTER IN THE WEST

Mrs. S. Malis of Los Angeles has informed the Editor that the California Chapter of the Associate Alumnae held its sixteenth annual luncheon on Saturday, February 10th.

HUNTER IN THE SOUTH

The New York Retired Teachers Group of St. Petersburg, Florida, held a Valentine Luncheon on February 12th at which the high light was a salute to Hunter College. This meeting initiated a plan for paying tribute to various New York colleges at each meeting.

Word of this interesting event was sent by Mrs. Silas Scudder (Jane Brady, 1883) to Mrs. Valet, who mailed it on to Mrs. Simis, who forwarded it to the Editor of the *News*.

ALUMNÆ BREAKFAST

A spirit of genuine joy and deep pride marked the opening celebration in honor of the seventieth birthday of Hunter College—the Annual Breakfast of the Associate Alumnae, held at the Hotel Astor on Saturday, February tenth.

The Alumnae Valentine to Alma Mater on her seventieth anniversary, Helen Luckey Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, stated, is the manifestation of the same ideals, the same love, the same coöperation, and the same loyalty in Hunter women throughout the different generations.

Dr. Ordway Tead brought the message of the Board of Higher Education. The college of to-day is a new problem, he explained; it lacks the blitheness and the gaiety of the alumna's selected reconstructions of experiences which are highly delightful to recall.

Dr. Tead asked the Alumnae, "Are you completely satisfied with what college was for you? Should the liberal arts subjects be presented so that they may have some vocational training and value?" He asked these questions, he pointed out, because, if in this experimental era we wish to conserve the true essence of the cultural, we must re-examine our premises, our objectives, and our methods of reaching them. We must believe, he concluded, that, although a good job has been done, there is a better job that we all now can do.

Acting President George N. Shuster, introduced as a new friend, said that he hardly felt it necessary to remind the Alumnae of the necessity for their interest and co-operation to-day. Many gifts representing real sacrifice and real sentiment have been presented by loyal Alumnae, Dr. Shuster reported.

Opportunities for all to make their interest and coöperation concrete were listed by Dr. Shuster. They included, first, the program of Alumnae Adult Education proposed for the fall semester, with a series of lectures made possible through the generosity of Lucius Littauer; second, the chance to help in the expanded personal work in the College, "a work which offers a new avenue for the spirit"; third, the exploration of opportunities for young women, as one attempt to solve the problem of joblessness. In connection with these avenues of assistance, the Alumnae are asked to fill out two questionnaires, the first to explore their fields of interest in the program of Adult Education, and the second to be sent out by the American Association of University Women in connection with the problem of joblessness.

Dr. Shuster, in conclusion, affirmed the

THE COLLEGE BIRTHDAY

On February 14, 1940, Alma Mater celebrated her completion of three score years and ten by a grand birthday party, with many daughters and granddaughters gathered together at the old homestead in honor of the occasion. They recalled Alma Mater's humble beginnings on February 14, 1870, in the metropolitan equivalent of a log cabin, and they looked forward to her moving before her next birthday comes around into the palatial new residence that Father Knickerbocker has been building for her; but meanwhile they felt happily at home in the Auditorium on Lexington Avenue that has been doing duty for over a quarter of a century.

Daughters were there from every decade and from almost every year, as was proved when all alumnae present arose and then sat down in chronological groups till there were left standing only the representatives of the 70's, who included Mary M. Cummings, '77, Katherine D. Blake, '76, and—grand climax— Mrs. William Eagelson, '71. Daughters of to-day were there in the responsive group of undergraduates, and also daughters-to-be—many of them granddaughters too—in the shape of visitors from every year of the Model School, chosen as the children of Alumnae and themselves prospective students of the College, down to the tot from the Kindergarten who represented Hunter 1956. To her as the youngest Hunterite, and to Mrs. Eagelson as the oldest, were presented bouquets of lavender and white sweetpeas.

President George N. Shuster made a gracious speech of welcome in which he reported on the gifts to the College promised by 1890, and presented by 1915, at the Alumnae Breakfast, and also announced the receipt by the College of a complete set of the works of Bach. Mrs. Simis then announced the Alumnae Gift to the College, a set of tea-dishes to further sociability in the New Building. She likewise entertained her audience by reading an amusing series of mock-statistics concerning the faculty clipped from a *Bulletin* of twenty years ago.

The student body greeted its visitors through the lips of Ernestine Friedl, President of the Student Self-Government Association, and Lois Uttal, Chairman of the Traditions Committee.

The assembly, traditional form of celebration, was followed by two features of a type that would not have been possible at the majority of Alma Mater's birthdays: a radio broadcast, over WOR, in which Dr. Tead, Dr. Shuster, and Mrs. Simis participated; and the showing, in the Auditorium, of the Hunter movie made under the direction of Professor Luetz of the Art Department.

Then there was a return to the good old-fashioned days and ways in the shape of a tea tendered the Alumnae by the Faculty Club and the Student Council, having as its crowning glory a magnificent birthday cake, the first candle on which was lit by Miss Jenny Hunter, daughter of Hunter's first President, and the last candle by Grace Warren Sturge of England, Hunter's first Student Council President.