

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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The terrible catastrophe that has befallen our College has shocked and grieved us. But in the midst of our deep concern and bewilderment there is a feeling of gratitude that no one was in the building at the time of the fire.

Let us therefore cease to lament, and rather use this occasion as a spur for the building of a finer Hunter.

I have placed my services at the disposal of President Colligan, and have assured him of the full coöperation of every member of the Association. I know that I have not spoken vainly, and that when the call comes you will respond with all the love and loyalty we have always pledged to our Alma Mater.

IRENE BRANDON GRAFF.

COLLEGE NOTES

In the dark hour of adversity following the fire which destroyed the central portion of the old building on Friday, February 14, it must have been heartening to President Colligan to be met by the eager and loyal support of staff and students.

Offers of help came from many sources. Mayor La Guardia and other city officials came to the College to support the President.

With the resumption of classes, students found themselves incommoded by the lack of library, bookroom, laboratory, study hall, and locker facilities. The suspension of classes regularly held in the west building also inconvenienced hundreds of College and Model School students.

Work in the Lexington Avenue building has been conducted without a break for day and evening session students. Julia Richman High School is being used for evening and extension students whose classes were held in the old buildings. Hygiene and home economics classes, which lost all their laboratories, met for field trips.

The Executive Board of the Student Self-Government Association of Hunter College, at a special meeting on Monday, February 17, passed a resolution to arrange for a hearing with the Mayor and the Board of Estimate, to discuss the erection of a new building at 68th Street and Park Avenue, in preference to rebuilding the 63-year-old building.

Mrs. Leslie Graff, president of the Associate Alumnae, sent a telegram to the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Higher Education, Mr. Charles Tuttle, urging the erection of a new building on the present site as a protection for the lives of the students.

It is the hope of all of us that great good will come from the united action of students, parents, teachers, and alumnae.

K. M. LAVELL.

THE FIRE AND ITS AFTERMATH

The campaign for the erection of an adequate and safe building for our Hunter College students was inaugurated, on February 17, by the editor of the *Bulletin* with an editorial in the form of an open letter addressed to the members of the Board of Estimate. Copies of this editorial were sent to each member of the Board of Estimate and to the metropolitan newspapers. Excerpts from the open letter appeared in a number of papers.

The Executive Committee of the Student Self-Government Association, headed by Eleanor Tomlinson, has circulated a petition for a new building among students of the College and High School, their parents and teachers. The students have also written letters to the newspapers on the subject.

I trust that the ALUMNÆ NEWS will take cognizance of the splendid spirit manifested by the students when sessions were resumed after the fire. The arrangements made over the week-end by President Colligan, Dean Egan, and Mrs. Lehn, the Registrar, were carried out without the slightest confusion or grumbling, despite the serious inconveniences to which the students and many of the staff were subjected.

A temporary emergency program, providing one hour weekly in the Lexington Avenue building for the classes which met from one to nine hours weekly in the "old building", went into effect on Monday, February 24. The permanent program for these classes will be announced as soon as the necessary arrangements for new quarters are completed.

President Colligan has received many messages of sympathy and offers of help from various sources. Telegrams of sympathy were sent by some of the merchants of the city, including Bloomingdale, Hearn, Saks-Fifth Avenue, and S. Klein. Generous offers of the use of building facilities were made by Congregation Emanu-El, Congregation Beth-El, the Y.M.H.A., the School of St. Ignatius Loyola, the Board of Education, and other groups.

As a result of the offer brought to Dr. Colligan by Dr. Ruth Lewinson, the Model School is now in session at the Community House of Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street. Twenty-five class-rooms in a fire-proof building with a large auditorium were made available to the Model School through the courtesy of Judge Irving Lehman, president of the Congregation, and Mr. Sydney H. Herman, vice-president.

At a meeting of the Sinking Fund Commission on February 27, the request of our Administrative Committee for approval of a

THE ACTION OF THE ALUMNAE

Mrs. Graff, from the moment she was informed of the fire, kept the wires busy, first in a telegram to Dr. Colligan, expressing sympathy and the desire to stand by, and next in telephonic communication with the Board of Directors, whom she summoned to a meeting in the Lexington Avenue building, on Wednesday morning, February 19th.

In the course of her message to the meeting, Dr. Lewinson reported the offer of Temple Emanu-El to house the children of the Model School in the spacious Sabbath School quarters.

At the invitation of Mrs. Graff, Dr. Colligan addressed the meeting. He illustrated present conditions of overload of students in the Main Building and the Bronx and 32nd Street Branches by a rapid mathematical graph upon the blackboard, incidentally showing what a fine teacher he is. The Alumnae felt his devotion to the College was unbounded and were impressed anew by his well-directed energy.

Our comparatively new Trustee, Mr. Schlossberg, made a few well-directed remarks, stating he had some connection with the world of labor and never would he have allowed a laborer to face fire hazards such as existed in the old College Building.

The outcome of the meeting was the decision to send a resolution to the Board of Higher Education, stating it was the sense of the representatives of the Associate Alumnae that a modern building be erected on the present site to replace the structure now uninhabitable as a result of the fire.

Mrs. Graff named the committee to draw up the Resolution as follows:—Dr. Hochfelder (Chairman), Mrs. Berliner, Dr. Forchheimer, Mrs. Hahn, Mrs. Simis.

The Resolution is printed on our editorial page.

ELEONORE F. HAHN.