

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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No. 3

PRESIDENT KIERAN'S INSTALLATION

Dr. James M. Kieran will be installed as the third President of Hunter College at formal exercises to be held in the College Chapel on Tuesday morning, March 26, at ten-thirty. The Officers and Directors of the Associate Alumnae will be invited to participate in the academic procession. Other Alumnae are welcome to attend provided they apply in advance to the Office of the Secretary, Hunter College. It is requested that each application be accompanied by a stamped and self-addressed envelope. Admission will be by ticket only, and all seats will be reserved.

THE COLLEGE BIRTHDAY

The first General Assembly of the new semester took place on the eve of Alma Mater's Birthday, and was thus the occasion of the bestowal upon her of a number of gifts from grateful daughters.

Clemencia Hand, President of the Student Association, presented to Dr. Kieran the undergraduates' offering of \$500.00 to be used for furnishing the Student Rooms in the New Building, in the glory of which the Juniors and Seniors present altruistically and vicariously rejoiced, contented in the knowledge that their personal share therein consists not in receiving, but in the still more blessed capacity of giving. Then Dr. Lewinson presented the Alumnae Gift to the College, a beautiful silver tray and water-carafe, which she assured the audience would prove a guaranty against dry speakers, and an exquisitely-engraved vase, gay with its appropriate contents of wistaria. Next Professor Cone read the graceful resolutions in honor of Dr. Kieran's appointment to the Presidency of the College, which had been framed by a committee under her chairmanship on behalf of the Associate Alumnae, and inscribed upon a scroll which she presented to Dr. Kieran. And finally Mrs. Elliott surprised Dr. Kieran by bestowing upon him the Alumnae's personal gift to him, a desk-set for his office.

That many absent daughters, too, were thinking fondly of Alma Mater was indicated by Dr. Kieran's announcement of the receipt of telegrams of greeting from a number of classes, as well as from the Washington Chapter of the Alumnae.

Dr. Kieran made a genial address, in which he particularly welcomed the new Lower Juniors, just arrived in the Main Building; and the program was completed by a selection from the Orchestra, and by the students' singing of "Hunter", "Fame", and "Mihi Cura Futuri."

E. A. H.

THE ALUMNAE BREAKFAST

At least one Alumna thought admiringly of Lincoln's obligingness in having been born on a day so near that one which, some three-score years and one later, was to be our College Birthday. Surely, the natal day of Alma Mater is a time most fitting for all good daughters to celebrate in unison. So that, thanks to Lincoln, 700 Hunter graduates, ranging in age from '70 to '29, seated themselves in the Grand Ball Room at the Astor. The Breakfast, following the usual informal reception outside the Ball Room, was formally opened with a rendition of *The Star Spangled Banner*, played by the College Orchestra, which, under the leadership of Miss Flora Rubin, continued to furnish music at intervals throughout the afternoon.

That subject which has for a long time been Hunter's favorite current topic, came in for a goodly share of attention. Mrs. Elliott, having announced that building is to begin in the spring, discussed the proposed fence, which is to be the Alumnae gift to College in its new quarters. It is planned that the fence will be composed of sections, which will be given by the classes individually. The class of 1919, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, has already pledged between \$500 and \$600 for its section. Speaking with her customary ease and clarity, Mrs. Elliott pointed out the values of the project. To have such a fence, will be, first of all, to follow the tradition of many great educational institutions, such as Harvard. There is also the democratic element—the opportunity for the various classes to render homage to Alma Mater. Finally, the fence is to be a symbol of Unification—"the unification of all of Hunter's children"; and of Protection—"the protection with which we desire to surround our younger generation at the New Buildings at Jerome Park Reservoir". Two legacies of \$500 and \$100 already provide a foundation fund; and, for the rest, Mrs. Elliott cheerfully counsels optimism.

Our new President, Dr. James M. Kieran, provided more New Building information for willing ears. The contract is to be let next month; \$2,500,000 will be requested of the Board of Estimate; and the first unit will be begun without fail this spring. President Kieran hopes for the completion in September, 1930, of not only the first unit of instruction, but of two such units, a Social Building and Cafeteria, and Gymnasiums. He pointed out the increase of 5,000 students over the 548 who composed the regular sessions of the college in 1908; also the increase

of nearly 300 instructors since that time. Particularly striking are the figures of the Evening and Extension Sessions, which last year gave instruction to 12,000 students in 575 classes; and of the Summer Session, which had 3,190 students in 1928. President Kieran ascribes all the above fundamentally to the vision of Thomas Hunter.

The occasion of the Breakfast was an especially noteworthy one for the class of '79, which, since it is this year celebrating its Fiftieth Anniversary, was presented with a birthday cake, the gift of the first recipient of a Normal diploma, Mrs. Casey. Suitably enough, the cake, and later an enthusiastic tribute, were presented by members of the class of '29, some of whom were dressed in modern manner to represent their own class, while the others were in becoming costumes reminiscent both of the Eighties and of a recent production of *The Pirates of Penzance* in Chapel. Mrs. P. C. Ralli formally responded on behalf of the Class of '79.

Mr. George E. O'Dell, Editor of *The Standard*, a paper of the Ethical Culture School of New York, spoke on *The Art and Ethics of the Motion Picture Theater*.

"The motion picture world is a color-blind world," said Mr. O'Dell. "Its blacks, grays, and whites, however exquisite, are not comparable to the splendid colors of our outside world. It is still a deaf world for the most part, 'talkies' notwithstanding. The deaf world is not our world. Then, too, in the motion picture world there is the delicate, intricate overacting that is not in our world."

Despite these essential differences between the world of cinema and the world of reality, Mr. O'Dell pointed out the great advantages of the former. "Pictures bring us in contact with backgrounds which we might otherwise never know," he said. "We learn how people whom we have never seen, act, dress, and feel."

Mr. O'Dell stressed the fact that the motion picture is at the present time a school of ethics. It has certain ideals which need to be strengthened. Because of its great popularity, it could be made a powerful instrument for good.

Mr. Edward Percy Howard, distributor for Fox Movietone News, prefixed his speech on *The Spirit of Lincoln* with some remarks on talking pictures.

"I am glad we have reached our maturity and that at the age of twenty-one we have begun to talk," began Mr. Howard. "Talking pictures have presented many new difficulties. They require new technique, a new type scenario, and, in some cases, new actors and actresses. Yet, I think, they are here to stay. They have opened a new field to young people with intelligence, personality, and snap."

In speaking of Lincoln, Mr. Howard said it is not so much the spirit of Lincoln the world needs, as the every-day application of his ideals to life. He also likened the spirit

of Doctor Hunter hovering over the great assembly of seven hundred women to the spirit of Lincoln which was also present on this, the natal day of the great emancipator.

The Guests of Honor at the Breakfast were Mr. A. Broderick Cohen, Director of the Evening and Extension Sessions, Mrs. John B. Golden, Mr. Edward Percy Howard, Dean Annie Hickinbottom, Dr. James M. Kieran, Mrs. James M. Kieran, Miss Ruth Lewinson, Mr. George E. O'Dell, Mr. Sam Steiner, Mr. Harry Stockwell, Miss Muriel Leahy, President of the Class of June, 1929, Miss Frances Holsten, President of the Class of January, 1930, and Miss Clemencia Hand, President of the Student Council.

Praise and thanks are due the Breakfast Committee: Mrs. Leslie Graff, Chairman, Miss Carolyn Eisele, Mrs. Mary Epstein, Miss Jean Hutchinson, Miss Marguerite E. Jones, and Miss Helen Kunte.

FRANCES HERSHFIELD, '28
SUE MOSKOWITZ, '28.

JUBILEE LUNCHEON FOR 1904

May 4th promises to be a "Big Day" for 1904 Hunterites, when we gather to celebrate our Silver Jubilee. Judging by the enthusiasm shown at our business meeting held in the Alumnae Rooms on Feb. 9th, this coming event promises to be a novel, jolly affair, which no "1904" classmate can afford to miss—"No business, all fun!"

Join our ranks on May 4th at the Astor Hotel. We want all our out-of-town comrades to make a special effort to be with us on this important occasion.

Will you join one of our committees and lend us a helping hand? If so, write at once to our President, Mrs. Samuel Bitterman, 38 Fort Washington Avenue. She will be glad to add your name to her list of helpers.

Put this date down now and get ready for a marvelous day:—May 4th at 12:30 at Hotel Astor.

BELLE DAVIDSON,
Publicity Committee

THE CLASS OF 1880

On Monday, March 11th, at 3 P. M., in the Alumnae Rooms, 204 W. 55th Street, the Class of '80 will meet to discuss important questions. Refreshments will be served. Be sure to come.
R. M. C.

CALENDAR, 1929.

Wed., Mar. 13	Executive Council
Thurs., Mar. 21	Varsity Play
Fri., Mar. 22	Varsity Play
Sat., Mar. 23	Varsity Play
Tues., Mar. 26	Installation of President Kieran
Tues., Apr. 9	Finance Committee
Wed., Apr. 24	Officers and Directors
Tues., May 7	Finance Committee
Wed., May 8	Executive Council
Sat., May 18	Reunion; Election
Thurs., June 13	Commencement