

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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Student Occupations.

At the January meeting of the Executive Committee, the proposal was made to organize a Committee on Student Occupations, whose aim would be to establish a means of exchange between those of our college girls who wish employment and the Alumnae members. The Committee having been formed, the chairman wishes to report that there is a demand on the part of the students for work along lines such as tutoring, typewriting, sewing, serving as visiting governess and as companion, giving additional help with luncheons, etc.

It is hoped that the Associate Alumnae, having approved of this undertaking through their Executive Committee, will now avail themselves of the services of the Bureau. The Committee will very much welcome requests for the services of the students who have applied, and much depends on a hearty response on the part of the Alumnae.

Communications may be addressed to Miss Josephine Bruggeman, care Associate Alumnae, Normal College. J. B.

The Breakfast.

"The snow had begun in the gloaming,
And busily all the night
Had been heaping field and highway
With a silence, deep and white."

And the wind had not been a laggard, and the Alumna who looked on the out-doors on the morning of St. Valentine's day, and remembered that somehow she must get to Delmonico's at noon, and did get there without a tremor, is a hero and should be allowed to vote, or do any other thing that requires courage and real manliness. Weather! A blizzard! What matter adverse elements when we hear the triple call of "College Birthday," St. Valentine's Day" and the "Alumnae Breakfast"!

The "girls" were slow in assembling—they had to reckon with all sorts of obstructions to travel—but most of them got there. When the dining-room doors were opened, there were empty seats, of course—seats that would have been filled under more fortunate weather conditions,—but they were surprisingly few. The tables were decorated with lavender scarfs, and the lavender lamp shades made the room fairly

glow with College color. Valentine place cards and a souvenir in the shape of a silver almond dish were generously provided for each guest by the Breakfast Committee.

We hardly dared hope that Dr. Hunter would get there, but there he was, sitting at Mrs. Kramer's right hand, and making us glad by his presence. Isn't it fine, girls, to know at least one man to whom we may honestly and openly say, in chorus: "We love you." Long may he be spared to us!

After a very dainty luncheon had been disposed of, to the accompaniment of some charming music, rendered by a Neapolitan band, the following program was presented, all reading the opening verse in concert:

TOASTS

Birthdays are not to show
How old we folks may grow,
But they're to tell each day
How young we stay.
So here's a health to you:
May calm content renew
The song your life has sung
Forever young!

W. D. N.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MRS. SAMUEL J. KRAMER

VALENTINE DAY—THE COLLEGE BIRTHDAY

DR. THOMAS HUNTER

FUTURE BIRTHDAYS

DR. GEORGE SAMLER DAVIS

AN ORIGINAL VALENTINE

PROF. HELEN GRAY CONE

A VALENTINE SHOWER

MISS GRACE B. BEACH

CLASS JUNE 1913—MISS E. GOODMAN

CLASS JAN. 1914—MISS A. SNEDEN

MONOLOGUE - MRS. RUTH HELEN DAVIS

THE VALENTINE OF SENTIMENT

DR. JAMES P. HANEY

"Good-night! Good-night! Parting is such
sweet sorrow,

That I shall say good-night till it be morrow."
—Shakespeare.

I wish the News could publish the original valentine by our poet-laureate, and the "Valentine Shower," if there were room. Indeed, it would be fine to publish all the toasts, again if there were room, but there isn't. So, come next time and get them at first hand.

I feel sure that every one present appreciated the work of our efficient Breakfast Committee, headed by Mrs. Daily, to whom I take this opportunity of extending our thanks. L. P.

The College Again.

One of the criticisms of colleges that is most frequently heard is that they fail to prepare students for practical life, that the life of the college is quite apart from the life of the world outside. Such is not the case, however, at Normal. For example, as a result of efforts made by the Hygiene Department, about one hundred and twenty-five Normal College students took lessons in rowing on the Central Park lakes last November and December, under the direction of an assistant in the Department and her helpers. The number of those who took lessons in swimming during the same period was about seventy. It must not be supposed, however, that all athletic activities have ceased with the coming of winter. The girls are now taking walks,—on city pavements, to be sure, but interesting for all that. Special observation and reports of all that is noteworthy on the walk make the physical activity worth while intellectually.

The class work in hygiene is also eminently practical and up-to-date. The examination papers, for example, bear such questions as: "What is a cold?" "How is it caused?" "Give arguments for and against vegetarianism." A collection of various kinds of shoes, from a felt "comfy" slipper to a satin dancing pump, in connection with the skeleton of a foot is an interesting and original feature of the Department's equipment. Models of the spinal column, of one of the villi of the intestines, of the kidneys, are, of course, to be taken for granted.

The aim of the course in Household Economics is to give students information concerning the latest and most effective household appliances, as well as instruction in such matters as sanitation and food values. For the latter purpose, Professor Wilson, the head of the Department, better known to Alumnae as Dr. Wilson, has made an extensive collection of all sorts of grains, nuts, flavoring material and so forth, samples of which she will be glad to give to any teachers who may desire them for their own work.

The Hygiene Library is one of the most attractive rooms in the new building, with its pleasant outlook on two sides, its attractive book-cases and reading-tables, its vases of American pottery,—Newcomb, Walrath, Hampshire,—filled with roses, narcissuses and daffodils. It is, withal, distinctly a

place for work, and work that is closely connected with every-day life. The shelves bear, as the labels show, besides the books pertaining particularly to physiology and hygiene, works upon personal hygiene, first aid to the injured, domestic economy, cookery, and agriculture. On the wide ledge of the sunny west window are laid out copies of all the important magazines, including the most popular women's magazines, and of the latest works on hygiene and subjects of contemporary interest: eugenics, women in agriculture, the peace movement. The fact that many of the books and all of the magazines, fifty-eight in number, in this library, are the property of the Head of the Hygiene Department may suggest to the Alumnae the thought that they, too, may do much for their younger sisters which cannot be done by the city.

A change in the faculty which is of interest in this connection is the transfer of Miss Clara Byrnes, Associate Professor in the Department of History, to the Department of Hygiene. Professor Byrnes, who had been away on leave of absence because of ill health, returned in February to take up what might be called general hygiene, as distinguished from personal hygiene. She gives courses upon public sanitation, and upon the hygienic conduct of home and school. A very important feature of this work is the weekly excursions to show the practical workings of activities which have been studied in the class-room. For instance, students in this department have visited the Croton watershed, and last fall they were taken through the new building by the engineer, who explained to them all matters that came under his jurisdiction. Every effort, it will be seen, is being made to connect the theoretical with the practical.

Another member of the faculty who has returned to us is Professor Kieran, Head of the Department of Pedagogy. Professor Kieran was granted a year's leave of absence for study last fall.

An interesting experiment in dramaturgy was made on February 18, when the Department of Oral English, in conjunction with the Classical Department, produced the Greek drama, *Alcestis*, in a modern setting: that is to say, the traditions of the classical stage were cast aside and the play was produced as if Euripedes were a contemporary playwright.

D. C. H.