

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

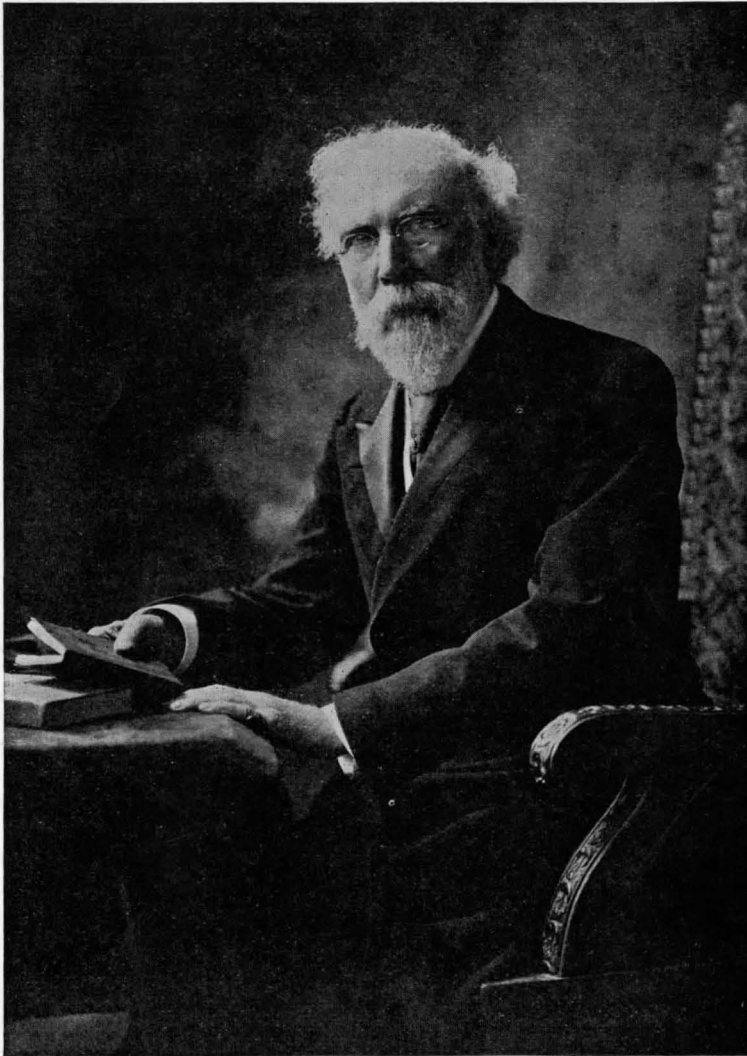
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No. 7



THOMAS HUNTER
Born October 19, 1831.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members

of the Alumnae Association:

It is with the greatest joy that I greet you and hope that you have all had a happy summer. This is a wonderful year for Hunter College—yes, you have guessed it—the new buildings are open, and the Class of 1935, numbering seven hundred and fifty, are occupying the first unit. I can't take up too much space by telling you all about the buildings, so come see us—you will find me there every day except Saturday between nine and four. What a thrill you will have, and the former graduates will all feel they were born too soon.

Mrs. Jessurun, one of our members, has completed the gorgeous Hunter banner, every bit of which she did by hand, and it will be displayed on the occasion of the laying of the corner-stone.

Let's be grateful that we have lived to see this milestone in the history of our Alma Mater.

Faithfully yours,
MARION RHOADS ELLIOTT

ALUMNAE HALL

Our new duplex Hunter Alumnae Hall, at 204 West 55th Street, will be formally opened on October 19th in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the first president of our College, Dr. Thomas Hunter.

Reception and tea from four to six o'clock. The guests of honor will be the Misses Anna and Jenny Hunter.

All friends of Dr. Thomas Hunter are cordially invited.

ESTHER G. VALET,
Chairman

DR. HUNTER'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY

The Autobiography of Dr. Thomas Hunter is being published by his daughters, in honor of his One Hundredth Birthday, October 19, 1931.

Should you wish to purchase a copy, please fill out and mail the accompanying order blank. Checks may be made to the order of Anna M. Hunter. Orders should be sent to Miss Anna M. Hunter, Hunter Alumnae Hall, 204 West 55th St., New York, N. Y.

Please send me.....cop..... of the AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF DR. THOMAS HUNTER, at \$3.00 a copy. Check (or money order) enclosed.

Signature

Address

Date

ALUMNAE DAY

November is ever a busy and significant month, what with Election Day in its first week, Armistice Day in its second, and Thanksgiving Day in its fourth. And, just to keep the third week from feeling neglected, we have set Alumnae Day there—on Saturday, the twenty-first. Be sure to save the date!

And the academic year 1931-1932 will be a busy and significant year, what with the bicentennial of George Washington, and the centennial of Goethe, of Lewis Carroll, and—of our own beloved and revered Thomas Hunter. All these anniversaries will, according to present plans, play a suitable part in our program. Be sure to come and share therein!

E. ADELAIDE HAHN,
Chairman of Alumnae Day

THE NEW BUILDINGS

Not so many years ago, it was customary for undergraduate humor to take the form of extravagant visions of what the new Hunter would be like which would finally end our long-suffered problems. The humor of those prophecies would now consist in their actually falling short of the reality—even the incomplete reality of today. A map of the site upon which the new college is rising hangs in Mrs. Elliott's private office. It was given to her by the Honorable Joseph V. McKee, and from it she had made blueprints which were presented to the Board of Trustees at their meeting of January 11, 1927. That was the day the Board voted to apply to the city for that tract of land.

Now, less than five years later, in these splendid new surroundings, the Class of 1935 has been launched on its voyage to a degree, a voyage that promises to be much smoother and much pleasanter than that of past generations.

On September 23, the day courses opened there for the first time, it was the writer's privilege to receive her introduction to the new buildings from Mrs. Elliott, who is now carrying into her work as Assistant Dean those well-known qualities of enthusiasm and tireless energy which have accomplished so much for Hunter. Under the circumstances, any confusion short of chaos would have seemed excusable. Actually, at the hour of the visit, ten-thirty, the wheels were already moving so smoothly that it was difficult to believe that about 750 students were housed in the building. Forty-six members of the staff, representing the 15 departments in which Freshman courses are given, have been assigned there.

Because of the condition of the ground in the immediate vicinity, it was originally thought that buses might be required to transport the students from the Kingsbridge Road station, but a cinder-path leading off Reservoir Avenue to the door of the College has in

some measure solved the problem of accessibility, and the buses will be resorted to only if the weather makes them necessary.

Although two of the structures are externally complete, only the first instruction unit has been officially turned over to the Trustees, so that, for the present, is the one mainly used. It is essentially a school-building consisting of class-rooms and laboratories. But to us who have grown so used to oldness, these are like no earthly class-rooms and laboratories. Steel desks and cabinets, chairs that are at once good-looking, comfortable, and easy to handle—every device which has been thought of to make education a joy, is included in the equipment. Among the offices in this building are one for the Registrar; one for Dean Hill, whose efforts have been so unselfishly and efficiently directed toward making this a perfect piece of work; the Dean's general office, and another private one for conferences.

One part of the basement has been temporarily converted into a gymnasium to be used until the special building for that purpose is constructed. The lockers and a temporary student exchange take up the remaining space.

Through a passage one reaches the other finished building—the Social Hall which has been planned entirely with a view to meeting the social needs of the students. At present the basement of this is in use as a cafeteria for students and teachers, but eventually this part of the building will be reserved for the staff alone, the student cafeteria extending over the entire floor above.

The layout of the second floor beggars description. At either end are two huge social rooms each with its fireplace, each with a balcony, one facing over the reservoir, one out toward Jerome Avenue. These are still unfurnished, but with their size and attractive placing, what boundless possibilities they suggest!

In the same building are the many private rooms which are to be placed at the disposal of the clubs that have gained recognition at College; and not by any means least of all, a gem of a little theater in which no detail has been forgotten—which may even, we have been told, be wired for "talkies".

It is our purpose here to describe only what already exists, and the description has been necessarily inadequate. To appreciate fully the luxuries which the new Hunter offers, one must see them, and for that reason Mrs. Elliott has extended a gracious invitation to the Alumnae to visit the buildings. The Class of June 1915 has already applied for permission to hold its reunion there, and in all probability that request will be granted. Among those who have visited the College in the past few weeks have been Dr. Kieran, whose unofficial inspection occurred soon after his return from abroad, and Mrs. Phelps, President of the City Federation of Women's Clubs, who was introduced by Mrs. Hahn.

We have space only to mention in passing the gymnasium, swimming-pool, tennis-courts, and library that are all part of the promise for the next two or three years which it is estimated will be required to complete the work. Thompson, Holmes, and Converse, the architects who have combined simple, rich beauty and practicality with such eminent success, have submitted a proposed drawing of the wrought-iron fence with which it is planned to surround the buildings. As sketched, this is much like those of Fordham, Harvard, and Bowdoin College. Besides serving an obviously useful purpose, the fence will offer the Alumnae an opportunity of expressing their regard for Alma Mater, as it is planned that each class present a section. For this purpose six classes have already completed their funds, and many others are well under way. Four recently-graduated classes are endeavoring to combine to provide the gates.

It is impossible to look upon these new developments without recognizing that Hunter has entered upon a brand new experiment in education. The scene is laid here for a college life unique in so many respects that we may well expect it to engender a spirit that has not had its equal in any day institution of the past. The Class of 1935 will be the first to build up a complete set of traditions about the Bronx College, and if environment is a potent factor, their traditions should be noble ones!

MARY ROSE SHEEHAN.

PATRIOTIC SERVICE COMMITTEE

Come, come, all ye friends of the Patriotic Service Committee, to the *Biennial Card Party* at Hotel Pennsylvania on November seventh at 2:30 P. M. for the benefit of the Soldiers and Sailors Club. Tickets \$1.25.

JANE W. McELHINNEY,

54 E. 128 St.,

New York, N. Y.

Chairman

CALENDAR—1931-1932

Mon., Oct. 19	Opening of Alumnae Hall in memory of Dr. Hunter.
Wed., Oct. 21	College formal assembly in memory of Dr. Hunter.
Wed., Nov. 4	Officers and Directors
Sat., Nov. 7	Card Party
Wed., Nov. 11	Executive Council
Sat., Nov. 21	Alumnae Day
Wed., Jan. 6	Officers and Directors
Wed., Jan. 13	Executive Council
Fri., Feb. 12	Alumnae Breakfast
Wed., Feb. 17	Birthday Celebration
Wed., Mar. 2	Officers and Directors
Wed., Mar. 9	Executive Council
Wed., May 4	Officers and Directors
Wed., May 11	Executive Council
Sat., May 14	Reunion, Election
Wed., June 15	Commencement Day