

# THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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Fellow Alumnae:

Another year ends, and again the Hunter Alumnae may well be proud and happy at the conclusion of a highly successful season. You have expressed your appreciation and love for Hunter not only in words but also in deeds—not only as a duty but in a friendly, cordial, coöperative way.

To all of you I express sincere thanks, repeating again that to each of you belongs any credit or earned applause.

May you enjoy a restful and joyous vacation, returning with renewed energy, to work unitedly for our Alma Mater.

Cordially yours,

HELEN L. SIMIS, President.

## THE SPRING REUNION

Hunter's new home on the beloved old site proved such an overwhelming attraction that it drew fifteen hundred of her daughters to the annual Spring Reunion of the Associate Alumnae on May 17.

In his greeting to the Alumnae, President George N. Shuster enumerated sources of pride for all who love Hunter. "The students continue to win scholarships and prizes," the President stated. "The staff members hold important parts in the councils of learned societies and the civic and cultural organizations of the country. Hunter College is no longer a provincial institution."

Dr. Shuster went on to speak of the Alumnae and noted the significance of their increased participation in the work of the College. "We want you to do more of this work," he urged. "American democracy is likely to be healed, in the final analysis, by the little that we do, particularly for those who are going to constitute the heart of humanity to-morrow."

In this year of magnificent opportunity, the President concluded, "the ivy and the wistaria which once climbed over the walls of Hunter will not be more beautiful than the genuine sympathy and interest which you are going to bring in the future to your institution, and, I am very happy to say, mine own."

Mrs. Theodore E. Simis, President of the Associate Alumnae, welcomed the members and guests to the reunion. She presented a brief summary of the accomplishments of the Association during the past year, and announced the formation of the new Alumnae House Plan Group to help the undergraduates with the expenses incidental to the use of the building in connection with social activities.

A "merry festival" of music and dance was provided by the Faculty. Miss Anastasia Van Burkalow, of the Department of Geol-

ogy and Geography, an alumna, played the beautiful new organ. Her selections were the *Prelude—Third Sonata* by Guilmant, Schubert's *Serenade*, and *Badinage* by Victor Herbert.

Mr. Frederic Gutekunst, of the German Department, sang Shelley's *My Song*, and *Morning* by Oley Speaks, and, as an encore, Scott's *To an Old Love*. Miss Natalie L. Gutekunst was her father's accompanist.

The Bronx Faculty Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Herbert R. Inch of the Music Department, played the *Toy Symphony* of Joseph Haydn. The orchestra personnel included: Flora Rubin Kotlarsky (Music) and Beatrice Brown (Music), violins; Muriel Farrell (Education), triangle; Walter Helfer (Music), bassoon; Hildegard Kolbe (German), nightingale; Anna Mackey (Physical Education), trumpet and drum; Domis E. Plugge (Speech and Dramatics), rattle and quail; Anders Emile (Music), cuckoo. Mrs. Flora Rubin Kotlarsky was responsible for the organization of this number.

To conclude the entertainment, members of the Faculty danced an old-fashioned quadrille. Professor Anna Mackey of the Department of Physical Education directed, and in addition to her, the dancers were the Misses Helen Virrill (Physical Education), Olga Kulbitsky (Physical Education), and Marcelle Gaynor (Administrative Staff), Professor Henry Thompson (Geology), Dr. Gordon Darkenwald (Geology), Mr. Dwight Robinson, Jr. (History), and Professor Harry L. Levy (Classics).

After the election returns had been announced and Mr. Emile had led the singing of *The Ivy Leaf* and *Fame*, a delightful tea was served in the Commons while old acquaintances were renewed.

Among the guests of honor were Mrs. George N. Shuster, Miss Millicent Baum, Dean Eleanor H. Grady, Dean Emeritus Annie H. Mills, Dean Hannah M. Egan, Dean Anna G. Anthony, Dr. Elizabeth Jarrett, Mrs. William C. Popper, Dr. Estelle Forcheimer, Dr. Ruth Lewinson, Mrs. Otto Hahn, Mrs. Harry A. Day, and Dr. Jean F. Brown.

Mrs. Michael F. Curtin again served as devoted chairman of the Reunion Committee.

Class representatives acted as hostesses for the tea, while undergraduates of the Dean's Committee served as ushers, and later as guides for the tours of the building which demonstrated the marvels of the new home to the throngs of nostalgic alumnae and guests.

The consensus of opinion ranked this as an afternoon to be remembered and a reunion unique in its setting and its success.

JULIA A. DUFFY.

## THE WADLEIGH MEMORIAL

On Monday afternoon, the second of June, members of the Alumnae and administrative officers of Hunter College were invited to the dedication of Room 1247 in our new building, as a memorial to Lydia F. Wadleigh.

Miss Sarah M. Goodhart, who conducted the program, recalled vividly in her presentation of this Alumnae gift the ivy-covered walls of the Gothic building which was Hunter's first home, and the Alcove off the Chapel that had been dedicated to Lydia F. Wadleigh in the days of Thomas Hunter. She then passed to his successor President Shuster the key to the room in the new building which should commemorate Miss Wadleigh's service to the College.

Dr. Shuster's gracious words of acceptance suggested the fitness of a Victorian room as a reminder not only of Miss Wadleigh but of the time in which she lived, and indicated that the room would be used as a meeting-place for faculty and students.

Life at Hunter in Miss Wadleigh's time was reviewed with great charm by Mrs. Otto Hahn, the chief speaker of the afternoon. Beginning with Helen Gray Cone's fine poem in memory of Lydia F. Wadleigh, Mrs. Hahn revealed little by little Miss Wadleigh's vivid personality. Our first Dean, she noted, was a firm disciplinarian, insisting upon rigid order at the daily assembly, and safe-guarding the young undergraduates with strict regulations because of Hunter's location in the wilds of 68th Street. But most important in these early days was her leadership in securing broader education for women.

The beauty and meaning of traditions already emphasized by Miss Goodhart were again suggested in Helen Gray Cone's "Ivy Leaf", sung by Miss Lillian L. Hilsum, Instructor of Music in the Evening Session.

After a dainty tea guests were invited to visit the Lydia F. Wadleigh Room on the twelfth floor. Here were found a bronze relief of Miss Wadleigh under a fine engraving of the old Hunter College Building, and furnishings in Victorian style. Faculty and students will undoubtedly find such a reception room useful, and will also appreciate it as a permanent memorial of the first Dean of Hunter College.

MARY A. WYMAN.