

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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GIFT FUND NEWS

You can well imagine how thrilled and delighted your Chairman and her Committee are to be able to inform you that the contract for a new Aeolian-Skinner Organ was signed this very day, Monday morning, May 20th, at 10 A. M., at President Shuster's office, at 2 Park Avenue.

Since we plan to have the Organ installed in October in time for the opening of the new Hunter College Building, and as we have reached the sum of \$13,293, we still have time to reach the required goal, \$15,000; this is not a large sum in proportion to the thousands of graduates greatly indebted to Normal, now Hunter College. *This is the opportune time* for the classes that have not reached their \$300 quota and also for the three classes (January 1921, June 1935, and June 1940) that have contributed nothing towards the Organ Fund to get busy and "do their bit". We are most eager to have *every* class of *every* year from 1870 through June 1940 represented in the Gift Book of Hunter College, and in this way your class will be perpetuated. We plan to have the Book placed near the Organ in the new Auditorium, in addition to the Plaque to be placed there.

Before we announce the list of contributors received during the past month, may I express the sincere thanks of the Gift Fund Committee and myself to Mrs. Otto Hahn, our efficient Editor of the ALUMNÆ NEWS, for the manner in which she has published our detailed reports during the past fifteen months

Nor can I ever forget Mrs. Hahn's good work and splendid coöperation in proposing to every graduate to contribute the sum of two dollars towards the Gift Fund a few months ago. It was astonishing to see the huge number of two-dollar bills sent to me. To Mrs. Hahn for proposing, and to our appreciative Alumnae for disposing, may I say Thank you! Thank you!

We are happy to publish again the classes that reached their quota of \$300 and in some cases have gone "over the top": 1870-1876, (Seven-in-One), \$425; 1880, \$400; 1881, \$504; 1884, \$300; 1886, \$303; 1887, \$304; 1889, \$430; 1890, \$325; 1891, \$311; 1893, \$305; 1895, \$311; 1896, \$303; 1904, \$300; 1905, \$401; 1907, \$418; January and June 1917, \$300. There are a great many classes that have nearly made the goal, and I feel sure that when the fall comes around their years will be published in the News.

We gratefully appreciate the coöperation of the Staff of Hunter College and Hunter High School for their generous contributions to our Organ Fund. And to the Washington Chapter, through Mrs. Frank A. Linzel,

we offer our sincere gratitude for their contribution to our Gift Fund. To Mr. Samuel Weltz, through the efforts of Miss Providence K. Gambarro of the Model School, we express our sincere gratitude for his generous contribution. Our very deep appreciation we also extend to the Alumnae members of the Alpha Sigma Rho Sorority of Hunter College, who through Dr. Olga Kuthy sent a very generous check towards the Organ Drive.

Seven-in-One Group. 1874. Mrs. Sigmund Wolff, of St. Louis, Mo., sends us a generous contribution and her wish that "your efforts be crowned with success". Thanks so much, Mrs. Wolff. 1876. We express our sincere appreciation for the following: "I am enclosing my check toward the Organ Drive in memory of my dear mother, Clara Pollack Bondy of the Class of 1876—Marie B. Leffert." We gratefully acknowledge the generous contribution of Miss Emma Burnett of '76.

1878. Miss Minnie A. Scherzinger sent me a very touching letter enclosing a liberal contribution "in memory of our departed classmates". Our heartfelt thanks to this member of Mrs. Falk's loyal class. The class total is \$152.

1879. We gratefully acknowledge an additional contribution from Mrs. Harry A. Day, which brings the class total to \$246. Keep up your good work, Mrs. Day!

1881. We extend our thanks for the generous contribution of Mrs. A. A. Zucker "in memory of her mother, Alice Elasser, a graduate of Hunter College", obtained through the efforts of our dear Mrs. Jacob L. Heiden. This class has reached the enormous total of \$504. Congratulations to Mrs. Heiden.

1883. From Mrs. Hugo H. Ritterbusch, of Scotch Plains, N. J., we received a contribution towards the purchase of the Organ. Thanks so much, Mrs. Ritterbusch.

1884. We appreciate the splendid work of Miss Virginia Keith and Mrs. Adele D. Priess, who have been trying their utmost to reach their classmates, and with good results. We acknowledge with deep gratitude the generous contributions of Mrs. Anne C. Edsall, Mrs. Rosenberg, Emma Brazier, Mrs. Varian, Bertha Oberndorfer, Jane G. Campbell, an additional contribution from Miss Sophie Sperling, and another from Grace B. Beach that has taken the class safely "over the top". And finally this class includes the giver of the largest single contribution to date, our esteemed alumna Dr. Margaret B. Wilson of Washington, who has given \$150. She writes as follows: "Let me congratulate you on the fine work you have done for the College Organ Fund.

THE WADLEIGH MEMORIAL

Many of the Alumnae to-day hardly realize what a debt Hunter College owes to that great woman, Lydia Fowler Wadleigh.

Miss Wadleigh was born at Sutton, New Hampshire, February 8, 1817. She was graduated from the collegiate course at New Hampton Literary and Scientific Institution in 1841, and immediately after this was appointed there as teacher of Mathematics, Greek, and English Literature. Later she taught in Philadelphia, New Jersey, and New York. In 1856, Miss Wadleigh was appointed to organize the Senior Department of Twelfth Street School. During her fourteen years there, Miss Wadleigh continuously raised the standards of her school to equal those of the best high school of that day. On that memorable day in February, 1870, her pupils became the students of the Normal College, and Miss Wadleigh its "Lady Superintendent and Professor of Ethics". If those girls were still living, what an eloquent history they might give of their work under her remarkable leadership. Without her it might have been a long time before there were enough public school girls sufficiently educated to make possible the opening of the Normal College.

Many of us can remember her wonderful influence as Lady Superintendent of the College. It was the dream of those of us who looked forward to teaching, to try to imitate, and, if possible, to match, Miss Wadleigh's record in Twelfth Street School. Miss Wadleigh was very tall, magnificently proportioned, with a fine head carried grandly, and glorious black eyes that could look straight through you. In spite of our awe of her, we were very fond of her, so that for two years after we were graduated, a group of us went every Saturday morning to study Latin with her. She was a leader in the highest sense of the word. She put into her girls her own sense of honor; the glory of the College was in our hands, it would rise or fall in accordance with our action. To many of us, our entrance to the Normal College was almost like a rebirth, and Miss Wadleigh's influence was a large part of that rebirth.

It rejoices us that the younger Alumnae are combining with the older women to re-establish an appropriate memorial to the one who had so large a part in making the Hunter College of to-day.

The Memorial Committee will be grateful for every contribution given to make the new Wadleigh Alcove worthy of its distinguished namesake. Every dollar counts. Please make checks or money orders payable to the Wadleigh Memorial and send them to the chairman, Miss Sarah M. Goodhart, 101 West 58th Street, New York. In spite of the many demands that come to us all in these unhappy days, we hope that you will be moved to generosity to do honor to the noble woman who was our first Dean, Lydia F. Wadleigh. KATHERINE DEVEREUX BLAKE.