

Pearl Primus' Unique Dances Highlight Assembly Program

Winner Of "Page One" Merit Award Gives A Distinguished Performance

The assembly of November 9 was for most students a unique program of music and dance. The school was first entertained by Miss Edith Peterson, who sang several old favorites, including "Through the Years" and "Falling in Love with Someone". She also led the school in singing a number of popular selections.

We then had the honor to have as our guest a former Hunter High School and College graduate, and well-known dancer, Miss Pearl Primus, who offered with five members of her troupe a preview of numbers in her November 10 program at the Y.M.H.A.

Varied Achievements

Dr. Brown, in her welcoming address, related some of Miss Primus' outstanding achievements both in and out of Hunter. As a high school student, she helped the school to receive the Columbia Scholastic Press Award with her poetry. In addition to ability in the literary field, her real interest was science; in Hunter College she took a pre-medical course. At present, Miss Primus is working for her doctorate in anthropology. Some of her interesting discoveries in this field of study have led to developments in her original forms of dancing. She has been cited among the "Page One Awards" of the American Newspaper Guild for being the "greatest young American dancer". Miss Primus explained that through her study of the development of different peoples, she has found their cultures to be mirrored in their particular forms of dancing.

The first of five interpretations told the story of a Melanesian myth about two lonely brothers representing Life and Death. Each brother made an image of clay, hoping to be able to bring it to life. The dance showed only one brother, Life, who through his intensity and fervor achieved his goal. At first the image of the woman he had made reacted but slightly. Little by little, it grew more animated until in the climax of the dance, both the creator and the created figure were dancing side by side. Jackie Estlin and Joseph Nash performed this number, which for most of those in the audience was a new and fascinating type of dance.

Haitian Dance

Miss Primus introduced the second selection, called "L'Oiseau," by telling that the setting was Haiti, and the dance was one in which the old imitate the young and the young imitate the old. As she put it, "Jackie and Joe will try to outdo each other." The dance derives its name from the imitation of the flapping of birds' wings. This interpretation amusingly and clearly depicted the spirit of fun. The dance was accompanied by native drums, as was the previous one. The third part of the program consisted entirely of the drums, in a novel piece called "Drum Conversation."

The well-known "Conga" was the basis for another original interpretation. Miss Primus related how we have changed the step of this dance, which originated with the slaves on plantations in the Caribbean. As they were chained by one foot, their movements were limited to three full-length steps followed by a short dragging

step. This pattern formed the basic rhythm for the dance which was done by Miss Estlin and Mr. Nash, with drums providing the pulsating background.

In the final presentation, Miss Primus gave an unusually emotional performance in an interpretation which she has titled simply "Trio"; its three divisions appropriately sub-titled "Statement", "Counterstatement", and "Conflict". A powerfully dramatic dance, it provided a fitting close for the program.

Tributes From School

A bouquet of roses from the student body and a book from the Faculty Club were presented to Miss Primus as tokens of the school's appreciation. To Dr. Brown's expressed hope that the guest would return again soon, Miss Primus graciously replied that she had enjoyed performing for us and that as long as Hunter welcomes her, she will be back.

—Jean Dinsmore

A.A., G.O. Teams Fight To A Draw

On October 24, in the North Gym, Hunterites broke a precedent: a General Organization-Athletic Association volley ball game did not end in the customary A.A. victory, but in a tie score. Not only the final outcome, but each of the two games was unusual.

At the half-point of the first battle, the G.O. was leading the A.A. with a score of 12 to 5, but the A.A. took the lead, winning the game by a score of 30 to 16.

In the next game the tables were turned. The A.A. led by a score of 11 to 7 when "time out" was called, but then lost as the G.O. rallied and captured the game with 18 points to their credit, to the A.A.'s 14.

However, the color of the game did not lie only in the score. As each team and cheering squad came into the gym, their uniforms held everyone's attention.

Clad in white and led by Helen Gillen, A.A. president, the A.A. girls marched into the gym. The team comprised Evelyn Snell, Dorothy Gwon, Regina Ambrose, Arden Brown, Vivian Burke, Hertha Fischer, Geraldyn Hurley, Elaine Jackson, Eileen Jones and Madeline Smith.

Following them came the G.O. team, wearing white shorts and yellow blouses, and captained by Jacqueline Brooks. The players included Debby Miller, Nell Cochrane, Joan DuBrow, Helga Rosenman, Jean Chinn, Gloria Cochrane, Betty Humbert, Elsie Jacobson, Doris Mager, Alice Newhouse, Barbara Richman and Paula Weltz.

Undoubtedly it was a game for everyone. Pre-game publicity brought in many excited spectators, who out-

Hunter Accepts 275 Candidates

Two hundred and seventy-five candidates have been admitted to Hunter College High School for next term. In the 9B section Anne Marie Jolly of P.S. 99 Manhattan received the highest score, 94.8%, and Rosalie Sacks of P.S. 115 Manhattan the second highest score, 92.2%. Ranking first among the 8B's with 93.8% was Virginia Meeth of P.S. 73 The Bronx. Charlotte Oscar of P.S. 68 Queens followed with 90.9%. Naomi Blumenthal of P.S. 114, The Bronx led the 6B's with a score of 90.3% and Lola Forscher of P.S. 152 Manhattan received the second highest score of 87.5%.

Seniors Attend Vocational Talks

A group of fifty Hunter Seniors had the opportunity on November 12, to attend "Young Alumnae Talk about Their Jobs", a program sponsored by the Committee on Vocational Guidance of Hunter College.

The program featured talks by young women who had been graduated from Hunter College not more than ten years ago, and who now hold worthwhile positions in their fields of specialization. Time was allotted at the end of each session for questions from the members of the audience.

The speakers clarified many of the difficulties which have to be surmounted in almost every field of endeavor, and were helpful in giving first hand information as to an advisable curriculum to follow for thorough preparation in the occupational field chosen.

New Books In Library Include Popular Novels

Mrs. Frances H. Lange, who replaced Miss Jean M. Tilley in the library during a six-weeks' absence, announced that the following new books can now be found on the shelves of room 305:

Carousel by Richard Rodgers, *Over Twenty-One* by Ruth Gordon, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* by George Kaufman, *The Peacock Sheds Its Tail* by Alice T. Hobart, *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy, *The Sea Wolf* by Jack London, *The Captain from Castille* by Samuel Shellabarger, *St. Joan* by G. B. Shaw, *The Story of Penicillin* by B. Sokoloff, *Mistress of the White House* by H. L. Morgan, *Green Dolphin Street* by Elizabeth Goudge, *Cluny Brown* by Margery Sharp, *The Black Rose* by Thomas Costain, *The Story of the Bible* by Bowie, *David, the King* by Gladys Schmitt, *You and Heredity* by Arram Scheinfeld, *A Solo in Tom-Toms* by Gene Fowler and *The Victor Book of the Opera*.

cheered the cheering squads. But when this A.A.-G.O. contest was over, no one had occasion to complain, for there were neither winners nor losers. All present could echo the sentiments of Helen Gillen, who said: "It was a swell game," and of Debby Miller, who exclaimed, "OOOh, it was wonderful."

—D.T.

Seniors' Antics Torment Helpless Lower Termers

Clever Show, "Fantasy In Art" Atones For Day Of Michief

With the coveted approval of "Miss Puerto Rico", the Senior Class of January, 1947, in its November 15 production entitled "Fantasy in Art", unveiled an ultra-modern artistic creation in murals, before the astounded eyes of the school. Relaxing at last, at the end of literally hair-raising tortures and back-breaking gymnastics, the audience was invited to forget care, and enter the world of imagination.

For the "honored and revered" Seniors, the fun had begun much earlier, when the first lower termers had entered specially designated portals of the school, dutifully arrayed in the required ensemble of hair-curlers, false freckles and beauty spots, gloves, sweater, and tail! A dunce-cap bearing the label "Traitor" was promptly added to the outfit of any girl wearing the forbidden hues of plaid. To keep the Seniors amused during the rest of the day, all lower classmen walked in almost perfect posture, carrying their books on their heads.

Ingenious Play-Script

The action of the Senior Day assembly show itself was centered around a mythical art gallery in the "Cosmopolitan Museum", where a contest was being held. Various and varied participants were called on by Mrs. Butterknife of the dulcet voice (Harriet Krantz), to give their interpretations of an ultra-modernistic mural painted by a great modern artist (Hunter's own Vera Henkin).

When a lowly but ambitious boot-black saw himself in the mural as king of a tropic isle, the curtain opened forthwith on a scene of palm trees and hula-hula girls, with Debby Miller lording over them as king, and Nell

Sixth Term Triumphs In Volleyball Contest

October 25, in the North Gym, the fifth and sixth term volleyball teams clashed in a spirited game from which the sixth term emerged the victor with a score of 27 to 13.

The fifth term cheering squad leaders, in checked skirts and white blouses, led the singing of "Here Comes the Fifth Term" as the White team took its place on the field. The sixth term team's cheering squad entered singing "B-I-u-e On To Victory!", and, as a finale, formed the numeral six and cheered their team, already sitting on the sidelines.

Both teams played well, and seemed equally matched as the first half drew to a close with a score of 9 to 8, sixth term leading. Although the fifth termers played vigorously in the second half, they were unable to check the increased agility and close teamwork of their opponents.

Playing on the fifth term team, led by Rozalyn Weiss, were Regina Ambrose, Carmen Carlo, Patricia Daniels, Dorothy Gwon, Geraldyn Hurley, Elaine Jackson, Eileen Jones, Alida Rognonni, Madeline Smith, and Jacqueline Williams. The winning team was composed of Arden Brown (captain), Sally Alberts, Lila Braunstein, Hertha Fischer, Marilyn Greifinger, Rose Knopf, Phyllis Levine, Ann McCready, Sylvia Moskowitz, Elaine Weinberger, and Marie Zolezzi.

Cochrane as Prime Minister Gallstone. The setting and costumes in this scene, as in all the others, were vividly appropriate.

The mural painting was next guilty of reminding one "Julius Richman" of his vain attempts to get into Heaven and Hell—at various times. Poor Julius (Fay Abeles) begged Heaven's adamant gatekeeper (Dorothy Baird) to let him enter, but all to no avail. He then besought Satan (Doris Lipsitz obliging), for admittance to the nether world. There it was discovered by Secretary Florence Zimmer that the candidate's index was far from the required 3.45!

The following scene consisted of a baseball player's dream of the "Brooklyn Squirrels" engaged in an effective original dance, composed by Joan Frank assisted by Helen Dobrow.

Last, but naturally not least, a Hunterite was called upon to state her interpretation of the mystery-mural. First she beheld the dread image of mid-terms: hence the ensuing scene, hilariously real, which featured the jittery students teetering on one-armed chairs under the supervision of a timorous, equally jittery pedagogue (the gentle but lively Senior well known as Esther Birnbaum).

Climax

The high point of merriment was reached when the teacher distributed blinkers to her pupils, since—to quote the playlet—"we use the honor system here at Hunter". Among the students present, Carol Calvert gave a realistic performance as the fluttery school-socialite, and Edna Fontek relaxed and slumped admirably.

Apart from nightmarish visions of examinations, Miss Hunterite's next dreams were of her future, with all the possible vocations she might some day honor. As the devoted young mother of three, in that dreamy future, Joyce Hines figured busily; Charlotte Champagne was the budding psychiatrist, and Marilyn Miller the poised and elegant night-club singer. Inevitably Miss Hunterite won the contest.

In the engaging company of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, the Seniors gave a singing finale conducted by Paula Weltz, vice-president. Senior president Frances Fuchs led the farewell song, a musing parody on "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows", and the marching song reminiscent of "Give My Regards to Broadway".

To express their hearty gratitude for coaching and chaperonage, the Seniors gave rousing cheers—and fall corsages—to these teachers: Miss Evangeline Trolander for her direction of the show, and Miss Charlotte Hochman for musical "polishing"; Mrs. Dorothy Young for script editing, and Mrs. Helen Matthew for chaperonage; to Miss Marion Root for help with dances, and to Miss Mildred A. Busch for "constant inspiration and help".

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To Give
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Harvest Home

The sun shone brightly that first Thanksgiving Day. Twenty acres of blazing yellow corn stretched out behind the seven sturdy log houses. Fifty-one Pilgrims gathered about the huge feast table that groaned and sank deeper into the virgin soil as fresh supplies of roast wild fowl, sea food, corn bread, hasty pudding, herbs, fruits, and brandies were heaped upon it.

The celebration was by no means private; Massasoit had accepted the Pilgrims' invitation, and had proved his goodwill by bringing with him ninety braves, whose colorful headdresses and scanty fur coverings threw the more severe costumes of the Pilgrims into weird contrast. For three days, the primeval forest echoed with the cheers and shouts of Indians and Pilgrims alike, as they played and danced and sang together.

Some of us look back at that historic scene with envy. We fail to realize how much the Pilgrims did not have to be thankful for; how small a percentage of survivors was fifty-one out of one hundred and twenty-one souls; how small a percentage of all their tilled and sown fields were the twenty-four acres of corn that yielded; how small a compensation even the tremendous feast was for the months of work and disappointment.

The real strength of a people is tested at Thanksgiving time. It takes more courage and sturdiness to thank God for what we have than to mourn for what we have lost and for what we have not received. It takes more generosity to join with our enemies in fairness and righteousness than to revel in the spoils of the victors. It takes a great deal of magnanimity for the peoples of the world to join in a common Thanksgiving, to gather around a common table, to bow their heads in unison and to seek a common blessing. Can we meet that test?

Time For Decision

Not long ago we devoted an entire G.O. meeting to the discussion of whether or not to continue the present system of first and second choices in G.O. elections. Although the decision was affirmative, the dissenters were large enough a bloc to warn us that the question is not permanently closed.

We must prove just the decision that was made, by showing that the system does a positive good, and that not merely lethargy prompted us to continue it. If the selection only gives the members of the G.O. Council a chance to express fixed and unchangeable opinions, then let us no longer waste either our time or our voices. Presumably the decisions on the status of the candidates are the combined, determined conclusions, on the part of the chosen representatives of the entire student body, concerning the qualifications of individual candidates. If so, let us not keep these decisions obscurely hidden. Since the G.O. is the servant of the student body, it is every student's right to know the organization's decisions.

We firmly believe that the G.O. student representatives are elected because they are the best-informed and most interested girls the school has to offer. As such they are better acquainted with the service and ability of the candidates than are the majority of the students in the school, especially the lower termers and recent entrants. G.O. decisions, as they are made, should be placed before the "constituents".

Top-Notchers

FRANCES FUCHS



Laughing, energetic Frances Fuchs, Senior President, usually can be found surrounded by hurrying, bustling seniors.

Fran's chief interest lies in her term, largely because she feels that in such activities many valued friendships are formed which could not be made by concentrating one's energy in the G.O. where, she believes, there are fewer close personal contacts.

Reviewing her high school years, Frances is very glad that she participated in extra-curricular activities, because they have made school more interesting, have taught the value of teamwork, and have brought her a great deal of pleasure. Fran believes that every girl should participate in some activity "But not", she admits like a well-trained Hunterite, "to such an extent that he marks will suffer!"

Fran, however, while maintaining an enviable scholastic record, has had an unusual career in Hunter. In the six terms she has been here, she has held the office of term president twice, and that of term vice-president twice.

Fran is best known for her efficiency and ambition. The latter she hopes to apply in the future to the field of medicine, after studying at Cornell University, if admitted.

In the realm of music, Fran confesses to being exceedingly fond of her saxophone. Its name is George.

The festivities of Senior Day, when the spirit of the school "comes out in full bloom" heaped high the icing on the cake of Fran's happiness in Hunter.

Some Data On Discs

BEST JAZZ: Let's face it, the trend is toward boogie-woogie. And even if those peculiar left-hand beats don't "send" you, we recommend "Tiny's Boogie-Woogie" anyway. It features Tiny Grimes on electric guitar, and John Hardee, about whom we told you last month, on tenor.

Don't miss the inimitable piano work of Erroll Garner as he interprets "Can't Get Started With You."

BEST POPULAR: Claude Thornhill's piano and orchestra shine on a beautiful arrangement of the oldie, "Yours Is My Heart Alone". The disc is backed by the new tune (from Gregory Peck's new picture) "Gotta Get Me Somebody To Love". Other excellent waxings of the latter include Martha Tilton's and Tommy Dorsey's.

Another old favorite, "Stardust", is handled masterfully by Billy Butterfield and features one of the finest trumpet solos we've heard in a long time.

Also recommended—Herbie Field's new band playing "Jealousy".

ALBUM OF THE MONTH: "Blue Skies" brings us Bing at his best, with Irving Berlin not doing so badly either. The album features the numbers from the picture of the same name; you'll hear Fred Astaire and Trudy Irwin assisting Bing. Best sides are "All By Myself", "Cuba", and the Astaire-Crosby specialty.

STANDOUT VOCALS: Seems as though we're always recommending King Cole records. Don't miss "The Best Man" backed by "For Sentimental Reasons". And the Trio, with their recent "Christmas Song" have come up with a rival for "White Christmas".

The gal who makes other female vocalists sound dull, Judy Garland,

PAULA WELTZ



Today a little china dwarf named "Bashful" ranks first among Paula Weltz's most cherished possessions. To this spirited Senior Vice-President, this mannequin, indirectly a member of the Senior Day cast, symbolizes the Senior show she so much enjoyed working on, and also the Senior term spirit that made the production a success.

"There's school spirit all the way through Hunter", says Paula, who feels that the school's small size and "homey" atmosphere greatly aid the development of this spirit. "You just can't help getting to know everyone else", she added. Three years as a Hunterite have served to increase Paula's admiration for the school and for the G.O. in particular, which she thinks is "simply wonderful." No G.O. meeting could be quite complete without Paula's infectious giggle and convincing arguments.

A sea-food addict, Paula will eat anything and everything rufed over by King Neptune; nevertheless she'll never refuse a thick steak—rare. She is very a sports enthusiast, and skiing leads her list of recreation favorites. As all those who have played against her can testify, Paula throws a mean volleyball and "rings a basket" every time.

Besides the aforementioned figure of "Bashful," Paula treasures the identification bracelet her little sister class gave her, and her senior ring. Her college plans are still vague, but she knows that she would like to work in the fields of psychology and science.

When Paula entered Hunter in third term, she seemed to be destined for success. She has participated in various phases of school life with the boundless exuberance that is Paula Weltz. And so we can safely prophesy that as long as she goes on being her own inimitable self, greater things will come Paula's way.

has been teamed with Dick Haymes for an excellent job on "Aren't You Kinda Glad We Did?". Victor has also re-issued one of Judy's old hits, "Love", and backed it with "Changing My Tune".

Tony Martin, who was never one of our favorites, has been turning out some excellent stuff. Ditto Martha Tilton. Have you heard Tony's "Rumors Are Flyin'?"

Sarah Vaughn, whom you'll be hearing more about, has recorded a fifteen-year old Gershwin tune, "I've Got A Crush On You". The platter will be released soon, so watch for it. We've heard rumors that Frank Sinatra is going to record the same tune.

IN A CLASSICAL VEIN: An excellent Victor recording of Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto in C Minor is now available. It's the one you've been waiting for, featuring Artur Rubenstein as soloist with the N.B.C. Symphony Orchestra.

We've heard raves about a new album with Leo Smit performing Aaron Copeland's Piano Sonata and "Our Town" Suite.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER: If you can find this "collector's item"—come and tell us where. One of the all-time jazz classics is Avery Parrish's "After Hours", featuring Parrish at the piano and Erskine Hawkin's old band in the background. There is a reissue of the same tune by Ace Harris out now, but it will give you only a small taste of the beauty, hushed feeling, and wonderful piano blues you'll find in the original.

That's What

At Midterm Time . . .

A grudge is a place where cars are kept. A newspaper morgue is a collection of facts about persons living and diseased.

Loss To Humanity

A Physics teacher, in her best rhetorical style, asked her class the famous question, "What is electricity?" Not realizing that no answer exists, an eager-to-please student hastily replied, "Oh! I knew last night!" The teacher smiled, "What a catastrophe! The only person who ever knew has forgotten."

The Battle Of The Bulge

Bring on the carrot, lettuce, prune: For streamlined measurements I swoon. I'll hit one hundred-ninety soon—I'm starting on a diet.

Staub's and Hunter's I'll not enter, I'll forsake my social center, Mahatma Gandhi is my mentor—I'm starting on a diet.

Chocolate fudge cake à la mode Is just another five-pound load; To slimness it's a long, hard road—I will keep on my diet.

The joy is gone from life! I brood From hour to hour on gooey food; I'm in a masticating mood Why did I start a diet?

Carrots and lettuce don't appeal, And stewed prunes make my blood congeal; I'd sell my soul for a solid meal— Oh! Curse this nasty diet!

When sister kisses me goodnight, I think, "She'd make a tasty bite!" But then, such thoughts are not polite—I cannot break my diet.

My torture lasted but one day, I just had a walnut sundae. I'll start another diet Monday, "Waiter . . .!"

—MARTHA FONTEK

Fiery Comment

Title of a composition: "Autumn Rhapsody". Teacher's Comment: "Toss it on a pile of burning autumn leaves!"

100% D^2

F d^2

Asked why she insisted upon her students sitting as near to the front of the room as possible, a Physics instructor replied, "It has been proved that the regents marks are inversely proportional to the square of the distance between the front of the room and the back!"

Trial And Error

In reply to a query about the inaccuracy of her watch, a student confessed it had become magnetized during Physics class. When harassed for further information, the student brought the conversation to an abrupt close, despairing, "My watch has the magnetic personality, and I have the iron constitution."

\$64 Question

Have you heard about the Hunterite who had to consult her notes when asked for the date of the Proclamation of 1793?

Comes The Revolution

A sixth term Physics teacher told her class about the famous department offer to take to dinner any student receiving 100% on the Physics regents. One Hunterite, seeing a safe bet, replied that should she get the coveted mark, she would feel inclined to take the Physics staff out to dinner.

Point Of Information

After hurrying through the discussion of a certain topic on a recent assembly day, a History teacher asked if there were any questions, whereupon an erudite raised her hand and asked when the period would end.

Returning Hunter Teacher Spreads A California Glow

Dr. Iona R. Logie has consented to set down for WHAT'S WHAT some of her impressions of California, where she spent a half year's leave of absence.

One feels somewhat reluctant to join, in print, at least, the growing millions of Californians, especially while still privileged to be in Hunter. So many comparisons rise to mind, so many differences; but in all sincerity it must be said that Hunter's quality of girls, faculty, and curriculum will never suffer by comparison. For college preparation, there is undoubtedly a wealth of solid material in our course of study. Inevitably, however, the beautiful surroundings of California schools must rise to anyone's mind . . .

The green acres outside (especially in the smaller cities, even in San Francisco and Los Angeles); the huge playgrounds; the mild climate which makes out-door sports a continuous attraction (and distraction); the custom of having several buildings for a single school, with separate music building (usually soundproofed), and few buildings more than two stories high; the wealth of brilliant flowers on most school grounds, even calla lilies growing out of the brown dirt everywhere; the beautiful classrooms with flowers on every teacher's desk, and student art work decorating most of the walls . . .

Apart from the greater sense of freedom which such surroundings—and space—give one, the cities of the West have undeniably a less frantic tempo. People there are full of life and energy, smiling, neighborly . . . not so visibly harassed, preoccupied, and tense as here in the East. Of course it is the overcrowded conditions here which contribute to this tension, and the fierce competition in buying and selling. Other cities have their mixture of races, religions, and nationalities, just as we have. But where there is more room, and blue

skies, grass and trees, around one's home, the sense of freedom to live comes more easily to each individual. He can be more of an individual!

As for Hollywood? Too much like a Coney Island boardwalk or 14th Street lifted on a helpless magic carpet and set down amid low brown hills. Too many people dimming their own lights before the artificial brilliance of the Klieg lights. Too many people dressed and made up in hope of striking a talent scout's eye! . . . A sense of impermanence and unreality in the rows of stucco bungalows. (The beautiful mansions are tucked away in the hills overlooking the Pacific, or sheltered in the San Fernando valley.)

San Francisco . . . the city closest to a New Yorker's heart, for it has the cultural advantages of good music, art, ballet, opera, and at least a few busy theatres . . . It has a fascinating cosmopolitan atmosphere, largely colored by the Oriental and the Mexican (one school showed the visitor a large singing group composed of one-third Chinese, one-third Mexican, and one-third blondes!). Above all, San Francisco is a city set upon many steep hills, where the cable cars (and ordinary ones) draw one up to magnificent heights. In fact, whether working out at the hospital on the Golden Gate, or visiting in the city itself, one has always the sense of dwelling on heights, with the cool, fresh winds off the Pacific blowing the morning fog away to reveal a brilliant, sunny blue day. Invigorating to a thrilling degree!

Delegate To The U.N. Reviews Problems Of Czech Education

by Edith Schleissner

His Excellency Jan Masaryk, son of the illustrious founder of the Czechoslovakian Republic, and head of his country's delegation to the United Nations, granted an interview at his hotel to this Hunter reporter after a recent special session of the U.N.

A tall, dignified, genial man, dressed in a black business suit, Mr. Masaryk was understandably fatigued, but he generously answered all the questions put to him. Throughout the interview, his mind seemed to be in the homeland with his people, as he reminisced about his boyhood.

One of the questions asked of Mr. Masaryk concerned the high-speed system of education introduced in Czechoslovakia because of time lost during the war. As to whether this speed-up is exerting an unfavorable influence on academic thoroughness, the delegate from Czechoslovakia stated that although most students had been deprived by the Nazis of almost seven years' education, and although crowded conditions are now interfering with the normal progress of studies, this state of affairs will improve in a year or two. Emphatically Mr. Masaryk said: "Even if the students don't get every advantage we might desire, they are infinitely better off than during the dark years of the heathen occupation."

When the school reporter naturally inquired about social and fraternity life in Czech schools at the present time, Mr. Masaryk mentioned several colleges in Prague where students live together in a semblance of fraternity life. There are, however, few private schools; campus life as it is known in America, is not general in Europe. There are of course many

social halls and sports clubs, choral groups and debating societies. "The joy of just being free once more," said Mr. Masaryk, "is making our students into a fairly happy family!"

When asked about the possibilities for interchange of Czechoslovakian and American students at the high school level, Mr. Masaryk replied that so far there have been no such plans made. There are, however, arrangements for the interchange of university students. In Mr. Masaryk's opinion, the exchange of teachers is of paramount importance.

"The more we know about other nations", he said, "the better we shall understand both the good qualities of other people as well as their oddities!" He mentioned in particular a very successful student congress held in Prague last summer, at which young people from many parts of the world discussed their common problems. Mr. Masaryk expressed his hope of continuing these meetings, for, as he said in closing the interview, "while older statesmen are trying to organize a permanent peace, it will be up to the younger generation to carry it out, to safeguard it, and to make democracy prevail. This is a difficult task, but I have full confidence that you young people will succeed!"

A Word To The Wise

ABOUT A BOOK

From cover to cover of Christopher La Farge's beautifully written novel, "The Sudden Guest," sweep the tempests and terrors of three great storms. Two of these are hurricanes, the memorable ones that raged along our eastern coast in 1938 and 1944, and they in turn produce the third storm, the one within Miss Carrel Leckton's mind.

A wealthy spinster, coldly withdrawn into her narrow life, Miss Leckton spent her summers in her ancestral home on Olneys Point, a Rhode Island peninsula. Here the reader meets her, and here the action of the book takes place. It is a day in 1944, and a hurricane is brewing. Miss Leckton, as she makes frantic preparations to withstand the storm, cannot keep her mind from dwelling upon a day in 1938, a day just like this later one in respect to wind velocity and barometer reading, but dissimilar as far as conditions within her home are concerned. In 1938 Miss Leckton did not weather the storm alone, nor was she frightened. But when the doorbell was wildly rung by various exhausted victims of the tidal wave seeking shelter, the intrusions, a threat to her smoothly running routine and carefully constructed barriers of class and family, were more than she could bear. Deliberately the self-centered woman turned away two people—and admitted several others only because she could not help herself.

Miss Leckton, alone and deserted by servants, family, and friends in 1944, is tormented by her remembrance of the other hurricane, for she slowly realizes it is her fault that she is now alone. She has the bitter taste of fear in her mouth, and is no longer so arrogant and proud. At last she stoops to wishing she were not isolated in this time of terror.

"The Sudden Guest" is worthy of recommendation on several counts. Mr. La Farge shifts from past to present, and then to past again, so easily and skillfully that the reader is not at all confused. Rather, one appreciates this technique since it underlies the purpose and mood of the story. Descriptions of the actual storms are overpowering realistic.

Miss Carrel Leckton is a completely authentic character. She may be interpreted as symbolizing nations or groups of people that needed two sieges of havoc, two wars, to teach them they can not be happy or even safe in isolationism. "The Sudden Guest" is a mature book of great depth, a book whose interest lies in reactions of the mind rather than in a swiftly moving plot. Even if you do not usually enjoy the psychological novel, "The Sudden Guest" is just the one that may well prove the exception to your rule of likes and dislikes.

—Anne Beck

"This Is Kate," a charming story written by Margaret Hard, we highly recommend to all younger teen-agers. It is the story of a little girl, Kate, and of her life in a Canadian Convent. As the youngest student at Le Sacre Coeur, and the only one who is not Catholic, there are many things which she is not allowed to do.

Kate has her own interpretations of Biblical teachings, and, although usually well-founded, they are more than a little startling to the reader—and to the Reverend Mother. When Kate thinks something is unjust, she takes the matter into her own hands.

Throughout the story of this little girl, there is an air of expectancy; one never knows what the heroine is likely to do next. Mrs. Hard tells her story in so winning a manner that the reader closes the book feeling almost as much affection for Kate as the Reverend Mother and the sisters feel.

—Mary Beck

ABOUT A PLAY

Coming in the midst of a theatrical season studded with revivals, successes and very few failures, the Jose Ferrer production of Edmond Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac" ranks high on the credit side of the Broadway ledger. Not only does Ferrer do a magnificent job as director and producer of the play; in the title role, he portrays Cyrano as the grandiloquent, caustic and pathetic creature Rostand meant him to be. Perhaps the first point in the revival's favor is the brilliant Brian Hooker version of the French play, the same version that Walter Hampden made popular in his one-thousand performances of the play in the 1920's.

Proxy Lover

The story is about a sensitive wit and poet named Cyrano, who duels with anyone who refers to his long nose. Because of his ugliness he thinks himself inferior, and dares not confess his deep love for Roxane, his beautiful cousin. When Cyrano's friend Christian, a handsome but unlettered man, falls in love with her, Cyrano writes fervent letters to the lady in his rival's name. The letters are successful for Christian, and Roxane thinks herself in love with him. It is not until it is too late that she realizes who wrote the beautiful letters and spoke the ardent words that captivated her.

Frances Reid as Roxane and Ernest Graves as Christian give realistic and moving performances, but it is Jose Ferrer who is the brilliant star of the cast.

"Cyrano de Bergerac," a romantic tragedy with a special appeal for romantic-minded schoolgirls, is a play well worth seeing and an experience to be remembered.

—Marilyn Brody

ABOUT A MOVIE

Noel Coward's newest British film, "Brief Encounter", now being shown at the Little Carnegie Theater, is a definite challenge to other motion pictures. It might be that here is shown a way for motion picture producers to abandon their policy of over-coloring plots and putting characters in exaggerated surroundings.

In this production, there are three principal characters, a woman, her husband, and a married doctor. By chance, the woman and the doctor go to the adjoining town on the same day each week. Accidentally they are brought together at the railroad station as each is starting for a suburban home. Other unplanned encounters occur until soon they are looking forward to their weekly meetings in town. At last they realize that they are falling in love, but both admit that they must stop seeing each other. The knowledge that in time each would forget this love does not help them to separate. Rather it is the realization of the part that society and their families play in their lives that makes the difficult parting inevitable for people of their calibre.

Most of the story is told by the wife, ably portrayed by Celia Johnson, as she plans what she would say to her husband if she were to tell him of her love for the doctor.

In "Brief Encounter" there is no feeling that the film is a studio production. This is a movie that is close to its audience; each character and scene grip the attention. The realism of the plot is enhanced by perfect casting, simple settings, and a beautiful musical score.

—Diane Taylor

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Your Theatre Inc. Affirms "You Too Can Be An 'Angel'"

by Rhoda Ratner

"Now you too may become an angel" is the slogan, not of a soap company, but of a new type of play-producing company, Your Theatre Inc.

Mr. Lengsfelder, a noted European playwright, upon realizing that all Broadway shows are controlled, not by dramatic experts or by popular choice, but by "angels" (or wealthy backers usually with no theatrical knowledge), conceived an idea by which he hopes to bring the public in closer contact with the theatre. According to his plan, there will be no individual backers; instead, his productions will be supported by subscribers. Anyone who buys a ticket to one of the first thirty performances is entitled to share in fifty percent of the profits, and has a voice in the selection of the next play to be produced. The company has de-

cidied to produce four shows a year, the first being a comedy, "Heads or Tails," which will probably open in January.

The idea has caused a storm of discussion in the theatrical world. Many feel that it is a wonderful opportunity for the public to exert a greater influence on Broadway, and possibly reap financial benefit without risk. Others regard it with scepticism; but all look forward with interest to the opening of "Heads or Tails."

Debaters Present Political Platforms

Carrying posters endorsing various candidates and parties for this year's gubernatorial and senatorial elections, Hunterites marched into the College Assembly Hall on October 22 for the Political Rally assembly of 1946. Edith Aaronson, President of the I.R.C., presided over the rally.

The first speaker was Gloria Cochran, who presented the Republican party platform. She brought out the fact that the Republicans have found solutions for agricultural and social problems, have planned public works, reduced delinquency, and can still show 443 million dollars remaining in the treasury.

Jacqueline Brooks listed Governor Dewey's personal qualifications for re-election. She explained that he has saved the taxpayers 50% of their income taxes and if re-elected will ensure four more years of prosperity.

The qualifications of Mr. Ives, Republican candidate for Senator, were stated by Joyce Litt, who assured that Mr. Ives could run on his assembly record alone.

Harriet Krantz stated that New York State has had its period of greatest social and financial security

during the Democratic administrations of Governors Smith, Roosevelt, and Lehman. The Democratic supporters attacked Governor Dewey's handling of the employment and veteran problems and enumerated the proposals of the Democratic platform.

Sally Seader, discussing the qualifications of James Mead, Democratic candidate for Governor, declared that he has fought for labor against great odds, and has also done much education and finance work.

Herbert Lehman's experience, both in state and federal positions, was presented by Celia Spiro. She emphasized the experience he has gained in problems of foreign affairs as Director-General of UNRRA, and in internal affairs as thrice-elected governor of New York.

The American Labor Party, represented by Annaliese Centauer, and the Liberal Party, represented by Sonia Sayer, both support the Democratic candidates and platforms.

The school in assembly made evident by a show of hands that Senator Mead and Mr. Lehman, the Democratic candidates, had won the support of Hunterites.

National Contests Will Acknowledge Superior Talents

Scholastic Magazines annually offer over 800 cash prizes and 70 scholarships for creative work in writing and photography. Special awards include a four year Writing Major Scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh.

Among the Scholastic Writing Awards there are prizes for short stories, essays, poetry and plays. Junior high school work is judged in a special division. All contributions must be submitted before March 5, 1947.

Photo Contests

The Photo Contest sponsored by Scholastic Magazines offers awards for sport shots, photographic stories, and school and camp scenes. The national closing date is March 23, 1947.

Rule booklets and entry blanks to Scholastic contests may be obtained by writing to Scholastic Magazines, 220 East 42 Street, New York 17, New York.

The nation-wide photo contest sponsored by the Graflex company will also be of interest to photo fans. Cash awards will total \$5000. For the best photo submitted by a high school student there will be a special \$100 prize. This is in addition to regular prizes in each of ten photo classifications.

Entry forms and official contest rules may be obtained from Graflex Inc., Rochester 8, New York.

Harrison Young, Director of the Harry Doehla Art Competition, has announced the second annual nationwide competition open to high-school boys and girls, which offers prizes totaling over \$10,000 in scholarships and U.S. Bonds. The competition is open to students of public high schools throughout the U.S. Its purpose is to encourage young artists and develop their talent and art appreciation. The problem in the competition is to create an original design in color, suitable for use on a greeting card.

A jury of nationally-known artists, under the chairmanship of Miss Virginia Murphy, art director, New York City Board of Education, will select the prize winners.

The competition is sponsored by Mr. Harry Doehla of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, who believes that a high school student's artistic talent, both active and latent, can best be developed by such gestures of encouragement as the Art Competition. For all information write to Competition Headquarters at 12 East 41 Street, New York 17, New York.

Clubs And Terms

SEVENTH TERM: The following committees have been elected: Moving-Up Day Committee, Senior Day Committee, and Publicity Committee.

SIXTH TERM: *Annals* Editor: Joan Geensburg; Associate Editor: Bianca Nielson; Literary Editor: Alice Samson; Art Editor: Anna di Martino.

FIFTH TERM: The term project, a masquerade, took place November 22. The proceeds will go toward the class edition of *Annals* (June, 1948).

FOURTH TERM: Secretary: Ellen Schleicher; Treasurer: Marcia Chapman; A.A. Rep: Judith Gelb; P.T.A. Rep: Lila Camacho; Red Cross Rep: Erica Lenz.

The term project consists of sending canned food overseas, and making a United Nations scrapbook album.

GERMAN CLUB: The club will present "Die Meisterschaft", by Mark Twain, as part of its Christmas program.

GLEE CLUB: President: Vera Lorch; Vice-President: Lilian Christie.

JOURNALISM CLUB: The club is to have Miss Sylvia Lewis, Woman's Editor of the N.Y. Post, as a speaker in December. The members have recently given reports on women famous in journalism.

KLUB UND KLASSE: The theme of the German magazine this term is "Holidays and Festivals of Germany."

MATH CLUB: In conjunction with the Physics Club, the Math Club is preparing a quiz to be held with boys from Stuyvesant some time in December.

NEWMAN CLUB: President: Patricia Cambridge; Vice-President: Ann O'Toole; Secretary: Regina Ambrose.

PHYSICS CLUB: The members recently took a trip to the Museum of Science and Industry to see the photography and the naval radar exhibits. Other similar trips are planned.

SENIOR DRAMATIC CLUB: Casting is under way for a production to be given in March with students from Stuyvesant.

SIGMA GAMMA PI: Members are offering coaching in all subjects to all who want help.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT: The Hunter College Varsity gave a special performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the high school on Saturday, November 16. Elaine Sobol, a Hunter High alumna who was stage manager, reports that the players found this particular high school audience by far the most receptive and enthusiastic.

Traffic Leaders Cite Regulations

Laura Kallman, this term's Traffic Squad Captain, and her assistants, 1st Lieutenant Mary Johnson and 2nd Lieutenants Mary Jackson, Renée Kirsch, Katherine Powell, Barbara Richman, and Alida Rognonni, wish to review the following rules:

1. Students wishing to drink at a water fountain must form a line and not congest traffic. They must not run in the halls or linger there after classes.
2. The elevator runs from the first to the fifth floors only, except during lunch period, when the elevator runs from the first to the sixth floor. Students waiting for the elevator must form a double line to the right of the elevator and must not push. Once in the elevator everybody must face the front. After 8:23, the elevator line stops; after 8:25, the elevator does not run for students without passes.
3. Stairways 1 and 2 are up and down, 4 and 6 are up only and 3 and 5 are down only. Students must keep in single file on the right at all times.
4. Students are to form a line at the lunch counter and there is to be no passing of money. Students must not push either into the line or into the elevator.
5. During dismissal, stairways 1 and 2 are to be used for going up only, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are reserved for coming down.



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