3-1-1955

Alumni News

Rhode Island College
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING AND DINNER will be held Wednesday, MAY 11, at the College. Dinner will be served at 6:30, followed by entertainment and the annual Business Meeting.

For dinner reservations, write to the Alumni Office, or call JA 1-4306 or GA 1-7945.

TEA AND RECEPTION

A brilliant display of forsythia formed the background for the Annual Alumni Tea and Reception honoring the Senior Class Sunday, March 20.

Anna C. Hawthorne, '30, chairman of the affair, was assisted by Dorothy Nass, Margaret Finn, Mrs. Kenneth Riley, Mrs. Frank Rotondi, Mrs. Frank Greene, Mrs. Ann Vermette, all of the class of '30, and Barbara Finegan, Janet Maddox, Jane Brown, Lillian Connelly, Nancy McLean, Mary McCauley, Mildred Barton, and Barbara Motte, of the Class of '54.

Alumni and Seniors were welcomed by a receiving line which included President and Mrs. Gaige, Dr. Donovan, and Alumni Officers Claire V. Ducharme, Angela McDonough, Mary L. Sullivan and Betty Reardon.

Fourers were Mrs. Gaige, Dean Catherine E. Connor, Dean Gertrude E. McGunigle, Trustee Caroline E. Nayerly, Former Trustee Sara L. Kerr, and members of the class of 1905: Mrs. Ellen Richards, M. Elizabeth Salois, Anna Brennan, and Annie Church.

Background music was supplied by Mrs. Marjorie Fisher, harpist, and Mrs. Catherine Hall, pianist.

For Your Calendar:
May 11 . . . Annual Meeting and Dinner
June 18 . . . Commencement

THE McCABE-MCWEENLY BILL

The original McCabe-McWeeney bill would place control of the financial affairs of the two state colleges under the state treasurer and the state director of administration. The substitute bill would give the state director of administration control over the physical plants, maintenance, etc., and the administration of the college accounts.

The original bill - S244 was introduced in the State Senate on Friday, March 4, and referred to the committee on finance.

At the regular monthly meeting of the alumni executive board, Tuesday, March 8, your alumni secretary was directed to inquire into the matter. A day later it became evident that it was too late for inquiry. The bill was voted out of committee on Wednesday for action on Friday.

Wednesday evening Alumni President Claire V. Ducharme, Legislative Chairman James Donaldson, and your alumni secretary drew up a statement which was approved in telephone conversations by the majority of the executive board members. One member disapproved; one could not be reached. The statement, as released, follows:

"Statement of Claire V. Ducharme, president, on behalf of the Executive Board of the Associated Alumni of Rhode Island College of Education:

"The Alumni of Rhode Island College of Education are deeply appreciative of the concern of the political leaders of the State for the welfare of our College. We feel, however, that we must express our fear that Senate Bill 244 could in future years prove detrimental to the best interests of our institution. It would allow the control of funds to be vested directly in the hands of those
whose offices are dependent on the results of political elections. This possibility of eventual political control of our institutions for higher education causes us to oppose passage of the proposed legislation."

In the face of rising opposition, the legislation was brought to the Senate floor as scheduled and was immediately referred back to committee. The finance committee then invited to Board of Trustees of State Colleges and the finance committee of the House to a closed hearing on Tuesday, March 15.

Protests were heard from various civic leaders and organizations and from the students and faculties of the two colleges. When it became certain that the bill could not be passed on Friday, March 18, the sponsors moved that it be recommitted to committee (where it is expected to die) and introduced the substitute measure. This bill was also referred to the finance committee.

At present the Board of Trustees is entirely responsible for the financial affairs of the two colleges. The annual budget drawn up by the colleges if approved by the Board, then reviewed by the state budget office, the governor, and the finance committees of the legislature. Expenditures are pre-audited by the state controller, classified employees are subject to civil service regulations, and all regular purchases are made through the state purchasing division. The state bureau of audits receives the audit of college funds by a private firm of certified public accountants.

This year, the Board of Trustees requested larger appropriations for both colleges than those of the current year. U.R.I. was cut back to this year's figure, while R.I.C.E. was allowed enough extra money to permit the appointment of six new faculty members.

Both Governor Roberts and Director of Administration Howard A. Kanyon have made it clear that they do not support the control bill.

**ORNCHIDS TO . . .**

Mrs. Marie Gilbride and Wilna Nagel for their very successful membership drive in Warwick. At least sixty-four new members have been added to the active list through their efforts.

**NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI**

Twelve members of the Class of 1905 found the Alumni Tea a pleasant setting for a reunion. Thirty-seven members of the class were sent invitations. To any who were not contacted, our apologies. We were not able to obtain a complete up-to-date listing.

Mrs. Edward J. Burrell, past president of the Associated Alumni, has received a singular honor. For her outstanding work in Catholic activities, particularly in charities for the blind, she has been awarded the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifico medal by Pope Pius XII.

Mrs. Irene M. (Banfill) McGill, '12, writing from Brownsville, Texas, tells us she is studying for her master's degree at A & I College, Kingsville, Texas. After graduating from R.I.N.S. Mrs. McGill studied at Columbia and the University of Texas. She is now a teacher of the mentally retarded in Brownsville.

Mary G. Colton, president of the class of '35, is arranging a class reunion to be held at the Metacomet Golf Club, April 16.

The Westerly Chapter now has fifty-seven active members.

**FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE**

Much time and effort is going into revising Alumni lists. Class lists from 1925 to 1954 have been sent out to class agents for correction. Twelve lists have already been revised and returned. We hope by May 11 to have all agents' reports in.

**HAVE YOU HEARD?** 355 students took R.I.C.E. entrance examination March 28.
Former Faculty Column

Dear Friends,

As an honorary member of the first R. I. C. E. class that took the bachelor's degree, I feel that I belong to the alumni by early adoption. I still receive letters from a good many of the graduates but should like to hear from more, as I shall always cherish the memory of my twenty-nine years in that pleasant company at R.I.C.E.

Since I retired and joined the ranks of the has-beens I have had plenty to do to keep me out of mischief, keeping up my membership in various professional organizations, and joining others, including the Florida Psychological Association and Sigma Xi. For the past ten years I have been a staff abstractor for Psychological Abstracts which has published over 100 such condensations by me during the period of a year.

My old research problem on centenarians is making haste slowly. I have now collected over 800 of these valiant souls. When I have about 1000 I shall have some worthwhile data on what happens at the outposts of human longevity.

Since 1949 I have spent six months of each year here in St. Petersburg, where Mary L. Young, '96, and I have occupied the same cozy apartment on a palm-shaded street near Tampa Bay. We still drive here from Providence in our '41 Class (present mileage 103,000) recently exchanged for a '53 of the same species with only 20,000 miles on the speedometer, as yet.

St. Pete is a lovely place, where "Ev'ry prospect please," with Tampa Bay on one side and the beautiful Gulf of Mexico on the other, "The scenery and climate are unsurpassed" to quote from the Camber of Commerce guide book.

Yours with heartfelt good wishes,

Grace E. Bird

Summer Session

Summer Session Bulletins were mailed out last week to teachers and schools throughout the state. In announcing the summer program, Dr. Donovan pointed out that the R.I. College of Education graduate program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

This year, for the first time, registration may be made by mail. Such registrations will be accepted on or after May 2. Those who wish to register in person may do so between June 13 and 24. Applications for tuition courses must, of course, be accompanied by check or money order.

All courses, unless otherwise specified, will carry three semester hours of credit. Registrants are limited to six hours during the summer session.

Copies of the Summer Session may be obtained by writing to the R. I., College of Education Extension School, 25 Park Street, Providence.

Constitution Revision

The revision of the constitution and by-laws of the Associated Alumni has been completed by the committee and approved by the executive board.

Constitutional changes must be introduced at one meeting and acted upon at the next. The by-laws may be altered at the annual meeting, May 11.

Changes to note: (1) The position of Alumni Secretary is included.

(2) Election procedures have been changed slightly to insure the most democratic process possible.

(3) The method of organizing Alumni Clubs has been detailed in the hope that such clubs may become more numerous in the future. At present, only Westerly has such an organization.

For you to decide: The executive board felt that the membership should discuss and decide upon eligibility to membership (Art III Sec. 1) It has been traditional in our association that only graduates should be eligible to join. However, many colleges consider as alumni any who ever attended the school. The executive board felt that the membership should have an opportunity to discuss and act on this matter of fundamental policy.