5-1-1955

Alumni News

Rhode Island College

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ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Associated Alumni was held at the College Wednesday evening, May 11. A dinner preceded the meeting at which officers and committee chairmen presented annual reports.

Speakers included William C. Gaige, president of the College, Caroline E. Haverly, Trustee, and Robert Coehlo and Jean Tattrie, president and class agent respectively of the Class of 1955.

Much of the meeting was devoted to discussion of the proposed revision of the Alumni Constitution and By-laws presented by James Donaldson, chairman of the Constitution Revision Committee. It was felt that there was need for further consideration of the suggested changes and it was decided to hold a special meeting for that purpose in the fall.

1955-56 DUES ARE DUE NOW

COMMENCEMENT

Dr. Henry Steele Commager, professor of history at Columbia University, will present the principal address at Commencement Exercises June 18.

106 seniors will receive degrees at the exercises which will be held at the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium.

Dr. Commager is a noted educator and author in the field of American History. Among his works are "The American Mind", "Documents of American History", "The Growth of the American Republic", and "The Blue and the Gray".

MEMORIAL FUND DRIVE

Aaron F. DeMoranville and Caroline E. Haverly have been named co-chairmen of the Memorial Fund Drive to be held during the coming year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ALUMNI PRESIDENT

The first duty which I performed as your president was to accompany the newly elected Trustee to the Secretary of State's office where she was duly sworn in as our representative on the Board of Trustees of State Colleges.

Perhaps the only unhappy moment in the whole year was the news that our executive secretary was resigning. However, our sadness turned to happiness when we found out that Rae O'Neill was leaving us to join a religious order. Although Miss O'Neill left a wide gap in our midst, she had our every good wish for her happiness in her chosen state.

Soon after Miss O'Neill's resignation became effective, Mr. Gaige very generously invited your president and trustee to confer with him on a new appointee. We feel that we were very fortunate in the choice made, for Miss Davey has proven herself in her efforts during this first year.

As your president I was asked to participate in the academic procession at Commencement. It was a thrill for me to sit on the platform as the official representative of the Associated Alumni of Rhode Island College of Education.
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ALUMNI SCHEDULE 1955-56

Claire V. Ducharme, president of the Associated Alumni, has announced the following tentative schedule for 1955-56:

- Alumni Nite: October 13
- Annual Bridge: January 28
- Tea & Reception: April 1
- Annual Meeting: May 9

MEMBERSHIP

A continued rise in the number of active members in the Associated Alumni has been noted in the past four years. A marked increase has been seen in the past year alone. In 1954-55 the total number of active members was 676. This year, the number has increased to 731.

The following classes had the highest number of active (paid-up) alumni at the time of the annual meeting:

- 1951: 35 members
- 1954: 28 members
- 1932: 27 members
- 1953: 27 members

ALUMNI NOTES

Rae K. O'Neill was received into the order of the Sisters of St. Ursula of the Blessed Virgin on May 30. A member of the class of '45, Rae was our first alumni secretary and director of public relations for the College. A large number of faculty members and alumni of the College were present when she received her habit at Marygrove, Kingston, N.Y.

Lucretia Atwater '53 gave her first public recital May 3 at Trinity Auditorium, under the sponsorship of the Ebenzer Baptist Church, Providence. A varied program gave full range to Lucretia's fine contralto voice. A member of the College Choir during her four years at the College, Lucretia sang as contralto soloist during her senior year.

FACULTY MEMORIAL TO DR. WHIPPLE

At a special chapel program on June 2 a silver punch bowl and a pair of silver candelabra were presented to the College. Dr. Mary T. Thorp made the presentation on behalf of the College faculty. Included on the program were Bible readings by Robert Cochlo, senior class president, and musical selection by Madonna Emlyn Hott '38, organist, Prof. John Burgess, flutist, Lucretia Atwater, '53, vocalist, and the College Choir.

Present at the exercises were Mrs. Whipple, Caroline E. Haverly, trustee, Sara L. Kerr, former trustee, Claire V. Ducharme, alumni president, and a representative of each of the classes attending the College during Dr. Whipple's term as president.

The inscription on the bowl reads:
I TEACH THEM LOVE FOR ALL MANKIND
presented by the faculty in memory of
LUCIUS A. WHIPPLE
President of Rhode Island College of Educa
1939-1951

The quotation is from a poem by Dr. Leslie Pinkney Hill, personal friend of Dr. Whipple and president of Chestney Teachers College, Chestney, Pennsylvania. The following is Dr. Hill's poem in its entirety:

The Teacher

Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children day by day
So prone myself to go astray?

I teach them knowledge, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them power to will and do
But only now to learn anew
My own great weakness through and through.

I teach them love for all mankind
And all God's creatures, but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh, let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on Thee.
Gloria Flood '50 is known to young viewers of WABC-TV, New York, as Miss Gloria of Romper Room. Gloria conducts a late morning show for pre-school tots five times a week. She was chosen for the program from more than 500 teachers who answered an ad in a New York paper.

Following graduation from R.I.C.E. Gloria taught for two years in Rhode Island and then moved to New York where she received her Master's Degree from Columbia U. and taught in the schools of Long Island, N.Y.

Dr. Mary T. Thorp was elected to her second term as president of the Rhode Island Mental Hygiene Association at its annual meeting in May.

Mrs. Winifred Honnen, who led the College Referendum Campaign in the Newport area, is president of the Newport Festival Association which this summer will bring "Carmen", "Orpheus", and "A Viennese Night" to the summer colony.

Mary C. Davidow '39 has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for study in Austria next year. A teacher in the Providence schools, Mary is currently on leave to complete studies for her Master of Education degree at Brown University.

Herbert T. Frolander '46 has just received his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biology at Brown University. Originally a member of the class of '44, Herb left to enter the armed forces and came back to graduate in '46.

Cpl. Bob Sullivan '53 recently spent a week's leave in Tokyo from his unit in Korea. Bob is assigned to the engineering section of the U.S. Eighth Army Forward.

WHAT DOES YOUR ALUMNI DUES DOLLAR DO?

1. It pledges your support to the alumni and the College.
2. It gives you voting privileges.
3. It assures you of notices of all alumni activities.
4. It brings you bimonthly newsletters
5. It allows you the use of the alumni office and its facilities.

The Westerly Chapter will hold its annual banquet Thursday evening, June 9, at the Green Haven, Westerly. Among the guests will be Claire V. Ducharme, alumni president, and Caroline E. Haverly, trustee.

Members of the Westerly Chapter are losing one of their charter members with Mrs. Grace McLaughlin's moving to Florida. to make her home.

REUNIONS

Forty members of the class of 1915 met at the College Saturday, May 14, for a bus trip to Sturbridge and a dinner at the Publick House.

The class of 1930 held its reunion May 21, with a luncheon at the Narragansett Hotel, Providence.

The class of 1945 observed the tenth anniversary of its graduation with a dinner at Gates Tavern, North Providence, on May 21.

Members of the class of 1901 held a reunion on May 25, at the home of Mrs. Everett C. Potter, Cranston.

COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE

Senior Vesper Service . . . . Auditorium Sunday, June 12 - 3:00 P.M.
Senior Tea for Parents . . . . . . Lounge Sunday, June 12 - 6:00 P.M.
Senior Dinner Dance . . S-Biltmore Hotel Wednesday, June 15 - 7:00 P.M.
Class Day Exercises . . State House Lawn Friday, June 17 - 2:30 P.M.
Commencement Exercises, Vet. Memorial Auditor. Saturday, June 18 - 10:00 A.M.
(Alumni who plan to attend commencement will assemble at the College at 9:45. Barbara Motte '54 will serve as marshal.)

REUNION PLANNED

The class of 1944 will hold their reunion at the Gristmill, Seekonk, Wednesday, June 8.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT, CONT’D:

The summer was spent in meetings with the Alumni Secretary to plan the strategy to be used in the forthcoming Building Bond Issue. There were many details to be discussed and printing and literature to be decided.

September came quickly and we were immediately plunged into the mad, happy world of politics - fostering our beloved cause, the Rhode Island College of Education Building Bond Issue - asking everyone to "make our dream a reality".

October burst forth with a kick-off rally headed by Ann McSherry. It was a big kick-off and a very successful one. From then on it was a trying time for all. We spoke at meetings, north, south, east and west; we dictated, mimeographed, stuffed envelopes and licked stamps, until our dreams were courtesy of the post office department. November 4th and the big day—our efforts were rewarded—the people had heard our plea. It was a job well done by all and I hesitate to mention even one name for then I should have to add another and another and I would have you here for many long hours; for you were all in there with us.

Without much ado a Victory Party was held the following day at the College for the students who had given their all for our cause and again on the following Friday evening for the enjoyment of all who had worked so hard for our new building.

Now the president would take a vacation; or so she thought. After all, she had been in and out of the college at all hours of the day and night. She was beginning to feel like part of the furnishings and that would never do with a new building in the offing.

But the time had come to plan a bridge. January would be here before we knew what was happening. After some persuasion, Miss Madolind Fay and Miss Agnes Keenan agreed to undertake this Herculean task. If you attended the bridge—a Desert Bridge by the way, something a little different for our Association—you'll know how hard the girls must have worked. A glance at the treasurer's report will tell you that it was a financial success and ask anyone and you'll be told that socially it was "tops".

The Seniors must be feted—they should be made to realize the Associated Alumni is here and they will be the members of it soon. This year again we tried something new. Since the class celebrating its' fiftieth anniversary are also the guests of the Association, why not ask the class celebrating its' twenty-fifth anniversary to do the work? Miss Anna C. Hawthorne, Class of 1930, graciously consented to be the chairman of the tea held in March. It, too, was a credit to those who planned it.

The year was slowly drawing to a close and only a few loose ends needed to have attention when a bombshell was dropped in our midst in the form of Senate bill #244. Quickly it became necessary to organize for we felt that this bill was against our educational principles. The Executive Board allowed its president to make a public statement and senators and representatives were contacted. Many alumni attended the sessions of the Senate and the House even to being there into the hectic hours of the last evening. The Bill was defeated in the House.

During the year we have held eight Board meetings at the College. We have grown in our membership and in our financial standing. Our legislative committee has been very active and has several changes in the By-Laws and Constitution to present to you tonight.

The traditional things that have become a part of Our Alumni have been carried on. In addition we have provided refreshments for high school students who have visited our College during the year.

In closing this door on 1954-1955, we want to express our pleasure at having been allowed to serve on your Board. As we open the door on the new year ahead we hope it will be fruitful. Plans have already been made for October, January, April, and May of next year, so you see we never are without you in our thoughts and plans.

Claire V. Ducharme