Alumni News

Rhode Island College

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S. Elizabeth Campbell, Chairman, announces that she and her committee are making plans for the Annual Tea and Reception for Seniors.

The tea will be held at the college on Sunday afternoon, March 11, from three to five o'clock. Reminders will be sent to all members before that date. Following a recent custom, the committee will invite members of the class of 1906, the fiftieth year class, to come to the Tea as special guests.

Over the years, the Tea and Reception has been a high spot in the Alumni year, an occasion for renewing old friendships and for making new acquaintances, particularly among the members of the graduating class. It is the hope of the committee that the March 11 Tea will continue the tradition of the past years.

An Alumni Ball will be sponsored by the Association in the spring, it was decided at the January meeting of the Executive Board.

Clare Ducharme Crohan, alumni president, has appointed Frank Carter '42 and Virginia Gregory '55 to be co-chairmen of the dance. Further details will be announced in the near future.

The Annual Bridge and Fashion Show was enjoyed by almost 400 alumni who braved threatening weather to attend the party in the College Auditorium Saturday afternoon, January 14. Highlight of the afternoon was the showing of knitted clothes by Marion's Yarn Shoppe of Providence.

Table prizes were gracefully etched bud vases. A number of lovely door prizes were given away.

Winner of the special feature drawing - a trip to New York or $100 cash - was Kathryn Brady O'Donnell '48.

Helen E. Page, chairman, expressed her thanks to the very active committee members for their support.

The State Senate has passed and sent to the House a bill sponsored by the Governor which would place before the people of the state a bond issue proposal for an additional $1,600,000 to finance the construction of the new Rhode Island College of Education.

Why isn't $3,500,000 enough?

The land originally planned as the campus site was found to be in part unavailable, and the remainder inadequate. Money for the purchase of more land was appropriated by the legislature last year. This larger tract, located farther from the highway, meant larger expenditures for utilities and development.

Building costs rose 8% between early 1954, when the estimates were made, and late summer of 1955. It appears likely that they will go up another 4% before the program is completed.

When the Board of Trustees made a new study of the entire picture it was found that in the attempt to stretch the plans to provide some facilities for the growing enrollment, certain important considerations had been overlooked. For instance, the fact that the college is a commuting college, with the students remaining about the campus between classes, brings about a need for proper facilities for study, for quiet relaxation, for avocations related to teacher training purposes; and for recreation. This is not a matter of comfort and convenience, but is essentially related to the effectiveness of the whole educational process of the college.

This college exists for the training of teachers for the schools of Rhode Island and the nature and size of its responsibility is relative to the nature and size of the needs of the schools. During the past year comprehensive studies of the need for teachers in the schools of Rhode Island have revealed that there is a need for about twice as many new teachers each year as are prepared in all of the teacher-training institutions of the state. This is due in part to the increasing enrollment in the schools - from 97,000 in 1950-1 to approximately 115,000 in 1954-5.

In response to this need, the College accepted 190 freshmen last September and hopes to do the same next fall. If this continues, the 1958-9 enrollment will be 735 and still further enlargement of the student body must be considered. Thus the new college plan as originally conceived for the '54-'55 on-campus enrollment of about 500 would be overcrowded.
and outgrown before it was occupied.

The college now being planned will be
serve... of Rhode Island
for several generations. It may need to be
supplemented as time goes on, but it should not
be necessary to replace any part of it for some
time to come if the present planning is sound.
The college should be good enough so that it
can meet its responsibility with desirable
educational results and with satisfaction to the
people of the State.

RADIO - TV

The popular Small Fry Science is temporarily off the air until a suitable time is available for it. An audience survey has born out what had been assumed - that this program is very popular with the small fry.

C. Owen Whistler is working with groups of students and the Public Relations Office in producing a monthly series, Visiting Historic Rhode Island. The third in this series scheduled for February 28.

The College radio series continues on WPRO on Wednesday evenings at 10:35. On the general topic, Who Teach Our Teachers?, the program gives each of the departments of the College an opportunity to present its subject in the light of its value in Teacher Education. Speech department offerings on February 1, 8, and 15, will be followed by four programs by members of the laboratory school staff. Responsible Teaching and the Extension School will be among topics to be discussed in later programs.

CONSTITUTION

At the special meeting on January 6 there was not a quorum present, so it was decided to postpone any further action on the constitution until the Annual Meeting in May.

The Association will operate under the old by-law provisions concerning election procedure for the balance of this year.

COLLEGE CHOIR

The College Choir has invited the Glee Club of Providence College to join in the College of Education Spring Concert to be held in the College Auditorium Tuesday evening, March 13, at eight o'clock.

Rita V. Bicho, director of the R.I.C.E. Choir has expressed the hope that a large number of alumni will attend. There is no charge for admission.

CAPTAIN GRAVELINE

A military funeral was held January 7, 1956 for Captain Ernest L. Graveline Jr., M.D., of Pawtucket who died in a prisoner-of-war camp October 15, 1951. Captain Graveline attended R.I.C.E. for two years before he entered the armed forces in 1942.

$6,600,000 FOR HIGHER EDUCATION!

In November the voters of Rhode Island will be asked to pass on not one, but two bond issues to finance improvement and expansion in the state colleges.

The University, looking forward to having its enrollment double within the next fifteen years, is trying to eliminate the temporary structures that have been used on the campus for the past few years, and to provide space for a 25 per cent increase in the student body.

R.I.C.E., looking forward to an almost immediate increase of 35 per cent over the enrollment that was considered in the 1954 estimate of cost for the new College, is asking for $1,600,000 to supplement the $3,500,000 bond issue approved in 1954.

We are all familiar with statistics on the numbers of school-age children that have made the need for more teachers so urgent. How overcrowding our elementary schools and beginning to reach the junior high schools, these youngsters will soon be on the threshold of our colleges. There were 39,749 college-age students in R. I. in 1953. The number will rise to 66,458 by 1970. Only a part of this number will attend college, but we know that the proportion of college-age youth of America who are turning toward college is constantly increasing. It is our belief that the people of R. I. are willing to provide the young people of the state with adequate facilities for their college education.

It is for the alumni of the College of Education and of the University to present this picture to the voters in its honest strength, so that the children of the State can be served adequately by the separate but equally important resources of the two colleges.

EXTENSION COURSES

The spring extension session begins February 6. Because the printing of the programs was unavoidably delayed, they were not mailed out as usual. However, copies may be obtained by calling or writing the college.

ON LEAVE

On Sabbatical leaves this term are Dean Catherine C. Connor and Professor Marion I. Wright. Miss Connor, Dean of Women and associate professor of history, is planning to study at Columbia University. Miss Wright, chairman of the Division of Social Studies, has been serving as secretary for the curriculum study for the past year. She will continue her studies at Syracuse University.

ANOTHER BOARD MEMBER...!

Ann M. McSherry, Chairman of the membership committee, will be married on February 11. Every happiness, Ann!