

# THE ALUMNÆ BULLETIN

June, 1930



ISSUED BY THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE  
NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSES IN  
JUNE AND NOVEMBER

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MISS MARION HOLMES                      MISS PRISCILLA GRISWOLD

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*Editor of the Bulletin*

DEACONESS SCHODTS

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DEACONESS MILLS

DEACONESS GILLESPIE

# THE ALUMNÆ BULLETIN

No. XXX.

JUNE, 1930

## MINUTES OF THE ALUMNAE MEETING

The forty-ninth regular meeting of the Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconess was held at St. Faith's House on Saturday, January 18, 1930, at 3.00 P. M. with the following members present: Deaconess Garvin in the Chair, and Deaconesses Armstrong, Boyd, Dahlgren, Gillespy, Mills, Schodts, West, Withers, Dowding and Mrs. Gledhill, Mrs. Worster and the Misses Anderson, Clark, Flagg, Griswold, Holmes, Mockridge and Woodruff. Deaconess Simpson was a guest of the meeting; and the present student body, of which there are nineteen residents and two non-residents, were also present as guests of the meeting.

The President opened the meeting with prayers. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. In the absence of Miss Chappell, the Treasurer, Deaconess Schodts read the Treasurer's report which, on motion duly made and seconded, was received and ordered on file.

There were no reports from the Standing Committees.

The President called for a report from the Special Committee appointed to take up and consider the matter of raising the money for and selecting a stone to be placed on Ellie's grave. Deaconess Dahlgren, as Chairman, said that she was not yet ready to make a formal report, but that she had already received two donations towards the Fund. There was discussion as to the probable amount needed for the stone, and it was the general sense of the meeting that it would cost at least \$150.00. On motion of Deaconess Schodts, duly seconded, the Association voted to give \$50.00 from the General Fund towards the special fund for the stone.

The President said she wished to express her thanks to Deaconess Schodts for editing the last issue of the Bulletin. Deaconess Schodts said she felt that the Association owed a debt of gratitude to Miss Janet Ashley who, as a member of last year's Junior Class, wrote the beautiful and inspiring poem, entitled "Deaconesses: Past, Present and Future", published in November Bulletin.

Deaconess Garvin asked for expressions from those present in regard to sending out a special appeal to the Alumnae for the Scholarship Fund, and it was the wish of the meeting that the

Treasurer be instructed to send out such an appeal. It was suggested that this appeal include a statement as to how much we have towards the Fund and how much more is needed.

Deaconess Schodts stated that Miss Chappell, the Treasurer of the Association, had asked her to present to the meeting the question of amendment of the By-Laws, Sec. 1, Article VI., referring to payment of dues, so as to make dues payable in January instead of October, which would greatly facilitate the work of the Treasurer and be less confusing to members. After some discussion as to what would probably be the best time of the year for payment of dues, it was moved and seconded that the second clause of Sec. 1, Article VI of the By-Laws be amended to read "payable in January", the vote on this motion for amendment to be acted upon at the May meeting.

The President then asked Deaconess Dahlgren, the President of the Retiring Fund for Deaconesses, if she wished to say anything in regard to the Fund. Deaconess Dahlgren explained, for the benefit of any present who might not know of its incorporation, that the purpose of the Fund is to provide an annuity or allowance to Deaconesses of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America in good standing according to the Canon of the Church who on their retirement from active service shall have insufficient provision for their needs. She also stated that the first objective of the Fund is \$50,000, and that the Executive Committee is anxious to receive further contributions towards the completion of this objective, as well as donations to help defray the expenses of the Committee incident to printing, postage, etc. Deaconess Dahlgren suggested that Deaconess West could probably give some interesting figures regarding the progress of the Fund. Deaconess West told of the investment of the funds raised to date, which total \$14,500.

Deaconess Garvin asked if it was in the minds of the Executive Committee of the Retiring Fund that any part of this Fund should be available for emergency relief, as in the case of stranded Deaconesses with whom Deaconesses come in contact in course of their ministrations. Deaconess Dahlgren replied no, and Deaconess West said that the National Conference of Deaconesses has a fund, though very small, which may be used for such emergencies.

Miss Holmes made a motion, which was duly seconded, that the sum of \$10. be taken from the General Fund and given to the Retiring Fund towards its expenses. The motion was carried.

The students of the School were then asked by the President to introduce themselves to the meeting, and they told in turn who they were, where they came from, what led up to their coming to St. Faith's, and what they hope to do after graduating. The Presi-

dent thanked them on behalf of the meeting for their very interesting talks, which were greatly enjoyed by all.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned, and tea was served by the Deaconesses in charge.

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY M. DOWDING,

*Secretary.*

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## COMMENCEMENT DAY

Commencement Day, May 15th, 1930, was a wet one this year, the first in several years but the rain soon turned to just grey dullness. However in St. Ansgarius Chapel of the Cathedral, one forgot all the dreariness in the beauty and joy of the lovely place and service. The altar with its beautiful flowers and red hangings; the Bishops, Manning and Acheson; the warden and clergy; the student body in their white uniforms, a large group of Deaconesses, with three about to dedicate their lives to the service of God and His Church, and a devoted and interested congregation.

Later in St. Faith's it seemed as if the gathering of graduates and friends was larger than usual and as always it was a happy day.

The Bishop spoke of the great need of faith in Jesus Christ as Son of God and also of His presence with us just as really today as when He was on earth, and that our great task was to make Him known to those among whom we work, in prayer, in every phase of life and especially in the Sacraments.

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The fiftieth regular meeting of the Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses was held at St. Faith's House, on Commencement Day, May 15, 1930, at 2:15 P. M., with thirty-four members present. The meeting, having been called to order by the President, was opened with prayer by the Rev. Stanley Brown-Serman, the Warden of the School, who was then asked by the President to address the meeting. Commenting upon the rapidity with which Commencements come around, the Warden continued in part as follows:

"Repeating what I have often said, we do not in a School of this kind have very exciting incidents occurring—the kind that make creative history and divide time into epochs—because the work here is not subject to the spectacular, but rather a process of slow growth. However, looking back over the year just closing, we feel it has been a very satisfactory one to all concerned, as well as a very happy one. Any small institution is apt to have some fric-

tion, but such does not seem to be the case here. We do feel that one of the joys of the School is the realization that there is a marked effect upon the lives of students who come here, and almost always tremendously for the better. We have just graduated a Senior Class in which we have throughout felt a great deal of progress and have been exceedingly satisfied with their life in the School, and feel that they are going out to do a splendid work for the School and the Church.

Academically, we are very much as we have been. The work done has been very good. We have tried consistently to raise the standards of the instruction given, and we feel that what is done here compares very favorably with what is done in other institutions. Though we may not probe very deeply into investigations, yet the training given here is substantial and creative for good.

We must, of course, speak of finances, and it seems a remarkable fact that this School, in spite of the rise in prices, does get through. This we must attribute in a large measure to the sheer grace of God. But we should be neither depressed nor too hopeful about this.

My chief interest, however, is in the upbuilding of the School. And by this I mean, some means of making the School better known to the Church. The School does not stand out before the Church as it should. We do need money for advertising, not necessarily in Church papers, but in some way by which we can get St. Faith's into the minds of the people all over the country, for I am convinced that there are many devoted and talented women who would be willing to lay their life and service at the feet of the Church. Why don't they do it? we say. Well, they need some incentive or encouragement to make the start. They do not know how to go about it, for they do not know where to go to prepare for it. For this purpose we need money. Not many people who are in the Church's work now have logically thought themselves into it or are there because of ideals, but rather because some one put them there. It is usually in this way that young men get into the ministry. It has been someone's responsibility that another person gets into the work. This can also be true of our School. The best kind of influence is the influence of people themselves. This implies that everyone should have the missionary spirit, and this should be especially true of St. Faith's graduates. I should like to see the doctrine of Apostolic Succession applied to this missionary work of getting new students for the School—a succession that will produce someone to carry on in your place in the School and finally in the work which you are doing. I therefore beg of those going out from this School to turn themselves into witnesses and missionaries for St. Faith's. Our financial problems would be solved by getting enough students to fill the House. Now, there are certain overhead charges which are disproportionate to the small student body.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the very fine work of our Faculty, who work for very small remuneration but give largely of their time and of themselves.

And lastly, I want to thank the Deaconesses for their hard, patient and untiring work for St. Faith's—work which, although they would not wish me to say it, is done at a great personal sacrifice."

Deaconess Garvin thanked the Warden for this report and said she hoped the Alumnae would all bear in mind the chain of influence we could form by carrying on the succession of which he spoke.

The order of business was then taken up, the President calling for the Minutes of the last meeting, which were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and, on motion duly made and seconded, was accepted and ordered on file. The Treasurer also stated that the present membership of the Association is 159, and that of this number only 119 had paid their dues to date and 56 had contributed towards the Scholarship Fund for this year.

The President asked for a report from the Special Committee appointed to take up and consider the matter of raising the money for and selecting a stone for Ellie's grave. Deaconess Dahlgren, Chairman of the committee, said that she had not yet been able to go to the cemetery, but that her committee would be ready with a full report at the Fall meeting. (An additional report of this committee will be found in the June Bulletin.)

The proposed amendment to Article VI, Section I of the By-Laws, referring to payment of dues, which had been presented at the previous meeting of the Association, was unanimously ratified as follows:

#### ARTICLE VI—SECTION I

"The annual dues of the Association shall be one dollar and fifty cents, payable in January."

Deaconess Garvin stated that she would be glad to receive an invitation for the Fall meeting, in response to which a cordial invitation was extended by Miss Marion Holmes, to meet with her at St. Michael's Parish House, 225 West 99th Street, on the fourth Tuesday in September, at 3 o'clock.

The following Nominating Committee was appointed by the President: Deaconess Dahlgren and Miss Marion Holmes.

The members of the Graduating Class, including the Deaconesses newly Set Apart, were warmly welcomed by the President, and asked to tell where they expect to begin their work.

Deaconess Schodts, the Editor of the Bulletin, said she would be glad to receive contributions in the way of news or information concerning graduates of the School and their work, as this is the kind of "news" everyone likes to find in the Bulletin, but that it seems rather difficult to get reports from the graduates themselves.

The President thanked the Editor of the Bulletin and the Officers of the Association for their loyal support..

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

DOROTHY M. DOWDING,

*Secretary.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT

September 24th, 1929—May 15th, 1930

#### GENERAL FUND—RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, September 24th, 1929 .....	\$172.70	
Dues received .....	195.00	
Refund from Editor of Bulletin .....	2.15	
		<hr/>
Total receipts .....		\$369.85

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Printing of June and November bulletins .....	\$96.00	
Printing extra copies of Poem .....	7.50	
Printing of Appeal for Scholarship Fund .....	4.50	
New ledger .....	1.00	
Postage and envelopes .....	14.10	
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Total Disbursements .....		\$123.10

Balance on hand May 15, 1930 .....	\$246.75
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#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND—RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, September 24th, 1929 .....	\$581.23	
Donations to Fund .....	321.00	
Interest on bank account .....	15.13	
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Total Receipts .....		\$917.36
To Treasurer of St. Faith's in October .....		500.00
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		\$417.36

EDITH C. CHAPPELL,

*Treasurer.*

## DEACONESS BECHTOL WRITES OF MISSION WORK IN THE RAGGED MOUNTAINS

Neve is situated in the Ragged Mountains, the foothills of the Blue Ridge, about eight miles from Charlottesville, Virginia. The Hall, built as a thank offering for the life and work of Archdeacon Neve, is the center for the work carried on in three mission chapels.

Not long ago someone asked "just what do you do every day? How do you manage to keep busy?" If only there were hours enough in the day to do all that one finds to do! Most of the mornings are spent in taking people to the hospital. There are usually from one to five patients each day.

The present Chevrolet belonging to the Mission has been driven eleven thousand miles in the last seven and a half months and I can truthfully say that two-thirds of those miles were covered in taking patients to the hospital.

This work not only means that these people have received help physically but it also means that the worker has had many personal contacts with them which would often be hard to make in any other way. It has been a great joy this past year to have had twenty-seven children baptized and six persons confirmed.

We have a fine group of thirty-five young girls, organized as St. Anne's Guild. They meet weekly for a period of sewing and recreation. Then we have a time for hymn practice, a service and the inevitable refreshments. The girls have made two quilts of embroidered patches, one of which was given to the Children's Home and one to be sent to St. Anne's Preventorium at Mission Home. They have also made scrap books to be sent to China later in the year.

We feel that our Woman's Auxiliary is a real live organization. Though we are only few in numbers, we have accomplished much this winter. During Lent, the Auxiliary met every week for a Missionary talk and for hospital sewing.

Sunday is a busy day for all. We attend the early Service in town and then have Service and Sunday School in each of the three Missions. Besides all this there are calls to make, emergencies to meet and clothing bureau sales to arrange for as well as cooking and a large house to care for.

One could go on endlessly talking about the work. It is all interesting and full of varied experiences but much more than these is the personal joy and happiness that one finds in doing our Lord's work here in these beautiful hills.

VERA GARDNER WHO IS WORKING AT GRACE EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., WRITES

This is just a note to be true to my promise to send you some news from the Middle West.

I almost feel as though I had just returned from some kind of a reunion as I have just returned from the Leaders Conference at St. Louis. It was mighty nice to see the St. Faith's girls there. We were all so busy we did not have time to visit but I did have a nice chat with Elizabeth Pettit. Other girls whom I knew from St. Faith's were Evelyn Buchanan, Ann Estes, Virginia Zimmerman, Mrs. Walters (Virginia Turpin) and Edna Eastwood.

The Conference showed the continued spirit of groping—trying to adjust the present day Public School methods to Religious Education. Two schools which were using the newest methods in teaching were visited. It was fine to have one of the principals, Miss Virginia Stone, speak to us later and to see how more nearly the church and the school can work together. After several years of experimentation and better trained church school teachers we ought to see a real advance in religious education. At present, most of the "units of work" seem to be a "carry over", or "copy", of the character and ethical training in the public schools. It seems hard to adjust the newer methods to the study of knowing God and His Son, as well as, knowing our neighbor and its responsibility. We have had fun working out these units of work in connection with the Christian Nurture course at Grace Church, Grand Rapids, Mich., in our Week Day school during the past five years, and we know the real difficulty.

I have had several letters from Olga Sebestyn. She has returned to her home country to live with her mother. She is very happy there teaching in the schools. Previous to her return I visited her at Flint, Michigan twice. She was doing a very fine piece of work with the Hungarians there. She worked for the Y. W. C. A. taking care of the recreational and study groups down in a factory district.

Our "Adventuring With Christ" which we put on in the Fall and again in Lent was a real inspiration to the whole Church School. Over a hundred children were present each day and the lessons of courage and adventure were reflected in the whole school.

## THE ELLIE HUGHES MEMORIAL STONE

I realize that there are many members of the Alumnae who will wish information regarding the memorial stone for Ellie Hughes.

The stone-cutter at Calvary Cemetery, Brooklyn, where Ellie is buried, has furnished a design and estimate which seems satisfactory. A simple granite block, with a delicate leaf design cut around the top, known as the "Vine of Mystery" and also of "Friendship"; in the center of the carving, between the two tendrils of leaves, a Celtic cross; and below, the inscription: "In memory of Ellie Hughes, May 22, 1929—'Faithful unto death'—A loving tribute from St. Faith's graduates."

The total cost of this stone, with the lettering and a solid foundation, required by the laws of the Cemetery, amounts to \$141.80. During the past year some of the Alumnae have been sending their contributions towards this memorial, and the sum of \$30 has been received so far.

Deaconess Knapp has promised to give \$25, and the Alumnae Association has voted \$50 from the Treasury, which will make a total of \$105, with \$36 still needed. I shall be glad to have further contributions sent to me at the School during the summer. If the amount needed should be over-subscribed, whatever sum is left over will be put into a fund for "perpetual care" of the grave.

ROMOLA DAHLGREN,  
*Deaconess.*

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## PERSONAL NOTES

Deaconess Henderson (1903) who went to China upon graduation and has never taken a furlough or for the past fifteen years even a summer vacation, had a serious illness this past winter. She has improved and reports that she is "doing well" and attributes this to the fervent prayers of her host of friends in Shanghai, Chinese and Western, and to those of her "daughters" who have shown their devotion in many ways.

Deaconess Phelps (1905) after recuperating in Los Angeles from an attack of influenza which made it impossible for her to continue the work she had undertaken at Hooker School, Mexico, spent five months travelling up and down the Eighth Province, speaking five or six times a week, chiefly in small places that had never before seen a live Missionary. The Groups of both men and women were most responsive and appreciative. In the course of her travels both on the Pacific Coast and across the Continent on

her way East, she met many of our graduates. She is spending the summer with her brother in Caracas, Venezuela.

Deaconess Nosler (1903) is carrying on a most interesting piece of work in Seattle, Washington. She has charge of the "Mary and Martha" Cottage, a Church home for girls of professional people, too young for boarding schools and at a moderate cost. Some writer has described this work as "giving the manners and morals of the best private schools while the unsurpassed American public schools give them the three 'R's'."

Deaconess Ranson (1902) will soon be back in this country on furlough.

Deaconess Lyon (1898) has returned from Porto Rico and is back at St. Hilda's, New Caanan, Conn.

Florence M. Horne (1907) after seventeen years work at St. Paul's, New Haven, Conn., has retired but is still making her home there. It was she who engaged our dear Ellie as cook of St. Faith's those many years ago.

Deaconess Kneeves (1907) after many years of service at Trinity Church Ossining, has retired and gone to live in England.

Avis Harvey (1923) is at St. Margaret's, Berkeley and is making a great reputation for herself in Religious Education.

Deaconess Shepard (1911) who has worked for many years in Salt Lake City, Utah, has retired and is making her home at Dansville, N. Y.

Marie Turley (1925) has resigned from Diocesan work in Erie, Pa., and has gone to St. John's Church, Youngstown, Ohio.

Deaconess Stephenson (1906) has retired from St. Margaret's House, Red Hook, N. Y., and is living at Cohoes, N. Y.

Deaconess Gertrude Baker (1911) has been doing temporary work at St. George's, New York City, but is going back into Indian work in the fall, this time in Oklahoma.

Deaconess Fracker (1921) is doing pioneer work for Bishop Booth in the Rural Missions of Vermont.

Deaconess Effie Phillips (1929) who went immediately after graduation to St. Matthew's Home for children at Dallas, Texas, and who showed most marked ability in that work in a few short months, has been invalided home and is with her family in Hartford, Conn.

Deaconess Edwardina Crane who is on the staff of the Episcopal Hospital, Washington, D. C., had a bad fall and is suffering from a broken leg.

## GRADUATES ABROAD

Deaconess Fuller is spending her vacation in England with relatives.

Helen Flagg is enjoying a month on the Continent and expects to see the Passion Play at Oberammergau.

Ella Pier is taking "a real year off duty" and plans to spend at least three months in England.

Deaconess Woodward expects to spend the summer at a Normandy Beach. She and her niece Elizabeth McRae, eldest daughter of Sally Woodward McRae, are planning to study French.

Louise Hull and Clair Coursen after five years of splendid work in charge of the Neighborhood Settlement, Los Angeles, have resigned and gone to Europe for a good rest. Later they will visit settlements in England and Germany.

Mabel Mansfield is sailing in July from Montreal for a trip abroad with a group of friends.

Deaconess Agnes Bradley and Candace Mellon are planning a trip across the ocean and on her return Deaconess Bradley is going to be on the Staff of the Episcopal Hospital, Washington, D. C.

Others who are to enjoy trips across the ocean are Deaconesses Yeo, Armstrong and Viola Young.

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## MARRIAGES

Frances C. Kivelle (1928) was married to the Rev. Victor Lyle Dowdell on Saturday, May 31st, at Corning, N. Y.

Elizabeth Catherine Cabell (1930) was married to Mr. Arthur Dugdale on June 25th, 1930, and will make her home at Ashland, Virginia.

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## DEACONESS DIETERLY WRITES FROM PORTO RICO

As most of the readers of the Alumnae Bulletin are graduates of the New York Training School for Deaconesses I shall try to show you a glimpse of another Training School for Church Workers, St. Catherine's, Santurce, Porto Rico.

It is a new School, less than six years old. To it are sent the most promising girls of the Parochial schools and Missions throughout the Island. They are with us from four to six years,

usually six, and attend the high school and University of Porto Rico.

At the present time we have nine girls, four in their freshman year at high school, one a Sophomore, one a Senior, one in the first year of her Normal School course and one graduating from the Normal School this month. The ninth one graduated from the High School last year and has been teaching in the Kindergarten of St. John's School and receiving her training in Parish Work at St. Luke's Church. There will be two graduates this year.

On New Year's Day I took a picture of the whole group which appears on page 180 of the March issue of the "Spirit of Missions".

Miss Ethel M. Robinson is in charge of the School and Deaconess Lyon was working with her. As Deaconess Lyon was sailing this spring I came to try to carry on her work. No one can take her place but at least one can try to follow in that part of the work which she did so splendidly.