

ALUMNAE BULLETIN

AUGUST

1960

THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE
NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSSES

OFFICERS:

President Kate S. Mayer, Dss.
2914 Broadway, New York 25, N.Y.
Vice President Mrs. Robt. M. Baxter
121 Kildare Rd., Garden City, N.Y.
Secretary Mrs. Chas. E. Merkel
89-64 215th Place, Queen's Village 27, N.Y.
Treasurer Mrs. Frank W. Bothhof
851 Springfield Ave., Summit, N.J.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The above officers, and

Deaconess Ruth Johnson
1047 Amsterdam Ave., New York, 25, N.Y.
Mrs. Anthony Basile
308 President St., Brooklyn, 31, N.Y.
Miss Margery Ranger
574 Parks St., Newark 4, N.J.
Mrs. Charles L. Gledhill
14 Columbia Ave., Cliffside Park, 6, N.J.
Deaconess Evelyn E. Seymour
102 E. 22nd. St., New York, 10, N.Y.

THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSES

A message from the President

Dear Fellow Alumnae:-

It is with pleasure that I greet you as the new president of the Alumnae Association. This is a particular pleasure for me as I have been away from New York for so many years and with little contact with our other members. So I hope that you will all bear with me and help with suggestions as to how it may be possible to establish an increasingly active fellowship.

For the first time in many years it was not possible to meet with our generous and gracious hostess, Mrs. Hand. The Secretary was requested to write a note of gratitude to Mrs. Hand for all the years that she entertained us and with deep regret over her ill health.

At the Annual Meeting this past May a plan was suggested that seems feasible and would result in a rather different type of meeting than heretofore. It was decided after lengthy discussion to eliminate a Fall meeting, as the two which have been tried were not too well attended. It is hoped that by concentrating more on the May meeting, more of the members would make an effort to be present. The plans were then made to have the meeting in the Cathedral House, attend the 5 o'clock service of Evensong at the Cathedral, and then have dinner together somewhere in the neighborhood. However, after the Annual meeting of the National Conference of Deaconesses in September, I hope to write to you further, as many of our graduates will probably be present, and it may be possible to discuss further suggestions. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions you wish to make, I would be happy to hear from you.

Faithfully yours,

Kate S. Mayer, Deaconess
President

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*   Entered into the Life of Paradise during the past year:
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*   Special -1933-1935 Elizabeth D. Gible - April 11, 1959
*                   1927 Deaconess Dorothy M. Dowding - January 28, 1960
*                   1913 Deaconess Elizabeth H. Coe - March 8, 1960
*   Special -1912-1913 Margaret Howe - May 13, 1960
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*   May the Souls of these faithful ones rest in peace, and
*   may light perpetual shine upon them.
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From Marion Holmes: Wish I might attend the annual meeting. But I'll be with you in heart and mind though there are miles between. Am busy with Church School work at St. Mark's Church in Foxboro, where my sister lives. Greetings to you all, love,

From Esther Matz: Sorry I will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting this year. I will be with you in spirit. With my prayers and much love to each and every one. P.S. I have long conversations with Evelyn Buchanan on the phone often, and see her occasionally.

ANNUAL MEETING - ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DSSES.

The 118th May meeting of the Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses was held in St. George's Memorial House (6th. floor), 207 East 16th Street, New York City, on Saturday afternoon, May 14, 1960 at 2:PM.

The following members were present: Maria P. Basile, Dss. Agnes R. Bradley, Marion E. Baxter, Dss. Evelyn E. Seymour, Dss. Ruth Johnson, Dss. Kate S. Mayer, Margery H. Ranger, Dorothy W. Gledhill, Lucy G. Bothhof, Irene Warner Merkel, and Betsy Merkel, a guest.

Letters from members were passed around and read. We were especially happy to have a long letter from Dss. Gillespy. (Excerpts found elsewhere in this paper)

The meeting was opened with prayer by our President, Maria P. Basile. The minutes were approved as published. The Treasurer, Lucy G. Bothhof gave her report (see page 3 in the Bulletin)

A note from Mrs. Mond was read with appreciation.

Scholarship Committee - no report

Fall Meeting - There was some discussion about the Fall Meeting which has been tried for two years. It was decided to eliminate this meeting this year, as the general opinion seemed to favor a concentration on the May meeting. It was thought we should try to hold the meeting somewhere at the Cathedral, attend the 5 o'clock Evensong, and then go somewhere nearby for dinner in a group.

We were happy to hear that \$15,000 was given to the Central House for Deaconesses by the National Council to buy another house in Evanston. Negotiations are underway for one, two doors away. There are three candidates for the Deaconess Order at this time. (Editor's Note: All three were Set Apart in June 1960)

The Alumnae belongings in the warehouse for so long have been disposed of - some dishes were sent to St. Augustine's Chapel, some to the Central House for Deaconesses, and some to Tuxedo Park.

Maria said she has bulletins and clippings belonging to the Association. Dss. Johnson said she has a record of every student, and she agreed to take the literature for storage, rather than have it passed on to each new President.

NEW BUSINESS: Lucy Bothhof suggested and then moved that we send \$100. to Dss. Booth for the Scholarship Fund, and \$100. for her discretionary fund. Margery Ranger seconded this, and it was carried.

It was decided to send the balance in the Dss. Massey Fund after the 1st. of September in the amount in this account at that time.

Nominating Committee: There were 42 ballots returned. Dss. Kate Mayer is our new President, Marion Baxter, the Vice-President. The President instructed the Secretary to cast the ballot.

Our outgoing President turned the chair over to our new President, Dss. Mayer, who in turn thanked Mrs. Basile for her fine service. Dss. Mayer closed the meeting with prayer. Dss. Seymour spoke of her trip to Europe. Later during tea, Dss. Johnson told more about the trip. They had a number of interesting pictures.

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF THE NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSES

Report of the Treasurer
May 14, 1960

Balance on hand May 9, 1959 \$ 737.20

RECEIPTS:

General Fund		
Dues Paid	\$ 76.00	
Gifts	83.43	
Scholarship Fund	92.50	
Deaconess Massey Fund	18.00	
Interest from Savings Account	<u>10.56</u>	
Total Receipts		<u>280.49</u> \$ 1017.69

DISBURSEMENTS:

To Deaconess Booth, Scholarship Fund	\$ 200.00	
To Deaconess Booth, Discretionary Fund	100.00	
To Deaconess Ashcroft from Dss. Massey Memorial Fund	170.00	
Bulletin printing	13.91	
Envelopes and postage	25.02	
Postage to Deaconess Booth	1.35	
Flowers to Mrs. Hand	<u>4.12</u>	
Total Disbursements		514.40

Balance May 14, 1960		<u>503.29</u>
In General Fund	\$ 398.79	\$ 1017.69
In Scholarship Fund	92.50	
In Dss. Massey Memorial Fund	<u>12.00</u>	

Balance in Savings Account, May 14, 1960 \$503.29

Respectfully submitted,
Lucy G. Bothof, Treasurer

LETTERS

from The Central House for Deaconesses, 1906 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill.
June 11, 1960

Dear Lucy:

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I write to the Alumnae Asso. of the New York Training School, through you, to thank them for their wonderful gift for Scholarship, and for the Discretionary Fund. I am deeply grateful to all of you, not only for the financial help which we do need very much, but for the interest, understanding and faith in our work.

As you know we are in the process of trying to secure a larger house. One is available in the neighborhood and negotiations are under way, but all the dealing red tape, etc. is most frustrating.

My hope is that some day you and others of the Alumnae will visit us in Evanston. A warm welcome always awaits you.

Sincerely,
Edith A. Booth

If the Deaconesses will bear with me, I would like to quote from a letter written July 1st by Dss. Booth. "... on Monday, July 12th ..a Communion Service in the Chapel of the Central House..will be our last Communion Service in the Chapel of this particular Central House, for on the first of August, we hope everything will be in order and we will be able to move to our new, larger Central House at 1914 Orrington Ave., just two doors from where we are now located. Here our Chapel will be much larger, our Library arranged for more quiet study, and more bedrooms for candidates and guests. (The new house has) 15 rooms in the house, with a three room apartment over the garage. The yard is large, beautiful and sunny and Amelia already has plans for a beautiful garden for meditation, quiet and peace.We will need money to paint and redecorate. Although we do not care for the present paint we can live with it for a while until funds are raised for this purpose. We will need more money for the maintenance of the House so will have to enlarge our circle of friends." (Hear they moved..Ed.)

Excerpts from Dss. Gillespy's letter, dated May 12, 1960, Washington, D.C.

"If this gets into this evening's mail it should reach you in time for the Alumnae Meeting on Saturday... I waited long in the thought that I just might be going back to Rhode Island by that date; and when I knew I should not quite "make". it I was so swamped with things that must meet their own deadlines that I have not written....It was good to get your Alumnae letter with the ballot and the blessedly clear reminder from our Treasurer of what to give and why; and your letter with its details of accomplishment is very cheering. It seems to me a very happy thought to include the Central House brochure, and to read the day's program and the course-outline being followed in that training center - small and close fitting, but capable some day of expansion in one way or another. I wish we might all get there to see it.

"For myself there is no special news. Surprisingly, I am still eligible to receive the unimpassioned comment - some ten or eleven years ago - of an eight-year-old neighbor: "And you are not dead yet." I do not get off trains now at any station - stop where I may have a friend or a fellow-alumna living. I go on "through" trains as far as possible; and I spend money grudgingly for "reservations", simply because a parlor car has a porter who will carry your bag down the aisle and hand it down the car steps - a rather expensive little service; which incidentally is one reason for not taking too many journeys ! And I treat with great respect any overexertion which might encourage another hospitalization like my long siege of a year and a half ago. But I do not find time hanging heavy on my hands ! In fact there is not enough of it for half that I want to do - or half the letters I should like to write to you all.

"My love to you, in this one inclusive message. And be sure that I shall be thinking of you on Saturday afternoon, wishing that I might hear all your news, look at you all, and join with you in our School prayer.

"Always affectionately,
Jane Bliss Gillespy, Deaconess

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From Mrs. Augustus N. Hand: Dear Lydia, Will you be the medium through which I can thank the Alumnae for their beautiful tulips. They didn't make up for not seeing you all but have given me great pleasure. I send each and all of you my love.

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From Virginia Bouldin: Dear Mrs. Basile: Thank you for your nice and informative letter. To begin at the beginning I am sorry to know that Mrs. Hand is so far from well. It will seem strange not to be there for the Annual Meeting of the Alumnae. Her interest and gracious hospitality have long endeared her to the Alumnae of St. Faith's. I'm afraid I have little to tell of myself and work. I have been sick,

(continued on next page)

really since before Thanksgiving and later quite so with a double infection of some kind and since have been recuperating slowly. ..My greetings to the Alumnae. ..I wish I were well enough and could come.

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From Eleanora Brown: I very much wish I could be present at the Annual Meeting on May 14th, but I am afraid it will not be possible because of the pressures of school work at this time of the year. I am afraid I am too late ..to have my name and address in the Bulletin this year, but as I have been here for many, many years, I hope all my friends will know that I am still here at the same address, and I hope to receive the Bulletin and all news of St. Faith's Alumnae.

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From Betty Barker Dexheimer: So very sorry not to be able to be with you all on May 14th. Between young peoples' "doings" here and daughter Wendy's ballet recital, the day is too full to stretch another speck. Please do give my love to everyone - you will all be in my prayers.

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From Ethel Bartlett Harris: I do not get around very much since Mr. Harris' illness - he has been bedridden with stroke for about two years - so the only thing is to bring the world into your home as much as possible.

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From Habel V. Holgate: This Saturday I will be thinking of you all....No doubt you will miss not being with Mrs. Hand....In my class at St. Faith's there was, the first year, an attractive Japanese student. Her name was Okane San Umezawa. I wonder if she is still alive. She married soon after she left the school, not completing her course.

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From Angeline Nicholas: I am always sorry that I cannot attend the Annual Meeting, which is held so far from Peoria. We are now settled in our new million-dollar Church. A short article in "The Living Church" (November 1, 1959) tells about this contemporary building. It is certainly attracting a great deal of attention. If any of you are in this vicinity, I would be most happy to give you a personally conducted tour !

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From Dss. Ruth Parsons: I wish that I could be with you for the meeting. I graduated May 10, 1921 and was made a Deaconess at the same time. I came to Chicago about a month after that and have been here in City Mission work ever since. My main field of work is Cook County Hospital- calling on the sick, helping arrange for services - doing considerable follow up work, etc. There are four Deaconesses at our Residence now - we used to have six. Deaconess Searle, also an Alumna of the N.Y.T.S.for Deaconesses is also here. She has a tremendous piece of work - in Holmes and Mental Hospitals and Women's Reformatory, etc. We are all working in City Mission Work. We are glad Central House is near to us (3/4 hour drive) and we enjoy going there when we can find time. I am very grateful to our officers of the Alumnae who keep us posted and keep the Alumnae intact. All good wishes, love and prayers.

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From Evelyn Twining: " I really need your prayers. I am alone here at home and caring for my mother (83) who has been bedfast since January 3rd. There is circulatory disturbance in her legs, especially the right and the right foot has gangrenous patches of a surface type. She is also senile. At times she is somewhat alert but sleeps most of the time. She is gradually growing quite weak. ... May God bless you and all our dear friends. Remember me to them.

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From Miriam A. Stoy: Greetings and salutations ! You dear folk will never know how much I've appreciated receiving the Alumnae news and messages from time to time. I hope the enclosed check is not arriving too late to do some good, somewhere. I had intended sending it last spring. (This letter is dated Sept.17,1959) Then life was so full of terrific events that some how things and materials landed on top of it. I just now un-earthed it !

Part of the terrific events was that my nice Rector, Condit N. Eddy, with whom I've been associated for the past 26 years, had the 40th. Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood in the Spring. We had a lovely two day celebration in his honor in June, which entailed months of happy preparation and which was all so rewarding. Guests came from different parts of the world as well as from his previous parishes, - Many from St. Paul's, Watertown, where I was associated with him and his family for eleven and more years before coming here to Christ Church with them. (Christ Church, Binghamton, New York)

Now, this coming year will be another big one! Christ Church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary, beginning with the First Sunday in Advent.I've loved this parish and all of the dear people in it, just as I did St. Paul's, Watertown. Thus the years go !Lillian Brown Hannum has moved from Endicott to Utica. Although we didn't see each other very often it was a comfort to know she was near-by. Now I miss her, but may see her in a couple of weeks at a Retreat at St. Margaret's House in Utica. With best wishes to all the dear friends of St. Faith's House. You are ever in my prayers.

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Travelers to Europe: Dss. Ruth Johnson "Jetted" to London a week ahead of Dss. Evelyn Seymour. After three weeks (and two weeks) in London with a side trip to Canterbury they proceeded to Switzerland and Paris before returning by ship. Dss. Lydia Ramsay left the middle of June to be gone two months flying hither and yon. According to her itinerary she should have "sat down" in at least seven different countries, including a stop for the Passion Play at Oberammergau.

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Changes of address for the Directory

Deaconess Armstrong is no longer at 293 Broadway, Kingston, N.Y.
Deaconess Edith A. Booth, and Deaconess Amelia Brereton, may now be addressed at
The Central House for Deaconesses, 1914 Orrington Ave., Evanston, Ill.
Deaconess Celia Brown, is now in Maine
Miss Evelyn G. Buchanan, 514 Franklin Ave., Pittsburgh, 21, Pa.
Deaconess Hilda L. Dieterly, 442 Adair Ave., Zanesville, Ohio
Miss Else Petersen, 527 Pan American Bank Bldg., Miami, Florida
Miss Mary Russell, 1436 N. Highland Ave., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.
Deaconess Mary M. Redd, 107 No. Blvd., Richmond 20, Virginia
Mrs. Wm. W. Woodridge (Louie-Dean Virgin) 415 Lloyed St., Pittsburgh 8, Penna.