

A L U M N A E B U L L E T I N

July 1961

THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of the
NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSSES

OFFICERS:

President Deaconess Kate S. Mayer
 2914 Broadway, New York 25, N.Y.
Vice President Mrs. Robert M. Baxter
 121 Kildare Rd., Garden City, N.Y.
Secretary Dss. Evelyn E. Seymour
 102 E. 22nd. St., New York 10, N.Y.
Treasurer Mrs. Frank W. Botthof
 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.
Mrs. Charles E. Merkel
 89-64 215th Place, Queens Village 27, N.Y.

THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of the NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSES

A message from the President

Dear Fellow Alumnae:-

Saturday May 6th was cold and rainy, but through the casement windows of the library could be seen the beautiful Korean cherry trees in full bloom, with the row of taller trees just coming into dainty, fragile green and behind them the back drop of the magnificent cathedral.

We all regretted very much that there were only seven in attendance at our Annual Meeting. We enjoyed the privilege and pleasure of meeting in the library of the Diocesan House, more lovingly known to us as the place where we spent many happy evenings during the recreation hour at St. Faith's (to say nothing of the hours of study!). The room has changed materially, but not as much as we had feared. In front of the book shelves of the south alcove, there is a flight of stairs leading to what used to be the furnace room, but now supplies additional stacks. The shelves are still filled with books and this made it look natural. Memories came to us as we sat there of many happy winter evenings when the Deaconesses read to us before the open fire; charades and pantomines; sometimes an outside speaker who opened to us larger fields of understanding and inspiration. So many old relationships that we cannot recapture except in memory.

At the meeting there was no quorum therefore the business transaction was limited. You will see by the report of the secretary what was discussed. One topic of great interest being a most kind and generous offer from Mrs. Allen J. Grey (Clara Hoffman) of Detroit, to be of assistance in planning a get-together of members of the Alumnae Association who may be attending General Convention this Fall. In this issue you will find a separate sheet that will enable you to give the necessary information if you expect to be there.

Following our meeting we attended Choral Evening Prayer in St. Ansgarius' Chapel, of many associations, then to Butler Hall for an informal dinner meeting and discussion of various problems.

One matter to be faced is the future of the Association. There are 225 names enrolled in the Association. For the past ten Annual Meetings the highest attendance was 20. In the last two years there was not even a quorum which is thirteen. Questions then arise:

Does this low attendance mean diminishing interest ?

Would more interest be generated if meetings were held in other localities North, South, West ?

Should the officers be distributed, North, South, East and West ?

It would be helpful if each alumna would seriously consider these questions and be prepared to express her opinions before time for another Annual Meeting, when decisions must be made. I would be glad, if any of you care to do so, to write me how you feel about this matter that should be of interest and concern to us all.

Faithfully yours,

Kate S. Mayer
Deaconess

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

The 119th meeting of the Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses was held in the Library of the building which used to be Saint Faith's House on Saturday afternoon, May 6, 1961 at 4:00 P.M.

The following members were present:

Maria P. Basile	Dorothy W. Gledhill	Deaconess Ruth Johnson
Deaconess Kate S. Mayer	Laura A. Moulson	Margery Ranger
Deaconess Evelyn E. Seymour		

The meeting was opened with prayers by our President, Deaconess Mayer. In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs. Basile was asked to act as secretary, and Mrs. Gledhill to read the minutes of the previous meeting. A correction to the minutes was made as follows: The minutes stated that "Maria had bulletins and clippings. Dss. Johnson said she has a record of every student. She agreed to take the literature Maria had for storage." This was changed to show that Dss. Johnson would take the clippings pertaining to graduates of the School for inclusion in the records of the graduate concerned. The Bulletins, Year Books and News-letters were to be discarded since Dss. Johnson had copies of all that had been published or that were available.

The minutes with the correction were approved and accepted.

Mrs. Gledhill was asked to read the Treasurer's report, which Mrs. Botthof had submitted. The report was accepted.

Deaconess Mayer discussed the plans which had been suggested at the 1960 meeting for this meeting. Since there had been no Executive Committee meeting, the ballots were not mailed to the members. Discussion followed concerning getting the ballots out. It was decided that the President would appoint Lucy Botthof to continue as Treasurer, and Irene Merkel as Secretary for the ensuing two years.

Deaconess Mayer read a report of attendance over the last two years which our Secretary had prepared. It showed that the attendance was approximately the same each year except for the 1960 and 1961 meetings when it dropped considerably.

Discussion over a meeting at the time of General Convention followed. Dss. Mayer read a letter from Mrs. Allen J. Grey (Clara Huffman) in which she offered the use of her home for a tea or dinner in the event there would not be too many attending, or to arrange a meeting where it would be convenient. It was decided to ask Mrs. Grey to arrange a meeting at the Woman's Club, or a tea in her home and to consider having the meeting on Seminary Night. Dss. Mayer was to write to Mrs. Grey and accept her kind and thoughtful offer.

Dss. Seymour was asked to continue as Editor of the Bulletin. The dues notice was to be published in the Bulletin, and the announcement that the present Secretary and Treasurer were to serve another term.

There were no Committee Reports.

Minutes continued

Dss. Johnson spoke of the Trustee's meeting in which money was voted for scholarships to any deserving applicant applying for Windham House, Central House for Deaconesses, or Saint Margaret's House. Deaconess Seymour moved we bring the amount in the Scholarship Fund up to \$50.00 and give \$50.00 to Dss. Booth for her Discretionary Fund. Mrs. Gledhill seconded the motion which was carried.

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter of sympathy to Dss. Bradley on the death of her mother and to send a get well card to Helen Flagg. Dss. Johnson moved that we send flowers to Mrs. Hand. The motion was seconded by Dss. Seymour.

The President read a letter from Dss. Ashcroft describing the use of the money that the Association gave her as a memorial to Dss. Massey.

The meeting then adjourned so that the members could attend Evensong in the Cathedral. After Evensong, the members went to Butler Hall for dinner and continued the meeting informally until it was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria P. Basile
Acting Secretary

P.S. Irene (Warner) Merkel has indicated her inability to serve as Secretary. The President has appointed Dss. Evelyn Seymour to serve in this capacity.

KSM

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Report of the Treasurer

May 1, 1961

Balance on Hand May 14, 1960 \$503.29

Receipts:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| General Fund | | |
| Dues paid | \$14.00 | |
| Gifts | 28.00 | |
| Scholarship Fund | 32.00 | |
| Interest from Savings Account | <u>6.04</u> | |
| Total Receipts | | <u>80.04</u> |

\$583.33

Disbursements:

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------|
| To Deaconess Booth, Scholarship Fund | \$100.00 | |
| To Deaconess Booth, Discretionary Fund | 100.00 | |
| To Dss. Ashcroft from Dss. Massey Mem. | 18.00 | |
| Bulletin printing | 4.33 | |
| Stamps and Envelopes | <u>9.20</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | | 231.53 |

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Balance, May 1, 1961 | In Savings Account | 351.80 |
| In General Fund | \$ 319.80 | |
| In Scholarship Fund | <u>32.00</u> | |
| | \$ 351.80 | |

Respectfully submitted
Lucy G. Botthof, Treasurer

GREETINGS from Third Floor of St. Faith's House:

Here is an item of interest to all: Last fall a bronze plaque 9"x 12" was placed in the outer vestibule under the Tiffany memorial tablet. It reads:

This building originally known as ST. FAITH'S HOUSE was built by the New York Training School for Deaconesses and occupied by them from 1909 to 1948.

From time to time I have the distinct pleasure of welcoming Alumnae here in our former building now converted into offices and apartments. Please feel free to come though I must caution you to telephone to make sure that I am in: Monument 2 - 4218

Recently I received a request for information with regard to the ministry of a certain Deaconess. The mission, planning to place a memorial to her inside the Church, wanted to know in what year the Deaconess began work there. Unfortunately I could find no record of this in the School's files. Once in a while a call is made for data for an obituary. In the case of many former students such information is scanty.

This, therefore, is a request - a plea - that former students send me a list of the various places where they have served, with dates. Having such a list at hand, this office - the remnant of St. Faith's - can be more helpful in responding to requests which are usually urgent in tone.

In most cases information regarding Deaconesses may be found in Stowe's Clerical Directory, but not all data there is up-to-date.

Cordial good wishes to you all !

RUTH JOHNSON, Deaconess

* Entered into the Life of Paradise during the past year: *

* Deaconess Anna Rebecca Armstrong, August 29, 1960 (1908) *

* Deaconess Mabel Adelia Pennock, January 29, 1961 (1907) *

* Laura Preston Wells, February 19, 1961 (1915) *

* Aimee Brookfield Drake, February 20, 1961 1911) *

* May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace *

* and light perpetual shine upon them. *

CHARLES NORMAN SHEPARD

1870 - 1961

News of the death of Dr. Shepard, June 19th in New York, will revive classroom memories of an instructor devoted to the task of making Old Testament history a living subject. St. Faith's Alumnae of the years from 1922 thru 1948 will recall Dr. Shepard's lectures, - quietly delivered with the occasional touch of lightly mischievous humor. Alumnae and former students of later years will recall the annual delightfully friendly get-togethers at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Shepard on Chelsea Square. Pleasant, enduring memories all.

When the School closed in 1948, Dr. Shepard continued as Warden and Trustee, resigning in 1950. In appreciation for his long and valuable services, the Board of Trustees immediately voted to create the office of Warden Emeritus and to elect Dr. Shepard as the first incumbent of that Office, thus continuing to have the benefit of his counsel.

On June 21st, Bishop Boynton officiated at the Requiem celebrated in the Chapel of St. James at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Two days later the Burial Office was read by Bishop Gray of Connecticut in Trinity Church, Bristol. Interment was in Bristol, his legal and canonical residence.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE.

THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
OF THE
NEW YORK TRAINING SCHOOL FOR DEACONESSSES

Please return this entire sheet to:

Mrs. Frank W. Botthof
851 Springfield Avenue
Summit, New Jersey

Dues for 1961 are now payable (\$1.00) One Dollar per year

Enclosed please find \$ _____ check _____, cash _____

Signed: _____

N.B. Please fill in
your address, if this
Bulletin was incorrectly
addressed to you.

* * * * *

Please fill out the following if you plan to be at Detroit for General Convention September 17-29, 1961. On the basis of these returns something will be planned and you will be notified. Be sure to stop at the Deaconess Booth and make yourself known.

I plan to be in Detroit from _____ to _____

Address in Detroit: _____

I would like to attend a meeting of the Alumnae Association _____yes, or _____no

The best time of day would be for breakfast_____, lunch_____, dinner_____

I would prefer (day of the week)_____, date:_____

Seminary night is Wednesday, September 27th, which may be an appropriate time, if enough members are going to remain in Detroit this second week.

The National Conference of Deaconesses, and the Association of Professional Women Church Workers are meeting before the opening of General Convention,so, perhaps the Saturday before the opening of General Convention would be a convenient time.

Signed: _____