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HOPE COLLEGE BULLETIN

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Number 1

ALUMNI NEWS LETTER



1919

HOPE COLLEGE
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN

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A Message to the Alumni

Fellow Alumni:—

This little bulletin is addressed to you in particular. A large family has its advantages but it may not be an un-mixed blessing—its members cannot have such constant intercourse as a smaller family permits. Yet now and again it is well for every family to meet face to face in some way or other and the purpose of this personal letter is to give you a special invitation to spend the week of Commencement with your fellows of older days on the Campus. The yearly issue of the Bulletin was addressed to you some weeks since and it gave you an inkling of the year's work. But the real spirit of the thing is the chat with old friends, the laugh over experiences real and imagined, the sympathy over losses and set-backs, and the inspiration for another year of struggle.

The program plans a reunion in one way or other for each decade class. The class of 1919 is of course the banner class, for they as babes will join the household: 1909 will be represented to show the difference between the ante-bellum and the "new era" days. Then in the reverse order of their graduation you will meet 1899, 1889, 1879 and 1869.

With the outlook for a fresh start in business, in social, and in political life, why should not all the colleges, Hope among them, take a new lease on life? Hope, your Alma Mater, is proceeding along the old lines; but each year the new life of the incoming Freshman Class adds new zest. The outgoing Senior Class brings the new things to our Alumni Association; as a College we need to be filled with these living currents of academic life.

Full announcements will be sent you by later mail and we look for you, one and all.

Very sincerely yours,

THE COMMITTEE.

June Festivities

Now that the war and its engrossing interests have ceased to be the vital things of life, it is hoped that each graduate and friend of Hope College will direct his thoughts Hope-ward. But that would not be enough—he should turn also his footsteps toward Hope College Campus, for June has come, and the Campus is green and beautiful. Come back to help make another milestone in Hope's proud history. Come back for a reunion with classmates and friends who have been "over there" and others who have "carried on" in other

work both at home and abroad. This commencement season should be one of gladness and festivity, one of the brightest and happiest of all our annual convocations.

A partial program of June events is as follows:

June 10—Washington Bust Oratorical Contest.

June 11—Public Program of selections from Shakespeare, to be given by the Minerva Society in the Sunken Gardens on the Campus in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Minerva Society.

June 12—Fraternal Society Banquet.

June 13—Meliphone Society Program.

June 14—Sorosis Society Banquet.

June 15—Baccalaureate Sermon.

June 16—Ulphilas Society Program.

June 17—Alumni Banquet.

June 18—Commencement Exercises.

A Digest of the President's Annual Report to the Council of Hope College

(Printed for the Alumni Association)

At the close of this, the fifty-third academic year of the College, the following report is submitted for your information and consideration:

The two departments authorized by the charter and the affiliated department of music have been conducted in accord with the traditional procedure. On the eighteenth day of September, 1918, the exercises of the year were opened with a public program in Winants Chapel. The address was delivered by Editor A. P. Johnson of the Grand Rapids News. No new academic courses of any kind were attempted. A material decrease in the number of registrants for the German language was evidenced. This has continued during the year and will probably characterize the next few years. Various changes had occurred in the personnel of the Faculty owing to various causes.

Owing to the fact that most of the students of Dutch, running true to form and race, had entered military service, there were no classes in this language for the first two quarters of the year. With the opening of the Spring Quarter, the Rev. Prof. Henry Hospers, of the Western Theological Seminary, was secured to carry on a class in Dutch for those who feel the need of founding themselves in the language of those churches of our denomination that still have Dutch or bilingual services. This class is proving very popular and it is confidently expected that at the beginning of the next academic year the needs of the Church in

this regard will be fully met with strong and inspiring instruction. Your college is to be congratulated in securing the services of Dr. Hospers both for the learning and experience as a teacher which he possesses, and because of the fact that it insures an intimate connection with the Seminary and the Church at large. This makes possible a further bond of union between the purposes of your College and the General Synod of your Church in its Five Years Progress Campaign.

In the societies, the students have carried on their work with the usual benefit and good comradeship. It is pleasing to note the feeling of comradeship and of mutual helpfulness continues strong. The facilities for social intercourse which have been provided in Voorhees Hall, amply superintended by Mrs. Durfee, Dean of women, and her capable assistants, is one of the greatest educative influences on the campus. Since the abolition of the military status, the rooms in Van Raalte Hall formerly occupied as a mess hall, have been allotted for social diversions in the evening. The students have availed themselves of the opportunity to use these quarters and have found them a helpful adjunct to their life on the campus. The Ulfilas Society is again in session and there is promise that the end of the year will see the usual program.

The religious situation is normal. The effect of the national emergency has been felt in the keenest manner by the young men and women of the land. In the colleges particularly has this been true. All the religious meetings of the year have been well attended and have been characterized by a depth of feeling quite unusual, though characteristic of the national life. The Y. M. C. A. is doing its usual good work and numbers 100 active members. The Y. W. C. A. is one of the most potent influences for good in our midst. The work of the Student Volunteer Band is equally enthusiastic. The Sunday Schools in like manner have been manned most carefully and successfully with fourteen teachers carrying on the instructional work. Prof. Wynand Wichers is the instructor of the Trinity Church Student Class. Three other Bible classes are carried on by the students themselves. The Faculty interest in the religious work of the college and the city keeps pace with that of the students. Prof. Meinecke is organist in the First Methodist Church; Prof. Nykerk continues as the able leader of the choir of Hope Church, which stands second to none in western Michigan; Prof. Raap is a moving force in Trinity Church; the women members of the Faculty are in constant touch with the religious and moral life of the girl students, and the comment which comes from the student body relative to the helpfulness of this relationship is of a nature to be highly acceptable to the

Council. No man or woman could be retained on the teaching force of a college like yours who is not always a positive force for right and noble aspirations. You are doing the highest of service to your church in maintaining a force as efficient along these lines as the Faculty of your school.

In matters national, both student body and Faculty have been very active. The Patriotic League, an organization of the girl students, has been engaged in welfare work of many kinds. They have carried on the work of regular correspondence with the absent soldier students. They have engaged in Red Cross work in the city. They have sold and bought Liberty Bonds and Victory Bonds. From their booth on Main Street they have sold thousands of dollars worth of Government Bonds. The Faculty members have done their share of work as Four Minute Men, as speakers for the various drives and in the work of organization. The College membership has raised over \$3,000.00 for benevolent work during the war period and has been active in all remedial agencies and activities looking to this end.

The Faculty is now organized under a College Extension Committee and is engaging itself for lectures and concerts in churches, school houses, and other buildings for the purpose of socializing the educational influences of college life to the fullest possible extent. Three of the members of the Faculty occupy the pulpits of the vicinity whenever occasion offers. It is hoped that in this way the college will be made a real element in the communal life of the neighborhood.

Changes in the Calendar and Curriculum

A new calendar is to go into effect with the beginning of the school year, 1919-1920. The old system of three quarters per college year, with its inconveniences and disadvantages, is to be replaced by the semester system. The partially worked out calendar, based upon a division of the year into semesters, is as follows:

College Calendar 1919-1920

First Semester

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September 16—Examinations for Admission, beginning at 9 A. M.

September 17—First Semester begins at 9 A. M.

November 27—Thanksgiving Recess.

December 19—Christmas Recess begins at 12 o'clock noon.

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January 5—Christmas Recess ends at 12 o'clock P. M.
January 28-30—First Semester Examinations.

Second Semester

February 2—Second Semester begins at 8 A. M.
June 16—Commencement.

The Curriculum

A new schedule of courses is being prepared for adoption in September, 1919. The unit of work in the various courses is to be a semester hour, which is defined as one recitation of fifty minutes per week for one semester. The degree of Bachelor of Arts will be granted upon the completion of one hundred and thirty semester hours of work.

The groups of courses have also been modified. The regular student may select his program from the Classical, Latin, English-Modern Language, History, Mathematics, and Science groups. The number of elective courses in each of the groups has been somewhat increased. The most radical changes in the schedule will be in the Departments of Biblical Literature and Public Speaking. Courses in Biblical Literature will be given to each class one semester per year, two hours per week. The courses scheduled for the first semester are for the "D" and "C" classes in the Preparatory School and for the Freshman and Junior classes in the College. Biblical Literature courses are required subjects in all courses and full credit, counting toward the degree, will be given for them. All students must enroll in some Bible class as a requirement to the privileges of the Institution.

Courses in Public Speaking will be given to each class one semester per year, two hours per week. In the first semester, there will be classes for Sophomores and Seniors; in the second semester for Freshmen and Juniors. Four semesters of work in this department will be required of Classical and Latin students. All other groups take Public Speaking for two semesters out of the four years. Two hours of Public Speaking will be given one semester hour of credit.

A greater variety of courses will also be offered in the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics; English, Greek, Latin, German, French, Dutch, and Spanish; History, Political Science, Psychology, Philosophy, Astronomy and Mathematics.

Concerning Changes of Address

Inasmuch as it is difficult for the Catalog Committee to obtain the exact addresses of almost 700 alumni, the Committee will esteem it a favor if each alumnus or alumna will send promptly to the College Librarian, any change of address which may occur in his or her own case. The Committee will also welcome such notice of change in address on the part of other alumni of your acquaintance as you think we might not get with sufficient promptness or accuracy.

