

The Archives
of
The University of Notre Dame

607 Hesburgh Library
Notre Dame, IN 46556
574-631-6448

archives@nd.edu

[Notre Dame Archives: Alumnus](#)



ALUMNI BOARD ELECTS '61 OFFICERS; FLEMING, '40, TO GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Four Directors Elected by Membership;
Installed at Winter Meeting

Walter L. Fleming, Jr., '40, of Dallas, Texas, was elected president of the University of Notre Dame Alumni Association at the winter meetings of the Association's board of directors January 19-20. Named to vice-presidencies were Paul J. Cushing, '31, of Oakland, Calif., who continues in the post; James J. Byrne, '43, of Royal Oak, Mich.; and W. Edmund Shea, '23, of Dayton, Ohio. James E. Armstrong, '25, continues as executive secretary, and retiring President John C. O'Connor, '38, accedes to the office of honorary president.

Installed by the board as new members were the winners of an election held in December among members of the Association: John P. Dempsey, '49, Philadelphia, Pa.; Patrick A. Dougherty, '50, Minneapolis, Minn.; William H. Fallon, '37, New Rochelle, N. Y.; and Oliver H. Hunter, '43, New Castle, Pa. Dempsey had just completed the unexpired term of the late Charles Rohr, '30, of Cleveland. The board adjourned on January 20 to take part in the 1960-61 Council of Alumni Club Presidents January 20-22. Reports on the proceedings of both meetings will be included in the March ALUMNUS.



NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS of the Alumni Association, gathered at the winter meeting of the Board of Directors after their election and installation on January 20, included: (seated, l. to r.) Paul Cushing, '31, second-term vice-president; John O'Connor, '38, retiring and honorary president; Walter Fleming, '40, president-elect; and W. E. "Red" Shea, '23, vice-president-elect; (standing, l. to r.) 1961-64 directors Jack Dempsey, '49; Pat Dougherty, '50; Ollie Hunter, '43, and Bill Fallon, '37; and Jim Armstrong, '25 elected to a 35th term as executive secretary. Missing was Jim Byrne, '43, a new vice-president.

'Personal Responsibility' To Keynote 38th Annual U.N.D. Night On April 10

At the winter meeting the Board of Directors of the Notre Dame Alumni Association selected "Personal Responsibility" as the theme of the 38th annual observance of Universal Notre Dame Night, scheduled for Monday, April 10, 1961.

The President's Committee on National Goals, headed by former President Henry Wriston of Brown University, reported that the major need of the nation today is a sense of personal responsibility.

The 1960 meeting of the Bishops of the Catholic Church in this country similarly called for a return to this sense of personal responsibility.

The coincidence of this phrase in these two major pronouncements would seem to make this an outstanding theme for the annual meeting of the alumni of the University of Notre Dame in their 179 Local Alumni Clubs.

The theme is applicable to alumni everywhere.

It is applicable to the program of continuing education, which is essen-

THE HOLY CROSS FATHERS at Notre Dame will gratefully accept stipends to offer their Masses for any intention requested by alumni. Write to Rev. Ferdinand Brown, C.S.C., Superior, University of Notre Dame, Corby Hall, Notre Dame, Indiana.

tially a matter of personal initiative.

It is applicable to the major problem of University admissions, since it underlines the responsibility for eligibility of the boy and the family.

It is applicable to our program of encouragement of alumni to participate in civic and Church programs, since it puts the sense of obligation on the individual and not on the organization or the parish or the political party.

1961 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

by JAMES E. ARMSTRONG, '25



Thirty-five years ago this month I took over the duties of Alumni Secretary and Editor of the Notre Dame ALUMNUS from Alfred C. Ryan, '20.

Actually, I was the first full-time holder of these jobs, as Al Ryan had also functioned as graduate manager of athletics.

The Alumni Association was organized in 1868, and was reorganized on a permanent annual meeting basis in 1908. Office and magazine began in 1923.

ALUMNI Membership by 1926 was slightly over 2,500 — a figure that now represents the growth in our graduates in a two-year period. Present total membership is 30,510. This is the list to whom the Notre Dame ALUMNUS goes four times yearly in major form and twice yearly in four-page editions. Also going to all alumni, and a similar number of non-alumni friends of Notre Dame, is the quarterly NOTRE DAME, established in 1948 through Alumni Association interest, edited by me until 1957 when Associate Editor, John Cackley, '37, assumed full editorial responsibility.

CLUBS Alumni Clubs, the frontiers of the University throughout the U. S. and the world, numbered eight in 1908, and jumped to forty-five by 1926, following the institution of Universal Notre Dame Night in the Spring of 1924.

Today we have 168 Local Alumni Clubs in the United States and 11 in other countries for a total of 179. A survey of Clubs shows that (from a fourth of the total) the average number of meetings each year is six, the average number of mailings eight, which indicates an intensive Club activity.

CLASSES The columns of the ALUMNUS reflect the growing volume of Class news and interest.

The Reunions continue to grow,

without intensive promotion, and now demand facilities for more than 1,000 returning alumni in June. The cost-figure reunion fee saved the University some \$18,000 in June, 1960.

Our cultivation of our young alumni begins with the datebook prepared by Allan Powers, '51, and given by the Alumni Association each September to the undergraduate members of all Classes. We have re-established the Senior Class Dinner in the Spring. And for the Class of 1960 we co-operated in the publication of the first Senior Class Alumni Directory, whose value seems assured but still remains to be proved by Class interest during several more years.

The Class Secretaries Conference in January, 1960, furthered Class activity.

FOUNDATION The Annual Alumni Fund, established in 1942, under Association President Harry Kelly, '17, continues to be the solid core of the annual giving program, which, through Alumni Association cooperation, was expanded into the Notre Dame Foundation in 1947 through the efforts of President Harry Hogan, '04. Since that time, alumni alone have contributed more than six million dollars and the Foundation reports total more than thirty million dollars in gifts, grants and bequests.

Current emphasis is on a three-year intensification of the long-range program, to achieve eighteen million dollars and in particular twelve million dollars necessary for a matching three-year grant of six million dollars offered by the Ford Foundation. Notre Dame is the only Catholic institution included in the Ford offer.

U.N.D. NIGHT The 1960 observance of the annual Universal Notre Dame Night established by the Alumni Association in 1924, under the late John H. Neeson, '03, was the largest in scope and the most significant in depth of any Night in the series, contributing greatly to the prestige and public re-

lations of the University and Notre Dame men everywhere.

U.N.D. COMMUNION SUNDAY The early returns on the 1960 observance of this annual Universal Communion Sunday, established in 1938 by the Notre Dame Club of New York City, indicate that it was wide spread among many Clubs, and offered a pioneer movement to inform lay Catholic alumni of the significance of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council. A cable of approbation from the Holy Father was relayed to all Clubs, and the meeting of the Notre Dame Club of Rome provided a fitting highlight.

CONTINUING EDUCATION This relatively new effort to introduce continuing education among alumni has been effective in the inserts in the Notre Dame ALUMNUS under the general heading of The Sublime Tradition, an insert which the Association has offered to the Notre Dame *Scholastic* and which the student publication has featured.

A most significant development in this direction in 1960 was the introduction of the Notre Dame Club of New York Forum, through the leadership of President William Cuddy, '52, featuring in each program two outstanding speakers representing opposite points of view on current areas of thought. The initial Forum featured George Shuster and George Sokolsky on liberal and conservative viewpoints.

FIELD SECRETARY The contact with Local Alumni Clubs has been strengthened in 1960 by the appointment of Rev. Thomas J. O'Donnell, C.S.C., '41, as Father Hesburgh's representative in bringing the University and the Congregation of Holy Cross closer to alumni. Father O'Donnell has visited a number of Clubs while retaining his position as Associate Director of the Notre Dame Foundation, and has contributed to Club and alumni thinking by articles in the ALUMNUS.

(Continued on last page.)



Office of the President

The University of Notre Dame
Alumni Association

January 20, 1961

Fellow Alumni:

As Notre Dame progresses she encounters her problems. There are those alumni and university friends who are tempted to conclude that Notre Dame can no longer be a "football great"; that all athletic and extracurricular activities, so fond in our memories, have been shunted aside for the sole goal of scholastic achievement and excellence in her students. A few presently doubt that the great number of Alumni and friends all over the country, and in many foreign nations, will continue in their love, devotion and interest in the school of Our Lady. These few also indicate pessimism regarding the present drive for the Library Fund which they would believe will fail because the football team lost more than it won the last few years. Finally they would have us believe that Notre Dame, having achieved national prominence in the past to an admitted substantial extent because of the success of her football teams, is now doomed to the rank of merely a sectional private school.

But the indicated reasons for all of this doubt and pessimism are simply unfounded. Certainly none of us would hesitate to agree that the primary purpose of Notre Dame is to educate the whole boy to such a degree that it realizes the student's intellectual potentiality. The administration at Notre Dame is constantly striving to provide each student with not only a superior degree of instruction in a well balanced educational program, but also with just as an effective program of athletic and extracurricular activities. It is true that with the great influx of postwar students clamoring to be admitted to this and other great universities that the inevitable, and certainly happy, result is that the average student who enters Notre Dame is much more advanced than those who entered not too many years ago. Thus the standards here and everywhere in our universities and colleges have been appreciably elevated. Certainly this must be a good.

All of this however does not mean that the days of Notre Dame's excellent football, basketball and other athletic teams are something in the past. I can personally assure you that Father Hesburgh and Father Joyce are perhaps more anxious than you are that next year — or perhaps several seasons later — the Victory March will ring out after frequent victorious seasons. Although each true alumnus finds each defeat hard to swallow, perhaps it has effectively portrayed to us the correct balance between the scholastic and athletic phases of the university effort. It is not merely an accident that the Ford Foundation has twice chosen Notre Dame to assist in improving the educational standards and curricula throughout the nation by the Foundation's generous grants to us. You do know that in the last few years the increased excellence of our faculty and the administration leadership has been many times demonstrated by the astounding number of Rhodes, Wilson, National Science Foundation, Danforth, Fulbright and Marshall Fellowships that our students have been awarded, for which educational leaders throughout the world have paid glowing tribute to Notre Dame. This will continue at Notre Dame and in this same atmosphere we are confident we shall also see Notre Dame returning to her former place in the athletic world. There is no formula which concludes that a university which achieves academic excellence cannot also excel in its athletic endeavors. While Notre Dame is meeting this current problem, and in time surmounting it, we are sure that the loyalty of Notre Dame men everywhere, tempered with right reason, will not waver.

In this my last letter I should like to briefly comment on some of the recent work of your Alumni Board. We believe you will find most revealing and thought provoking the series beginning now in the *ALUMNUS* on the results of the Notre Dame Alumni Self Study Questionnaire, which should prove beneficial to both the University and her alumni.

Regarding the all important Foundation Drive for the new Library and other vital purposes the following quotation from a recent Alumni Board resolution should emphasize your part in it: "That the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association expresses appreciation for the Ford Foundation grant and its opportunities, and strongly urges every Notre Dame alumnus to give during these three years if he has not given before and certainly to repeat his gift if he is a regular contributor; to increase this annual gift wherever possible in the light of the generous matching gift opportunity; and to cooperate with the Notre Dame Foundation in the personal solicitation of such gifts from alumni and non-alumni friends."

We were in attendance at the recent Football Banquet, staged by President Joe Hickey and his St. Joseph Valley Alumni Club. Over 1100 people exhibited a loud vote of confidence in Head Coach Joe Kuharich and honored the 1960 team.

In concluding our administration I must say that it has been both a unique and exciting experience to have served as your 1960-1961 President of the Alumni Association. I can only attempt to compensate you for this honor by promising you to do all within my power in the future to help Notre Dame, her administration, faculty, students and alumni, which after all is the second family of each Notre Dame Man. Best wishes to President Fleming; Vice-Presidents Cushing, Byrne, and Shea; and Secretary Armstrong.

Sincerely yours in Notre Dame,

John O'Connell

CLUB PRESIDENTS GATHER FOR 1960-61 COUNCIL



SOME OF THE PRESIDENTS of Notre Dame Alumni Clubs throughout the United States are shown between meetings of the 1960-61 version of the biennial Council of Alumni Club Presidents held on the Notre Dame campus January 20-22, 1961. Names of registrants will be included in the March issue.

1961 Report

(Continued from page 2)

PLACEMENT Alumni job counseling and placement has been satisfactorily served by the Placement Office of the University, directed by Rev. Louis J. Thornton, C.S.C., '29. The Placement Office was developed from the earlier placement work initiated in the Alumni Office by the late William R. Dooley, '26, and later transferred under Bill Dooley's direction to its present full-time University status.

ADMISSIONS This is the field recently described as the most important in alumni work in the years immediately ahead. High school visits and student

interviewing were initiated by the Alumni Association and the Alumni Clubs, but the growing volume and significance of the project has resulted in the direction of these activities emanating properly from the Admissions Office, under Rev. James E. Moran, C.S.C., '27. Alumni high school visiting committees and student interview committees have been established by Father Moran, and by his predecessor the late Father Richard Murphy, in many of the Club areas.

ALUMNI REPRESENTATION Alumni are unusually well represented in the University administration by the presence of alumni members on the Associate

Board of Lay Trustees, and the Advisory Councils of the Colleges of Science and Engineering, Commerce, Law, and Arts and Letters. Alumni interest and attendance at the meetings of these groups have been strong factors in their progress.

AMERICAN ALUMNI COUNCIL This national organization of the alumni offices, magazines and funds of the colleges and universities of the U. S. and Canada has been of great help to Notre Dame since our Alumni Office was opened. Your Alumni Secretary has been a member for 35 years and has just retired as Chairman of the Great Lakes District (six Midwest States).

ALUMNUS Magazine

Vol. 39, No. 1

February, 1961

Notre Dame, Ind.

Entered as Second Class matter October 1, 1939, at the Post Office, Notre Dame, Ind., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Return postage guaranteed

U.N.D. NIGHT

April 10. Theme:

"Personal Responsibility"