

# Alumni History

An annual reunion organized in the summer of 1875 and continuing every year thereafter without a single omission, is the unique and remarkable record of the Corry High School Alumni Association, which will hold its 63rd meeting June 10, 1937.

The first Commencement exercises were held June 8, 1874, the class numbering three girls. All are now deceased.

The second class—1875—had 12 members. On July 1, 1876, a meeting of the graduates of the three classes was called at the home of William Baker for the purpose of organizing an Alumni Association. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers elected:

Orris E. Lee, president.

A. E. Colegrove, secretary.

William M. Baker, treasurer.

Records of each succeeding class and every meeting have been faithfully kept up to the present time by the officers who are elected annually. At the present there are 1964 members.

D. Everett Leach and Frank T. Babbitt, members of the class of 1880 were elected to the offices of treasurer and secretary in 1889 and 1903 respectively.

Loyal and efficient, they have continued to serve to the present time, "life sentence" having been passed upon them many years ago by unanimous vote of the membership.

In 1924 Arch C. Lyons, class of 1912, conceived a plan for the establishment of the Virgil G. Curtis Memorial Fund, the earnings of which would provide a scholarship each year to one worthy member of the graduating class.

At the annual meeting June 10, 1925 the plan was voted upon and adopted. It has been in operation for 10 years.

This fund, named in honor of Prof. Virgil G. Curtis, Superintendent of Schools from 1873-1883 and again from 1905 to 1911, amounts to \$2500 at the present time, and its earnings of \$100 annually constitutes the Virgil Curtis Scholarship.

The goal of the fund is \$10,000 which will eventually provide a \$500 scholarship each year.

As the fund grew, it became apparent that it must be safeguarded. To this end, letters of incorporations for the C. H. S. Alumni Association were applied for and granted, and at the annual meeting of June 6, 1929, were adopted.

The association is a non-profit corporation. It has no capital stock and no paid officers. Its only revenue comes from the initiation fee of \$1.00 which each member of every graduating class is asked to pay.

This money is used to apply on expenses of conducting the affairs of the corporation and promoting the purposes for which it was formed.

If the incoming class fails to pay this fee, the scholarship for that year is automatically forfeited and the money used for expenses of the following year's meeting in lieu of the class dues.

Should a balance remain after all expenses are paid, said balance reverts to the fund, there to draw interest for enlarging the next scholarship.

This system is carried out in accordance with the constitution and by-laws, which provide that the Alumni Association must be kept active in order that the scholarship fund may function.

The fund is administered by a board of trustees composed of the president of the Alumni as chairman and four elected members.

An interesting feature of the Alumni meeting is the A. D. Colegrove Cup Award which is granted annually to the class represented with the highest per cent of living membership.

Should the cup be won three times in succession by the same class it becomes their permanent possession.

The average attendance at the reunions during the past few years has been 800. It continues to grow larger as the present classes increase in size.

## ATTENTION ALUMNI MEMBERS:

This page is reprinted from the official 1937 Corry High school year book, *The Corrian*. In addition the *Corrian* carries the names and addresses of all C. H. S. graduates from 1874 to the present. There are only a limited number of copies and those desiring same should place their order at once with the Editor, *Corrian*, Corry, Pa. Price per copy \$1.50, plus 5c for postage.