ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ADVANCED OF SCIENCE & ART. SIXTY-FIRST. COOPER UNION

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VARIOUS

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FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE & ART

THE COOPER UNION



SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1ST NEW YORK MCMXX

REPORT OF THE LADIES' ADVISORY COUNCIL

HE unavoidable increase in expenses made the annual sum devoted to the Woman's Art School inadequate for even the regular work, so the Ladies' Advisory Council presented the extra amount required, also two scholarships of five hundred dollars each to give two graduates special postgraduate courses.

The able and distinguished artists who instruct the classes and who are in daily touch with the demands of the community form the faculty. Their monthly conferences progressively improve the school and safeguard the curriculum. Such unity of effort enables the Art Director to maintain the high standard by which attention of students is compelled, the pursuit of an artistic ignis fatuus prevented, and accepted traditions and methods of work upheld.

There are delightful tales of success. One graduate designs all costumes for a Cleveland firm and controls their illustration in three daily papers, her salary being \$3000 a year. Names of many others are on staffs of illustrated and art journals, in commercial designing or poster work, having studios and shops of their own, or as teachers of drawing in private schools, art schools, and high schools in the Middle West. Some now in the school are also teaching.

Weekly class work in the Museum for the Arts of Decoration has given graduates a marked commercial value in the artistic trades. Employers seek them. During the past year more than fifty have returned to use museum data and have expressed the conviction that such an unusual privilege under the same roof with a school has increased their business effectiveness. Those employed out of

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New York and throughout the West make every effort to refresh their point of view at least once a year in the Cooper Union Museum.

The June and September Class organized by the Ladies' Advisory Council in the Museum when the Woman's Art School is closed, has had an unexpected result. In the Commencement Exhibition every prize winner in the Class in Design had taken this additional two months' course, a sidelight on the fact that continuous study must be a distinct asset and that when possible the school year should be made longer.

Graduates from other schools apply for the grounding instruction of the Woman's Art School and present drawings which admit them; then ask the privilege of entering the already overflowing primary class to acquire complete and thorough basic instruction.

The Class in Typewriting, Stenography and Secretarial Work graduated fourteen in May, 1920. The majority secured specialistic positions immediately at salaries above the average received by workers in this field, and all found situations without difficulty. The latest types of machinery installed for special work, records, etc., and the rapidly increasing Business and Literary Reference Library in the Class Room formed through the gifts, interest and advice of the Advisory Council for the Free Library and Reading Room, have placed this class foremost in the ranks of acquiring the knowledge necessary for graduates to give adequate return for good salaries.

The Ladies' Advisory Council has pleasure in thanking the many benefactors whose generous gifts have helped individuals, rounded out the courses of study so effectively, broadened the curriculum, given salaries and equipment and enforced the principle of good work and sound foundations by laying stress on the value of traditional methods for the making of successful careers.

Amy Hewitt Green, Secretary.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

THE voluntary beneficence of many individuals has enabled Cooper Union, through its sixty years of existence, to meet its expenses and to extend gradually and constantly its educational work. Cooper Union has never begged. It has never made its students any charge. The extraordinary situation developed in the last two years, however, has so increased expenses that its resources are no longer sufficient to pay adequate salaries to its instructing staff.

It becomes necessary either to curtail its educational work, or obtain increased funds. To do the first would mean to disrupt an organization built up with care and effort during years—to lose members of the staff that time has made more efficient—to lose teachers who would with difficulty be replaced. Such a policy would also seriously impair the morale. The severe conditions that have faced the educational institutions of the country in the last few years have ruthlessly separated the weak from the strong. Those performing a vital service to the community somehow and somewhere have found support. Help has come from alumni, friends or the public.

Few institutions, however, have passed through the vicissitudes of the world war and the increase of living expenses with as little impairment of staff as Cooper Union. Its faculty and instructors have been throughout most loyal. The scale of present remuneration, however, cannot be continued either with justice or safety, and Cooper Union must appeal in this crisis for help both from those who have reaped the benefit of its instruction and those who appreciate the service rendered to all our citizens.

Fortunately, most material help has already been forthcoming. The General Education Board has allotted \$150,000 to Cooper Union

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to be used as a capital fund for increasing instructors' salaries provided that \$250,000 in addition be raised for this purpose by friends of the institution. This offer places us in a position to appeal to our friends with confident hope to assist us in obtaining this gift and thus make possible more adequate compensation to the men and women who bear the burden of service that Cooper Union renders the community.

C. R. RICHARDS.

GIFTS

Trustees' Acknowledgment

UR most delightful duty is the expression of our appreciation of the gifts which have been made to the Cooper Union during the past year. We do not wish the givers to think for one moment that in our minds the mere mass of donations is considered, but that each individual kindness is noted for itself. Those who have given to us for the first time have our grateful acknowledgments; those who have been at the pains to ascertain some particular need and provide for it have our grateful acknowledgments; those constant friends who from time to time or annually remember us have our grateful acknowledgments. Each generous act is recorded, for it is at once a recognition and a tribute—a recognition of the usefulness of the foundation, and a tribute to the Founder, whose wisdom and whose loving-kindness foresaw and provided the means for the benefit of our community which we now administer and of which your gifts furnish a substantial portion.

R. FULTON CUTTING.
PETER COOPER HEWITT.
J. P. MORGAN.
CHARLES W. GOULD.
PETER COOPER BRYCE.

ALEXANDER, Mrs. C. B.
Eleven volumes.

ANDERSON, Mr. H. C. (For the Museum)
"The Creation of a World Control."

ANONYMOUS.
Ten color prints of costumes by Henri Borelet.