

ceal the fact by starting a brokerage business in November 1929, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Charles L. Woody, who owned a seat on the stock exchange; "Woody and Co." was backed by Woody's millionaire father. All of Ryder's serious criminality seems to date from this period. When the market failed to recover, he began stealing, principally from his brother-in-law, his father-in-law, his wife, and Frank Bailey to pay other creditors and to maintain his flamboyant, hundred-dollar-tips style of living.

The firm went into involuntary bankruptcy June 19, 1930; in the course of the proceedings Ryder was charged with embezzlement, larceny and forgery—he had tried to cover thefts from Bailey by transferring Charles Woody's stock exchange seat to Bailey.

Ryder, who had spent money lavishly when he was rich, did not change his style on the way down. "Texas" Guinan, who called all her customers "sucker," retrospectively pronounced Ryder "the biggest sucker of them all." Bankrupt and awaiting trial, he explained that he had to ride in a chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce because he had no cash for the subway.

Tried on a single charge of grand larceny for accepting \$95,462 from Bailey's son-in-law, John Vanneck, to purchase securities that were never purchased, Ryder pled guilty and was sentenced to Sing Sing.

Neither Ryder nor Bailey had appeared for the cornerstone laying of "Ryder Hall" just five days before Woody and Co. failed. Ryder unwillingly submitted his resignation to the Board of Trustees on August 14, 1930, but the resignation did not end the story for Union: there were both legal and public relations problems. Was the College entitled to keep the money Ryder had given? That seemed to depend on whether Ryder was solvent when he gave it, but investigating the question, the trustees discovered, first, that the gifts were really Bailey's, and second that, in addition to defrauding Bailey (trading at the time as the Prudence Co.) of several hundred thousand dollars, Ryder had sold to the College, for over \$300,000, securities which he had failed to deliver. Because Ryder had stolen about as much from the College as he had nominally given, there was no obligation to return the gifts. (Recognizing a small balance to Ryder's credit, the College later took the position that he had given an outdoor hockey rink costing about \$12,000). Bailey made good Ryder's thefts from the College and has rightly been considered the true donor of the electrical engineering building.

The second problem was that "Ryder Hall" had already been chiseled in the stone lintel above the main entrance of the electrical engineering building and on the cornerstone. The words were erased from the lintel in August 1930, and a new cornerstone was ordered, actions which caused general amusement and also some serious criticism in the press. Because the College could not present itself as Ryder's victim with-

out embarrassing Frank Bailey, it appeared to the public that Union was distancing itself from its fallen prince, while keeping his money, even before he had had his day in court.

Paroled in 1933 after serving two years and three months, Ryder was re-arrested in October 1937 for violating the terms of his parole by trading in stocks. He subsequently pled guilty to defrauding eighty-three investors of \$200,000 during the preceding four years. About two weeks after returning to Sing Sing, he died of a heart attack.

S.S. *Union Victory*. As part of a program begun in 1941 to build America's fleet of cargo vessels for service in the Second World War, the U.S. Maritime Commission launched a series of "Victory" ships. When the seventy-seventh of these ships to be built at Portland, Oregon, was launched on May 11, 1945, the Commission had begun to name them for American colleges and universities, as much as possible in chronological order. The S.S. *Union Victory* remained in service after the war.

See also: *ELIPHALET NOTT (SHIP)*.

Sabbatical Leaves. Sabbatical leaves became common in American colleges in the 1890s. Although Union was at that time in very weak financial condition, President ANDREW VAN VRANKEN RAYMOND introduced the practice at the College soon after taking office in 1894.

At Union, the leaves were initially available only after ten years of service, and provided half pay for a full year. The first three professors to take sabbatical leaves, SIDNEY G. ASHMORE (1895/96), FRANK HOFFMAN (1896/97) and JAMES STOLLER (1897/98), all used the occasions to travel and study abroad. Severe retrenchment in 1898 and 1899, involving an immediate reduction in the size of the faculty, probably ended sabbatical leaves for several years. THOMAS W. WRIGHT took a sabbatical in 1904/5 for the sake of his failing health, but at the end of it he resigned.

About 1936, the Depression forced the College, like many other institutions, to suspend paid leaves. The practice returned in 1946 when president-elect CARTER DAVIDSON, who had not yet arrived to take up his duties, enthusiastically endorsed sabbatical leaves and recommended that professor Codman Hislop be given one for 1946/47.

The sabbatical leave policy adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1948 allowed full-time faculty who had been teaching for at least six years to apply for a half year of leave at full salary or a full year at half salary, "not for rest and recreation but to qualify for improved service to the College." Essentially the same policy has remained in effect since then.

Since 1982/83, the College has offered "junior sabbaticals" to tenure-track junior faculty members who

have passed their third-year review. Introduced at the initiative of Vice-President for Academic Affairs Thomas D'Andrea, who had been familiar with the practice at Haverford College, the junior sabbatical consists of a single term at half pay—usually the first or third term of the applicant's fourth year at Union. The leave is intended to be combined with the summer recess and to be used for "appropriate professional activities." Faculty members who take a junior sabbatical and are subsequently found tenurable have the time deducted from their first regular sabbatical.

Sage, Margaret (Sept. 8, 1828–Nov. 4, 1918). Shortly after the death in 1906 of her husband, capitalist Russell Sage, Mrs. Sage endowed the Sage Foundation with \$10,000,000 and gave \$1,000,000 each to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her alma mater, the Emma Willard School, as well as lesser amounts to other institutions.

In first making the will by which she endowed Russell Sage College and made large bequests to other colleges, she passed over Union College because it was near bankruptcy. Two people have been credited with persuading her that Union had a future: an otherwise unidentified aunt of Professor FRANK HOFFMAN, and Rockefeller Foundation head Dr. Wallace Buttrick, a former pastoral colleague of President RICHMOND. Whatever the cause, the College inherited \$646,000 on Mrs. Sage's death in 1918. The largest single gift received by the College up to that time, it was used to raise by forty percent the very low salaries of the faculty.

Saint Andrews Exchange Program. The Union–St. Andrews Student Exchange began in the fall of 1935, following an agreement between Union president DIXON RYAN FOX and Sir James Irvine, principal of St. Andrews University. Both leaders viewed the program as a means to foster international relations and to benefit the individual students participating.

There had been adumbrations of such a plan much earlier. On February 28, 1919, electrical engineering professor Morland King wrote to President CHARLES ALEXANDER RICHMOND proposing an exchange of professors with English colleges. Richmond took the idea to the board, which decided not to pursue it. Later Richmond, of Scotch ancestry, spent several weeks of his 1922/23 sabbatical in St. Andrews (he and Irvine apparently met on the ship when Richmond gave a harp recital). Shortly after Richmond returned to Schenectady, Irvine visited Union, where in a speech he emphasized the similarity of the two institutions. The next year, St. Andrews awarded Richmond an honorary degree. If Richmond and Irvine discussed a student or faculty exchange, nothing came of it at that time, but Richmond's friendship with Irvine, and his subsequent frequent summer visits to St. Andrews, apparently helped pave the way for the later agreement.

Perhaps the uneasy 30s made close ties between America and Britain more urgent. Certainly, DIXON RYAN FOX, with his usual eloquence, spoke of "forwarding relations of mutual understanding and good will between America and other nations, especially among those who speak our common language." He had met Irvine in early 1928 when he lectured at St. Andrews while a Columbia University history professor serving as Carnegie Visiting Professor at various British universities. Fox was selected as president of Union in 1934, and after briefly considering other British universities such as Durham, he worked out with Irvine plans for the student exchange which began in 1935.

By the time the Second World War broke out—in Britain in 1939, in America in 1941—ten men, five from each institution, had taken advantage of the program. The Union men, each of whom spent his junior year at St. Andrews, were George Haskell '37, John Wold '38, Wallace Baker '40, Thomas Ralston '40, and John Prior Lewis '41; Lewis's reports from Scotland to the *Concordians* vividly depicted the tensions at St. Andrews during the first months of the War. Mrs. Claude M. Hawes, one of Richmond's daughters, lived in St. Andrews and welcomed the early exchange visitors. From St. Andrews to Union came, listed successively, beginning in 1935/36, Clark Beckett, Brian Simpson, Andrew Dryburgh, Edward A. F. Jackson, and Neil B. Loudon. War intervened (in 1940 Fox offered refuge to families of St. Andrews faculty members for the duration), but in 1947/48 William Warner '49 of Union went to Scotland in exchange with Anthony Easterbrook, who came to Union.

In 1950/51 with the student exchange firmly re-established after the hiatus, President CARTER DAVIDSON negotiated an extension of the program to include faculty exchanges, and a St. Andrews senior lecturer in economics, John Henderson, came to Union for the academic year. The following year Union sent Carl Niemeyer, an associate professor of English, to Scotland; at St. Andrews he gave the first full-year course of lectures in American literature ever offered at any of the four Scots universities. Though the student exchange flourished until 1985, the faculty exchange raised too many difficulties regarding housing and fair compensation, not to mention the problem of finding in a given year professors of the same discipline willing to make the exchange, so that on either side of the Atlantic no department would find itself with either an extra instructor, or lacking its essential complement. Fortunately, some highly regarded Union professors were able to represent Union at St. Andrews while suitable St. Andrews replacements came to Union, where they were popular both professionally and socially. After a decade, the regular exchange of teaching faculty ended in 1960/61, but the libraries of the two

institutions arranged staff exchanges on two subsequent occasions.

The student exchange endured longer, but it too came to an end after fifty-three years, a long period for what some had regarded as an experiment. The last student to represent his alma mater in Scotland, in 1987–88, was Joshua Waldman. Union began to admit women in 1970, and sent a total of eight women to St. Andrews as exchange students. Although St. Andrews' commitment to women's education was considerably older, only one woman from Scotland came to Union, in 1979/80.

Because of differences between the Scottish and the American educational system, the Scots exchange students in the later years had usually already earned a bachelor's degree, and took additional courses on subjects of interest. Union's representatives were chosen from among sophomores with at least a B+ average, and they received academic credit for their St. Andrews' courses.

The project was troubled by flaws in its funding. Both participating students were expected to pay the year's fees at their own institution; the money was then used to finance the foreign scholar. The idea sounds reasonable enough, but in truth Union's fees, like those in other American institutions, were rising with rocket velocity. At St. Andrews, where most funding comes from Her Majesty's government, increases were more moderate. Union students felt they were paying more than they were getting. Both institutions supplied board and lodging to the visitors—in Scotland by way of their dormitory system, in Schenectady by the cooperation of the campus fraternities. Neither institution supplied funds for incidentals or for transatlantic travel. No one noticed that the Union fraternities and dormitories closed their dining rooms on Sundays, expecting students to eat out; but the Scots student, having no pocket money, was dependent upon charity (not always forth-coming) for his Sabbath meals. There is record of an annual gift of one thousand dollars to the visiting Scot from the St. Andrews Society of Albany, but it is not clear when it began or ended. It must have been welcome relief to the students who received it.

The Union student at St. Andrews was expected to provide his or her own pocket money—reasonable enough, the average American might think. But strict British law prevented a temporary foreign resident from earning any money, and the College had to rescue at least one of its students, who had dependents, with a one thousand pound loan.

The exchange was finally cancelled by St. Andrews in 1988, after the Thatcher administration ruled that foreign students could no longer benefit from the government subvention enjoyed by British students and must pay the full cost of tuition and housing.

The St. Andrews program inspired some other ad hoc exchanges of faculty. In 1953/54, Union English professor William M. Murphy taught at the University of Freiburg, while Teut Riese taught English and German at Union, and in 1960/61 the University of Aberdeen sent John Hargreaves to teach history at Union while Neal Allen taught at Aberdeen. By the end of the period covered by this book, Union had six formal student exchange programs. See also: ETH EXCHANGE PROGRAM; H.E.L.P. PROGRAM; and TERMS ABROAD.

The Union faculty at St. Andrews were: 1951/52: Carl Niemeyer (English); 1953/54: Robert H. Vought (physics); 1955/56: William Bennett (economics); 1957/58: Leonard B. Clark (biology); 1958/59: Frederick Bronner (history); 1959/60: Sven Peterson (philosophy); 1960/61: David K. Baker (physics); 1979: David Gerhan (library).

The St. Andrews faculty at Union were: 1950/51: John Henderson (economics); 1953/54: Francis Alwyn Rushworth (physics); 1955/56: Christopher Savage (economics); 1957/58: David R. R. Burt (biology); 1958/59: Geoffrey Seed (history); 1959/60: Richard N.W. Smith (philosophy); 1960/61: Donald M. McCall (physics); 1979/80: Jean Young (library); 1987: Susan Sharrocks (library).

—Carl Niemeyer*

Saturday's Heroes. In 1937 RKO released *Saturday's Heroes*, a motion picture which depicted athletes being paid to play on the "Union College" football team. Under threat of a libel suit, the company apologized and withdrew the film to re-write the offending part. The film may never have been re-released.

Sayre, Mortimer Freeman (July 14, 1885–Aug. 25, 1973). Professor of Applied Mechanics, 1914–55.

A native of Newark, New Jersey, one of three children of Joseph Monell Sayre, a surveyor, carpenter and builder, and Ella Gertrude Brown Sayre, Mortimer Sayre earned an Engineer of Mines degree from Columbia in 1907. He then worked for the Copper Queen Mine in Bisbee, Arizona, 1907–9, and for the Arizona Eastern Railway, 1909–10.

Returning to the East, he became Superintendent of Construction at the Croton Consolidated Mines in Brewster, New York, while working toward a master's degree from Columbia, awarded in 1912. In that year he married Grace Sherman McKinney; they would have three children, one of whom died in infancy.

After working for the Central New Jersey Railroad Survey, 1913–14, he accepted a position as Instructor in Engineering at Union College. His title changed in 1918 to Assistant Professor of Applied Mechanics, but until creation of a mechanical engineering department near the end of his career at Union, he would be at-

tached to the Civil Engineering Department (called in his early years General Engineering).

Sayre published numerous papers resulting from his research on elasticity and elastic behavior of metals, vibration problems, metal corrosion, and welding. The co-inventor, about 1926, of the Riehle-Sayre mirror extensometer, a device for precise measurement of behavior in tensile testing, he also made improvements, as a consultant for John Chatillon Sons (about 1935), in spring scale design, and as a consultant to General Electric about 1953, helped develop "Condal," an iso-elastic aluminum alloy. He was active on committees of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society for Metals, and the American Society for Testing Materials, and was a member of Sigma Xi and of Tau Beta Pi.

From 1931 to 1934, and again from 1938 to 1945, Sayre served as president of the Schenectady Bureau of Municipal Research, a taxpayer group which campaigned for economy in local government.

During the Second World War, he directed (1940–45) the federal ENGINEERING, SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT WAR TRAINING COURSE at the College, and immediately afterward he was appointed director of the EVENING DIVISION, revived after having been shut down in 1930; he served in that post until 1949.

Sayre and others had long advocated creation of a separate department of MECHANICAL ENGINEERING at Union; after their work came to fruition in 1950, Sayre chaired the new department until his retirement in 1955. The ASME elected him a fellow in 1953, and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers awarded him its Legion of Honor in 1959.

An interest in the history of engineering at Union led Sayre to write a paper on that subject and another on Squire Whipple of the Class of 1830. In 1962 he gave the College several volumes from his collection of books on the history of science, most notably the first edition of Sir Isaac Newton's *Philosophiæ naturalis principia mathematica* (1687).

After retiring, he worked as a consultant with General Electric, ALCO, and other firms, served as a director of the fledgling Mechanical Technology Inc., and compiled a genealogy, *Brown and Sayre ancestry; three centuries in Northern New Jersey* (1971).

His son, Harrison Sherman Sayre, graduated from Union in 1934; his daughter, Penelope Sayre Setchko, earned an MS in 1951.

Schaffer, Henry (Dec. 25, 1889–Dec. 15, 1982). Grocer, philanthropist, trustee, 1953–82.

Born in territory claimed by both Russia and Poland, one of six children of Abram and Anna Schaffer, Henry Schaffer came to Schenectady as an infant when his parents, fleeing Cossack raids, emigrated in

1892. His father, lacking one year of study to become a rabbi, was nevertheless chosen by a tiny Schenectady Jewish community—the future Congregation Agudat Achim—as its cantor and spiritual leader. On his father's death in 1897, Henry, aged eight, went to work in the family's small grocery store. At thirteen, in order to contribute more to the family, he dropped out of school to work full-time in another grocery store.

In 1911 the twenty-one-year-old Schaffer borrowed three hundred dollars from a bank to buy his own grocery store. Naming it "Standard Grocery," he inaugurated a cash-and-carry policy; the common, and often disastrous, practice was to give credit. A year later, when the A & P chain announced that it would open a store nearby, Schaffer fought back by acquiring a second store; thus began Schaffer Stores, Inc., which owned thirteen stores by 1917. The firm grew into a chain of 159 neighborhood markets throughout the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys, the Adirondacks and western Massachusetts.

Success in the grocery business traditionally rewarded years of close and often stultifying attention to small profits. Henry Schaffer mastered that discipline but he also found in himself the imagination and daring to pioneer in new methods. A tall, energetic man, he took pride in being able to make good snap decisions, but he also knew when to cut his losses.

The onset of the Great Depression forced him to close several stores. Struggling to survive, he hit on the idea of a self-service store, enabled by lower overhead to offer lower prices. Although self-service grocery stores already existed in other parts of the country, Schaffer may not have been familiar with them; he borrowed the idea from indoor flea markets in which one paid for merchandise on leaving the room.

After opening the first such store in Schenectady on an experimental basis in 1930, in 1932 he began opening other large stores while closing unprofitable smaller stores. These first upstate New York supermarkets, called the Empire chain, eventually numbered thirty-one stores. It was one of the few relatively small chains to survive the Depression. Schaffer also promoted the idea of supermarkets through the National Association of Food Chains and through articles in trade publications.

In 1958, the sixty-eight-year-old Schaffer retired from active business. Although another chain had made the most attractive offer, he sold the Empire Supermarkets to Grand Union because only they promised to retain all the Empire employees. Schaffer kept ownership of the stores' buildings and land, however, leasing them to Grand Union.

Schaffer had long given part of his time to civic affairs; he headed a fund drive for the YMCA in 1925 and, while president of the Chamber of Commerce, chaired the fund-raising campaign that completed the

building of St. Clare's Hospital in 1948. In 1952, the Schaffers gave their twelve-room house on Nott Street to Ellis Hospital as a nurses' residence.

Although he had taken an Evening Division course in elementary economics in 1921, Schaffer's real connection with Union College began in 1940 when, introduced by Milton Enzer '29 to President Fox, he agreed to fund a scholarship in memory of his younger brother, Morris Schaffer '14. The Albany Medical College and Union College elected him to their boards of trustees in 1950 and 1953, respectively, and in 1959, enabled by the sale of his stores to undertake philanthropy on a larger scale, he made the largest direct gift Union had ever received from a living individual, half of the one million dollar cost of a badly needed new library (see SCHAFFER LIBRARY). The gift was exceeded only by earlier bequests of endowment funds from Mrs. Russell Sage and Frank Bailey, and by the Nott Trust Fund.

Schaffer gave a good deal of thought to philanthropy. Calling it "the third sector of our society," he insisted it "should keep pace with the business sector and the government sector." He was contemptuous of other elderly rich people who behaved as though they expected to "take it with them," but he also understood that gifts carelessly bestowed could weaken rather than strengthen the institution receiving them. Consequently, most of his major donations were in the form of matching gifts, requiring the participation of other donors.

Schaffer had a particular interest in libraries for two reasons: his wife, the former Sander ("Sally") R. Bieber, had been a reference librarian at the New York Public Library before their marriage, but, more broadly, libraries symbolized to Schaffer what he very much regretted having lost by cutting his education short at an early age. (Despite the family's near-poverty, three of his brothers went to college.) In 1972 he was the major donor of another library, the Schaffer Library of the Health Sciences at the Albany Medical College.

He continued to give money away for the rest of his long life, and Union College received a large share of it. In 1968 he gave \$100,000 in memory of Carter Davidson to fund the DAVIDSON FELLOWS program, which brought speakers to the campus for extended stays. The Schaffers were the major contributors to the 1974 addition to Schaffer Library, and in 1979 they endowed the Schaffer Faculty Fellowships, to encourage "deserving assistant and associate professors who show particular merit and promise."

To a separate endowment fund which totalled one million dollars by 1981, Schaffer added by bequest another three million dollars, thereby creating the Henry and Sally Schaffer Philanthropic Fund at Union College. Its use was unrestricted, except that it was not to be used for capital expenditures.

Other area institutions using the Schaffers' generosity to erect new buildings included the Schenectady Museum, the Jewish Community Center, the Carver Community Center, the Congregation Temple Gates of Heaven, and the Schenectady Senior Citizens Center.

In 1980, Schaffer and his brother Harry set up the H. Schaffer Foundation to aid "worthwhile charities functioning...in the Albany-Schenectady area or in Israel." Union College has received several grants from the Schaffer Foundation, including one in 1986 to remodel the west end of the Schaffer Library interior. The construction of a third Schaffer Library, at the Albany Law School, was also partially funded by the Schaffer Foundation in 1986.

Union gave Henry Schaffer an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1964, and its Phi Beta Kappa chapter elected him to honorary membership in 1973. In that year he was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree by the Albany Medical College. In 1974 Union awarded him its FOUNDERS MEDAL.

Schaffer Library. The first separate library building constructed at Union, Schaffer Library opened in 1961.

The NOTT MEMORIAL, which housed the LIBRARY from 1903 until 1961, was in many respects unsuitable to that function, and by 1941 it was so crowded that part of the collections had to be moved into an annex.

President Frank Parker Day (1929-33) assigned top priority to a new library building in 1930, but the Depression prevented any action. President Dixon Ryan Fox (1934-45) affirmed the need for a new building, but the continuing Depression and the Second World War blocked him as well. President Carter Davidson (1946-65) put a new library building at the head of his desiderata in 1948, but the Alumni Director organized alumni support for a field house (third on Davidson's list); consequently that building was erected first. This very long period of inferior library facilities, and the lack of commitment to scholarship it seemed to reflect, inflicted significant damage on the academic life and morale of the College.

In 1953, having located a foundation willing to contribute \$50,000 for the purpose, the trustees voted "to agree to the erection of a new library building when sufficient funds have been raised for that purpose." But no fund drive was discussed until three years later, and as none of the wealthier alumni on the board showed an interest in helping, hope centered on finding more foundation support and using money contributed in memory of Robert Porter Patterson '12. In 1958, however—to the surprise of board chairman WALTER C. BAKER—trustee HENRY SCHAFFER, a non-alumnus, offered to contribute the major portion of the cost of a new library building.

Ground was broken January 7, 1960, the cornerstone was laid May 14, 1960, and the library moved into the building during the summer of 1961. Walker O. Cain, of the firm MCKIM, MEAD AND WHITE, designed the building, which was built by the Hanson Construction Co.

Schaffer Library was designed to be compatible with the RAMÉE plan: the flanking HUMANITIES BUILDING and SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING, with connecting colonnades, completed in 1967, were foreseen by the architect as completing that plan. While the library building stood alone, however, its fitness was not apparent to all observers, and a 1962 *Concordian* humor issue offered for sale prefabricated "College Campus Kits," including "Genuine Train Station Libraries."

The Library Courtyard or Plaza was created in 1967/68, following construction of the "satellite buildings," and COMMENCEMENT has since been held in front of the Library in fair weather.

In 1973 ground was broken for an addition on the east side of Schaffer Library, again with a major gift from Henry Schaffer. Designed by Walker O. Cain, the addition was built by Vappi & Co., Boston, and dedicated October 18–19, 1974. In 1986, with the support of a grant from the Schaffer Foundation, interior stairs were added at the front of the building and an area was created outside the Phi Beta Kappa room on the third floor to accommodate the library of John Bigelow, Class of 1835.

After the period covered by this book, the 1974 addition, which had begun to fail structurally, was removed and replaced by a larger addition.

Schenectady Academy. Union College's direct ancestor was the Schenectady Academy, a school founded at the initiative of the Dutch Reformed Church in 1785.

The Schenectady Academy was the by-product of the drive for a college in Schenectady. There had been unsuccessful attempts in 1779/80 and 1782 to obtain a charter for a college (see FOUNDING OF UNION COLLEGE). On December 27, 1782, DIRCK ROMEYN, a Dutch Reformed minister in New Jersey, wrote for the use of the church in Schenectady a paper entitled "Measures to open an Academy under the Patronage and Direction of Consistory," in which he proposed that the best strategy would be to establish an academy which would become a college, both under the control of the Church. A school run by the Presbyterian minister had failed, Romeyn pointed out, because that gentleman lacked patience. The field was open for the Dutch Church.

The Consistory apparently felt inadequate to that challenge—its pastor, Barent Vrooman, was elderly and in poor health—but when the time came to replace him the church turned to the man they knew to

be ardent for education: Dirck Romeyn. In August 1784 Romeyn accepted a call to become pastor of the Schenectady church, and even before he arrived, the Schenectady Consistory asked and received the approval of the General Meeting of the Reformed Church for their proposal to establish a Dutch Reformed college at Schenectady, complimenting Queens College (now Rutgers), already established in New Jersey.

When Dirck Romeyn arrived in Schenectady late in 1784, he lost no time in carrying out his plan for an academy. On February 21, 1785, the Consistory resolved to construct "as speedily as possible" a building for an academy. Work began about the end of March of that year.

Nothing else is known of the events that preceded a meeting on April 6, 1785, at which twenty-seven interested persons signed "Articles of Agreement between the Dutch Church at Schenectady & sundry gentlemen concerning the founding of an academy." It was the first meeting of the trustees of the Academy and Library Company, which hoped to open the school June 1st.

The "Articles of Agreement" provided that five of the twelve trustees would be chosen annually by the Dutch Church, the other seven elected in an annual meeting at the schoolhouse. Eligible voters were limited to:

- 1) Such citizens of Albany and Montgomery counties (Albany County then encompassed Schenectady) as had contributed one pound twelve shillings or upwards by October 1, 1785.
- 2) Their male issues or heirs forever, provided the latter had contributed twenty shillings at least three months before the election. Provision was also made for joining later at a higher rate.

The agreement also provided that because the Dutch Church was to erect a building for the Academy, the Church would receive two concessions: First, students would pay, in addition to their tuition, four shillings per annum directly to the Consistory, which the Consistory would devote to the education of poor children. Second, "in case said Academy...should in process of time require a Rector or Superintendent, or be changed into a college...the Rector or Superintendent of the Academy...or President of such College shall from time to time and forever be a member of the [Dutch church]." Romeyn had included a similar provision for church control in his 1782 "Measures," explaining that it was "absolutely necessary" in order to insure the permanence of the institution.

Apparently a crisis arose after this agreement was signed. On May 17, 1785, Romeyn reported to a meeting of the Synod of New York and New Jersey that "some disasters relative to the school...had prevented the scheme from being carried into effect." The "disasters" (if so strong a word was justified) are not re-

flected in the trustees' minutes; the board continued to have regular meetings, having elected Romeyn chairman at the second meeting, on April 29, 1785, and, though the building was apparently still incomplete, opened the Academy on August 2, 1785—only two months later than they had hoped.

Some historians have speculated that the crisis concerned the lack of general support for Dutch Church control of the Academy (with five trustees guaranteed and a good chance at electing at least two of the seven at-large trustees, Dutch control would have been virtually certain). The only evidence pointing to the necessity of a change is indirect:

- 1) When a Superintendent was finally chosen seven years later, he was John Taylor, a Presbyterian.
- 2) In an early 1786 letter, Dirck van Ingen, writing to Robert Yates about prospects for getting an Academy charter through the legislature, says that the church sponsors would be willing reluctantly to drop the requirement of Dutch Reformed control if the bill would otherwise fail. The bill did fail at that time, and the charter finally granted by the Regents on January 29, 1793, though extant, is largely illegible; it cannot be determined whether the issue of church control was addressed.

The Board initially supplied both teachers and students to the school by a simple expedient: they hired teachers who were already conducting schools of their own in Schenectady, and many of the students came with them. In the case of a Mr. Van Vranken, the board agreed when hiring him that his salary of £85 per annum would be supplemented by a £5 "gratuity for bringing in his school."

The Academy flourished. By October of the first year it had 72 students, and a year after the founding it had 103. Enrollment apparently remained at about that level, probably near the capacity of the building, for the life of the Academy.

Romeyn's "Measures" of 1782 and the "Agreement" of April 6, 1785, both spoke of the Academy as an "*Illustre* school." *Illustere* (as the word was usually spelled) schools in the Netherlands were non-degree-granting institutions of higher education, considered suitable for students still too young to go away to university. But it was understood from the first that the Schenectady school would also provide rudimentary and practical education.

After about a year the board resolved an apparent muddle by ruling on June 23, 1786, that "a distinction shall in future be made ... between the Acad. & the school of the Acad. and that the school of the Acad. be divided into the upper & lower form In the lower form no higher branch shall be taught than vulgar arithmetic & ... no one shall be considered a member of Academy unless qualified to enter upon the study of such branch or branches of learning as are usually

judged requisite to qualify a student for entering the freshman or sophomore class in any of the colleges of the U.S. always having regard to an English or collegiate education."

By 1792, and probably sooner, the Academy proper was teaching a full four-year college course, borrowed, it said, from Columbia College. Students seeking admission were required (in theory at least) to be able to translate Cicero's commentaries on the Gallic war and his Cataline orations, Virgil's *Eclogues* and the first book of the *Aeneid*, and at least "three of the Evangelists from the Greek." They had also to be able to turn English into good Latin and demonstrate a knowledge of English grammar.

Pupils devoted the First Form to further study of those subjects, and also to Lucian's *Dialogues*, arithmetic, Goldsmith's *Rome*, and to translating Latin into Greek and vice versa.

The Second Form studied Xenophon, Horace, Homer, "vulgar and decimal fractions with the roots, geography with the use of the globes," logic, Latin and Greek translation, and English essays.

The Third Form took up geometry, algebra, rhetoric, trigonometry, mensuration including navigation and surveying. Students also began natural philosophy and delivered an English or Latin oration each week.

The Fourth Form studied natural and moral philosophy, astronomy, Horace, Cicero, and Longinus.

Throughout the four years, the trustees decreed, "particular attention shall ever be paid to elocution."

From the beginning, a significant number of girls enrolled in the "school of the Academy," where reading, writing, grammar, spelling, arithmetic, bookkeeping, geography and astronomy were taught (during 1785/86 a few girls studied Latin and Philosophy as well). The "school" was later divided into the English Room, teaching elementary and practical subjects, and the Latin Room, in which all-male classes studied college preparatory subjects (Latin, Greek, mathematics).

The academic year began near the end of October. The first term ended the first Tuesday of February. Following the end of the second term, on the first Tuesday of May, students had a three-week vacation. At the end of the third term, on the third Tuesday of September, they were examined on all their studies for that year, and then took a four-week vacation.

The Academy Becomes a College. The founders of the Academy had always intended that it would become a college. They had failed in early 1786 to get the Legislature to charter the Academy, but after the New York State Board of Regents was reorganized and given the power to charter schools in 1787, Romeyn was appointed a Regent, and on January 29, 1793, the Regents chartered the Academy and made Romeyn and General Philip Schuyler official visitors to the Academy. The following year, when the legislature appropri-

ated money for Columbia College and the academies of the state, the Regents apportioned £160 to Schenectady Academy. That Schuyler was favorably impressed with the school was an important factor in the eventual granting of a charter to Union College on February 25, 1795.

The Schenectady Academy then officially ceased to exist. The need for a school to prepare students to enter Union remained, however; public education was still in the future, and when it did come it was not always sufficiently rigorous. Throughout the nineteenth century, the College would of necessity sponsor or have some other relationship with successors to the Schenectady Academy. These included: 1) a grammar school which shared space with the College in the Academy Building and in Stone College; 2) a revived Schenectady Academy, which was teaching by 1816 and incorporated by the legislature on April 17, 1818. The Regents revived its original charter on April 25, 1831, and a legislative act in that year allowed the Union College trustees to reorganize the school; 3) the UNION SCHOOL; and 4) the Union Classical Institute.

The Building. The Schenectady Academy building was erected on Union Street at the northwest corner of the intersection with North Ferry Street, largely (though apparently not exclusively) at the expense of the Consistory of the Dutch Church. Measuring thirty by fifty-two feet, it had two stories of two large classrooms each, and an attic with dormer windows, where students probably roomed.

On April 2, 1793, the Academy Trustees asked the Consistory to make the property over to them, but although the Church agreed to do so, it did not, retaining ownership until 1796, then deeding the building and land to the Union College Trustees. The College apparently sold the property to the City of Schenectady soon thereafter to raise money for construction of "Stone College" (see WEST COLLEGE).

After the Academy was chartered as Union College, the College was conducted on the upper floor, and a grammar school continued to be conducted on the lower floor.

When the College moved to the newly constructed Stone College in 1805, the old building was used as a court house and jail and for Common Council meetings until 1815 (the City transferred ownership to the newly formed County of Schenectady in 1809). Anticipating the 1814 move to the present campus, the College sold Stone College to the City on December 15, 1812, and is said to have re-purchased the Academy building at about the same time, for the purpose of reviving the Schenectady Academy.

It is not clear whether or not it was actually used for that purpose, but the building subsequently served, *inter alia*, as a dwelling and a beer shop before being demolished in March 1859. At that time, JONATHAN

PEARSON salvaged the cornerstone, which much later, at Founders Day, 1943, was cemented into an interior wall of MEMORIAL CHAPEL, west of the stage. The Rectory of the First Presbyterian Church now occupies the former site of the Schenectady Academy.

Schenectady Archives of Science and Technology. Established in 1971 and formally inaugurated in 1976 as a special collection in the Union College Library, the Schenectady Archives of Science and Technology (SAST) incorporated several existing collections of papers and anticipated the acquisition of others.

Papers in the SAST include those of CHARLES STEINMETZ, Ernest F.W. Alexanderson, Kenneth Kingdon, ERNST BERG, Howard I. Becker, Samuel P. Nixdorff, Birger W. Nordlander, Philip Alger, EDWIN W. RICE JR., FREDERICK GROVER, Gabriel Kron, William E. Ruder, Albert Hull, Frank Elder, Clarence Hewlett, William Stanley, and George Westinghouse. Several books have been based in part on research in the SAST.

Schenectady Mayors. Fifteen Union College alumni have served as mayor or city manager of Schenectady.

Mayors. 1810–11: Abraham Oothout '05; 1825, 1828–30: Isaac M. Schermerhorn '09; 1831, 1835, 1839: Archibald L. Linn '20; 1832–34, 1836, 1842, 1845: John I. DeGraff '11; 1839: Samuel William Jones '10; 1858: Alexander M. Vedder '33; 1879–80: Joseph B. Graham '58; 1891–92: Everett Smith '78; 1898–99, 1902–3, 1908–9: Horace S. Van Voast '93; 1910–11: Charles C. Duryee '82; 1948–51: Owen Begley '26; 1952–55: Archibald Wemple '26; 1959–60: Kenneth S. Sheldon '20.

City Managers. 1951–54: Morris Mandel Cohn '21; 1954–62: Arthur Blessing '24.

Schenectady Museum-Union College Concert Series. The Schenectady Museum, founded in 1937 with the active support of Union College president DIXON RYAN FOX, began in 1945 to sponsor an annual musical concert. From 1953, the College allowed the Museum to use MEMORIAL CHAPEL for this purpose at a reduced rate, and in 1956 the College began to co-sponsor an expanded schedule of concerts, which has continued to the present.

The first year's schedule consisted of four concerts by regional musicians: the Tri-City Symphony (directed by Professor Edgar Curtis), Williams College pianist Walter Nollner, the Berkshire Quartet, and a return visit from the Tri-City Symphony.

The season's concerts gradually increased in number and in quality until the schedule included many of the world's most respected chamber music groups and small orchestras. Long prominent among the volun-

teers who organize and produce the series has been Dr. Daniel Berkenblit.

See also: MUSICAL CONCERTS.

Schmidt, Frederic Cowles (Feb. 19, 1904–Nov. 18, 1974). Professor of Chemistry, 1932–1947.

Born in New Haven, Frederic Schmidt (known as “Jerry”) was educated entirely at Brown University (ScB 1927, ScM 1928, PhD 1931). He worked briefly at the Oldbury Electrochemical Co. in Niagara Falls (1930–31), and married Ruth Champlin in 1931; they had two children. In 1932 he accepted a position in Union’s chemistry department.

A highly successful teacher who was more than once voted most popular professor in *Concordiensis* polls, and a forthright man, Schmidt was well respected by most of his colleagues. Research on the thermochemistry of liquid ammonia solutions, which formed the basis of his doctoral dissertation, continued to occupy him throughout his career; he was one of the few American specialists in that field, which had implications far beyond the properties of ammonia. He learned Russian to keep abreast of research and perfected a liquid ammonia calorimeter at Union. Several published papers reported his work.

Strained relations with department chairman CHARLES HURD made Schmidt’s position difficult, however. In April 1943, at Hurd’s behest, President Dixon Ryan Fox took the highly unorthodox step of promoting Schmidt to associate professor (so that he could more easily find a good job elsewhere) while stipulating that—contrary to the usual practice—the promotion would not carry automatic tenure. Hurd urged Schmidt to leave quietly (not even explaining to his wife!), but Schmidt ignored the advice. When his treatment became known, the campus AAUP chapter requested an opinion from the national, while Schmidt’s former students bombarded Fox with testimonials. (Fox called it the only widespread protest in his administration.)

Fox’s own enquiries at General Electric and the American Chemical Society in the meantime satisfied him that Hurd’s objections were not valid, and in May he reversed himself, giving Schmidt tenure. Fox was clearly uncomfortable with the position in which he found himself. At this time he wrote a representative of the American Chemical Society that “Professor Schmidt is, throughout a great part if not all the Union College faculty, accounted to be one of the most intellectually stimulating persons in our whole college family.... It is the general opinion that his attitudes and efforts in the inquiry toward new truth in his science are extraordinarily eager, persistent and effective.”

Schmidt then withdrew acceptance of an offered job at Rhode Island State College, and remained at Union for another four years. Finally concluding in

1947 that only his departure would restore harmony to the chemistry department, he accepted a position at Indiana University. Endorsing him, President Carter Davidson assured Indiana’s dean that Schmidt’s principal difficulty at Union was Hurd’s jealousy of his popularity (department chairman were not easily removed at that time).

After leaving, Schmidt remained in touch with several members of the Union faculty, and often referred to the College as his “second alma mater.” At Indiana, where he taught for another twenty-two years, he co-authored two successful textbooks, *College chemistry* (1957) and *General chemistry* (1959), with William Nebergall. Grants from the Atomic Energy Commission supported his continued research on ammonia. In 1961 he received the university’s Herman F. Lieber Award for distinguished teaching.

Scholarly Honors. Since 1921, Union has formally recognized undergraduates who maintained a high level of academic achievement. The scholarly honors used for that purpose are distinct from the LATIN HONORS and departmental honors conferred at graduation, and from HONORS PROGRAMS.

Dean’s List. From January 1921 until 1930, all upperclassmen with a grade average above ninety percent, and no grades below the second rank, were designated each semester by honors named—with one exception—for former Union faculty or alumni distinguished in the student’s field. Recipients of the honor were allowed unlimited cuts.

TAYLER LEWIS Honor: AB course

Lewis Henry Morgan Honor: BS course

CHARLES FREDERICK CHANDLER Honor: BS in Chemistry

Joseph Henry Honor: Electrical Engineering until 1924; thereafter, Physics. (Though an Albany native, Henry was never associated with Union).

CHARLES STEINMETZ Honor: Electrical Engineering (from 1924, the year after Steinmetz’ death)

FERDINAND RUDOLPH HASSLER Honor: Civil Engineering

ISAIAH PRICE Honor: Pre-medical program

At the end of 1929/30, the College replaced this cumbersome system of honors with a dean’s list, and simultaneously launched an honors program intended to further recognize exceptional achievement; the latter initiative was doomed by Depression-era austerity budgets.

The dean’s list, begun in 1930/31, originally appeared each term, listing undergraduates whose average for the preceding term had reached eighty. An average of eighty-five or higher earned exemption from the absence rules. By 1932, twenty-five percent of all students qualified for the dean’s list.

Eligibility requirements for the dean's list have changed several times. Beginning in 1946, students with more than one "C," or with any grade lower than "C," became ineligible, and all dean's list students were allowed unlimited cuts. In 1961, about fifteen percent of students achieved the dean's list, a proportion that doubled by 1968. Since 1970/71, the dean's list has been compiled for the past academic year instead of for the past term. The minimum average was raised in 1976/77 from 3.0 (B) to 3.35 (slightly above B+). By the end of the period covered by this book about twenty-five percent of students were listed.

Nott Scholars. From fall 1957 until about 1988, students whose annual average reached 4.4 (of a possible 5) were designated Nott Scholars. When the College switched in 1961 to a four point index, the requirement for Nott Scholars fell to 3.67, but it was raised in 1977/78 to 3.75.

Instituted by PHI BETA KAPPA and SIGMA XI, following a suggestion by Phi Beta Kappa chapter president William M. Murphy, the program was designed to recognize and encourage students who, if they maintained the same average, would be considered for election to one of the two societies when they became seniors. Until about 1965, Nott Scholars received at opening convocation a certificate bearing the phrase "Discipulo Optimo" ("To the best student")—words taken from a medal given much earlier Nott Scholars, the winners of a competitive entrance scholarship funded from 1854 by the NOTT TRUST FUND.

Circa 1976–77, President THOMAS BONNER hosted an annual dinner for the Nott Scholars.

See also: GRADES.

Schuyler, Philip (Nov. 20, 1733–Nov. 18, 1804). Member of the Continental Congress, Revolutionary War general, Senator from New York.

As an Albany native and a member of an old, powerful and socially prominent American family, Philip Schuyler might have been expected either to oppose the creation of a relatively democratic college in upstate New York, or to support those who wanted to situate it in Albany. However, from 1780, when Gov. GEORGE CLINTON named him to the board of the proposed CLINTON COLLEGE, Schuyler was counted among the supporters of the claims of Schenectady for a college charter.

The motive imputed by his detractors—his investments in the toll road from Albany to Schenectady and in other western New York ventures—was surely not decisive, although those commitments do suggest that Schuyler had given thought to the state's development west of Albany. When Albany asked Schuyler's support for its own last-minute charter application, he replied that he had long before committed himself to Schenectady's effort, and could not in conscience switch his allegiance unless Schenectady's application failed.

Schuyler served on the Board of Regents from 1784, and when the board chartered the SCHENECTADY ACADEMY in 1793, he and DIRCK ROMEYN were named official visitors to the school. Schuyler's sponsorship of Schenectady's desire for a college was crucial to Schenectady's success. When the Regents chartered the College, Schuyler wrote to Dirck Romeyn "I sincerely congratulate my fellow citizens of Schenectady and the whole of the northern and western part of the state. May indulgent Heaven protect and cherish an Institution established to promote virtue and the weal of the people."

Schuyler had not been among the citizens who pledged a contribution when the movement for a College was in the petition stage, but he now subscribed one hundred pounds to the institution's endowment, and soon thereafter successfully introduced legislation in the state senate to grant Union \$1500 to buy scientific apparatus.

Schuyler has been ranked with his political rival George Clinton among the College's founders. His portrait by John Lamb (a 1937 copy of Jonathan Trumbull's) hangs in Hale House dining hall, and Union's first FOUNDERS' DAY to be called by that name honored Schuyler in 1937.

Schwarz, Theodore George (Jan. 5, 1923–July 28, 1987). Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, 1965–87.

A native of Plainfield, New Jersey, the second son of Theodore George Schwarz Jr., a motel keeper, and Luella Wilson Stryker Schwarz, Ted Schwarz finished his first year of college in evening courses at the Newark College of Engineering, then served for three years in the U.S. Army during the Second World War, installing radar equipment. Discharged as a technical sergeant, he completed his undergraduate education at Lehigh University (BS in E.E., 1949).

As an electrical engineer with the General Electric Co. in Schenectady from 1949 to 1959, Ted rose to the position of Manager of Advanced Computer Engineering, while also taking evening courses toward an MS in Engineering from Union.

Deciding, after earning the degree in 1959, that he wanted to teach abroad, Ted accepted a position as Associate Professor in the Abadan Institute of Technology, and moved with his wife (the former Louise Beulah Frey) and their three sons to Iran. He was promoted to Professor and head of the School of Engineering in 1961, and served as acting president of the Institute in 1962/63.

Because the Schwarzes wanted their sons to be educated in the United States, they returned in 1965, and Ted came to Union as Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering. He taught electronics and computer programming for three years, but then, because the trustees had begun to insist on a PhD as a prerequisite