



March

1904

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THE CRESCENT is published regularly the first of November, January, March and June. All matter for publication should be in the hands of the Editor the fifteenth of the month preceding the month of publication.

The Crescent is sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued and until arrearages are paid.

Subscription price per year, One Dollar, payable in advance.

For advertising rates address the Editor.

Send all subscriptions and address all communications to

THE CRESCENT,

Box 523, Columbus, Ohio.

Entered as Second Class Matter December 17, 1903, at the Postoffice at Columbus, Ohio, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

THE BERLIN PRINTING CO., COLUMBUS, O.

THE CRESCENT

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Volume IV

MARCH, 1904

No. 2

THE CRESCENT
OF
GAMMA PHI BETA

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF GAMMA PHI BETA SORORITY

Published by
ZETA CHAPTER
ANNA MORRIS DIMMICK, Editor
26 North Fourth Street
Columbus, Ohio

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Two Poems

BY ALICE AILEEN HIGGINS.

The Wild

Out to the open space,
Toward rough set forest crags you set your face.
Lured by the wild uncaught, your heart's unrest
Hears echo of its quest.

You bring the lace-ferns home.
To fill your vase with spoil you rob the gnome
But you must leave behind that wood-charm rare—
The wild you cannot snare.

You picture with your brush
The shadowed forest scene in sunset hush
But spell of woodland depths you cannot touch—
The wild, beyond art's clutch.

You hold the prisoned bird
But from its song is gone a note you heard
When it was free—for you have not beguiled
The e'er uncaptured wild.

A Woman's Rose

"My rose has no thorn,"
Cried the woman smilingly.
No one guessed the sharp pain borne,
No one dreamed the close-pressed rose
Pierced deep into tender hand;
No one saw the cutting thorn
Nor the leaf with blood-stained brand—
No one heard the quick-caught breath.
Glistening tears that fell unpearled
On the velvet petals red,
To a hurried, careless world
Seemed pure beads of limpid dew.
Swift the woman turned away
From the glimpse across the hills,
Where the blurring shadows gray
Hid the world of her desire—
Thrice with brave lips kissed the rose,
Crying, "My rose has no thorn."

Gamma Phi at Wisconsin

BY ANNIE S. MCLENEGAN, GAMMA.

THESE words are written from the viewpoint of an observer, not an active member. The writer graduated from Wisconsin in '97, and returned this year for post-graduate work; so that comparisons and differences in her mind are inevitable. But it is happily in accord with the spirit of western progress in which we live, that these differences are wholly those of advance and improvement.

Sorority conditions here, to my mind, at least, seem to have been subtly influenced by university conditions. Wisconsin is in a period of development. The very size of the university and the beauty of its buildings are potent psychological influences toward the distinctive character of life here, its increased formality, the *politesse*, which up to this time has been supposed to belong to Eastern circles, exclusively. With an increasingly complex social system in the university goes a development of social consciousness in every part of that system. Development of sorority consciousness is the essence of what I write about Gamma, for a sorority without this consciousness is nothing but a club.

Seven years ago, the fraternity or sorority which kept house here, was an exception. Today the opposite is true. Any one knows that the simple gathering about one's own table for meals is essential to true family life; and in the same way sorority life is incomplete without it. Beside this simple, but powerful influence of change in Gamma's life, there are all the complex influences of university environment I have hinted at. Conspicuous among these, perhaps, is the Women's Self-government Association. It tends to emphasize the sorority as a unit, because sorority girls run as candidates for election to the board and there is much competition. Sorority life in Gamma seems regulated by a more or less well-defined code, not "Lap-penstance." As to the university, studies must be kept up as a

matter of individual pride and of sorority credit. However, Gamma might develop a closer relation than this to the university in other ways that the faculty would appreciate. Social obligations to the fraternities are formally paid by an annual party to which all "good men friends," town alumnæ, and pledged girls are invited. In that most trying time, rushing, the girls try to be quite fair, even though their rivals are not, it has been declared not etiquette in our house to indulge in "slams" at the other sororities, except in the privacy of one's room. From somewhere, during the last few years, has been evolved excellent business ability; the girls are more considerate of one another in little ways, and are kindness itself to one in sickness or trouble. Some of the best magazines are always on the chapter-room table, and we have often reformed our table talk so as to make it run in more intellectual channels, through their influence, perhaps.

Life here is tinged with a good deal of local color. The Wisconsin daughters of Gamma Phi sometimes use slang which might be dreadful if it were not so expressive. But is it not a great deal to have your mind made up so firmly that your acquaintance is either a "lobster," or a "peach"? Is it not a good thing to enjoy life so much that everything from a doughnut to a poet is "grand"?

Calls from men members of the faculty are no longer the objects of breathless interest that they used to be. Deep down in her heart, the Western Gamma Phi has a dread of Eastern superiority. Is she crude? Isn't she right? she anxiously asks herself. But her pride puts her on the defensive; and at the first suggestion of patronage, my dear Eastern sister, she would silently but thoroughly "size you up" for what you are worth.

As for sorority customs, it occurs to me to say that there is little exchange of hospitality between sororities here, not so much as there should be. In what has been done, however, Gamma is not behind others. But I am afraid it belongs to an

advanced altruistic stage of sorority consciousness to spend a good dinner on your rival.

The active membership of Gamma averages about twenty-two. Usually, the Freshmen live at Chadbourne Hall, the university dormitory, for the first semester, at least; and after that time they join the girls at the house, sooner or later. Our house is a large one and more expensive, perhaps, than if we were directly and solely concerned with the management. But we live very pleasantly. Of rushing, what shall be said? It is noticeable, I think, that the choice of girls becomes more particular every year. In other words, as the number of students increases, the societies become more conservative. But I do not mean that wealth and family position are the sole criterion with Gamma, by any means. Interesting in this connection was the refusal of the sororities here a short time ago to accept four by-laws of the Pan-Hellenic Association to regulate rushing. Instead, a committee was appointed to report on the evils of rushing from a local standpoint. The action shows a feeling that Western sorority life should develop along its own lines.

There has been very little graduate work done by Gamma. I believe I am almost alone in this. Most of the girls here are preparing to teach and many of the *alumnæ* are teachers. An interesting exception is one girl, who earns quite as good a living by art work, which is quickly bought up by the fraternities and by large stores in Chicago. Whatever the mode of it, activity is paramount in Gamma. One would say, superficially, that too much energy is spent in social life, but it does not seem to be wasted when one views the final product. The faculty of Wisconsin have always encouraged social life of the right kind. The Gamma girl is not a student, but she is well informed and critical, —almost too much so,—of herself and others. I do not think it can be said of her that she thinks clothes make the woman; but she considers them rather an important revelation of personality, some times.

The Gamma girl is neither a student nor a social "butterfly," but she has interpreted the ideals of Gamma Phi to mean something of both. At present, the social tendency in the chapter is not overdone. The average scholarship of the sorority is as high as that of any other here, and if marks are any indication, they show that the present chapter has the respect of the faculty. The ideal of the Gamma girl, whether she expresses it in so many words or not, is the girl who is able to do and to be, rather than to know things. She is practical before she is poetic; she is Western. Almost without exception, the girls who have gone away from here, have put their education to use in one form or another, as a matter of course. I think sorority consciousness is also shown in a greater spirit of generosity in chapter affairs. Some of the *alumnæ* deserve thanks in this, also. The local *Alumnæ* Association and the Milwaukee Association have interested themselves quite actively in Gamma, and will probably do more as Gamma does more for herself.

Gamma at Wisconsin has much before her. Though I think the chapter-type has become well fixed, it is sure to achieve a higher development when the three "ambitions" of the present chapter are realized: a house of their own, a loving cup and a bank account.

The development of chapter life since my time has been very marked. Not only is there more of it, but it is better in quality, in some respects. The chapter at present is especially harmonious in tastes and interests. The possession of wealthy members is often a doubtful blessing to a chapter; and there is no indication, at present, of any Gamma *alumnæ* who is going to play fairy god-mother, though a splendid opportunity of doing so is open to her. But it accords better with known principles of success that if Gamma ever does realize these three ambitions, she will do so by her own efforts.

The Origin of the Co-Ed.

BY ALICE AILEEN HIGGINS, EPSILON.

WHEN the Trolls were driven out of Ebeltoft by the ringing of the bells, they scattered far and wide over the land. One Giant-Troll and his wife came across the ocean on icebergs, changing the current to direct their course as they chose. They took up their abode in a place very much like the home they had left—full of deep recesses, where the sunlight seldom penetrated, and they were very content.

The Giant-Troll woman's daughter found much to amuse her in the new country, and sometimes wandered far away, much to her distress. One day she came back with something hidden in her apron.

"See my new plaything, mother," she cried, "I found her in an open net, swinging between two trees. You should see the creature I left in her place," and the Troll-daughter laughed at the remembrance until her mother's shaking stopped her.

"A grown changeling!" shrieked the Troll-mother.

"Take her back—we do not want anything to do with changelings in this new place. They will give us more trouble than they are worth."

But the Troll-daughter was already too much attached to her new plaything to give her up and she hid her instead of taking her back.

In a few days the changeling-maiden began to show signs of illness, and the Troll-daughter was much distraught. A fierce sort of affection possessed her, and she would not take the maiden back to her home. She could not see her die, so as a last resort the Troll-daughter made a far journey to Cyriac's Spring, where she left the maiden to drink for nine days, knowing that, according to the Troll belief, she would either die or recover at the end of that time.

At the end of the ninth day the Troll-daughter returned, and found with delight that the maiden was fully restored to health.

But the spring itself was almost dry, so freely had the maiden drunk of its waters. The Troll-daughter hurried to find its source that her changeling-maiden might not want for the draught which was life unto her. On her way, she bethought her to ask from the Black Dwarfs a new garment for the maiden. The Black Dwarfs were charmed at the sight of the maiden's fairness and wrought for her a garment fine as a cobweb, yet which nothing could penetrate. Then they gave her a sword which would bend like a rush, and yet pierce adamant.

The Troll-daughter bundled her up in her apron, and went on her way to find the source of the spring. Finally, she came to a large hill and many buildings. Inside these buildings sat numerous men with mystic signs about them, pouring the water into the spring. The Troll-daughter was rejoiced to find the spring's source, and demanded of the men that they give her of this wonderful water to take away with her.

"Not so," they answered gravely. "This water is only for those who can drink and live. To them it is the life-draught—the elixir. Only those who love it can swallow it—it is the Spring of Knowledge."

The Troll-daughter opened her eyes very wide at this, much astonished to find that Cyriac's well-spring came from such a source. Then she demanded a drink that she might prove herself, and be allowed to take away enough of the water to supply her changeling-maiden's wants forever. Already she felt the maiden impatiently wriggling about in her apron, having been long without a taste from the spring.

With a sphinx-like smile the men gave the Troll-daughter to drink. First a sip of the ethical, then the scientific, the esthetic, and so on—none of which she could swallow. Finally, she made a disgusted face and stamped her foot in a great rage. At that moment bells began to ring and a vast assembly of younger men thronged the corridors.

At the sound of the hated bells, the Troll-daughter gave a shriek and ran off crying—

“Det är sa godt i det Berg at bo
Vore ilke den leda Bjälleho.”

In her haste she dropped the changeling-maiden from her apron. The men both young and old gathered around the maiden in amazement as she lay stunned by the fall.

Nobody knew what to do. The older men looked helplessly at each other in consternation. The younger men looked at the maiden, some with admiration, some with suspicion. One of them finally suggested giving her a drink to revive her. The older men shook their heads and went off to the side to hold counsel. Suddenly the maiden opened her eyes, and recovering herself, arose.

She was blinded by the veil of suspicion and antagonism which surrounded her. With her sword which bent like a reed she rent the veil and stood before them revealed in her perfect loveliness. She held out her hands and asked for a drink from the spring.

“She cannot swallow it,” said one.

“’Tis not for womankind to taste,” said another.

“Let her try it,” urged a chivalrous third.

After much delay, the older men brought fourth the drink. With a grim humor one poured for her first a cup strong with a mathematical flavor. She quaffed it, and asked for more. Astonished, they brought another cup so pungent with logical tang that the men themselves could only sip it at long intervals. Without hesitating, the maiden drank it to the dregs. As a last test they brought a mixed drink of Greek and philosophy. They looked in vain for her to make a wry face. Filled with remorse they hastened for a cup of poetic sweetness to take the bad taste out of her mouth.

And thus they held out their hands to her in welcome—and she remained.

Memoir

MISS CARRIE ELIZABETH SMALLEY, '03, daughter of Dean and Mrs. Frank Smalley, died at her home in University avenue after an illness of three weeks' duration. The announcement of her death came as a shocking surprise to her college friends in this city and elsewhere, and expressions of sincerest sympathy have been heard on all sides.

Miss Smalley was graduated from Syracuse University last June, winning an election to Phi Beta Kappa. During the four years of her college course she had been a member of the Alpha Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta. She had been prominently identified with university activities, and at graduation was vice-president of her class. A portion of the time she had acted as assistant in the registrar's office.

Miss Smalley was 23 years of age and had always resided in this city. Her preparatory education was obtained in the Syracuse High School, from which she was graduated in 1899. She was a member of the Philomathean Society at the High School. Her church home was in the University Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church.

Her uniform courtesy and unfailing geniality had endeared her not alone to the members of her class in college, but had won for her many friends throughout the University.

The sympathies of the University, its faculty, alumni, students and friends, are with Dean and Mrs. Smalley in their affliction. Besides her parents, there is left a brother, Frank Mather Smalley, '98, of New York.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF MISS SMALLEY.

WHEREAS, In the providence of God, our sister, Carrie Elizabeth Smalley, of the class of 1903, has been taken from us, be it

Resolved, That we, the Alpha Chapter of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, do hereby express to her bereaved ones our heartfelt sympathy. We mourn with them, yet we are grateful for the memory and influence of her beautiful character; and be it

Resolved, That we, in token of our grief, drape our badges for the period of 60 days; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family and be published in the college papers and in our sorority magazine.

RUTH PECK PRATT,
ARTE V. MEADE,
ELLA COLE BOHR,
Committee.

A Zeta Song

There is a frat of great renown,
A frat that's known to fame;
And North and South, and East and West
You'll find her just the same.
Her members all with loyalty,
Will shout the same old cry—
Oh, come what may, we'll always say,
All's well with Gamma Phi.

When Freshmen come to college,
And they want to make a hit;
It's always in the third floor den
They try to manage it.
And every Tuesday afternoon,
With heads held very high
They flock around to Fensal Hall,
To reek out, Gamma Phi.

And when at night the crescent moon,
Is shining for our frat,
We all look up and thank our stars
That we are part of that.
While trying hard, the others
Are still beneath the sky,
Above them floats triumphantly
The moon for Gamma Phi.

CHORUS—Oh, Gamma Phi! Oh, Gamma Phi!
The others can't be like her if they try;
She's so progressive, and quite impressive
Is Gamma, Gamma, Gamma, Gamma Phi.

Is Sentimentality in Co-Education Increasing?

THE little god with the winged arrows pricked up his ears and listened, "Is sentimentality in co-educational institutions increasing?" He would investigate. Unaffrighted by collegiate walls, he sniffed at the bookish atmosphere, and peered into every corner of the college world.

After dancing parties he searched the pockets of the college lads expectantly. Hélas! Not a rosebud—no dainty glove—not perfumed fan—not even a bit of ribbon from my lady's gown. Alarmed, the little god hastened to listen to the confidences of the college maidens, who, with all femininity are most communicative when hairpins are loosened. With a shiver and a shock the little god heard the critical analysis of many men. The little maiden, new to college scenes, who dared to speak with unqualified praise of an Adonis-appearing youth, to whom she had graciously given more than his share of dances at first meeting, was shown startling portions from "Cuts and Grinds" in last year's Syllabus, which showed her that others did not see him with her eyes. Disillusioned, the little maiden tore away the rosy veil which had so perverted her vision. She was further informed of this same man's stupidity in classes, by a maiden who was in his sections in three subjects. This maiden who had learned by much experience the art of padding her own meager knowledge, gave a cordial invitation to the inexperienced one to attend these sections the following day, and laugh with her at the blunders of less clever masculinity—all this missionary work in order to nip the suspected flowering of sentiment.

The little god listened further to detailed accounts of so-called friendships, which had in them so much of what was either distressingly near the Platonic, or that which was only a sham—a clever pretense at real affection, that he groaned in despair.

The little god investigated thoroughly. He found every type. There was the girl who made a mark on the stick of her fan

whenever she enrolled a new victim. With surprise the little god noted the number was only thirty-three. After this type, he was not amazed to find the lad who cut hieroglyphics upon his pipe, indicating conquests numbering forty-nine, since his freshman year. He watched with interest the acquaintance of these two, and saw in its development, a typical "college affair." Both of them vowed that never before had they met affinity. Each of them played a clever role, finding in dismay at the end that neither had a broken heart.

With more respect, but with no less impatience, the little god looked upon the youth, stern of purpose, absorbed in prosaic mathematical problems, oblivious to the feminine flutter about him. Quite as hopeless was the energetic maiden with pre-occupied expression, too intent upon English themes to remember the art of blushing or the charm of a pretty gown.

He shook his head over the gay, sensible comradeship of the average college woman and man, watching them do translations together, listening to their unromantic conversations with a troubled spirit.

The little god hugged his precious arrows close and hurried away, full of wrath and pitying scorn—yet underneath in the depths of his soul was the generous wish that the college world might soon receive the magic touch that would awaken it.—A. A. H. in *The Northwestern*.



The Executive Message

Sorority Spirit

MY dictionary defines the spirit of this text as "enthusiasm, earnestness, courage and the like"; observation and experience teach that when these worthy attributes abound in sorority life, discretion should be the guiding and restraining principle.

Consider for a moment, what such a condition would signify in our relations with others.

The time-worn saying, "No one harms me with impunity," belongs to a day when the gauntlet was easily thrown and quickly avenged. Its spirit is narrow and self-centered. The sentiment certainly should not prevail in a college life where it is the privilege of any and every sorority to so govern itself that *no one can truthfully say aught that will harm.*

The striving for such an enviable position might also have its reaction in a careful consideration of evidence, before pronouncing judgment upon the acts of others.

It is for the purpose of inter-sorority communication and coöperation that the Pan-Hellenic Association has been formed. Great possibilities for broad mindedness and liberalism lie within its scope, but dangers lurk there also. A broken compact is worse than no compact at all. May Gamma Phi Beta in this association with others show loyalty without bigotry, fidelity without compromise.

Then there comes a still closer relation in the spirit of chapter to chapter, sister to sister. Promises may be quickly made and pledges lightly spoken, but the fact remains that many a girl's college life has been shaped and her future influenced by her sorority.

If to no other period is held out so much of hope and promise as to the young college woman, then also to no other time ought the pledge of sisterhood to be more sacred and binding. An adopted relationship, in which should mingle differences without discord, opinion without prejudice, and above all else, love without hypocrisy.

As flake by flake falls the mighty avalanche, so the spirit of each individual member has its own weight and form in establishing the proportions and momentum of a sorority spirit.

Let one who is old enough to be a mother to some and a sister to all, while rejoicing in the splendid record of the past, suggest that prosperity demands progress, and progress requires spirit.

We have hitched our wagon to a star; may each sister in Gamma Phi Beta contribute her portion of loyal, liberal spirit so that the wheels may neither creak nor drag!

MINNIE CURTIS DINSMORE.

Syracuse Alumnæ.

Editorials

FROM all those so fortunate as to be members of a national fraternity, a votive of thanksgiving is offered up for the privileges contained therein and for the benefits derived. We appreciate the bonds from which nothing can sever and are willing to share in this with those whom are deemed eligible and worthy. As we have definite standards from which we never swerve, but demand the candidate to meet, so it seems that we should have certain others. We are looked upon as a fortunate body of the student world, and in no case is it heard that honor is not attached to such membership. However, in spite of this we feel that we must do the "rushing" and court the ones with whom we are willing to share the advantages of our fraternity. In the outside world we find that those things which hold up the highest standard and do little or no seeking for candidates are the ones most courted, and most respected. While we do not think that we engender less respect, however we believe that if any wooing must be done it should be by the other party and then the honors gained would bear more weight. Many a time a student has felt flattered and in consequence has not received the invitation of a fraternity with the meaning it should convey, and when admitted he has not proven the true, loyal and serviceable member he should. The conference upon inter sorority regulations which has been meeting in Chicago should be productive of much good and we trust that the fraternities will grow to realize that they are what is sought after and that an invitation alone, after they have found the candidate worthy, which need not be done by the various means of rushing, should be greatly appreciated by the one whom they are honoring with their pin.

THE merit which we may receive for anything accomplished does not only reflect its glory upon us as individual members, but upon our chapter and upon the sorority as a whole. And without our special endeavors nothing will crown Gamma Phi with success. Therefore our ambitions need not have a selfish motive, for we desire not to serve ourselves, but rather Gamma Phi Beta. Thus every act on our part must needs benefit or detract from the ideal of our sorority, and too great thought cannot be given as to what we do and how. As individuals we are all loathe to do anything which will not give full measure of credit to our chapter, and it cannot be gainsaid that we do not have an equal desire of doing full justice to our national organization. As stated times arrive we are made aware that our Quarterly is about to be published, and we are conscious of the fact that it cannot appear without our communication. But as there is a fortnight ahead of us we will let that slip until, indeed, past the time for it to be in the editor's hands and then in haste scratch a few items, most of which should be included in the personals, since they are purely that rather than the record of the chapter, and they are sent out through the post to reach the editor, who has been compelled to do injustice to the other chapters by keeping them waiting for the issue, because some are so thoughtless as to defer sending their communications. We have not been informed of the fact that this is the manner in which the chapter letters are prepared, but some bear this aspect and we regret that others are as conscious of this fact as is the editor. Then let us do what we are confident will be a credit to all, for the care exercised will be greatly outweighed by the credit done to Gama Phi, in maintaining her standard.



FROM our Delta sisters comes a little rebuke not only to those active now, but to all of us who have been actives and have laid off the duties of college. We read in her last

letter, that "The Wednesday before Christmas we had a Christmas tree for sixteen little children of the 'other half' who would have had no share in the happy season." They told us simply that we might share in the joy which they had gathered from this occasion. But though we have read it with a little joy, it has not been without more or less regret that in some way, either as chapters or individuals, we had not done something of that kind, that our joy might be greater. For many of us the lack of time seems satisfying and self-sufficient excuse, but can we say that we have less than do these girls, and if so, do we not have even a little time in which we can forget ourselves and our own interests and do some little act? This little season of joy giving on the part of our active girls seemed so unusual and therefore to be remarked about, but it is within the power of all our chapters to institute such customs to be carried out year by year. Such acts cannot help but broaden our lives, and in the laying off the mantle of selfishness for a time, we are fitting ourselves for better service to our fraternity and all its members.



WE can but heartily commend the little contribution on "Alumnæ Interest" in *Agora*. If it does not appeal to all to the extent of moving us to respond, it will not gain its end. Though we may be reticent in telling our own accomplishments, let us not be equally reticent and seem indifferent to the achievements of our sisters, with which we become acquainted. The easiest and simplest manner to make known the news is to send it to *THE CRESCENT*, where all may share in the enjoyment of the knowledge. Aid *THE CRESCENT* in being alive to the whereabouts of her alumnæ, by sending in newspaper clippings of births, marriages, engagements and any personal matters pertaining to Gamma Phis.

Then, too, do it when the items are fresh, so that they may appear in the next issue. A little promptness on the part of our contributors will serve to give a freshness to our news and let-

ters, whereas delays on the part of a few make the reading seem like ancient history. We are reminded of knowing of a fraternity quarterly having been received six weeks after the date of publication, and inside the cover found the note that all the news was to be in the editor's hands the first of the month previous to the date of publication. Very elementary mathematics will show the number of days that had passed since the news had been written and the magazine was received by the readers. Such has never been the case with us, but we would urge more promptness on the part of some.



SINCE the January number appeared, the editors and Zeta Chapter have received many words of kindly criticism and they have aided not a little. Our common bond of fellowship has been strengthened and though the editor thought that her readers were far away, now they have a more tangible appearance, and this issue is sent to friends who entertain a feeling of sympathy and that not an unkindly one. To each and every note we should like to have responded personally and directly, but we found that an impossibility, and we trust that this will be accepted, with the gratitude it bears.



THIS year's initiates will receive the March and June numbers by forwarding fifty cents to THE CRESCENT, Box 523, Columbus, Ohio.

Agora

This Department is open to all, and it is hoped that both Alumnae and Actives will send in their contributions. The names will not be published, but the Editor asks that the name be signed.

Alumnae Interest

THE interest of the alumnae is essential to the success of THE CRESCENT. On the one hand they must be interested by the magazine. On the other, they must give interest to the magazine. The one cannot be accomplished without the other.

The average alumnae is more interested in the chapter news concerning old friends than in any other portion of the Quarterly. In many instances, this is her only means of learning the whereabouts and the activities of former associates. These bits of news cause eager anticipation on her part for each issue of THE CRESCENT and insure her permanent subscription to this periodical.

Such news, however, cannot be obtained without coöperation. The editors (with the exception of those belonging to alumnae chapters) cannot be expected to know what is happening to those of us whom they seldom see and, in many cases, never meet. Their only resource is to ask for information. Surely, we who greatly desire it and alone can supply it should readily respond.

To facilitate this coöperation, it is suggested that the chapters supply their respective editors with double postal cards, designed for such purposes. On one postal the editor can ask an alumnae for any personal or chapter news and on the other (already addressed for replying) the information can be returned. These cards should be issued every quarter to all the alumnae and should be encouraged by prompt responses. By this method we can exchange benefits with the friend and supporter of our national unity—our magazine.

Concerning Expansion

I SING not of expansion political, commercial or religious, but fraternal. It seems to a few of us Gamma Phis (heretics, perhaps, unworthy the name) that conservatism or a certain obstinate something that is called conservatism is too often made to cover a multitude of delays and refusals that are a libel of that excellent quality. Conservatism always likes to be linked with aristocracy, and as we are somewhat inclined to be aristocrats because we are select, we crawl into our shells and hold our breath and cry that we believe in conservatism. I am merely contending that this fear of a dreadful catastrophe following any definite action and the obstinacy that will not admit of anyone being quite good enough to be a Gamma Phi, is not worthy to be called conservatism.

All of us as Gamma Phis feel that we have the good of the sorority at heart. If we had not we would be disloyal indeed. There may be those who are so zealous that their enthusiasm runs away with their good judgment, but it is my candid opinion that this is not the distinguishing trait of our sorority—quite the opposite. And this little preachment is to urge our girls to a more liberal policy. Years may pass in our history and not a single new charter is granted and now we have in all eleven active chapters. All of these I am sure we are very proud of, but we should have had more to be proud of.

We want to rid ourselves of the ultra-critical attitude which we all are apt to acquire as undergraduates—especially as frat girls—and develop a more kindly, liberal and unprejudiced feeling toward other colleges than our own. Surely we wish many more of those worthy could share with us all the joys, pleasures, helpfulness and opportunities for services that we have all enjoyed within our dear sorority. So let us work with ever increasing energy, not ceasing to watch the growth of each chapter nor neglecting the good opportunities to increase our chapter roll.

On Writing Notes

“OH, I can’t bother to write,” said some one the other day; “if it’s too long to telegraph I just let it go.” I wonder how many girls have a sneaking sympathy with the frank speaker, who “hate to write notes,” and “don’t have time for letters.” And yet, they are ill for a few days, and in the midst of a severe attack of the “blues,” a note—just a few lines to say how sorry someone is, with maybe a delightfully funny poem appropriate to the situation—comes from one of the girls, and the blues vanish at the consciousness that someone cares enough to say she’s sorry. Or, they have had a story published in a “big” magazine—these busy girls, who don’t bother to write notes—and an appreciative little congratulatory paean makes the triumph all the sweeter. Or they are away—too far for meetings, too far to see “the girls”—and have bitter moments when they seem to be drifting away from the old, close companionship; when Gamma Phi doings seem very dim and far away. And then comes a fat letter from some one *not* too busy to write, whose bits of cheerful gossip bring back the dear faces, and the old love is thus proved real by some one who is not too busy to care. Our sorrow blots out the sound of friends’ voices, the touch of friends’ hands for a time, and the stricken girl shudders at the *loneliness* of grief. And in the midst of her numbed fear she reads a line of sympathy—a note of broken, loving phrases, that from their very simplicity show how touched with kindred grief the writer must have been; and it is like a warm, human hand-clasp to one groping in the dark alone.

It didn’t take long to write any one of those notes, but it took unselfishness—interest in others—to think of them, and to think of the many others; prompt business-answers with every detail correct in the fewest, clearest words; jolly steamer letters; and the steady strain of regular, newsy letters that keep the far-distant together. Let THE CRESCENT ask its readers who “haven’t time to bother over notes” to think of the times when a letter has meant many pleasant things to them, and then honestly to ask themselves, “Is it worth while?”

Chapter Letters

ALPHA

ALPHA, as a chapter, has done little of interest since we sent the last chapter letter.

Our chief attention has been centered upon the rushing and pledging of our Freshmen. We gave several parties to them between Christmas and the end of the second semester, and then pledged them on the first Friday of the second semester.

We now have ten fine girls pledged. Two of them have Gamma Phi Beta sisters—Mildred Webb, whose sister, Mrs. Grace Webb Edgecomb, was the Alpha Alumnæ correspondent of THE CRESCENT for two years, and Gladys Dryer, whose sister, Ruth, has charge at present of the art department of Ohio Wesleyan University, while the regular head of the department, Sarah Veeder, also an Alpha girl, is studying in Europe.

The names of the pledgelings are as follows: Birgitta Moran, '06, Lyons, N. Y.; Mildred Webb, '07, Syracuse; Laura Wilbur, '07, Syracuse; Marian Edwards, '07, Syracuse; Grace Eaton, '07, Eaton, N. Y.; Mary Supplee, '07, Erie, Pa.; Agnes Avery, '07, Groton, N. Y.; Gladys Dryer, '07, Rochester, N. Y.; Elizabeth Opp, '07, Plymouth, Pa.; Jane Snyder, '07, Buffalo, N. Y. We are much pleased with these fruits of our labors, and believe that they are all going to prove loyal sisters, well worthy of membership in Gamma Phi Beta.

We are planning to give our annual donation party soon. The entertainment is in the hands of the sophomores, from whom we expect a clever program.

Several of the old girls have been back to visit us at the Chapter House this year. Among them were Irma Schoepflin, Leola S. Jermy, Irma Hard and Louise Hill, all 1903 girls;

Mary Bingham, Clara Bingham Collins, Elizabeth Mason and Alice and Gertrude Gaggin.

All the Alpha girls read the January number of *THE CRESCENT* with pride, and we hope great things from so auspicious a beginning.

BETA

BETA congratulates the editor of *THE CRESCENT* on the last edition, and also Alice Sloane Dimmick for her very artistic and appropriate cover design.

We haven't much to contribute this time in the way of news, as examinations are just over and every one knows that they mean work, good hard work, and lots of it. But now that they are over we breathe a sigh of relief.

One of the prettiest private parties of the season was given by one of our pledged girls, Maizie Wheeler. It was a dinner-dance, to which all of the girls were invited. The great social event of the year at Ann Arbor, the Junior Hop, is just over and at it Gamma Phi was exceedingly well represented, both active and alumnæ.

We enjoyed a visit the past two weeks from one of our pledges, Caroline Johnston, who hopes to be able to come to college next year.

On Washington's Birthday we have our annual fancy dress party. This is always one of the pleasantest occasions of the college year, as a good many of our alumnæ came back and the mothers of the town girls are invited.

GAMMA

GREETINGS and love from Gamma to each and every Gamma Phi.

It is with great anticipation that the Gamma girls look forward to the coming numbers of *THE CRESCENT*, for we are always more than interested in what our sisters are doing. However, Gamma has very little of importance to report for this issue, but if any one of you should ask a Gamma girl for the most

exciting moment of these past two months, she would tell you of the fire which broke out in the Gamma Phi house one cold December morning. About 6 o'clock the maids very kindly announced to us that the house was afire, which was not hard for us to realize when we saw the volumes of black smoke pouring up between the cracks of the floor. For the first time we began to think how dear everything was to us, but there was little time to think of all this and in a few moments sixteen girls arrayed in bath robes and holding tight to their pocket-books and Gamma Phi pins, started for the nearest neighbors. However, our clothes were not long in following, for from every window there were firemen hurling after us everything they could put their hands on. It was not an unusual thing to see our wearing apparel hanging on near-by fences or to find white chiffon hats and party coats in some side street. After a short time of excitement the fire was put out and we were happy to find that some of the rooms were still habitable.

The next week, amid the poundings of the carpenters and the horrible smell of smoke, the girls were obliged to study for examinations. After this trying week was over every one was hustling in preparation for the Junior Prom, which was to take place on February 12. The prom is the big party of the year at Wisconsin, and is always anticipated with an unusual amount of pleasure by the students. On the morning after the party the Gamma Phi girls gave a buffet luncheon for visiting friends and rushees, and that night we pledged Miss Ethel Rose, who is a daughter of Mayor Rose, of Milwaukee, and who enters the university next fall.

The best of good wishes to you all.

DELTA

GREETINGS to all our sisters. In looking back over the past few months I was quite astonished to see how Delta had subsided from the gaiety of the fall. Her patron sprite seems to have doffed the cap and bells that she jingled so

merrily in the early year, for the staid sobriety befitting mid-year examinations. I know that we all value the earnest study and endeavor attendant even upon mid-years, far higher than the more cheerful hours that make our fraternity life so enjoyable, and yet we don't like to hear about it. Strange, isn't it? However, with the new semester Delta bids fair to return to folly, for above mentioned sprite does love at times to hide her studious countenance under the mask of a jester.

Not long ago one of our seniors gave a tea under false pretenses. We were enticed to the rooms in expectation of some mysterious, rare, and wholly wonderful form of "tea" and found instead a deep-laid plot to make us thoroughly ransack the rooms and put them in order. However, the delightful spread that rewarded our labors and the bushel of flowers that a kind friend sent in quite reconciled us to the conspirators.

The Friday before Valentine day we had a "theatre supper." At least that is what we called it, although the only theatre connected with it was a college theatrical which our party followed. We each brought remembrances (home made ones) for every one else, and with games and much merriment we paid the compliments of the day to good St. Valentine.

At present Delta is deep in plans for future frivolity. We have accepted an invitation for a party at the new chapter house of Beta Theta Pi, and are making preparations for our mother's tea and our annual play. We expect that to be a grand success and I will tell you about it in my next letter.

Before closing I must remind you that we, that is, Boston University, has a new president, Dr. Huntington, formerly our dean, having the honor. He is dear to the whole university and Delta, as no doubt does every one in college feel that she has a very special share in his kindness.

EPSILON

HERE'S to the little New Year. May his laughter be long and frequent—his tumbles and bumps be few. Epsilon holds her glass high with confident hand and drinks with a hope

which she knows every sister chapter shares. Thus far the year has been full of gratifying results of past work and pleasant anticipation of future plans.

We all subsided very soon after our returns from Christmas visits, and began working in earnest for the "mid-years" which every Northwestern student has reason to dread. This year the exs. were even more severe than usual and those who had burned the midnight and wee-hour oil were not sorry when the formidable questions were given out. There was the usual amount of encouragement and consolation to be given the freshmen who went through the ordeal very creditably, notwithstanding many tearful forebodings.

After the strain was over and we had had a few extra naps we entered into the gaiety always indulged in during the few days intervening semesters. We enjoyed a delightful luncheon at Josephine Russell's home at Stratford Place, Chicago, after which we had a different sort of feast at the Thomas concert. The privilege of these concerts and of the best theatres is very much appreciated by everyone of us, and we are thankful every week after hearing some fine production that our university is so happily located that this is possible.

Our Valentine party on February 13 proved to be a red-letter occasion. We gave the party at the home of Bernice and Ethel Works. None of the girls were visible when the men arrived. Mrs. Works and Mrs. Berry received them and gave each a heart attached to a silken cord. By these cords, intertwined from attic to basement, the men finally found their partners for the first dance. The girls were concealed in all sorts of places—trunk-rooms, closets, dark stairways—even in the laundry-room. After this dance the programs, in huge envelopes, were distributed and the matching of the different designs caused a great deal of exciting fun. To the music of violin and guitar we danced until the real Valentine hour.

The Pan-Hellenic meeting was called here by Alpha Phi very soon after vacation, but nothing definite has yet been decided

upon in regard to pledge day and other matters of much interest to each sorority.

Laura Wilberton is having the pleasure of meeting the Gamma girls this week while she is in Madison during prom festivities. We are hoping to have several from sister chapters here for our formal party later.

Epsilon wishes increasing prosperity to Gamma Phi Beta from Alpha to Lambda.

ZETA

TO all the sister chapters in Gamma Phi Beta, Zeta sends greetings.

It has been almost impossible for the Baltimore girls to settle down to real hard work again, since the disastrous fire which has just swept over our city. Fortunately, owing to the location, none of our college buildings have been damaged. So many of our friends have been "burned out" that it is hard to think and talk about anything else.

However, when we awoke one morning and realized it was just exactly one month until pledge day, everybody roused themselves and started in again. Last Friday night the freshmen were given a "Valentine Hunt"—and great was the excitement and fun when a cunning little valentine was found with directions to hunt further. The heart-shaped scheme was well carried out in the ices and cakes and decorations. As the freshmen left, it was decided by all that Helen Dingle and her three assistants were ideal hostesses.

A Valentine luncheon was given at Nell Watts' home to—freshmen, I believe it must have been—and "the four fraternity girls allowed together at the same time." The table was decorated with festoons of red hearts, and red carnations formed a most conspicuous part of the decorations. This was one of the most successful and delightful little lunches given this year.

There are several things scheduled for this week, and everybody is working hard. Miss Smart and Miss Fisher will give a Colonial tea on Washington's Birthday. Our "one function" will be given in March. It will consist of a progressive dinner, followed by a play. The next important date will be the 12th of March, after which we will be most pleased to introduce these much-talked about new Gamma Phis with our compliments, and sincerely hope you will be "pleased to make their acquaintance."

So wishing all the chapters a most prosperous and successful semester, Zeta bids you "au revoir."

ETA

ETA sends greetings to her sister chapters. The interval that has just passed since our last letter has been quiet and studious. Since the holidays, however, rushing season has been on again and you know what that means. The winter rushing season follows so closely on the heels of the fall season that one feels inclined to agree with the old man who said "there's nothing sartin but death and taxes." Only our version would be "death and taxes and rushing."

We have pledged two girls, Alice Senger and Angeline Stansbury and will initiate them on the 8th.

As to frivolities, we have had our regular Christmas "jolly-up," when every one put a present on a belated Christmas tree; some informal afternoons at home and one dance. The dance was given in the chapter house, but on February 10 we gave another in Town and Gown Hall, which was a bigger affair in every way. It served to introduce our new freshmen who were then Gamma Phis of two days' standing.

One of our seniors, Margaret Henderson, has left '04 by graduating this last semester, six months ahead of the rest of us, but she has come back to do graduate work and will stay to see her class through.

We are very proud of our freshman class. They are a most energetic set and have quite the proper freshman spirit, that nothing is too much trouble.

Best of good wishes to you all.

THETA

MID-WINTER is the time for those delightful gatherings around the fireside, when nothing gives one more satisfaction than to sit before an open blaze and let work and worry be forgotten for an hour or two in the buzz of conversation which envelopes one. There has been no snow in Denver for such a lapse of time that there are dire prophesies of a drought next summer if our mountains are not stored up with the densely packed drifts which winter usually leaves, but the temperature has been low enough to make us take to the inside of the tram car on our way out to college, and the wind has been blowing for days at a time.

We want to tell you of our jolly little fireside gatherings in the Gamma Phi Club House. The fireside is an oil stove, glowing brightly in the center of the room, and Theta sits around in a circle. The first event was a Christmas party for the "House." Each girl brought something to make our den prettier—pillows, pictures and pennants, and Mrs. Drake gave fifty dollars toward a new piano. Clara and Janet gave an outfit for popping corn and the pan, spoon and popper are dragged forth every meeting—popcorn is almost as popular as peanuts and olives. The "Club House" does look pretty with all the new things in it.

After the piano came we thought the Pi Phis ought to see how cosy things were, so one afternoon after class they came for a visit and we had a sociable time over Welch rarebit and chocolate.

Sometimes after meeting we fold up the camp chairs and dance, and once even we indulged in a cake-walk! Gossip is tabooed at such times and there is more pleasure and profit in these informal home parties than at any of the large functions of our

college. They go to make up the little things which are so important a part of our lives.

IOTA

IOTA'S pent-up energies have well nigh been expended in rushing and exams, but she has retained enough vital force and good manners to say "howdy" to her sister chapters and to remark that she's glad to hear from them again and is proud of the privilege of once more lifting up her own voice in their midst.

During the holidays one of our girls who lives in the country entertained the rushees—if I may be permitted the use of such a word—at her home. The festivities took the form of a sleigh ride, the charms of which were enhanced, and, in fact, overtopped by the luncheon which awaited the guests on their return home. On the whole, I think the latter produced the most lasting impression.

During the two weeks following the Christmas holidays all formal entertainments were abandoned, while rushing and rushed crammed in enough information to satisfy the demands of exacting authorities who are too short sighted to realize that an increase of numbers in the noble band of Gamma Phi is more to be desired than great learning. However, the ordeal ended, as all troublesome things do, and we are free to follow our own devices once more.

We celebrated our regained freedom the following week with an evening party at the home of one of our girls here in the city. When I tell you that we invited more men than girls to begin with, that nearly all the men came while some of the girls didn't, you will realize that the party was a success.

Our fairy god-mother, the New York Alumnæ Chapter, has again stepped in with the gift of a theatre party. Her gifts are as generous as were those of Cinderella's guardian and there doesn't seem to be any time limit on them either.

Our last tea before pledge day will be held on the 20th of February, and then—it's kind of hard to feel perky when the end is so near.

Iota's letters always seem to have a sort of "continued-in-our-next" air, don't they? Like a serial story, they always leave off just at the point where the plot thickens—it's pretty thick, too, by the way, just now; but we assure our readers that the proposal and the time when all die lingering deaths or live happy ever after are both near at hand.

I'm afraid that this epistle does not at all follow the outlines of "The Complete Letter Writer," but from that instructive volume we once learned that a few words signifying regard at the end of a letter conveyed a pleasant impression to the mind of the reader. Now 'regard' is but a mild word compared with the feeling Iota bears toward you all. 'Tis her heart's best love she sends to all dear sisters who are in the land of Gamma Phi.

KAPPA

GREETINGS to all the sister chapters. If the Gamma Phis here were observed to be rather less prompt to classes than usual on a certain morning in January, it was our first issue of the new CRESCENT that was to blame. One could not help stopping just a moment to admire the cover design, and then to turn over the pages where there were more things to catch the eye and arrest the attention.

The sketch of the Ideal Gamma Phi by Miss Alice Higgins is worthy of being committed to memory by each one of us, that when we hear that time-worn injunction, "Hitch your wagon to a star!" we may feel that we have improved upon it to the extent of having selected the brightest possible star.

Mrs. Martha S. Chandler's song is a welcome addition to our list of rushing songs. When just among ourselves we are apt to stick rather closely to our old favorites, such as "Fidelity," "In Fair or Cloudy Weather," "Our Offering to Thee," etc., but

rushing demands variety, especially of the gay, rollicking sort of songs whose chief charm lies in their novelty.

It was delightful to read Lambda's first letter—it was so full of the enthusiasm and "Gamma Phi spirit" that makes for success. It was this "Gamma Phi spirit" that Kappa was admonished to cultivate in that dim past before she was Kappa, and we know whereof we speak.

A Pan-Hellenic association has recently been organized here at the university, composed of an active and an alumnæ member of each of the six sororities, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Delta Gamma, Alpha Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, Delta Delta Delta and Gamma Phi Beta. The object of the organization is to improve rushing conditions, and a number of plans have been discussed, though nothing definite has as yet been accomplished.

A meeting of all the sorority women of the university was held at the Delta Gamma house on the afternoon of February 3 to hear Miss Paxon, traveling delegate for the Y. W. C. A. Miss Paxon is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma and her talk on sorority life and what it should do for a girl was most inspiring. Besides the pleasure of meeting her we all enjoyed meeting each other in so friendly and informal a way, and we agreed that the occasion, though the first of its kind, should not be the last.

In conclusion, Kappa wishes every Gamma Phi, active and alumnæ, all possible good fortune, and so, farewell, until the next issue of THE CRESCENT.

LAMBDA

LAMBDA sends greetings to her sister chapters, and hopes that the new year promises as much happiness and good fortune as it does to her.

The year opened with our annual party, which was planned before the holidays. We aim to make this one of the chief social events and if modesty will allow us to repeat the flattering comments of kind friends, no affair of the year has surpassed it.

Our programs were in the sorority colors with the pin in raised gold on the outside. A unique feature of the evening was the music, which consisted of the two-steps and waltzes of the fraternities and sororities represented among our guests.

Have you ever seen a child of the slums on his first visit to the country as he beams his,seraphic smile on every one around him and frequently ejaculates, "Whew, ain't this bully, bully?" This is Lambda in her new home. We stop so often to hug each other in our excess of joy and to egg each other on to the fullest appreciation of our new-found blessings, that such things as old-fashion lessons often suffer in the cause.

Through the generosity of the alumnæ and our friends we have been the recipient of many beautiful and useful presents, the most cherished of which are a piano and a complete set of Gamma Phi Beta silver.

Perhaps it is not wholly charity that prompts us to open our house to friends, but whatever the purpose we have had many little enjoyable affairs, in the way of card parties, oyster suppers, candy-pulls and all sorts of stunts that only girls can devise. But like the fabled woman of old, who the more she had the more she wanted, we are already planning to have a house built for us which will meet the growing demands of Lambda.

The following are the initiates of the year: Helen Russell, Amy Wheeler, Pansy Olney, Clara Bess Kaufman, Myrn Cosegrove, Jessie Mosegrove, Myra Smith, Jennie Hausman, Florence Finch, Ethlyn Coffman, Florence Coffman and Luila Knapp.

BOSTON

TO all the sister chapters in THE CRESCENT assembled, greeting from the hub of the universe.

The physical-scientifically inclined may remember that of all parts of a wheel, the center, or hub, moves most slowly. Alas! That it should be true with the afore-mentioned chapter! Our meetings were scheduled to occur the first Saturday in every

month, but the snowy demon that rules over the weather has held every first Saturday in his relentless grasp, and between snowstorms so deep there was no wading through them and the colds that this old-fashioned winter has brought in its train, the meetings, in point of numbers, at least, have not been wild successes, although five faithful souls did huddle around the hospitable fire in the worst January snowstorm this year.

Besides the aforesaid five, Hymen's torch has also been kindled, for on January 20, Marguerite Huntington Slater, '02, became Mrs. Raymond Seeley Bartlett. Mr. Bartlett is a Beta Theta Pi of Harvard and Chicago Universities. We are not to lose Mrs. Bartlett, for her home is in Franklin, Mass., not too far for meeting attendance.

Aside from wedding bells, the record of Boston Chapter reminds us of a question and answer from Twelfth Night:

Duke: "And what's her history?"

Viola: "A blank, my lord."

But the rest is not true, for Boston Chapter is always "telling her love," silently or in words. And we are always loyally yours, with Easter greetings.

CHICAGO

CHICAGO Alumnæ Chapter was very sorry indeed not have any letter in the last issue of THE CRESCENT. It was not at all through neglect that we failed to report, but through a series of misunderstandings that will not, we hope, occur again. Though we have no very startling things to tell you of, we like, at any rate, to send you all a little message to let you know we are thinking of you and are holding and enjoying our meetings as usual.

Our last meeting was held with Mrs. Augusta Durfee Flinterman, and about eight of us were present. We always go in time for luncheon and spend the whole afternoon together, for most of us have to come so far, across this great city, that we would have no time to visit if we merely spent the afternoon. Our

meetings are all very delightful to ourselves, but very hard to describe to others from the very fact that they are so much alike and so uneventful, except when some interesting piece of business comes up for discussion. Then I fear that the methodical and businesslike "active" girls would be horrified at our methods. We sit around in a circle—some doing fancy work, some very plain work indeed, and some always idle and content to watch the superior industry of the others. The presiding officer raps for order—with a thimble as likely as not—and after much effort the various lively discussions of baby clothes, styles, cooking, new books and the theatre, are checked—one can hardly say stopped—and the roll is called. This often requires considerable assistance, some comment and a few quiet jokes if the secretary is new to the business, for we have a formidable roll of sisters whom we love dearly, but who are seldom among the ten or twelve average attendants. Then the minutes are quickly disposed of, for nobody cares for them, and the business is announced. One would expect, from the long training we have had that motions would be made and seconded, discussed and passed. To be sure they are sometimes. But often we get no farther than a statement of the subject of interest. Then there breaks forth a babel of voices. All talk at once—explain, argue, enforce their remarks and listen to their neighbors at the same time. You may say this is not possible. Just come to one of our business meetings and see. But then we accomplish things just the same and find our method eminently satisfactory for an alumnae chapter.

We enjoyed our first Zeta number of *THE CRESCENT* very much. The new "dress" is very becoming, and we hope this magazine will continue to grow and prosper.

MILWAUKEE

No letter.

NEW YORK ALUMNÆ

THE New York Alumnæ exult in the improved CRESCENT of recent date, and desires to congratulate the editors upon their timely attention to cover and contents. This we say without any disparagement of past issues, for we keenly appreciate the labors of those who first struggled so successfully with the magazine problem, but that their initiative is so ably pushed forward is a source of great pride to us all. That Gamma Phi can write, we have always known, but the absolute proof in the literary columns is most gratifying. Rumors have come to us of what some were doing for other pages, with perhaps greater profit to themselves, but they surely cannot find elsewhere more sympathetic readers than are those of their own sorority. While we cannot promise much from our immediate group, we hope Iota, our particular pride and joy, may soon reveal to the society at large some of the literary talent with which she is richly endowed. We have never failed to find ourselves well entertained when she has played the hostess. Not long ago we were summoned by her to the home of one of her most hospitable members in the following terms: "The vessel 'Iota' of the fleet 'Gamma Phi Beta' is hailed for February the fifth. She will anchor at the home of Miss Winterburn. Will you please come aboard at half-past eight in the evening." I assure you we were delighted to go aboard and felt no doubt at the evening's end, but that we were on "the winner" in the rushing race for as delightful freshmen as are to be found in Barnard.

On the last Saturday in January we held our regular meeting with Austie Taylor Goreth in East Orange. Mrs. Goreth was entertaining her sister, Georgiana Taylor Carpenter, at the time, and this gave to all Alpha girls the pleasure of a reunion with one of our best loved members. Mrs. Carpenter sang for us a song composed, both words and music, by Mrs. Goreth. Perhaps THE CRESCENT might persuade Mrs. Goreth to forward it for publication.

On February 20 we meet with May Reed Murray in Newark, where we trust to see evidence that our more frequent meetings may help us to welcome those Gamma Phis who from time to time visit New York.

At our last meeting Elizabeth Sill Banard (Zeta) decided Asbury Park was near enough to our meeting ground to make it possible for her to become a member of the Association. Alpha and Delta girls are much pleased to find their position thus becoming less of a monopoly.

We have felt sincere sympathy for Emma Lowd (Delta) in the loss of her father, and also for Florence Clifford Savage, whose little daughter was recently taken.

SAN FRANCISCO

No letter.

SYRACUSE

WE hope the new year finds all the chapters as busy and happy as the Syracuse Alumnæ.

The anticipated holiday gathering with Mrs. E. Addie Curtiss was very delightful. We were glad to welcome back Blanche Knapp, '99; Gertrude Andrews, '97; Lucy Babcock, '03. The rumors of several weddings in the near future and the news the out-of-down girls brought us added a little spice to our happy time.

Rushing has been the chief interest for some time. Several of the alumnæ have entertained for the girls. Emogene Day gave a tea, Mrs. Florence Bailey Crouse a luncheon and Mrs. Florence Palmer Baker a salamagundi party. The alumnæ attended the tea and the party, so we had an opportunity of meeting the freshmen, and now that pledge day is over we are very glad to welcome them with best wishes for a happy life in Gamma Phi Beta.

Just one word about THE CRESCENT. We have enjoyed every bit of it from cover to cover and wish to congratulate Zeta on her fine beginning.

Personal

Ruth Drake, Theta, has left college.

Helen Griffith, Kappa, is studying at Bryn Mawr.

Every alumnæ is urged to contribute to this department.

Jeannette Perry, Lambda, '04, is at Smith College this year.

Mrs. Winifred Sunderland Haggett, Lambda, has a daughter.

Janet Kevand, Alpha, '01, is now teaching in Fort Plain, N. J.

Florence Beach, Iota, is studying art in New York City this winter.

Sadie Preston, Kappa, is teaching in the Lake City grammar school.

Ethel White, Lambda, '00, is principal of the Fairhaven High school.

Fanny Marks, Theta, a pledge of last year, has returned again to college.

Helen Eager, Delta, '07, is engaged to Mr. Devigne of Newton, Mass.

Emogene Day, Alpha, is traveling in Florida with Mrs. Esther Baker Steele.

Lorena McFarlane, Kappa, is principal of the High school in Burabak, Minn.

Ethel Hall, Kappa, is teaching in the Hamline grammar school, St. Paul.

Dr. Caroline Colver, Beta, '00, has been visiting at the chapter house in Ann Arbor.

Mrs. Mary Brittingham, Gamma, is traveling with her husband through Egypt and Sicily.

Ava Dodson, Lambda, '03, has the Department of English in the Fairhaven High school.

The engagement is announced of Bessie Gordon, Delta, '04, to Mr. Albert Harrington of Lynn.

Several of Lambda's alumnae girls visited her at the chapter house to attend the large party.

Edith Adams, Lambda, '06, was unable to return to college this year on account of poor health.

Edith Boughton, Theta, has come back this term. She is having no more trouble with her eyes.

The engagement of Carrie Hosie, Beta, to Mr. Milo A. White, Phi Kappa Psi, was announced in January.

Merriam Ernhout, Alpha, '00, has recovered from a long illness resulting from an operation for appendicitis.

Gertrude Miller Beta, '02, has recently announced her engagement to Mr. B. Sherwood of Grand Haven.

Bess McKain, an ex-'04 Zeta girl, spent a few days in the city with Frances Robbins during the Vassar mid-years.

Alice Gardiner and Ruby Brown, both of the class of '02, Lambda, are teaching in the Everett High school.

Miss Laura Wilberton, of Epsilon Chapter, attended the Junior Prom last week and remained with us a day.

Lillian A. Tefft, ex-'99, Zeta, was married to Mr. Charles Keneger, October 30, 1903. They are now living in California.

Miss Josephine Ross, Gamma, of Oconomowoc, Wis., and Miss Grace Gibson, Gamma, of De Pere, Wis., visited us last week.

Zoe Kincaid, Lambda, '01, is society editor and dramatic critic of the Post-Intelligencer, one of Seattle's leading newspapers.

Lua Noyes, Alpha, has been called from New York, where she was studying music, to attend her mother, who is ill in a Buffalo sanitarium.

On March 4 the Beacon Literary Club, connected with the university, presented "A Bit of Deception," written by Maisie B. Whiting, Delta, '04.

Jane Sherzer, Beta, and Violet Jayne, Beta, attended the Convention of Modern Languages in Ann Arbor, held during the Christmas holidays.

Marguerite Slater, Delta, an alumna, was married to Mr. Raymond Bartlett on January 20. Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett will reside in Franklin, Mass.

At the dinner given by Maizie Wheeler, Beta, at her home in Ann Arbor, her engagement was announced to Mr. Ernest C. Von Ammon, Beta Theta Pi.

The Old South Historical Society of Boston presented this winter a historical drama, "Anne Hutchinson," of which Esther Willard Bates, Delta, '05, was joint author.

Mrs. Eleanor Ogier Street, Zeta, of Belair, Md., called on Zeta a couple of weeks ago. Her visit has long been expected and we were very glad to have her here at last.

The engagement of Miss Jessie Westlake, Gamma, to Dr. Young, of Madison, has been announced recently. Miss Westlake pledged to Gamma Phi Beta last year.

Mrs. Mira Haven Draper, Alpha, '79, who entered missionary work in Japan in '80, has returned to this country to educate her children. She will probably reside in Syracuse.

The engagement is announced of Alma Frances Groves, Zeta, of Wilmington, Del., to Rev. Charles Howland Cookman, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, Middletown, N. Y.

Anna Reed Palmer, one of Zeta's charter members, is spending several weeks in the city. Zeta is always especially glad to welcome her charter members, and wishes that they would come oftener.

Lillian Johnson, Gamma, '99, was married at her home in Decorah, Iowa, January 29, to Mr. Ivan A. Thorson. Mr. and Mrs. Thorson are now at home at 440 Second street, N. E., Minneapolis.

Several engagements of the Alpha girls have been announced: Emily Wells, '98, to Frederick Simmons, of Chicago; Mary Jane Munro, '01, to Philip Will, of Rochester, N. Y.; Lida French, to Earl Thurston, of Syracuse, N. Y.

Florence Shaw, Gamma, '01, who has been teaching in Washburn, Wis., has not returned to her school since Christmas, owing

to the illness and subsequent death of her father, Mr. W. K. Shaw. She will remain at home for the rest of the winter.

A social club has been formed among the graduates of the university living on College Hill, Syracuse. Several Gamma Phis and their husbands belong, among them being: Professor and Mrs. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Edgecomb, Dr. and Mrs. Dammon, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Johnson and Professor and Mrs. Flick.



Greek News

Delta Delta Delta established a chapter at Barnard College June 9.

On May 15 Delta Gamma installed a chapter at the State University of Washington.

A chapter of Pi Beta Phi was established at the University of Minnesota, in November.

Pi Beta Phi established her Pennsylvania Gamma Chapter, December 21, 1903, at Dickinson College.

This year, the pledging restrictions which have been binding upon the fraternities at Swarthmore, have been removed.

Kappa Alpha Theta chartered a chapter at Vanderbilt University recently. This chapter was formerly the local society, Phi Kappa Upsilon.

Kappa Alpha Theta has placed her seal of disapproval upon inter-fraternity fraternities and hereafter only by special permission will allow her members to join such organizations.

Miss Caroline Comly, of Swarthmore, was elected editor-in-chief of their quarterly, the *Kappa Alpha Theta*. Miss Edith Cockins, who was formerly editor, was chosen treasurer of the fraternity.

During the past summer Pi Beta Phi purchased a house at Wisconsin. The cost of this house, \$10,000, was raised by the sale of 5 per cent. interest bearing bonds. The "rent" will be devoted to paying off the interest and taking up the bonds.

Beta Beta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, at St. Lawrence, recently refused to be put out of the fraternity; went to law, and successfully defended its contention in the courts. Though it established the right to stay, it has gone out, and is now known as Zeta Phi and intends establishing additional chapters.

The \$50 prize for an essay on "The Effect of the Fraternity on College Life," offered by the New York City Alumni Association of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, has been awarded to Fletcher B. Wagner, a member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity and now a student at Harvard. The judges were ex-President Grover Cleveland, Dr. Benjamin Ide Wheeler and Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews. The prize is to be increased to \$200 next year. Candidates for baccalaureate degrees in any American college are eligible.—*New York Sun*, October 28, 1903.

"Twixt Greek and Barb," by William C. Levere, is an American novel which deals with fraternity life in one of our colleges. It contains in its plot an account of the contention between Barb and Greek for election, bidding a freshman, initiating the victim, a cane rush, etc. The *Chicago Times-Herald* says of the story: "It sets the blood a-tingling," while the *Chicago Evening Post* declares that "Mr. Levere's book is a revelation. It is of much interest to all those in college and those out. It is artistically bound and can be obtained for one dollar and a quarter from W. S. Lord, publisher, Evanston, Illinois.



Our Contemporaries in Black and White

We acknowledge the receipt of exchanges as follows:

Delta Upsilon Quarterly for December.

The Anchora, of Delta Gamma, for January.

The Shield, of Theta Delta Chi, for December.

The Arrow, of Pi Beta Phi, for November and January.

The Phi Gamma Delta for November, December and February.

The Alpha Phi Quarterly for November and February.

Kappa Alpha Theta for January.

The Rainbow, of Delta Tau Delta, for January.

Shortly after our return occurred the death of Miss Elizabeth Smalley, S. U., '03, only daughter of the honored Dean of Liberal Arts. We greatly sympathize with the family and with Gamma Phi Beta, of which Miss Smalley was a member. She was a rarely beautiful girl and had a host of friends in college and city, who mourn her untimely death.—*Alpha Phi Quarterly*.

Gamma Phi Beta held its annual convention in Denver at the Adams hotel November 10th to 13th. We tried to get a day for a reception, but the program was full and so we had to be content with sending a large bunch of yellow and white chrysanthemums with our greetings. We were invited to the reception for fraternity women and met their delegates.—*The Arrow Correspondent, Colorado Alpha*.



WHAT THE FRATERNITY SHOULD MEAN TO ITS MEMBERS

“FIRST of all, it should mean an organization of very definite high ideals and purposes, to which it demands absolute loyalty. Through a long and worthy history of many years it has stood consistently for this high standard of thought and life, has enrolled a most honorable membership, and won a record for fairness and broad-mindedness of which it may well be proud. These are things that should be burned into the very consciousness of every member, initiated and prospective.

“But fast on privilege follow duty and responsibility, and this fraternity should also mean to us. Our established standards are to be maintained, our record kept inviolate, and for this responsibility Pi Beta Phi sounds a new call to all that is best within us for all that is best in life. Success for the fraternity waits upon the faithfulness with which you and I as individuals hear and answer that call, recognize the responsibility, live out the creed and are loyal.

“Well might this weight of responsibility frighten a stout heart were there no offsetting consideration, but in truth the com-

pensations far outweigh all burdens and from this brighter point of view fraternity becomes to us one boundless, beautiful opportunity.

"It is an opportunity for personal development. The life of every chapter should be a very practical training school in the rare art of coöperation, and the members be graduated 'summa cum laude' as trained to work with others. What of the development in self-control, self-restraint, loyal, intelligent consideration for others, keenness in judgment, the practical handling of business matters? These are veritable means of grace for which the appreciative soul will return thanks forever more.

"Chapter life should mean also the opportunity for larger relations in our respective colleges. The chapter, recognizing its obligation to the college world from which it draws its very life, should prove in truth a center of initiative for good in college life. Nothing less can cancel the obligation. The relation of the chapter to its college, the betterment of social conditions, larger social opportunities for all students, the moral side of questions arising daily in the democratic life of our large universities, these are questions demanding thoughtful consideration and unhesitating action.

"There is demanded also a very positive position on the evil so often laid at the door of fraternities, that of assumed exclusiveness. May I quote a favorite expression of this thought?

"The larger the man and the woman, the more inclusive they are in their love and their friendships. The smaller the man and the woman, the more dwarfed and dwindling their natures, the more they pride themselves upon their 'exclusiveness.' Anyone—a fool or an idiot—can be exclusive. It comes easy. It takes and it signifies a large nature to be *inclusive*. Only the man or the woman of a small, personal, self-centered, self-seeking nature is exclusive. The man or the woman of a large, royal, unself-centered nature never is. The small nature strives continually for effect. The larger nature never does.'

"What, then, should fraternity mean to us? A high privilege, great responsibility, unlimited opportunities, and who shall meas-

ure the sweetness and strength of life it brings to each of us in the broadening and deepening influence of intimate association with such a host of friends with whom we shall always have something precious in common."—*The Arrow*.



A SUGGESTION

"THIS year when Lambda found herself settled in her new room, so conveniently near the center of college life, several plans were discussed whereby the chapter might gain more pleasure and profit from her own little home than has been possible before now.

"Beside our regular Saturday evening meetings, we want to come together at the room, perhaps on Wednesday afternoons from four to six when the recitations are over, for an informal 'at home' to all Thetas. The plan is to have readings, studying certain authors together; and bringing our sewing or other work. After the readings we will have five o'clock tea for all who care to come, and we hope that many of our alumnæ who find that Saturday evening is too often a weary time will avail themselves of this afternoon meeting.

"It is easy and pleasant to imagine such times,—the Theta comradeship, the good books, the jolly teas and first and last our well-loved song-books. Nor will it be hard to bring them about. A committee of two appointed weekly can manage the details with little trouble, and, once started, we think they will not be hard to continue.

"To those who live in chapter houses, these cosy gatherings come as a matter of course. But to us who have not known that form of chapter life, they can only be brought about by some especial arrangement. But the slight trouble involved is amply repaid, and every such happy time serves to increase the love and loyalty that bind together all Thetas."—*Kappa Alpha Theta*.

FRATERNITY RESERVE

“ONE of the evils against which we as fraternity girls should guard is allowing fraternity to enter too strongly into the every-day life of the college. We must remember that working shoulder to shoulder with us in the class-room are non-fraternity girls who are just as worthy as we, but who do not enjoy the beautiful privileges which we, as fraternity girls enjoy. Sometimes bubbling over with enthusiasm for our beloved fraternity chapter, we let fall, in the presence of these girls, some item of fraternity interest or make some reference to our chapter of which they know nothing, making them feel that they are in some way left out of our pleasures and that their interests are not our interests. Is it not mere common courtesy on our part to ignore the distinction of fraternity in our association with the other girls of the college.”—*The Arrow*.



THE FRATERNITY AND THE INDIVIDUAL

“ONE sometimes hears among those who have not identified themselves with one or another of our great national Greek letter fraternities, expressions of sentiment such as this: Fraternity life harms individual development. If such an accusation were justified in any degree, it might well arouse feelings of alarm in fraternity circles; but no deep investigation of the question is necessary to remove any doubt upon the subject. Yet even an ill-based assertion of this nature ought to start us thinking seriously, whether we be *sorores* of Delta Gamma, or whatever be the badge we wear. The aim of a fraternity, if it has any aim at all, is and should be one of help to better and more serviceable living; the fraternity is not an end, but a means. By speaking thus, no sister will think I am depreciating fraternity importance, but rather appreciating the importance of the individual. I sincerely believe that this is the ultimate purpose of the great system of fraternities over this land.

"Only great care for preventions will, however, hinder the creeping in of conditions unfavorable to that for which the fraternity aims, namely the best development of the individual character. Free development is not necessarily unrestrained development; that would be disastrous. It is not by lack of pruning that the tree grows best. Indeed it seems to me that this is the hinge of the matter; the restraining element may tend to be weak. Where there are ties of affection and sympathy, there is a correspondingly strong dislike of giving reprimand, however slight; and there is an increased blindness to faults and weaknesses that should be mastered or removed. The opposite tendency, moreover, just as often gains force; there is such concentration of attention upon individual interests that the needed words of encouragement or sympathy are forgotten, and a sister grows less reliant, and that which is within her waiting encouragement to bud forth, falters until a future day. We all stand staunchly for our fraternity aims; we all realize the subtle growth of procrastination; we all are careless. Herein is the secret of the origin and the remedy."—*The Anchora*.



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