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THE CRESCENT

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ALUMNAE CHAPTERS

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Delta's Twentieth Anniversary

BY ELIZABETH PUTNAM, DELTA.

SPRING BANQUET was no new thing in Delta chapter; in fact, we had had nineteen of them, for nineteen consecutive years, one varying from another in pleasure only by reason of some feature following, like a dance or a reception or an original play by a Delta girl, with the exception of three banquets when the fifth, the tenth and the fifteenth anniversaries of the establishment of Delta were celebrated.

One or more of these anniversaries hold a special place in the memory of us who are fortunate enough to have worn the crescent so long, for it is on occasions like this that the bonds of Gamma Phi Beta are strengthened anew and old enthusiasms and old ideals are re-created. So the 22d of April, 1907, became a starred day on the calendars of many of us as soon as ever the nineteen-seven calendars were issued. For on that date, twenty years before, our charter members were reminding us, was born Delta Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta, in the city of Boston, and we must recognize her twentieth birthday with an appropriate celebration.

It was decided after due consultation with every Gamma Phi in reach to keep the affair just for ourselves, introducing after the luncheon one novel feature in the program, this feature to be the opportunity for every member present to talk. Now, this may sound absurd to our readers and call forth the protest "When did a number of Gamma Phis gathered together ever lose an opportunity to talk?" But this plan was to be different, for every one was expected to talk, but only one at a time, and the rest were to listen. And, better still, those who could not come were to be given their opportunity to be heard from as well.

This end was accomplished in a simple enough way by calling the roll of Delta Chapter and asking each member to respond to her name with some word or quotation which should express the significance of our sorority. Delta has a membership of one hundred and sixty-five, and while it was impossible to reach all the one hundred and fifty-nine living members by reason of inadequate addresses and loss of letters in the mail, nearly fifty who could not come sent their messages of love and good will. Nor does this number represent all those absent ones who were thinking of Gamma Phi that day, for some sisters failed to send a response not through lack of interest nor because they had forgotten their old pledges of loyalty, but because no appropriate message came to their mind to express their feeling for Gamma Phi.

A touching feature of the roll call was the tribute paid to the dear ones whom Delta ever holds in loving remembrance. When the names of those were called, some one especially close in friendship responded with an appropriate sentiment.

Fielding Turner Chase of Zeta, Sadie Holt of Iota and Louise Durst and Hattie Ludlow of Gamma brought the greetings of

their chapters.

To hear the roll call answered with such stirring responses was a revelation of the deep hold a secret society can have upon the affections of its members and the abiding impression such an organization makes in the college world. No one who was present that day could doubt the ennobling influence of college sororities, for there was expressed no mawkish sentimentality, but only high-minded, noble thoughts from high-minded, earnest young women, trying to express by their lives some of the ideals their society had revealed to them.

There is always a rift in the lute, and we could wish that Delta might celebrate her birthday at a more convenient season, following the example of King Edward the Seventh, for the 22nd of April doesn't fall in anyone's vacation, besides coming so near Patriots' Day, April 19th, that many in the vicinity of Boston use the opportunity for short trips. But the fifty-one who gathered around the table at the Hotel Westminster that twentieth day of April knew that as many more would have joined us if circumstances had made it possible.

It is, of course, an exaggeration to say that the table had never been decorated more attractively, for was there ever a table decorated with our sorority flower that was not attractive? But these tables did appear a little more beautiful than any previous, for there was such a profusion of daybreak carnations, carnations strewn upon the cloth and baskets of carnations mixed with feathery ferns placed at frequent intervals through the center of the table. The seats were arranged by classes, beginning with the charter members and completing the circle with the college seniors, symbolizing, as it were, the close bond existing between the alumnae and the active girls, an unbroken chain from 1887 to 1907. Besides the roll call, there were toasts and songs, both serious and gay. And we had such pretty souvenirs-little booklets of dark brown, covers printed in gold, and light brown leaves, tied with brown silken cords. The order of exercises was as follows:

TOASTS.

Toastmistress, Katherine Davis Hardwick, '07.

"I hold an old accustomed feast,
Whereto I have invited many a guest."

Song—"We're Gamma Phis Forever."

1887-1897 Roll Call.

"Twenty Years a Gamma Phi Beta," Mary Wellington, '87. Song—"Fidelity."

1892-1896 Roll Call.

"By-and-by is Easily Said," Mildred Thorndike, '09.

Song-"Joy of Gamma Phi."

"When to the session of sweet silent thought I summon up remembrance of the past."

-Mary M. Poor, '08.

1897-1901 Roll Call.

Song—"Our Constant Love."

"Formed by thy converse, happily to steer From grave to gay, from lively to severe."

-Edith L. Riggs, '07.

1902-1906 Roll Call.

Song-"'Tis but a Flower."

Poem-"My Moon of Poets," Esther W. Bates, 'o6.

1907-1910 Roll Call.

"Come Give Us a Taste of Your Quality," Alice E. Ward, 'oo. Song—"The Crescent."

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Camma Phi Beta and the Y. W. C. A.

S the summer approaches my attention is being turned toward the conferences held under the auspices of the Y. W. C. A., and a question that I have been considering all winter confronts me anew; it is this: What ought to be the attitude of Gamma Phi Beta as a national sorority toward the great collegiate Y. W. C. A. movement throughout the country? I call the movement "great" because I doubt if there is any single organization that influences a greater number of students either extensively or intensively. And I say "collegiate" because it is the work of the national board as it expresses itself in our colleges which is of peculiar and immediate interest to Gamma Phi Beta. To put the question in another form, what is there in the movement that should secure our allegiance as Greek letter women?

As such we stand for the development of the all-around woman, meaning thereby the woman who will be most efficient and contributive as a social factor in the post-collegiate year, the woman with brain to think and heart to dare where vital social problems must be faced and considered. For obviously, the one is as necessary as the other. Theories are of no value unless there be formed resolutions to put them into practice. Our colleges are sending out many students with brains capable of thinking, but I wonder sometimes if an equal number having hearts that dare, are going forth. What we need is not that the majority of educated women shall choose the public platform as a profession, but that educated women shall think their way through any proposition bearing on the welfare of society, till they reach a fundamental principle involved, and having so done, let their actions be governed by that principle. And it is my opinion that this manner of allegiance requires a heart that dares. But what are the necessary conditions to the possession of this heart that dares?

We hear much today of the social message of Jesus, that He emphasized the relation of man to man. So He did, but much of this current comment implies that the relation between man and man constituted the fundamental element in His gospel. It did not. The fundamental element in the message of Jesus was the relation of man to God, and out of that, and only out of that could grow the ideal relation of man to man. It is just this fact that we need to emphasize, for it is only as we keep ourselves in touch with the "Personality who is what we aim to be," it is only as we know God that we can appreciate the divinity, or the God-ness, or God-hood in man. And if we do keep ourselves informed regarding social conditions as we ought to do, the knowledge brought by the years will be a knowledge of so much sin and sorrrow and suffering that are hideous, that only a fundamental conviction of the character of God and consequently of the potential divinity in man will keep us courageous and undaunted in our endeavors to bring about an ideal relation of man to man.

For the fact is that a pre-requisite to desire for social welfare is a sensitiveness to sin, and their very sensitiveness makes sin appear so exceedingly sinful, that hopelessness and pessimism result, unless one has an abiding realization of what God is, and hence of what man must be. I know a good many men and women, discouraged, hopeless, worn in mind and body, genuinely unhappy, believing that evil is dominent, sorrow more extensive and intensive than joy, life one prolonged exhibition of nought but waste and useless sacrifices. What is the reason for this pessimism? In each case I have noticed that in some way or other the individual has failed to gain or to preserve a sense of the vital relation between men and God, and I am convinced that that failure accounts largely for the condition. So long as we know God we shall remain "strong in peace, strong in turmoil and conflict, undaunted, with large hearts and large hands," strong ever, because knowing God, we know that sooner or later it must come to pass that men will be like Him. And into this fellowship with God we need to enter permanently as under-graduates. During our college life we need to build our house upon the rock that when the storms of disciplining knowledge of later years beat against it, it may not fall. We must build today for the life of tomorrow.

Social development demands then the religious life. Mind you by that I do not mean that we must stand for certain orthodox beliefs, certain creeds and dogmas, no, but for the living of a certain life—a life that is born of a vital relation to God. And social development must demand this because this relation is a necessary condition to maintaining a serene normal attitude toward life, and prolonged effort for improving social conditions. Then, as Greek letter women, must we not stand for the religious life?

Primarily it is for this purpose that the Y. W. C. A. exists—to develop the religious life of the individual and of the college community. The movement is a living institutional assertion of a

belief in the value thereof. It represents the most comprehensive effort put forth in the individual institution to meet this need. Then in its fundamental purpose does it not represent something for which every Gamma Phi must stand, and which she must support?

I have heard it definitely stated that Gamma Phi is more indifferent to this movement than any other national sorority. Personally, I do not believe it, and I know Gamma Phi better than the people who made that remark. But after all, it ought not to be a question of whether we are doing more than or less than other sororities along this line, but rather, are we doing as much as we, as individuals can do?

Cannot those of us who have not connected ourselves with the association work classify our reasons under one or more of the following:

- (1) Never thought about it.
- (2) Have not time.
- (3) The Association draws a type that does not advantage one socially.
- (4) The Association is too narrow and dogmatic.

As to the first reason: Can any college girl content herself with such an excuse? It is our business to think regarding any subject of vital importance to the social whole, that is presented to us; certainly to think enough to determine our attitude thereto.

As to the second reason—face facts squarely—we have time to do the things we *really* want to do. Attendance at every meeting and membership in every committee are not inherent consequences of affiliation with the organization—no, not even if some other member says that they are.

As to the third reason—very human we admit and—very cowardly we must also admit. Reduce it to its lowest terms and what does it mean—refusal to face the principle of a thing because it will not advantage me personally. Follow that attitude through college, take the A. B. and go out to be leaders, for

leaders society unconsciously makes us just because of the sheep-skin; as leaders, let us follow such a principle—or lack of principle, and what of valuable service do we think we shall render among men and women? A necessary condition to real service is the potentially sacrificial adherence to principle.

As to the fourth reason one cannot condemn this attitude offhand. It is psychologically awakened by the basic attitude of the association toward certain so-called non-evangelical churches. Opposition may thus be excited, but let us consider carefully what the real reason is that keeps us from joining the association. Is our refusal so to do, born of a conviction that we simply cannot, or that we simply will not? If it is a matter of principle, we shall consider that later. But if it is a matter of "will not," it is not then simply a practical way of expressing resentment against an unjust attitude? And is this a sufficient reason, human and understandable though it is, for refusal to identify ourselves with a movement that, however faulty its methods, nevertheless does sincerely and avowedly stand for the bringing in of the kingdom of God? It is hardly the kind of excuse that Jesus would have offered to His Father. And whatever our doctrinal attitude may be toward Jesus, we are one, I believe, in the conviction that the character of Jesus is such that it commends itself to us as the pattern and form for ours.

Perhaps some of us do not wish to connect ourselves with an organization that emphasizes some phase of the religious life, with which we are not in sympathy—viz., public prayer meeting. It may be that the publicity of personal supplication annoys us. This may be due to temperament or training, and we may honestly skrink from it. But is lack of sympathy with one or two phases of the work sufficient excuse for apparent opposition to the whole thing. For this is a case where in the public mind he that is not for is against.

As to lack of affiliation with the Y. W. C. A. being a result of real principle. Organization demands a platform of some kind, if

it would exist at all. And obviously we can never find one large enough to stand upon that will express the ideal of every individual. Affiliation with a movement does not mean that we stand for every plank in the platform, but simply that we are sufficiently in sympathy with its fundamental purposes that we believe we can find work to do among people banded together thusly. I am reminded of Jesus' attitude toward John the Baptist. Jesus didn't have the same conception of the kingdom that John had. He didn't advocate the same kind of life in detail that John did. Did He hold aloof and say He could not work with that man John? No, indeed. By being baptized of John's baptism, He identified Himself as one in close sympathy with John's fundamental purpose—to bring in the kingdom of God, and having so done, He set to work to bring in that kingdom by the method He believed to be the ideal one. And let us notice that He was grave enough to disagree with others in the same movement, i. e., with disciples of John, though remember, too, He disagreed with courtesy and gentleness, and as a matter of principle.

Purpose and motive, we see, constituted the touch stones whereby He determined the value of a movement. Can we find a better test? And I wonder if it isn't for us who honestly believe that the movement is wrongfully narrow, since its purpose is our purpose, to go within, and endeavor to improve what is wrong, not stand without and criticize. The people who are going to bring order out of the chaos in Russia, and convert tragedy into peace and prosperity are not the Americans or the English or the Germans who sling stones at her czar or at her aristocracy; they are the Russians themselves who are working from within.

In the Y. W. C. A. we have a powerful movement. It is not rational to endeavor nor even to desire that its power be destroyed. Power is a good thing. Let us call to mind the attitude of that great noble soul living in our midst today, that man who has inspired many of us to push on with a new courage and a

new hope—Judge Lindsay, of Denver. He said that the thing to do was not to destroy the gangs in Denver, but to turn their power into other channels, and to a great extent he has done it. Power and organization are good things. If we think they are being wrongfully used, it is for us to change the bed of the channel. It is always better to build up than to tear down, to be positive rather than negative in our efforts. Has not the individual experience of each of us taught us this truth? Have we not come to realize that persistent endeavor to do right renders possible the avoidance of many a battle against doing wrong?

So I want to urge that we Gamma Phi Beta women see to it that we do not fail to express our sympathy with a purpose with which we do truly sympathize. As Greek letter women, our responsibility so to do is increased. Whether we will or not, we are considered as leaders in college and our choice determines many other choices. Let us see to it that we determine them wisely and helpfully for later life, that we lead girls to choose the things of greater worth, to look beyond the attaining of social prestige for the moment, to centre the attention upon the building up of qualities that will endure and render us strong in turmoil as well as in peace. There are evils in sorority life; the blindest must see them, and one of the greatest is the too frequent tragedy of the girl left out. Surely, realizing these facts, we must admit the fairness of the situation that heightens our responsibilities, and must meet it.

In connection with this whole question, I want to speak of the summer conferences held under the auspices of the Y. W. C. A. I wonder if we are availing ourselves of the opportunities thus afforded as much as we might. At one of the conferences last year there was but one lone Gamma Phi student when other soroties were well represented. These conferences draw a much better type than many of us think,—girls with fine minds, charming and delightful in personality, quite Gamma Phi types, according to my egotistical opinion. We do not want to make the mis-

take of keeping away because we think we shall not find agreeable associates. However, let me enumerate what I conceive to be some of the advantages of such a conference:

- (1) To study and consider effective methods for meeting the religious needs of the college student.
- (2) Opportunities for intercollegiate association, the value of which is self-evident.
- (3) Intersorority fellowship, the value of which Gamma Phi emphasizes. At some conferences, special sessions are held for sorority girls, to consider some of the problems with which, as sorority women, we have to deal. Why, it is next best to attending a national Pan-Hellenic.
- (4) Opportunities for different chapters of the same sorority to meet through representatives.
- (5) The speakers represent different schools of thought; many are men and women of great breadth and learning as well as spiritually powerful. Last year the teaching faculty at one conference was able to boast the name of Ernest De Witt Burton, head of the New Testament Department at the University of Chicago, pronounced by competent critics to be the greatest New Testament scholar on this side of the Atlantic today, and possibly the greatest living anywhere; a man who combines with the most exactly critical scholarship, a realization of the reality of God and spiritual values that can hardly be surpassed. The opportunity to come under the influence of such a man is not lightly to be thrown away. And the more girls go to the conferences who are capable of appreciating both scholarship and religious genius when thus combined, the more the conferences are going to have such men; for I happen to know that the choices of the girls determine the choices of the committee who invite the speakers, So you see, those of us who feel the association is too narrow, can help broaden it in just such a way.

Do you know, I think it would be splendid if Gamma Phi would

take the initiative and individual chapters send or help send a delegate to these conferences. Perhaps some have.

Let us then, we Gamma Phi women, in every way possible, do that which will enable us and render it easier for others, when overpowered by the sense of the impurity and ugliness and sinfulness there seems to be in human kind, to exclaim with hopeful conviction, as a sculptor exclaimed on seeing a rude block of marble, "What a god-like beauty thou hidest." And let us begin now to seize whatever opportunity we can, that we may do our part in making ourselves and others "strong in peace, strong in turmoil and conflict, undaunted, with large hearts and large hands."

E. OLIVE DUTCHER, Iota.

& Camma Phi at a Cerman "Frat" House

S it is not always easy with a limited German vocabulary to carry on a lively conversation with a company of strangers who speak only that tongue, I gave a sign of relief when, at a dinner party given by the head professor of philosophy, I found myself seated next to a student. My own student life is not very far away, and my husband's profession brings me often in contact with that interesting body of young people, so I thought conversation would not be very difficult.

The German student does not wear, like the American boys, a modest pin to indicate his fraternity or verbindung, but wears a band of his verbindung colors that goes over the right shoulder and under the left arm. Then, instead of a fob chain, the verbindung man wears attached to his watch, while he is in college, two short pieces of ribbon, one broad and one narrow, of his verbindung colors, crossed with bands of gold. Originally these bands were intended to hang on the wine glasses and beer mugs when taken by the waiter to be refilled. My companion of this evening had also a gold ring made of little links, joined together by a tiny shield, and a scarfpin in the form of a schlager. Both shield and schlager handle were enameled with strips of blue, gold



ALPHA CHAPTER

GAMMA CHAPTER



KAPPA CHAPTER

The Next Annual Convention

Syracuse, N. Al., Nov. 12-15, 1907

Both Alpha and Syracuse Alumnae join in urging large delegations of both delegates and visitors to the Convention. The delegates will be entertained at the homes of members as will also visitors for room and breakfast.

The Chairman of the Entertainment Committee is

MISS BESSIE A. BOWE,

910 James St., Syracuse, N. Y.

to whom word must be sent, by October 15th, that places may be found for all.

Nov. 12, 3 P. M.—Alumnæ Council.

Nov. 13, 10 A. M.—Business Session.

Nov. 14, 10 A. M.—Business Session.

2 P. M.—Business Session.

Nov. 15, 10 A. M.—Business Session.

The banquet will be held on the evening of the 15th, and as yet other entertainments are not provided for.

FLORENCE M. BAKER,

Chairman of Convention.

and crimson about the German verbindung. I told him about our American fraternities. I think he was a little amused at the idea of a woman's verbindung, and looked curiously at my pin.

But the most satisfactory thing about our conversation was an invitation given us by Herr Koch to visit his verbindung house. A few days later my sister and I availed ourselves of this invitation, Herr Koch and a brother Normanen acting as guides. The Normanen house is by far the handsomest verbindung house in Jena. It is not a lodging house, but a meeting place for the boys and a place to hold their banquets. It is built of stone and in shape of an old castle. From a high flagstaff on the tower floats the verbindung banner of blue, gold and crimson. By the door is the society monogram, made of wire. The German eagle, with the German black, white and red across its breast, spreads its enormous wings above the door, and above the eagle is a great sun dial.

MANY CURIOUS PIPES.

We climbed the stone steps and entered the hall. In a little room at the left, where the boys hang their caps and canes (they are not allowed to carry umbrellas, although it rains here without the slightest warning), we left our jackets, then went into a large room across the hall. This room is of an oblong shape and at first glance seems to be one large room, but we soon saw that about one-third of the room could be shut off by itself, making a cosy little den. Here was a piano, piled high with music, and a small book rack that held the library (bound copies of the verbindung paper). A good sized table was furnished with writing materials. A rack for pipes as big as an umbrella rack stood in the corner. The pipes had stems as long as walking sticks and very curious bowls. Most of them were long and narrow and beautifully decorated, some with the verbindung arms, one to represent a skull. The room was very cosy, although the chairs were straight-backed. Germans do not lounge. The walls were almost entirely covered with photographs of students and alten herrn. The latter are the alumni. One corner, the corner by

the pipe rack, was reserved for photographs of the dead members. A large picture of Bismarck, the national hero, hung over the table.

In the larger division of the great room is a counter, where the students are served with beer from a beer fountain and water when the fountain happens to be empty. An electric bell hangs over the counter by which the waiter is called. On the walls above a high molding are a great number of verbindung caps of various colors, and shields striped with different groups of colors. These caps and shields represent what we would call the different chapters of the fraternity, but the fraternity as a whole is not as closely joined together as in the States. In each college the chapter has its local name and colors. In a row on the molding stood wooden beer mugs. The mugs that the boys use are of glass with silver tops. The covers are artistically decorated with the verbindung weapons in the three colors, and by the hinge is a silver eagle. Except when the boys are drinking these tops must always be kept closed or the direful punishment is inflicted of paying for the beer for all at the table. A big drinking horn, from which the fuchs, or freshmen, are obliged to drink during initiation, hangs from the ceiling. Two handsome arm chairs in the room were the gifts of the wives of the alten herrn. Truly, the alten herrn must be a loyal body, for they built and largely furnished this handsome house. We sat by the polished tables in slippery, straight-backed chairs with mugs of beer before us (which we girls did not drink), and looked at pictures of German student life

From this room we went upstairs to a big banquet room. Here the furniture was only a large plain table and a great number of plain dining room chairs and two splendid great chandeliers, given by the wives of the alten herrn. On the walls hung crossed sabres and schlagers. Opening out from this room is a long, narrow balcony extending across the side of the house. Here we went next. In the court below us were about twenty students

sitting about a table, singing and making merry over their wine glasses.

SANG ROLLICKING SONGS.

At the head of the table, keeping time to the music with a big schlager, was an alten herrn. The boys soon discovered us, and in response to a request from our guides sang many rollicking German songs. Often they would hold up their glasses towards us, calling "Prosit!" which is the German way of saying "I drink your health." In one corner of the court is an artificial hill that terminates with a small plateau. Around this plateau and either side of the path leading to it is a stone wall. Two by two the boys wound up the path singing a comical song about a "Schneider," who cut off somebody's ears with his great shears, a song with about as much sense to it as our "Clementine." The alten herr swung his schlager and the boys their wine glasses. At the top of the hill the boys stopped to empty their glasses and finish the song. Then they formed in line again and wound down the path and around the court, singing lustily, and disappeared in under an archway. For a few minutes the singing grew more and more faint, then to our surprise louder and louder, and the whole band came marching into the "kneipe" room next to our balcony. Herr Koch motioned to them to march around the table, but out they came on to the balcony and lined up in front of us. The alten herr put his schlager across the doorway so that no one could retreat, and the door was closed. It was rather close quarters. We seemed to be not more than two feet from the line of students. They were merry with wine and sang with great enthusiasm. Our position was not altogether comfortable. Certainly it was a novel situation for an American woman. Our guides seemed considerably annoyed, and Herr Koch took advantage of a lull to explain that this jollity was quite unusual, that the occasion was the presence of some students from other universities.

For the sake of our gentlemanly guides we determined to enjoy ourselves as much as possible. I folded my arms and proceeded to stare as well as to be stared at. There were good, bad and indifferent faces, as among all crowds of boys. A few were handsome, in spite of and not from my point of view because of their scars. One man was so desperately scarred that there was not a smooth square inch on his face. I think he must have been a poor fighter. Herr Lehmann had only one bad scar, and Herr Koch only a few slight ones; yet both had done a great deal of dueling. We four were standing by the door, and at an opportune moment Herr Koch motioned for us to slip out quietly. We were then conducted to a little room where the officers' regalia is kept, but the band of singers was at our heels. Herr Lehmann deliberately shut the door in the face of the alter herr. The rebuff was sufficient. We heard them go tramping downstairs, still singing.

Then we turned our attention to the gala dresses. The coat was light blue, with frogs of gold and crimson down the front. In place of the usual narrow band a broad one of the three colors is worn with a big rosette on the shoulder. A little round flat cap that looks like a diminutive skull cap is part of the officers' uniform. This cap is perched on one corner of the head over the right eye, and, although it is tastefully decorated with small silk cords of the three colors, which harmonize so well, it presents a very funny appearance, especially when the wearer has a large, round head. May our hospitable hosts forgive me, but I could not help thinking as one of them placed it on the other's head, of that absurd little man that sometimes travels with the hand organ man.

We visited the ladies' room next. It is small, and cosily furnished with a rug, divan and upholstered chairs. I should judge that the wives of the alten herrn had been industrious and generous in regard to this room also. On a marble topped dresser was a linen cover beautifully embroidered with the verbindung arms. The boys also displayed with pride the weapons painted on the top of a small table.

From the ladies' room we were taken to the mauretamer, stopping by the way in the ladies' gallery that looks down on the big "kneip" room. Up, up, up we went on the narrow, spiral staircase until we reached the little balcony. Above us floated the Normanen banner, and below and beyond lay Jena.

SAW A FRIENDLY DUEL.

Once more in the main hall, we were asked if we would like to see a duel, "ungefahrlich." Although we had thrown aside an invitation to see a real duel in which blood spurted and bunches of hair flew about the room, we responded eagerly that we would be delighted. We were conducted to a little balcony overlooking a garden and asked to be seated while our friends prepared for the fray. When they appeared each man wore a padded piece that extended from his neck to his knees, a padded arm protector that was well nigh impregnable and that was joined at the wrist to a thick glove. The wrists were wound with bandages. The head piece was of the stoutest leather, with a wire screen to cover the face. The first conflict was to be with schlagers, and as there was no umpire present I was asked to give the signal. Each man placed the point of his schlager on his opponent's breast and the handle on his own to measure the distance they were to stand from each other. Then they took their positions, with the left foot drawn back and schlagers crossed on high. "Los!" I cried with all the energy I could muster. For about three minutes the schlagers crashed furiously; then a tremendous thud was heard as Herr Koch's weapon came down upon Herr Lehamann's head piece. After a pause they again took their positions, standing like statues, waiting for the signal. "Los!" cried I again, and again the schlagers flew. It was interesting to watch the effect of the signal on the two men. Upon Herr Koch, who was slender and rather delicately built, the word "Los" has the effect of an electric shock. Every muscle seemed to respond at once to the signal, and he flung out his schlager as if it was driven by every nerve. Herr Lehmann was stout and more stolid and fought steadily and doggedly. Yet Herr Koch was the better fighter. Every stroke

seemed to be thought out. For about ten minutes I continued at regular intervals to call "Los!" Occasionally a man would stop to straighten his schlager. Then by common consent each man threw up his face shield and laid aside the schlagers for the more dangerous sabres.

The sabre duel is fought only when a deep insult has been given. The sabre is about as long as the schlager and curved slightly. When this duel is fought, the men are very scantily protected, and it is often a fight to the death. Our duelists, however, continued to wear their protectors. Again I took the place of umpire, and the sabres clashed. Three times Herr Koch flung Herr Lehmann's weapon from his hand. Thud after thud on the shields made us shudder, as they indicated the terrible slashes each man would have received in a real duel. But as the storm which had threatened us on the tower and for a time had seemed to pass over appeared again imminent, this duel was cut short.

When the men's hands were steady after this violent exercise, they wrote their names and verses from college songs for us on the rare and highly valued verbindung postal cards, which are decorated with the verbindung arms, and we bid our courteous hosts goodbye.

I know that the ideals of the average German student are not the high ideals of the American student, that they often work little and drink much, and these things I certainly deplore, but honor where honor is due. I really believe that few American students would take the time and trouble to be so obliging and courteous to two foreigners whom they might never see again. The American objects to investing time or money where no return can be expected. He is often in too much of a hurry to be courteous. We thought as we left the Normanen house behind us of what Herr Koch had said as we stood on the balcony looking down upon the band of singers: "German students are not so bad, after all, are they?"—From the Post-Standard.

Laura Page Flick, Alpha.

Jena, Germany.

The Organization of the Los Angeles Alumnae

THE primary purpose of our association was that the Gamma Phis here might come to know each other, and keep up their sorority interest through contact with each other, and communication with our two California chapters, Mu at Stanford, and Eta at the University of California. Eta had already the strong support of the San Francisco Alumnae, but Mu was rather motherless. Many of the Stanford girls are from the southern part of the state. And we girls who had been graduated either from Berkeley or Stanford, and come home to live five hundred miles south of our nearest chapter were crying out for definite organized relations with other Gamma Phis. Edith Furrey of Eta crystallized into action, what was as yet only a vague hope with the rest of us, where she put notices in the papers and telephoned those of us she knew and thereby called the first meeting of our Association at her home. We have four girls from Eta, three from Gamma, three from Zeta, and three from Mu who are near enough to attend regularly. There are five more girls in Mu who will belong with us after they have been graduated.

It seemed to some of us that we needed a more serious "raison d'être" than just the purely social one of drinking a cup of tea together once a month. That we should offer our organization to the active girls as a machine for their summer rushing, or, that we should devote a meeting to making sofa pillows for their new frat house seemed not enough. We are living in a larger community than the dear, little, care-free college world, and we ought to stand for a useful and purposeful unit in the larger life. Gamma Phis ought to be known as women who are capable of recognizing and discharging in an efficient manner an obligation toward society at large, as well as toward the social world in particular. We didn't think we needed to start a Woman's Suffrage Crusade, but we did think that those of us who had time to spare from home cares might undertake in the name of Gamma Phi Beta something more serious and profitable than going to pink teas.

Some speaker in the city had applied the abusive term "economic parasite" to the type of individual or organization which receives and accepts everything, and does no service.

In other words, we want the people in Los Angeles to know by heart our three Greek letters, Gamma Phi Beta, and to believee they are synonymous with utility and service in every field that is attractive and womanly.

We have been investigating the work of the College settlement. Many of the girls have shown interest, and seem to feel that because it is the *College* settlement, this field would be particularly appropriate for us as college women.

We have not the tenements here that the eastern cities have, but the very possibility of outdoor life brings its own dangers. It is so easy for a family to lose all care about having a home when it is possible to live all year with just a shelter against the winter rain. There is a field for settlement work and such work is being conducted by capable managers.

Two of our girls have already planned to give of their time and ability in conducting classes.

There are a thousand things for which the settlement must often call for helpers, and so there will be occasioned work for those who can not give time to it regularly. But we are not yet agreed as to what or how much we had best do as an association. The individual interest, however, seems to be growing surely and strongly.

We do not mean our enthusiasm to carry us entirely away from Gamma Phi and our immediate plan is for a tea for our homecoming active girls and all the desirable freshmen we can find. The rest of the summer the active girls can plan the rushing and we will try to help them.

HAZEL MOORE PATTERSON, Mu.

The High School Fraternity Question

In strong disapproval of high-school secret societies and a desire to see them abolished by effective measures, the chapter is almost a unit; but the plan which is proposed for exterminating them seems to us a little too hasty. If we agree to exclude from our society, in four years, members of high-school societies, we will not possibly be able to warn the girls who are entering the high schools in the fall following the passage of such a measure. And not to warn them seems as unfair to us as to them, for we shall be deliberately putting them into the hands of the local societies of the college.

Some members of the chapter agree in suggesting as an alternative that the measure be modified to read six or eight years instead of four and that a plan be perfected whereby that interval may be used to make our position and resolution thoroughly understood in as many schools as possible.

Zeta, '09.

HEN we aim at the bullseye of possibility, it is natural to fail to see that the rings of probability also lie on the target. Sometimes, unfortunately, the arrow does not even hit the bullseye, and this also is one of the things which we see too late.

Now as to a possibility. If the Intersorority Conference speeds the feather to the center which many seem to desire, college sororities will bind themselves to take no girl who joins a preparatory school Greek letter organization after the measure is passed. And then—these "childish imitators" step up and say:

"Let us try a shot or two."

The first arrow enters the outside ring.

"You have had your shot," says the Intersorority Conference.

"Oh, no, we have several more. In fact, we hope to score over that one bullseye."

"But it's not a square game," says the one with the unerring eye for the center. "We only had one shot."

"Too bad; sorry for you; but this game goes by the number of arrows one has, and we're well supplied with those. Next!"

They are. In the first place, despite much faculty opposition in certain places, the preparatory school organizations continue to be, and to flourish. This is not a discussion of the boys' fraternities; it is not a question of what boards of education may do; nor even is it a matter of what gratification the union of college sororities may obtain from asserting their unlimited authority over affairs in college and out of college; it is a question of what Gamma Phi Beta is going to do for herself. Whether in the future these young organizations are crushed, is not the question of the present moment. They are; we have them with us—and they intend to survive.

If more college sorority women realized the exact aspect which they turn towards these younger ones who perchance would join our college world in a year, two years, three years, they would, I am sure, change their expression. These preparatory school students are not awed by the threatening shadow of any unknown and illimitably powerful organizations. Many of their older members are in college sororities. Many have members of their families in such bodies. Many have teachers and principals who have been members of Greek societies both in preparatory school and in college. The generation is wise in its day. College fraternities and sororities, just as they have lost most of the remarkable attributes of evil allotted to them by many people in the past, have forfeited their rights to pose as irresistible Juggernauts.

Here are the postulates of the preparatory school organization. We know that your orders exist almost universally in coeducational colleges. Our girls, as a rule, in fact in very large majority, go to women's colleges. There is a tendency now towards the other kind, but any such tendency of prominent preparatory school girls, towards coeducation, will be strangled by such action.

Why, no, say we. They will refuse to join you.

Refuse to join us? Refuse to join organizations which hold the controlling influence along the best lines of their preparatory school courses, in very many schools, on the bare possibility that they might want to go to a coeducational college three or four years thence? May we ask how many girls have any definite ideas about college at all, at that stage, and furthermore, about such colleges? A bird in the hand, you know—we will train our girls to go to Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, Bryn Mawr, Wells. They all start with their heads that way; why turn them aside?

Such is the retort of our "ridiculous imitators."

That they have first chance at a girl can not be denied; that the average girl in a preparatory school where such orders are strong would never remain outside on the remote possibility of being "forced"—for that is what many girls of that age think the only possible method of inducing them to go to such institutions—of being "forced" into a coeducational college at a time which seems lifetimes away, is another poser.

The writer has been closely in touch with these organizations for a long time; has visited many chapters and gatherings of such bodies, and has yet to find a girl who would renounce three or four present years of close and happy companionship for a remote possibility; has yet to find such a disposition in the ordinary human under any conditions of life similar to these. It is not a question of four years as against their whole future happiness; far from it. In fact, to most of them it is hardly a question at all.

There, Gamma Phi Beta, what are you going to do? Do you prefer to foster the tendency, which is certainly growing, for the best girls to come to us? Do you want to keep on getting the kind of girls who have helped us in the past? Or do you prefer to drive them to other fields, unknowing even that they have been driven? To me there seem vast possibilities of sorority work among these girls; the older members in college sororities may retain a tremendous hold over them and do; even a vote of every chapter of every college sorority will not alter that; but it will destroy the possibilities of such a hold. To those of us who have seen the results of training in many preparatory school organizations, objections seem unfair; to those who know for a certainty their powers and possibilities, all action against them appears futile.

Every true Gamma Phi puts her sorority before all else but immediate ties; personal prejudice gives way to unavoidable facts, for or against her sorority.

And lastly, sisters in Gamma Phi Beta, is it altogether wise that the formulation of our by-laws be taken from our own hands? Whom we shall take, and whom we shall not take—do we decide, or do others decide for us? Intersorority action is a fine thing, but loss of sorority individuality and power is not, and never will be.

RUTH LAYCOCK, Alpha.

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The Sorority Handbook

HIS little volume is all that its name could imply, and more than a hasty thought of it would suggest. Its opening chapter on "The Higher Education" sets forth the opening of college education to women. The following chapters on "The Evolution of the Sorority System" and "The Mission of the Sorority" answered, many a question which arises in the minds of those whom these organizations touch.

There is in addition the very latest information about the literary, musical and medical sororities, and about such honorary societies as admit women, including the names and addresses of the grand officers, chapter lists, descriptions and illustrations of badges, pledge pins and flags, together with many interesting facts concerning each sorority's colors, flower, jewel, open motto, insignia, patron, call, whistle, magazine and next convention.

Beside this there is much which is not only interesting but indispensible to the members of the sororities and of which they should not be ignorant.

The price (75 cents) is surely small for the large amount of condensed information which the book contains.

Author and publisher, Ida Shaw Martin, "Iveagh Park," Bay State Road, Canton, Mass.



THE announcement of our next convention which will be found upon another page should arouse our interest, and doubtless will awaken a keen desire on the part of many to attend.

We hope many will be able to go, for the announcement bears the hospitality of not only Alpha but the many alumnæ of that city.

This convention will take us back to our Alpha chapter. To all those who are familiar with it it will refresh old memories and reveal developments; to those who are not familiar with it, it will arouse new interest and inspire more love for our Alpha chapter.

To alumnæ and actives, to the delegates and visitors comes the Convention Call. The spirit of convention will bind us all nearer together with stronger bonds—as Gamma Phi Beta gathers together her loyal members, You will not only catch this spirit but will help to permeate the atmosphere with your loyalty and enthusiasm. Neither those who have never attended convention nor those who are possessed with the convention fever can afford to miss this experience in their sorority life.

The convention will last over several days and every one within the radius of many miles should attend a part of it, if not all.

It is not possible to put into words what the convention will mean to those who attend. But as the business and the other varied interests of Gamma Phi are cared for, it can not be but that the spirit of fellowship will be augmented and that the highest meaning of fraternity will become more nearly a realization. What matters it how and when we conduct the business of our sorority? Nothing makes a deeper impression upon outsiders than strength, and just as strength of character creates this so does strength of organization. Organization does not only imply election of governing officers and boards, but a strong unification of all the membership. Therefore, our Executive Board, who are chosen by virtue of their fitness for office and their interest and loyalty to Gamma Phi Beta, can only perform its function by the ready response to all calls by every part of our organization. We can not move in sections, but each chapter has the power to retard our progress, and a like responsibility to avoid exerting this power.

Our machinery must be kept moving and as the punctuality of each chapter is essential to the movement of the whole, so the punctuality of each member is essential to the chapter's progress. If then we would aim to accomplish anything as an organization we can only do it by each chapter responding to the little details of business.

With this condition once established, the Executive Board and special committees who assume responsibilities will not be compelled to fail in their efforts because of the failure of chapters to comply with their requests for information, votes, etc. Our possibilities for accomplishing large things are too large to allow them to be unrealized because of the lack of business.

THE interest which is growing in The Crescent is evident from the deeper realization that the quarterly can not be made by one mind, but must be contributed to by many. We have never realized a great lack of responsibility as shown in missing chapter letters. A few have been wanting at times and this has been felt. Many issues have contained a letter from every chapter, which should always be the case. If each Associate Editor would stop to realize how many readers are disappointed when no word appears from their chapter, she would never fail

to send it. These letters are not all that go to show what Gamma Phi Beta is and is doing. The contributions have been of a wide variety, and of literary merit. Some of the chapters have been well represented in the contributors' pages—and a few have been conspicuous in neglecting this matter. However, we realize that all do not feel themselves proficient along literary lines. In short, it can not be denied that the interest in The CTESCENT is constantly being manifested, and we hope for much greater things as this interest increases.

THE chapters are all requested to notify The Crescent as soon as possible of all changes in names and addresses of correspondents for the coming year. Failure to comply with this request will make it exceedingly difficult to communicate with the chapters.

The Editor's address after June 15 will be 283 N. Washington St., Delaware, O.

The letters and all copy for the next issue must be in the Editor's hands October first. Kindly note the change in the date from the fifteenth to the first of the month.

Have you stopped to realize what it means if you have not paid for your CRESCENT? Many have not, and it cripples us seriously. Please help to avoid this condition.

Notice

T is the desire of the committee to publish the new directory during the summer, and it is hoped that the need for this is sufficient to urge all to take the interest essential to its accomplishment. Therefore, will everyone feel it their duty to send in all changes of addresses that come to their notice, and will each chapter send in at once all revisions which they desire made. Address,

Miss Una Winterburn.

From June to October, Miss Winterburn's address will be Pocantico Hills, Westchester Co., N. Y.



ALPHA

EAR Sisters in Gamma Phi: Well, we have initiated "that grand freshman class," and seventy-four loyal Gamma Phis were together on that night which never loses its meaning for any of us, actives or alumnæ. Best of all, Helen Dodge Ferguson was with us; most of the active girls had never seen this one of the four to whom we owe everything, so it added special pleasure to initiation.

Then "the Palmer girls" from Zeta,—well, I can't begin to tell you everyone who was here, but suffice it to say that we were even happier in seeing them than they were in coming.

The sophomore delegation has been working very hard over our annual party for alumnæ and friends. The "High Class Vaudeville" which they presented was a tremendous success, and during the evening a Gamma Phi fireside song, the words by Beth Opp, one of our seniors, made a great impression. Gamma Phi received much material benefit through the generosity of our friends that evening, as well.

Athletics probably claims too much attention sometimes, but even the most phlegmatic thrill righteously when "our team" wins. Therefore, please note that the Syracuse-Princeton score in baseball was 6-3. We will tell you about the crew later on; there is no use boasting before as well as after.

College life is no "long dream of peace" just now. The various class societies have been giving their dances; sixteen of our girls have been busy with a series of spectacular dances given for a charity in town, and —well, everyone is as busy as always. Now comes that time when all the grinds wear looks of conscious rectitude upon their brows, and all those who are not in that class wear wet towels upon the same places. After that, commencement, when we tell our seniors how glad and how sorry we are, in the same breath.

Well, here's a happy vacation to all of you sisters who have earned

the right to wear that look of rectitude in the coming stress, and also to those who haven't. For they are going to work very hard "next year," you know.

GAMMA

EAR SISTERS: Gamma has now four new freshmen to introduce to you all. On the 4th of March, Marguerite Samuels of Darlington, Wis., Florence Findeisen of Berwyn, Ill., and Beatrice and Dorothy Barns of Madison were initiated into the most sacred bands of Gamma Phi Beta. Our chapter is now unusually large, thirty in number.

The University Circus, a biennial event at Wisconsin, took place in the Armory, Saturday afternoon and evening, April 6. It was a great success, as all "varsity" students declared. The side-shows, which were under the direction of the fraternities and other organizations, caused much merriment, as also did the "astonishing, astounding, and audacious menagerie."

On Monday, the 29th of April, the town alumnæ took dinner with us at our lodge. It goes without saying that we enjoyed having them with us very much.

The real spring weather has at last come, and with it comes that most fatal disease, the spring-fever. Madison, with its beautiful lakes and drives, is so charming at this time of year that we are often tempted to "cut" our classes to go canoeing or driving. And now, farewell, dear Gamma Phi sisters, until next fall, and may you all have most delightful summer vacations.

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DELTA

EAR Gamma Phis: The first real good news we have to tell you is about Helen Byrne, our new sister. Helen was initiated the middle of April, before the anniversary luncheon, so that we were very glad the alumnae had the chance to know her, for we all think she is just as nice as can be.

I am sure the active girls enjoyed the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Delta's founding just as much as the alumnae, and it will always stand out as a red-letter day, full of many happy experiences.

It was too bad that the night the Osgood sisters had open house for our Beta friends and Gamma Phis that the weather was not more considerate. However, the good time was not interfered with much, although one of the freshmen who was most anxious to make a grand impression was terribly chagrined when she found out that she had carried an empty suitcase down to Lynn and left her lovely gown hanging in the sorority rooms.

We were especially pleased with the visit of Mrs. Savage at one of our meetings, and we wished that every chapter could have heard the helpful and stirring message she gave us.

Delta is very desirous of being friendly with all the girls in college, and so we have gone at it in the most practical way we could. For three different afternoons we have entertained very informally in our rooms the different sororities and other friends. We all have made friends and feel that our interests have broadened.

Our Pan-Hellenic rules are in the process of revision, and we are hoping for much clearer and comprehensive directions for next year.

From April 29 to May 3 we have been having very gay times celebrating Junior week. The class of 1908 certainly have much to be proud of in the successful outcome. This year's annual, "The Hub," is far superior to any that have appeared for several years and we hope the beginning of much greater things.

As our examinations begin the 21st, we are all buckling down for earnest work in order to make Delta prouder than ever of her fair name. With hearty good wishes to all the sisters.

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ZETA

EAR Sisters in Gamma Phi Beta: Zeta is feeling especially happy in this, the gladdest time of all the year, for she has just initiated two splendid girls, Mary Stine Leary, '09, and Sara Clarke Turner, '10.

Now that the warm weather is beginning we are counting the days one by one until examinations will be over and the gay whirl of commencement week, with its countless events, including cool trips down the bay, will once more be upon us. The seniors are working hard over their various plans for "Senior week;" in fact, all the classes down to the freshmen are more than "hustling" around getting ready for their part in the general festivities.

But in the midst of all these good things we remember that the time is drawing near when we must say 'goodbye" to two of our circle. Josephine Stone will continue her study in music after leaving college, and Ethel Shriner, our other senior, expects to be at home for the most part.

Before separating for the summer we expect to spend a few days together at a house party on the Eastern shore.

For each and every sister chapter Zeta wishes a restful, happy summer.

ETA

OVE and most cordial greetings from Eta to all her sisters in Gamma Phi: By the time you have read this two or three things will have happened to Eta. First, she will have moved from the house on Channing Way, where she has lived for so many years, and will have taken possession of a house on the other side of the campus. Second, we will have formed a stock company with a view towards a house of our own! The alumnae have elected three directors and the active girls two, and we expect soon to be legally established. And the third thing is this—we will probably be together at a house party in Pacific Grove, free from college work and the awful "exes" which we are having now.

But, however eagerly we look forward to vacation, there is ever a shadow before us, for our seniors must go as vacation comes, and we shall miss them more than we can say.

Since our last letter we have had several good times that you might like to hear about. On the 13th of April we had our annual birthday banque at the house, and a jolly reunion we did have. We shall always remember this year's banquet for a particular reason—that is, that there we roused our enthusiasm and the alumnae's so that we were able to form a stock company.

On Saturday night, April the 20th, we gave an informal reception to welcome Delta Gamma among us. We invited several members of the faculty and all sorority girls, and the evening was spent in "getting acquainted."

Then on Tuesday evening, the 23rd, the under classmen gave the upper classmen a dance at the house. The house looked prettier than it has ever looked before, the decorations being pink and white roses. One room, the large front one, was entirely in white, with long branches of roses twisted on fine wire stretched from chandelier to chandelier, and then to the corners of the room. The other rooms were arranged in the same way, except that the roses were pink. Four dozen beautiful "Enchantress" carnations, sent by the upper classmen, added a great deal to the decorations.

We are already planning for rushing next term, and our house party in June is primarly for rushing purposes. Pan-Hellenic has decreed a four weeks' rushing season, so we will be very busy when August brings us back to college.

And now we wish you all a happy and restful vacation and great success in rushing next term.

THETA

THETA has a good deal of news this time, for things have been happening in Denver.

First, and of most importance is our play. It was written, coached, managed and played by Gamma Phis, and of course it was most successful. I need not say that the author was Lindsay Barbee, and the coach Beulah Hood. Both are alumnae and both school teachers, and yet they have time, and thought and love for Gamma Phi Beta. Fern Mitchell, another alumna, and Belle Woodward, one of our Seniors, managed the business part of it, and indeed it was well done. Alene Seamen took the leading part and covered us all with glory by the clever way in which she took her really difficult part. In fact we were all so complimented and talked about that we haven't quite recovered yet, although this is our third year of dramatic success. Best of all, we made two hundred and nineteen dollars, and one hundred and twenty-five of this went to University athletics, while the rest we kept for our own dear building fund. This event took place February twenty-first, and immediately after we hastened to find out about our grades. Most of the professors were very complimentary about our work, and we found that, in spite of daily rehearsals and the general wear and tear of a play, our grades were little below the ordinary.

Our days have been filled to overflowing this term, for it always seems that the spring term is about the busiest of all. We gave a little informal dance in April for some of next year's Freshmen. Our rushing season begins early, you see.

Our Pan-Hellenic rules are made for next year and we think they are very good ones. We are to have nine weeks without any rushing at all, then two weeks of light rushing for which the dates are all arranged. We are hoping these rules will moderate the rushing and be more fair to everybody than any we have ever had.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon gave us a beautiful party at their chapter house early in March, Kappa Sigma will entertain us at a coaching party and dance the thirty-first of May.

The Sophomore class has elected their annual board for next year and two Gamma Phis have been chosen for prominent positions.

Lucy Moore, one of our Juniors, is running for Editor-in-Chief of the Clarion, the college paper. The election is to take place this week and we are all anxious to see how it will come out. She is the only girl who has ever tried for the position, and it will be quite a triumph if she succeeds.

Friday, May the tenth, was the date of our spring banquet. We had a

beautiful time and it was a very large banquet for Theta. We discussed plans for our building fund, and are glad to tell you that we are getting to the point where our house is no longer a dream but a tangible reality. If we work hard all summer we may be able to excavate in the fall, and then, "Ne plus ultra. Hurrah for Theta!"

M IOTA

EAR Sisters in Gamma Phi Beta: Pledge Day has come and gone, and we have—I was about to say entered into rest, but that might sound too alarming. On Saturday, April 14th, we initiated our two freshmen, Helen Elizabeth Savitz and Helen Darlington Worrall. We are an Hellenic association in truth now, with six Helens in the active chapter. It is true that at a spread in honor of the pledglings they were rebaptized with appropriate names, but somehow the nicknames don't seem to stick.

Helen Aignier gave her house for initiation. There were twenty-five of us present, including the active chapter and twelve alumnae. The banquet following initiation was therefore a glorious occasion, and the enthusiasm found vent in applause for the toast mistress and toast victims. Several of the latter, I was privately informed afterward, became so excited that they quite remodeled their toasts on the spur of the moment, but the effect was most happy.

A week after initiation finals were posted, which gives every one plenty to think about. However, college affairs seem to thrive as much as usual in spite of the fact that every one gives it out that she is "grinding." The undergraduate play, "Old Heads and Young Hearts," was given the afternoon and evening of April 29th. It was a great success, and the individual acting was good. We had a good many of our alumnae back for the play. I am only sorry that there were none of our girls in the caste.

Anything before Pledge Day seems equivalent to "before the flood," but I must go back to mention the very delightful reception Ellen O'Gorman gave to Iota in March. Grace Conover Ross happened to be back after an absence of over a year, and, proving as merry a matron as she was a maid, she was quite the center of attraction. At the 1908 elections, held early in May, Ellen O'Gorman was elected senior president, and we are naturally very proud of her.

On Wednesday, May 1st, Kappa Kappa Gamma gave a reception to the other fraternities to meet Miss Gill, which was a very pleasant affair.

We have decided to have the spring banquet after the exams instead of before—on Friday, June 8th. We are hoping that as many as possible

of the New York alumnae will join us and make it a really grand occasion.

One of the most interesting affairs we have ever had at Barnard was a mass meeting of the sororities early in May. The late Pledge Day this year and last has given rushing a most undesirable prominence in college life. Barnard has always been a most democratic college; there has been no gulf between frat and non-frat girls, and no one wants to see that gulf appear. That there is danger of it with the present prolonged rushing season all the sororities feel. Those who have hitherto preferred the late Pledge Day are willing to try an earlier one for the good of the college.

In closing, Iota would wish all our sisters a delightful vacation.

KAPPA

EAR Sisters in Gamma Phi Beta: Since our last letter Kappa has been active in college and sorority affairs. First of all, we wish to present two pledges whom we are proud to call sisters, Ruth Fagundus, of Minneapolis, and Mary Heritage, of Hudson, Wis. Both are freshmen this year.

Early in March Mrs. Sherman entertained the active and alumnae chapters at her home in Oak Park. We discussed various matters of common interest and then enjoyed ourselves informally.

Every fourth meeting is held in the evening at the home of one of the girls, and these "social meetings," to which the alumnae are especially invited, have proved very helpful.

Kappa has not been without honors this year. Edna Elmer was given Phi Beta Kappa. Two of our girls, Sara Preston and Rewey Belle Inglis, were recently initiated into the Quill Club, an organization composed of girls who have been active in literary phases of college life. Sara Preston has been chosen to take the leading part in the senior class play, "Brain O'Man." She was also chairman of the committee of three chosen to write the play. In the recent election of officers for the Y. W. C. A. Lella Albrecht was chosen for president. Pearl Weston, Helen Weld and Rewey Belle Inglis are members of the Cabinet. Grace Kingsley has been elected president of the Student Self Government Association for the next college year. Alice Shevlin Hall, a description of which was given in a former Crescent, was presented to the girls of the University last fall, and this association is concerned with the student management of the building.

The chief event of the semester in our eyes is our formal party, which will take place the evening of May 10th at Glen Morris, Christmas Lake. It is to be a dinner dance, followed by a cotillion, and we will go out in a chartered car.

Then comes initiation and the banquet, to most girls the loveliest occasion of the year. We gather about the festive board as though it were the harvest time of our college year and think how rich is the past we look back upon.

Looking forward we realize that some of the girls will not be with us next fall, and we know how we shall miss them.

The success of our house party last year has incited us to arrange one for this year, and we hope to spend about ten days at Lake Minnetonka with as many of the alumnae as possible to enjoy the good time with us.

Best wishes to you all for a most delightful summer.



LAMBDA

MY DEAR GIRLS: The Lambda girls have had a very busy and happy spring. With spring at the University of Washington comes all that is beautiful and delightful. The campus is leafy and green, and Lake Washington, on which the University has a mile of shore line, is worked overtime by the canoeists.

Campus day and Junior day have come and gone, and both were a great success. The night before Junior day the Junior farce was given, in which one of the Gamma Phi Beta girls took a prominent part. We also were represented on the Prom. Committee and on the staff of the Tyee—the Junior annual.

We are all looking forward with much interest to our spring banquet, which takes place in June, just before the close of college. At this time many of alumnae come back, thus giving us all renewed enthusiasm.

It will be but a few weeks before we separate for our summer vacation. It will be only a few months and then we will return with new health and vigor for another year's work for Gamma Phi Beta.

MU

SISTERS ALL: Out of the depths of finals exes, and the din and clatter of packing, and the gay turmoil of Senior play and prom. and ball and alumnae reunions, Mu raises her head to bid you all God-speed into your summer gaieties, and with this farewell come many loving messages. We leave college reluctantly this year, partly because we have a lingering love for our old house, which saw the installation of Mu of Gamma Phi, and partly because we are so enthusiastically happy together that we dread the separation vacation is bound to bring.

Upon the hillside back of the University, and overlooking the whole valley, a new home is being built for Mu. The house was started the first

of May and we are planning to take possession of it, when we come back in the fall. Two of our own girls will spend the summer here to directly oversee its erection. We most cordially invite any Gamma Phi, who is traveling in the West next semester, to come and visit us in our new home and see how attractive it really is.

Mu has enjoyed another initiation and is proud to introduce to the sorority Margaret Higgins, one of the charter members of Gamma Beta, who is now an initiated Gamma Phi Beta.

One of our greatest hopes this season has been that every one would be back next year, and now this hope promises in some way to be realized. It is true that we are robbed of two of the older girls, Pauline Gartzmann and Elsie Owen, by their acquisition of an A. B., but we are urging upon them the fact that "a little learning is a dangerous thing," and that they must come back for a post-graduate course next year.

Among the gratifications of Mu's ambition, is the appointment of Florence Forbes, '09, to the staff of the college daily. We are also represented in all the college activities in which women take a part.

In April, the underclassmen proved their ability as hostesses at a dance in the chapter house.

One unique entertainment among the sorority girls was a Pan-Hellenic progressive dinner, which Alpha Phi, Delta Gamma and Gamma Phi Beta gave to Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Pi Beta Phi.

Mu sends her best wishes to all of her sisters and hopes that each one will have the happiest of vacations.

Milola Ward, ex-'06, is visiting Mu, from Portland.

Helen North, ex-'05, has returned to Stanford for commencement week.

Carolyn Benson, '08, is making a trip through Southern Califirnia and Mexico.

Sue Bird, ex-'04, has been spending a few weeks with the chapter.

Mr. and Mrs. Prusch, who are building the new chapter house for Lambda, spent a day at Stanford, visiting Mu.

CHICAGO

EAR Sisters in Gamma Phi Beta: If you miss the items of interest in the letter from the Chicago alumnae which you have a right to expect, bear in mind that this scribe has recently returned to Chicago and hasn't yet gotten fully in touch with chapter news,

The March meeting took the form of a luncheon at Mandel's, in which the Epsilon girls joined us. Twenty-four were there to greet Miss Ross, and the presence of the society's president added greatly to the interest. We are fortunate in having an active chapter so near to join in our celebrations and to remind us of the good times we had as college girls.

In April we wended our way out to Evanston to enjoy the delightful luncheon prepared for us by Grace Lasher Berry. Here we visited together much, transacted business some and enjoyed ourselves altogether. The luncheons at the homes are strictly chapter affairs, but visiting Gamma Phis are sure to be invited if we know about their being in Chicago.

Alice Smalley McKinney has taken up her residence here, and we hope to have her take up the work in our chapter which her sister, Honta Smalley Breden, did so acceptably for a long time.

I notice many of the March letters mention the weather. It is May now, but the weather is too bad to talk about.

Chicago alumnae unite in best wishes to all good Gamma Phis. Be sure to look us up when you are in Chicago.

SYRACUSE

T HE Alpha Alumnae have been entertained by Mrs. Gertrude Fuller, Hattie Budd Wadleigh and Isabella Yates Porter since the last letter. last letter.

Everyone who was able attended the initiation, enough of us to swell the number to nearly eighty.

Helen Dodge Ferguson, '76, one of our founders, was a most welcome guest. She had not been back in many years and was amazed at the changes. The Misses Palmer, Zeta, of Clyde, were present also. Mary Fuller Fearon, of Oneida, and Cora Willard Fredericks, '81, of Buffalo.

Our letter this time is a special plea for all the Alpha alumnae to come "home" to convention. Many have not returned in years, and it is impossible for them to realize the growth of our University and our sorority. Begin now to make your arrangements. Write to every sister who does not take The Crescent; tell her of the warm welcome and good times that await her and let us all unite in making this convention one of the largest and best in the history of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

BOSTON

W ITH the meeting May 11th Boston chapter will close its season of 1906-07. Eight regular meetings and one special meeting have been held, and when one considers the weather this past winter the fact is noteworthy that we have never failed to secure a quorum.

Yet we wonder if such good attendance can continue, for every year sees some loyal supporter of the chapter move away from Boston to join other chapters. We would be so glad to receive into our ranks the Gamma Phis from other chapters who live in the vicinity of Boston. There have always been a few in the chapter, and we have enjoyed their companionship so much that we long for more.

It is only in such ways as this that the alumnae chapter can continue to thrive, for there is a constant process of disintegration going on in each by reason of the many changes brought about by our busy lives. The newcomers and the recent graduates must fill up the ranks depleted by busy mothers and home makers. Alumnae chapters, it seems to me, may be compared to the "Book Lovers' Library." As all may take out a book in Chicago, exchange it in Denver and exchange the second in turn in New York, so one may take out membership in Milwaukee chapter only to transfer it to San Francisco and later to Boston, as business duties necessitate change of residence, receiving from each chapter a fresh supply of Gamma Phi enthusiasm.

Our meeting held March 9th was particularly enjoyable, since our former president, Florence Clifford Savage, was with us. Although a Delta girl, Mrs. Savage has lived away from Boston for twelve years, during which time she has had unusual opportunities to become acquainted with other chapters of Gamma Phi, and as a fine illustration of the point just made she has used these opportunities to the utmost to keep active her interest in the sorority. After transacting the business, we adjourned to the College Club for luncheon, where we enjoyed a cosy, sociable hour together.

It is in order in closing to extend to all who live near Boston an invitation to join our chapter next October, when we shall expect to begin the new season with the longest chapter roll we have ever had. You can help us, and we can help you.

NEW YORK

THE problem of the difficulty of writing to one's relatives has never been solved to anybody's satisfaction. We are coping with the question at this present moment and lamenting the scarcity of real live news. It will probably simplify matters somewhat if we set down at once what we really have to tell you and eliminate all frills.

Our last meeting was held at Una Winterburn's on May 4th. Miss Lowd entertained with her. We found a most delightful surprise awaiting us in the person of Mrs. Florence C. Savage and Miss King, of Alpha. Needless to say, we were overjoyed. We also had the pleasure of welcoming two new members, Mrs. Whitaker, of Delta, and Mrs. Helen Fairchild McKelvey, of Iota.

We wish to correct a misprint in our last letter. It was Mrs. Slawson and not Mrs. Dawson who gave us the luncheon at White Plains.

It will probably interest you to know that we are planning to have more meetings next winter, placing them about six weeks apart. We hope that this plan will keep us closer together and that, even if we cannot all come out to every meeting, it will give an opportunity to more people to come out at some time during the year.

It is hard to realize that the season is over, for it has remained so cold, but discussion of the weather is the last resort of the imagination, so we desist.

And now, lest we be guilty of repetition, we will close, with our love and best wishes to you all for the pleasantest of vacation seasons. We also extend our congratulations to all the graduates and wish them abundance of happiness and success in the newer, broader life that is opening before them.

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MILWAUKEE

Since our last letter Milwaukee alumnae have met for two luncheons, one at the home of Clara Erwin, where Mrs. Baldwin entertained with her, and again at Mrs. Sherry's we were entertained by Mrs. Sherry and Mabel Walker, of Racine. We plan to have a luncheon each month, with the business meeting following.

Mrs. McLenegan and son, who have been at Datonia all winter, will be with us again next week.

Mrs. Elliott Bright and daughter Eleanor spent March near Charlottesville, Va.

The marriage of Mary Laflin to Mr. Evan Jones on Saturday evening, April 6th, was of great interest to all our Gamma Phis in this city. The ceremony took place at the home of the bride's brother, Mr. Herbert Laflin, and was a beautiful home wedding. The bride never looked sweeter, and the wedding procession, composed of her sister and two little nieces, was charming. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are now in Cuba on their honeymoon and will be at home later in June at Stowell avenue, Milwaukee.

The best of wishes to you all for a restful, happy summer from Milwaukee alumnae chapter.

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SAN FRANCISCO

EAR SISTERS: What a jolly crowd our San Francisco Alumnae seemed to an '06 member. Our first meeting of the year, chiefly social, was held in our dear, old, burnt city. It was a grand reunion after the fire and, somehow, the girls all seemed closer to us.

We do not have many alumnae meetings, but when we do, we make up for lost time. In Christmas week we always take possession of the Frat House for one night and into the revels of Eta Alumnae, no active girl dare intrude. We always make elaborate preparations for stunts and a feast. We keep our best jokes for this occasion, and we learn the news of every Gamma Phi, past and present. Here we decide to give the Eta girls a set of silverware for their Christmas present to the house.

Our regular business meeting was in one of our largest San Francisco suburbs, Oakland, at the home of Veda and Lena Redington. Mary Le Conte, our Christmas bride delegate, enthused us with her account of the Convention, its presidents and the girls. Her report made us appreciate what Convention had done for the Gamma Phi Fraternity and its girls. After listening to the changes in the Constitution we discussed plans to help our active girls more enthusiastically, if possible, than we had ever done before. One new plan was decided upon, namely, to have open house, once a month for the active girls and their "friends," at our various homes.

Since that last business meeting we have been quite absorbed in helping the active girls incorporate a company for the purpose of building a house. Now we have a company, composed of three alumnae and two active girls, which has the distinction of being the first sorority incorporated in this University for such a purpose. Now we are really looking forward to a house of our very own, for we are going to have one very soon. Next year you will hear about the house! And then also, we will tell you about the luncheon that we are going to give soon, in a suburban park to our Eta and Mu graduates.

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Personal

Alpha

Mrs. Addie Whitbread White, '80, will spend the summer in travel abroad.

Helen Gowing, '00, has been obliged to give up her work for a time on account of ill health.

Sarah Avery, '98, delivered a paper on "Second Year English in High Schools" before the New York State Teachers' Association.

Millicent Hinkley, '94, entertained the junior and senior Gamma Phis and also the Gamma Phi alumnae teachers in the Syracuse High School on Lincoln's Birthday.

Our sympathy is extended to Grace Leslie Paultz and Edith W. Hamlin, '90, who have recently lost their mothers; also to Helen Wardwell Hawkins, who mourns the death of her father.

Mrs. Anna Sherman Shultz, '98, has invited Corrine Lewis, '98; Florence Trowbridge, '98; Sarah Avery, '98; Netta Sadler, '00, and Helen Gowing, '00, to spend the first week in May with her at her home in Hornell, N. Y. On the return trip the party will spend a day in Binghamton with Mrs. Mabel Fuller Whitmarsh, '96.

Mrs. Ella Boomer Howard, '83, spent the first week in May in Boston, the guest of her sister, Mrs. Mabel Boomer Hodder, '95. Mrs. Hodder sails for France the latter part of June and will spend three months in Germany and France. On her return she will resume her work in Wellesley College.

Lillian Lewis, '98, a teacher of history in Elgin, Ill., is receiving very favorable comments on her original methods of teaching Roman history. The Elgin Daily Courier, in an article entitled, "High School Pupils Learn Roman History by Making Weapons Wielded by Nation," highly praises her methods of making history entertaining and alive to pupils.

Reta

Mary Harned, '87, is visiting here, and spent a pleasant day with us last Sunday.

Mary Christy, Zeta, who has been at her home in Detroit on account of illness, spent two days with us.

The Michigan Union minstrel show, given just before vacation, was a great success, and all the girls went together.

Schoolmasters' Club met here in April and quite a number of the old girls came for it. We entertained them for three days.

Bess Bigelow, '08, Owosso, entertained four of the girls at a house party during that week. A most enjoyable time was the result.

Margaret Shearer, '06, announced her engagement to Lieutenant Willard of U. S. A., at a luncheon given in her honor by Lulu Leisimer. The wedding will take place July 3 of this year, and they will go immediately to Alaska for two years.

Gamma

Born, to Mrs. Clara Cook Stoddard, on March 16th, 1907, a son. Violet McDonough, Gamma, '06, is spending a few months abroad. Born to Mrs. I. A. Thorson (Lillian Johnson), a son, April 8, 1907.

Mrs. Lorena Freeborn Sanborn spent a few days at Gamma's chapter house lately.

Mrs. Earl Rose (Barbara Curtis, '04) and son, of Tuscon, Ariz., are visiting in Madison. They expect to spend the summer here.

Gamma enjoyed a short visit from Clara Barkhausen, '05, recently. She came to Madison to attend the Alpha Delta Phi formal.

Etta Findeisen, '04, and sister Florence have returned from a two years' trip abroad. Florence entered the university this spring.

Gamma enjoyed a short visit from Mrs. Eleanor Bliss Clausen lately. Mr. Clausen came to Madison to attend the Phi Gamma Delta convention.

The engagement of Inez Etter, '07, to Mr. William McGilvary, Beta Theta Pi, has been announced. The wedding will occur some time this coming fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Chickering have moved from Beloit, Wis., to Chicago, where Mr. Chickering has gone into business with his brother. Mrs. Chickering was Dorothea Curtis, Gamma, '00.

Delta

Everybody was glad to see Esther Bates, '06, back at college.

Helen Flanders, '06, is teaching English in the High School at Reading, Mass.

All Delta girls express their sympathy for Mary Shepherd, '02, in the loss of her father.

We were very glad to welcome Mrs. Fielding Turner Chase, Zeta, to our anniversary luncheon.

Edith Wilder Whitaker, '92, has moved to New York, and so New York alumnae chapter gains another fine recruit from Boston chapter.

Jessie L. Adams, '93, and Gertrude Curtis, '01, have planned to spend the summer together in Göttingen studying German, with a few weeks of travel at the end.

Grace E. Ward, '97, supervisor of Latin in the ninth grade of the Lynn grammar schools, has been granted a leave of absence for the remainder of the year. She will employ her time rusticating, her range extending as far as Cooperstown, N. Y., with North Orange and Amherst as way stations.

Born to Esther Leonard Sampson, ex-'07, a daughter, Elinor, April 23rd.

A daughter was born to Harriet Ross Willcutt, ex-'04, in February.

A daughter, Mary, was born to Dora Clapp Danforth, '00, March 11th.

A son, Henry, was born to Anne Moulton Haywood, '92, in December.

A daughter was born to Elizabeth English Ryan, '01, in April.

Zeta

The engagement of Mary Maxim, '04, to Mr. Louis A. Cowdrey has been announced.

Margaret Lee has won a fellowship in political economy from the Chicago University.

Mrs. Fielding Turner Chase is spending a few weeks in Baltimore as the guest of her sister.

We were all delighted to see Anne Williams, ex-'08, again when she was visiting her sister in Baltimore.

Zeta is expecting to have the opportunity of meeting Mrs. Britting-ham, of Gamma, who is visiting in the East.

Mary Imogene Dobbins, ex-'04, has announced her engagement to Mr. Arthur Daval Cannon, of New York City.

Dr. and Mrs. Philip Gore have announced the marriage of their daughter, Jessie Stillwell Gore, to Mr. Aaron Vail Frost.

Among the flying visits paid us recently have been that of Marion Haddock, '04, and Elizabeth Gatch, '06. The latter had just attended Iota's initiation at Barnard.

The marriage of Fannie Eugenie Richards to Mr. E. Winchester Pennypacker took place on the 6th of April at Asbury Park, N. J. They are at home at 501 Sixth street, Asbury Park, N. J.

On April 9th Jane MacDonald Smart, '04, was married at the home of her parents in Savannah, Ga., to Mr. Henry Allen, of Lyons, Miss. Among the guests at the wedding were Elizabeth Brown, '03, and Edith Fisher, '04.

A number of the Zeta girls are planning a trip through Europe during the summer months. Among these are Letitia Simons, '01, who expects to sail for Norway the 15th of June; Nell Watts, '05, who sailed April 27th, expecting to take the Mediterranean trip, and Belle Baker, '05, who goes the latter part of June. Helen Armor, ex-'07, has returned from her long visit in Europe.

Eta

Julia Dixon spent two weeks with us in April.

Marin Waterhouse was at the house several days in April.

The alumnae chapter is planning a luncheon at the Piedmont Clubhouse on May 11th for Eta and Mu seniors, and the girls are looking forward to it with a great deal of pleasure.

Tota

Anne Rae, '06, is teaching in the Jamaica High School, Long Island.

Olive Dutcher, 02, has been promoted to an Associate Professorship in the Department of Biblical Literature at Mt. Holyoke College.

Anne Carroll, '07, has accepted a position to teach at Oldfields, Glencoe, Md., for the year 1907-08. As Glencoe is not far from Baltimore she hopes to become better acquainted with our sisters of Zeta.

Kappa

Myrta Rodearmel, '10, is planning to visit in the East during vacation.

Lorene Kreider, '08, will graduate in June from the Illinois State Normal School.

Lella Hunter Albrect, '08, will spend the summer months at a house party in the Maine woods.

The engagement of Mildred Lauderdale, '05, to Gale W. Robertson has been announced.

Margaret Bell, '05, who has been teaching in Los Angeles, Cal., will be at home in Minneapolis during vacation.

Edith Todd Jones (Mrs. H. S.), '01, is spending a few months in Minneapolis, where she has a great many friends.

Kappa recently enjoyed a short visit from Aileen Higgins, Epsilon, who is teaching English in St. Mary's Hall, Faribault.

Marie Moreland, '06, who has been teaching near Seattle, Wash, will spend the summer at home in St. Paul or at one of the lake resorts.

Ruth Spear Newkirk (Mrs. Harris R.), '03, with her husband and infant son, left recently for Tacoma, Wash., which they intend to make their permanent home.

Our Contemporaries in Black and White

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the following quarterlies, and ask that exchanges be sent to the following:

Miss Gertrude C. Ross, 2904 State street, Milwaukee, Wis.
Miss Amy Louise Phelan, 1128 Tenth street, Sacramento, Cal.
Miss Anna M. Dimmick, 26 N. Fourth street, Columbus, O.
For February—Themis of Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Phi Quarterly.
For March—The Rainbow of Delta Tau Delta, The Phi Gamma Delta,
The Lyre of Alpha Chi Omega, The Record of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Beta
Theta Pi.

For April—Kappa Alpha Journal, The Trident, The Shield. For May—Kappa Alpha Theta.

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Kappa Alpha Theta will hold convention in Chicago June 29-July 5. Delta Gamma held its convention in April at Boulder, Colo. Delta Tau Delta will hold its Karnea in Chicago in August.

Recently several large college clubs have been organized, modeled after those of New York City and Boston. The clubs at Dayton and Columbus, O., and Chicago bid fair to grow into strong, active organizations.

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The Greek Letter Fraternity as an Educational Influence

BY CLARENCE F. BIRDSEYE.

In August, 1826, William Morgan, a Royal Arch Mason, who had threatened to expose the secrets of Freemasonry, was abducted from Canadaigua, N. Y. Vigilance committees traced him and his abductors to Fort Niagara, and thence in a boat to Lake Ontario, where he finally disappeared, his body never being found. Amidst the most intense excitement, especially throughout New York State, the Anti-Masonry party was formed, which was dominant in New York for twenty years, and affected National elections, even preventing Henry Clay's nomination for the presidency, because he was a Mason. The feeling against secret societies ran so high that over three thousand Masonic lodges gave up their charters. Yet it was during this very time and in the New York colleges that the older "college secret societies" (excepting Phi Beta Kappa, which till then had been a secret society, and Kappa Alpha) were founded,

as follows: In Union College, Sigma Phi, 1827; Delta Phi, 1827; Psi Upsilon, 1833; Chi Psi, 1841; in Hamilton College, Alpha Delta Phi, 1832. These societies were at first strictly forbidden, and known members were expelled from college or lost college honors. Pins were usually worn inside the vest pocket, and meetings were held in secret. In 1832 Phi Beta Kappa was forced by Harvard's president to relinquish its secret features. Yet it was during this period that the fraternities adopted the constitutions, policies of administration and traditions which have since largely governed and hampered them.

After some years the secret societies were tolerated and even recognized, although earnestly opposed by many who believed that they were inherently wrong, or that their growth would kill the college debating societies. During this second period simple lodgerooms were hired in some business block, or even in the attic of a hotel. The societies had little intercourse between their various chapters or between their active and graduate members. Their infrequent conventions consisted of a public address and probably a poem, by prominent alumni, and a private banquet. The active members met as a body only once a week—on lodge nights. Although the colleges were constantly asking for large sums to build dormitories, no one dreamed that the fraternities would largely solve this problem by housing their own members.

About twenty-five years ago the fraternties entered their third or present stage. Their position in college life is now recognized and influential. They own many fine chapter houses and maintain close relations between their graduates and undergraduates and between their various chapters. Most of their members room and often eat in the fraternity houses, which are sometimes built on land leased from the college. Some colleges in which the fraternities are strong have ceased to build new dormitories. Within thirty-five years Amherst (a good typical case) has increased its student body eighty per cent., but reduced its dormitory space forty per cent. In 1870 135 (fifty-three per cent.), of its 255 students roomed in the dormitories and the remainder in town boarding houses. In 1905, of its 455 students 109 (twenty-four per cent.) lodged in the dormitories, and 205 (forty-three per cent.) in the twelve fraternity buildings. Amherst could not house these 205 students without hundreds of thousands of additional endowment. Thus the forbidden secret societies have finally become students' clubs (representing part of the college endowment), in which their members eat and room and are largely relieved from all direct faculty control.

Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities, sixth edition, 1905, gives full details of thirty-one general fraternities for men, with 179,351

graduate and undergraduate members, and 970 active and 379 dormant chapters; owning 290 houses and renting 368. Since 1883 the membership has almost trebled, while the chapter houses used for living purposes have increased over fifty fold. Evidently the chapter house has come to stay. Men's local, women's and professional societies have an additional membership of 63,150, with 716 active chapters, owning 27 chapter houses and renting 185. Princeton has no Greek letter fraternities; Harvard practically none, while at Yale the fraternity conditions materially differ from those in other colleges. In some colleges eighty-five per cent. of the students are fraternity members. In 363 collges and universities there are 1,700 active chapters of general, local, women's or professional fraternities. The University of Michigan leads, with chapters of seventeen general, seven women's and thirteen professional fraternities-thirty-seven in all. The chapters have from ten to forty undergraduate members. Surely this great increase of these small units cannot be accidental; especially since it has synchronized with the decline of the small educational unit in our colleges and preparatory schools, and the individualism connected therewith. Meanwhile, especially since the Civil War, there have been momentous changes in educational methods and conditions.

To the great college teacher of former times, each of his handful of pupils was an immortal soul, to be molded morally and mentally by constant intercourse during four years. The college was nothing except a means to an end, and that end was the upbuilding each year of a few chosen individuals who should go out to aid a poor and struggling world, usually as ministers, missionaries or teachers. Substantially all the college presidents, professors and trustees were clergymen, and the colleges were founded principally to educate the clergy. Until 1872 all of Yale's trustees were ministers. Of Harvard's first fifteen classes, 77 per cent. became clergymen, and of the first eighteen classes at Yale 68 per cent. became clergymen. Of Amherst's first nine classes (1822-30), 65 per cent. became ministers, 9 per cent. doctors and 3 per cent lawyers. Today the personal element is largely absent in our colleges, and in our larger institutions professors and students have hardly a bowing acquaintance.

The present college atmosphere is too often an unfortunate one, and the college viewpoint a false one. One can get a better education today than ever before, but without the proper spirit and training, the amount required to be done (largely without personal touch with the professors) and the distractions of college life tend to shiftless or dishonest ways of shirking good work. The earlier colleges had no competition in higher education and could not turn out enough men to supply the demand in the then learned professions—medicine, law, ministry and teaching. Today

there are scores of professions, all needing fine technical knowledge, long and accurate preparation, and often specialization. We are gradually coming to the overcrowded condition of the professions in Europe. Whether the college man is to enter business or a profession, he cannot afford to have devoted the four years of his college course to learning to be extravagant, dilatory, unpunctual, neglectful of details, inaccurate, or to acquiring shiftless or worse moral and mental habits that he must actually unlearn before he can become a successful man. Yet there has been no systematic attempt to minimize or prevent these evils. Abundant proof can be found on every side that these words are not too strong. The report of the committee of Harvard's faculty, published in The Harvard Graduates' Magazine, June, 1904, based on answers from 245 instructors and 1,757 students, shows that in Harvard—

- (a) In addition to twelve hours of lectures required per week, the majority of the 1,757 students studied less than twelve nours per week.
 - (b) "There is too much teaching and too little studying."
 - (c) "Examinations have, on the whole, an undue weight."
 - (d) "There is too much tendency to cramming."
- (e) "Skillful coaches have perfected the art of preparing men superficially and transciently for the examinations," and have issued "unauthorized printed or typewritten notes of the lectures and summaries of the prescribed reading."
- (f) The lecture system, which is "an entirely new form of instruction to hundreds of freshmen," is supplemented by a number of "young and inexperienced assistants," each of whom meets "each of his men for ten or fifteen minutes at a time about once a month."
- (g) The increasing disorder in the lecture rooms comes "from large bodies of students who cannot hear the lecturer, or can hear him imperfectly."
- (h) The "fact that ambitious students find little incentive to take honors is one of the glaring failures of our system."
 - (i) "The average amount of study is discreditably small."

Undergraduates are the victims, not the authors, of these conditions. The fault lies, not with them, but with the faculties and alumni, who, afflicted with megalomania, have been intent on increasing the wealth and size of the colleges and, neglecting to safeguard the individual, have forgotten that improved opportunities do not necessarily imply improved individual training.

As the individualism of the former college units has disappeared, there have grown up the small fraternity units of from ten to forty members each, which daily influence the students throughout their course. This influence, whether good, bad or indifferent, is dominant in many colleges. If our huge faculties cannot, like their smaller prototypes, closely touch the lives of their individual pupils, may not this be done through thoughful alumni acting on the undergraduate members of their own fraternity, thereby greatly increasing the number of those who will pursue their college course earnestly for its own sake?

The recent great growth of the Greek letter fraternities has not been fortuitous. Although their true meaning has not been studied or understood—to the greater shame of the faculty system—these fraternities are today great educational influences which furnish our most available means to raise the moral and mental tone of our colleges and universities—and as well of our preparatory schools—and to aid our sons and grandsons in a struggle against greater odds and temptations, and moral, social and athletic distractions than the older generations ever dreamed of.

Surely the power of these alumni is great enough. From the President, Vice President and Chief Justice of the United States, through all our educated classes, the pick of our alumni in wealth and influence are fraternity men. If a tithe of this power can be turned back into the lives of the undergraduates to supplement the efforts of the faculties we can do much to restore individualism. It has been under the faculty rule that moral, mental and athletic conditions have steadily grown worse, although they are now improving in some ways. Certainly no harm can come from organizing the alumni to consider and help end the present evils. Neither college nor fraternity conditions are at present ideal. They are often bad, and there is real foundation for all complaints. Unless promptly checked, the evils will grow far worse and more difficult to root out. This question must be studied by its friends, and the reform must come from the fraternity alumni; for the fraternities can be awakened and developed, but not driven, nor driven out. Like every other historical, educational or social question, this must be studied carefully and with open minds by many alumni and from different standpoints, so as to cover widely divergent conditions in institutions that may be universities or colleges, rich or poor, large or small, old and conservative or secent and radical, public or private, at the North, South, East or West, and therefore governed by widely different religious, social, educational and policial influences. The wide distribution of its various chapters adds greatly to the perspective and corrective power of every fraternity and makes it an ideal instrument for wisely investigating and righting undergraduate conditions at the same

time in widely scattered institutions. The true fraternity alumnus can mold the lives and motives of his younger brothers. In most colleges the fraternities are so strong that if we can change the atmosphere of the fraternity houses, which for four years are the undergraduates' homes, we can change the whole undergraduate situation. The fraternity alumni have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars for housing and otherwise helping the undergraduates. Every fraternity has many loyal and devoted graduates who willingly give time or money or both to the true interests of their younger brothers, and whose word is law to them. The character of the influence of each chapter depends largely on the local alumni, strengthened, guided and impelled by a strong central organization, Why not apply modern business principles and systematic organization to this all-important problem? We have 1,700 fraternity chapters in 363 of our institutions of higher learning as foci from which the good influences might constantly and powerfully radiate. There has been too much tendency to make the fraternity the end and not the means. The alumni have not realized that the atmosphere of the chapter house determines the character of the chapter's influence on its individual members, and that the ultimate responsibility for this atmosphere is on the alumni. If we would make this atmosphere permanently good, we must appreciate that the alumni are the permanent and the undergraduates the transcient body-completely changing every three years; and the seniors, the governing body, every year. We, as the permanent body, have no right to furnish our undergraduates with fine and exclusive homes and then shirk responsibility for the future conduct and influence of these homes. The proper government of a chapter is a strict one, with the power in the hands of the upper classmen, especially the seniors, who are in turn held strictly accountable to alumni who are in constant touch with the situation and personally acquainted with every undergraduate and his work and needs. Where such conditions are continuous, the chapter's success is assured, and the effect on the undergraduates is highly beneficial. The fraternities, through strong central organizations, must make these conditions prevalent and continuous in every chapter. This has long been the theory, but the practice has been poor.

The fraternities, with their numerous chapters in different institutions, have the best possible opportunities for the investigation and correction of the wastes and for the enforcement of economics in college life. No one can measure the waste and lack of economy to the college, the fraternity, the community, the family or the individual, of a failure in college life, from whatever cause it comes. It is criminal that we have not studied these wastes in our colleges as we have in our factories, railroads

and other great industries, and that we have allowed the pendulum to swing so far to the other side, and have not long ago returned it to its mean, and found educational influences to replace the small units of the earlier colleges.

It is now time for the college fraternities to advance into the fourth period of their existence and to devote their great wealth and influence—

First, to a careful study of present undergraduate conditions, and to improving those conditions in all their own chapters.

Second, to inciting their own active members to do their best possible work and get the best possible training during their college course.

Third, to realize that in many ways they are their undergraduates' only hope for true individualism.

Fourth, to co-operate in a large way with one another in the study and elimination of the too prevalent waste of lives during the college course.

Fifth, to reach backward into the preparatory schools and clean up moral conditions there.

Let the fraternities, as well as the colleges, be judged, not by wealth or age or numbers, but by the results which they work out in the lives of their individual members; by the real value of their output, and not by the size of their capital or plant. These theories have been tried in a small way and have been successful, but these conditions can be brought about only from within the fraternities themselves, and not by any pressure from without. The fraternities must themselves study thoroughly, conscientiously and systematically the great problems of student life which have recently grown up, and which the faculty system has been powerless to solve. In such a work they will have the hearty co-operation of their own alumni, within and without the faculties, and of many alumni who never belonged to a fraternity. The chief danger is that we shall undertake a really great work in the narrow-minded and bigoted "secret society" spirit that has so long prevailed in fraternity matters; that we shall treat it as a fraternity and not as an educational problem. It is no longer a fraternity question, but one of educational and vital importance to thousands of undergraduates whether they belong to a fraternity or not.—The OUTLOOK.

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