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ETA SIGMA PHI

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Pen Portraits of the National Officers

It seems only fitting that members at large should make some acquaintance with their national officers, and the object of this sketch is to present to them some notion of the people who are guiding the organization this year. Inadequate as this is—and we do apologize for its brevity and its many faults—it may serve to give some slight conception of these student officers.

Some knowledge of the Megas Prytanis can be obtained from his message to the chapters (page 4). The Convention at New Orleans last spring was the second National Convention that Mr. Scallet had attended, having been present at the one of the year before at Gettysburg. At both Mr. Scallet took an active part and is consequently well versed in the workings of the organization. In particular, at the last Convention he served faithfully on the Constitution committee, which, because of the pressure of limited time, worked at odd hours and places and almost constantly. It was obvious to other members of the committee then that Mr. Scallet was on the way to being a lawyer, and by his own confession he admits that his work now at Washington University is preparatory to attendance at Law School. To Mr. Scallet the classics are a hobby, the chief one of three (the others being the theater and sports), and what this hobby means to him is easily discernible from what he has written for this issue of the NUNTIUS. Numerous activities in connection with the theater and sports, as well as offices on the campus (among them the directorship of *Stentor*, centralized campus publicity organization, and the presidency of the Student Council) have not prevented his maintaining his scholastic position on the Dean's Honor List as well as his scholarship to the University. An active and energetic person, a forceful speaker, a young man with ideas for the betterment of Eta Sigma Phi—such is the Megas Prytanis, and the national organization

places full confidence in his ability to carry out its wishes.

Equal confidence is given to the Megas Grammateus, Mr. Carl Miller, and the Megas Chrysophylax, Miss Harriette Cochran. Both Miss Cochran and Mr. Miller are from the South, Miss Cochran coming from Georgia, and Mr. Miller from the Mississippi Gulf Coast country. Mr. Miller hopes to become a college professor of English and is well on the way to his goal even now, for he is teaching freshman and sophomore classes at Millsaps College. At Millsaps he has an English-Latin major, and writing is one of his chief diversions, although dramatics and debate occupy his attention too. In spite of the fact that the Convention of last spring was his first, he showed keen interest in the issues that were being debated and in the general welfare of the organization. Besides holding national office, Mr. Miller is the enthusiastic prytanis of the Alpha Phi Chapter.

Also president of her group, Alpha Delta Chapter, is Miss Cochran, Megas Chrysophylax. Already Miss Cochran has attacked her job with energy and resolution that augurs well for its successful accomplishment. Thoroughly devoted to the study of the classics since high school days, Miss Cochran has studied both Greek and Latin at Agnes Scott College. As hobbies, Miss Cochran enjoys music and reading and occasionally writes verse. She hopes to enter the field of religious education following her graduation from Agnes Scott College.

Such, in a word, are the national officers. Really to know them, of course, one must have been at the last Convention or be planning to attend the next one. All are enthusiastic, capable, devoted to the aims of Eta Sigma Phi, and anxious to do all they can to promote them. The national organization takes pride in them and hopes that the local chapters will share in this feeling.

The New Board of Trustees

The greatest single change that was inaugurated when the new Constitution was adopted at the last National Convention was the creation of an actively functioning Board of Trustees who would act in an advisory capacity to the organization and who would work with the Executive Council in furthering the welfare of the society. For a number of years Eta Sigma Phi has had a Board of Trustees, consisting of three members, but a Board of five members, faculty members of active chapters, who interest themselves in the formation of policy and who exercise general supervision over the society is an innovation in the organization. In earlier years members discussed the advisability of establishing a Board of alumni members of Eta Sigma Phi who would serve in the same capacity as the Board of Trustees is serving now. Even at that time there was felt the need for stability such as a Board would furnish.

Last year these ideas were crystalized, and the hope for the formation of a Board of Trustees who would be active participants in the society's affairs was realized. In order that the personnel of this Board may be varied and that the same faculty members may not have to give their efforts so continuously to the organization, an arbitrary scheme of tenure of office was evolved for this year, until the Board should be functioning after the manner provided in the Constitution, that is, that each member should serve for three years, two members being elected each year and one member every third year. Members may, of course, be re-elected to the Board at the expiration of the three-year term.

Following correspondence among the members of the Board themselves, Professor Roy C. Flickinger, sponsor of Epsilon Chapter and chairman of the Department of Classical Languages at the State University of Iowa, was

chosen Chairman of the Board. Always interested in the organization and present at several of its National Conventions, Professor Flickinger has well demonstrated his fitness for this position. Members may not generally know that it is to Professor Flickinger that credit is due for the inception of the Eta Sigma Phi Medal, and that the Medal was first issued from Iowa City. Even this early in the year Professor Flickinger has been busy sending out letters and ascertaining the status of chapters in the organization. The society is fortunate in having Professor Flickinger as Chairman of its Board of Trustees. His term of office is for a two-year period.

Also with two-year tenure is Professor Horace W. Wright, of the Alpha Epsilon Chapter at Lehigh University. Professor Wright has been actively connected with the organization as faculty adviser of his group and has always been interested in the welfare of the national society. For the last several years he has attended the National Convention where his help on problems that have confronted the delegates has proved most valuable. His aid has always been at the disposal of members of the society.

Professor Victor D. Hill, of Ohio University, and Professor A. Pelzer Wagener, of the College of William and Mary, were chosen for three-year terms of service. Both have been actively connected with their chapters and have served as faculty advisers to their groups. Professor Hill has been connected with the organization from its earlier days, and shortly after its establishment was instrumental in securing the incorporation of the society.

Professor H. Lloyd Stow, of the Alpha Lambda Chapter at the University of Oklahoma, who has served as adviser of the organization since his student days at the University of Chicago, is the other member of the Board, serving for a one-year period. Professor Stow un-

doubtedly holds the record as the person most intimately connected with Eta Sigma Phi over a period of years. As Executive Secretary of Eta Sigma Phi and Registrar of the Medal, Professor Stow became thoroughly acquainted with the way in which the organization functioned, saw its needs, and by suggestion and assistance aided in forming its policies.

The society may well take pride in having these five faculty members, all with the best interests of the organization at heart, as their Board of Trustees. The stability they furnish, the very present assistance they give in problems that arise, and the interest and enthusiasm they show are sure to be reflected in the life of the organization this year. Their efforts, united with those of an energetic Executive Council, presage an active year, important alike to the local chapters and to the national organization.

HERE AND THERE

The *Saturday Review of Literature* of October 12 carries the following verse which is probably new to most of us:

Two men wrote a Dictionary
 Liddell and Scott;
 One part was excellent;
 One part was not.
 Scholars and gentlemen, read me
 This riddle:
 Which was by Scott, and which
 Was by Liddell?

Readers of Pliny's *Letters* will enjoy Mary Ellen Chase's description of the part she played as a child in the dramatization of the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius as she tells it in her autobiography, *A Goodly Fellowship*. Materials for the drama were furnished by the letter in which Pliny describes the death of his uncle.

Page Four

A Message from the Megas Prytanis

Never in the past has Eta Sigma Phi had the opportunity it has now of proving to itself and to the world the value of its existence. The ideals upon which Eta Sigma Phi is founded are ideals of culture, of quiet study, of intellectual freedom. Needless to say, these are ideals which the world as a whole is today forsaking for those of war and regimentation. If Eta Sigma Phi can do its part in maintaining its ideals, in preserving the rich culture of the past, and in brightening the intellectual spirit of the present, we, as its members, can be proud of our affiliation.

How can we do this? By building up our organization. By giving those people who are interested in the classics an opportunity to meet others who are interested in the same things, to enrich their own knowledge by tapping the knowledge of others, and thus to grow intellectually and culturally at a time when intellectual and cultural growth are necessary for the preservation of our civilized world.

Those of us who were present at the last National Convention of Eta Sigma Phi were greatly impressed and encouraged by the spirit and interest of the large group of delegates. If we can continue and increase this spirit and interest in all members of our fraternity during the coming year, we shall, indeed, be on the road to accomplishing our aims.

Thus I wish all the local chapters the greatest of success during 1940-1941 and, at the same time, urge them to cooperate to the fullest extent with the national organization.

And remember — the National Convention this year will be held this April in St. Louis, the home of Washington University, where Alpha Xi Chapter will be host. Begin making your plans now to attend.

EDWARD A. SCALLET,
 MEGAS PRYTANIS

Eta Sigma Phi Adds Fifty-first Chapter to Organization

At the Convention last spring the petition of the classical club of Westhampton College of the University of Richmond was accepted, and later in the spring the installation was held. Members of Omega Chapter, of the College of William and Mary, had charge of the initiation of new members and of the installation of Beta Gamma Chapter as the fifty-first of the chapters.

The ceremonies, which took place on May 17, were pleasant occasions for both groups. Professor A. Pelzer Wagener, faculty adviser of Omega Chapter, and five active members of the group had charge of the ceremonies. The Omega group wore academic garb while the initiates were dressed in white. The festivities included also a dinner which both groups attended. Both chapters express the desire that these pleasant contacts may continue.

Membership Cards for Initiates

In accordance with the desire of the delegates expressed at the last Convention, the organization has now secured membership cards for the use of the chapters. These cards are printed and have at the top the Eta Sigma Phi crest embossed in purple and gold. Space is left for the name of the new initiate and the date of his initiation into the local chapter. The cards are signed by the current Megas Prytanis and Megas Grammateus. They are furnished free of charge to the chapters upon request. The matter of engraving or printing the name of the initiate and other pertinent data is left up to the local chapter.

It is necessary that chapters desiring these cards for presentation to the new members on the occasion of their initiation send their request to the central

office and indicate the number of cards required, allowing sufficient time for the order to be filled.

There is on hand also a quantity of membership cards signed by the national officers of 1938-1939, and these too will be furnished to any member of the organization who was initiated then and who is interested in having one of them as a memento of his initiation.

Wright and Street, Eta Sigma Phi jewelers, are in a position to furnish to the members pins, keys, rings, and stationery bearing the crest of the organization. Orders should be placed directly with the company. Each local treasurer has a booklet which Wright and Street publish containing pictures and descriptions of their products.

Editorial Policy of The Nuntius

It seems necessary to note here a change in the editorial policy of the NUNTIUS and to give an explanation of it. Although the first purpose of the NUNTIUS is that of furnishing to the chapters a knowledge of the business of the fraternity and although the magazine should serve as a clearing-house for information of mutual interest, it should also mirror the life of the various chapters. Since the national organization has life and enthusiasm only as its constituent chapters possess these qualities, it would appear that the best way in which we can get our fingers on the pulse of the organization, so to speak, is to find out what the activities of the local chapters are. It is for this reason, then, that the Editorial staff is urging you to send in information about your group.

In order to secure this knowledge and at the same time to promote contacts between chapters as well as with the national organization, the following pro-

cedure has been devised: five student members have been chosen from five different chapters who will serve to establish contacts with particular chapters assigned to them. These student members, Associate Editors of the NUNTIUS, in the time immediately preceding publication of the magazine, will write to the NUNTIUS reporters of their groups. (Each chapter has been asked to designate such a person.) It is the hope that closer relations among chapters may be established by this means.

Attention should be called here also to the fact that copy for publication in the journal should be in the Editorial Office by the tenth of the month in which the magazine appears (November, January, March, and May) and that cooperation in this is the sole way by which our publication can appear on time.

As a further reminder also—the names and addresses of newly initiated members should be sent promptly to the Editorial Office so that they may be added to the mailing list and begin receiving the copies of the NUNTIUS due them.

HERE AND THERE

We hope that *Murder Gone Minoan*, a mystery novel by Clyde B. Clason, will not have tragic significance in view of the present world situation. The setting of the novel is an island in the Pacific, however, rather than Crete, but the whole story has plenty of Minoan “atmosphere.”

Another book about Crete, the actual island this time, now appears, just off the press, *Winged Citadel*, by Kristmann Gudmundsson (Henry Holt and Company). From the advertisement, the chief character seems to be Amyntas, of the race of Alexander the Great, who is attracted to Crete by the “glittering island civilization and her magnificent women.”

Eta Sigma Phi Medal Report for 1939-1940

Mrs. H. B. Dunkel, past Executive Secretary and Registrar of the Eta Sigma Phi Medal, presents the following report for the year ending Sept. 1, 1940.

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand, Sept. 1, 1939	\$ 686.86
Sale of 376 Medals @ \$1.00..	376.00
Special Delivery75
Overpayments27
National dues received	9.00
Account from 1938-1939 received	3.00
Reimbursement for filing fee..	1.00
Received by Medallic Art, credited	1.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$1,077.88

DISBURSEMENTS

Cost of Medals	\$ 282.75
Exchange charges on checks..	5.25
Special delivery charges75
Filing fee	1.00
Postage, including telegrams..	7.54
National dues forwarded to Treasurer	9.00
Transfer of funds to National Treasury	400.00
Printing on order blanks.....	8.00
Engrossing and mailing of charters75
Notary seals40
Endorsement stamp	2.06
Express charges for sending equipment to Miss Brokaw.	3.04
Balance on hand	357.34
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$1,077.88

The sum of \$357.34 was forwarded Sept. 9, 1940, to Professor Roy C. Flickinger, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

THE NUNTIUS

Report of the Megas Chrysophylax for the Year 1939-1940

Herewith is the complete financial statement for Eta Sigma Phi for the fiscal year of 1939-1940, as of August 31, 1940.

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward....	\$540.88
Received from former	
NUNTIUS	130.07
Dues for year 1938-1939	
(late)	133.00
Dues for year 1939-1940....	738.00
Transfer from Medal Account	400.00
Dividend from Hyde Park	
Bank	8.91
Wright and Street Adver-	
tisement	70.00
 Total receipts	<u><u>\$2,020.86</u></u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Mrs. Dunkel's salary.....	\$230.00
NUNTIUS expenses	277.73
First issue	\$54.29
Second issue	53.77
Third issue	86.89
Fourth issue	54.50
Miscellaneous	28.28
Convention expenses	224.35
Speaking tour of Professor	
Crum	25.00
Contest	15.00
Refunds for over-payment...	5.00
Bonding of National Treas-	
urer	2.50
Miscellaneous: printing sup-	
plies, etc.	52.50
 Total Disbursements	<u><u>\$ 832.08</u></u>

Transfer to the Board of	
Trustees	\$1,000.00
Balance on hand.....	188.78

In order to allow the treasurers of the local chapters to check my figures I am listing the payments of fees by chapters for the past fiscal year.

Gamma	\$31 00
Delta	7.00
Epsilon	34.00
Zeta	9.00
Eta	7.00
Theta	22.00
Lambda	7.00
Nu	20.00
Omicron	19.00
Pi	12.00
Rho	2.00
Sigma	34.00
Upsilon	8.00
Chi	1.00
Psi	20.00
Omega	39.00
Alpha Alpha	14.00
Alpha Gamma	19.00
Alpha Delta	40.00
Alpha Epsilon*	22.00
Alpha Theta	16.00
Alpha Kappa	16.00
Alpha Lambda	33.00
Alpha Xi	34.00
Alpha Pi	43.00
Alpha Rho	18.00
Alpha Sigma	10.00
Alpha Tau	49.00
Alpha Upsilon	14.00
Alpha Phi	23.00
Alpha Chi	27.00
Alpha Psi	17.00
Alpha Omega	14.00
Beta Alpha	11.00
Beta Beta	27.00
Beta Gamma	19.00

*A refund of \$1.00 was made to this chapter.

The following is an itemized statement of payments for the year 1938-1939 made by some of the chapters during the past fiscal year:

Delta	2.00
Epsilon	9.00
Rho	7.00
Psi	8.00

THE NUNTIUS

Alpha Upsilon	34.00
Alpha Phi*	52.00
Alpha Psi	21.00

*A refund of \$4.00 was made to Alpha Phi for over-payment.

The following chapters have been placed on probation: Beta, Alpha Nu, and Alpha Omicron. These chapters may retain their standing in the fraternity if they make payment to the new National Treasurer for the preceding year by December 1.

It is gratifying to note that receipts from the local chapters have increased during the past two years. Through greater vigilance and more businesslike methods this increase has been brought about. To be fair to those chapters which pay their fees promptly it was deemed necessary to bring pressure to bear on the chapters which were negligent and occasionally failed to meet their financial obligations.

The money received from the Hyde Park Bank is part payment for the funds Eta Sigma Phi had in that institution when it closed its doors during the depression. The following is a summary of payments from the bank as reported by Mr. Harold B. Dunkel, a former Executive Secretary.

June 13, 1933	\$ 40.10
October 16, 1934	17.82
January 26, 1937	14.26
August 29, 1938	17.82
April 29, 1939	14.26
April 3, 1940	8.91

TOTAL\$113.17

Altogether sixty-three per cent of the funds has been paid back to the fraternity.

Wright and Street, the official jewelers, pays \$70.00 for its advertisement in the NUNTIUS. Reference to Professor Crum's speaking tour was made in my last report in the May NUNTIUS; see that issue for detailed information. The contest mentioned under disbursements refers to a project sponsored by the so-

ciety last year. The fraternity pays one half of the expenses of the undergraduate officers to the National Convention; because the Convention was held in New Orleans the cost was high this year. A year ago the National Treasurer was bonded at my suggestion. I felt then — and I feel now — that the society should take no risks with possible loss of funds.

It is particularly pleasing to note the low expenditures incurred by the NUNTIUS. The money from the Wright and Street advertising further lowers the cost to the society to almost \$200.00. At present there is no reason why Eta Sigma Phi cannot continue to distribute the journal without cost to the undergraduate members who pay their fees. Publication of the magazine boosted expenditures considerably, however. In 1938-1939 total expenses amounted to \$564.03; this year, as the report above shows, they are \$832.08. This increase has been more than offset by the rise in receipts. With the returns from invested funds and the diversion of the yearly profit of approximately \$80.00 from the Medal Account there should be no difficulty in meeting the increased expenditure.

One thousand dollars was transferred to the invested funds of Eta Sigma Phi. At present — with the addition of this money — this account amounts to more than \$3,000.00. The interest from the fund should be used for the running expenses of the fraternity, especially for the support of the NUNTIUS. In case of emergency or shortage of funds the society has a large principal to fall back on. The future, in fact, looks very good for the society in a financial way.

I want to urge, in conclusion, the local treasurers to cooperate wholeheartedly with Miss Cochran during the coming year. The position of National Treasurer is not a pleasant or easy one in many ways; the officer needs the fullest support to make his tasks less onerous. I hope that Miss Cochran will

receive the support that I have received during the two years I have held the position. I also urge the members of the society to rally round its new Executive Secretary, Miss Brokaw, and around its fine group of student officers. Make their jobs easier by cooperation!

If all of you will work together diligently and enthusiastically, there is no reason why Eta Sigma Phi should not flourish and prosper. Through enthusiastic cooperation the cause of the classics may be benefitted materially; at least, it will gain nothing through apathy. Certainly in this war-torn world we must cling more tenaciously than ever to enduring things, to the permanent things of civilization such as the works of Homer, Vergil, Horace, and the Greek tragedians. In an era when people have lost their perspective under the impact of a devastating debacle and when people are clinging desperately to ephemeral successes and perishable things, more than ever we must extol the works of the ancients and keep aloft the torch of learning and culture. When the destruction is at an end we may facilitate the return to sanity and to a more bountiful and enduring peace. Regardless of what comes in the uncertain days that lie before us we must not sacrifice the gains which civilization has painfully made through the centuries. Eta Sigma Phi—although undeniably unimportant and perhaps almost insignificant—at least stands for the best that man has to offer and the best that man has achieved.

Ave atque vale,
EDWIN H. MILLER,
MEGAS CHRYSOPHYLAX

HERE AND THERE

G. D. H. and Margaret Cole, known for mystery stories, are the authors of *Greek Tragedy*, a murder mystery involving the leader of a group of tourists and interesting only by reason of the picture of places visited.

Breezes from Helicon

By PROFESSOR GEORGE CURRIE,
Alpha Phi

Beating Depression with Epicurus

There's nothing very good or bad,
But thinking makes it so;
Just make a game of paying bills,
Depression then is sure to go.
But who will start the ball to roll,
When debts so far outrun the cash?
Inflate the value of our gold!
Don't ever think it one bit rash.
For Epicurus, so we're told,
Made a penny last all day;
His palate was the goal of life,
What bills a penny then would pay!

A Cyclone

An ancient farm was swept away
By nothing but a little draft;
So said Catullus to his friend,
And doubtless at the same time laughed.
But when a spider came along,
And wove a web in his own purse,
He hinted to his patron saint
To ease him from depression's curse.
'Twas fun to see the great ones crash,
But when the little mortgage loan
Came due without funds to pay,
The draft seemed like a real cyclone.

Interpretation of Jupiter and Europa
in Advice to a Friend

Calm yourself, my sterling friend;
Count not your worth to win the fair.
Your rivals borrow what they spend;
Their conversation's thin as air.
To balance the brute man's innate
strength,
The gifted girl crams her head brim full;
In short, learn the story once told at
length:
Europa was kidnapped by the "bull."

Translations from Martial

By MRS. BESSIE MARLIN MASON, *Theta*

[Mrs. Mason has had poems published in several magazines, "Foster Mother" in the October *Good Housekeeping* and "Grandmother Said" in the *Saturday Evening Post* of October 12. Mrs. Mason was graduated with high distinction from Indiana University, where she majored in Latin.]

A GOOD HARVEST (II, 38)

Linus, you ask me a question or two:
 "What does it yield —
 Your new Sabine field?"
 It yields me this pleasure: I no longer
 see you.

If you're speaking the truth to me, Gellia,
 If you're mocking me not, then I
 swear
 That you yourself, my dear Gellia,
 Never have tasted hare!

MORTUARY DINNER GUESTS (III, 12)

You have good ointment, I confess,
 But you carved nothing for your guests.
 Droll business that to smell so good
 And yet be hungering for food!
 I thought, Fabullus, 'twas the dead
 Who were anointed and unfed.

A GOOD MATCH (VIII, 35)

Since you are the very worst kind of a
 wife
 And your husband's bad as can be
 Since you're thus so well-matched in
 conduct and life,
 I wonder you don't well agree.

A USEFUL JUG (IV, 69)

You always serve Setian or Massican
 wine,
 Papyrus, but rumor says your wines
 aren't so fine.
 Four times you are said to have been
 made a widower,
 And each new wife you got, with this
 jug you got rid of her.
 I don't believe this, nor do I think it—
 No wine, thanks, Papyrus, I guess I
 won't drink it.

PRAYER TO VENUS (VIII, 43)

Chrestilla poisons her husbands,
 Fabius does away with his wives,
 Each waves a funeral torch over their
 biers
 And each of the two survives.

Unite these two victors, O Venus,
 Such death surely for them also is due,
 Unite them, O Venus, in order
 That one funeral may do for the two.

TRY IT YOURSELF (V, 29)

When you send a hare to me, Gellia,
 Saying, "Marcus, pulchritude
 Will within seven days be yours
 If you eat of this delicate food."

IDEAL MARRIAGE (VIII, 12)

I don't want a rich woman, I,
 Priscus, you ask me why.
 I don't wish to be the bride of my
 Own wedded wife.

The wife must inferior be,
 The husband superior be.
 Else where's the equality
 In married life?

AMONG THE CHAPTERS

Alpha Psi Holds Organization Meeting

A meeting solely for organization purposes was held at the home of Professor John Paul Pritchard, one of the faculty advisers of Alpha Psi Chapter, Mr. Robert McGregor writes. At the same time plans for the next meeting were laid and papers were assigned for presentation at that time.

The Chapter has sixteen active members this year, a total which is soon to be increased by the pledging and initiation of new members.

Alpha Phi Participates in "Tap" Ceremony

Professor George Currie, faculty member of the department of Latin at Millsaps College, tells of an interesting "tapping" ceremony which takes place in a public chapel service at the College. Alpha Phi Chapter was one of the organizations taking part in the ceremony, and eight were tapped for membership in the Chapter.

Epsilon Extends Prestige of Eta Sigma Phi

Epsilon Chapter has found a way of spreading the influence of Eta Sigma Phi, which, so far as our information goes, is unique. During the summer sessions at the State University of Iowa, at a time when the graduate enrollment is high, they receive into associate membership those who are doing work in the classics. All these members are teachers of Latin, and add to the influence which the national organization exerts. It would

seem that Epsilon Chapter has brought to accomplishment, in a very practical way, one of the aims of the organization.

Members of Epsilon further enhance the position of the organization by the part they play yearly in the Annual Conference of Classical Teachers in Iowa. This year the Chapter is host to the guest teachers at an evening reception on December 6. In the course of the sessions of the two-day Conference several honorary members of Eta Sigma Phi will appear on the program, among them Professor Clyde Murley, of Beta Chapter at Northwestern University; Professor William A. Oldfather, of Alpha Kappa Chapter at the University of Illinois; Professor Franklin H. Potter, of Epsilon Chapter; and Professor Grace Beede, of Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of South Dakota.

Professor Roy C. Flickinger, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and faculty adviser of Epsilon Chapter, has been honored by election to the Phi Beta Kappa Senate. Eta Sigma Phi takes pleasure in the bestowal of this distinction upon one of its honorary members.

Pi Chapter Has Tea

Its ranks badly depleted by the graduation of so many of its members last June, Pi Chapter was pleased to find that there were seven students eligible for membership this year, all of whom were initiated on October 27.

With its membership taken care of, the Chapter, according to Miss Grace Fealy, prytanis, began to take its place among the honoraries of the campus by entertaining the students and faculty of Birmingham Southern College at the usual Sunday tea on November 3, and by planning various other campus activities.

Alpha Alpha Stages Mock Initiation

Miss Margaret Dukes gives the following description of a clever initiation ceremony Alpha Alpha Chapter staged when it received into its group three new members:

"From the 'sublime to the ridiculous' was the keynote of the 1940 initiation into the Alpha Alpha Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. The neophytes were much impressed by the ceremony midst candlelight.

"Still wondering when the mock initiation was to begin and what form it would take, the trembling girls awaited the summons of Hermes. Gliding along on his winged feet, Hermes conducted the spirits of the dead neophytes to the river Styx. Charon, suffering from a wretched cough, was not available to render his services. Each spirit in turn took her place on the 'sofa-pillow' bark, and laboriously paddled across the 'waxed' waters. At the entrance to the underworld, an almost unsurpassable barrier of upturned chairs confronted the dead, Hercules, Theseus, Aeneas, and Ulysses. Standing at the throne before Pluto and Proserpina, the spirits were bombarded with requests to atone for their numerous sins. A Fury lashed her whip to compel obedience. Unable to expiate themselves, each appeased the rulers by rolling peanuts of imaginary existence, singing songs backwards to various tunes, and rolling like the river Styx. A funeral feast was set before the spirits of the dead, who found some difficulty in drinking from sugar bowls, cream pitchers, and enormous goblets. The spirits found that in addition to their nectar problems, minute apples fell to their lot, while the rest of the feasters enjoyed luscious large ones. The ambrosia, by way of atonement on the part of the gods for so harrassing the dead heroes, helped cheer the souls of the wayward beings."

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Beta Alpha Enters Float in Parade

It is not often that a chapter of Eta Sigma Phi participates in the homecoming festivities on a campus to the point of entering a float in the parade, but that is just what Beta Alpha Chapter, at the University of South Dakota, did on October 19. From the description which Miss Marietta Johnsen furnishes it sounds quite classical: Ceres with a cornucopia from which poured grain and products of the harvest.

Delta Plans Active Year

Delta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, located at Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana, has planned an extensive program for the current year. In accordance with the by-laws of the Chapter, two meetings are to be held each month, a business meeting on the first Thursday of the month, and a social one on the third Thursday. Members of the Classical Languages Department who have not yet fulfilled the requirements for membership in Eta Sigma Phi are guests at the social gatherings. At the latter meetings, a member of the Chapter serves as hostess. Refreshments are served.

At the initial business meeting of the year, in September, pledging services were held for Miss Rachel Bland, a sophomore in the Department. While a student at the Ben Davis High School in Indianapolis two years ago, Miss Bland placed second in Division IV of the State Latin Contest sponsored by the Extension Division of Indiana University. The group outlined a study program for the year, consisting of representatives of Greek comedy. Three comedies of Aristophanes—*The Frogs*, *The Clouds*, and *Lysistrata*—are to be studied, as well as the plays of Menander. One member of the chapter will be responsible for leading group discussions of each play.

The first social meeting, in October, featured a discussion of the background of Greek comedy and methods of production, presented by Mrs. P. L. Powell, chapter adviser. Latin conundrums furnished material for exercise of wit. Fortunes written on oak leaves were hidden about the room; and the Fates, invisible, led each person to his allotted destiny.

In addition to the study program, Delta Chapter has planned several other projects including a Christmas party to which members of the ancient history class are to be invited, a chapel program before the student body, a dinner meeting with a guest speaker, and a tea or similar function for high school Latin students.

New Honorary Member at Zeta

Miss Faye E. Melick writes that Zeta Chapter is to add to its ranks a new honorary member, Miss Bumer, Latin teacher in the Granville High School.

Professor L. R. Dean, faculty adviser of the group, was appointed by the Ohio Classical Conference chairman of a committee to direct a state-wide competitive essay contest among high school Latin students in the state.

Theme for Year Chosen by Alpha Epsilon

"Greek and Roman Political Institutions and Law" is the subject that Alpha Epsilon Chapter has chosen for study this year, according to Mr. Welles Bliss. The Chapter has mapped out its program of meetings for the entire year, and each one will be devoted to a particular phase of this general theme. At the first meeting of the group, held at the home of Professor E. L. Crum, Mr. Harold King, prytanis, and Mr. Welles Bliss, hyparchos, had charge of the program which was devoted to the subject "Oligarchy and Democracy at Athens."

An initiation ceremony was held on November 8 for four new members. The annual banquet followed the initiation. The pledges for a week before their initiation wear togas on the campus at all times except when a military or band uniform is required. The purpose of this, according to Mr. Bliss, is not to haze the neophytes or to make them self-conscious, but to show the other students on the Lehigh campus (The majority study engineering or business.) that there are other studies in the University.

In addition to the regular members of the group, the Chapter has two associate members this year, one, a fellow in the English Department, and the other, a graduate of the class of 1937, a clergyman who has returned to Bethlehem this year.

Alpha Omicron Enjoys Halloween Party

Alpha Omicron Chapter held its first meeting of the new school year Thursday, October 31, in Neenah, Wisconsin, at the lovely riverside home of its prytanis, Miss Margaret Banta. After a short business meeting, a Halloween buffet supper was served, and the guests amused themselves with "Diplomacy," a new game on the world situation by H. V. Kaltenborn.

The group will soon be looking forward to the traditional Saturnalia banquet, held each December before Christmas in one of the dormitories. At this banquet the menu and program are written in Latin, and the Christmas story is told both in Latin and in Greek.

Alpha Kappa Initiates Fifteen

Miss Lora Palovic, hyparchos of Alpha Kappa Chapter, tells how the group holds meetings regularly on Sunday evenings, and mentions that on November 10, fifteen new members were received into the Chapter. On the same occa-

sion Professor H. V. Canter, of the classical faculty, gave a talk about his trip to the Near East.

The plan of procedure of meetings, regularly scheduled for the second Sunday evening in each month, is much the same. First, business is discussed, then the main theme of the evening is introduced, this is followed by a general discussion, and, finally, refreshments are served.

Alpha Delta To Present Christmas Play

As its most important project of this year, Alpha Delta Chapter at Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Georgia, is planning the presentation of a Christmas Latin play, *Christus Parvulus*. Miss Dorothy Travis, epistolographos of the Chapter, reports that the play, to be given December 12, will be the first given in the McLean Auditorium of the new Presser Building. Incidental music will be arranged and presented by Mr. C. W. Dieckman, head of the Music Department at Agnes Scott and a noted organist. A group of eleven new members will participate in the play, their first activity as members of the Alpha Delta group. Invitations for the play have been extended to all Latin students and teachers in the Atlanta metropolitan area.

Initiates To Speak Latin or Greek

Miss Edna W. Brooks, NUNTIIUS reporter of Omicron Chapter, mentions changes that the Chapter is making this year in its initiation ceremony. The officers are to be dressed in togas, a departure from the practice of the past. But what is more important—at least, from the point of view of the University of Pennsylvania initiates—is that they will be expected to give talks in either

Latin or Greek at the time of their initiation.

. Picnic Enjoyed by Gamma

Gamma Chapter at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, upheld its old tradition of welcoming new students to the Department of Classical Languages. On September 26, all those pursuing the wisdom of the ages motored to the camp of Professor Hill, faculty adviser of the Chapter. On the beach of the Hocking River the group engaged in contests, played games, and came to know each other better over heaped-up plates and steaming cups. The process of getting acquainted was completed by group singing around the camp fire.

The programs for the year have been planned to carry out a central theme, "The Arts." The first regular meeting conformed to this scheme, its subject for study being that of sculpture. Professor Hill presented the subject with slides and, commenting on them, pointed out the distinguishing characteristics of each type of sculpture from the post-Roman to the very modern. Succeeding programs will be conducted in the same fashion.

HERE AND THERE

A. A. Milne in his *Autobiography* tells an entertaining story of a friend of his who had difficulty in learning Greek and who was studying the New Testament. This individual had learned the gospels by heart and hoped that, when it came to writing a translation, he would recognize some keyword and he could go on from that point by memory. In one passage which he was translating the words of Pilate, "What I have written, I have written," caught his eye. He recognized the repetition, but the meaning was quite beyond him. Memory came to his rescue, however, and he wrote, "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets."

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