

Thirty-Fifth National Convention at Beta Kappa Chapter

Beta Kappa Chapter at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore, is nourishing the hope that all the chapters of Eta Sigma Phi will be able to send one or more delegates to Baltimore when the fraternity meets there for its Thirty-fifth National Convention at the Emerson Hotel, on March 22 and 23, 1963.

Mary Elizabeth Klein, Prytanis of Beta Kappa Chapter, Jarritus Boyd, Grammateus, Sarel Fuchs, Chairman of the Convention Committee, extend a cordial invitation to each one. Beta Chi Chapter at Loyola College, through its Prytanis, Mr. Thomas Kenney, Beta Tau of Georgetown, through Mr. Daniel O'Leary, Prytanis, and Gamma Xi, Howard University, through Prytanis Dorothy Brown, join with Beta Kappa in welcoming the chapters to Baltimore and making them feel at home in unfamiliar surroundings.

The Emerson Hotel will be headquarters for the Convention, and all meetings will be held in the Wedge-

wood Room. The hotel is located in the heart of the city at Calvert and Baltimore Streets. It is within easy access from Camden Station (Baltimore and Ohio Railroad), from Union Station (Pennsylvania Railroad), and from the Greyhound and Trailways Bus Terminals; limousine service is supplied from Friendship International Airport to the hotel. U. S. Highway route 40 leads to the city. Garage facilities are available.

Rooms will be ready for occupancy on Thursday, March 21. Reservations should be made immediately if they have not already been arranged. Upon arrival, it would be well to come to the Mezzanine Floor, outside the Wedgewood Room, to register and to secure tickets for the annual subscription dinner (\$3.00 per person) and other information before going to your room. Members of Beta Kappa and Beta Chi Chapters will be on hand.

For those who arrive early enough on Thursday, Baltimore offers a variety of evening entertainment. Some selec-

tions that are available will be listed for your choice.

Arrangements have been made for a group picture to be taken at the Saturday morning meeting. Chapters who desire a print may order them at the time of registration. A tour of the city is planned for Friday afternoon—of at least that much of the city that can be seen in the short time at our disposal. It will include the Walters Art Gallery, with a view of its ancient collection conducted by Miss Dorothy Kent Hill, the Curator of Ancient Art at the Gallery; Fort McHenry; the harbor; the Johns Hopkins Medical Center; some of Baltimore's famous row houses, with their white steps, and its equally famous Pimlico Race Course.

Dinner will be served on Friday evening at 6:30 at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, 4701 North Charles Street, in Mary Meletia Hall. Sister Margaret Mary, President of the College will welcome the delegates. After dinner, in the Little Theatre of Fourier Building, Miss Dorothy E. Miner, Librarian and Keeper of Manuscripts at the Walters Art Gallery, will give an illustrated talk on Medieval Manuscript Illumination. A reception will follow in Fourier Lounge.



Photograph courtesy of the College

Mary Meletia Hall, College of Notre Dame of Maryland



Photograph courtesy of the College

Fourier Building, College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Tentative Program

Thirty-Fifth National Convention

To Be Held at Baltimore, Maryland, March 22 and 23, 1963
Upon the Invitation of Beta Kappa Chapter,
The College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Friday, March 22, 1963

- 8:00- 9:00 A.M. Registration, Mezzanine Floor, Emerson Hotel
- 9:00 A.M. First General Session, Wedgewood Room, Emerson Hotel
 Business Meeting
 Minutes of the Thirty-fourth National Convention
 Roll Call of Chapters and Chapter Reports
 Report of Megas Chrysophylax
 Report of Chairman of the Board of Trustees
 Report of the Executive Secretary
 Report of Standing Committees
 Report of Committee on Expansion and Reactivation
- 12:00 Noon Lunch
- 1:15- 5:00 P.M. Tour of Baltimore, including Fort McHenry, Walters Art Gallery, and Pimlico Race Course (Buses will leave from the Emerson Hotel promptly at 1:15)
- 5:45 P.M. Buses leave the hotel for the campus of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland
- 6:30 P.M. Subscription Banquet, Mary Meletia Hall
 Address of Welcome: Sister Margaret Mary, President of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland
 Response: Megas Prytanis Richard G. Kemmer
- 8:00 P.M. The Little Theater, Fourier Building
 Illustrated address: Masterpieces of Mediæval Illumination: in Baltimore
 Miss Dorothy E. Miner, Librarian and Keeper of Manuscripts, Walters Art Gallery
 Following the address there will be a reception and social hour in the Lounge of Fourier Building

Saturday, March 23, 1963

- 8:30 A.M. Second General Session, Wedgewood Room, Emerson Hotel
 Business Meeting (concluded)
 Address by Miss Patricia Thompson, Eta Sigma Phi Scholar, Summer 1962
 Election and Installation of new officers
- 1:00 P.M. Adjournment of Thirty-fifth National Convention

Notre Dame of Maryland is about two miles distant from the hotel, situated on an estate of sixty-four acres, which at one time was heavily wooded with oaks and pines, beeches and chestnut trees, as well as walnuts and cultivated orchards, flowers and vegetable gardens. It made its own electricity and pumped water from its artesian wells, churned butter in its own dairy—a spring house, and winter vegetable cellar still exist, though no longer used. Notre Dame is now a part of city life, but retains much of the natural beauty of its ancient oaks and sloping valley. It was opened in 1873 as a Collegiate Institute for Young Ladies, and rapidly expanded its curriculum so that in 1895 it was chartered by an act of the Legislature of the State of Maryland as a four-year Liberal Arts College. The first degrees were awarded in 1899. These dates confer on the college the distinction of being the first Catholic College for Women in the United States. Besides the regular four-year Liberal Arts curricula, the College sponsors Saturday classes for the teachers of the city, and Adult Education courses two evenings a week. Notre Dame is fortunate in being able to share in Baltimore's many offerings in the intellectual, cultural and social fields.

March 25 is Lady Day in Maryland — Maryland Day — usually a lovely spring day. We are hoping and praying that the three days preceding will be equally fine so that the delegates may know Maryland weather at its best—it can be delightful.

The Convention Committee will greatly appreciate your sending in the form with dinner reservations, so that all arrangements can be carefully made, and transportation for the tour be settled. Be sure to send the form to Miss Sarel Fuchs, Chairman.

Prepared by Beta Kappa Chapter.



Photograph courtesy of the College

Le Clerc Hall, College of Notre Dame of Maryland



Photograph courtesy of the College

A view of the campus of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Petitions

Petitions for charters to found chapters of Eta Sigma Phi have been received from the following clubs. Local chapters should inform their delegates to the National Convention concerning the manner in which they should vote when these are brought before the Convention.

The Classical Club Phi Sigma of Belhaven College, Jackson, Mississippi, has submitted a new petition. The Thirty-fourth National Convention did not approve the former petition from this Club inasmuch as it did not feel that the petition was executed in a very persuasive manner nor that the Club was strong enough to support a chapter. Belhaven College was founded in 1883 and now has an enrollment of 360 students. There are 61 students enrolled in the Department of Classics. The Classical Club Phi Sigma was organized in February 1961 and has a membership of fifteen. All of the members have signed the petition, which is approved by the Dean of the College and three members of the faculty of the Department. Professor Alfred P. Hamilton, adviser of Alpha Phi Chapter at Millsaps College until his retirement, is now a member of the Department.

The Latin Club of Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, has submitted a well-organized and detailed petition. Texas Technological College, founded in 1923 by the Texas Legislature as a state-supported co-educational college, now has an enrollment of 10,589. At the present time 192 students are enrolled in Latin Classes. Elementary Greek is offered only every other year, but the Department is requesting permission to extend the offering in Greek. The Latin Club is named the Optimates and was originally organized in 1928 but it became inactive during World War II and was reorganized in 1953. It has a membership of thirty and nineteen of these members who are eligible for Eta Sigma Phi have signed the petition, which is approved by the Head of the Department of Foreign Languages and the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. The Department of Foreign Languages, of which the Department of Classics is a unit, publishes an attractive brochure giving the offerings of the Department.

Both of the above-mentioned Colleges are fully accredited by the local accrediting agencies and additional agencies.

Alpha Mu Chapter at the University of Missouri, Columbia, has submitted a petition to reactivate the chapter and the reactivation is under the direction of Mr. Ronald B. Hehn, a former Hyparchos of Gamma Gamma Chapter, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, and a member of the National Convention when it met in Huntington, West Virginia. This chapter has been inactive since 1937 and its inactivity has been a matter of grave concern to your Executive Secretary, since he was initiated into the Fraternity by that chapter "a few" years ago. It will be a pleasure to welcome Alpha Mu Chapter back to active status.

BALTIMORE

The following account of the city of Baltimore, furnished by Beta Kappa Chapter, was evidently prepared by a Chamber of Commerce which was not interested in the educational advantages of the city, since the College of Notre Dame, Loyola College, and Johns Hopkins University are not mentioned!

One hundred years after Lord Baltimore, sailing in the ARK and the Dove, landed at St. Mary's in 1634, the Maryland State Legislature, in the year 1729, founded Baltimore Town, a "cluster of houses around the harbor." Residences were situated as far north as Saratoga St. Mt. Vernon Sq. was a woods. Baltimore played a large part in the Revolutionary War and in the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. The names of some of the streets give testimony to her patriotic fervor; Liberty, Saratoga, Franklin, Lexington.

Baltimore has always been a great port city; she has the largest floating dry dock in the world. From the end of the Revolutionary War to the end of the War of 1812, Chesapeake-built ships, the famous full-rigged Baltimore Clippers, plied the seas of the world with Baltimore-made goods, and imported "the ivory, apes, and peacocks" that give color and imagination to the city. Trade such as this was the source of many of the fortunes of the men whose names appear over and over in its history. Baltimore was in its "golden age."

After the burning of Washington in 1814 the British tried to take Baltimore—"that nest of pirates." They were defeated at the Battle of North Point and failed in their attempt to bombard Fort McHenry. Battle Monument in Court House Square was erected to the memory of the soldiers who died in

the battle at North Point. Baltimore is the only major American seaport that has never had an enemy flag fly above it.

When the Erie Canal threatened Baltimore's trade with the West, the first commercial and passenger railroad was built and opened in 1827, the Baltimore and Ohio, with the first passenger station at Mount Clare on Pratt and Poppleton Streets. It is still there. The Round House contains a transportation museum, although it is not open to the public at present. It was from Baltimore in 1844 that Samuel Morse sent out the first telegraph message: "What hath God wrought?"

In the Civil War, sympathies were divided; some of them still seem to exist. Baltimore has always been a home-owning city, hence the many streets of row houses with their white marble steps. Somehow, Baltimore has retained the intimate atmosphere of a small town, while growing into a large sophisticated city—the nation's sixth largest.

Industrial firms and shipping flourish since the first World War; also direct passenger and freight service to Europe via shipping. Now jets from International Friendship Airport perform this service. The consequent growth of population mushroomed the suburban areas. Large family estates became housing developments (cf. Homeland, etc.). Apartment houses replace individual homes (cf. Charles St.).

The central business district, the early part of Baltimore, is being renewed and rebuilt. A large CIVIC CENTER will contain a shopping center, a convention hall, theatres, etc. Baltimore is said to have an annual payroll of a Billion dollars.

Delegates are reminded that they should make their reservations at once, if not already made, directly with the Emerson Hotel.

Delegates should return the executed questionnaire which was sent from the host chapter at once, showing the number who will attend the banquet, who will tour the city, and who will desire photographs. The questionnaire should be sent to Miss Sarel Fuchs, Box 207, Doyle Hall, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore 10, Maryland.

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From Your Editor

Your Editor would like to take this opportunity to express his deep-felt appreciation to Professor Thomas T. Boswell of Gamma Tau Chapter at Mississippi College for performing the duties of the Executive Secretary and Editor in such an excellent manner during his absence. It is very difficult to assume another's work without any instruction or experience but Professor Boswell did this very willingly and carried on the work of the National Office without any hiatus or errors. The entire Fraternity owes him a deep debt of gratitude and surely it will express its appreciation to him for his dedicated service to all of the members. Personally your Editor says to him *Tibi quam maximas gratias ago.*

Many years the Committee on Time and Place at the National Convention must go about among the delegates and ask if some chapter will entertain the next Convention. Certainly several of the sixty-six chapters would like to be host to the Convention but they fail to submit a formal invitation. Invitations to entertain the National Convention should be submitted to the Megas Grammateus or the Executive Secretary

prior to the meeting of the annual convention and should be approved by the local Department which sponsors the chapter. What a pleasure it would be for the Committee on Time and Place to be able to make a selection among several invitations.

Chapters which can not be represented at the National Convention, and frequently a chapter may find it financially impossible, are instructed to notify the Megas Grammateus of its inability to send representatives and submit an annual report. Also delegates are expected to bring a prepared report of the activities of their chapters to be read at the first session. Maybe we shall have 100% of the chapters reporting this year.

Chapters failed to support Professor Boswell by failing to return the Questionnaire which is requested not later than October 31 of each year, but some also fail to support me in this year after year. I think that it is only proper to tell you that the following chapters have not submitted the Questionnaire this year and if they are two years in arrears, this is noted: Beta (two years), Epsilon, Psi, Alpha Nu, Alpha Omicron, Alpha Phi, Alpha Psi, Beta Iota, Beta Mu, Beta Rho, Beta Chi, Gamma Epsilon, Gamma

Kappa (two years), Gamma Sigma (two years), Gamma Phi, Gamma Psi, Delta Beta. It is only proper to admit that some of these may have been lost in the mail. But failure to reply makes it impossible for the National Office to know how many copies of NUNTIUS should be sent, and the members have paid for their copies of NUNTIUS and are entitled to receive them.

A matter in which complete cooperation is essential is in returning the financial reports which are requested each spring for use in making individual income tax returns. The National Office must submit a report for each individual chapter and this must be received by the local District Directors of the Internal Revenue Service not later than August 31. Most chapters are very cooperative in this matter but some are not and this makes it most difficult. Some of the reports which were requested for last year have reached me since my return! Please remember also that you should forward the forms which you receive to the National Office.

The Medals should be awarded by all of our chapters in the local high schools but this is not done. You might be interested in some statistics concerning the distribution of the sale of medals by states, not by chapters, and most of these orders come from high school teachers: Alabama, 1; California, 4; Colorado, 4; Connecticut, 3; Florida, 7; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 9; Indiana, 4; Kansas, 2; Kentucky, 4; Louisiana, 2; Massachusetts, 6; Michigan, 5; Minnesota, 2; Mississippi, 2; Missouri, 4; Nebraska, 1; New Hampshire, 2; New Jersey, 5; New York, 10; Ohio, 9; Oklahoma, 2; Pennsylvania, 5; Rhode Island, 3; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 6; Virginia, 2; Washington, 1; West Virginia, 6; Wisconsin, 5; Canada, 2. You will observe that some of our states which have no chapters of Eta Sigma Phi award medals in more schools than states in which we have chapters. Does your chapter award the medals and does it try to interest teachers in the state in awarding the medals?

The Endowment Fund appears to have received no contributions during my absence. This is a great disappointment.

The finances of the Fraternity are in good condition but we are now operating on a very close margin. This will be discussed more fully at the convention in Baltimore but the chief reason why we are sometimes forced to be satisfied with a very small balance is that the chapters frequently do

(Continued On Page 21)

The following article, copied from *THE MUHLENBERG WEEKLY*, Volume 83, November 1, 1962, pages 3f, was written by Mr. Robert Karl Bohm, Prytanis of Alpha Rho Chapter, Eta Sigma Phi, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, in reply to the account of a curriculum study, published the week before, which proposed that the Department of Classical Languages be retired concomitant with the retirement of the present head of that department, a study based entirely on financial consideration. Mr. Bohm has given his kind permission for us to reprint the article in *NUNTIUS*. He also informs us that the proposal may not even come to a vote now and we like to feel that this is so because one of our members rose to the challenger and defended the Classics so ably. Eta Sigma Phi owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Bohm for his virtue on this occasion.

Study of Antiquity Proven Basic to Modern Education

by Robert Karl Bohm

Surely no one gave second consideration to a passage in the curriculum article published last week which pointed out the decline in the size of the classical language department over the past thirty years or the abolition of required Greek and Latin. Nor would anyone feel in the least uncomfortable if at some future date he heard that the trend had gone to its obvious conclusion and there no longer was a department of classical languages.

What bearing on modern life could these antiquities have? Today's atmosphere cannot support the studies of Greek and Latin, for our age is practical. What place would these studies have in preparation for earning a living? Modern man is progressive, with his eye set to the future, not to the unenlightened past. Languages which are dead should be buried.

Overlapping

Indeed the history of the ancient world is pertinent and relevant today, for it is our history. Can we understand our present without the knowledge of the past? Toynbee decided to write *Study of History* while reading Thucydides and realizing that those problems of ancient Greece were very analogous to his own world. The concept of "freedom" is meaningless without an understanding of its tortuous birth whose labor pains began in antiquity. Yet we can learn all this in our history class, what need of Greek and Latin?

Roots of all Western philosophy, moreover, are set in ancient Greek soil. There can be no complete knowledge of philosophy where there is neither an appreciation of the problems posed by the ancients and echoing to our own day nor an awareness of the classic methodology, the reliance on principles, which has tempered all our philosophic thought. Yet can't our philosophy department teach us that all western philosophy is but a commentary on Plato and Aristotle; what need of Greek or Latin?

Easier Method

Certainly the literature is beautiful. The discovery of the personality of Cicero, the pompous orator who nevertheless loved a good joke, is still a joy. The lyric beauty of Catullus' delicate sympathy for his lover, Martial's ability to make mincemeat of a person in but two lines of satiric verse, Virgil's sweep and grandeur in his relation of the fated founding of the City, all still move a reader. Nor can we understand many things in more modern literature without a knowledge of the treasury of classical allusions.

Yet cannot the English department teach us ancient literature; what need of Greek and Latin? They can explain the obscure names in Yeats or Eliot, the form of *Paradise Lost*. And, as in the world literature course now offered, they can show us in translation the beauty of ancient literature. For are words so precise, so unique in their personalities, that they carry overtones that cannot be translated? Do the grammatical differences matter, so changed from modern languages and allowing a greater freedom from strict order and thus more poignant phrasing? Any real student of a foreign language knows the answer.

Values

Of course a true study of the literature of antiquity necessitates courses in Greek or Latin. For the form of those languages is so different from modern French, German, Spanish, or English that any real, meaningful translation is impossible. But this matters little; few are really interested in literature, and those who are can find fields other than Greek and Latin.

Modern man has turned his back on values and prefers to move in the realm of the concrete, the material. He needs to orient himself, to find out whence he came and for what purpose and then where it is best to go. Values are needed to override the concrete, to give it a function in a meaningful context. The study of the history, philosophy, and literature of the past teaches values, what is to be chosen and why, what is to be rejected and why. Yet what need for the original tongues?

Practicality

Study of the languages of the past sharpens thinking ability more than study of a modern tongue because of the difference in form. No one who has really encountered Greek or Latin can escape involvement with its tightness of expression, its precision of phrasing, its interplay of subordination and correlation, all of which contribute to far greater fluency of thought. One who has learned to think in those formal tongues can think with more clarity, organization, and precision.

Finally, how much better we can appreciate and understand the ancient world, its philosophy and history from which we have so much to learn, if we can hear the masters speak in their own tongues with all their peculiarities that make both them and their ideas more vital and meaningful to us. Incarnation is the way to knowledge, whether of the Unknown in human flesh or of thoughts in their contemporary tongue.

No one will suddenly be interested in taking Greek or Latin; our age is not geared for it and to force it would be a foolish inadmission to see how things really are. Yet we can see that things might be better, and we can feel a joy when actual conditions approach the better possibilities. And we could feel a sense of loss when the department of classical languages is inevitably retired.

From Your Editor — Continued

not send in initiation fees on time. When a member has been initiated and has paid his fee, he is entitled to receive his membership card, membership certificate, and his copies of *NUNTIUS* as soon as possible but he can receive no one of these until the National Office has been notified and has received the fees. There are times when fees are received for people who have been initiated as much as a year ago!

ROME, 1962

Ray F. Mitchell

(Mr. Mitchell, our Eta Sigma Phi Scholar to Rome last summer, is now Head of the Latin Department at St. Thomas' Episcopal School at Houston, Texas. This school, now including students from kindergarten through the ninth grade, was begun about five years ago with the express purpose of giving a high quality education, minus most of the frills, but firmly based on Christian standards. Latin has since the founding of the school been started in grade five, and continues through grade nine. Mr. Mitchell hopes to arrange a special class in Greek for the better students beginning next year, and this awaits only the mechanics of scheduling. The suggestion was made not by Mr. Mitchell but by the rector in charge of the school. Mr. Mitchell says: "My experience so far with the fifth grade is that they are refreshingly eager, but that much drill must be done and at a moderate pace. I do some simple Latin conversation from time to time and intend to increase gradually. I was not taught this way myself, but I am convinced now that its value is tremendous. My answer to persons who say that nobody talks in Latin any more is that students who learn to buy a hat in French or a beer in German are wasting their time if that is the end of their having conversation in a foreign language. Conversation is a means to understanding the structure of the language and to be able to do a little abstract thinking rather than translate alone. A firm conviction of our administration—and one which I share of course—is that language must include a rigorous grammatical approach.")

My experiences in Rome the past summer have benefitted me so significantly that I doubt that the full range of their meaning for me can be adequately expressed at any one time. I shall always be deeply appreciative of the assistance given me by Eta Sigma Phi.

In this report, which I presented earlier at the fall meeting of CAMWS, I have used specific experiences to illustrate what the summer has meant to me. It allowed me to renew my love for the fair Roma. I was bewitched by Diana's abode at Lake Nemi, bewildered by Fortuna's magnificent temple at Palestrina, but bothered only by the swift passing of the six weeks at the American Academy.

This session was directed by Professor Palmer Bovie of Rutgers Univer-

sity. Mr. Jim Curry, an Academy fellow, assisted him in our study of the sites. Four days per week consisted of morning study of one or more sites in Rome, followed by a delightful lunch in the Academy cortile and an afternoon lecture on the works of Livy, Horace or Vergil. Each Wednesday we ventured outside the city to one or more ancient sites. These longer trips were particularly helpful in allowing us not only to inspect some of the more noteworthy sites in Latium, but also to gain a more accurate and orderly picture of Rome as the great capital, whose fortunes were not separated from those of its neighbors.

Ostia, perhaps the most impressive of these sites, was visited first, with the result that we were rather overwhelmed by its extent and its role in the Roman world. During our two visits there, under the enthusiastic leadership of Professor Henry Rowell, we obtained a good knowledge of the city plan and the role of this bustling city in the area of Rome. We watched scores of shops fill with merchandise and homes brighten with family life as Professor Rowell brought vitality to these all-too-similar rooms, often working on clues which may not have been obvious to us. Remains were carefully pointed out which shed light on Ostia's religious and political life. In my opinion, the most interesting structure was the theatre, still used during the summer. It was my pleasure to return there for a production of Euripides' *Medea*, given by a Greek company.

At Cerveteri, or ancient Caere, the Etruscan necropolis, we intruded upon the eternal abodes of the departed as we listened to our Italian guide extol in his musical voice appropriate facts and figures. At times he even set aside his native impetuosity to permit Dr. Bovie to speak! We were all impressed by the meticulous care taken by the Etruscans to make these tombs resemble the deceased's home in life. The warrior's armour and the housewife's cooking equipment were represented with equal faithfulness. Although the deep ruts worn in the roads by the ancient "hearses" remind us of our own similar and inescapable trek, we would do well to have as elaborate a resting place as many of those at Cerveteri.

The modern Palestrina, or ancient Praeneste, boasts one of the most extravagant sites we visited: the temple of Fortuna, towering up the side of a steep hill some twenty miles east of Rome. The dominant lines of the temple lead the eyes upward level-by-

level toward the tholos shrine at the top (not restored). It was therefore appropriate that Mr. Curry should decide that we would start climbing from the *bottom*. But Fortuna knew we were coming, for she had asked Apollo to hide behind the clouds that day. A museum has been installed in the upper semicircular level. The splendid Barberini mosaic, showing life along the length of the Nile, is housed in a special room here. This alone is well worth the trip.

The lectures we received on Horace's odes anticipated our enjoyment of the serenity of the Sabine countryside. Although only the foundation of the house remains, it is easy to understand why he so delighted in his retreats there. Perhaps he would have enjoyed sharing our simple lunch as much as we enjoyed recalling his love for the simplicity of life in the country. We had no sweet Falernian wine that day, but we did drink of his beloved Fons Bandusiae.

These four sites I have mentioned have, along with the others, given me a better conception of Rome itself. From our study of Ostia we learned how important that city was to Rome's economy. The tombs at Cerveteri remind us of the Etruscan influence on the early Roman belief in an after-life. At Palestrina we see the power of Sulla used to rebuild a temple to Fortuna, even if he might have considered worship of the goddess an opiate for the people. And at Horace's farm we sense relief from the pressures of the city.

As I turn to Rome itself, I shall try to convey more general impressions. One of the greatest benefits I received from studying in Rome was simply the opportunity to piece together a picture of the size and appearance of the ancient city. When reading and studying in this country, we must remove ourselves not only in time but also in space. When in Rome, our presence at the sites eliminates many aspects of the latter difficulty and makes the difference of centuries seem of little consequence. When we *see* the rostrum in the forum, e.g., it takes little imagination to put ourselves in the place of an impassioned orator pleading an unpopular cause, fully cognizant of the influence represented by the Curia on his left, the Regia ahead, or official homes on the Palatine off to the right. It is one thing to read about the palaestrae in the public baths, and quite another to stand quietly in a great palaestra in the Baths of Caracalla, and to see the exedra from which spectators could watch the activities there.

Although it is interesting to me as a student of the Roman civilization to have seen Rome firsthand, the value which this has for me as a teacher of Latin is almost too great to imagine. There are so many questions which my ninth-graders — or even the fifth-graders ask, many of which I could answer only from having seen the ruins.

Although we as classicists may regret that subsequent construction has removed forever much of antiquity, it is interesting to note how the ancient and the not-so-ancient exist together, often in ways which are quite pleasant. I think especially of the splendid fountain of the Naiads in the Piazza della Republica, situated in the center of the exedra of the Baths of Diocletian. The shape of the Piazza Navona outlines the stadium of Domitian and reminds us, as we watch the leisurely gatherings there in evening, that in its ancient form this was a public place. The use of the Basilica of Maxentius as a setting for summer concerts suggested to me that its soaring arches and ageless majesty found counterparts in the transcendancy of the musical medium. One very striking juxtaposi-

tion of the old with the new was seen in the small stretch of the Servian Wall beside the modern Termini station.

It was of course to my advantage to have seen with my own eyes the remains of the so-called hut of Romulus on the Palatine—as well as the more elegant “hut” of Hadrian outside the city, or the underground rooms of the Domus Aurea, or the Apollo of Veii now in the Villa Giulia Museum. Materials, techniques, settings beckon us to hours and weeks of profitable study; but no temple, theatre or art form exists without a purpose which reflects the ideals, aspirations and prejudices of its maker, or indeed of the society. We can read, e.g., about the massive proportions and architectural wonders of the Colosseum, but there is an overpowering feeling which one has when standing inside it in the evening. The “illumination” is not only that of candlepower, but also a meaningful personal communion or interpretation. We imagine the excitement, the bloodshed, the leisure hours, the jaded tastes, the passing of it all. Nero’s lake was drained; the Colosseum drained much more.

I arrived in Rome as wide-eyed as the ancient provincial must have been when he came to visit the great capital. We learned many statistics about the ancient sites. We marvelled at the travertine, tufa, marble and brick. We yearned to touch museum artifacts. We searched in the field; researched in the library. The result has been for me a more vital experience with the very spirit of ancient Rome.

In southern style, I say again, “Vobis-omnibus gratias ago!”

Professor Boswell To Conduct European Tour

Professor Thomas T. Boswell will be the conductor of a tour of Europe in the summer of 1963. The tour will visit England, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, and Belgium between July 18 and September 5. More time will be spent in Italy than in any other one country and a great amount of attention will be given to Rome. If any of the members of Eta Sigma Phi are interested in the tour, Professor Boswell will be pleased to correspond with them.

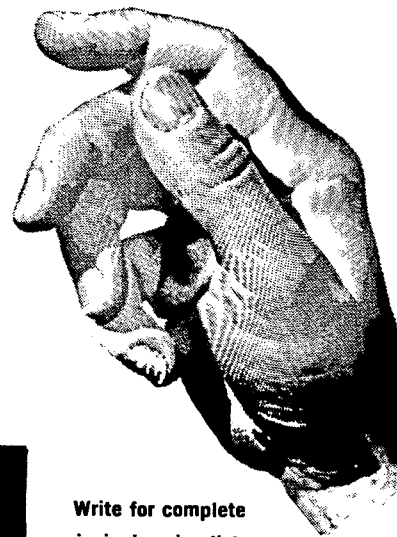
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