

THE ALPHA

~ of ~

Alpha Kappa Pi Fraternity



SEPTEMBER, 1926

Volume I Number 1

The Alpha Kappa Pi Fraternity

Founded, Jan. 1, 1921, Newark College of Engineering,
Newark, New Jersey

Chapter Roll

Alpha—Newark College of Engineering, Newark, New Jersey.

Correspondent, J. A. Gibbons, Ordway Bldg., Newark, New Jersey.

Beta—Wagner College, Staten Island, New York.

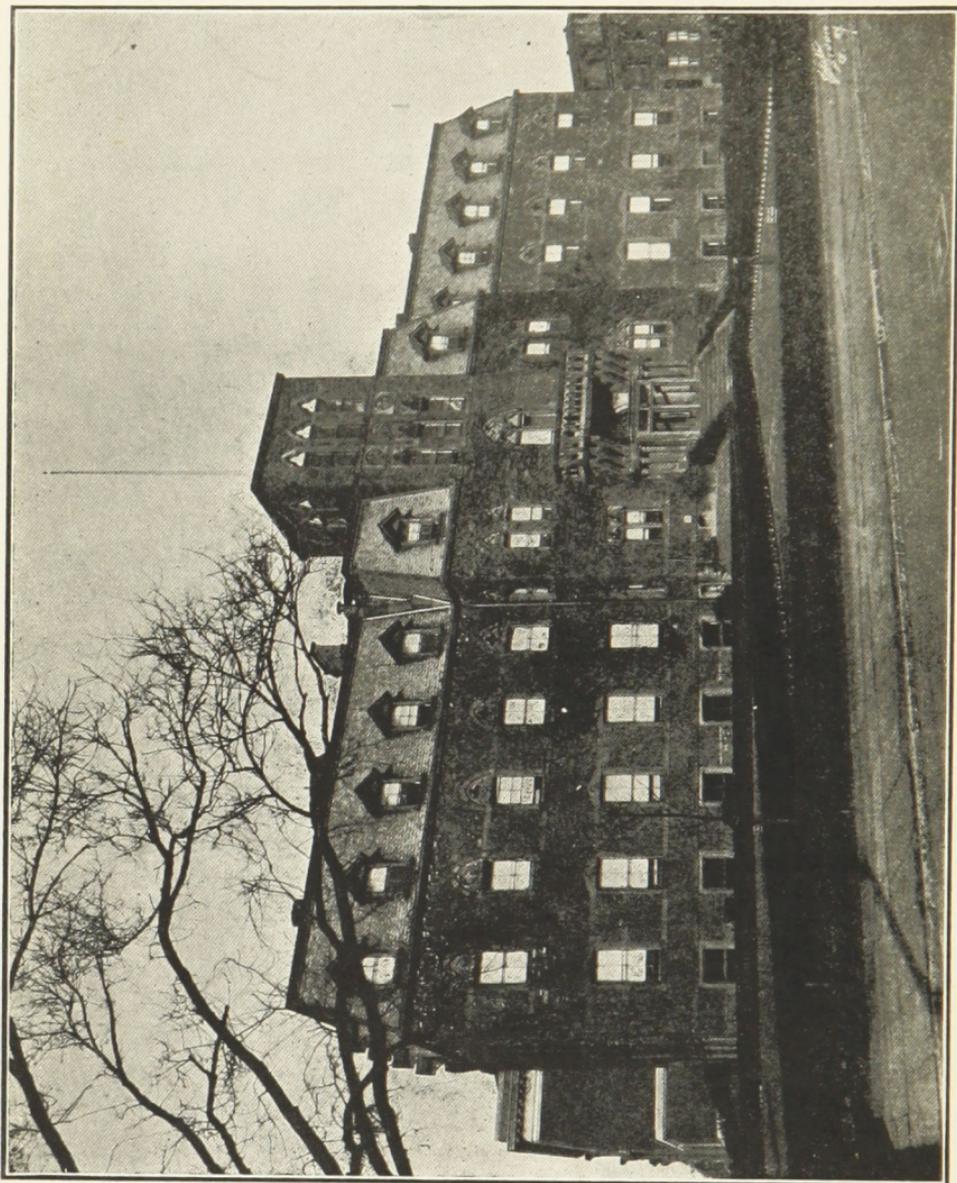
Correspondent, H. T. McKnight, c/o Wagner College.

Gamma—Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey.

Correspondent, H. M. Overbagh, A K II House, River Terrace, Hoboken.

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"OLD MAIN," STEVENS INSTITUTE

The Alpha of Alpha Kappa Pi

VOL. I

SEPTEMBER, 1926

No. 1

ALPHA KAPPA PI'S ARRIVAL AT STEVENS

BY A. T. LAWRENCE, *President of Gamma Chapter*

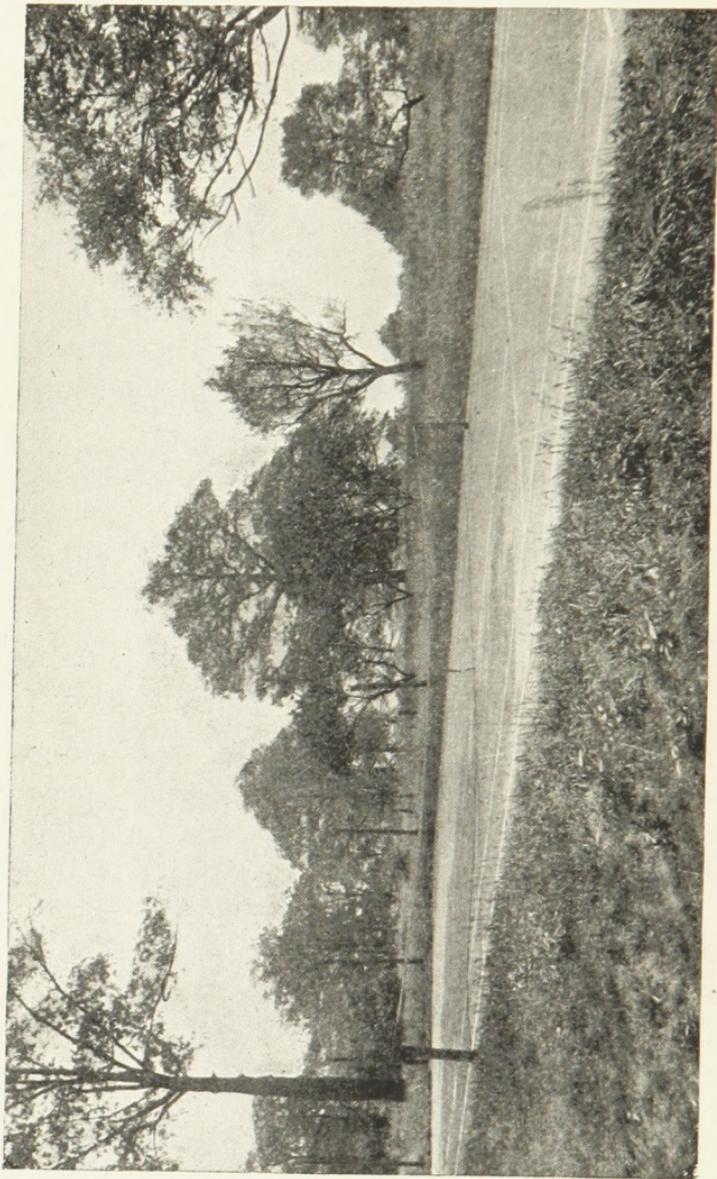
ON THE night of June 24 a new era began for the men of Phi Nu at Stevens when they were installed as Gamma Chapter ALPHA KAPPA PI. To this group of men entering a national fraternity was a momentous event. Our whole outlook on fraternity affairs and life has been changed. We are no longer a group of men working in the narrow field of a local fraternity; we have been taken into the brotherhood of a national organization which offers fields of endeavor to us of which we have only dreamed, in the past.

The men of Gamma chapter have been given higher aims and ambitions and we will take up our new burdens with a greater interest as we take our place in the ranks of Alpha Kappa Pi.

The degree team arrived during the afternoon of the twenty-fourth and decided to hold the installation on the first floor of the house.

After supper each man of Phi Nu that was present was pledged to Alpha Kappa Pi and then the president of the active chapter and the president of the alumni chapter, representing the entire local, were taken into the fraternity. After the installation was completed there were twenty nine new brothers in Alpha Kappa Pi.

A short meeting, at which Brother W. R. Hull presided, followed the installation and brought the ceremonies to a close. Thus ended the installation of the Gamma chapter.

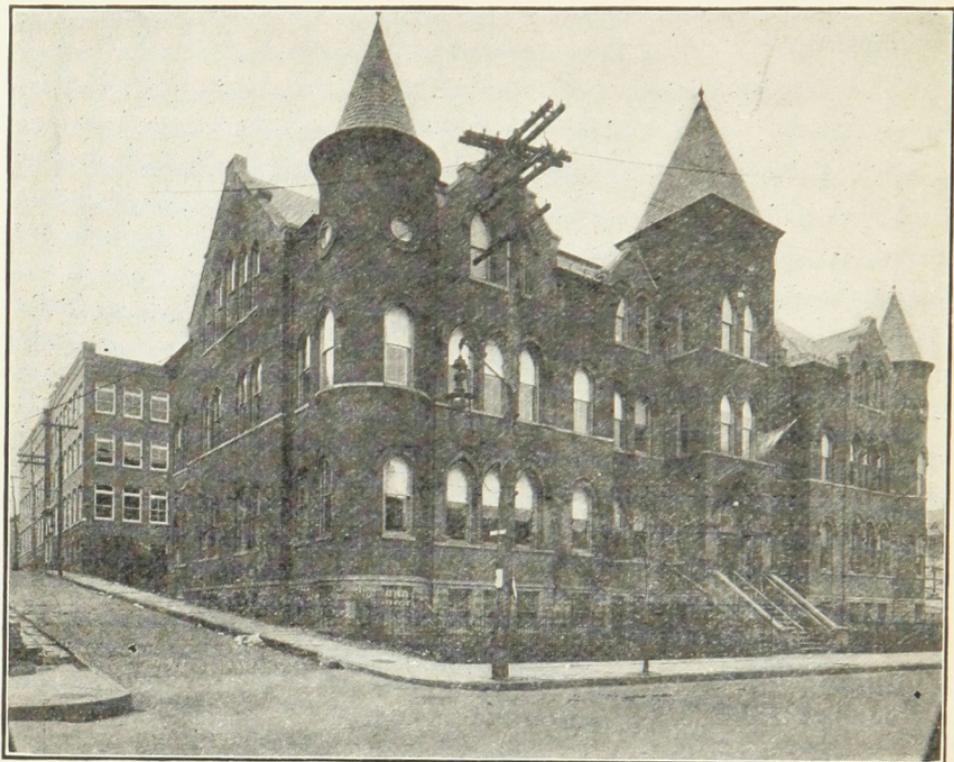


CAMPUS COURT, WAGNER COLLEGE

THE BEGINNING

ALPHA KAPPA PI

IN THE beginning Phi Delta Zeta, at the Newark Technical College, Newark, New Jersey and Alpha Kappa Pi, at Wagner College, Staten Island, New York, flourished as local organizations but entirely unknown one to the other. In the fall of 1925, representatives from these two societies found their paths crossing in the study of Albert Hughes Wilson, New York City, and both in search of instruction as to the petitioning of some national fraternity for charter privileges. Mr. Wilson, appreciating the newer extension policies of the larger fraternities, and particularly the ones governing Sigma Nu and the one in which the then locals were interested, advised these visitors to go back to their respective colleges, and talk over the benefit accruing from organizing a general fraternity of their own, and more especially since this procedure was the open desire of the Interfraternity Conference. The result was that on Tuesday, March 23, 1926, at 3:30 P. M., and in Mr. Wilson's study, the organization was completed and the plan formed to place the Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity in full motion. At this meeting were present Wilson Hull, James A. Gibbons, Ralph A. Brader, and Harry W. Dierman, from Newark College; Harry T. McKnight, Paul W. Clemen, and John W. Kern, from Wagner College, with Mr. A. H. Wilson as chairman of the meeting. At this meeting it was decided to make the name Alpha Kappa Pi the name of the fraternity and to place the Alpha chapter at Newark College and the Beta chapter at Wagner College. Officers were chosen and committees appointed to carry out certain interests toward the full development of the new organization. The officers elected were President, Wilson R. Hull; Vice President, Harry T. McKnight; Secretary, James A. Gibbons; Treasurer, Ralph A. Brader; Chaplain, John W. Kern; Historian, Paul H. Clemen, also Mr. Clemen was chosen Editor of THE ALPHA the proposed journal and Harry W. Dierman was made Business Manager of the same. In order to assist the new fraternity to get off on the right course Mr. A. H. Wilson was chosen fraternity advisor. Thus equipped the fraternity held



NEWARK TECHNICAL SCHOOL, NEWARK COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING



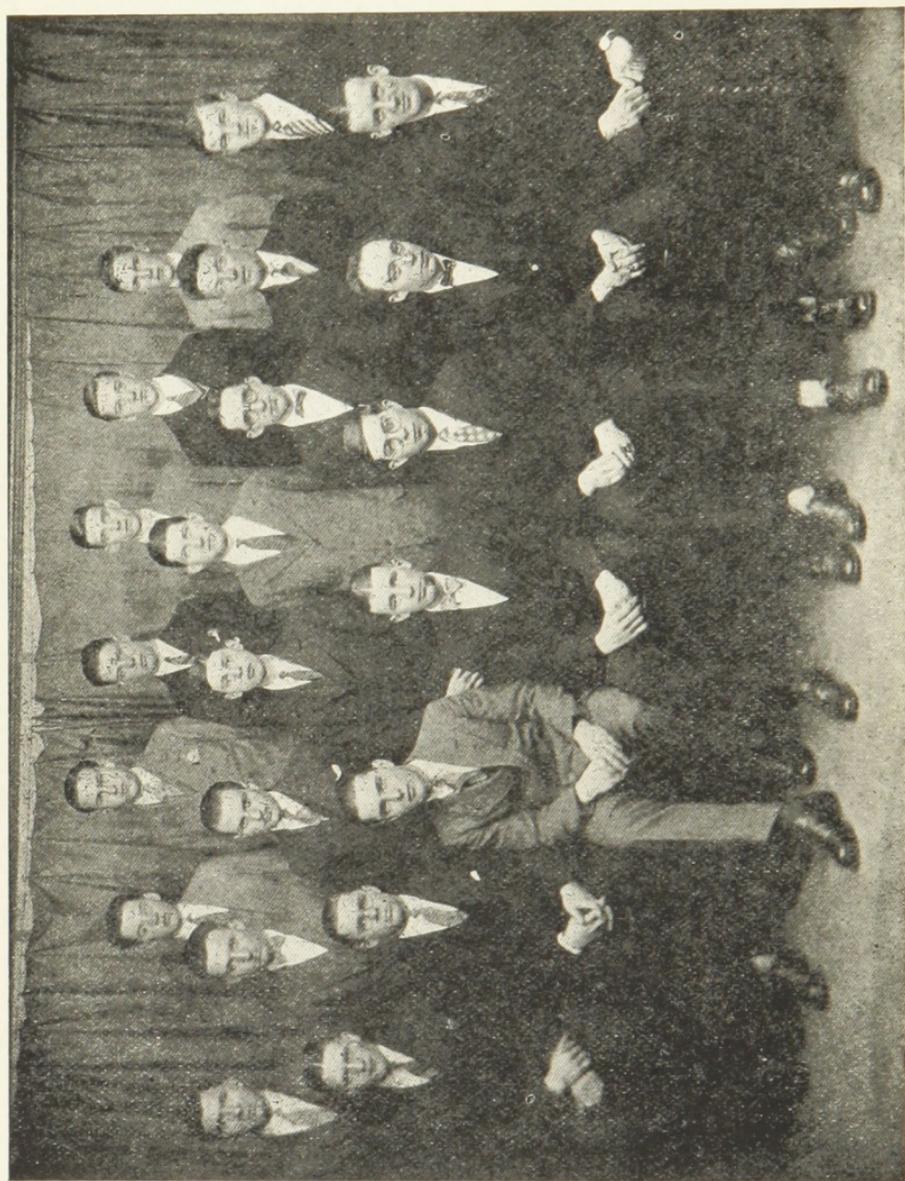
EXECUTIVE OFFICE, WAGNER COLLEGE

weekly meetings, and sometimes as high as three meetings per week, in Mr. Wilson's study. The L. G. Balfour Company was chosen designers and official makers of the Alpha Kappa Pi badges and all other jewelry. The colors selected were Dartmouth green and white and the badge was in the form of a seven pointed star with the yellow tea rose, the Mrs. Calvin Coolidge rose, as the official flower. The George Banta Publishing Company was selected as the publishers of the fraternity journal. Immediately after the meetings of March 23, the societies at Newark and Wagner were organized as the Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity and the fraternity was incorporated, under the laws of the state of New Jersey, as the Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity of the United States of America.

FIRST CONVENTION

A momentous event in the life of the young fraternity was the first convention, and banquet, held on Saturday, May 22, 1926, and at the Hotel Clendenin, New York City. The business sessions occupied the better part of the day. The spirit manifested at these meetings was most promising. It was remarkable in that Beta chapter had an attendance of 100 per cent and Alpha chapter was not far behind. The convention banquet was held in the evening, and at the same hostelry, with Mr. Wilson Hull as master of the occasion. Through invitation, Stanley Charlton, Delta Tau Delta, of the Balfour Company, was present at the banquet, as were Lester A. Crone, A. T. Lawrence, H. Malcolm Overbagh, B. H. Stevens, Albert V. Hay, and Vincent N. Tobin, of the Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey. Others present were: Albert H. Wilson, and from Newark College: Charles A. Fausel, Ralph A. Brader, Harry W. Dierman, Wilson R. Hull, John E. Kane, Chas. F. Forsythe, Albert F. Kopf, Ray J. Cox, Louis Balenson, and James A. Gibbons; and from Wagner College: John A. W. Kirsch, William W. Zundel, Paul H. Clemen, John W. Kern, Harry T. McKnight, H. M. Overbagh, Theo. T. Erdman, Walter J. Huthman, Albert P. Schilke, R. Frank Herr, William T. Heil, and Frank H. Nickel.

It might be worth while to state, for historical background, that the fraternity decided to place her immediate efforts in building up a chapter list mostly confined, but not wholly restricted, to



ALPHA CHAPTER, NEWARK COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, NEWARK, N. J.

those states touching on, or contiguous to, the Atlantic Ocean. It was deemed expedient and wise to create a strong home base in and about New York City before venturing into more removed colleges and universities. Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity thus makes her bow to the college world and, in doing so, asks no favors, other than the nation-old rights of America to do her best, in a spirit of useful service, to contribute something, in her own way and under her own banners, to the college youth of our beloved country.

PAUL H. CLEMEN,
Wagner College,
Staten Island, New York

ALPHA KAPPA PI PERSONALS

Paul Clemen is back from a trip to Europe and reports a most interesting trip. He is back for another year at Wagner College.

H. Malcolm Overbagh and Arthur Lawrence are back early at Gamma's chapter house and have gotten the chapter home in excellent order for the opening of college.

Brother Art Kugler is married and now settled in his own home at Rutland, Vermont. Art would be a most welcomed guest at Gamma when ever able to get back to the old campus.

Brother Louis Dury has completed the building of a beautiful home at Great Kills, Staten Island, where he and Mrs. Dury will be happy to welcome all A K II members.

Brothers Harry McKnight and Frank Nickel have gone to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where they have entered the Mount Airy Seminary to complete their work toward entering the Lutheran Church ministry. Beta will miss these two fine men.

Brother James Gibbons, our Secretary, spent the summer vacation at Wanague, New Jersey, where he was doing construction work on the Wanague Dam.

Brother Lester Crone, Gamma, is now nicely located in Buffalo, New York, after receiving the coveted sheep skin from Stevens Institute in June.

THE ALPHA

OF THE ALPHA KAPPA PI FRATERNITY

THE EDITOR'S DESK

With this issue of *THE ALPHA*, we enter the lists of fraternity journalism. The object of *THE ALPHA* is to keep the members of the Alpha Kappa Pi more intimately informed as to the progress of their fraternity, and to contribute, as time goes on, something of worth to the general good of the Greek-letter family. We are young, and, therefore, not wholly experienced. However, we are willing to learn and count it a great source of strength to have the other older and larger orders from whom we may draw inspiration, and helpful guidance. Therefore we ask that this, the first issue of the Fraternity's magazine, be judged more in the spirit of what we hoped to accomplish rather than by the first evidence of our journalistic labors. *THE ALPHA* asks only for a friendly field, and a fraternal welcome, from our fellow Greeks and college compeers. We thus make our bow and await your judgment.

The editor takes this opportunity to offer the thanks of the fraternity to all those persons who have been so generous in their assistance, and well wishes, during our days of organization; to Mr. Albert H. Wilson for his guidance in the capacity of fraternity adviser; to Mr. L. G. Balfour for the creation of our badge; to Mr. Stanley Charlton, of the L. G. Balfour offices in New York City, for kindly suggestions, and to the George Banta Publishing Company, for agreeing to take care of our magazine interests. To these, and to all others, who have been helpful to us we offer this small meed of sincere gratefulness.

In this issue of *THE ALPHA*, will be found a brief history of the fraternity's founding; the chapter department will present chapter letters from our three chapters, while a short account of the installation of the Gamma chapter, Stevens Institute, will be given. Also a few campus views of our college homes with half-

tones of the chapters. Taken as a whole the members of the fraternity are satisfied with their beginning and are looking into the future with great confidence and expectancy. THE ALPHA is hopeful of being placed on the exchange list of the other fraternity journals, and suggests that such exchanges be addressed to Paul H. Clemen, c/o Wagner College, Staten Island, New York.

FIRST BABY

To Brother and Mrs. Henry Keller, Gamma, go the distinct honor of being the first parents of second generation Alpha Kappa Pi baby. The little lady has been named Doris and congratulations are in order for the fond father and mother.



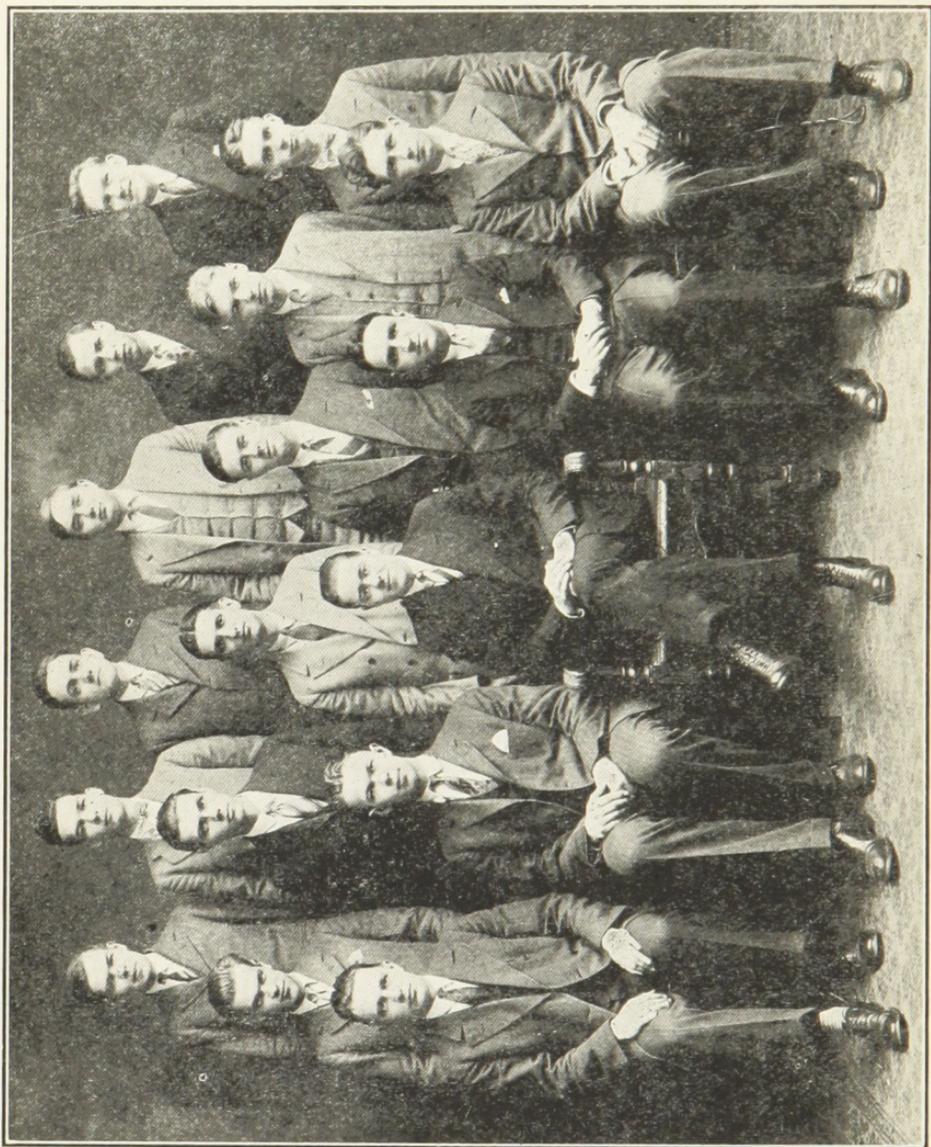
BETA CHAPTER, 1925-26 WAGNER COLLEGE

Chapter Letters

ALPHA

It is with much pleasure that the Alpha chapter sends greetings to the other chapters in our fraternity. First of all Alpha is proud of her high scholastic standing, while at the same time our members rate high in all other activities of the college. For instance Brother Harry Dierman is president; Brother Louis Balenson is vice president, and Brother Vernon Koch is treasurer of the class of '27. In the class of 1929 the four high offices are filled in order by Brothers Joseph Townsend, Walter Kastner, Herman Lenk, and Vernon Drake. In athletics Lawrence Koch is president of the Association, Ray Cox is vice president, and Herman Lenk, treasurer, while Joe Townsend is chairman of the executive council. Brother Gibbons is captain of the track team and Brother Kane is basketball manager. Brother A. S. Kopf is chairman of student government. Thus we find the men of Alpha taking a high rank in all the better things of their college. Next year Alpha expects to start proceedings with the following brothers in active service: Wilson R. Hull, Ralph Brader, Harry Dierman, James Gibbons, Ray Cox, Louis Balenson, Arthur Spinanger, George Deaney, William Falconer, Charles Forsythe, Frank Goldbach, Lawrence Koch, Fred Wolpert, John Kane, Leonard Kuhn, George Dorn, Thomas Groll, Joe Townsend, Clark Shaeffer, Vernon Drake, Charles Clarendon, Herman Lenk, Wiltner Kastner, Henri Prechem, John Roche. The alumni of Alpha, who will be back to help us make the coming year a great success are: Charles Beyer, Charles Fausel, Charles Bauer, Kenneth Marshall, Leo Mosch, A. S. Kopf, Clifford Siese. Brothers, in Beta and Gamma chapters, we of Alpha have set our hearts and minds to make our Alpha Kappa Pi a great and wonderful brotherhood. To succeed we must all work as one well organized unit, and to this end we of the Alpha chapter pledge our best and continual efforts. Ray Cox is the new chapter president for next year. Alpha invites her brothers to visit her. Come and we are sure that you will find that we are most cordial.

JAMES A. GIBBONS



GAMMA CHAPTER, 1925-26 STEVENS INSTITUTE

BETA

Beta chapter was well represented in campus activities during the past college year. Paul Clemen was business manager and Ted Erdmann was art editor of the college annual, *The Kallista*; Brothers "Hans" Kern, Frank Nickel, Al Schielke, Ted Erdmann, and Harry McKnight received their letters in baseball and track; Kern, Erdmann, Clemens, and McKnight, were on the student council, McKnight being chairman and Kern secretary. Brothers Huthmann, Erdmann, Shielke, and Clemen were in the cast of the dramatic society's annual production. Brother Frank Nickel brought great honor to himself and to A K II at commencement when he won the Steinhauser Memorial prize for the best graduation thesis.

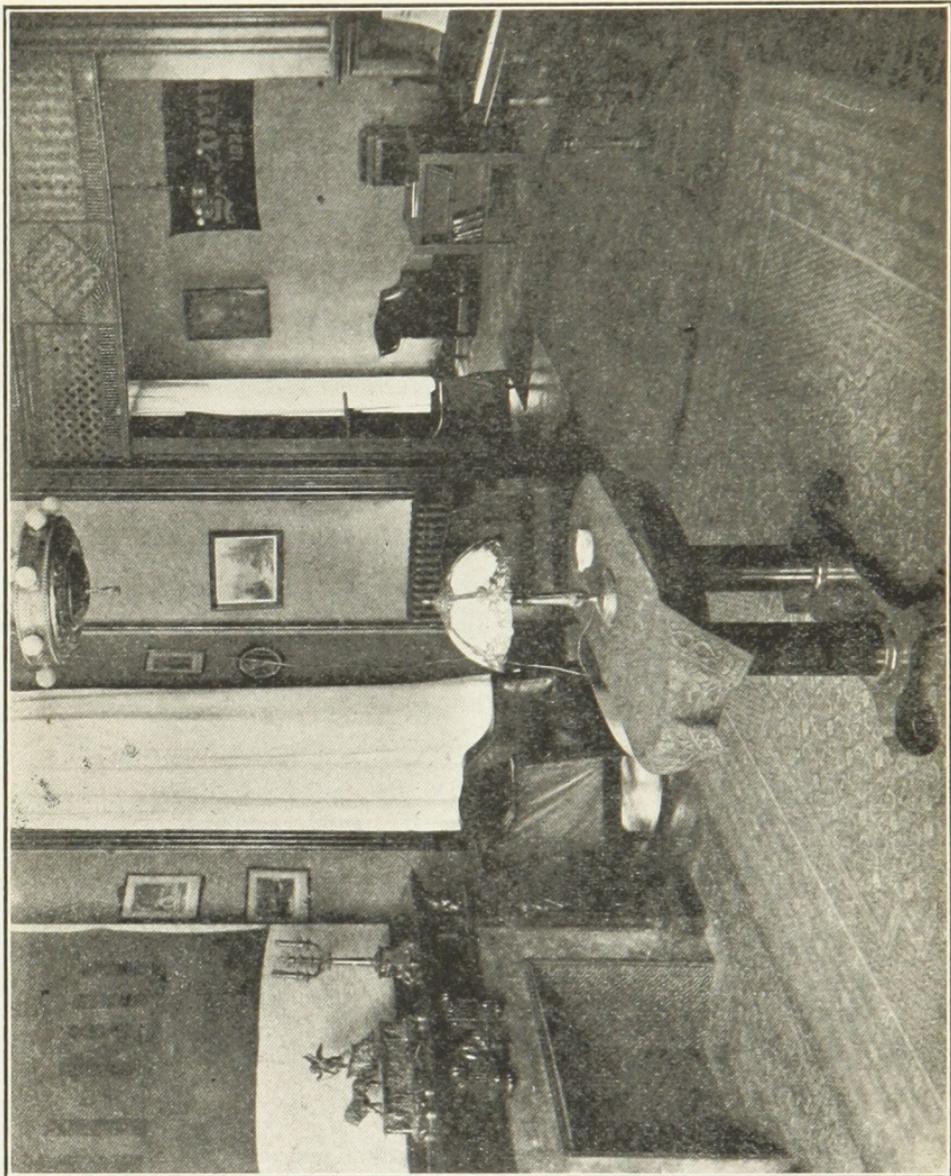
It has not been all work and no play with Beta men, however. During the year Beta was able to put over three house parties, a stag dinner, a theater party and supper, and several small social evenings on the campus. Credit must be given here to Ted Erdmann and Frank Nickel.

A word about our fine college may not be amiss. Wagner College campus is composed of the former Cunard and Vanderbilt estates on Staten Island. Visitors have told us that we have one of the most beautiful domains in the east for a college campus. Recently an added endowment of one half million has been given to the college and we are expecting many needed improvements. We have a great faculty and expect also to see Wagner grow into one of the leading colleges along the Atlantic seaboard.

Beta extends a warm invitation to all Alpha Kap brothers to pay her a visit. We were happy to entertain Brader, Cox, and Gibbons from Alpha and Overbagh, Gamma.

This chapter of Alpha Kappa Pi is out to help make our fraternity a real contributor to the college youth of the land and will be ready at all times to do our best part when the call is given.

Brothers Kirsch and Erdmann spent a part of their vacation in Porto Rico while Brother Clemen made a trip across the Atlantic. In September Beta hopes to open the year with Brothers Erdmann, Heil, Herr, Huthmann, Kern, Kirsch, Schielke, Zundel, and Stoughton in active chapter. It is hard to see the



GAMMA CHAPTER, LOUNGE AND SOCIAL ROOMS

little circle broken through the graduations of Nickel and McKnight. To all the brothers Beta sends greetings.

HARRY T. McKNIGHT

GAMMA

Thursday, June 24, 1926, will remain always a big day in the annals of Gamma chapter. On that day the Phi Nu local took on the name and the responsibilities of the Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity. Thirty-one men took the vows and pledged their best efforts to advance the cause of the fraternity. It is a marked distinction to be the first chapter chartered after the final organization of A K II and Gamma will do her utmost to prove true to the trust and confidence shown toward her. These men have been made wearers of the seven pointed star:

Lester Crone, East Orange.

Theodore G. Koven, Jersey City.

Romeo M. Nardone, Newark.

Carl Kleiber, Newark.

Arthur T. Lawrence, Roselle.

Charles L. Croatman, Woodhaven, New York.

H. Benjamin Oliver, Brooklyn.

Donald Castle, Brooklyn.

H. Malcolm Overbagh, Brooklyn.

Willard B. Constantides, Rutherford.

Kenneth Meyer, New York City.

Jack Mennie, Montclair.

August E. Ermisch, Long Island City.

Harry Wilson, Brooklyn.

Elwyn E. Mariner, Sanford, Maine.

Thomas Phelan, Brooklyn.

Albert H. Hendrich, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York.

Evert E. Eberle, Hoboken.

From our alumni we are happy to present as initiated brothers:

Richard Tobin, Plainfield.

Vincent Tobin, Plainfield.

Louis Dury, Great Kills, Staten Island.

Henry Keller, Verona.

Albert Hay, New York City.

Henry Cloyes, New York City.

Frank Secor, Newark.

John Brady, New York City.

Howard Thompson, Brooklyn.

George Ludwig, Brooklyn.

Clarence Reichelt, West New Brighton, New York.

George Schumacher, Congers, New York.

Hugh Cameron, Brooklyn.

Gamma chapter has been very active on the campus the past year and has held a high place in scholarship with Brother Kleiber winning the coveted Tau Beta Pi key.

The institute is doing a splendid work within her own field and there is no technical college with a finer record or reputation than Stevens. The present attendance is about 475 men. Gamma of Alpha Kappa Pi removed the last local fraternity from our campus and in the future will compete in friendly rivalry with chapters of Theta Xi, Delta Tau Delta, Beta Theta Pi, Chi Psi, Chi Phi, Phi Sigma Kappa, Sigma Nu, Theta Nu Epsilon, Theta Upsilon Omega, and Phi Lambda Phi. Our chapter house is situated at 509 River Terrace, just across the street from the college, and we hope to receive many visiting brothers during the college year. Gamma chapter, active and alumni brothers, have entered Alpha Kappa Pi with a great eagerness to do everything in her power to promote the welfare of the fraternity and to aid, in every honorable manner, the extension of her precepts.

H. MALCOLM OVERBAGH

PHI NU FRATERNITY—GAMMA CHAPTER

Stevens Institute of Technology,
509 River Terrace, Hoboken, N. J.

The founding of the Phi Nu fraternity, the society at Stevens Institute, from which evolved Gamma chapter of the Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity, was started by three men. These men previous to this time were grouped with five other men into a band of eight with the expressed idea of founding a fraternity. But it was only the first three, who had the courage to face the task before them.

The actual date of the founding of Phi Nu fraternity, March 19, 1923, never will be forgotten by the former members of Phi Nu. The three men who were the charter members of Phi Nu were Richard Tobin, Vincent Tobin, and John Daly.

The first step of this new fraternity was to increase their membership by men who were willing to work and work hard. Two men were taken into the brotherhood and were followed shortly afterward by seven others, all within a period of two months. With these twelve men the fraternity was completely organized.

Our first complete initiation was held June 1, 1923, when three men were initiated. The event was carefully planned and all details worked out carefully. The initiation was dignified and impressive. As a climax all the brothers were presented with their fraternity badges and Phi Nu was publicly announced on the campus. Events moved swiftly. A three story house was taken as a fraternity home. Men graduated, but more men were pledged and initiated, the fraternity never lowering its original high standard for membership. From such an organization came Gamma chapter of the Alpha Kappa Pi. The men of Gamma are proud of their beginning and, in that same spirit, we have pledged ourselves to carry on in our national Fraternity; to which we have unreservedly given our allegiance.

ALBERT V. HAY, *Gamma*

S e r v i c e

The appointment of the L. G. Balfour Company as Official Jeweler to Alpha Kappa Pi is contingent for its successful fulfillment upon the "Service" the Company can render its individual members. We will, therefore, be deeply grateful to have your earnest co-operation and to receive suggestions which will aid our efforts to make the term "Service" more effective. Our desire for your continued patronage is no stronger than our intention to deserve it.

Our 1926 Blue Book illustrating various novelties which may be mounted with the Alpha Kappa Pi insignia will be sent on request.

L. G. BALFOUR COMPANY
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