TOMAHAWK



of Alpha Sigma Phi



Founders Day 1955

110th Anniversary—December 6

On December 6, 1955, the Fraternity will observe the 110th Anniversary of its Founding at Yale University by Louis Manigault, Stephen Ormsby Rhea and Horace Spangler Weiser.

Every year Founders Day gives an opportunity for every Sig to impress upon his heart and mind the Ideals and Principles upon which the Fraternity was built.

But 1955 is a special occasion. This is the first major milestone in our Second Century—the 110th Anniversary. Join with old friends and new in a salute to the Fraternity on its One Hundred and Tenth birthday.

Many Alumni Councils will plan special observances and Chapters will hold their own celebrations. Join your local Council or a nearby Chapter in this tribute to the "Old Gal."

At press time the following Councils had set their plans for Founders Day 1955. Check with local Council officers in other communities.

BOSTON — Tentative plans for dinnermeeting early in December. Contact: Charles E. Megargel, 40 Broad Street; Phone: HUbbard 2-9640.

CHARLESTON — December 8, Kanawha County Airport, 6:30 P.M. Speaker: Bishop W. C. Campbell, West Virginia Diocese, Protestant Episcopal Church. Chairman: William A. Boag, 802 Edgewood Drive; Phone: 31-539 or 60-861.

CINCINNATI — December 3, The Mariemont Inn, Wooster Pike (U.S. 50), Mariemont, Ohio, 6:45 P.M. Speaker: Vernon Rader, Past President, Cincinnati Alumni Council and Art Director, Proctor and Gamble. Chairman: David M. Martin, 6106 Joyce Lane; Phone: REdwood 1-2074.

DETROIT — December 2, Detroit Yacht Club, 7:30 P.M., Dinner-Dance. Chairman: Ed Bailey; Phone: DIamond 1-1474.

HONOLULU — December 6. Tenth Anniversary of Honolulu Alumni Council. Resident or visiting Sigs should contact A. Brodie Smith, P.O. Box 2053, Honolulu 5, T.H., phone: 3-0828; or R. Allen Watkins, Watkins Printery, 991 Waimanu Street, Honolulu, T.H., phone: 5-2996.

LOS ANGELES — December 2, Ciro's, 8433 Sunset Boulevard, 7:30 P.M. Chairman: Jack Courtney, 10513 S. Nashville, East Whittier, Phone: OX—6-1608.

NORTH JERSEY — December 6, Savoy-Plaza, 2022 Lackawanna Plaza, Orange, N.J., 6:45 P.M. Chairman: Donald K. Schweikert, 26 Ridgewood Terrace, Maplewood, N.J.; Phone: South Orange 3-3934.

OKLAHOMA CITY — December 9, Beverley's Hideaway, N.E. 52nd. and Santa Fe, 6:30 P.M. Toastmaster: Grand Secretary Calvin Boxley. Special Feature: Movies of Oklahoma football, narrated by Assistant Coach Gomer Jones. Chairman: Tom Ashton, 815 N.W. 34th Street; Phone: JA-4-7740.

SACRAMENTO — December 2. Auto caravan will leave 4:45 P.M. to attend San Francisco Founders Day Banquet. For transportation arrangements contact George A. Schurr, 1174 13th Avenue; Phone (office): HUdson-4-8294. Return trip to Sacramento will start at 10:45 P.M.

SAN FRANCISCO — December 2. Leopard Cafe, 140 Front Street. Chairman: William T. McGillivray, California Packing Corporation.

ST. LOUIS—December 5,7:00 P.M., George Room Medart's Restaurant. For reservations call Pat Boyle at Washington University Chapter, PA 1-9310.

WASHINGTON — December 5. Speaker: Arthur S. Flemming, Chairman Office of Defense Mobilization. Chairman: George E. Worthington, 501 N. Oxford Street, Arlington, Virginia.



Whittlesey Hall of the Delta Chapter at Marietta College as it appeared about 1883. The presence of the swords, as well as the story of how the Hall was named is told in the article entitled "Delta Goes to War." The acquisition of various other items is explained in the story titled "Early Delta Years." The golden key and the large Delta floral piece came from the first alumni chapter meeting in Cincinnati, the details of which are included in a third article about Delta Chapter.

THE

TOMAHAWK

OF ALPHA SIGMA PHI

First Published in 1847

VOL. LII

No. 4

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Men of Delta Chapter in the 1880s. It is said that the goat played an important part in the initiation ceremony.

Early Delta Years

In searching through ninety years of Delta Chapter correspondance, through the yellowing pages of the first minute books, and through early Tomahawks, we have come upon numerous items which give a picture of early fraternity life at Marietta. Articles for the Tomahawk written by Charles Swan Walker, Delta '64, Edwin S. Puller, Delta '88, and Thomas Lloyd Bush, Delta '19 are used as the basis for this story, and additions are from the early correspondance and minutes. Limitations are many in reconstructing such early days at Delta, for all who lived these experiences have been called to the Omega Chapter, and we have only their pen marks from which to redevelop these glorious days of Alpha Sigma Phi which provide so much of our heritage.

TO

B. V. H. Safford, L. A. Strong, W. Beale Whittlesey, D. W. Washburn, H. H. Kendrick, G. B. Turner, Wm B. Stephenson, Alick B. Riggs, Wm Holden, Greeting. We the undersigned, the President and officers of "ΑΣΦ" Fraternity in Yale College by virtue of the power vested in us, and relying on your well known wisdom, learning, and discretion, do hereby grant you full authority to institute a Chapter of our Honorable Body in Marietta College to be called the "Δ of ΑΣΦ" and to be governed according to the Constitution of this the Parent Chapter—Said Chapter shall be duly handed down by you and your successors to such good and trusty men as you may hereafter select from each succeeding Class, And it shall be your duty from time to time to consult with and advise us of your welfare.

Witness our hands and seals At this our Hall on Saturday, June 30th, 1860.

Jos. S. Kernochan, President J. H. Eakin, Vice President Samuel E. Cooper, R. Secretary Theodore C. Bacon, C. Secretary

Thus Delta was born, and committed to nine as fine young men as any college could boast, men who bestowed credit and honor on their Alma Mater, setting a high standard for their successors in our beloved Fraternity. Eight out of the nine volunteered to aid their country in her peril and hour of need — two of them, Whittlesey and Turner, laying down their young lives on the altar of patriotism. Delta was born in stirring and exciting times, and very soon her members fired with patriotism began departing for the Civil War. William Holden volunteered on April 20, 1861, only five days after the firing on Fort Sumter. The story of valor and honor of those who served is told elsewhere in this issue.

One cannot divorce these early days of Delta from the news of the Civil War and many references in the minutes elude to the reaction of the members to the news from the front lines, such as the entry, "Declaimer was excused on account of exciting times."

Meanwhile it was necessary to fill the ranks of Delta depleted by the war service of her Brothers, and committees were appointed to wait upon various likely members of the freshman class who had been elected to membership. An amusing entry appears in the minutes, "a committee was appointed to 'pump, feel and finger' candidates for admission." It was the custom to initiate the man immediately upon his acceptance, so it was not unusual that a man elected one night would be shown the mysteries of the Order within a few days. Thus Delta carried on during the difficult war years.

An Anniversary Is Celebrated

On June 25, 1862, the second reunion of Delta took place, and seems to have been quite an extensive affair, as the following program indicates:

SECOND REUNION

Alpha Sigma Phi Hall, June 25th, 1862
This being our reunion meeting, the
President read the following toasts:

"The Day We Celebrate.' May the Birthday of Alpha Sigma Phi ever occur under as happy auspices. Responded to by Strong.

"'Cradled in Adversity, Alpha Sigma Phi's Star shines with increased luster because of the fullness of her victory.' Responded to by Whittlesey.

"'Here's health to Alpha Sigma; God bless the dear old soul; May she ever drink full bumpers, of fortune from Life's Bowl.'

Responded to by Kendrick.

"'Our Alumni.' We welcome them with a hearty shake and are proud to know that their devotion to old Alpha Sigma Phi is as intense as ever. Responded to by Kendrick.

"'Our Honorarys.' We give them a hearty welcome to our Tabernacle. May the band which unite us never be broken.

"'Our Repast.' Our stomachs acknowledge the load of gratitude. Responded to by Frame.

"'The Girls of Alpha Sigma Phi.' Their smiles reward her brave sons. Responded to by Putnam.

"'Our Graduating Members.' They have been tried and not found wanting. Their sonship has been proved by their unwavering devotion to Alpha Sigma Phi. Our best wishes go with them. Responded to by Gear.

"After supper and also the toasts which were heartily responded to, the President delivered his Valedictory address to the Members of Alpha Sigma Phi, which was moved to be recorded in the minutes. (Part of the address must of necessity be omitted due to its comments upon the initiation ceremony).

"Brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi, it is with mingled feeling of pleasure and regret that I now perform the duty required of me by custom and the rule of the Fraternity, that of addressing you at the close of my term of office, in the language of a President's farewell. Pleasure, in view of the honor of the position which I occupy; regret, that it is the last time I can address you as an acting member of our Society. The latter feeling predominates, for though my connection

with you has been comparatively short, yet it has been long enough to make me in every sense of the word, not only in name and in body, but also in mind and in heart, an Alpha Sigma Phi. A little more than one year ago, I entered this Hall for the first time. I well remember the impression made upon my mind by that first entrance. I had indeed expected to see something strange, something unlike what I had ever seen before, but I confess that I was startled at the ghostly wierdness of the scene which met my gaze upon passing the threshold of vonder door. A strange feeling, almost unearthly came over me as I followed my guide through the midst of the wierd looking forms, which (here is included Brother Gear's impressions of a scene which has been familiar to every initiate since that time) Brothers, I am happy to be able to say that so far as that ceremony is a condition of worthiness, I am still deserving of your honor and respect. The night of my initiation is not the only one to be remembered by me, in connection with our Fraternity. Many are the joyous hours I have passed within these walls. I have become attached to our Society. I have felt the bonds of social friendship drawing me continually nearer my Brother, And you, Brothers, have shown regard for me. You have not only acted uniformly with fraternal kindness towards me, but have seen fit to honor me by the bestowments of the highest position within your gift. I appreciate the favor which you have shown me, and can assure you of the sincerity of my gratitude. And now, Brothers, that I must leave you in view of the possibility that I may engage no more in these scenes of festivity and social happiness, a feeling of sadness comes over me. I feel that I am about to lose a source of high enjoyment. But I shall carry away with me a grateful recollection of the happy hours I have spent. They will be in my memory and whenever possible I shall deem it a pleasure to visit the place so endeared to me by pleasing associations. Thanking you again for the honor which you have conferred upon me, I resign it to others and I hope better hands, and gratefully bid you a sincere farewell. Hiram L. Gear

President of Alpha Sigma Phi"
This was the devotion of these first men
of Delta to their Fraternity.

Rivalries Were Intense

In those days the location of the hall of

the Fraternity was kept secret, as was most everything else about it. On meeting nights -nobody outside the fraternity knew on what nights meetings were held-the members slipped stealthily through alleys and back streets, singly or in pairs, and entered the Hall by an obscure stairway after satisfying the guard at the door that they were not predatory rivals. "Who's there?" asked in a hoarse whisper, was answered in the same tone with the password. This given, the member was admitted and the door. a heavy wooden one reinforced by an iron sheet bolted to it, was closed on the proceedings. At the close of the meeting, or during the recess, the "Grub" committee sallied forth to obtain refreshments, paying for them if necessary.

At times the Hall would be discovered, either by the rival Delta Upsilon men or the Alpha Digamma men, members of a local fraternity. Such efforts of rival societies to break in and break up had to be frustrated.

Speaking of his undergraduate days, Brother Edwin S. Puller said, "A fight or a frolic was equally welcomed, but a fight with a rival fraternity man was real entertainment." After such attempts to break in the Hall, retaliation was in order.

Seizing a time when a rival hall had no more than three or four men in it, the Sigs would creep on them unawares, subdue them, break up furniture, gather what paraphernalia they could find in the shape of pennants, pictures, documents, or small bits of furniture and carry them back to decorate the interior of their own hall. The same thing happened to the Sigs occasionally, for other societies succeeded in breaking into their hall. This perhaps explains the presence of some of the items in the picture on the cover.

Sometimes two rival societies, also enemies, arranged a truce long enough to pay off old scores on their mutual enemy. On one such occasion the old Alpha Digammas out to revenge their wrongs met the D.U.s and engaged in bloody combat. The two groups arriving at no satisfactory conclusion, they leagued themselves against the Sigs for the purpose of wrecking the Sig Hall. Contrary to expectations, however, several Sigs were "at home" and sprang to the defense. The battle was long and deadly, but the defenders repulsed the enemy and the Hall was saved.

The minutes often have references to the

fights such as the entry of January 17, 1880: "H.S.P. Warner asked the Society's pardon for getting into the brawl with the D.U.s, which as shown by the remarks was thought not needed."

Such incidents were not unusual and nobody was surprised by them. Fortunately no serious damage was ever done to persons involved, although property suffered considerably.

So the Old Gal lived a hectic existence from day to day and year to year, but good fellowship was ever found within the walls, and this made all the troubles seem small; although from time to time there are notes in the minutes like the one of October 2, 1863: "the meeting was somewhat delayed owing to the Secretary having fallen into the hands of the Digammas." Notwithstanding this seeming evidence of a pugnacious spirit, the Digammas were invited to a dinner in the following December, but there is no record to show that the dinner took place.

But the rivalries lasted through the years, for on February 17, 1883, a pugilistic committee was appointed "to squelch the D.U.s" and "a professional trainer appointed to put the committee through a severe course of training."

Meetings Were Not All Business

However the meetings were held and usually at least once a week. Much as was custom in the Alpha Chapter, the meetings contained a full program of literary exercises including poems, orations, plays, and in some instances, debates on the current issues of the day. These exercises for the mind were always followed by general good fun, particularly if the "Gurb Committtee" had done a good job and provided ample provisions of cider or fruit of some sort. The comments in the minutes are rather unique such as the one of April 8, 1863: "The Society then adjourned for ten minutes, during which they (the Seniors) 'drove dull care away' in a social game of marbles, displaying much skill in the use of the marble."

Or the entry from a few meetings later, on April 22, 1863: "The meeting took place partly for the sake of welcoming our Sigma Phi Brother, Sam Chester; partly to initiate Mr. Hoffman; lastly, but not leastly, to have a good time, which we immediately proceeded to do. After the edibles had been 'laid on the table,' and the drinkables duly prepared to taste, the Society resolved itself

into a committee of the whole on the matters upon the aforementioned table, and discussed them in a very thorough and satisfactory manner. During which proceedings, the plate of our worthy Ex-President was so over come by some funny remarks that it lost its center of gravity and took the floor. Happily nothing worse was cracked than a joke or two at the proprietor of the plate."

It was not unusual that these meetings would last several hours, and were often adjourned after midnight, and a few times each year at about 4:30 A.M., or later as the minutes of July 1, 1875 record: "Afterwards those who were so disposed indulged in a 'stag' and the remainder of the night was spent in conversation intermingled with music. When Aurora began to display her rosy beauty in the East, the Brothers bade farewell for a season to the beloved walls of the hall, in which so many pleasant hours have been spent, and about which cluster so many pleasant memories."

But there had to be business as well, particularly when it was a matter of a leaky roof as recorded on June 28th, 1866: "In miscellaneous business, committee of three was appointed to stop the leakage of the roof, using discretionary powers."

And some of the debates sound much like those of the present day, although the subjects are a bit altered: "The question 'shall our oysters be stewed or scalloped' was discussed at some length. Those in favor of scalloped oysters had the preference of argument. Consequently the Society decided to eat scalloped oysters on the night of the Bust." This little lesson in epicurian democracy is recorded in the minutes of December 19, 1874.

The problems of finance were difficult but not many. Dues, initiation fees, and collections supplied the income while the Busts, rentals and repairs supplied the outgoing channels. But such costs were not high for in the 1864 minutes it is recorded that, "Mr. Anderson reported that he had leased the Hall for 10 years, for \$35.00 per year payable quarterly."

Marietta was not in that day a rich man's college. It was hard on those lads to afford a college education alone, not to mention the luxury of a fraternity. So the assessments had to be reasonable. In delving through the great mass of old Delta papers, one finds records of account:

To initiation fee \$10.00 To dues for April .25 and so on. But even these "enormous sums" paid into the treasury failed to meet all the obligations of the Fraternity. Bills were carried over from year to year and eventually were paid only to have others take their places—a procedure which is strikingly identical to the current practice of some chapters.

Scholastic Achievement Was High

The early years of Delta Chapter were years of prominance and high standing both in college and in the social life of Marietta. Membership in Alpha Sigma Phi was a passport to the very best society, and the collegiate standing of her members was of the highest. In 1862, but two years after the founding of the chapter in Marietta, George B. Turner took the valedictory. This was followed by a continuous series of successes by her members; for in 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, and 1880, she carried the same high honor. From 1862 to 1880, 18 years, Delta members won the highest honor 12 times. In the next twenty years, Delta men won six times.

Loyalty Is Fostered

Through all the days from the Civil War to the turn of the century, Delta carried the banner of the Fraternity in its Ohio college town. Members were added year by year, and alumni spread out into the surrounding communities and across the nation. These men were loyal to Delta and to Alpha Sigma Phi, so as opportunities developed these were the men who helped form other chapters for the "Old Gal."

The traditions of Delta have thus become the traditions of the Fraternity, and some of these year by year activities have provided the heritage which makes Alpha Sigma Phi stand apart from other societies.

The high caliber of membership that the Fraternity has always maintained is due to the examples set by Delta and the Parent Chapter at Yale. The highly secret nature of the Fraternity has come down to the present undergraduates as a tradition born of necessity in the days when rivalries were intense. The loyalty of the members of Alpha Sigma Phi, which today exists from Chapter to Chapter and from Brother to Brother, comes from the loyal family-like unity which bound together the Sigs of the nineteenth century.

The record of the early achievements of Delta stands as an example and a challenge to all Sigs today—may we ever be worthy of the heritage.

Delta Goes to War

The presence of the swords in the picture on the cover can be explained by the occurance of the first war in which a Sig Badge was carried into battle, in this case worn conspicuously on the blue blouse of the Union Army. Here is told the romance surrounding the heroic deaths of Delta's famous members who participated in the Civil War, a story which has been known by many of Delta's sons since they first wore the gold and black Badge of the Fraternity, but unknown to many of our members, and set down for the first time in its present form by Thomas H. Kelley, Delta '74, in a previous issue of the Tomahawk. Delta Chapter's minute books of the 1860s provide the further references to complete this story of patriotism to the nation and loyalty to Alpha Sigma Phi.

Officers of the Revolution originated the idea of a settlement at Marietta and it is recorded that of those who settled on the lands of the Ohio Company within the first few years, probably sixty held commissions as officers in the War for Independence. Descendents of these men founded Marietta College in 1835 and twentyfive years later, to others of them was committed the sacred trust of carrying the banner of Alpha Sigma Phi. In such an historical atmosphere loyalty to the United States was to be expected. The geographical position of Marietta on the borderthe Ohio River alone separating the North from the South—gave unusual prominence to the facts of the Civil War from its very beginning.

Delta Chapter shares with Marietta College a unique distinction for its patriotic response when called to the defense of the country in the Civil War. Of the forty-six men graduated in the classes of 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864, thirty-four entered the service, or a fraction less than seventyfour percent. The class of 1861 sent eight of its eleven men to the front; the class of 1862, the same number; the class of 1863, ten out of a class of twelve; and 1864, eight out of thirteen. Not much wonder that the college authorities were seriously considering closing the institution while hostilities continued, with threefourths of the student body bearing arms. Of the nine charter members of Delta all but one volunteered upon the call for troops. These men, besides planting the seeds of a fraternity that was destined to endure for generations, went gallantly forth to battle that their country might be free. More than passing notice should be taken of these men. Their military record is as follows:

Bernard Van Horn Safford, Private, 3rd Ohio Infantry; Henry Howe Kendrick, 2nd Lieutenant 13th Ohio Infantry; Daniel Weston Washburn, Major, 4th New York Heavy Artillery; William Beale Whittlesey, Captain, 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry; George Butler Turner, Adjutant, 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry; William Holden, Captain and Assistant Q.M.U.S.V.; Alexander Brown Riggs, Corporal, Knapp's Battalion, Pennsylvania Cavalry; William Blackford Stephenson, Adjutant, 53rd Ohio Infantry.

Two of these Delta men played a glorious part in the great struggle that was the war of the rebellion. These men were William Beale Whittlesey, who graduated from college in 1861, and George Butler Turner, who graduated in 1862, each having filled the highest office in his Fraternity in his senior year.

The First Regiment of Light Artillery having been ordered to Marietta by the Governor of Ohio on April 29, 1861, almost immediately after the first call for troops, there was always a camp at that point till the close of the War.

The minutes of Delta Chapter, on April 20, 1861, record the first call to colors of a Brother in Alpha Sigma Phi:

"WHEREAS we have learned that we are about to be deprived, for the present at least, of the fellowship of our esteemed and well beloved Brother, William Holden, on account of his volunteering for the defense of his country.

"1st RESOLVED, That he carries with him the best wishes of our chapter for his welfare and success, and also our confident



Captain William Beale Whittlessey, Delta '60, 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

trust that ever as heretofore, he will prove an honor to our Fraternity.

"2nd RESOLVED, That we tender him our most heartfelt thanks for his constant activity in our behalf, his promptness, punctuality and exhibition of social and brotherly feeling and recommend him as an example in these respects to all Alpha Sigma Phis.

"3rd RESOLVED, That we now part with him with deep regret, but feeling that the duty we owe our country is paramount to all others, we bid him God's Speed.

'Be thou our motto,
Brotherly love
Pure as the starlight
Beaming above.'

"4th RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to our Brother and also to his parents."

Thus the first of Delta's sons to serve the nation went forth to war.

In the fall of 1862, Whittlesey was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Company F, 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a regiment largely recruited at and near Marietta. The minutes of Delta on September 10, 1862 record the following:

"As this is the last time that Whittlesev.

Putnam (David Edgerton Putnam, initiated March 25, 1861) and Turner expect to be with us, they each one gave us a very appropriate farewell address, and after several speeches from other members of the Society, the Society adjourned by singing the doxology."

All joined the 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry which became a part of the 14th Army Corps commanded by General George H. Thomas. Whittlesey participated in the battle of Chickamauga, September 17th and 18th, 1863. In the official report of the battle he was commended for bravery in action and was made a captain.

Two months later as he was leading his men up the heights of Missionary Ridge he fell, urging his men forward. The following is taken from "Ohio in the War" concerning the activities of the 92nd O.V.I. in the battle of Missionary Ridge on November 25. 1863:

"Commanding officers had fallen, color sergeants and guards were all shot away. Rallying the men by the colors, young Captain Whittlesey, a brave and noble officer, fell dead."

Whittlesey fully earned the title bestowed by Napoleon upon Marshal Ney as the "bravest of the brave."

After Whittlesey had fallen, and in his last breath had urged his men to go on, the other son of Delta carried on and of him is written:

"Leading the storming party over the crest, young Turner, the Adjutant, received his death wound."

The carnage in this engagement must have been frightful, for we are told that the loss to the 92nd Regiment in a brief twenty minutes was thirty-three per cent of the officers and ten percent of the men engaged.

Lieutenant Colonel Putnam of the 92nd Regiment, speaking of Whittlesey says: "Before the battle of Missionary Ridge an order was issued to prepare three days cooked rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition. Soldiers knew the meaning of such an order. Whittlesey made the requisite preparations and then waited the command to move — making first his will in which he remembered the Psi Gamma Literary Society of Marietta College, of which he was an enthusiastic member as an undergraduate." His sword was bequeathed to his beloved Fraternity and as the proudest possession of Delta Chapter is one of the

two pictured on the cover.

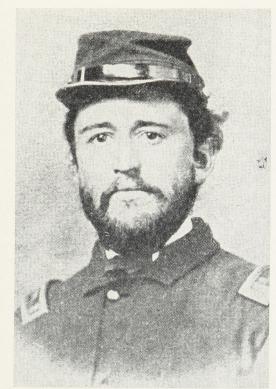
Turner, his companion in arms, was equally conspicuous for bravery in the firing line. Two months previous, at Chickamauga, when Colonel Fearing of the 92nd Regiment and his Adjutant, David E. Putnam, had both been wounded—Brother Putnam so seriously as to necessitate his discharge from the service—Turner, who had been acting as Sergeant Major, was made Adjutant of the Regiment and Lieutenant Colonel Putnam was directed to assume command.

On that fateful afternoon of November 25, 1863, the 92nd Regiment formed part of the column which stormed and captured Missionary Ridge, above the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. After the commanding officer had been wounded, Whittlesey and other officers killed, and still others wounded, Turner was spared to reach the summit. He assumed command for a brief half hour, and, with drawn sword rallied his men and led them against a brigade of the enemy, when he received a mortal wound from which he never rallied, and gave up his life in less than a week, on December 1, 1863. His last letter home from the field contained this ominous message, "If I never return, think not the sacrifice too great."

Whittlesey and Turner were born and reared in Marietta, were playmates in boyhood, were Brothers in the same Fraternity, were graduates from the same college, were comrades in arms in the same regiment, and both gave their lives in the same engagement. Verily these two lives seemed destined to run in parallel lines. The minie ball which took the life of Whittlesey on its way through his heart barely missed his Sig pin which he always wore conspicuously displayed on his blue army blouse. (See picture on page 116)

When word came from the front that these two precious lives had been yielded upon the field of battle, the College, Delta Chapter, and their home city of Marietta were alike profoundly grief stricken. A special meeting of Delta Chapter was called and met in North Hall on November 26, 1863:

"The object of the meeting was stated to be to take measures in regard to the death of our late honored and lamented Brother, Captain Whittlesey of Company F, 92 Vol. On motion Messrs. Fulton, Bosworth, and Whipple were appointed Comt. to draft resolutions in reference to Capt.



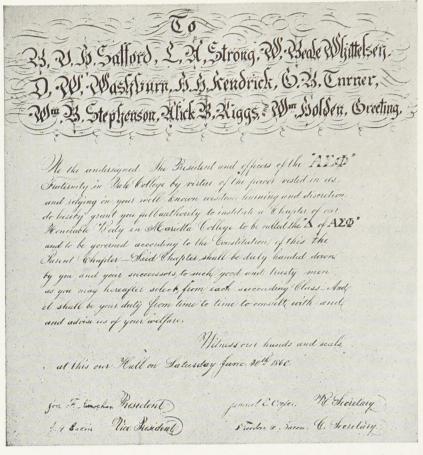
Adjutant George Butler Turner, Delta '60, 92nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Whittlesey. Whipple having resigned his place on said Comtt. in favor of Putnam (Douglas Perkins Putnam, initiated August 30, 1862, and brother of David E. Putnam), Putnam was apptd to fill his place. The Fraternity also resolved to wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days."

The next meeting of the Society, held in Alpha Sigma Phi Hall, brought the further sad news of Turner's death:

"Comtt. for drafting resolutions in view of Capt. Whittlesey's death were instructed to act in reference to Adjt. Turner's death also, of which the Fraternity had but lately recd. intelligence. Society then went into Comtt. of the Whole on the state of the Fraternity. Brother Putnam of the 92nd Vol. being called to the chair, made remarks concerning our late Brothers, Capt. Whittlesey and Adjt. Turner. He was followed in his remarks by nearly every member present, each showing by what he said that the deaths of Whittlesey and Turner had not fallen lightly upon the hearts of Sigma Phi."

When the bodies of these two young heroes had been returned to their native city of Marietta, a public funeral was ac-



The Charter granted to Delta Chapter at Marietta College on June 30, 1860 by the Parent Chapter, Alpha at Yale College.

corded them. Their bodies lay in state in the beautiful hall of the Psi Gamma Literary Society on the third floor of the principal building of the campus, and to which society Whittlesey was so deeply attached. Theirs was the first and only funeral ever held on the college campus and was most impressive because of the prominence of these young officers, and from the fact that they were the first casualties of the Civil War among the membership of Alpha Sigma Phi.

In addition to his sword, Brother Whittlesey also bequeathed to his Chapter the sum of \$100.00. On June 28, 1865, a new hall having been procured for the Society, it was dedicated as indicated in the minutes of Delta Chapter of that date:

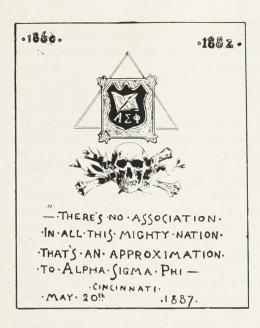
"WHEREAS, the Bequest of our late Brother, Captain W. B. Whittlesey, orginated the enterprise of founding a new Hall for this Society, and has contributed largely toward its completion, and,

"WHEREAS, it is fitting that a name so especially connected with the history of our Fraternity, and a memory so truly loved and honored by us all, should thus be preserved; therefore,

"RESOLVED, that this Hall be dedicated to the use of the Fraternity under the name of 'Whittlesey Hall,' and that this name be placed over the entrance to the Lodge.

"RESOLVED, that copies of these resolutions be sent to the parents of our late Brother, and filed in the archives of the Society."

Thus ends the sad but heroic tale of how the first sons of Delta went forth to war, and gave their lives in the same engagement; and how Delta Chapter named its hall and became the recipient of the swords of Whittlesey and Turner that led the troops to the top of Missionary Ridge that fateful day in November of 1863. Perhaps the crossed swords upon the Pledge Pin of the Fraternity may ever serve to remind our members of these gallant Brothers who were the first of many to give their lives in the defense of their nation.



It was with a similar announcement that the Cincinnati Alumni, Chapter, the first alumni association in Alpha Sigma Phi, announced its Sig Bust—held to celebrate the formation of the Alumni Chapter and held jointly with the undergraduates of Delta Chapter of Marietta College.

Warlike Chief Marshal Sets Scene For First Alumni Chapter in 1882

This story tells of the formation of the first Alumni Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity, thereby explaining the presence of the Golden Key and the floral piece displayed so prominently in the cover picture of this issue of the Tomahawk.

After Delta Beta Xi was banned by the faculty of Yale on June 2, 1875, Delta became the sole active chapter of the Fraternity.

Accordingly, the Marietta Chapter received overtures from other fraternities for merger or consolidation.

On October 18, 1879 a letter was received from the general secretary of Beta Theta Pi, and the Chapter instructed the H.C.S. to inform Beta Theta Pi that the Society had no intention of joining their fraternity. On February 14, 1880, two communications were read in chapter meeting containing proposals for joining the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, said letters having been received from Wilber Colvin, of the State University at Athens (Ohio University), member of the extension committee of Delta Tau Delta. Again the H.C.S. was instructed to write the representative of the inquiring fraternity "that the Society had no intentions of joining any other fraternity at the present."

In February of 1880 letters were received from Theta Delta Chi, and answered in a like vein. Several letters were received from the Phi Delta Theta Chapter at Ohio Wesleyan University, and this effort was discouraged by Delta. Sigma Alpha Epsilon also made overtures to the Marietta Sigs. (All these letters are in the possession of the Fraternity and will be the subject of a future article.)

These overtures were reported to the Sig alumni in Cincinnati and those men were kept advised of the developments and their advice was sought by the undergraduates. As the overtures became more numerous and more agressive, the Delta alumni became aroused and took definite action to make certain the undergraduates did not become swayed.

Thus we introduce the following quotations from the minute books of the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter. As these records

have never before been made public, they are recorded in full for the interest of the Fraternity.

Law Office of A. A. Ferris, Esq. 67 West Third St. Cincinnati April 4, 1881.

At a meeting called for and held on Monday, April 4, 1881, at the law office of A. A. Ferris, Esq., of the Cincinnati Alumni of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity of Marietta College, it was moved by Mr. Rehm that Mr. Ferris be, and he was, elected Chairman of the meeting. On motion of F. R. McCormick, T. H. Kelley was elected Secretary.

The object of the meeting was stated to be to consider the advisability of the step proposed by the Society at Marietta in the matter of an application for the granting of a chapter of the Chi Phi Fraternity. Upon the suggestion of the Chairman, remarks were called for from each one present, and the proposed action of the Society at Marietta was opposed by the following named gentlemen, to wit: Messrs. Sechler, Fulton, Ferris, F. R. McCormick, Brush, Rehm, Warner, & Kelley, being all who were then present.

On motion of Mr. Fulton, the Secretary was instructed to notify the Chapter at Marietta that the Alumni at Cincinnati are unanimously and strongly opposed to the making of the proposed application for a chapter of Chi Phi Fraternity.

It was then moved by T. K. Kelley, and carried that the members present proceed to the organization of an Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Society.

On motion of Mr. Fulton, the Chair appointed Messrs. Fulton, Kelley, and Rehm a committee to prepare and report a Constitution and By-Laws for the Alumni Chapter.

On motion of Mr. Rehm, the Secretary was instructed to notify the parent chapter of the organization of an Alumni Chapter.

On motion of Mr. Sechler, the meeting adjourned to meet at the call of the Chairman.

A. A. Ferris, Chairman

T. H. Kelley, Secretary

Law Office of T. H. Kelley #82 West Third St., Cincicinnati June 24, 1881

At a called meeting of the Cincinnati Alumni of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity held at the law-office of T. H. Kelley, #82 West Third Street, Cincinnati, there were present Messrs. Holden, Fulton, Waters, F. R. McCormick, A. L. McCormick, White, Rehm. & Kelley.

On motion Mr. Holden was called to the Chair, and Mr. Kelley made Secretary.

The object of the meeting was stated to be the consideration of the report of the Committee appointed on April 14, 1881, to prepare a Constitution and By-Laws for the government of an Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity.

The report of the committee being called for, was read by its Chairman, Mr. Fulton.

On motion of F. R. McCormick, the report of the Committee on Constitution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Kelley the Chapter proceeded to the election of officers. After nominations and balloting the following were declared to be duly elected as the officers of the Chapter for the ensuing year, to-wit:

President William Holden
Vice President T. M. Sechler
Secretary T. H. Kelley
Treasurer E. C. S. Rehm

Mr. Fulton moved that the Secretary be instructed to purchase a record book and engross the Constitution. Carried.

On motion of Mr. Waters, the Secretary was instructed to notify all the members and all the alumni of the fraternity of the next annual meeting.

On motion the chapter adjourned.

Wm. Holden, Chairman

T. H. Kelley, Secretary

P.S. On motion the members present at this meeting, to-wit: Messrs. Wm. Holden, R. S. Fulton, A. W. Waters, F. R. McCormick, A. L. McCormick, A. B. White, E. C. S. Rehm, and T. H. Kelley, together with the Vice President elect, Mr. T. H. Sechler, who is absent but for whom the Secretary is instructed to cast the vote of the Chapter, are declared to be the Charter Members of The Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity. T. H. Kelley, Secretary

Law Office of A. A. Ferris 67 West Third Street, Cincinnati February 13, 1882

At a called meeting of the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity held at the Law Office of A. A. Ferris, Esq. on February 13, 1882, there were present Messrs. Ferris, Kelley, Rehm, Lewis, Warner, and Jones. On motion Mr. Kelley, Mr. Ferris was called to the Chair, and Mr. Jones was made secretary of the meeting.

The object of the meeting was stated, and was for consideration of the question of having a banquet, or in other words, an old time "bust" and to arrange for it in such a way and at such time as to have the entire membership of the Marietta Chapter present.

After the matter had been thoroughly discussed and all present had expressed themselves in favor of the project, it was moved by Mr. Lewis that a committee of five be appointed with full and complete power to act in making all necessary arrangements for the holding of the first annual banquet of the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter.

The motion prevailed and the Chair appointed Messrs. Fulton, Kelley, Rehm, Warner, & Jones as such Committee.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned with the doxology.

A. A. Ferris, Chairman John Jones, Secretary of Meeting

Law Offices of R. S. Fulton, Esq. 25 West Third St., Cincinnati March 25, 1882

At a meeting of the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi, called at the office of R. S. Fulton Esq., No. 25 W. Third Street, Cincinnati, on March 25, 1882, there were present Messrs. Holden, Sechler, Fulton, McCormick, F. R. McCormick, A. L. Rehm, Jones, Lewis, & Kelley.

The object of the meeting was stated to be the making of the necessary arrangements for the coming annual banquet and reception to be held on April 28, 1882. The Committee appointed at the last meeting on February 13, 1882, for the purpose, reported through its Chairman of the progress and work already done - and amongst other things that the date had been fixed for April 28, 1882 — that an invitation had been extended to the Active Chapter at Marietta to be present, and that such chapter had secured from the faculty of the College, a leave of absence for a week and would be present in a body - that it had been thought best to make a formal application to the Chapter at Marietta for the granting of a charter to the Alumni Chapter and for its presentation to us at the time of our reunion and

banquet, and also that it was the intention of the Alumni Chapter so far as an expression of an opinion had been gained to entertain such of the members of the Marietta Chapter as should not be found stopping with friends during their stay.

After discussion upon the matter of application for a charter, Mr. Fulton was requested to draft at once a suitable application, which was done, and signed by all present, and directed to be forwarded in the next mail to Marietta. The members present then agreed among themselves to provide entertainment for all the visiting members of the Marietta Chapter who may not be cared for by friends.

The Secretary was instructed to issue a single complimentary invitation to President Andrews (of Marietta College), which was accordingly done.

On motion an assessment of five dollars on each member was made for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the preparation for the banquet.

The Secretary was instructed to send a special invitation to those of the Charter members of Alpha Sigma Phi Society at Marietta who may be alive, earnestly requesting them to meet with us at our reunion.

After singing the old time doxology, on motion, the meeting adjourned.

T. H. Kelley, Secretary

Law Office of R. S. Fulton 25 West Third Street Cincinnati, Ap '1 8, 1882

At a called meeting of the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity held at the office of R. S. Fulton, 25 West Third Street, Cincinnati on April 8, 1882, there were present Messrs. Fulton, Rehm, Jones, Warner, Lewis, & Kelley.

In the absence of the President, Mr. Fulton was called to the Chair, and the object of the meeting stated to hear reports of the Committee having the matter of the banquet on Ap'l 28 in hand.

The Committee reported that Burnet House had been selected as the place of the banquet, and that the cards of invitation would be ready for distribution on Monday, Ap'l 10, 1882.

On motion of Mr. Rehm the Chairman was directed to cast the vote of the Chapter for Mr. Lyman A. Strong for membership in the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter.

(Strong was a charter member of Delta Chapter.) The vote was accordingly cast and Mr. Strong was declared to have been duly elected. On motion a meeting for Saturday evening, April 22, 1882, for a final report of the Committee, at the same place and hour, was agreed to.

After singing the doxology the meeting adjourned to meet on April 22, 1882 without further notice.

T. H. Kelley, Secretary

Law Office of R. S. Fulton, #25 W. Third St., Cincinnati April 22, 1882

Pursuant to the adjournment had on April 8, 1882, the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity met at the office of R. S. Fulton on Saturday Evening, April 22, 1882, at six o'clock. With the following members present, vis: Messrs. Sechler, Fulton, Waters, A. L. McCormick. Jones, Rehm, Warner, Lewis, & Kelley, The meeting was called to order with Pres. Sechler in the Chair, and its object stated to be the hearing of reports of the various Committees in charge of the arrangements of the reunion and banquet. The subcommittee on Key-Mr. Warner reported an elegant specimen of the locksmith's handiwork.

The general committee reported that they had arranged an order of exercises for the evening—which included a formal reception to the visiting Chapter, an address of welcome to said Chapter and a response thereto. That the ceremonies during the reception and address would be conducted with becoming solemnity and in costume—that costumes for that purpose had been contracted for, and that Dr. C. E. Walton had kindly consented to act as Marshal during the evening.

Upon motion a committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Warner, Rehm, McCormick, Jones, & Lewis, was appointed to constitute a Reception Committee and have charge of the disposition of the visiting members of the Marietta Chapter on their arrival, and see to the matter of their securing lodgings.

On motion, after the doxology the Chapter adjourned.

T. H. Kelley, Secretary

(Meanwhile the entire undergraduate chapter from Marietta had secured permission of the faculty of the College to be absent from classes for a week to make the trip by river boat from Marietta to Cincinnati along the course of the Ohio River.)

> Burnet House, Parlor No. 12. April 28, 1882

The meeting of the Alumni Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity was called to order by President Sechler shortly before eight o'clock. The calling of the roll showed the following members present.

Fulton, J. B. Warner, McCormick, F. A. McCormick, A. L., White, Strong, Shedd, Sechler, Lewis, Thos. E., Jones, Rehm, E. C. S., and Kelley, T. H.

On motion an election of new members was had and the following persons were declared to have been elected members of the Chapter.

Rev. Jus Tenney, '69 Rev. J. L. Gage, '64 Rev. H. P. Smith, '68 Uriah Hovt. '69 Frank F. Oldham, '70 Chas. E. Walton, '71 E. P. Tenney, '72 A. A. Ferris, '71 '79 C. C. Clarke. '73 W. J. Follett, '75 Chas. R. Oldham, '75 W. M. Straus. W. E. Oldham, '82 A. D. Follett, '76 E. A. Kelley, '74 B. H. Brooks, '78 Jus. L. Davies, '79 C. A. Patwin, '79 and L. V. Brown '80

(All of the above were present for the banquet)

An election of officers for the ensuing year was ordered, which resulted as follows:

President Thos. M. Sechler, '63 Vice-Pres. Lyman A. Strong, '61 Sec'y T. H. Kelley, '74 Treasurer E. C. S. Rehm, '80

After an address from Chair giving instructions to members concerning the programme for the reception of the undergraduates, costumes were assumed and the Chief Marshal, Dr. Walton, was directed to wait upon the members of the parent chapter and escort them into the august presence of the alumni chapter.

Resplendant in a suit of scale armor, helmet, and glistening rapier, this bold and warlike Chief Marshal strode forth majestically upon his prescribed mission.

Upon the announcement being made that the Marshal had returned and desired admission, the members rose, ranged themselves about the room, and, as the undergraduates were escorted twice around the room, welcomed them with song.

Masks were then removed and the Mar-

shal formally presented to the members of the Alumni Chapter, the parent chapter composed of the following members: (Here are listed the names of the twenty-one undergraduate members of the Marietta Chapter.)

The parent chapter then through its H.S.P., formally constituted and created the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity and presented to the officers of the Alumni Chapter a handsomely engrossed Charter investing the Alumni Chapter with full power and authority to maintain, conduct, and perpetuate an alumni organization of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity.

This Charter was accepted by Pres. Sechler, for and on behalf of the Alumni Chapter, and ordered (it) to be sacredly preserved in the archives of the Chapter.

The Vice-President, Mr. Fulton delivered a short but appropriate address of welcome to the visiting brethren at the conclusion of which he presented them with the Key to the Gates of the City. The address of welcome was happily responded to by Mr. T. E. Butler.

After a short season-of-song and personal congratulation, the members with their guests sought the ladies ordinary where a delightful collation had been spread for them. The table was handsomely decorated, conspicuous amongst the floral emblems being a large Delta in cut flowers in the center of which suspended from an invisible wire were the letters, Alpha Sigma Phi. Many a home made cake graced one festal board, some of which were sent from Marietta and only too plainly told the story that Sigma Phi boys are always in the hearts and thoughts of the Marietta girls.

As soon as the table had been made to groan less and the boys more, President Sechler called for a response to a formal toast or two, the first being "The Old Girl." Mr. Lyman A. Strong one of the charter members spoke entertainingly and with much feeling and interest of the early days of the Society at Marietta. Following him, Mr. Walton spoke, but wielded not "The Paddle." This famous instrument of torture called forth many a witty response before the evening was over. "The Grub Committee" (which was always charged to supply food at the undergraduate chapter meetings) held a private meeting in a side room and agreed not to report. C. C. Clarke responded to "The Rider" (a reference to the initiation practice of having the candidate ride a goat) and spoke from personal experience to the delight of all present.

"Possum" as rendered by F. F. Oldham is an exclusively Sigma Phi production and should be copyrighted. Its repetition by Mr. Oldham at the table earned him the gratitude of us all. The regular responses were concluded by Mr. White's graceful and pretty tribute to the sweetest of all creatures "The Marietta Girls."

The animals were then turned loose and personal reminiscence followed song and speech until long after midnight.

A genuine old-fashioned Sig Bust was in progress and material was not wanting to keep the interest up to the highest notch.

The unusual spectacle of an entire College Fraternity made up of men whom College authorities were willing to trust three hundred miles from home, having come to join us in celebrating the establishment of our Alumni Chapter, and the manly bearing and polite demeanor of these undergraduates inspired in every Alumnus a deeper reverence and love for Sigma Phi than he had ever known before.

The meeting was remarkable in its attendance. Representatives were present from 21 out of the 25 classes from which members have been chosen. From 1867 to 1885 there was but a single class not represented, that of 1877.

At the close of the meeting resolutions were passed as follows:

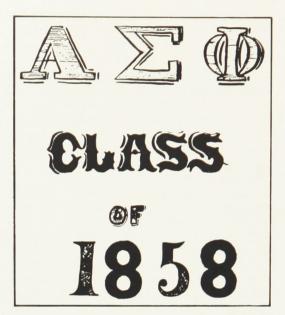
By Mr. Waters, that the floral emblem be given to Ward Andrews Holden in the name of and to become the property of the Marietta Chapter, he being the first Sig of the second generation.

By Mr. Straus that a vote of thanks be given the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter.

By Mr. White that the thanks of the meeting be extended to Mrs. Brush, Mrs. Cooke and Miss Virginia R. Hall of Marietta and to Mrs. T. H. Kelley of Cincinnati for their handsome donations of cakes for the banquet.

By Mr. Kelley that a vote of thanks be tendered Burnet House proprietors for the use of their parlors and for their courtesy and kindness.

Along towards morning the doxology was sung and every member present went away feeling that he had attended the most important meeting in the history of Alpha Sigma Phi.



The first Recording Secretary from the Class of '58 did this artistic frontispiece to the minutes which were written in a regular lined copy book. Some later doodler scribbled the letters Delta Beta Xi, not shown in this reproduction, above the Alpha Siama Phi letters.

A Century Ago-

Alpha In 1855-56

For the 110 Anniversary of the Founding of the Fraternity we present for the first time excerpts from the Alpha Chapter Minutes of 1855 and 1856. This one-hundred year span in Fraternity history has seen many interesting developments, including the introduction of innovations and the persistence of old traditions. Yet we think you'll find through the medium of these old Minutes a certain universal quality in college students and fraternity men.

What were fraternities like one hundred years ago? And fraternity men?

This December 6, Alpha Sigma Phi will observe the 110th Anniversary of her Founding at Yale University. We decided to turn our glance backward for one hundred years to those days in Alpha Chapter in 1855 and 1856, to learn what the Sigs were doing in that tenth year of their existence as a Fraternity.

We know that they had established other Chapters at Harvard and Amherst in the years from 1845 to 1855. We know also that they had printed for five years, from 1847 to 1852, the ancestral forerunner of this present magazine.

But what of the men themselves, their interests, their diversions, their problems? For the human interest side of fraternity life 100 years ago we can eavesdrop on their Chapter meetings. We pick up the thread of our story in the spring of 1855 as the Class of 1857, men who were Sophomores at that time, prepared to hand over the affairs of the Society to the men of '58. Thirty-two men from '58 were initiated in June of 1855. They came from eleven states and the Dis-

trict of Columbia, from such distant points as Baton Rouge and Clinton, Louisiana; San Francisco; Macon, Georgia; Key West. Eight natives of New York gave that city the numerical edge. And one member came from "Brooklyn, Long Island," even before the founding of the Dodgers.

Well, our review follows the Class of '58 through the academic year 1855-56 down to its preparations for the initiation of members of the Class of 1859. For our records we are indebted to numerous recording secretaries, men with a variety of "scrawls," men who, we are certain, little expected their minutes to be read or to be of interest to their Brothers 100 years later.

Perhaps the most succinct record of all time of the Chapter's proceedings was described in the minutes of June 6, 1857, reprinted here in full: "The Society met as usual, acted as usual and adjourned as usual."

Fortunately, however, most of the entries are more complete, even when it was necessary for the Chapter to appoint a secretary pro tempore, as, for example, was required on May 19, 1855: "The secretary's

minutes were called for, but the secretary was not there. It was rumored that he was making a clinical analysis of a liquid usually called lager beer."

Almost invariably the most prominent part of the evening's proceedings was the literary exercises, with the mundane matters of Chapter operation falling under the category of "miscellaneous business." Occasionally we find it necessary to be generous in our interpretation of what was "literary."

At the meeting of April 7, 1855, for example, "A composition was then read by S. D. Doan on "The Exquisite Felicity of Sleeping with a Fat, Cross Wife and Three Sucking Infants under a Mosquito Net on a Hot Night."

But the members were at least just as frequently of a serious frame of mind and highly scholarly and vital political issues were discussed. Much more typical of the regular subject matter of the debates was this: "Resolved that an Indissoluble Union of the States under One Federal Head Is Essential to the Existence of the United States as an Independent Power. The debate was continued for a long while, nearly all the members of the Society taking part in the same and decided in the affirmative by the President."

Actually the place of the debate in the Society's exercises was debated: "The question for the evening was, 'Resolved, That Weekly Debates be Upheld in Alpha Sigma Phi.' The motion was decided in the affirmative by vote of the Society. After the conclusion of the debate, miscellaneous business being in order, a committee was appointed to inquire the price of tobacco and pipes and procure enough for the use of the Society."

On another occasion "The treasurer of the Society was then instructed to procure cigars for the Society. Much strangling. The Society adjourned in a cloud of smoke."

Singing always came in for its share of the Chapter's evening program. Occasionally class songs were sung, but most frequently vocal talents were given over to Fraternity songs. Actually the Classes of 1857 and 1858 had printed a booklet of initiation songs in the spring of 1855.

The following excerpts are typical of the many references throughout the minutes to Alpha Sigma Phi songs:

"After a Sigma Phi song, sung in the usual manner, the Society adjourned"; "The meeting was called to order by the vice-president at the usual hour and opened by

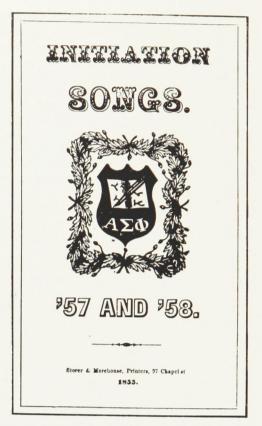
one of Sigma Phi's soul-stirring songs"; "The Society then sang several songs and cheered their authors . . . After some more songs the Society adjourned."

It was customary for the retiring and entering sophomore classes of the Fraternity to meet jointly. On June 23, 1855, "The Society was called to order at the usual time by the president who proceeded immediately with the election of officers. After the transaction of this business and a few remarks by way of counsel from members of the retiring Society, it was suggested that the Constitution be read and thereupon an immediate and general retreat occurred. The few who remained unanimously carried a motion to adjourn."

But constitutionalists should take heart for at the very next meeting, on July 2, 1855, the Constitution was read without incident.

The relationship between Alpha and the Chapter at Amherst appears to have been a very close and friendly one. It is interesting to note that Amherst asked the Parent Chapter for several revisions in the Constitution. In the spring of 1855, "It was voted that Mr. Griswold be fully empowered to answer the letter from the Chapter at Amherst. The Chapter asked for a few alterations in the Constitution, to wit the following: That it be left to the discretion of each chapter to determine upon: 1. The times of election; 2. The time of initiation; 3. The amount of initiation fee." Mr. Griswold's reply isn't indicated.

On June 16, 1855, Brother Elliott, president of the Amherst Chapter, personally visited the Yale Chapter. He was introduced to the Society and "entertained with a speech somewhat like the following: 'I am glad to meet the Parent Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi in their own Hall. I am glad that I can give you a good report from Amherst. The Sophomore Society is a new thing for Amherst and Alpha Sigma Phi will certainly succeed if we unite to take good care of her. We in Amherst will do all that we can for the Society, but there is one thing that you at Yale should do-and that is to send up every year delegates to the initiation at Amherst. They will be needed there to give each new class a favorable opinion of the importance and excellence of Alpha Sigma Phi. We have had a rival to encounter who has had a large number pledged at the start - against whom we have fought with fearful odds. Of 30 good



This Song Book was published for the Spring 1855 Initiation by the Classes of 1857 and 1858 at Yale. It is the oldest Fraternity song book of which any copies exists, although earlier editions have been reported. Earlier classes issued one or two page song pamphlets.

men in the freshman class, we have secured 23, our adversary has but six and she must die! One of the most powerful arguments in our favor was the beautiful pin. . . . Mr. Elliott took his seat amid the applause of the house. (It was) moved that we elect from our class a delegate to the Chapter's initiation at Amherst and that we recommend that the new members do likewise. Motion was carried."

This recommendation was followed the next year and two delegates from Alpha were again sent to the Amherst initiation in June of 1856.

It is evident that the fame of the Society not only stood firm at Amherst but that word of its excellence spread to the midwest in those very first years. In October of 1855 "Mr. Lane read a document from Kenyon College (Gambier, Ohio) petitioning for a Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity. A motion was made that it be laid on the table for a week and carried by a large majority."

At the next meeting, "After the debate a motion to reconsider a vote in relation to a Chapter at Kenyon College was passed. After a prolonged discussion the petition for a Chapter was refused and the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to inform the applicants of the decision together with our reasons for the same. The Society then adjourned from business to the cider cask." The Secretary does not ennumerate the reason for refusal of the petition from Kenyon.

The meeting of May 5, 1855, was completely given over to diversions and entertainment under specific direction of "Article CLL of the Constitution on 'Pure Sociality": "The Society met at the usual time with full attendance. The roll was called after which the Fraternal grip was passed around. The lager beer dance was first performed, accompanied by music on the horse fiddle, haut boy and French horn, finishing with the Sigma Phi war-whoop. (The war-whoop has been lost over the generations, but doubtless the musical accompaniment has only been converted to today's vogue—the Chapter dixieland band). The comedy was next performed. The 'Tragedy of the Faculty Meeting' was now acted." . . . And so on into the night, or early morning.

We know, of course, from the record of the early *Tomahawk* and subsequent events at Yale, that the Chapter came into rather frequent conflict with the other societies and on occasion with the faculty. This was, of course, not peculiar to Alpha Sigma Phi or to conditions at Yale alone in those days. Nonetheless, a contemporary of that day has said that while without there was strife and conflict, within the Society was peace and harmony.

The minutes give ample evidence of that spirit and one entry particularly emphasizes a feeling of "one for all, all for one." Brother Galloway's case was before the faculty for being engaged in Chapel rushes, presumably a form of hazing. The Society thereupon arranged to call a class meeting, having Brother McClelland appointed president. They also arranged for him to appoint a special committee, the majority of which should be Alpha Sigs, said committee to pass a resolution of such nature as to "induce the faculty to withdraw hostile intention to Mr. Galloway."

Obviously the committee was "rigged," but then the faculty's action was likely to

be arbitrary and equally biased in those days of complete lack of student government and of severe discipline.

If the men knew such lovalty to each other, they knew an equal loyalty to their Fraternity, holding her in unique affection: "The ex-treasurer and newly-elected treasurer both presented the pecuniary claims of the Society and in eloquent appeals to the good fellowship and loyalty of the members raised the Society to a pitch of excitement which could not be guieted by ordinary means. It was therefore proposed that after adjournment the Society procure for its own immediate use two gallons of whiskey punch and various edibles. The Society spent several hours enjoying a feast of reason and a flow of soul which can only be found in the arms of glorious Alpha Sigma Phi. At 2 o'clock A.M. the Society adjourned." We assume they also paid their bills.

Financial problems persistently dogged the Society. "A Special Meeting was called for the purpose of explaining the extremely critical financial affairs, Mr. Scranton on the one side dunning the honorable treasurer, Mr. Woodruff, for the (initiation) supper bill, and the owner of the Hall threatening to throw us in the street unless we paid him \$75.00, six months back rent and six months in advance." The Society found an easy solution this time: "It was voted that Mr. Woodruff obtain the money."

Especially of a critical nature were the financial problems involved in retaining the Hall, a situation which arose periodically and caused frequent changes in meeting facilities. Yet invariably the members found a solution, frequently dependent on the magnanimity of one or more members. At Regular Meeting #299 (all meetings were consecutively numbered), "It was said to be absolutely impossible either to mollify the landlord or to raise the requisite \$75 wherewith to soothe his angry passions. At last a magnanimous member, Mr. Palon, offered to advance \$137 to the Society."

By the next spring, however, they were again looking for a new hall, desiring "to procure another hall and have it fitted up and leave to our successors a house worthy of the glorious Fraternity."

After considerable search and a final inspection by all members of the Society, at the meeting of July 13, 1856, "It was moved and passed that the Hall be leased for a term of four years at \$110 per year

and that the Committee be instructed to have gas put in the Hall for \$32. It was then moved and passed that the new Hall be formally dedicated with literary exercises and that members of the Society in upper classes be invited to participate." Unfortunately, no record of the ceremonies remains.

The best picture of election procedure was given in the minutes of Regular Meeting #299: "It was then moved that the Society proceed to elect members to Alpha Sigma Phi from the class of '59 without further delay and the names of such as had been elected in previous meetings enrolled in the report of this evening. (It should be noted that it was the practice of the Society to elect various freshmen from time to time throughout the year, although election notices were not given out til June). The following persons have been previously elected: (There next follows a list of names) to which number the following were added by a ballot of the Society on each individually. . . . During the balloting the Society roared forth one of its soul-stirring songs and after the balloting continued in the same uproarious amusement until a motion for adjournment."

In planning the subsequent initiation, the following toasts were adopted: "First, This Is Our Fraternity, Alpha Sigma Phi; Second, To the Girls; Third, To Our Brother Members of Other Chapters." It was later moved that "the newly initiated members be obliged to treat the Society to lager beer which motion passed to the satisfaction of very many members."

Well, we've traced that Class of '58 from its own initiation in June of 1855 to the moment it greets its successors in the spring of 1856. And now the Society is turned over to the guidance of '59.

Fortunately, our Fraternity today benefits from the support of many and is not solely dependent on the judgment of its sophomore members. Yet the new men of the Class of 1959 will soon join the Circle of those responsible for keeping alive the century-old tradition of the Fraternity.

In recapturing the spirit of the 1850's we may wince at their woeful neglect of financial duties and at their occasional lapses into what today may seem rowdy. But who would dismiss the feeling of camaraderie, of friendship and brotherhood which marked those early years? Let's keep it that way.



During his recent world-wide trip, Past Grand Senior President Wilbur H. Cramblet, Alpha '12, spent a fascinating visit with Brother Suekichi Nakagawa, Alpha '07, Japanese industrialist. Now in semi-retirement at the age of eighty, Brother Nakagawa posed with Dr. Cramblet for this photo in Tokyo.

Suekichi Nakagawa– Japanese Leader, Loyal Sig

Each year members of the Fraternity Office Staff are somewhat intrigued by the annual alumni dues mailing from Tokyo, Japan. With faithful consistency Brother Suekichi Nakagawa, Alpha '07, makes his financial contribution to the Fraternity's program.

Doubtless part of our fascination stems from the rather unique and unusual form of the "cheque" itself and the rather colorful and somewhat mysterious Oriental postal marks. But our interest is more especially aroused by this display of loyalty on the part of a man initiated almost fifty years ago who has had relatively little personal contact with his Fraternity or opportunity for the same for most of that half-century of membership, a man who has been separated by thousands of miles and intervening conflicts from this peculiarly American institution, the college fraternity.

Perhaps that is why the Editors were interested in knowing more about Suekichi Nakagawa, especially upon learning that

Past Grand Senior President Wilbur H. Cramblet, Alpha '12, had had an opportunity to visit Brother Nakagawa during a trip around the world last spring. We think our readers will be interested in this story of a man who has achieved such outstanding prominence and respect in his own land.

Dr. Chamblet visited Brother Nakagawa at the Naikkatsu Hotel last March and their interview, conducted through an interpreter, is considered one of the highlights of Cramblet's trip. Now at the age of eighty, Brother Nakagawa is in complete retirement although he still acts in an advisory capacity to some of the companies he formerly headed.

Having already received degrees from several Japanese universities, Brother Nakagawa was thirty years old when he was initiated into Alpha Sigma Phi by Alpha Chapter on May 25, 1907, in his last year as an engineering student at Yale. Thus he was in the third contingent of men initiated into the reactivated Alpha Chapter.

Among his most prized possessions are group pictures, now almost fifty years old, of the Chapter at Yale. Old stalwarts of the Fraternity appear with Brother Nakagawa in those pictures, men like the late Wayne Montgomery Musgrave, long-time leader and Grand Junior President of the Fraternity, and the late Edwin Morey Waterbury, who revived Alpha Chapter and later *The Tomahawk*.

Brother Nakagawa is extremely proud of his membership in Alpha Sigma Phi and fondly recalls memories of his five years at New Haven, the happiest years of his life.

Following his graduation from Yale, Brother Nakagawa had few opportunities to renew Fraternity associations. However, when he visited the United States on a business trip in 1928 in connection with his industrial interests, he spent a few minutes of his brief stay on Manhattan in a visit to the Fraternity's office at which time he had occasion to renew his acquaintance with Brother Musgrave whom he had not seen for twenty years.

Most of his Fraternity reminiscences were told to the first Sig ever to visit him in his native land, Past Grand Councilor George E. Worthington, Kappa '10. Brother Worthington was a member of the Special Legal Commission to Japan following the war and it was while in Tokyo in that capacity that he visited Brother Nakagawa in 1947. Nakagawa was thrilled and humbled that a Fraternity Brother should visit him in those days so shortly after the war.

Brother Worthington had several opportunities to visit Nakagawa in his lovely home. His home was built and furnished Occidental style, the only house in Japan (outside of the Imperial Palace) where Brother Worthington did not have to remove his shoes before entering, where there were rugs on the floor in place of the customary matting, and where guests sat on chairs before a high and heavily carved ebony table instead of sitting on the floor beside an ankle-high table.

Upon Brother Worthington's return to this country he reported on his visit in *The Tomahawk* and we are indebted to that account for many of the anecdotes and highlights of Brother Nakagawa's career. In that earlier account, Brother Worthington had occasion to refer to Baron Nakagawa as one of his country's foremost industrialists, one of Japan's strong men—both

physically and mentally—and a man of great wealth and social prominence.

Brother Worthington's praise was not idle for he had heard such praise from the President of the Japanese Board of Trade who spoke very highly of Nakagawa as did other prominent Japanese including the Emperor's brother.

After leaving Yale in 1907, Brother Nakagawa toured the United States, Canada and Europe, inspecting the industrial conditions of the various countries. Upon returning home he joined the Furukawa Mining Company of Japan. He shortly thereafter became managing director of the Yokahama Wire Works and managing director of the Furukawa Bank.

His increasing prominence in Japanese industry continued with amazing rapidity. He was named president of the Yokahama Rubber Company, Limited, and in conjunction with this post was made a director of the Furukawa Electric Company, Limited. Several years later he was appointed president of the Furukawa Electric Company, Limited, Japan's greatest electrical corporation.

The company's chief customers in Japan were Communications, Army, Navy and Railway Departments and other government offices, as well as electric companies, mines and ship-building yards. Its products were exported to China, South Sea Islands, India, Near Eastern countries and South America. It was represented in a score of foreign countries.

The company always engaged actively in industrial research work, having repeatedly called in the service of foreign specialists and sent its engineers abroad to keep abreast of latest developments elsewhere. The company continuously pioneered in improved equipment in the Japanese electrical field.

During Brother Nakagawa's long industrial career he has been chairman of the board or president of more than a dozen vast utility, industrial and mining corporations and he has been a director of these companies and many more, including Furukawa Chemical Company, Bridgestone Rubber Company and Nippon Light Metal Company, in addition to those specified above.

The principal capital in many of these companies was held by the Furukawa Company of which he was a director. As a director of this industrial combine he, along

(Continued on page 136)

A Visit to Ormsby Rhea's Town

by Ellwood A. Smith

There are two ways to get to Clinton, Louisiana—discounting the possibility of a journey by foot—automobile or bus. My visit occurring during those happy, carefree days of freedom from the pressure and concern of driving on visitation trips, I chose the bus as the inevitable and only means then available to me.

You enter Clinton—or at least I did—in a rickety, worn plush-seated bus, hardly bearable for more than the hour-long thirty mile ride from Baton Rouge, arriving at just that moment when you feel certain your knees will never "unbend" naturally again, having suffered from the crowded economics of public transportation which dictate that there shall be more seats per bus than seems physically possible.

There is, upon entering the village, nothing to mark Clinton any differently from hundreds of small Southern towns lying somewhat listless and lazily in the already hot sun of early spring.

I walked the short distance from the unimposing bus stop to the town square, remarkably proud and unhurried, with its imposing white-pillared court house which one knew had stood its ground for many many years. Ormsby Rhea must have known this spot well.

Friendly clerks, and yet indifferently curious of this Yankee inquisitor, led me to the county files. A search of the conveyances and other notarial records show that Ormsby Rhea's 648 acre plantation was sold after his death to Judge Charles McVea on February 21, 1873. Thus "Black Acres" passed out of the family's possession with Ormsby's death.

To pinpoint the exact location of the old plantation is difficult because of the unscientific, if quaint, terms in which it is described in the record: "that piece of land known as the Rhea Tract being 12 miles southwest of Clinton and 9 miles northeast of Port Hudson and lying south of the Clinton to Port Hudson Railroad, bounded on the north by the R.R. and Mrs. Dawson's, on the east by Heitzler's, on the south by the estate of Colonel Scott, and on the west by Black Creek."

The land has been divided since its original sale to Judge McVea and neighboring lands have changed hands through the

years. Consequently, a more thorough search will be required to determine if Ormsby's plantation house still stands—relatives whom I contacted doubt it—and who are the present owners of the tract.

A Baton Rouge architect is currently developing a map of the Feliciana Parishes which will show the various estates as they exist today and which will permit us by comparison with older maps to determine the present occupants of the Rhea lands. By coincidence the man involved in this work is Rhea DeArmond Percy whose grandmother was Florence Rhea, a relative of Ormsby. If I had learned nothing significant up to this point, I knew at least that just about everyone and everything in Clinton was related, not to mention the branches of the families in Baton Rouge and elsewhere.

For example I spent a totally fascinating hour with Mr. Hereford Percy(who is distantly related to Rhea DeArmond Percy—I missed the exact connection). Hereford Percy is president of a large insurance agency in Baton Rouge, one of the most respected men in the community, and a man who has done considerable research in the field of genealogy. Unfortunately, for our purpose and interest, his research has been done mostly in the Percy line with no attention to the Rheas.

He did tell me that his maternal grandfather, Dr. John B. Hereford, was the brother of Mary Rhea's (Ormsby's wife) father, Dr. Francis Hereford, doubtless for whom Ormsby's son Frank was named, since there appear to be no other Franks among the Rheas.

Abandoning this temporary excursion into genealogoy, I return to Clinton. What promised to be the most fascinating papers at the court house were the records of "Family Meeting," held at the death of some member of the family when relatives came from near and distant plantations to settle the estate. The chief clerk was tied up during my entire visit and I was unable to see many of the Rhea records.

This is to be especially regretted because of the fine detail contained in some of those records. For example, at the death of Ormby's mother, there was given a minute accounting of the disposition of all of her possessions and effects. David, Ormsby's

brother, bought several head of oxen, a tea and coffee urn, salt and pepper sellers, fireplace andirons and other household equipment.

Perhaps some unseen record indicates the disposition of Ormsby's Fraternity pin at his death, assuming it was in his possession at that time.

Leaving the court house I moved across the street to the East Feliciana Memorial Library, walking the path of historically famous Lawyers' Row. During antebellum days Clinton was the legal center of the South where the most renowned lawyers of the day held their offices. The many plantation owners in the area made legal services necessary and the wealth of the Feliciana Parishes attracted the South's most learned, famous and talented attorneys. Perhaps David C. Hardee, the executor of Ormsby's estate, had his office in one of the historic buildings I passed. A few attorneys are still housed in those old offices as well as other professional men and the Parish Library.

Unfortunately, the library's collection is of a much more recent era than that of my investigation. The librarian, however, took me back to the court house where she introduced me to one of the town "elders" who sent me on to Tim Corcoran, town pharmacist, whose first wife was a Rhea descendant, with the advice, "Tim's a little 'deef'; you may have to speak up!".

I entered the white-frame drug store and noted that one of its few concessions to the modern super market drug store of to-day was a Coca Cola dispenser and a display of costume jewelry. The former provided welcome refreshment during the peak hours of Louisiana's very hot and very humid April.

A small woman with graying hair—being discreet I shall not judge her age—and a pleasant Southern accent, greeted me. After convincing her that I was not a drug supply representative, I explained that I wanted to see Mr. Corcoran relative to descendants of Ormsby Rhea.

Her surprised, and surprising, reply was "Oh, Uncle Ormsby?! Why, I'm his great niece!"—being the granddaughter of Ormsby's sister Susan. It seems that both of Mr. Corcoran's wives were Rhea-related, his first wife being the granddaugter of Ormsby's brother David.

I commented above on the sense one has of family relationships on a visit to this

part of Louisiana. Also inescapable is the knowledge that many of these families have held forth in Clinton for generations and that if the name of Ormsby Rhea was not overly familiar to the current residents it is nonetheless certain that many of their ancestors knew him well. Mrs. Corcoran was born Margaret Flynn, Related to the Rheas as noted above, the Flynn family itself was of long-standing in East Feliciana and court records at the time of the death of Ormsby's mother, referred to above, indicate that many of her effects were sold to the Flynns. And so history has woven in these threads of fascinating relationships and of human interest.

A lengthy and totally enjoyable chat with Mrs. Corcoran indicated that very few of the old family records and memoirs remained and her knowledge of the Rheas was largely anecdotal which she had learned as a child from her great aunt.

She made, I thought, a rather sad but truthful commentary on such things: "My aunt was always talking about the Rheas; as a child I wasn't overly interested; now I wish I had memorized every word."

Perhaps the one anecdote which will be regarded most favorably by the undergraduates is this: Three of John Rhea's sons married girls named Mary. They were referred to by the family as "pretty Mary," "smart Mary," and "good Mary." Mrs. Corcoran is certain that Ormsby Rhea married "pretty Mary."

Later I met Mr. Corcoran's daughter by his first marriage, Mrs. George D. Jones, who is the great granddaughter of David Rhea, Ormby's brother. *Mr*. Jones, by the way, seems to be the only one not even distantly related to one of the old Clinton families.

With Mrs. Jones I visited the Rhea plot in the Clinton cemetery. The only marked grave was that of John Rhea which bore the inscription: "John Rhea, Native of New Jersey, Died May 7, 1843, at Age 82." It has long been assumed that Ormsby was buried in the family plot in Clinton, but his grave, like that of the other children of John Rhea, is unmarked.

Mrs. Jones personally feels that Ormsby may be buried elsewhere, especially if he died at his plantation, believing the long trip from Black Acres to Clinton for burial unlikely. She feels that Ormsby may be buried in the old cemetery at Chambers' Crossing which was the property of James

Chambers.

And here again history weaves its human interest thread, for James Chambers was an ancestor of the man who now owns the original John Rhea plantation on Thompson's Creek, the one that went to David Rhea at his father's death, with Ormsby obtaining Black Acres.

I also heard the fascinating and romantic story of the motive behind the location of John Rhea's plantation at Thompson's Creek. While visiting in New Orleans, he was attracted by the beautiful young daughter of a French doctor, a girl who was attending school in that city. The doctor had a plantation on Thompson's Creek and John Rhea bought the tract on the opposite side of the Creek to be near the object of his affection. John Rhea and the doctor's daughter finally married raised their large family on the plantation at Thompson's Creek. It was here that Ormsby was born, in the plantation house which was destroyed by fire only in relatively recent years.

The inexorable demands of the bus schedule made my departure from Clinton imminent on the one daily bus to Baton Rouge. I hastily said my farewells to Mrs. Corcoran and Mrs. Jones who, their interest aroused, promised further investigation into family records. I know, by the way, that they're relieved to know Ormsby Rhea isn't on *The Tomahawk* mailing list.

They were both embarrassed by their scant information about "Uncle Ormsby" and just hoped he would never find out how little they knew about him.

There is much that I should like to explore further: The full records of the Family Meetings, especially at the time of Ormsby's death; a trace of Ormsby's immediate descendants through his son Frank, about whom nothing was known by the relatives with whom I spoke; a further investigation of cemetery records and of those records of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church to locate conclusively Ormsby's grave.

I should also like someday to travel the approximately three miles on Route 305 from the town of Ethel, Louisiana, to the estimated location of Black Acres, an area described by a contemporary writer as one of the most beautiful and fertile in the whole State of Louisiana.

My visit to Clinton, unfortunately brief as it was fortunately fascinating, gave some insight into the affluent and prominent background of one of our Founders. It also left many questions and curiosities unanswered.

The scant material uncovered invites further investigation. And it was this determination to make a future visit to Clinton that led to my decision of this summer which must have rocked the American highways. I bought a car; I just refuse to ride that bus again!

NAKAGAWA (continued from page 133)

with other industrial economic leaders in Japan, was purged following the surrender of his country. Although the giant Furukawa Zaibatsu was liquidated during the occupation, it has since been restored and Brother Nakagawa has been permitted to serve many of these companies in an advisory capacity.

As fate would frequently have it, there is an interesting paradox in Brother Nakagawa's formerly being banned from his posts of industrial and economic leadership, for he has always insistently maintained that he opposed the Japanese military clique that ruled Japan and repeatedly warned them that their policies would bring ruin upon the country.

We cannot help but feel that men like Nakagawa, forming personal friendships and an intimate knowledge of America through such experiences as membership in Alpha Sigma Phi, carry with them always a respect and admiration for this country.

We also know that the warm greetings which have been extended from his few Alpha Sig visitors to Brother Nakagawa have served to keep the Fraternity high in his affections.

Brother Worthington could say of him, eight years after their acquaintance, "I remember Brother Nakagawa as a fine gentleman and a worthy Sig."

And so we salute this outstanding member of Alpha Sigma Phi, one who, if little known today in this country, is nonetheless a giant back home, certainly one of Japan's finest and best leaders. And one of many loyal Sigs all over the world.

Major Construction By Beta Theta

The members of Beta Theta Chapter at Rutgers built an addition to the Chapter House this summer which has doubled the size of the previous house. Doing all of the construction work themselves, they worked on the project at night and on weekends. We salute their ambition and the determination with which they carried through this endeavor.

Alumni and friends of the Fraternity who read the Sunday, July 10, issue of the New Brunswick, New Jersey, Sunday Times are already familiar with this story of what appears to be without doubt the largest construction job ever undertaken by a Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi.

Richard J. Mihm, Chairman of Beta Theta Chapter's Public Relations Committee, arranged an interview with the local press and received excellent and flattering coverage, which proves once again that fraternities can get a good press if they're alert to really newsworthy items. The newspaper article serves as a basis for the report which follows.

In addition to serving as their own construction crew, the boys also handled the photographic recording of their progress. We might hope for bigger and better—and more—pictures. But then it was well after dark by the time they hit the dark room, and then only after spending a full eighthour day gainfully employed plus three or four hours of construction work each evening.

With this introduction, we'll let the construction crew take over:

Beta Theta Chapter at Rutgers succumbed to the do-it-yourself craze this past summer—and in a big way—the members



The exterior of the house as it appeared before construction began. The addition, built by the members, has doubled the size of the house. Two story front porch will extend across front of new house.

built a three-story addition to the Chapter House which has doubled the size of the original building.

Some twenty members and pledges of the Chapter worked during their spare time on a 22 by 36-foot addition to the Chapter House at 106 College Avenue which was acquired last winter. The house, ideally situated near the center of the campus, was, in its original condition, much too small for any long-range use by the Chapter.

However, with property at a premium in the campus area, the present house was purchased with a view to its possibilities for future expansion.

The Chapter had plans for the addition, which will cost approximately \$12,000, drawn by a local architectural firm, but planned from the start to do almost all of the construction work themselves. They also extensively remodeled the interior of the house. The saving to the Chapter by providing its own labor is estimated at approximately \$10,000.

The Brothers, who worked on the project in their spare time after summer school classes or summer jobs ended each day, had put up the studding and framework of the addition by early July. The excavation had been dug early in May.

Next they put up the sheathing and walls and soon after started laying the floors. The members did all of the carpentry as well as the interior finishing. Plumbing was another of the many jobs the Alpha Sigs had to undertake in this major construction effort, and they worked on it right from the sewer line in the basement all the way through the house.

Undoubtedly the men are proudest of the fact that "we even put up the 'I' beam by ourselves." This massive support weighs about 600 pounds and is 21 feet long!

The major part of the construction and most of the interior work was completed for the opening of fall classes. All that remained were some of the "finishing touches." The scaffolding at the front of the house was left up to aid in the later



The Vorkuta slave laborers are shown here doing some of the peon labor that is so essential to this type of work. Many times during the course of the summer the cry went out from some coolies.

construction of a two-story porch which will extend across the front of the house and will be supported by seven white columns. A porch will also be added to the rear of the house to furnish casy access to the kitchen from the street.

The new addition has doubled the front of the building giving it a 44 foot front-tage on College Avenue. The completed addition basically duplicates the appearance of the original front, with the exception of the new porch to be added.

The ground floor of the addition supplies a 20 by 22-foot dining room, as well as a kitchen. The dining room will be finished with pine paneling.

An 18 by 20-foot party room is being built in the basement just beneath the dining room. Two other rooms in the original basement will then be remodeled into a den.

The second floor of the addition will accommodate study rooms and a new bath while the third floor addition will house a dormitory large enough to handle about thirty-five men.

The house, which originally had 13 rooms and four baths, should now provide comfortable accommodations for about thirty-five students with the completion of this addition and other remodeling work.

It is estimated that the members and pledges of Beta Theta Chapter were spending about 150 man hours a week on their do-it-yourself undertaking.

One of the "construction crew" was a Rutgers summer school student and he worked on the house project during the day and every evening after classes. Another Brother, employed on the night shift at the local Lincoln-Mercury plant, worked on the construction job during the day.

However, most of the other member held down full time summer jobs and then spent their evenings and weekends on the Chapter house construction. H.S.P. Richard H. Hulit, who had a summer job as assessor in Plainfield, New Jersey, served as "construction boss."

The men worked on the house from six to nine o'clock each night. On weekends they worked during most of the daylight hours. Saturdays they worked from nine in the morning to nine or ten at night unless they had Saturday night dates, in which case they quit around six o'clock. On Sundays they started around noon and worked right through to dark. Most of the time it was the darkness which stopped them.

Two members of the Chapter had had previous carpentry experience and they supervised that phase of the work, but none of the others had had any previous construction experience.

Majority decisions reached in informal discussions governed the planning of the work. The H.S.P. acted as official moderator of these discussions, but "when planning we just sat around and informally agreed on what we wanted to do."

That's as far as the newspaper account covered, a flattering picture of latent talent, hard work, determination, and slowly, but ultimately, accomplishment. But behind the scenes of this amazing and commendable effort were hours of basic planning and preparation; not all of the hard work was done with carpenters' and plumbers' tools.



The side of the new addition showing the kitchen to the left and the dining room to the right. Above the dining room are the study rooms.

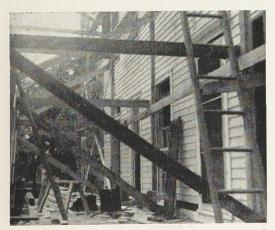
The initial step was taken approximately eighteen months ago at a meeting of the alumni corporation, at which time concern was expressed over fraternity housing at Rutgers. As new construction went up on campus, especially the new library and freshman dormitories, the Chapter found that the center of the campus was being relocated further and further away from the present Chapter House.

The search was on, but the problem was no small one, for adequate housing in the immediate campus area was difficult to come by. Finally purchase of the house at 106 College Avenue became a possibility, but expansion of its facilities was viewed as a necessity from the very beginning. The purchase of the house itself was financed through the proceeds from the sale of the Chapter's former home.

The balance of the financing required the conscientious support and effort of the Chapter's alumni corporation officers. Much of the cost of renovation and new construction was covered by a bank loan.

In addition, the alumni corporation obtained a loan from the Fraternity's Reserve Fund to constitute the balance of necessary funds which could not be secured locally.

Perhaps the Reserve Fund has never before answered such an unusual request, for here was a Chapter which, realizing that it could not afford the cost of material and labor, made up its mind that if it could just buy the material, the members themselves could contribute the man-hours, compensating for inexperience with enthusiasm and group spirit and a willingness to learn.



The front porch as members get ready to finish their summer project. With the rest of the work near completion, scaffolding remains in place to aid porch construction.



Painting, three stories up, seems to be quite easy for Brother "Cat" Cabarle, judging from his smile alone. Actually he was tied to the scaffold. Brother Cooper seems just intent on getting the job done.

There's an old adage which suggests that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." If that's true, then there are no Jacks in Beta Theta Chapter, for this truly mansized effort has done more to weld a cohesiveness of spirit and objective than any other endeavor of the Rutgers Chapter, including any social event you want to name.

Perhaps more important than any material benefit to the Chapter is the realization of the enjoyment and satisfaction, as well as the closer bond of friendship, which come from accomplishment and from working together with your Fraternity Brothers on a common objective. It's safe to assume that many individual triumphs, as well as despairs, were built into that three-story addition. For those men that construction, and their Chapter House, will always have warmer memories and associations. The men of Beta Theta accomplished more than just a summer profitably spent. We would wish the same for every Chapter and for every Brother.

With this collective sense of accomplishment, the Chapter could look forward this fall to the most outstanding season it has ever known on the Rutgers campus. They did-it-themselves, but they not only built half a house; they built a spirit which should carry them far.

Sigs at Sea



Official Photograph, U. S. Navy

Sigs were on the USS Albany for a summer Naval ROTC Midshipman training cruise to Oslo, Norway and Stockholm, Sweden. Left to right, front row, Donald G. Champlin, U.C.L.A.; Richard E. Luybli, Pennsylvania; second row, Edward K. Frear, Penn State; Robert L. Dolbeare, Rensselaer; William S. Hodkins, Tufts.



Official Photograph, U. S. Navy

Sigs from the northwest were on Cruise, CHARLIE, to Panama and Cuba. At left, Wayne Water, Washington, aboard the USS Greenwood and Robert C. Ruhle, Oregon State, aboard the USS Heermann.

Official Photograph, U. S. Navy



Three Sigs were aboard the Cruiser, the USS Roanoke, which visited Colon, Panama and Havana, Cuba. The men were Thomas W. Guartafierre, Tufts; Robert A. Cronenwelt, Westminster; and George C. Sheldon, Jr., Tufts.

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The USS Newport News' contingent of Sigs include, back row: Ralph A. Hess, Pennsylvania; Franklin Greenberg, Tufts; John D. Marran, Rensselaer; front row: William J. Conroy, Illinois Tech; James W. Plumb, Washington University; Richard L. Armitage, Purdue.



Official Photograph, U. S. Navy

Official Photograph, U. S. Navy



The Battleship USS Wisconsin had its contingent of Sigs for its NROTC cruise to Edinburgh, Scotland; Copenhagen, Denmark; and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Left to right, George B. Enoch, U.C.L.A.; Roy W. Adler, Tufts; Fred C. Gould, Illinois Tech; John J. Pikel, Illinois Tech; Eugene G. Wendt, Illinois Tech; and Arthur O. Cromer, Illinois Tech.

Contributions Received 1955 Alumni Campaign

Chapter	Number of Contributors	Total Contributed		umber of ntributors	Total Contributed
Alabama		55.00	Missouri		70.00
American	12	60.00	Missouri Valley	17	85.00
Baldwin Wallace	21	110.00	Mount Union		35.00
Bethany	13	65.00	Nebraska		117.00
Bowling Green	10	50.00	Newark	10	43.00
Brooklyn Poly _	12	60.00	New Hampshire	1	5.00
Buffalo	8	40.00	North Carolina Sta	te _ 3	15.00
California	82	410.00	Ohio Northern	12	65.00
U. C. L. A	42	210.00	Ohio State	65	325.00
Carnegie Tech _	13	70.00	Ohio Wesleyan	66	342.00
Case	6	30.00	Oklahoma	42	206.00
Chicago	24	120.00	Oregon State	23	115.00
Cincinnati	5	25.00	Pennsylvania	46	226.00
Coe		10.00	Penn State	69	336.00
Colorado		125.00	Presbyterian	5	25.00
Columbia	21	105.00	Purdue	22	110.00
Connecticut	13	65.00	Rensselaer	18	90.00
Cornell	55	278.00	Rutgers	27	135.00
Dartmouth		5.00	Stanford	47	235.00
Davis & Elkins _	14	67.00	Syracuse		60.00
Franklin & Marsh	nall _ 2	10.00	Stevens Tech	3	15.00
Hartwick	8	31.00	Toledo	12	60.00
Harvard		53.00	Tri State	14	70.00
Illinois		399.00	Tufts	27	135.00
Illinois Tech	35	173.00	Wagner	18	90.00
Iowa		85.00	Wake Forest	4	20.00
Iowa State	25	125.00	Washington Univ	1	5.00
Kentucky		83.00	Univ. of Washingto	n _52	258.00
Lehigh		105.00	Wayne	8	45.00
Marietta		190.00	Westminster		132.00
Marshall		55.00	West Virginia	15	75.00
Massachusetts		66.00	W. Va. Wesleyan _	7	35.00
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irregularly

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rant third Friday of the month at 12 noon.

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The Chapters

ALPHA (Yale, 1845) Send all mail to Alumni Treasurer, Cleveland J. Rice, P. G. Drawer 1846, New Haven, Con-

necticut. necticut.

BETA
(Harvard 1850)

Alumni Secretary: Howard H. Moody, 195
Broadway, New York City.
GAMMA
(Ambayet 1854)

(Amherst, 1854) (University of Massachusetts, 1913) c/o Peregrine B. White, 145 Lincoln Avenue. Amherst, Massachusetts

DELTA (Marietta, 1860) 302 Sixth St., Marietta, Ohio. EPSILON (Ohio Wesleyan, 1863)

121 N. Washington St., Delaware, Ohio, ZETA
(Ohio State, 1908)
81 15th Ave., Columbus, Ohio ETA

(Illinois, 1908)

211 East Armory, Champaign, Ill. THETA (Michigan, 1908)

920 Baldwin, Ann Arbor, Mich.

(Cornell, 1909)
Rockledge, Ithaca, N. Y.
KAPPA
(Wisconsin, 1909)
Alumni President, Henry B. Merrill, 1012 College Ave., Racine, Wis.

LAMBDA

(Columbia, 1910) 424 W. 116th St., New York, New York.

(Washington, 1912) 4554-19th Ave., N.E., Seattle, Wash.

(California, 1913) 2739 Channing Way, Berkeley, Calif.

(Nebraska, 1913) OMICRON (Pennsylvania, 1914) 3903 Spruce St., Philadelphia 4, Pa.

(Colorado, 1915)

(Colorado, 1915)

1125 Pleasant, Boulder, Colorado.
RHO
(Minnesota, 1916)
SIGMA
(Kentucky, 1917)

418 E. Maxwell St., Lexington, Ky.
TAU
(Stanford, 1917)

534 Salvatierra St., Stanford University, Calif.
UPSILON
(Penn State, 1918)

328 Fairmont St., State College, Pa.
PHI
(Iowa State, 1920)

2717 West St., Ames, Iowa. CHI

CHI
(Chicago, 1920)
PSI
(Oregon State, 1920)
957 Jefferson St., Corvallis, Ore.
ALPHA ALPHA
(Oklahoma, 1923)
602 W Boyd, Norman, Okla.
ALPHA BETA
(Iowa, 1924)
ALPHA GAMMA
(Carnegie Tech, 1925)
H. H. Wilson, Alumni Secretary, 100 Highland
Rd., Pittsburgh 34, Pennsylvania.

ALPHA DELTA (Middlebury, 1925) ALPHA EPSILON

(Syracuse, 1925) 202 Walnut Place, Syracuse, N. Y. ALPHA ZETA (University of California at

Los Angeles, 1926) 626 Landfair Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

ALPHA ETA (Dartmouth, 1928) ALPHA THETA (Dartmouth, 1928)
ALPHA THETA
(Missouri, 1929)
1111 University, Columbia, Mo.
ALPHA IOTA
(Alabama, 1930)
Box 6121, University of Ala.,
ALPHA KAPPA
(West Virginia, 1931)
146 Willey St., Morgantown, W. Va.
ALPHA LAMBDA
(Case Institute of Technology, 1939)
ALPHA MU
(Baldwin-Wallace College, 1939)
279 Front St., Berea, Ohio.
ALPHA NU
(Westminster, 1939)
129 Waugh Ave., New Wilmington, Pa.
ALPHA XI
(Illinois Institute of Technology, 1939)
3224 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
ALPHA OMICRON
(Missouri Valley, 1945)
Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Mo.
ALPHA PI
(Purdue, 1939)
218 Waldron St., West Lafayette, Ind.
ALPHA RHO
(Newark College of Engineering, 1921)
ALPHA SIGMA
(Wagner, 1926)
Wagner College, Staten Island 1, N. Y.

University, Ala.

ALPHA SIGMA
(Wagner, 1926)
Wagner College, Staten Island 1, N. Y.
ALPHA TAU
(Stevens Institute of Technology, 1926)
809 Castle Pt. Terrace, Hoboken, N. J.
ALPHA UPSILON
(Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, 1926)
ALPHA PHI
(Ellsworth College, 1927)

(Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, 1926)
ALPHA PHI
(Ellsworth College, 1927)
ALPHA CHI
(Coe College, 1928)
ALPHA PSI
(Presbyterian, 1928)
Presbyterian College, Clinton, S. C.
BETA ALPHA
(Mount Union, 1929)
1820 S. Union, Alliance, Ohio.
BETA BETA
(Mass. Inst. of Tech., 1929)
BETA GAMMA
(Bethany College, 1929)
P. O. Box 98, Bethany, W. Va.
BETA DELTA
(Marshall, 1929)
1617-6th Street, Huntington, W. Va.
BETA EPSILON
(Lehigh, 1929)
514 Delaware, Bethlehem, Pa.
BETA ZETA
(North Carolina State College, 1930)
Send all mail to I. O. Wilkerson, Rex Hospital,
Raleigh, N. C.

BETA ETA
(University of New Hampshire, 1931)

BETA ETA
(University of New Hampshire, 1931)
BETA THETA
(Rutgers, 1931)
106 College Ave., New Brunswick, N. J.
BETA IOTA
(Tufts, 1931)
106 Professors' Row, Medford 55, Mass.

DETA KADDA
(Centre in Kentucky 1932)
BETA LAMBDA)
BETA KAPPA (Centre in Kentucky, 1932) BETA LAMBDA) (St. John's College, 1932) BETA MU
Welse Ferrest 1022)
(Wake Forest, 1932) Wake Forest, N. C., P. O. Box 806. BETA NU
BETA NU
(West Virginia Wesleyan, 1933)
c/o Frank Floyd, 161 Pocahantas St., Buck-
lannon, west virginia.
BETA XI (Hartwick 1935)
(Hartwick, 1935) 71 Spruce St., Oneonta, N. Y. BETA OMICRON (Tri-State College, 1935) 113 N. Superior St., Angola, Ind. BETA PI (Franklin and Marshall, 1936)
BETA OMICRON
(Tri-State College, 1935)
113 N. Superior St., Angola, Ind.
(Franklin and Marshall, 1936)
(Franklin and Marshall, 1936) BETA RHO)
(Toledo, 1937)
(Toledo, 1937) 328 Winthrop St., Toledo 2, Ohio. BETA SIGMA
BETA SIGMA
(Cincinnati, 1937)
264 Calhoun St., Cincinnati, Ohio.
BETA TAU (Wayne, 1938) 655 W. Kirby, Detroit 2, Mich. BETA UPSILON
655 W. Kirby, Detroit 2, Mich.
BETA UPSILON
(Milton, 1940)
Milton College, Milton, Wis.
(Wofford College, 1940)
Box 388, Wofford College, Spartanburg, S. C. BETA CHI
BETA CHI
(American, 1940)
Box 322, Mass and Nebr. Ave., N.W., Washngton 16, D. C.
BETA PSI
(Rensselaer, 1940)
31 Belle Ave., Troy, N. Y.
502 S Gilbert Ada Ohio
503 S. Gilbert, Ada, Ohio. GAMMA BETA
(Carthage, 1942) GAMMA GAMMA
GAMMA GAMMA
(Connecticut, 1943)
GAMMA DELTA
(Davis and Elkins, 1949)
University of Conn., Storrs, Conn. GAMMA DELTA (Davis and Elkins, 1949) 430 Randolph, Elkins, W. Va. GAMMA EPSILON (University of Buffalo, 1950) Norton Union, University of Buffalo, Buffalo
GAMMA EPSILON
Mentan University of Buffalo Buffalo
14, N. Y.
GAMMA ZETA
(Bowling Green State University, 1950) GAMMA ETA
(Washington University, 1951)
GAMMA THETA
(University of Miami, 1952)
(Washington University, 1951) 6557 University Drive, St. Louis, Mo. GAMMA THETA (University of Miami, 1952) 9666 Old Orchard Rd., Mailing Address: Box 1027, University Branch, Miami, Florida. GAMMA IOTA (Arizona 1955)
1027, University Branch, Miami, Florida.
(Arizona 1955)
645 East Third Street, Tucson, Arizona.
ALPHA SIGMA COLONY
(Michigan State College)
(Arizona, 1955) 645 East Third Street, Tucson, Arizona. ALPHA SIGMA COLONY (Michigan State College) Box 212, East Lansing, Michigan.

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The Tomahawk of Alpha Sigma Phi-	-
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