

REPORT OF  
17th NATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALPHA SIGMA PHI FRATERNITY

Champaign, Illinois

September 8, 9, 10, 11, 1937

The Convention was called to order by the Executive Secretary, Brother Ralph Burns, of New York, also a member of the Grand Prudential Committee.

BROTHER BURNS: Fellow brothers now tell me that my official duty is to turn the meeting over to someone else. I now take pleasure in introducing the presiding officer, Dr. Wilbur H. Cramblet, Grand Senior President. He has never been too busy to further the interests of the fraternity in any way that he could and he has done a great deal of valuable work for you. Without further words I turn the meeting over to Dr. Cramblet.

DR. CRAMBLET: I feel sure that any time I may spend will be well invested, and will yield large returns. I am much interested in the college fraternity problems. We are indeed fortunate in being guests of Eta Chapter, of the University of Illinois, and it is perfectly fitting and proper that we should be officially welcomed, having been so graciously treated by the members of this Chapter. At this time I present Brother Donald C. Platt, of Eta Chapter.

BROTHER PLATT: I don't think there are any words that need be added. I have tried to personally welcome everybody here and we are certainly glad to have them. We were very pleased to have the convention here. We also feel quite proud of our Chapter. If there is anything that I, or any Eta man, can do to make your stay more enjoyable, please let me know. The address of welcome is to be given by Professor E. Chauncey Baldwin, a member of the English Department of the University here. He is a professor of English, member of the senate committee, and has done a great deal for us and has been a guiding hand.

PROFESSOR BALDWIN: President, and other members of Alpha Sigma Phi, we are much pleased to welcome the delegates to the campus and to the fraternity, and it is with the utmost heartiness that we bid you welcome here. I attended a Rodeo last month in the

west and I am reminded at this time of a remark made by one of the announcers, "This is the West." The campus, the fraternity, and the two towns are yours. Make as much noise as you want.

I have never had to do this before so I am unfamiliar with the technique. Whether the office of the welcomer is to praise I am not quite sure. It would be very easy for me to praise the fraternity because there is so much to eulogize. In my own case I feel that my debt to the fraternity is incalculable. I have received so much more than I gave in the years that are past. I have received incalculable benefits from the friendship of the men, friendship that I prize, and not only that but some of my family are greatly in debt to the fraternity. My son was a very shy, quiet boy. He was a very good student, but he seemed to be rather inarticulate with strangers. After he became a member of Alpha Sigma Phi he developed socially and became more manly than he could have become without being a member of a fraternity. It is not only my own debt but for others, and so I repeat it is easy for me to eulogize. Yet it seems to me that at a time like this it is perhaps necessary, even though it may seem ungracious, to point out certain problems of the fraternity. I hope I may not seem to be doing what so many old men are often accused of doing,--fault finding. I really have the interests of the fraternity at heart.

The fraternity system as we have it here in America seems to most of us to be something as fixed and unalterable as the everlasting years. As a matter of fact, it is a very young affair---less than 100 years old, and through the century the fraternity system has gone through a great many changes and is still changing. The early fraternity was made up and organized on the system of classage. There was the Junior fraternity and the Senior fraternity. The fraternity was used only for meetings, whereas today all that is changed. Perhaps even more fundamental is the change in regard to membership. The fraternity used to seek its members from the most distinguished members of the graduating class. Today we find altogether different conditions. There is no question

that during the period of prosperity the fraternity over-built considerably. The fraternities loaded up with tremendous obligations that they had to meet. As a result there has been less and less care taken in the selection of members. Today some fraternities have paid representatives to go about drumming up trade in the high schools for the entering freshman rushees. This is a very different condition from that of the old days and has brought its own problems. Today the fraternity house, instead of being simply the meeting place of a group of men who have met for congenial taste, has become a sort of private hotel where expenses must be met.

The second point we need to recognize, a criticism often made against a fraternity, is that it does not develop individuality on the part of the members. They tend to iron out the members to a uniform pattern. It resembles in some respects the cars that roll out every afternoon from the Ford Factory. They are all alike. Any individuality is bad form in a fraternity. I have heard many complaints. I remember last Spring a senior complained that there was an utter lack of individuality and discussion of serious things.

The third criticism is the lack of intellectual life. Hardly any fraternity has a respectable library. Fraternity men don't read much of anything. They read a limited amount of current periodicals. I should be glad to see that problem met more adequately. The fraternity ought to develop a library and encourage the reading and discussion of good books.

The fourth criticism is the fact that the fraternity seems to be pretty much aloof from the intellectual interests which the University is supposed to stand for. The utmost that the fraternity cares about is that its members do not bring the fraternity average below the danger point. As a result of such aloofness, it seems to me that too many fraternity men go through the four years of college pretty much with their eyes shut. They do not take advantage of the intellectual stimulus that they might get from lectures and concerts. Amusements of a fraternity man seem to be mostly going to picture shows. This seems to be a serious charge against the fraternity--aloofness from the intellectual life of the student body.

Finally there is the criticism which seems to be legitimate. Fraternities do not treat their Freshmen wisely. They have not outgrown the current notion that was popular fifty years ago in all colleges--that Freshmen are inferior creatures that need to be disciplined into conformity. They do not treat the Freshmen as independent human beings. They are sentenced to be in their room certain hours every night, with two or three exceptions in the week, ostensibly to study. Discipline defeats its own purpose by not recognizing that a Freshman is after all a human being.

I would like to see the principle of cooperation used in the fraternity treatment of Freshmen. There are four points in which the fraternity is vulnerable. Constructively, I have very little to offer except in the way of expedition. Fraternities seem to be living more or less in one room cabins. I would like to see a window cut in the East end. A window to let in more intellectual light so that serious discussion would not be considered bad form in fraternity life. A window in the West end--a window of tolerance for the humble Freshman. And after all it is important that we should cut a window in the roof for letting in more idealism, more of the spirit of the fraternity of which we are supposed to represent so that Alpha Sigma Phi may come nearer to our own ideals.

DR. CRAMBLET: I am sure that the proper note has been struck at the convention. We have planned for this convention, we have hoped that we might feel a relationship to the chapters that are across the United States and the Brothers of the Pacific. This program is planned so that we may all have a part in it. We will begin sessions on time and see that they end at a reasonable hour. We come now to the question of organization of the convention and the official roll call.

BROTHER BURNS: We have the regrets from the delegates of Washington and Marietta Colleges that it will be impossible for them to be here. Business circumstances prevented their arrival.

ROLL CALL

DR. CRAMBLET: We may not have time this afternoon for all the chapter reports, however, we intend to hear from each one of you a word from your own chapter. First, we will hear from Brother York of Alpha Chapter, Brother York.

BROTHER YORK (ALPHA): I am the first one to delve into this report. I am going to give you a general idea of what we have been doing at Yale. We will start out this year with about seventy members. We hope that we can take in about forty a year. We have two rushing periods, taking in about twenty or thirty the first time. Our dues run about \$15 every two months, with an initiation fee of \$170--this is cheaper than living outside of the House. The chapter is not allowed to live in the House.

We have a Grill and a well-established bar. Recently at Yale they have established a College Plan, which is known as the House Plan at Harvard. All upper-classmen are situated in a respective college which contains about 250 members, and have their own dining halls, pool rooms, and is a large fraternity. They do not choose their own members--the faculty does that. They eat all meals there. Our main problem is to put something into the fraternity that will attract fellows. We have to do that by meals mainly, different sort of entertainment, and keeping the house in good condition. This is a definite problem, especially during depression. Financially, we are not any too well fixed. We are way behind in taxes and mortgages, and dues to the National Fraternity. This is a very difficult problem. Getting Yale members interested in the National Fraternity is hard with the set-up that we have, for it is a job getting them into a local House. We hope to get some suggestions and new ideas from these reports so that we may get more fellows interested in the Chapter. Members do not realize the advantages of a fraternity and the National Convention. Alpha Chapter is probably the greatest problem. Business is picking up, conditions are not too rosy and not too bad. We hope to bring Alpha Chapter up to the best house on our campus and we feel that we are well on our way.

DR. CRAMBLET: We will now hear from Brother Lightner of Epsilon Chapter.

BROTHER LIGHTNER (EPSILON): I am sure that all of us try to do our best. It gives

me a great deal of satisfaction to say that Epsilon Chapter has no debts at all of any sort. Our scholarship is high with an average of 1.3 which equals c+ and our fraternity ranks sixth on the campus. It also gives me pleasure to say that we won the intramural championship last year receiving a big cup and several small cups for each single sport. We have adopted a new pledge training system which I cannot go into detail here, but will explain later.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Pierce of Ohio State University.

BROTHER PIERCE (ZETA): We have a rather bad situation out in Ohio. We have an active membership of only twenty three. Our main difficulty is trying to get fellows to live in the House. Now, however, things are looking better. We have a new rushing chairman from Columbus and 76 rushees. Scholastic rating runs about 1.9 which is below a C and rather low, but well above the average of the fraternities on the campus. We hope that we can do better this year and will certainly appreciate any suggestions that we get from this convention.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Platt, our host for this convention, will give his report.

BROTHER PLATT (ETA): On the whole Eta Chapter has been coming up for the last four years. The first semester of last year we were 52nd out of 56 fraternities! The second semester we came up to 41st, with an average of 3.059. We started the year with 44 men; in February we had 34 men, ending up with 37 in June. We had some difficulty since we had only 25 full house bills with some 12 men working for their meals. Our house bill runs \$56 a month. We have no National debt. Our general outlook is good. We have come up in the last four years. Four years ago this house was in very bad condition. Now it is much better. We have 24 men back with approximately 100 rushees. We sent a man out through the State this summer and things look better.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother McCloud, University of Michigan.

BROTHER McCloud (THETA): Theta owns the house, but has a first mortgage owned by the Ann Arbor Trust Company for the amount of \$18,250. There are also second

mortgage bonds of \$2,400 outstanding. The last school year all rent was paid (considering house expenses, and interest as rent), all bills were paid, and the accounts receivable were only \$180 at the end of the year. This loss represents what might have been used toward paying on the principle of the mortgage. We have a good many long past due accounts, which may be collected some day. These would lower the mortgage considerably.

The scholarship at Theta is quite medium. We stand about 24th out of 48 fraternities, and are just below the general mens average. Our pledge mortality is somewhat high due to low scholarship among the, but nothin very difinite has been planned to correct this.

The future is bright for Theta. We have a fine pledge class, and plan to initiate about ten this fall. The active chapter is about 18, and everyone will be living in the house. We have a close knit group, and are definitely on the up-grade. The house is in fine condition, except for part of the third floor, and it is to be fixed. Competition is not too bad between the fraternities, and we have had little trouble getting dates with prospects. The school authorities are not very enthused over fraternities, but the only direct control is the limiting of accounts due to \$200. Theta has taken more part in athletics than in several years, having teams in all but two intramural sports. With a good balance of classes, and courses, the future of Theta is secure for several years to come.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Kester of Cornell University.

BROTHER KESTER (IOTA): Our biggest trouble is getting enough pledges. Ever since three years ago we have never had more than 30 actives. We have what I think is a pretty high rent for our House--\$5,000 a year. It is difficult to get that. We owe the National \$361 and with the house bill of \$68 a month for actives this is very difficult to get. If we get 30 or 35 men in the house we think that will keep us up out of the hole. We had unfortunate luck with 6 men who busted out entirely. We have 19 men to start this year, some of whom are honor students. In regard to intramural athletics the men are willing, but not able. We had a hockey team. The outlook is

bright, and all we need is pledges. We hope to get many ideas on rushing from this convention.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Witzel of the University of California;

BROTHER WITZEL (NU): Not since 1929 has Nu Chapter seen such promise for strengthening her position on the California campus as this year. At present we are completing a successful rushing program that so far has gained us 15 new pledges. We have a membership of 25 inside and 10 outside men. Twenty-six of these men are in lower division. We will take three more inside men as our capacity is 28.

The spring semester of this year found our chapter in group 2 with a 1.34 grade average, only three tenths of a point behind the winner.

The financial condition of the Chapter has improved considerably during the last year as we have enjoined the services of the Bresee-Warner System. In this period of time they have collected much back moneys owing us and reduced our current bills to a small figure.

Due to our recent grave financial condition there has sprung up a closer relationship between the alumni and the active chapter. The result has been very encouraging and is a solid foundation for a highly successful future for Nu Chapter.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Woods, University of Nebraska;

BROTHER WOODS (XI): I am very happy to say that our outlook is unusually bright. Four years ago our Chapter boasted an active membership of six Brothers and one Pledge. At the present time we have 30 actives with several pledges. We hope to pledge between 12 and 18 men this year. We have moved into a house that is entirely new to us. We think things are definitely on the upward climb, as we have enlarged our membership from 6 to 40 men in four years. Scholastically, we are always around the top, never below 9th and seldom above third. This year we were 17th out of 40 chapters on the campus. As to intramural athletics we were handicapped by the lack of men. We did fairly well last year and hope to get better. We have done very well considering



what we had to work with. We have a National debt of just a little over \$1,000. The Alums have handled the finances for the last four years. This year we intend to install a new system whereby the actives handle the finances. As to bills around the city we owe \$150 at the time I left. I really think that this year we are going to hit the ball intramurally, scholastically, and as far as pledges are concerned.

DR. CRAMBLETT: Brother Barr of University of Pennsylvania

BROTHER BARR (OMICRON): Omicron's standing in the scholarship list released by the University has been on the up-grade for the past three years. Active work by the scholarship committee has resulted in a definite improvement. While the average of grades is not high, scholastic casualties are extremely rare. It cannot be denied that there is room for improvement, but progress in the direction of a high scholastic record is being made.

The general condition of the chapter, including standing on the campus, number of members, percentage of members living in the house, members engaged in extra-curricular activities, etc. may be classed as good, without being sensational. Omicron has several varsity athletes, is well represented in the publication field, and has several representatives in managerial positions. Three members of Omicron were elected to the Senior and Junior honor societies in the spring elections, and two more possibilities for the fall elections. The class of 1939 is especially strong in scholarship and extra-curricular activities.

It is felt that Omicron is on the upswing of one of the cycles that all fraternities experience, and that the peak will not be reached before another two years. Successively stronger and more numerous pledge groups have given impetus to the view.

I would like to add that there are only four active members from the city of Philadelphia, a healthy situation is a chapter of over thirty actives. Active in intramural athletics, Omicron reached the finals in football and placed well in others. We owe \$740.04 to national head quarters. This has been reduced to this figure by two

monthly payments of \$40 each. The chapter hopes to continue payments in accordance with the plan proposed by the National. We owe \$500 to the chapter trustees for house rent. There are no current bills, and no data on amounts owing to the chapter.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Dye of the University of Colorado.

BROTHER DYE (PI): Pi chapter has, until the last two years, maintained a very high scholarship standing; however, in the past two years Pi has been on the University's probation list twice. Both times it has brought its average up sufficiently to maintain its privileges on the campus. A high grade prize was found to be very helpful, but supervised study failed dismally.

Except in a few instances, aid from an alumni Council of Pi chapter has been very small. Pi chapter has been rather unfortunate in that it has never had a good organized alumni council, but rather an unorganized group which has rather bullied the chapter instead of assisting it. As financial advisors, the alumni council has helped Pi chapter out of some deep financial troubles; however, they have ruined all their good by charging high fees for their advice. Aid educationally and socially has been small and short-lived.

Pi chapter would appreciate and endorse the organization of a good alumni council. It has tried many times to introduce and encourage an active and aggressive alumni chapter, but so far no progress has been made. Pi chapter needs the help of its alumni.

The alumni have been more helpful in rushing than in any other activity, but increased alumni interest would be helpful. Pi chapter has had a hard fight during the past few years, but so far it has managed to obtain its share of pledges. Organized rush parties--smokers, dances, and fries--have been most successful. Personal contact with rushees has proven to be the most efficient method of summer rushing. However, Pi chapter is open to suggestions on rushing and pledging.

At the present time Pi chapter owes \$25,000 on its house, and approximately \$5000 to miscellaneous creditors; these debts were contracted at the time the house was built in 1929. All current debts of any consequence have been paid or arranged to be paid before the next school term. All taxes have been paid and interest on our note has

been paid for the past two years; this was accomplished through a new finance plan with the Midland Building and Loan Co. of Denver. Last year (school year) we paid them \$301 per month which included interest and taxes.

Next December we shall have to make new arrangements with our creditor. At that time we shall need an advisor who knows his business and can make an agreement with the loan company which will be beneficial to the chapter. So far we have no one capable of the task.

Building funds are provided for by means of a \$100 house note which is signed at initiation. This is paid for thus: \$10 at the beginning of each school term; \$1.25 each month; and the balance at graduation. In addition to the house note, members pay \$5 dues per month which includes payment on house note, furniture assessment, and national dues.

Back accounts are in excess of \$7000 of which \$200 are accounts from last year. If part or all of these accounts could be collected, Pi chapter would be in good financial condition. Unless competition from the new dormitory exceeds our expectations, Pi chapter can keep its head above the water for another year or two. If good arrangements can be made then with our loan company, we may expect to see many pleasant years.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Satterfield of Kentucky.

BROTHER SATTERFIELD (SIGMA): We have one outstanding debt and that is to the National. We don't have so very much trouble in rushing men and pledging. Our biggest problem is initiating. They seem to think that once they are pledged they are there. This year we are trying a new plan. We charge them \$10 when they pledge to go on their initiation fee. In this way we will eliminate those that are just there for the ride. Scholastically, we have done rather well. The House stands with an average of B, ranking second in the fraternities on the campus. As pointed out we have a pretty good outlook and we plan on doing a lot. We always have a full house with quite a number on the outside. We want a lot larger house.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Schultz of Stanford University.

BROTHER SCHULTZ (TAU): During the recent depression Tau suffered with other chapters and fraternities and went in the red. The alumni then formed the Tau of Alpha Sigma Phi Corporation and took over a large part of our debts. Several years ago the Corporation bought our house from the University and we will soon be in a position to rebuild it. Before we can borrow money from the University with which to finance our building program we must have a reserve of \$1000. We do not have this yet but the house is operating profitably again so it will not be long before we do.

Scholarship has come up a great deal with our last new class, and I think that the house ranks very high for the school year of 1936-37. However, accurate information does not come out until October.

Generally the Chapter is coming along. The Corporation has been doing some work on the house so it will be in good condition. Our last rushing season was very successful so we are almost certain to have a full house when school starts this fall. The house spirit is very high and the fellows are all willing to work, so our rushing this fall is sure to be a success. The prevailing spirit assures me that Tau's future is very bright.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother John Sayers, of Penn State College.

BROTHERS SAYERS (UPSILON): Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi was admitted to the National Fraternity in 1918, applying in the name of the Viking Club, the local social fraternity. The Chapter at the present time is organized to accommodate forty-two members. The house was built in 1928 during the "boom period." At this time the Brotherhood had no trouble in keeping the house filled, but Upsilon like all other fraternities was hit with the depression.

The house is owned by the Alumni Association Incorporated to which the active brothers pay rent part of which is applied to interest on the Alumni mortgage and the remainder on the principal. For the first time last year the Brotherhood defaulted to the extent of one thousand dollars. There are thirty thousand dollars of mortgage

bonds out at six per cent. The majority of these bonds are held by the Holidaysburg, Pennsylvania Bank. The Brotherhood wishes to stress the point that last year was the first time that they have ever defaulted in their payments.

Last year the house with twenty eight active members ran at a loss of \$200 a month. This year with 14 full house bill members at \$52.50 per month and five \$34.50 members plus one \$40 member back to rush the outlook for the coming year is very bright and the boys are looking forward to getting in the thirty five members to put the house on a paying basis.

Scholastic activity and standing has been established as the major goal at Upsilon. The chapter maintains a rigid study hour from 7:30 P.M. until 7:00 A.M. Each freshman is provided with an upper-class room-mate in his curriculum, or one very similar to it and aid is willingly offered when needed. Upsilon has rated scholastically in the upper one-fourth of the fifty-two fraternities at Penn State. This honor we regard with no light import and strive to do even better in the future.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Anderson of Iowa State College

BROTHER ANDERSON (PHI): Up to this time we have been renting our house from the Alumni Association, but we ran behind in rent and interest to the sum of \$1000 and with the build up which we had we had to turn our House over to the Building and Loan Assoc. We have a new plan this year and we will be renting directly from the Building and Loan. We have eighteen returning men in the House and with 200 rushing cards out we hope to reach capacity which is 28. Scholastically, we rose from 13 in the fall quarter to fifth in the winter quarter. The future looks bright with lighter burdens to take care of.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother McCormick of Oregon State College.

BROTHER MCCORMICK (PSI): Two years ago we had about 20 men living in the House; last year we had 27; and this year 35. Scholastically, we were about sixth out of 27 fraternities on the campus. The house has very little authority. Financially, we are clear with the National, however, our House is owned by bond holders who are Alums of the Chapter. Our lease is up this year and they are asking us for money, and I don't know where we will get it, but I think we will.

DR. CRAMBLET: We will now hear the report of Oklahoma.

BROTHER KING (ALPHA ALPHA): Oklahoma seems to be one of the struggling chapters. I think that in the future they might grow to be as strong as they used to be. Everyone is trying to work their way through school. I think that the fact that Oklahoma is known to be the lowest priced schools to get through than any other school in the South. Students come there expecting to work their way. Our active members run from 18 to 25 ar present. There about 18 living in the House and the rest are outsiders. We owe the National and have some current bills at present. We have started campaigns to try to collect money from the Alumni and we hope to raise the money from them. I think that the Chapter will grow a little this year due to the fact that we have made it a rule that no one can come back to the House and live in it if they owe money. This helps the House, and has brought a little light into the fellows heads, and they pay their bills before they come back to school. I think that Alpha Alpha has been unfortunate like all the rest of the chapters, or some of them in fact, and if we have some help from our Alumni Association which we expect we shall grow to be a bigger chapter in the future.

Dr. Cramblet: Brother Beebe, Middlebury College.

BROTHER BEEBE (ALPHA DELTA): Alpha Delta is pleased to report that her indebtedness has been reduced twelve hundred dollars in the past seven months. The only old accounts now collectable from her are for about one hundred and ninety dollars, besides the bill to the national. Last year fourteen men were pledged, of which ten were initiated. The house which we rent is having extensive redecoration, and much new furniture has been purchased within a year to assure us of a very prexentable house. An unusually large class is entering Middlebury this fall and some of the brothers are already acquainted with many of these freshmen. All in all the economic aspects of this chapter of the fraternity are much improved since the convention last year, and the prospects of greatly increasing our membership this year seem very good.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Burke, University of Syracuse.

BROTHER BURKE (ALPHA EPSILON): Financially, I am not much at figures. The Alumni

Association has had an excellent plan for collecting bills. Our current bills are up-to-date. As to scholastic standing we are 25th out of 25 houses. I believe there will be a substantial increase in average for the past year. As to members at present we have 7 men coming back this fall, and one of them I expect to see bounced. If we can pledge and have 10 men move into the House we will be safe--if we can't we are out. As it is now all of our Brothers are officers. Two factors which I think will help our Chapter in the future are: an increase in Alumni Relationship, and the fact that we have an Advisor from Kentucky coming up to school.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: Brother Leovy of the University of California at Los Angeles.

BROTHER LEOVY (ALPHA ZETA): Viewed as a whole the financial condition of the Chapter is good, the principal difficulty being the collection of chapter members' accounts that have accumulated in past semesters.

In scholarship Alpha Sigma Phi placed second among all U.C.L.A. fraternities in the fall semester of 1936-37.

There are nineteen actives and five pledges, who are ready for initiation, returning to school this semester. Thus, the house starts the school year with twenty-four men and a normal rush season should bring in ten pledges. Therefore, the Chapter should operate during the coming school year with between thirty and thirty-five men. The average size of fraternities on the U.C.L.A. campus is thirty actives and pledges, somewhat smaller than the average in other schools of its size.

A closer contact between the alumni corporation and the active chapter and between the national organization and the local chapter would be highly desirable. Visitation will take care of the latter problem, but the solution of the former is a large question mark.

BROTHER CRAMBLER: Brother Olcott of the University of Missouri.

BROTHER OLCOTT (ALPHA THETA): The future of Alpha Theta absolutely defies prediction. For the past five or six years we have been leading a charmed life. About three years ago we had about four active men, but last year we had 26 men in the House. At the present time we have a \$450 debt, and owe the national \$350. This includes rent, groceries, and entertainment. There are 12 active members returning in the fall and already we have five

pledges and we have five old pledges returning. I do think that conditions down there are better than they have been in the past, but it is still not all we hope for. Our only assets are a lot on enthusiasm and congeniality. Our House bill is very low--\$35; our pledge fee is \$10; and our initiation bills are \$40. Outwardly the chapter looks fairly solvent but inwardly it is in pretty bad shape. One of our biggest troubles is that we have a lot of men from St. Louis. This is a bad feature because we do not have any nucleus to work with. If we could get a better foothold in Kansas City we could build up our Chapter.

DR. CRAMBLET: Brother Miller of the University of Alabama.

BROTHER MILLER: (ALPHA IOTA): We have been working and trying to reduce the debt as much as possible. Scholastically, we feel approximately at the bottom for the first two years and now we are about sixth from the bottom. Last year we had 18 actives in the House and 18 returning. We have five pledges that were not able to be initiated in March, but will be in October. We contacted five new pledges during the summer. One of the problems is to get the boys to stay in the House. We are trying to get all of them to stay in the House. We are trying to operate at a profit for a change.

ADJOURNED SESSION FOR ONE-HALF HOUR.

DR. CRAMBLET: Next we will have the reports of the Alumni Council delegates. First we will hear from the San Francisco Alumni Council, represented by Brother W. R. Augustine.

BROTHER AUGUSTINE (NU): Some eight or ten years ago we had in San Francisco a very active alumni organization. At that time we met regularly except in the summer months. For a time we published a mimeographed alumni news letter and along with it put an alumni directory which we endeavored to keep up to date. This business of keeping an alumni council running is usually a one or two-man affair. Unless you have one or two men who will take the initiative of arranging for luncheons and phoning the members, the thing usually soon peters out.

For seven or eight years prior to last Fall there was, so far as I am aware, but little activity among the alumni in the San Francisco Bay Region.

To illustrate this, I will say that I was surprised to see in the winter of 1937 edition of the Tomohawk under "Alumni Councils" a notice to the effect that the San Francisco Alumni



were holding meetings at the Commercial Club on Thursday Noon. I didn't know how long that had been going on but I was not apprised of it. Upon inquiry, I learned that this group was composed entirely of alumni from Tau Chapter at Stanford and had been meeting irregularly, if at all.

Now that condition should not be permitted to exist. All alumni of the fraternity living or working on one community should meet and work together. In this way much more can be accomplished than is the case where alumni of the various institutions meet separately.

Out of the financial difficulty with which Nu Chapter at Berkeley was beset a renewed interest among the alumni arose.

About a year ago we reorganized the Alumni of San Francisco and began holding weekly luncheons. Instead of sending out cards notifying the members of the luncheon, five or six of us divided up the names and on Thursday morning we telephoned those on our lists to remind them of the luncheon. We find this to be more effective than sending out cards. We also met all summer long. Due to vacations, attendance is necessarily lower in summer, but we concluded that it would be better to continue than to have to revive again in the Fall.

Our meetings have been composed largely of alumni of Nu Chapter. We have, however, endeavored to have the Stanford men join us and frequently one or more of them will show up at the weekly luncheon. Our organization is still too loosely knit and there is work to be done in getting more and better cooperation from all alumni in the Bay Region.

In order to encourage attendance, we operate a pool each week. In addition to the price of the lunch, ten cents is charged each member, one-half of which goes into that pool. Each member is assigned a number and dice, or a die, rather, is rolled to see who is to win the pool. If an absent member wins the pool goes over to the next week. I remember years ago when the same system was used and the pool built itself up to \$20 or thereabouts. I cannot say whether this pool actually has the effect of increasing attendance. As I recall, however, during the time this pool was rather substantial in amount the attendance was good.

Early this year we had a banquet in San Francisco at which about thirty men were present. We should have had twice that number. We are now planning various activities for the football season--luncheons at the house on football days and the like.

We also promised the active chapter at Berkeley a dance or beer-bust or a party of some kind if they pledged fifteen inside men. When I left they had fourteen pledged, so it looks like we are hooked.

We are also planning to publish another edition of the newspaper which we put out earlier in the year. That paper, by the way, was well received and helped tremendously in renewing the interest of alumni everywhere.

While there is always room for improvement, I can say that at present the San Francisco Alumni Council is going strong and prospects for the future are bright.

DR. CRAMBLET: Give the man a chance to get his breath and then we will hear from the Washington Alumni Council representative.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON (KAPPA): The Washington Alumni Council is a thriving council. We have approximately 20 members. There are considerably more than that eligible. We meet regularly, even throughout the summer. Our aims are a combination of social and educational. Among other things we have a discussion at our meetings, some very important questions, and we usually select some member of the council, who is particularly qualified to speak on that subject. Meetings are always interesting. Of course we have one thing which is entirely social. One of our members happens to be the son of the owner of the largest brewery in the territory, and we have annual beer.....at the brewery.

DR CRAMBLET: We will now have the report of the Chicago Alumni Council.

BROTHER CLARK (THETA): We have a live council in Chicago. We get 20 to 25 men out once a month. Back in the old days we had a weekly luncheon and a monthly meeting, but now we use just the evening, monthly meeting. The meetings are varied in the way of speakers and other social events in the form of dances, evening of cards, banquets, and outside speakers. We do very little to assist or help the Chapter which I believe should be one of the chief things an Alumni Association ought to do. We tried in a number of cases to get sufficient men interested to contact the various high schools in cities for the purpose of ascertaining where the graduates were going. That never seems to work out to any extent. What the Chapter needs is not only financial assistance occasionally, moral support, yes, but real support in getting good men lined up for the Chapter. I think the Alumni Council among all could be of assistance in helping the Chapter local to

new members.

DR. CRAMBLET: We will have the report of the New York Council.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK ALUMNI COUNCIL: The New York Alumni Council has been functioning about the same way as it has for the past few years. We have anyway from 25 to 35 men each month who meet at the Hotel Woodstock. Last summer we had a weekly luncheon downtown and had from 5 to 12 out. We also had a boat ride on the bay and a boat ride last Spring. It is a friendly group, but it should be much larger.

DR. CRAMBLET: St Louis Alumni Council.

REPORT OF THE ST. LOUIS COUNCIL: We are not meeting very often now. However, for a while we were quite active. Now what we ask is that Brother Burns prepare a list of men in and around St. Louis so that I can get in touch with quite a few of them. We will be able to reorganize if we get this list.

DR. CRAMBLET: (GRAND SENIOR PRESIDENT): Actually I have no report to make. I have had the opportunity to participate in a revision of the constitution and a proposed revision of the by-laws. I have come to appreciate the amount of work done by some of the members for Alpha Sigma Phi. There are definite things to report by some of the officers who are to appear later on the program. My own activities have been simple attending some of the meetings and cooperating by expressing an opinion. A National Fraternity must have a unity and a personality if it is to mean anything across the years and that is what we are now trying to institute. As this time I will call upon the Grand Junior President, Benjamin Clarke.

BROTHER CLARKE: (Report not received) *Insert*

BROTHER CLEWORTH: Handed in report to Brother Burns.

It was moved and seconded that these reports be accepted as read. Motion carried.

BROTHER BURNS: Due to the fact that this report is mimeographed and will be distributed to each one of the members here, I think that I will dispense with reading it completely through and will just read the preamble.

There was some question as to whether or not the report should be read completely through. However, it was decided that Brother Burns should read the report.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the executive secretary be accepted as read. Motion carried.

Dr. Cramblet announced the following committees:

(a) Formal Resolutions Committee: W. R. Augustine, Chairman, Donald C. Platt, Anderson, Claude Witzel, Frank Jorgenson, and Robert McCloud.

(b) Nominating Committee: George E. McDonald, Chairman; George Worthington, Neil Schultz, Halstead, Hamilton Dye, Lawrence L. Lightner, Bruce Kester, T. M. Leovy.

The revision of the Constitution, the By-Laws and Codes was announced as the special Committee  
.....

Thursday, September 9, 1937---Morning Session. Dr. Wilbur Cramblet, Presiding.

The thing that we aim to discuss rather fully here is the matter of the fraternities attitude toward the social problems that confront the local chapters. The first discussion leader is absent so I will call on Benjamin Clarke.

BROTHER CLARKE:(THETA) I rather misunderstood what this subject was. I thought it was social programs rather than social problems. It was indicated last evening what a fraternity really ought to do and it has been somewhat discussed here. The University and the authorities are working for the right to do something more than to operate a House. There really ought to be something done in the constructive line as furnishing a library, bringing in speakers, and developing further discussion of serious problems and subjects of debate, etc. It is a fact without any question that fraternities have got to do something in the way of constructive work along a social program line, if they are going to survive. Dr. Cramblet and Dean Turner say fraternities must become a part of the educational institution. They have always been a part of this institution. They have always, at least in some form, fostered the proposition that they were interested in the scholarship of man, interested in trying to develop a man's character. Beyond that I don't see how they can go any further. Personally, I think today and for some time past, as I have often stated and those men that are here have heard me, I feel that today a fraternity has a bigger job and can do a great deal more for a man than they could do thirty years ago. I personally have a feeling that the average men in the educational field today have very little thought or ideas about a man's character. The primary object

seems to be to gain a part knowledge and beyond that they go no further. A fraternity is a place where if properly conducted, things other than the matter of purely educational knowledge can be developed in a man, and that is why I feel that a fraternity can do a great deal more than it did thirty years ago. Now I say, that is true if it is properly conducted. That brings us to the proposition that in the fraternity, how are you going to conduct your house so that the men get the most out of their life there. Certainly, the fraternity that does nothing more than furnish a man a place to sleep and eat is nothing more than a boarding house. If that is true and the fraternity does nothing more than that it has no excuse for living. That is one criticism that I have for fraternities. I do not have the optimism of Dean Turner in regard to the footing of fraternities. I think the faculty opposition has been growing.

At an inter-fraternity conference in New York, statements were made by an alumni to the effect that the President of Dartmouth College had expressed a wish that they have some more good National fraternities on the Dartmouth Campus. He indicated that he felt quite sure that the President would be interested in Alpha Sigma Phi being there. With the authorities indicating a desire it seemed to be the finest opportunity in the world to install the fraternity. I do know this, that irrespective of my peculiar ideas, nevertheless, fraternities have got to show the general public that they are really doing something in the life of every fraternity man to make a better man of him, otherwise, they have no other excuse for being here. I am not <sup>in</sup> a position to develop what your social program ought to be. You active men are in better position to develop that. I would like to hear a discussion along the line of a social program and the conduct of a house with respect to a social program that is really constructive. There are a great many things outside of dances and that sort of thing, not controlled by the fraternity, but directed by help where it can be given as to what a man can do outside of his school work that will help him in his later life. A talk here from delegates as to what they do or what they don't do to build up a fraternity, and what they do socially to help everyone of its members.

BROTHER CRAMLET: I am sorry that I mistated the subject. We are concerned in the

social program. In planning a social program it seems to me there will be different situations on different campuses. It is that thing that we hope to bring out through this discussion. You would consider the opportunity that the fraternity has at this time particularly to the social life of its members. They are not interested in the menus at the dining table. How should the chapter members act in the light of campus problems? I believe the matter will develop itself somewhat as we go along.

BROTHER YORK: There has been quite a lot of discussion about what the fraternity is supposed to do intellectually to better its members and also the undercurrent seems to be that the future is looking bright. I think the social program is bound up in finances. A proper social program will better finances. We have different problems due to the fact that we are in more or less of a club. In the first place I find that it is a job to keep the fellows interested in social activities around the House if we try to force these intellectual betterments on them. They must have bait or a lure, and the best way to do this is to promote discussion on different problems that are really on a higher plane. Magazines of different types seem to be about the best way to do that. Small periodicals also help, such as the Readers Digest. Technical publications help quite a bit. We try to draw fellows out by having them discuss different subjects in which they are interested, around the dinner table. We don't approve of getting well known speakers. We take the subjects that the fellows have discussed around the House and then get a more or less expert on these to work it up into a sort of discussion. One problem is to get everyone interested in these discussions. We had rather two or three rather marked successes in New Haven. We not only get the meek fellows into things but get very conceited ones out of it somewhat. If we can get something a little bit better than the next fellow, it will be much easier to get more pledges in the House and then the financial problems will settle themselves. I find that one of the best ways to get fellows interested in the House is to let them run the program themselves at times. If we try to get fellows with a little talent to run the entertainment, we succeed much better. We try a spontaneous amateur show to make everybody take part. It seems to me that every Fraternity is saturated with Benny Goodman records. I think you will find it well worth your while to spend some

money on records. It is really surprising to know how many fellows would really like to know more about good music. We must get the plain of our entertainment a little higher. We make a mistake if we try to cram this down their throats. The University is supposed to give the fellows an education and a fraternity is more or less a place to relax. Boiled right down the purpose of a fraternity is to give the fellows what they join the fraternity for, relaxation. Get the fellows to try and help other fellows. With that as a basis, work towards helping the University.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: How much time is the house open?

BROTHER YORK: Our house is open all year round until about 1 o'clock at night. We serve meals at noon and night. At noon we have 20 to 25 men eat at the house and at night 50-60 or 70 on special occasions. We usually have our meetings on Tuesday night and usually try to have some special dinner. It is a problem to get the fellows to come to meetings. We have different kinds of dinners, such as Russian, Spanish, gypsy dinners with people dressed to represent their nationality to furnish music during the dinner. Friday night is a regular entertainment night. We have not been too successful. About the only things that are successful are moving pictures and free beer busts.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: How much of your activities throughout the week are stag?

Brother YORK: We usually have about four dances during the football season. We have a Junior Prom and some sort of a dance on Saturday night after the Prom. On Derby Day we have a Yale and Princeton Shamble.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: Do you have these parties at the house?

BROTHER YORK: Yes. We had 500 people and took in \$850.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: Is the bar open at all hours?

BROTHER YORK: Actually the bar is open. In fact, they were so bad that the President was quite worried about them. We had 120 active members at the end of the year. The bar is usually closed except on big week ends. It is decidedly not a drinking house now.

BROTHER BALDWIN: What is the business relation between the bar and the fraternity?

BROTHER YORK: We ran the bar and the grill. About a year ago we gave a steward who was running a night club, a concession on the grill and the bar. We paid him a salary as well. He takes care of the house and the waiters.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: We have no social program. It was primarily our point to bring a house up on the campus. The fellows went out more by themselves, or in groups of twos and threes. We have no social program out of one or two dances during the year. We formed a committee to take care of a social program. We had several other things that were good on our campus--dances, exchange dinners with sororities, exchange picnics, and banquets with alumni. Generally we have a little picnic or beer bust which brings the chapter very close together. Each year we try to have a snow party in the Sierras. I think such entertainment betters the individual because it gets him in with all the fellows. We have a good rushing business. We get the jump by throwing an open house and getting the rushees dates. A social program like that is a lure to go into a house. They don't go into a house with the idea of gaining intellectually and spiritually. Another problem that comes in is the drinking of liquor. With a house dance of this kind, some of the fellows intend to have their drinks. An attempt is made to keep it down as much as possible. Ten years ago there was a bar in the house. What to do about the liquor problem is quite serious. Exchange dinners give good contacts. The fellows like them as it helps them get acquainted.

FLOOR: At an open house, do other fraternity members go?

BROTHER SCHULTZ: Yes, we try to get other members of the fraternities on the campus at our functions. We try to get everybody on the campus that we know, there.

FLOOR: How do you arrange your exchange dinners?

BROTHER SCHULTZ: We get some fellow that is in with the sorority to arrange the dinner. Half of the girls come to the fraternity and half of the fellows go to the sorority. We pick up the girls and take them over to our house.

FLOOR: What are the details of an open house?

BROTHER SCHULTZ: We skip one evening meal in the week to defray expenses and we start about 7:00 with a buffet supper.

BROTHER YORK: I have two questions I want to ask. The first is what to do about the matter of pledging. After entertaining them at the house, we take them off somewhere for a week end. We are starting the custom of taking about 28 of them up to Vassar. My second



point is, how far should a Fraternity go to make the campus know it is there? Does advertising itself by various means make the fraternity famous? We have a Daily News and every time we have any sort of entertainment, we put it in the News. It is Claimed that after all, a fraternity is there and we should not try to advertise dances or use any propaganda at all.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: We have had reports from two institutions. I hope those who feel that they have experiences to relate or suggestions to make will feel free to speak. This last question is really a very important one, how to make the campus concious of the fact that the fraternity is on it. What do you do in the way of campus leadership?

BROTHER CLARKE: I wonder if we could bring this discussion down to specific things? If we could have a discussion here as to what our chapter requires in way of a man's attitude at the table; how he is required to conduct himself. That is very essential. I would like to hear discussed the question of a library. I think that we could pick out specific things of that kind. So far we have only heard about entertainment. Fraternities have got to do more than entertain. What are we going to do? What are some of the things we can do to make our fraternities more than a place to eat and sleep? Of course, I think a little entertainment is necessary.

To me to invite in the campus to a fraternity function would be the farthest thing from my thoughts. We always thought that we had a close group and more or less like a family. To a great extent, we eliminate that certain binding instinct that should be in every house. If you read your constitution and ritual and go clear back to the origin of the fraternity, you will find that the object was brotherhood. Unless the Brothers get together, know each other, and do things together, they miss the real value of fraternity life. One of the most difficult things a man has to do is to learn how to live with others. There is a tremendous amount of people who have no idea of how to get along with other people. In theory at least, a fraternity should help a man along way along the road of knowing how to get along with his fellow men. Therefore, I think we should discuss specific things within the house that men can take back from this convention and use in their House.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: I am in agreement largely with what Brother Clarke has had to say.

However, I differ with his implication about open house. I think that perhaps one of the greatest functions of a fraternity is to develop a man's personality. The psychologists tell us that people can be largely classified into two groups--extroverts and introverts. In developing the personality is a splendid idea. The exchange of dinners with sororities is a splendid idea because one gets the meek fellow to get out and make acquaintances and meet people. The tendency of the introvert is to draw more or less into himself. He has not learned how to mix with people. He may get his doctors degree, become a great student, but he will never become a great success in life because he has not learned to get along with people. It is of tremendous importance that the fraternity group do things together, yet for the most part, with the exception of Yale and some others, the groups may be too limited. Getting the fellows in the House to meet fellows in other Chapters tends for the wider development of their personality. I have been very interested to hear what the man from Stanford had to say about the things they do and I think it would be very helpful if we had more hints and examples of how the different Chapters take care of their problems.

BROTHER LEOVY: One large criticism of the fraternity is that they stick too close together. I think that the open house is the answer to that criticism. The open house is becoming quite a tradition on the campuses of the West Coast. All the larger Houses have an open house each year. In answer to Brother Clark, all our dances are closed to other fraternities, but the open house helps the pledges on the campus a great deal. Sticking too close together will defeat the purpose of the inter-fraternity council.

BROTHER BURNS: I think that the problem is being confused. I would like to bring out several points. Say you have a fellow in the House, say at Yale, Palmer, that can't take his liquor, gets to be a habitual drinker. The Chapter doesn't know what to do, doesn't want to tell his parents. This is a problem you might easily come up against--what are you going to do about it?

What can the Chapter do to develop the man who has no social contacts with the girls on the campus? How are these men to be helped?

I think that there are some things that we might well discuss in this discussion here and get down to the root of these things that we are offering to men along these specific

lines. I know that at my own chapter this past year they set up a pledge training course which is a definite course, supervised throughout his life at college. This course takes in etiquette.

BROTHER YORK: We ran into this drinking problem a lot last year. We probably had one of the niftiest drunks at Yale that you ever saw. This is a serious problem that we ought to settle here. We have three ways which we use in trying to take care of this situation. For the younger fellows, we usually make veiled comments at chapter meetings, discussing the house as a whole, if they have acted too roughly at dances. Secondly, is the fellow who gets downcast over a girl and lets his grades go down. You can pal around with him, keep him busy, make an example of yourself, and get close to him, showing him that you do not have to drink to have a good time. Thirdly, is the fellow who is so far gone that you have to talk with him, pick a mood, and find out what is at the root of his problems, and try to help him solve them.

BROTHER AUGUSTINE:(ALUMNUS): Of course drinking is always going to be a problem. The question of drinking ought to be discussed here. I have known of instances where fellows took girls up on the second floor into their rooms and drank out of gallon jugs. I think we should put drinking on a higher basis if we are going to drink. I have been inquiring around a bit and find that practically without exception at every dance they have a bar. In the constitution we have a provision against any drinking. If we know that this is going to be violated in respect to drinking, it seems to me that this is going to be lead to other violations. At least this will tend to break down the morals.

BROTHER PIERCE: We have the University rules against drinking in the house, as well as the house rules. The fellows are going to drink. What are we going to do about it? You can't set up a bar in the house.

BROTHER BURKE: We have the same problem at Syracuse that you have at Ohio State. We use the kitchen as a bar. We have to leave this clause in the constitution for if we don't we will get kicked clear off the campus. All laws are made to be broken. Leave the clause in the constitution.

BROTHER ANDERSON: Rather than be hypocritical about it, during the last three initiations we have entirely stricken out the oath, which is still in the constitution. The main reasons that we stick by it and would like to see the regulation stay in the constitution, is first that it looks good to the incoming freshman. They come in in a pretty innocent frame of mind. When they are told there is in our constitution a clause prohibiting the use of liquor in the house, it sounds very well to them. Occasionally we have a few parents come around and that always interests the parents. For these two reasons I would like to see some form of regulation left in there. I do think that the national constitution could provide in such a way that it would leave it to local government.

BROTHER WOODS: Frankly fellows, I am positively amazed at the liquor problems that exists throughout the United States. We are firm believers in the constitution and live up to it truthfully. We have no liquor in the house. I don't know how you can remedy your problem, and I can offer no suggestion. I would like to be put on record as saying that we do not have any drinking in the house, and no liquor in the house. I do not see any cause for striking the oath out of the constitution.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: I would like to separate the questions that we are talking about. We are going to talk about the ritual tomorrow, so that leaves the question about the oath to be postponed until tomorrow. Question on chapter procedure is a very rare one and sometimes we arrive at the conclusion that members of the house want to rationalize on the question of drinking. After we talked about in the special committee they rewrote the constitution. Dean Turner mentioned last night that the chapter should certainly be in sympathy with and support officially and actually the regulations of the constitution wherever they are located. The fraternities were very definite institutions 25 years ago as laws amongst themselves. They did not care what the college authorities thought about them. I know no national organization today that would permit it. The attitude of the fraternity toward college has changed that much--officially at least. The college has certain regulations about certain behavior and they withdraw their charters if they do not live up to the rules of the college.

FIVE MINUTE INTERMISSION

SECRETARIES WERE DISMISSED

THURSDAY, SEPT. 9, 1937

AFTERNOON SESSION

MOTION: This motion is that the President appoint a committee to draft a recommendation of the proposed amendment to constitution on the subject of local option on the liquor question among chapters of the fraternity. The committee consists of one member of Constitution Revision Committee and two others from the delegates to the convention.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION:

MR. PAUL C. BEAM:

Why must we think about such sordid things as money matters in the operation of a chapter house? True, we do owe the butcher and the baker last May's bills, but just as soon as John Jones and Bill Smith and Bob Brown get their housebills squared up we'll be all set. Of course, John Jones and Bill Smith didn't come back to school this fall, but they are both good for it--they'll pay when they get some other bills cleaned up they went away owing. Sure -- we slipped up on the last month's rent to the Alumni, but what the heck--they can stall off the building and loan. Anyway, what about that new furniture we were going to get.

What a familiar ring this has to most of us, how typical it is of many chapters of our acquaintance. Gentlemen, I'll tell you why you must concern yourselves with such a stuffy and boresome thing as chapter finance--because chapter finance is the very life blood of every chapter of every fraternity. Furthermore, if fraternities must justify their right to exist, I know of no better way of silencing the rumblings of discontent from carping critics than by presenting a clean bill of health financially. Remember that your college or university has much at stake, because inevitably you must recognize the fact that your fraternity is an adjunct of the college, and that you have been granted certain rights and privileges by your educational institution. In return for these privileges you must be willing to give something in return in the way of responsibility and self-discipline. Unwholesome financial conditions in a fraternity

might possibly reflect on your college, and if the college is held increasingly accountable how can the fraternity escape accountability? A chapter which is hopelessly bankrupt financially, will very likely be bankrupt in almost every other phase of chapter life. More likely than not, activities will have suffered, scholarship will be at low ebb and general chapter morale will be smashed to "smithereens". No doubt there may be isolated cases where such conditions as I have outlined do not prevail, but I believe unalterably that in the vast majority of cases, if a chapter finds itself on sound financial footing, every other phase of chapter life will inevitably follow along in the wake of financial success. So you see, there is nothing sordid at all about chapter finances--on the contrary financial solvency spells sure success with a capital S. Believe me when I tell you that I have had ample opportunity to know whereof I speak and if you men of Alpha Sigma Phi wish to retain your leadership on the various campuses throughout the country cling steadfastly to the principle of sound chapter finances.

But let's get down to cases. Granted that all I have said is true, where shall we begin this program of "setting our financial house in order?" Out of my 11 years experience in chapter management and finances have come a thousand observations, leading to certain firm and unalterable convictions which I should now like to submit to you as a starting point for your program:

1. The complete realization that the operation of a fraternity house in this day and age is fairly comparable to the operation of a good sized business. Gone are the "palmy" days of hit or miss chapter management, when operating expenses were sufficiently low so that it mattered little whether John Jones paid his housebill or not. You were not then living in palatial homes, in luxurious comfort such as we see here in this chapter house, and all about us on this, as well as most other campuses. You must therefore awaken to the fact that your chapter is operating virtually a business of considerable proportions where income and expenses frequently go well above 20,000

each, annually,, and that it is vital to the success of your chapter, not only now, but for future generations to establish a traditional policy of sound finances.

2. The operation of a chapter house represents a mutual undertaking not for gain to any individual member. In order that this cooperative enterprise may be completely successful, every single member and pledge must recognize his full financial responsibility to the chapter, and pay his obligations promptly. Some of you may say that there are extenuating circumstances at times which make the accumulation of certain housebills not only necessary, but perhaps even desirable. I don't believe it. If every pledge comes into a chapter with the cards laid fairly and squarely on the table, and what is more important, if his parents are fully cognizant of their financial responsibility there ought never to be any legitimate excuse for financial delinquency. It is true that you will always have a limited number of boys who are very largely on their own, and for whom you make some provisions in the way of jobs, waiting table, or washing dishes. Even these men should know in advance the limitations of their resources, and should, therefore, be able to meet the modest housebills which are required of them. A few short years ago, years fraught with heartaches and sudden financial disaster for hundreds upon thousands of us, I could not have justified this statement. Those years, however, passed quickly, and the years which have intervened have restored financial prosperity abundantly to the vast majority of the parents of college men. I'm sure you'll agree with me that no parent wishes to impose upon a group of boys the burden of putting his son through college, and that is exactly what happens when you permit delinquent house bills to accumulate. Somewhere along the line you and future generations of brothers will have to "pay the piper".

Here are several suggestions gleaned from the practical experience of many other fraternities, some of which may be helpful to you in inaugurating a new program, or fortifying your present one:

- A. Establish a "pay as you go" policy, permitting no member or pledge to let his housebill become delinquent beyond 30 days. If there are any delinquencies at the end of the stipulated period demand that they sign judgment notes for an additional 30 days, with their parent or guardian as cosigners. If at the end of this 60 day period the note has not been paid in full, the debtor must then leave the house and lay himself liable to suspension or expulsion from the fraternity. Grant no exceptions, because the minute this is done, you cannot with justification, impose this penalty on other less fortunate and less influential members. The prompt payment of housebills can be stimulated by the added inducement of a monthly discount if paid by a certain date. An alternative plan is the system of proration of delinquent housebills. This method has proved practical in many cases, and if rigidly enforced can be an effective weapon.
- B. In order to make the collection of housebills simple and effective, a friendly and tactful letter should be mailed to the parent or guardian of every member and pledge at the start of the academic year. This letter, if properly drafted would give the parents an appreciation of the financial set-up of the chapter, and of the responsibility imposed upon them of paying housebills promptly each month.
- C. The chapter should operate under a system of budgetary control. A budget should be drawn up prior to the opening of school under the supervision of the Chapter Treasurer, an officer of the Alumni or Building Association, and the Chapter



Adviser. I shall have more to say about the Chapter Adviser later. Such a budget should indicate the minimum requirements of the chapter for the ensuing school year, and by a process of deduction the size of the housebill could be established as well as the minimum number of men needed to fulfill the requirements of the budget. With this information available, and with reasonably accurate knowledge at hand of the number of actives returning to school, your rush captain or rushing committee would then be in position to set their goal for the number of rushees to be pledged. If it were a well-established policy that the size of the housebill depended entirely upon attaining the goal established as the result of your budget findings, you would then arouse to action a united chapter in your rushing efforts. Again, let me remind you that this is all based on the assumption that you are operating a co-operative enterprise, and as such, it is up to each and every individual enjoying the benefits and privileges of the fraternity to assume his fair share of its financial responsibilities. You cannot, with justification, content yourselves with a weak-kneed policy which will deprive the Building Corporation of sufficient revenue to meet its debts; and at the same time let the tradespeople with whom you deal wait indefinitely for payment, nor yet can you shift upon future generations of your brothers a burden of debt which was rightfully yours.

D. A system of accounting procedure prescribed by the committee of three, to which I have previously referred, which would adequately set forth the many and varied financial transactions of your chapter should be adopted. Gone are the days of the "check

book and receipt" method of keeping accounts. Your chapter treasurer should be required to make his entries daily and at the end of each calendar month render a comprehensive financial report to the Chapter Adviser, the officers of the Building Association and National Headquarters. A satisfactory report would include a statement of assets and liabilities along with supporting schedules, and a statement of receipts and disbursements. A cumulative report for the year to date, as well as a budget comparison, might very well be embodied in these monthly reports. This would make it possible for all interested parties to have their fingers on the pulse of the chapter at all times. It should be said in passing, that many chapters may be required by College or University regulation to meet certain minimum standards, and no doubt your Central Office has similar requirements. I maintain, however, that you should not be satisfied in merely complying with any such regulations, but that your pride in your own chapter, and your desire to attain a high degree of efficiency should give you added impetus to become an outstanding chapter. I should like, at this juncture, to put in word for "specialists" in chapter finances and accounting. The very existence of professional organizations, which make a business of guiding chapters in fiscal matters bears eloquent testimony to the importance and magnitude of this problem. By and large, such organizations perform an outstanding service, and it is my conviction that they have justified their existence a good many times over during recent years.

E. Let us now deal in personalities for a moment. I should like to suggest an effective and efficient method of selection of your chapter commissaries, or stewards, if you will, and chapter trea-

surers. Upon the efficiency of these men very largely depends the successful operation of your chapter. How unfortunate it is, that all too frequently these highly important positions, so vital to the welfare of the fraternity, are made the political football of chapters. These jobs are incompatible with petty chapter politics and should be awarded solely on the basis of merit. Whether or not the candidate is an outstanding student, a hail fellow well-met or an athlete should have no bearing on the case. In order that a capable treasurer or commissary can be selected on the basis of merit alone, petitions for these positions should be presented to a joint committee of active and alumni members which committee, along with the Chapter Adviser will choose the best equipped candidate. His tenure of office should be for not less than one year -- longer if possible, and he should have working under him junior apprentices who plan to submit petitions when the present officers term expires. By all means the outgoing commissary and treasurer should be members of the undergraduate committee on selection. Some of you may disagree with me violently on this entire question, but if you had as I have, witnessed the tragic experiences of many chapters during the past ten years, you would share with me the strong conviction that neither politics nor sentiment has any place in chapter management and finances.

F. In your financial structure, by all means adopt some long range plan for future building, or rehabilitation of your present quarters. How absurd it is to live a "hand-to-mouth" existence, giving no thought to the future, and then suddenly realize that your chapter house is badly in need of repairs and

renewals. So I say, include as a part of your monthly housebill a "Building Fund" payment the total of which will be set aside monthly in a trust fund to be used for purposes such as I have described. Perhaps each generation of students would like to see some visible evidence of their personal contributions. Such a fund could and probably should include annual replacements of certain pieces of furniture, and other refurbishments.

G. You have already noticed my frequent use of the term "Chapter Adviser", and no doubt you are already beginning to suspect that he is a very important and busy gentleman in my scheme of things. Call him what you will--Chapter Adviser, Alumni Counselor, or Faculty Advisor--here is the man, who, if he has a strong constitution to "take it" holds the key to the success of your chapter. In every community in which you have a chapter located you should be able to seek out an alumnus member sufficiently devoted to your fraternity and sufficiently free from business cares who will willingly act in this capacity. He must be one who speaks your language, and yet is sufficiently removed in mature wisdom that he will command your utmost respect. You should look to him for guidance in every phase of chapter activity. He should attend your chapter meetings regularly; he should participate in your social affairs; he should act as a liaison officer between the chapter and the administrative officers of the University, your Central Office, and you Alumni officers, and most important of all he should advise with you intimately on all financial matters. Here is a man, who when properly selected can perform a distinguished service for your chapter.

In acknowledgment of his services, he should be invited to attend your district and National Conventions in order that he can be made to feel that he is an integral part of your organization.

In this brief dissertation I have necessarily had to deal in generalities. This is a subject which should be of vital importance to all of you. To conduct the fiscal affairs of your chapter in a courageous and efficient manner, should be to each and every one of you a matter of good citizenship. Habits formed during college days are very apt to cling to you during later years, and just as you would insist that your own private business enterprise be conducted on a high business plane -- so should you insist that your fraternity, which is so much a part of you, receive the same consideration.

BROTHER PIERCE: First I want to give my idea of what qualities a good treasurer or commissary should have. Last week I came to the House and I happened to have my daughter with me. We got back to my wife's home that night. They asked what we did down here and what did your father talk about. My daughter remarked that we talk most of the time about guts. One of the first requirements of a man elected treasurer or commissary is willingness to work. He must be up and about in the morning and see that his place is operated properly. He must be on his job, knowing what is going on. He must inspect his kitchen, check all the laundry, and linens, and make minor reports, should set an example for every other man in that Chapter and if he sets that example most of the men will follow him. They will take care of little things around that need to be taken care of when he asks them to. Secondly, he needs to have the ability to secure compliance with his orders. His brothers have opinions and ideas they wish carried out. He needs to be a man who can mold that mass of opinion. He has to employ anywhere from three to twelve people. He must know more than those people do. Your commissary must know more than the porter, waiters, and the cook. He has got to make decisions and back them up. This is an opportunity to get executive that will be of value to him. He learns something about the house maintenance that will be of value to him. Men take different positions after college. Men may graduate in agriculture and in a few years he may be a banker. How do any of you know when you

get out of school where you are going to be using the information you have acquired. In the management of your Chapters you can learn things that will be valuable to you. That man must be able to secure the cooperation of his officers. This experience will be valuable to him when he gets out and will be working with other people. If he can get the officers of his own Chapter to work with him, and I am telling you that takes time and experience and training, but where better can you get that training and experience than right in your own Chapter House. He should be a man who demands the backing of the actives and the alumni and if he can't get it he should resign. If a man can't get the backing there is no use for him to go along without entire cooperation. There was a man who was commissary for Eta Chapter last year, who is working in New York now. That man in my opinion should have resigned in his job, because he was unable to get the mass opinion and backing of the Alumni of this Chapter. As a result what has happened? The man that you select as commissary or treasurer must have financial sense. Brothers in the Chapter are handling between 18 to 20 thousand dollars a year. This is no small amount of money. And no sum of money to be placed at the discretion of someone who does not have the sense of finance. When you enter the University you take courses in money and banking and various courses in finance. You work with the balance sheet of a huge company. After you get fairly well along you make surveys, learning many theories, some of which we are never able to put into practice. If the Chapter treasurer would spend just one portion of the time studying the balance sheet of his own Chapter he would probably get just as much benefit out of it as he would from his accountancy courses. We have been talking entirely about the educational service of Chapters. Along with the educational program of the University there is a practical way in which you can do it. What practical good can we get out of these services? One has to have a sense of balance. You can't spend more than you take in. He has to have firmness to stand up before his Chapter and say, boys, if you have got to have that you will have to pay for it out of an assessment. Beam spoke about an Advisor. If the secretary and commissary are up on their toes they will be seeking that advisor. If you don't have one you will find one among the Alumni.

BROTHER BEEBE (Alpha Delta): We are out of contact with the rest of the Chapters and it is hard for the officers to get up to see us. Many of our Alumni accuse the National of being delinquent in supervising our financial affairs. This year I think for the first time our books have been properly closed and a balance sheet made. The end of the school year came and fellows had jobs for the summer and let things drop. What are we going to do about this in the future? In clearing up this matter many of our Alumni say, "We thought that would all be taken care of by the National Chapter when we left college." Last year our financial affairs were in such condition that the H.E. elect refused to take office. That is bad. Obviously there is little or no supervision. I don't mean to show that I don't appreciate your attitude. We have accomplished a great deal by having a local physician help us whenever possible. We owe everybody in town and a good many concerns out of town. They are all closing in on us. Bills were accumulating and something had to be done. The president of the College informed several of our Alumni of the situation and they were interested and agreed to help. We got several of the Boston Alumni interested and they formed what we called a committee and tried to get each college represented in this committee. We also drafted a form letter and sent it to each alumnus and told how bad the situation was and asked for aid. We sent a follow-up letter and said that if they didn't pay we were going to sue them. If they still didn't pay we really sued them. I only wish to add that you have to be hard hearted and you have to sue your best friends almost, and it is dam tough for undergraduates to have to take such a stand. We do need some help. What are you going to do about it?

BROTHER GANTT: Brother Clark mentioned that when a chapter was installed their work was finished. Apparently that is what has happened. When the chapter was installed that was all the attention they got. I can truly say the attitude in National Headquarters has changed. We are going to see to it that every chapter gets supervision and help with their affairs. We would like to have a quarterly statement of financial affairs from each chapter. Some of the chapters which have the Bresee-Warner System have operating sheets that are very complete and do a fine job.

It is the feeling of the Grand Prudential Committee that it is not possible for every chapter to make so thorough a report. We are going to require a certain minimum requirements which will allow National Headquarters to receive these reports and keep their fingers on the operations of each chapter. We really mean that. We will have these reports revised and have the members of the Grand Council go over them. You are going to get not only Chapter Advisors working with you but Grand Council to watch your finances and point out when you are going haywire. You must have a man of ability and guts to render service to such a position as officer of the Chapter. I just wish to say that I agree with Paul Beam and others who have spoken about finances of the chapters. Finance is the keystone of Fraternity success.

BROTHER PIERCE: What provision does Phi Delta Theta have in regard to finances?

PAUL BEAM: We do three things. We had an antiquated system of reports. We further discovered that these reports which were totally inadequate were not even being sent in. In the first place I made it my duty to see about a monthly report. Right at this point I would like to answer a question the delegate from Middlebury raised when he said one of their officers came in and discovered discrepancies. On this report we are calling for a bank verification by an official of the bank with whom you do business. This I think is a very important feature of the report. The report is off the press and a supply has been delivered to each chapter treasurer to be sent in monthly. At our last general conference it was voted by the undergraduate delegates to have an annual audit made by a certified public accountant, a copy of which comes into National Headquarters showing that the account had been kept accurately.

We have established a job in National Headquarters where we have opened up a position to a trouble shooter, a young man who has proper training and background. The minute we discover a chapter in distress we shoot this man out to help them before they go bankrupt.

BROTHER GANTT: Do you require your treasurer to be bonded?



PAUL BEAM: Yes.

BROTHER BURKE: We have heard all day about the Bresee-Warner System. Please explain it. I would like to know more about it.

PAUL BEAM: Briefly it is simply this, I think if you want to stay here until midnight I possibly might be able to tell you about the Bresee-Warner System of management. It started in this way, Mr. Warner of Wisconsin was called in by the boys of his chapter. He was always interested in the chapter and he came in and spent days with them getting them in proper condition. He did such a good job that the Phi Deltas and a few other chapters begged Mr. Warner to help them straighten out their difficulties. In the course of events a system of accounting was organized. The need was felt on other campuses for such a system where it grew to national proportions. The chapters not only keep a set of records including a complete statement of assets and liabilities and statement of profit and loss each month, but they really became a part of the organization. That Council with chapter officers helped collect delinquent accounts. It makes suggestions and embodies a number of things that I cannot go into any great length about right now. It is an all inclusive service, and it really takes on a greater proportion than I have stated here. Such a service is not available to all of you fellows. There are however a number of similar services that you might be able to work up.

DR. CRAMBLETT: How much does that cost the Chapter?

PAUL BEAM: It is a flat rate according to the number of men in the chapter, usually runs about \$30.00 a month.

BROTHER PIERCE: When Eta Chapter went into that system we had a house manager who received his room rent, a commissary who received his board. The chapter paid a salary of \$25.00 a month, adding to that the \$30.00 paid to the Bresee-Warner-System. The feeling at that time was that with the system keeping the accounting records up-to-date a man would be enabled to devote his time to actual management on the same theory that any large organization is operated, in that the general manager oversees the business.

BROTHER CLARKE: In regard to the bond situation in any chapter, it is one of the things that the National Organization should be on its toes. There are men in the

chapters who will be in and then out, thus you have a break in the continuity and that is where the National Organization should step in. Each chapter should be required to have the treasurer bonded. There should be no question about that matter as it is a very serious problem.

BROTHER PIERCE: This is an excellent point and one that the secretary should see is followed thoroughly. How do you handle this matter at Ohio State? Does the University furnish supervision?

BROTHER PIERCE (ZETA): No, it is handled directly through the Interfraternity Council. They pick a man for the job and have an audit made every quarter. At the end of the quarter he takes the books over to the auditors office, where they are submitted and audited, in turn they make this report. It costs approximately \$5.00 a month for this accounting service.

BROTHER PIERCE: How many of the men in this room see the financial statements of their chapters frequently or infrequently? In other words do you see them at all and when you see them do you really read them? How many here do?

(This was indicated by a raise of hands.)

BROTHER WICKMAN: The chapter here gets its statement every month. Last year we started out to read those at chapter meetings, but they were so detailed and long the fellows practically went to sleep and very little attention was paid to them. So we stopped reading them in chapter meetings.

BROTHER LEOVY: I want to add one point to the discussion of this system. We have a charge of \$25.00 a month for nine months during the year. The office is open during the summer and the entire system of accounting is handled by that office. I believe at present there are twelve out of the twenty-seven fraternities that operate under that system. The principal difficulty is trying to get more chapters to use this service. With \$25.00 a month from each chapter, and only twelve fraternities, it means only \$300.00 for maintaining the office. That isn't very much.

BROTHER PIERCE: I apologize for not calling on you earlier. We don't want to spend

too much time on the Bresee-Warner System unless you want to. In connection with rendering a financial statement, in my own company at the time I went with them we had a wonderful accounting system. We had a comptroller who was a marvel, but when our operating board would get the statements and look them over they would say, "So What." They didn't understand them. We got a new comptroller. He couldn't make statements, but he interpreted statements like nobody's business. We got another man who could get up statements and understand them. We gave these to the comptroller who made them up in narrative form and sent them out. The treasurers state that they have difficulty in presenting financial statements to the members in the meetings. They go to sleep while these are being read. I know that as far as most reports are concerned, you do put a summary in the front of the statements.

MR. BRESEE: If we didn't give a detailed statement of every transaction those auditors and alumni would question the value of that statement. Perhaps there is too much to bring up in any one meeting. We do get a statement that gives everything. We naturally send the same report to the treasurer. He ought to bring out things of interest to the Chapter. They ought to avail themselves of the services so that they know how their finances stand. I don't believe that it is possible to give too much information, but it is true that all the information will not interest all the men.

BROTHER PIERCE: I mentioned a minute ago that one of the requirements of a good treasurer is that he have good financial sense, and that he use that sense in studying his report and in interpreting it to the members of the chapter.

BROTHER KESTER: We have been very fortunate in the past two years in having a man who is very interested in accounting. When he took over the books he found that they had been very poorly run. He put a lot of time on them and got them in good shape. When he graduated he turned the books over to a local C.P.A. worker, who took charge of our books and gave out statements. The only man who handles money is the house manager, who collects the money and takes to the C.P.A. worker who fixes up the budget in cooperation with the house manager. Our main trouble with expense being greater than income is because of our high rent. Before we had this C.P.A. man we

paid our students \$15.00 a month and our house manager \$22.00 a month. By combining jobs with the House Manager and others, and by combining with C.P.A., we found it to cost \$10.00 extra a month, but we hope this extra service will make it well worth while. Before this C.P.A. a professor went over the books with Cummings and helped him audit them. We have to have this C.P.A. down town because the professor has been too busy. I was very glad that in this meeting the matter of what to do about fellows who had delinquent bills was brought up. We have one man coming back who owes something like \$100.00. I believe that we have to make him stay out of the house unless he pays up his bill in full. It is quite a problem to decide what to do with him.

FLOOR: Is there any set initiation fee?

BROTHER PIERCE: Chapters may charge anything in addition to the amount that they must pay the national.

FLOOR: When you pledge the House are you supposed to sign a bond to pay a certain amount when you graduate?

BROTHER PIERCE: That is usually left up to the chapter. It is not in the national uniform arrangement.

BROTHER ANDERSON: How long has Eta Chapter been under Bresee-Warner System? Has this system helped Eta Chapter?

BROTHER PIERCE: It dates back around 1920 or 1921. Just before I put Paul Bresee on the spot again I want to make one comment. The property here has better than \$60,000 which has been put into it. There is well over \$60,000 of equity in this property. That has been built up by Eta Chapter since about 1915. There must have been some years of good management during that time. The Warner System is entitled to some credit for that because of their general aid along the lines that have just been discussed.

BROTHER WICKMAN: It is through no fault of Bresee-Warner system that Eta Chapter is in the hole. The hole we are in now is the result of the last few years. It is due to something that does not exist on many campuses. Here in Illinois we have an Athletic Commission that will not buy the players. As a result the fraternities have to buy the big players for publicity. New fellows are told, "We will get you in a fraternity if

you will go to schhol and play football. It seems like every house on the campus pays them to live in the house. They cut down house bills to one half and maybe a little lower and give them board and room for nothing. Competition is why they do that. We are not going to buy these boys this year. It is not the fault of the treasurer or the Bresee-Warner System that the House is in the condition it is now in. There is a growing agitation against letting men live in the House, however, it is a business of years and takes a lot of time. We hope to have a good year and to have a full house. We hope to come out of the hole.

BROTHER PIERCE: Dick makes statements that all Houses on the Campus are furnis h-ing free board and room for athletes. Mr. Beam tells us about that.

MR. BEAM: We must recognize the fact that we have some 65 fraternities on the campus. I don't think it is quite true when Dick says that all do that sort of thing. Possibly a lot of them do. On the other hand there are many cases where fraternities don't want athletes in the house and wouldn't have them. I would like to say that my own fraternity has one or two top-notch athletes at the present time. I think that those boys ask no quarter and there is no concession made for them and they pay full house bills.

BROTHER WICKMAN: A few houses did do that and competition ran close a few years back and that is where it started. However, I think that our chapter is at a point where we will cut it out.

BROTHER PIERCE: Competition makes me think of a new point. There was an athlete who was being rushed by all the houses on the campus. He was offered no dues, no initiation fees, no house bills. Phi Delta Theta did not rush this man. Rushing season was over and he was not taken. Phi Delta had him over and talked about pledging with him. They said every man pays his fee, the initiation fee is so much, and everyone pays his own way. The fellow thought that sounded like a pretty good house and said, "I'll accept the bid if you will offer it to me."

BROTHER YORK: We run into pretty stiff competition. We should collect so much money that we should have maybe \$5,000 or \$6,000 just to play around with.

The Dekes get all the athletes. Our rushing period is so short that it just kills us. They go down to the Dekes and see all the big shots and the fellows sign up with the big athletes. We don't take them in, but if you don't do that, you are bound to be stuck.

BROTHER OF LAMBDA CHAPTER: We don't give any free rides in our house. It is a common practice down there and it has yet to do a House any good. The situation has gradually come to the point where the athletes take each other free rides. It is not a healthy situation and I think that in the majority of cases the Chapter can survive without turning the living room into a football floor.

BROTHER WITZEL: We haven't given any free rides for about a year or so. We do have a little trouble with athletes. They do offer prestige, but they run up bills. I have another question, Mr. Beam spoke about pro-rating delinquent house bills. I would like to know a little more about that.

MR. BEAM: This is a system whereby if you had one man who had not paid his house bill and his fellow brothers wish to see him stay in the house, every other brother has to share a portion of his delinquent house bill.

BROTHER WITZEL: Is that only after 30 days?

MR. BEAM: I am recommending 30 days. For example, at the end of the thirty day period he owes \$50 and there fifty men in the Chapter everyone will have a dollar tacked on to his house bill--if they want him to stay. This certainly has been recommended very highly by some benefitees, but I will have to confess this has not proved to be a very effective solution. The boys will not enforce it, for who wants to pay some other person's bills.

BROTHER WITZEL: We would not get very far with that system, because the boys would refuse to pay it.

MR. BEAM: In order to have this work successfully, you must have an agreement beforehand.

BROTHER CLARKE: We should not create these debts for the men following us. I would like to hear from Michigan.

BROTHER McCLOUD: I have only been there since last year. At one time, I believe it was in 1932, we had each man on the football team, including the Captain and I believe they were all taking a ride that year. They ran up all kinds of bills and our house mortgages were almost as high as in the beginning. But now, as I understand it, the Ann Arbor Trust Department has the mortgages and they have a man who brings the bills over to the House Manager who distributes them and collects the money. So far as pro-rating bills, we haven't done very much. One time in the last year we got up as high as \$580 but the House Manager got busy and reduced that. The University ruling says that at any time you have more than \$200 outstanding, you have to go over to the University and make arrangements for your house.

BROTHER PIERCE: In how many chapters does the University supervise accounts in that it insists upon the payment of all debts accumulated during the year? In how many institutions will some official of the University assist you in the collection of accounts receivable? At Ohio Wesleyan what do you do? Can you let a man run a bill as high as he chooses and then let the University go after it?

BROTHER LIGHTNER: No, there is a fellow in our fraternity who owes \$100. This year he is staying out and working and paying it back. I know that we threatened to have the school take the amount out of his salary for us.

BROTHER YORK: We have a short rushing period in our house. I honestly think that no house at all has to give anybody a free ride and we are proving that at Yale. We broke our rules and gave dinners just before the Spring rushing last year. We brought in all the fellows we wanted to rush and told them exactly how our chapter was run. One of our talking points was that we didn't rush all the big shots. We tried to show them that we had a good bunch of guys and that everybody had a good time. For the first time, perhaps in six or seven years, we had so many fellows that wanted to come in the house that we couldn't take them all.

BROTHER CLARKE: I have been listening to this conversation and I wonder if anyone has thought of the rituals. Here we are, in many instances no doubt, permitting

fraternity organizations to help them violate sportsmen's rules. We are asking them to violate the very thing that a fraternity stands for--fair play--and that is not fair play. I know that there are men who should be helped, but I don't think that the fraternity should help them. They come to the conclusion that they are good athletes and they are going to bleed somebody and they do it. The fraternity is for the purpose of trying to help a man build his character. Nine-tenths of the men that you help in this way you are doing more harm than you are doing good in giving them free rides.

BROTHER FROM OKLAHOMA: Oklahoma University does not take any stand in helping football players. It has just been the last year that we have been able to regulate the incoming men on being able to pay their way through and help the Chapter and we are now beginning to get on our feet. We have a good house manager and are really paying bills and collecting money.

FLOOR: My chapter was founded by a bunch of athletes. When the Alumni come back to the house a few years later they say: "Where are your athletes?" We try to tell them we cannot have athletes because we can't afford to give them free rides.

BROTHER PIERCE: It is a universal problem. It is not a problem that can be settled by the National Headquarters--they only give advice and suggestions. It is one that you must settle yourself. It is an individual local problem and just remember that you are backing up ideas from a lot of other chapters. It is up to you people when you go back to create that mass opinion along lines that you think should be followed.

BROTHER OLCOTT: I think these free rides not only do the athletes harm, but do the fellows in the house harm. Some of the men are content to bask in the prestige of the athletes and not do anything themselves. If we get rid of the athletes, we get out and do more things. If the boys don't get out and do the things they are supposed to in a fraternity, they won't get any good out of it.

BROTHER PIERCE: How many of you men here have an athlete in a major sport for a H.E. or commissary? How can you expect a man to keep up his studies and do his



house duties? You can't expect him to do this. It isn't that he can't, but if he is a football man, he is always out practicing football.

BROTHER WICKMAN: Summing up the whole discussion in my own mind, it would seem to me that Alpha Sigma Phi should concern themselves with men for what they are and not for what they should be.

FLOOR: The fraternity has become a business proposition in the past few years. When it comes right down to the point, a good many chapters give free rides. I personally don't think it is in the wrong. It is just that question of making money.

BROTHER PIERCE: Is a man who wants to take a ride, or who is willing to take a ride at the expense of the others in the house, of the spirit of the man you want? We despise parasites. A man who is not a parasite and can not pay his own way should be man enough to say: "Fellows, I can't pay my way, and if I can't pay my way I don't want to pledge."

DR. CRAMBLET: Our worst trouble in connection with this free ride business is the Alumni. For an example, a Alumnus tells a fellow that he will try to get him into Bethany. Then he comes down to the fraternity and tells them that they ought to take care of this fellow and get him a job. Some of these men have already been promised board and rent by the Alumni before they even get on the campus. The chapter cannot afford this and they have got to be willing to tell the strong Alumni of the local chapter that they will not give them credit for sending so and so to the University when they are doing it at the expense of the fraternity. If you are going to give a free ride, the fraternity ought to divide the expense among the members and pay the bill. Find out what it is going to cost you. The local chapter has to be able to say No. It is definitely becoming a chapter problem. It is very definitely a question of policy on your own campus and what you can afford. You will have criticisms from your Alumni, but if you are going to have a strong organization you will have to do away with free rides.

BROTHER PIERCE: I have no doubt that the Alumni who send that man is probably

in arrears in his own bills to the fraternity. They probably took a ride themselves and did not pay one dime to their chapter.

BROTHER LEOVY: Our Alumni group providing we pay our full rent, donates a scholarship which has been divided up among four athletes who are outstanding in athletics, who need the job and whose situation is investigated very carefully before any part of the scholarship is given. This scholarship is given to the athletes who pay part of their room and board. Here it is not the active chapter, but the Alumni organization that is giving us this money because they feel that in certain cases the athletes will add prestige to the house. This scholarship is not limited to athletes--any outstanding man. Four athletes were aided last year, but this is not necessarily the case.

BROTHER WICKMAN: How long does that run?

BROTHER LEOVY: It is just a semester proposition. So much is appropriated to this fund. I believe \$100 each semester and it does not pay the entire expenses of the fellows who are working their way through school.

BROTHER PIERCE: In regard to the houses that have their own members waiting tables, do you face the situation that perhaps you need only four, but two of the four are athletes and can't be back in time so you get two more, or do you give four men's jobs to two boys who really do the work?

BROTHER FROM OKLAHOMA UNIVERSITY: We have boys in the house working in the kitchen. Some do part time work, and those who do part time work in the kitchen could easily afford to cut down on some of their social expenditures and pay full board bill. This problem will eliminate itself this next year.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: Does not now the new Social Security Act require the local chapters to report young men waiting on tables? Is the chapter going to be liable for the certain amount of money set aside under the Social Security Act? That being the

case I understand that there is a bill before Congress, and we have an adjourned Congress which will probably meet again this year and will modify the present Social Security Act.

BROTHER PIERCE: Can you get out of them what they should give if they were working under an impartial arrangement?

BROTHER WICKMAN: I think you get more out of them if you have other men working from other fraternities working here. Have independents work too and I want to say that the independents work harder and are much easier to direct and control. The independents work all the time but a fraternity man will quit any time you give him the chance.

BROTHER BURNS: I think that I have found a rather unusaul situation at my own chapter and I thought it was a pretty good arrangement and it certainly helped out the house. When we pledge our men we have a group of twelve to fifteen men. At the time we pledge our men, these men as pledges had nothing to say or anything to do as far as the running of the chapter was concerned, and because of that fact they were not able to offer a great deal to the chapter. The feeling in part of the chapter was to alleviate the financial strain upon the chapter. It was the privilege of the freshmen to wait on tables during their freshman year. It was so arranged by the pledge master that these men might be on duty every third week and work for a week. It created a feeling within the pledge class of continuity--that they were giving something to the chapter. In their Sophomore, Junior, and Senior years there were other freshmen who were coming up and would give their service and financial aid to the chapter. We found that in the chapter it drew the pledge class much closer together and they felt that even though they were just pledges in the chapter, they were definitely part of the chapter and were offering something that the chapter as a whole would benefit by.

BROTHER LIGHTNER: The freshmen like it very well because they get all they want to eat. If a certain freshman does not show up to serve one has to serve in his place. It is up to the active to take it out on him. It is a very good idea.

MR. BEAM: This discussion is very interesting to me because I am sure that this business of employing student help is a mess any way you look at it. It is a problem and a tremendous one. I would like to cite you an instance of a chapter here on this campus. They have decided to eliminate altogether student help in their kitchen. So far they have been doling out jobs to nine or ten members in their chapter, and it happens that the commissary treasurer has guts to put it into effect. We will take in no new men who need jobs. We are hiring one good women who will do nothing but wash dishes and wipe them. This would save money from the standpoint of breakage, cutting it to 10 per cent. This will eliminate three mouths to feed and we actually figured this thing down to a dollar and cents standpoint. We get good service in the kitchen and this will eliminate clamor and noise.

FLOOR: What have they done with the waiters?

MR. BEAM: They still have the waiters.

BROTHER YORK: Several houses on the Yale Campus give out a concession to get a steward in who will run the grill, take care of the black boys, keep the house clean, and oranize repair work. We figured out to save \$100 on this system.

BROTHER PIERCE: That has been tried on this campus in a few cases, and to my knowledge it has been unsuccessful and they have gone back to the old system. There are several reasons for that, but one I know, as far as this chapter is concerned, is that the commissary has made them a profit anywhere from \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year. Another objection is that it takes away from the chapter that trainin in which there is an opportunity for men to develop themselves. Mr. Bresee, we were discussing something about the commissaries educating themselves. You and I discussed the other day something in connection with what you have to offer to the houses in the way of help in educating the commissary in operating. Would you kindly tell the boys a few things on that at this time?

MR. BRESEE: I think it is very fine of any chapter to tell their weak points. Certainly you do learn better by trial and error. There are always problems and there

always will be. Something of the system has already been explained, so the operating policy is no doubt clear. Because of the depression Eta Chapter built up a terrific equity. In coming out of this depression Eta Chapter had a fear that would not leave it as quickly as some other chapters. That fear was that they would not get the men they wanted and as many as they wanted, and because of this fact last fall they were to get a house bill from every member. In September they practically gave away \$1,000 by reducing the September bill. They cut the bill and offered the freshmen a very low house bill. For two years it was not up to what it should have been. That has already been corrected. The financial policy around the fraternity seems to be more and more around what the treasurer does and does not do. We were having trouble in balancing the Commissary Department. We prepared a chart which we put into the different chapters. This shows you just exactly what to spend and what is left after the expenditure of the day before. We put it into the chapter and the treasurer admitted there were a lot of mouths to feed that were not paying. The boys didn't like it. They kicked about the food. I am sure, with a new understanding and a new treasurer, these difficulties are going to be completely avoided and get the chapter back to where it was a number of years ago. The view point in regard to the athletes was very interesting. We will do away with free rides and go ahead and get good athletes.

For the past four or five years it has become rather stylish to sell the house bill. You believed that when you asked him to pledge you had to sell him a low house bill. That wasn't true a number of years ago with Alpha Sigs--you sold the fraternity, not what they paid. You could make a \$10 increase on the present bill, if you would get in and only sell the fraternity. That seems to be the main problem. The boys in Eta Chapter feel that their problems can be of help to you all.

BROTHER PIERCE: Motion was made to close discussion on finance. Motion carried. I will now turn the meeting over to Brother Clarke.

BROTHER CLARKE: We will hear from Brother McDonald of Chicago who will report on the Nominating Committee.

BROTHER McDONALD: This Nominating Committee was charged with the function of bringing in a report covering nominations to the Grand Council. This is the first time in the history of the fraternity that a Grand Council is to be elected. We are operating now under the recently enacted and revised constitution and by-laws. Heretofore, we had certain honorary officers and the new constitution has done away with those. The Grand Council will later select its own officers who will constitute the officers of the fraternity. It is operating more in the nature of a Board of Directors. Your committee on nominations makes leave to report the following nominations for membership on the Grand Council of Alpha Sigma Phi in accordance with the constitution of the fraternity.

1. Dr. Wilbur H. Cramblet, Alpha '12, Bethany, West Virginia
2. Mr. Benjamin Clarke, Theta '10, Chicago, Illinois.
3. Mr. Frank F. Hargear, Nu '16, Los Angeles, California.
4. Mr. George E. Worthington, Kappa '09, Washington, D.C.
5. Mr. Maurice J. Pierce, Eta '16, New York City.
6. Mr. Wentworth F. Gantt, Alpha '19, New York City.
7. Mr. Floyd Mosiman, Tau '19, San Francisco, California
8. Mr. Edmund B. Shotwell, Alpha '20, New York City.
9. Mr. Lloyd S. Cochran, Omicron '20, Lockport, New York

FLOOR: How many of these are to be elected?

BROTHER CLARKE: All of them. You will note that the basis of distribution has been on the theory that there ought to be at least a majority on the East Coast near New York so that a meeting can be held easily.

FLOOR: I notice there are at least three representatives from Alpha Chapter and I think three from one chapter is too many.

BROTHER CLARKE: These men were considered from a geographical standpoint.

FLOOR: I don't think that the Nominating Committee has done exactly right by the Middle West. They, in some way, deserve a little representation.

BROTHER YORK: Alpha Chapter has about two times as many members as the others. It just happens that so many Alpha men do come from the East.

FLOOR: I don't feel that the fraternity could dispense with the service these men have offered. I want to say there are seven or eight chapters within a radius of four hundred miles of New York.

FLOOR: The men were chosen without regard to where they came from--were chosen in regard to the service to the fraternity and the help they could render.

FLOOR: How long are these men to hold their office?

BROTHER CLARKE: Until the next convention.

FLOOR: That may be five years.

BROTHER CLARKE: The Constitution requires a convention within three years.

BROTHER OLCOTT: I would like to nominate Brother Iverson of Xi Chapter.

BROTHER CLARKE: Where is he located?

BROTHER OLCOTT: He is located in Kansas City.

BROTHER ANDERSON: I would like to hear something about him.

BROTHER OLCOTT: Brother Iverson is the Vice-President and secretary of the Kansas City Alumni Association. I don't believe he has had much work with the National Headquarters or Alumni Council, but he has taken active interest in the Alumni Association while in Kansas City and is one of the main liners in the organization. He has taken a big interest in the Alpha Theta Chapter and tries to help them to the best of his ability.

BROTHER WOODS: I think one thing which is very important and which should be taken into consideration is the possibility of the Brother being able to get with the other members of the committee during the year. This is one factor we considered in

the selection of the Grand Council Representatives.

BROTHER OLCOTT: I haven't consulted Brother Iverson, but I think that he should be consulted. In view of that fact, that might be one of the difficulties in electing him.

BROTHER CLARKE: An attempt was made to try to recognize all men for their actions. These men will have to work and I think you should chose your men according to their ability and the likelihood of their being able to put the time in that which will be required. I am not questioning Brother Iverson's ability, but the fact that he may not be able to be present at these meetings must be taken into consideration. We must remember that after these men have graduated they are members of Alpha Sigma Phi, and not members of their chapters.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: I believe that special continuity has been given to the selection of these men and that there are some younger men on this committee.

BROTHER CLARKE: In other words you think that since we are starting on something new it is advisable to chose men who are experienced in this work?

FLOOR: One point needs to be brought out in connection with the reorganization this year. This group is to take the place of the Grand Prudential Committee. These men will have to take care of work spread over a larger territory.

BROTHER ANDERSON: I would like to suggest one thing. Is it possible for each chapter to have some representation in the Grand Council?

BROTHER CLARKE: We ought to have a man who is a representative for each chapter, as a national handle, so to speak, so that the chapter he represents can look up to him as a member of the national committee. I move that further nominations be blosed.

Discussion

BROTHER ANDERSON: I make a motion that the Grand Council elect the members of the National Advisory Council from a list sent in by each chapter, that list should include at least three names. Motion was lost

DR. CRAMBLET: I make a motion that we adjourn.

BROTHER CLARKE: We haven't disposed of rushing, pledging, and publications.



BROTHER PIERCE: I suggest that in the discussion of topics we are going to cover, that we decide definitely upon a time schedule.

BROTHER CLARKE: Can't do that on a constitutional code can you?

BROTHER PIERCE: Let's take the other topics.

BROTHER YORK: Let's have the by-laws and the constitution first.

BROTHER CLARKE: I am trying to point out what you have ahead of you. I do think it would be a mistake to pass up entirely the question of pledging and rushing.

DR. CRAMBLET: I move that the meeting adjourn until 7:30 tonight, and have one hour on expansion and tomorrow morning spend thirty minutes each on rushing and pledging and publications.

FLOOR: I make a motion to amend that motion from one half-hour to one hour each on rushing and pledging. I want to take information home on rushing and pledging.

DR. CRAMBLET: I accept that amendment.

BROTHER CLARKE: The motion is that we spend one-half hour this afternoon on publications; that we spend one hour this evening on expansion, and the balance of the evening on the matter of the constitution and by-laws.

All in favor of the above motion that we discuss publications now, signify by the usual sign. Motion carried.

Announcement of vote on election of Grand Council.

1. Dr. Wilbur H. Cramblet, Alpha '12	23 votes.
2. Mr. Benjamin Clarke, Theta '10	23 votes
3. Mr. Frank F. Hargear, Nu '16	23 votes
4. Mr. George E. Worthington, Kappa '09	23 votes
5. Mr. Maurice J. Pierce, Eta '16	23 votes
6. Mr. Wentworth F. Gantt, Alpha '19	23 votes
7. Mr. Floyd Mosiman, Tau '19	22 votes
8. Mr. Edmund B. Shotwell, Alpha '20	22 votes
9. Mr. Lloyd S. Cochran, Omicron '20	22 votes
10. Mr. Iverson, Xi '	3 votes

DR. CRAMBLET: We will hear from our first discussion leader, Brother Barr at this time.

BROTHER BARR: I really don't have much to say on the subject. The Omicron Oracle is frankly nothing to brag about. It consists of a bulletin board more or less and of course, it has notes of interest to the Alumni and very little else. I don't know whether you want me to talk at all about general publications. I think the last issue of the Tomahawk is the best we have ever had. It is dull reading to everyone who doesn't have anything else to do. He looks at the picture on the cover, then turns and sees if the fellow in his house has done his job, and passes it on to the other fellows. There is going to be a good many pictures of this convention in the next publication. Articles of a little more interest could be added. I admit I have no specific suggestions as to how to make them more interesting. I can't criticize the articles in the Omicron Oracle because I don't get past the first paragraph. As to the publication of the fraternity itself, there is place for an Alumni Bulletin which gives news of the actives as well as the Alumni. This news is a perfect example of the type which seems to be as good as anything you can get. I don't know whether Brother Cochran has anything to add to the status of the Omicron Oracle or not.

BROTHER COCHRAN: I don't want to make this a clinic for Omicron Oracle, however. I do think that the Omicron Oracle has at times been very interesting to the Alumni. I know it is very difficult for us to get the viewpoint that we are going to be Alpha Sigs for a long time. That is going to be the base and background for your friendships through life. I personally remember the time when I got interest out of knowing where different members were. This was a resume of chapter actives. I have been to a lot of conventions where the discussion of Alumni Cooperation and support had the spot light turned on it. Actives can do a lot toward that. We can get a whole lot more support if we feel they are interested and know what is going on. I think a publication is something each chapter can use advantageously.

BROTHER JORGENSON: I move that we have a new song book.

BROTHER CLARKE: It is difficult to revise a new song book. Brother Burns, what about the status of the song books? Do we have any song books now?

BROTHER BURNS: There is about fifty upstairs in my room. The last song book was published after the Ithaca convention in 1929. I feel personally that a song book is quite necessary as a national publication, although we must consider there is lots of time involved in compiling new song books and have a music committee work on them. I certainly would not want to take the responsibility of receiving all these songs and picking out the best ones. Whether it is worth the expense and time involved to put it out, and whether the chapters would use it, I think it is up to you gentlemen. Quite a few of the chapter houses have song books at the present time although you can not very easily find them when you go into the houses. The songs that are in them are not any good. Quite a few of the songs have been made into particular chapter arrangements. I do feel that as far as publications are concerned, a directory is far more important than a song book.

FLOOR: Do you know how much it would cost to publish a song book?

BROTHER BURNS: No, I do not know.

FLOOR: I suggest you get Eddie DeLange to write a couple of songs like the ones we sang last night so we would have more of our old fraternity songs to sing during rushing and while we are in the house. The song book would be a direct help to the chapters when and if the song book was published. It would be of more help than the directory, and I suggest we postpone the directory.

BROTHER BEEBE: I suggest that you ask him unanimously for just one song. In our school they have just done away with a great deal of Hell Week which we have worked into our initiation. We want something that will tie fellows together that are not able to take the formal initiation.

BROTHER WITZEL: Better than a song book is getting out a national rushing hand book, or something of that sort, explaining to expectant members what the fraternity is, the history of the fraternity, and definite facts concerning the fraternity.

BROTHER BURNS: In the December Convention the Grand Prudential Committee was

instructed to proceed with the publication of a rushing and pledging manual combined, and the rushing manual to be something that would be used as a national publication, leaving in it operations on the rushing part for the section of perhaps local information and local regulation as far as universities on particular campuses are concerned.

BROTHER CLARKE: What has the Grand Prudential Committee done so far in regard to this matter?

BROTHER BURNS: Nothing has been done toward actual publication, but a great deal of work has been done as far as compilation of material is concerned. For this reason the Grand Prudential Committee, and through me as acting for them, felt that Alpha Sigma Phi would not put out any pledging and rushing manual unless it is a top thing. We can't put out such a publication within three or four months, and that is the reason it is not out at the present time.

BROTHER BURKE: Personally, I would like to see a directory of all the Sigs published by national headquarters. I know of only one other fellow in my own locality, but if there were an Alpha Sig directory there are plenty of fellows I would like to contact when I am home.

BROTHER CLARKE: Burns, What does it cost to publish a directory?

BROTHER BURNS: It would cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00. For the last publication we dropped one issue of the Tomahawk and used the money for the directory. If we use it as an issue of the Tomahawk and with a surplus fund previously obtained, we would have a sufficient amount of money to go ahead with it.

BROTHER PIERCE: We discussed the matter of a directory and in our opinion it seemed it would be a very desirable thing to do regardless of the cost of the publication. We felt we could handle it if one issue of the Tomahawk were dropped. We feel that we can do it.

BROTHER CLARKE: I don't believe it is essential to have a discussion from this body in order to make a directory.

BROTHER PIERCE: Recommendations would be preferred.

BROTHER COCHRAN: Was the last issue put out entirely from the Tomahawk?

BROTHER BURNS: Can't say definitely.

FLOOR: I move that recommendation be made to the Grand Council that a directory be published within a reasonable amount of time. Seconded. Motion carried.

BROTHER SAYERS: I make a motion that a music committee be appointed to prepare for publication a new song book.

BROTHER PLATT: We are really not interested in a new song book, but we really want a sweetheart song. Why don't we ask Brother DeLange and Will Hudson to compose a sweetheart song?

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: Why don't you try offering a prize for the best sweetheart song?

BROTHER BURNS: That has been tried but it didn't work.

BROTHER LEOVY: There is no point in putting out a song book unless it was tops. There is no use in our putting out a song book unless we have some really good songs. Get some good songs. I believe Brother Jorgenson's idea is a very good one.

FLOOR: I move that the Grand Council request DeLange to compose a sweetheart song for Alpha Sigma Phi. Seconded. Motion carried.

BROTHER PIERCE: I make a motion to the effect that a music committee be appointed to compile and collaborage material to be referred to the Grand Council for authorization to publish.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT

DR. CRAMLET: The program will proceed again to the program adopted this morning. Brother Clarke will open the discussion on expansion and reconstruction.

BROTHER CLARKE: I think I covered pretty well any idea of expansion in my report. This matter of expansion has always occupied a considerable amount of time in the convention. The matter of expansion or where you should have chapters, or how many you should have is so much a matter of opinion, and can be set out according to certain specific ideas. No one can see any particular line-up. I personally felt that my views when I came into the Fraternity and for many years afterward were very extremely

conservative ones. The only thing was, that it was a conservative policy and they did not feel they wanted to get anywhere. I think the idea was this--that when we had reached the point where there were several chapters and we could operate as a National organization, that was all we were interested in. I have a feeling that where you have 125 chapters you have a universal brotherhood. I am not interested in that sort of thing. A Fraternity is something that is so entirely separate from any other organization that there is no comparison. The boys have difficulty in rushing because they don't have a chapter "here" and a chapter "there ". One always finds that you have men interested in chapters here and there. The policy established along that line was that we felt that when we had from thirty two to thirty three chapters, to the standpoint of operating nationally, there was ample material to operate with. From then on it was just a question of getting chapters situated geographically. Outside of that there was no reason for expansion, not interested in increasing volume to that standpoint. Now maybe the picture is changed. Personally I don't feel because of changed conditions in Universities and Colleges has, to any degree, changed the situation from the standpoint of necessity. I don't believe that your candidates coming up are any more anxious than the candidates of the past. Perhaps today you will find just the reverse from that. I believe that those national officers should get the views of the men as to why they feel and what they really think is necessary along that line.

BROTHER CRAMBLETT: A few people have been asked to speak on this subject.

BROTHER BURKE: I am in favor of your reconstruction and expansion topic of which I am going to speak. It seems that financial difficulties are the causes of breakdowns within the chapters. The fundamental cause of breakdowns is personnel. If your personnel is of the highest type you won't have any difficulty. An unbalanced chapter is what caused most of our trouble at Syracuse and it is the same situation that was expressed here this afternoon. Alpha Epsilon found that every one of its pledges were on the football team. As it happens we haven't one of those men in the house at the

present time. That is what happens when they haven't the time to put in the Fraternity that they should. After the personnel gets down to that point the boys think they are a little bigger than the Fraternity and forget to pay their bills. Those who have always paid their bills say they won't be the goats for the others. At Syracuse we have built up a reserve fund of approximately \$3,000--that helps the house over the rough spots. We used the reserve unwisely. They woke up to the fact that they were not getting free rides. Every time they looked at their account the books were balanced. No payment of bills. The solid citizens did not pay. Scrap those men who were not doing the chapter any good. We saw how many back bills we could collect. We tried to keep the current bills paid up. All the fellows who were not in school and still owed bills were sued in the court by one of our Alumni. Most of them kicked through. A few of the fellows had jobs and paid some whenever it was possible. In that way we were able to collect about \$300, with more money coming in all the time. Some who had had no intention of paying their bills had the money within a month after we explained the situation to them.

Sunday afternoon we have buffet supper around 5 o'clock. Each pledge is asked to bring at least one friend. This system has worked very well. With the cooperation of the Alumni we hope to get places.

BROTHER DYE: We feel very much isolated and the Alumni feel very much the same way. The Chapter has asked me to represent it, and asked that another chapter be located somewhere close. We have no national feeling whatever. We feel that if we had another chapter somewhere in the state it would benefit both chapters in the same way. We demand that the National change its policy and bring in new chapters to active action. The National chapter should be sent through schools of the middle west and try to determine the possibilities of new Alpha Sigma Phi chapters. We would like to establish a chapter at the Agricultural College at Ft. Collins. The Alumni Council of

Denver felt that it would be very much benefited in time if there was a chapter there. We want to see active steps taken, if necessary, for a revision of this constitution to enable the National Chapter to be more active in increasing the number of chapters in this Fraternity.

BROTHER YORK: I have heard of the Denver Alumni way up in New Haven. I have talked with several boys from Colorado and they are proud of the fact that they are Alpha Sigs and they would really like to have another chapter or two out there. I think it is well worth considering and would like to see something done about it.

BROTHER MILLER: First I would like to take up something here about football players. You just seem to take it for granted that they are not worth anything. I admit a lot of them do get free rides. The University pays them to go to school at Alabama. The Fraternity doesn't do this.

Now on this question of expansion. We have been trying to get another chapter down in the South. At Alabama we cannot live in the Fraternity house. It is just used as a meeting place and serve dinners. As long as they don't have other chapters rather close, they feel like they are almost a "local". They are not going to be a National minded unless you get other chapters down there.

BROTHER YORK: I saw a lot of the different colleges down there and they are pretty nice places. I suggest that we install a chapter down there, or maybe several, so that we can go down there on our Christmas vacations and live at the houses.

BROTHER CLARKE: In my day it was a selling point not to have too many chapters. Today, it is the point to have more chapters.

BROTHER OLCOTT: That is exactly the way we feel in Missouri. We don't like the idea of having no other chapters down there. We don't get much satisfaction out of it. I have been interested in Brother Clarke's views on expansion but I haven't been impressed by them. I don't see one case where they have been justified. They are just as strong as any of the chapters that have been around for 25 years. We have got to face



facts. Our chapters are not any better, and in some cases not as good as some who have the conservative policy. I just can't realize how the Grand Prudential Committee thinks about this. I am in favof of expansion.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: In Alpha chapter we often times never approve of the charter of a group where there was not at least a college with 100 men on the campus. Some-time ago when I saw Middlebury's charter had been granted. I felt there was a new day for Alpha Sigma Phi. Some of the stronger chapters of Alpha Sigma Phi are located on campuses of colleges with less than 1,000men.

BROTHER CLARKE: Nothing has been said here about the number of petitions that came up for consideration between the years 1922-29. When you are talking about schools as you are talking about them now, they are perfectly good schools but the attitude of the chapters was different. I had six or eight men working, determining whether petitions should be granted these differenct schools that applied for them. Active chapters are the people who determine whether or not a group is to be considered as a new chapter. At one time we required a unanimous vote then a 4/5 vote, and now it is the majority that rules. Now it has been further modified and made more liberal. Each chapter has to bring an unanimous vote on petitions. There were Chapters who would have determined right then and there that we should have so many Chapters and no more. Just you try to fix this things so there will be no possibility to have an excessively complicated situation. It was just an imposition upon a group to say to them, "Come along with your petitions and we will put them through." We knew we were licked before we were started. Practically most of the larger Universities of the real outstanding schools were up and considered at various times from 1922 to 1929. I think a number of them were correspondent with and a real effort was made to get information and petitions were turned down,

BROTHER YALE: The main way to keep the National Organization together is to contact big chapters. It is not so easy to meet other brothers when traveling around. There are a lot of swell fellows in the South. The colleges are nice and it seems to

me that especially during vacations people travel South. Especially people of the East. Chapters in those places would certainly promote a lot of National feeling. If there was a chance of putting in a chapter where there is a good local house it would be well worth considering.

BROTHER SHCULTZ: I move that the Grand Council be informed that this convention favors strategic expansion. Seconded. Motion carried.

BROTHER LEOVY: The Grand Council can readily tell what the feeling is about expansion.

BROTHER MCCORMICK: We have the same situation as California and Stanford. Most of the fraternities have chapters at Oregon. This was one of the worst problems that we encounter in rushing. No chapter at Oregon University. The fellows want a chapter at Oregon and think that it would help considerably in rushing.

BROTHER CLARKE: Oregon was never over-looked. Investigation was made and there was something peculiar about the set-up.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: We have discussed Howlins and investigated it. Miami University in Florida, not Miami in Ohio was not acceptable to Chapters in the fraternity. Then we come back to the discussion about Universities. What are you going to do if you being in petitions in from small colleges?

BROTHER YORK: I see no reason why we should not have chapters in small colleges. I think we should keep in mind where it is located. You can not take some small colleges who ask for a chapter, but if we had a small college near a larger college I think it would be very well to consider it,

BROTHER ANDERSON: Fraternities are finding trouble on large campuses. In the small colleges, fraternities are more a part of the college life than they ever have been on large campuses.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: It was a question of reviving the chapter at Amherst or putting in a Chapter at the Agricultural College Institution. The possibility is that ten years from now Massachusetts will be bigger than Amherst.

FLOOR: Small colleges are not facing the difficulties that the larger colleges face. I am in favor of unlimited expansion wherever there is a desirable group of men and desirable group of schools.

BROTHER BARR: Small fraternities are a great thing. The fact remains that we have 35 Chapters. The point is that you say that you don't want many more chapters because we want to be a National Fraternity. As an outsider looking in, Alpha Sigma Phi ~~is~~ is an Eastern Fraternity, and I think there is lots of room for expansion.

BROTHER KESTER: If you get a large University where Fraternities are well-established and maintained for years upon that Campus, you are going to have a hard time starting up a new National Fraternity and establishing it on a campus.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: Where would you like to see a chapter, at Buffalo or Hobart?

BROTHER KESTER: From what I know about the University of Buffalo it doesn't rate at all in the East.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: Take Ohio, where would you like to place a chapter in Ohio, at Wooster or University of Cincinnati? How many chapters would you like to have in Alpha Sigma Phi? We have 27 active chapters and two or three that may be revived. How many think there should be 50?

BROTHER MILLER: We are after some more chapters in the Southwest, and feel we are going to have to have them.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: If we are going to have a strong national Fraternity, we must have a strong National government, -- powers delegated to a central body, in our case the Grand Council., so that the affairs of the fraternity can be properly conducted. The Constitution has been approved by every chapter. The cooperation was marvelous. Even the officers of the chapters know what that constitution is. It is a thing that is going to govern the affairs of this Fraternity. By-laws are going to be submitted to the chapters immediately after the convention. The rewriting of the code is not completed. This is a very important part of this convention. It is certainly starting as near from scratch as we can. Our success will depend upon the efficiency of National

Headquarters and the cooperation of local chapters. We can go ahead with an expansion program if that seems wise. This whole program is going to depend upon the collection of money and sending it to National Headquarters.

Constitution, By-Laws and Codes

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: Our old constitution was repaired and the new constitution has already gone into effect. The ballot which was submitted to the chapters on the new constitution provides as follows: that the constitution is in effect, but the by-laws which are retained are to a large part inconsistent with the constitution. So there is a great deal that will be held until the new by-laws are adopted. I want to have a few words on the present constitution which has now become effective. There have been quite a number of dirty cracks concerning the lack of service of the National office. The fault was with the limited authority given them under the old constitution. The old set-up might well be likened to the old Articles of Federation. It was impracticable to expect our Grand Prudential Committee to operate successfully as it would have been for our National Federal Government to have referred and submitted to the municipalities for approval of <sup>National</sup> matters. Our chapters had complete local autonomy not only as to local affairs, but also as to national matters. The purpose of the new constitution is to separate responsibility of local matters from the National affairs. It is our effort to glean from the constitution of these organizations those provisions which were most workable and most successful in its organization. One of the new things which our constitution has provided is the new Grand Council which resembles a Board of Directors of a Corporation with very much similar powers. There is effective provision made for expansion. Our old set-up as brought up by Brother Clarke, was to a large extent responsible for our lack of success in expanding because every petition and every proposal for a petition had to be determined first by the chapters. Another new thing is the provision for Alumni Councils for the first time in the affairs of the Fraternity. In all the other important National Fraternities the Alumni have, since 1870, had an important voice in the affairs of these organizations. We have lost

to a large extent the important interest of our Alumni which we have so much needed. We hope that you are going to recapture that now by giving them an active part in the affairs of Alpha Sigma Phi. After the drafting of the constitution the next task for our committee was the preparation of the by-laws which are to take the place of the old by-laws. Now reverting to the constitution for a moment, now that that constitution is effective, I can't refrain from pointing out that it is my interpretation of the constitution, I can't see any other interpretation that can logically be made from it. It really is the duty of this convention to adopt the by-laws. ~~is~~ You have this provision in Article 2, Section 1, of the Constitution. It seems to me that it is the duty of this body to adopt the by-laws because the only other provision relating to by-laws is the provision in the very last section and article of the constitution which refers only to amendments to the by-laws. It doesn't refer to the adoption of the by-laws that are so needed. We need the provision of these by-laws to carry on the work of the Grand Council because those by-laws specifically state what the duties of the Grand Council should be and what it shall do. There is no provision now in any by-law relating to the new Grand Council. I presume there will be no opposition raised and it may be attacked if they were referred to the chapters. When we considered these by-laws, I think we started out at 12:30 P.M. and continued into 1:00 A.M. the next morning.

BROTHER PIERCE: We have had during the past few years many men initiated into this Fraternity with no record whatsoever of their being initiated and no record sent into the National Headquarters. National Headquarters received a wire wanting to know if they were members of Alpha Sigma Phi. Brother Burns found on his trip around to various chapters a similar situation in many of the chapters. He also found this situation. A man is initiated and National Headquarters is required to put \$25 into the Tomahawk into the sinking fund for a life subscription to the Tomahawk. What do they do with their initiation fee? It was thought necessary that there be some regulation of that kind by which the National office could have some control and have some ground on which to

discipline the chapters who initiate men without paying the amount to National Headquarters. In the old constitution you had this proposition--you put it up to the Grand Prudential Committee--we wanted that taken out. If the man you are going to initiate isn't able to pay his way, he just doesn't belong in the group. I think that the local chapters should be in a position to forward the amount of the initiation fee to National Headquarters before they initiate any man. We will try to tell you why these things have been put in this way, and every time you will find that the change is to create a situation which is in respect to these situations.

BROTHER BURNS: I have found as many as five men who have been initiated and no record sent into the National Office. Therefore, they received no pin and no issues of the Tomahawk. They are going to drop out.

BROTHER WOOD: This situation has been entirely due to the fault of our Alumni. This spring we had seven or eight men who were eligible. Of these men, about three were ready to put their money on the line. Instead of sending in the money and initiating the men properly they were initiated without paying their money and were not officially listed as being initiated. I happen to know that the active chapter is aware of this situation. Six or eight actives will be returning this fall who will be willing to pay their bill.

BROTHER BURNS: The reason I feel so strongly on the question is not that we are running up debts, but it comes down to the point that the chapter in all of your initiations are dealing only with the National Headquarters and not with the Alumni. If any of the Alumni come to you wanting to get the \$50, you men stand on your two feet, and say you are not paying them for such action in your chapter. The money has been paid in and used for different purposes and the men have not been officially recognized. This payment of money should really be turned over to the National Headquarters. The Alumni should not even know whether you get the money or whether you do not. Misappropriation of money is indeed a bad problem.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: We have our initiation the first week of school and I want to know how we can send the money in and a license can be sent right out. I can get in touch with all the boys that are coming back and tell them about that or send word to the National and if they could be reached see if they will pay the money.

BROTHER WOODS: What sort of procedure would Brothers suggest for the men who have paid their money and are not considered National members? We are not officially on the records. We have been held so in the background by our Alums that we did not know whether we owed ten cents or ten thousand dollars.

BROTHER PIERCE: If a man is initiated as a member of Alpha Sigma Phi without getting permit, then although the man is a member of Alpha Sigma Phi, the Grand Council is entitled to take action against that chapter. Action is taken against the chapter and not the person.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: I would like to finish the presentation of the by-laws, and if it meets with your approval, I will continue as I started out.

BROTHER YORK: Section 4, Article 1. Such license to be issued only as in the laws. Can the Grand Council issue credit?

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: You will probably find throughout the by-laws imperfection. This general article related to chapter finances does not belong to this section.

BROTHER PIERCE: That was put in there with the approval of the entire committee who drew up these by-laws with a special intent and purpose. If the men don't want it in there ok. It is up to the chapter itself to make them as they see fit. Let us be definite.

BROTHER YORK: Now the situation is a little different. We have a Grand Council that we know is going to be a good help. That last sentence binds too much. The main object of the constitution is to make the Grand Council a body with powers. It won't effect the working of the Grand Council by striking that out.

BROTHER BURNS: Palmer, does the chapter collect the initiation fee at Yale or does Cleve Rice?

BROTHER YORK: Cleve Rice.

BROTHER BURNS: Rice should not collect it.

BROTHER PIERCE: I still question the leaving of that particular point up to the Grand Council for action. For a long time we have been receiving from Alpha Chapter, when they are going to initiate a number of men, an amount of money to pay for a certain number of pins. Up goes the pins and up goes the paying of initiation fees. This should not be left as optional to the Grand Council.

BROTHER YORK: The first thing is to keep your chapter going. Give us a chance to work our own problems out with the Grand Council.

BROTHER PIERCE: Is it any more unreasonable to ask that of Alpha than it is of Eta? They pay their national fees and yet they have a mortgage on their house that would break the back of many a fraternity.

BROTHER YORK: We don't have a chance to collect their fees. Our Grand President has called attention to Section 2 of the By-Laws, Article 2.

DR. CRAMBLET: I feel that it is just as important that the dues of the actives be paid to the chapter as it is that the initiation fee of new members be paid to the Grand National Committee. I was told by some of the other members that all the Grand Council can do under this set of by-laws was to fine you for not paying them. I have definitely in mind that this should be corrected when we come to this portion. It is just as serious a crime to not pay active dues as initiation fees. I know that on my own campus either the boys pay their money or they are not initiated. It does seem to me that it might be proper to remove this sentence that Brother York has suggested. We ought to penalize the chapter that does not pay its active dues just as well as the chapter which does not pay its initiation dues. It is a violation of our constitution at National Headquarters, and I would like to see the power of all hand the same. I think the mode of settlement should be worked out between the active chapters and the Grand Council and see that the active chapters pay.



BROTHER COCHRAN: I would offer this suggestion which may possibly help solve this situation, and it is that the chapter be allowed to initiate upon receipt of license, but no paraphernalia be sent to that chapter unless the money is received.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: That would serve to take care of the situation rather completely.

BROTHER YORK: I make a motion that his final sentence of Section 1V, Article 1, be stricken from the By-Laws.

Motion seconded and carried.

DR. CRAMBLET: Section 8 should be made just as strict as it can be made. There is no point in affairs that run on forever. Chapters whose house bills are not paid should be subject to the rules in this section.

BROTHER CLARKE: I wonder where we are going to arrive the way we are going.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: It is the belief of the constitution of today that the various chapters should be charged with the responsibility of policing their own members. They should be responsible for the conduct of the members in the houses and on the campus. Consequently, it is suggested that we provide in our codes that the chapters shall be authorized to be trial courts for the trial of officers against the chapter's constitution and by-laws. The national constitution and by-laws relating to the conduct of active members in the chapter and that the business of the chapter in the nature of fixing penalties shall be limited to a definite suspension of a member for a definite time or to censure a member. The expulsion of a member must of a necessity be left to the Grand Council or to a committee designated by them. Once a man is initiated he is no longer a member of the chapter, but a member of the fraternity. Therefore, it is a matter of national concern whether or not he continues as a member. Therefore, the only machinery, the only part of the national organization, which should be authorized to sever that member relationship should be the Grand Council. The Grand Council will also be authorized to try Alumni members for conduct in chapter houses or other violation of by-laws which cannot very appropriately be handled by the chapters, and any other members who are not active shall be dealt with by the Grand Council. If and when a

Grand Council tries a member, he must be given a chance to have defense and council by members of the fraternity and not outside. We have quite an elaborage code covering every possible advice, but I have been informed that it has never been used because it appears so formal no one will read it.

DR. CRAMLET: I move that this convention direct the Grand Council to name individuals at or near each of the several chapters to act as representatives of the National Office to be known as National Advisory Counsellors, the group forming the National Advisory Council and to divide their duties.

(Stenographers dismissed for the evening)

Motion made by Brother Worthington later Friday night.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: It is moved that the By-Laws which have been read and considered at this meeting be approved and adopted by this convention as read and modified at this meeting and that the By-Laws be submitted to the respective chapters for ratification and adoption as provided in Article II, Section I, of the Constitution of 1937.

DR. CRAMBLET PRESIDING

DR. CRAMBLET: I apologize. It was my error. No one told me that it was to start at 9:00. The first item that comes up will be the period in discussion on the problem of rushing. We will be very glad if members will report on their program informally.

BROTHER KING: (OKLA.) I am mostly here for suggestions on rushing rather than make a speal on how to rush. We have a job figuring out how to rush a person. Most of the time we take them out and show them a hilarious evening. We have been keeping away from that idea and try to show the boys just what we are and show them a good time without stressing excessiveness and I think that holds up the ideals of the fraternity more than a big party with lots of liquor.

DR. CRAMBLET: I would like to hear some of you tell us what your selling points are. What is it that you tell these boys that come in from farms and the high schools of the cities. They have great ideas that a college fraternity is much more wonderful than their high school fraternities. They think that a college fraternity is supposed to be the berries. How do you go about it?

BROTHER McCLOUD: I was going to say something more about the setup. As far as selling the men, the main thing that we try to do at Ann Arbor is being frank with the boys; tell them what they are getting; and showing them some of the advantages that we have to offer. We this summer sent out two letters and asked for names. I also sent out post cards on which I had room for recommendations and in the corner a little calender which contained rushing dates. During the first week they weren't to break any dates, the second week, they had to get the consent of the fraternity where they are breaking the date. In the past we received lots of names and never got around to get in touch with them, or when we would, we got

there too late. We have been having the boys put an L or an S on the calendar found on the card for the date that they wanted to come for luncheon supper. Then to keep peace with the house manager who always wants to know how many he is going to have for luncheon and dinner, we started a system last year of putting up on the bulletin board a guest list. If a member made a contact and invited a man over, he had to sign the man's name with his own name after. In this way we have a pretty close check up as to how many are coming. This will publicly set a limit on the number for any one particular day. As far as rushing during the school year we have had more experience with that. We have the question of getting new names, new prospects, and we have had a bit of discussion between the rushing chairman and the pledge class. We have to show pledges that the new prospect they bring in is going to be in school with them. After all if they have a friend they want as a brother they must bring him in and not let him go to another house. Out West we ran into a little trouble in getting enough names and every member was supposed to bring in a new prospect within three weeks. Then there is always the question of taking care of alumni recommendations. At Ann Arbor this last year they did not do it very well. I am having a card printed which we will send to every man who sends in a name telling him what happened to his man and that we did not pledge him. Out West they use the system of Call For and Deliver. At Ann Arbor it hasn't been the policy to do that. It is hard to get started on a new system in the middle of the year. However, entertainment has been the biggest problem. We are undecided as to how to entertain them. We don't know whether to give them a pep talk, let them sit around, or take them to a show. A good idea if there is a varsity athletic event on that particular night is to take them to that. One thing that we started at Ann Arbor was signing a man who knew a prospect fairly

well to take care of him. We give them a pretty full financial statement of the House and a history of the chapter and I would like to know what some of the other chapters do in rushing.

BROTHER CLARKE: What do you tell them as to what you have to offer?

BROTHER McCLOUD: We tell them about the National fraternity--the history--the fact that it is very old and the fact that we have a congenial bunch of fellows in the House.

BROTHER CLARKE: Do you stress how cheaply they can get by in the house?

BROTHER McCLOUD: I think that we are getting away from that. In the past we did that.

DR. CRAMBLET: The next speaker will be Penn State.

BROTHER SAYERS: Rushing was wide open and you could go back and get your man while on the train and pledge him. Today rushing is restricted. Rushing begins September 9 and ends September 19. It is divided into two periods. One of the periods is the silent period. In the first period there is the regular rushing luncheon and dinner dates. There is very little time in which to sell your house to a pledge who wants to go to another house. In the second period the dinner dates are on Friday and Saturday from 4:30 to 1:30. You must sell a man your house in order to get a date in the second period. Last year we sent out self-addressed cards to each alumni and asked for the rating of their pledge. Also whether he had a rooming house to go to when he entered Penn State. I had a booklet printed with the Fraternity seal on the front of it and which contained inside dope as to fraternity life. It contains pictures showing the fraternity developement, and a picture of the reception hall and the inside of the House. Explained the fact that Alpha Sigma Phi is one of the first fraternities; show one picture of the entire group. Explain to the rushee that a study hall is rigidly enforced. The freshmen are not

overlooked. Explain to the men that it is not all work and gives him some insight as to the social life of the fraternity. Explain what goes on in the house every day. This year we are going to try something new in our rushing. A brother and an alumni or two alumni can offer a man an informal bid during the summer. The fraternity is then obligated to give him a formal bid when he comes up.

DR. CRAMBLET: I would like each person to speak briefly on what they do in their chapters.

BROTHER YORK: We don't rush freshman. We take a list of all prospective candidates in the class and go through that list and put after each name a number 1, 2, 3. Then we invite them down to dinner for three nights one week. We try to get fellows to bring down these prospective pledges that they know well. We try to pick out 15 or 20 fellows that know each other to come down at one time. This helps to influence him. Then in the next week in the afternoon we send out and put in calling bids on the doors asking them to come around in the evening. After the pledge has been in the House in the evening, they have to leave by a certain time, then they go back to their rooms. We then have a meeting and talk over different fellows, what their attitude toward the house is and our attitude toward them. We split up into groups and each group takes five or six fellows they know especially well. They go around to their rooms and talk with them. It makes quite an impression of the pledges. Our selling points are, of course, the house and congeniality and the fact that we do not go after all these big shots--football players, for such as these do not have time for the fraternity. We want fellows who will help us and hold some office in the fraternity. Try to stress the advantages he will get out of the fraternity, friends he makes, contacts he makes. We can do that very well. The fraternity is not only limited to the campuses but with the group, that gets along together and travel together, more or less building up the advantages of the fraternity from that point. If he gets interested in the

running of the affairs of the house that is a definite advantage. We see this fellow the first night and then he comes down the next night. We split up again and send another bunch to see him. The second night we call and ask him what he thinks about the fraternity dues and generally draw him out and make him do all the talking rather than us. Then we ask him if he is going to be interested in the house. We have him come back and tell us definitely. The next night we discuss it and tell him to consider himself pledged.

BROTHER KESTER: We have introduced a new system this year. We drew up what we call a rushing manual, devised for the freshmen and to help the fellows in the house become better rushers. Gives him in general all the tips that we are able to think up. It serves to better cover up what difficulties we have, brings out the fine things in the fraternity, and tells him that we think college life will be a benefit to him. We have another new system, a responsibility system. In this system the upper-classmen or even sophomores are assigned to one certain rushee whom we want in the House, and it is the responsibility of that man to see that he gets the rushee over to the House as much as possible. We have rushing during the evening up to 8:30. From 8:30 to 9:30 in their rooms allowing ten minutes with each freshman. The responsibility of this man is to see that he gets to know the rushee as well as possible in the time allowed for pledging. In the event that the rushee does/<sup>not</sup> go to our house he is required to get up and give a reason for not going. In the end this gives us ideas so that we can correct our defects, and brings out a better class of rushing than we have had before.

BROTHER SATTERFIELD: We rush the year around. We either correspond or go to several of the high schools and get the names of every senior that is going to attend college and if so what college. We see as many as pos-

sible of these men and sometimes bring them over before they are out of school. In this way we have contact with quite a few of the oncoming freshmen. We find that these high schools work with us quite a good deal in giving us these names. We have anywhere from three to five hundred names to work with. Our main selling point is that it doesn't cost much more to live in the house than it does to live in town. Our second selling point is that during the second semester we have three or four big fraternity dances.

BROTHER CLARKE: I think that you have a peculiar setup. For instance if you had a house that was clear of debt, no mortgages, no interest to pay, then you could say it is cheaper to live in a fraternity than out. That is one thing, but to try to tell a fellow that you can give him something cheaper than another house is what I had in mind. A properly operated house is usually more expensive than a boarding house. Put your cards on the table and if he doesn't want to come in under those rules let him stay out.

BROTHER BEEBE: Our biggest problem is the entertaining of the freshmen. Quite often we have as many freshmen as upper classmen. Naturally it is bad if they sit around and talk to themselves.

BROTHER PIERCE: We received a list of names of fellows from out of town, and we contacted them. We have an active membership in the House of about 20 this year. We are going to invite our brothers from Wesleyan to help us this year with our rushing. It should work out quite well.

BROTHER LEOVY: In answer to the question of entertainment, dinners are very helpful, but we also feel that the most valuable entertainment was that we could get in on Sunday afternoon or Saturday. We can take them on beach parties. We had a gambling party and find that it was very successful. We give each man \$1,500 in paper money. We find that in playing blackjack, poker, crap, we get to know the fellows and it makes for



congeniality. One time we pledged 50 percent of the rushees who attended the gambling party. The conservative policy of our house is a strong point. Only the President of our House extends bids to rushees. The president and manager, rushing chairman, and possibly one other member is in the room when we talk to the fellows. We give a brief history of the house and a summary of the national situation. We have only 30 members in our House and we point out that we believe that 30 can be a more congenial group. At the same time we tell them just exactly how much they have to pay--\$40.00 a month for house bills and \$19.00 for outside men. For any of you that have trouble pledging outside men who live at home and won't live in the house, the fraternity at U.C.L.A. got together and decided that they had to sell the men on the idea of joining the fraternity and then sell the house. We can successfully operate with 30 men and operate at a profit.

BROTHER CLARKE: When you say that you talk about conservatism of the National Organization, conservatism in what way?

BROTHER LEOVY: In that we don't establish a chapter in every college in the United States. We are up against some of the other houses that have 120 or over 90 chapters. They are very strong, and they use the fact that they have so many chapters. We use the fact that we have a pretty well rounded house. We are considered in the upper third in the college in scholarship.

BROTHER BARR: We only took nine freshmen the year before. We make the best of what we have. It is a cosmopolitan group and that is one talking point. The sweat session seems to be unique. We have a peculiar situation with deferred rushing. We don't regularly talk to the freshmen for the first semester of school. At the end of that we have a series of smokers. Of course the first day it is just general conversation. Then we have a week of intensive rushing, with luncheon and dinner dates with the freshmen. Then start pledging as soon as we can. We don't use the

sweat session--did use it on one man. We took him into a room and locked the door and pounded into him the ideas of the fraternity. When we handed him the key he pulled four other keys out of his pocket and said that he had been in sweat sessions in every fraternity that he had been in. My best suggestion is that you do not use the sweat session.

BROTHER LEOVY: We have no organized rushing system at U.C.L.A. Do you think deferred rushing is a good idea.

BROTHER BARR: Personally, I do. I don't want to argue that point. I don't see how you can bring a man down and expect him to know what he is coming into. They come down to school with two strikes and don't know what the score is. It is strictly enforced that there is no illegal rushing done during the first semester. The best way is to have a general agreement with the presidents of the fraternities.

BROTHER LEOVY: Do you have any violations?

BROTHER BARR: We had two outstanding violations this year, but the fact remains that our rules are very rarely broken.

BROTHER COCHRAN: Deferred rushing was not in effect when I was there in 1925. It has become continuous since I was there and that is a point in itself.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: I have never been able to believe that it results in an advantage over wide open rushing.

BROTHER BEEBE: We don't have any violations, in fact but we do in spirit. One house go to play golf, but they always play with the freshmen. The freshmen form in cliques. They hesitate to go where their room mate doesn't and they have these little groups as to where they room. It is hard to break them up after they have formed these bonds. I think that our house in particular is opposed to this deferred rushing. Another thing I would like to say is on the entertainment problem. We have no place to entertain them.

DR. CRAMBLET: My theory of the thing would be that if you could just bring them into the fraternity and be natural with them, pledging them in Jan., Feb., or March. It is an absurd situation to think that you are going to have Freshmen out for sports and not see upperclassmen.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: We used to have deferred rushing. They held off until about Nov. before they even started to rush. There were several violations. We changed to a system that works fairly well. We start rushing almost immediately after the first week. Rushing takes place only on week-ends and on certain specified sates. We pass around in the afternoon and talk fraternity to them for a couple of weeks. We have various sports that we can get them in on and in that way they can get acquainted with each other before they even think of joining a fraternity.

BROTHER PIERCE (ALUMI). When an alumnus sends in a name the first thing you do is to write a letter and sell him that you contacted the man. Alumni don't expect the House to pledge every name they send in. If you don't pledge the man tell the alumni why and express the hope that he will continue to give you cooperation. The big criticism is that the alumni don't always cooperate with active chapter. The alumni on the other hand say that when they do send in a name they never hear from it. You could get the chapter close together by keeping up its contacts.

BROTHER LIGHTNER: We have our regular pet rushee program. I would like to illustrate what they did when I was a rushee. They established good friendships with the boys and a couple of them made a specially good friend with me, taking me around when I had dated<sup>s</sup> with other houses. They talked to me between times. It seemed that the house was always full of action. When the piano wasn't going the radio was. When I was at the other houses, I found myself several times wishing that I was down at the Alpha Sigs where they were having lots of fun. The psychology is to make friends with the rushees. He will undoubtedly go with his friends

and the house that gives him the best deal. I didn't care so much about the financial part if I could be in a House where they were really friends that is where I wanted to be at any cost. They were always having a good time at the Alpha Sigma Phi. They stressed the point of making friends with the rushees.

BROTHER ANDERSON: We have operated on much the same plan as Lightner. One of the reasons why we never had deferred rushing is because we have never found it to work out. We have been in some pretty tough holes at times and if Freshmen has six months to learn about this we would still be in the hole. In past we had 2 weeks of more or less intensive rushing. This year everything must be taken care of in the House.

DR. CRAMBLET: Does it make much difference in your rushing to discuss the fact that you are a national Fraternity?

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Yes.

DR. CRAMBLET: Does the geographical distribution of the fraternity help, that it goes from Mass. to Calif. and from Vt. to Alab?

BROTHER ANDERSON: From out of state it does, but not to the local boys.

BROTHER YORK: We lost three of the best men in Yale because we did not have Chapters in the South. We make it a practice to have a committee at the door to greet the pledges and as they come in they are taken down in the grill. Fellows are not allowed in the House until a certain time. Naturally the group that shows up at the specified time are the ones most interested in the House.

DR. CRAMBLET: Is it the size of the Fraternity or the distribution that bothers you in this problem? Or is it both? The matter of rushing is important, and yet our problem of rushing doesn't end there. I want to bring this point out. I have very definite convictions in regard to treatment of pledges after pledging. I picked up recently a very clever

paragraph, written by Dr. Charles Gilkey, Dean of the Chapel, University of Chicago.

#### A GOOD SAMARITAN IN COLLEGE.

"A certain Freshman went down from home to College and she fell among critics who said that she had no style, that her manners were awkward and that she had an unattractive personality. Then they stripped her of her self-confidence, her enthusiasm, and her courage, and departed leaving her hurt and lonely and half dead.

"And when the Seniors saw it they were amused, saying, "What a good job the Sophomores are doing on that Freshman, "and they passed by on the other side.

"In like manner the Juniors also when they saw it smiled and said, 'Yea, verily, for she hath not the making of a good sorority girl, ' and they passed by on the other side.

"But a certain special student as she went about, came where she was and, when she saw her, she was moved with compassion and came to her and bound her wounds, pouring in sympathy and understanding, and she took her to her room and set her on her feet again and brought her unto her own circle and was a friend to her.

"Which of these thinkest thou proved neighbor to her that fell among the critics? Go thou and do likewise! --Dr. Charles Gilkey, Dean of the Chapel, University of Chicago. *I have been asked by Bro. Augustine to hear him for a few minutes.*

*of + inter* → BROTHER AUGUSTINE: We are a little bit proud of what has been done out there. I have here a document which is entitled "An Invitation to San Francisco". The reason I want at this time to look through it and see what you think about inviting the convention of A. S. P. for 1939 to San Francisco. We have letters from different men and alumni Assoc. and one from Brother Mosiman inviting you on behalf of the Tau Chapter and its Alumni. I was thinking of what I was going to say but I

## RESOLUTIONS

### Resolution No. 1

Be It Resolved that this, the Seventeenth National Convention of the Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity, extend a vote of appreciation and thanks to Eta Chapter for the splendid hospitality it has so generously extended to the officers, delegates, alumni, and members attending this convention.

### Resolution No. 2

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend a vote of appreciation to Brother E. Chauncey Baldwin for the inspiring address of welcome presented to the fraternity at the opening of its sessions.

### Resolution No. 3

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend to Dean Fred H. Turner, a vote of appreciation for the fine address and the good counsel contained therein and further, for the splendid defense of college fraternities in general contained in a recent edition of The Rotarian.

### Resolution No. 4

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend a vote of appreciation to Paul C. Beam, Executive Secretary of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity for the instructive address delivered to the fraternity on the subject of Fraternity Finances and Management.

### Resolution No. 5

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend a vote of thanks to the Champaign Convention Committee and the individual members thereof for the hospitality and good fellowship extended to the members and delegates attending this Convention.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 6

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend its greetings to the Chicago Banquet Committee and the individual members thereof and further to extend its appreciation in anticipation of the hospitality and entertainment which the members of this Convention know they will receive upon arrival in Chicago.

Resolution No. 7

WHEREAS, the Grand Prudential Committee has become a thing of the past and

WHEREAS the last members of that committee have rendered invaluable and faithful services to Alpha Sigma Phi, Be It Resolved that this Convention hereby extends to Brothers C. William Cleworth, Wentworth F. Gantt and Maurice J. Pierce its sincere appreciation for the services truly and faithfully rendered as members of the Grand Prudential Committee.

Resolution No. 8

Be It Resolved that the delegates to this, the Seventeenth National Convention of Alpha Sigma Phi, extend an unqualified vote of confidence to the newly elected Grand Council.

Resolution No. 9

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend to the Committee on Reorganization consisting of Dr. Wilbur H. Cramblet, Benjamin Clarke, C. William Cleworth, Wentworth F. Gantt, Maurice J. Pierce, George E. Worthington, Richard M. Archibald, Robert E. Landman and Lloyd Cochran, a vote of sincere appreciation and recognition of the splendid work performed by them in revising the Constitution, By-laws, and Codes of this fraternity.

Resolution No. 10

Be It Resolved that this Convention extend to Brother Ralph F. Burns its sincere

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 10 (Continued)

appreciation for all the work and labor performed on behalf of the fraternity and particularly in arranging for this, the Seventeenth National Convention; and further that this convention and each and every member thereof, extend to Brother Burns and prospective bride heartiest congratulations upon their forthcoming marriage and wish them God speed.

BROTHER ANDERSON: I move that we readopt the resolutions that came from last year.

BROTHER AUGUSTINE: (refer to page 84) We are a little bit proud etc.-----



didn't see how I could improve on the real starting found in this booklet, "San Francisco is air conditioned by God himself. Everywhere are breathtaking panorama as of hills and mountains and salt water, with great ships coming and going through the Golden Gate to and from China, the Philippines and Hawaii, and so forth." I would like for the Grand Council to give serious thought to this problem on behalf of this and members of Alpha Sigma Phi. We want to extend an invitation to hold the 1939 convention at San Francisco.

BROTHER ANDERSON: I was under the impression that the last convention was held on the West Coast and I don't think the Chapter is in a position to suggest such a thing. Next convention should be held in the East in New Haven.

BROTHER BALDWIN: I think this session should not adjourn without some discussion on the treatment of Freshmen. The fraternity has really followed a plan that is obsolete in the treatment of Freshmen. It seems to me that this is all wrong. Do not develop men by treating them as children. I would like to see the paddle relegated to some museum. I don't like to see you merely dodging the issue. I think that should be considered and some more up-to-date method approved.

BROTHER MILLER: I agree with Professor Baldwin. I am in favor of having no Hell Week.

BROTHER CLARKE: I would like to ask the men whether it is for their pleasure of whether they figure it is an essential thing in certain places. Is this Hell Week proposition a thing which you feel is essential in some places or is it something you get a lot of pleasure out of, or do you think it does the man some good? I do think you will find that many fraternities have cut that thing out. There is a tremendous amount of criticism by citizens on the outside. We are just foolish. Every time that we as an organization give these people who, justly or unjustly

critize fraternities something they can clearly demonstrate the thing, that is detrimental. We are just helping these people who are criticizing us in stirring up and keeping the ball rolling all the time. From the standpoint of the good of the organization it is something that can very well be eliminated. It has been brought up at several conventions and has always been side stepped. The tendency is more and more against it and I really do believe that we should do something about it and when we do it not side step it, but stand up and say the Alpha Sigma Phi has done away with it. Conditions have changed, and while it would be a radical change I think it would be a broader one.

DR. CHAMBLET: We have a definite statement of condemnation of the whole proposition of Hell Week. I suggest that if you intend to go on a campus of a University today you will have to say that you are against Hell Week if you are going to be properly received. I don't know of a better selling point than to be able to say that we don't have Hell Week.

BROTHER CLEWORTH: I move that this convention go on record as disapproving and condemning Hell Week and eliminating all physical abuse of initiates. Motion carried. 17 for and three against.

BROTHER SCHULTZ: How about a little paddling in discipline?

BROTHER SATTERFIELD: Interfraternity Council has stated against any such physical abuse. If they violate this rule they are subject to fine. We have constructive work in place of this Hell Week.

BROTHER GANTT: Amend Title V Article 1 Section 1 To read as follows:  
Section I No chapter shall permit the bringing in or drinking of alcoholic beverages by members or others within any structure used by it for a chapter or fraternity house if such a thing be contrary to the policies of the college or university where in the chapter is located.

Section II No chapter should permit gambling or immoral conduct by members or others within any structure used by it for a chapter or fraternity house.

Section 3 to be old Section 2

Section 4 to be old Section 3

Section 5 to be old Section 4

Section 6 to be old section 5

Resolved that this convention request the Grand Council to submit to the chapters the necessary revision of the ritual of the fraternity to conform to the proposed amendment, at the time that the proposed amendment is sent to the chapters for ratifications.

BROTHER WORTHINGTON: I suggest that the word be intoxicating beverages instead of alcoholic beverages.

BROTHER CLARKE: I want to call your attention to this one fact. I think that with out any further knowledge of what other groups are doing, you men here are making a tremendous mistake of passing this thing and submitting it to the chapters. If this thing went through and all other groups are still hanging on, showing that we have it in our oath and constitution with that as an argument, Alpha Sigma Phi has changed that, you have laid yourself open. No business ever makes such a tremendous change until they have a pretty good idea what their competitors are going to do about it. The thing is that this is not just a small matter that concerns us but it is a matter that concerns all fraternities generally. I simply want to point out to you that when you take this step that I believe you are doing it without full knowledge of what the effect may be in your contact with others in other chapters. Personally, I am against it, but if things have changed and the thing is coming, it won't make any difference. But to do it without any knowledge of what our competitors are doing you are very foolish.

BROTHER COCKRAN: As I understand this action now, drinking is entirely permitted in the house if University regulations do not otherwise prohibit it. The majority are drinking or violating all things which are in a college ritual. We are dealing now with one of the things our fraternity has stood

for--one of the three cardinal virtues. I believe this thing is going to mean a disastrous situation in some lives. We are dealing not with the privilege of drinking while you are studying but with the problem of drinking and moral connection. I should very much hate to see this point passed at this time. I think we should make a very thorough and very careful investigation of this fact in so far as it effects schools. I think we should make a report on this matter so that we may act on facts rather than emotions of this kind. I move that the motion be referred to the Grand Council.

BROTHER YORK: No use in putting it off any longer. Face facts and recognize what we are doing and accept them.

BROTHER LEOVY: I make a motion for the adoption of this recommendation to the Grand Council submitting this amendment to the chapter. 12 in favor of the amendment; 8 against; 3 didn't vote.

BROTHER COCKRAN: I make a motion that this matter be made an exception and send in the results of this convention's activities to the chapter and that it be held up and not sent to the Chapters until the Grand Council have an opportunity to make full and complete investigation and at that time the results of the investigation be sent out to chapters. Motion carried.

BROTHER ANDEAS: I feel that something should be done about it. I make a motion that past indebtedness be referred to the Grand Council and be treated in a manner best fitted to the fraternity. Motion carried.

BROTHER BURNS: I received telegrams from Shotwell and Mosiman stating that they will accept. Mosiman will accept it if it would not mean additional work.

BROTHER CLARKE: I think we ought to write him and explain the whole situation to him.

BROTHER BURNS: The train leaves at 12:50; 6 cabs will be waiting.

Three towels are missing; please check over your luggage.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: The final work of business is the report of the committee on resolutions. There has been a vital growth in the matter of social life of a fraternity. The fraternity was founded in 1845. In 1945, which is eight years from now, the chapter will have had 100 years of history, all of which have been rather checkered. Up until now we have made no steps of any kind toward an endowment fund. This can only be made effective if the actives themselves undertake the job. With some help from Alumni, different fraternities which I am familiar raise their endowment fund by direct assessment on active members. The consideration of some kind of fund should I think be undertaken in the immediate future. One dollar a person for ten months would yield \$4,000.00 endowment fund at the end of one year. That sum could be doubled in second year and trippled <sup>three</sup> in/<sub>years</sub>. I think the matter of an endowment fund is one for more consideration that we have time for here.

BROTHER YORK: I have tried to formulate plans and have tried to start them at Alpha Chapter. It has been proved that it absolutely should be done, and that some sort of endowment fund should be installed. If one of us would go back to our chapter and put the situation up to the chapter and then communicate as soon as possible with the Executive Secretary perhaps something could be done with the problem.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: I think we should start the endowment fund with a collection at this time. Passed the hat. Will announce amount obtained later.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: I think it would be in order for this convention to authorize the Grand Council to formulate plans and submit to chapters looking to the establishment of an endowment fund. Motion seconded and carried. Report on collection--cash amounting to \$23.90 with an I.O.U. for \$10.00.. Expected to get more money tonight at the banquet.

BROTHER CLARKE: I move that the committee on reorganization who has had charge of the revision of the constitution, by-laws, and codes be discharged and that any work remaining to be done be turned over to the newly elected Grand Council. Motion seconded and carried.

BROTHER AUGUSTINE: Resolutions

BROTHER PIERCE: I move that this convention shall be known as the 17th National Convention of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. Motion is carried.

BROTHER McCORMICK: My chapter sent me here to get action on several matters, in all of which I have failed. I wish to go on record as asking that this convention adjourn sine die.

BROTHER CRAMBLET: State motion

BROTHER McCORMICK: I move that this convention adjourn sine die.