

~THE KEY.~

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No. 4.

A KAPPA SONG.

My little friend, dear golden key,
Thou'st made me sunshine willingly
'Neath skies or blue or rainy :
I thank thee for thy service true ;
I've faith in this that thou can'st do—
Unlock now other lives than mine
And make them glad with my sunshine.

Oh, little friend, dear golden key,
Above my heart I'll wear thee !
And thou shalt flash a smile for me,
A gracious smile of love, and so
To weary trav'lers, toiling slow,
Reveal the joy my heart within
And ope their hearts to let it in.

MARY HARRISON HOWELL, *Beta Alpha.*

WANTED—AN ANTIDOTE.

In these days of modern enlightenment, we find no lack of " strenuous souls " who urge us almost daily to zeal in the pursuit of knowledge, and to ceaseless labor in the attainment of the " bubble reputation," even at the cost of all that, in our uncorrupted days, we counted dear. They call to us from the lecture-platform ; they write at us in all our magazines ; they even pursue us into our social gatherings where we strive wearily to amuse ourselves and, for a short while, to frivol as was once woman's blessed privilege—now long since denied her. Verily, " all is no longer vanity." It has become *woman's sphere.*

And why? "Why should we always toil who are the first of things?" Why must we take ourselves forever seriously? The chief end of man has turned itself into the chief end of woman, and in consequence thereof we are fast sinking into a Slough of Despond from which we shall never be able to extricate ourselves unless we once for all consider carefully to what end we are working when we work at all.

In the reaction from the times when to be a woman was necessarily to be without a mind, we have come to the opposite extreme, where we are inclined to regard the faculty of acquiring knowledge as the only one we have worth cultivating, and it is this notion which is bringing so many of our kind to nervous prostration and many kindred evils. Of course it is in a measure a fad; nobody who looks at the subject impartially denies that. To be well informed is fashionable—ergo, we must at least appear to know. Our clubs and lectures and classes in current topics, what are they but so much mental paint and powder? The attempt at remedying a deficiency which should have been noted and cared for in our youthful days, when we cried over our dog's eared arithmetic or played anagrams from the words in the back of the speller? And yet the void is there. Why? Because of the demon—specialization! We had to "be prepared"—notice the passive voice—for college, not "prepare ourselves." Our share was to swallow whole the answers to possible and impossible examination questions. With education, real education, we had not even a bowing acquaintance.

The evil, bad as it was in our day, is fast becoming worse for our successors. College entrance examinations require more and more tabulated knowledge, and yet the average age of entering is not allowed to increase. To acquire this knowledge, put it up in boxes and label it for instant use is a task almost beyond the average girl; and to hope that she assimilate it, is madness. Even if she could, it would not be safe, for one fact would have to unite with other facts to form a symmetrical whole, which might not be easily separated into its parts when the crucial test of an examination arrived.

This specialization is increased rather than diminished after the entrance to some college is accomplished. It is the boast of our great universities that they offer facilities for a broader education

than can be obtained in institutions of less scope. Of course, this is true, and yet I question whether the education received by most undergraduates is really such as to deserve the name. To accept an immature student, and, after requiring her to search out the elevating truths of solid geometry and to find the permutations and combinations of x things taken y at a time, to leave her to wander at will through the mazes of the university schedule, will doubtless insure her plenty of information, though hardly of the kind to be termed education. The only guidance offered her in such a course is the constant urging to specialize in some department. It is represented, and one must acknowledge truthfully so, that, if she intends to teach or to enter a profession, such specialization is necessary for the attainment of glory in her chosen sphere. Very likely. But if the other side were presented and she were told that by early specialization she loses in part her chance for true education, is it not likely that she would in her undergraduate course chose the better part which now lies in peril? I think it is likely. But it is, of course, necessary that she should fully understand the meaning of education, and consider it in all its bearings. It does not shut out specialization, but must precede it.

As I consider in the course of my work such questions as these I am constantly reminded of a saying of one of my former professors. He is a man very much opposed to the pursuit of any one line of study, and he never loses an opportunity to make known his opinion. I encountered him one day while on my way to a seminary in Science of Language—a subject very much under his condemnation. He inquired minutely into our intended doings and after hearing my eager defence of our work looked at me with a reflective air, and said, "And when you have done all this, you will be learned, you will not be educated." And it was true, but how true I had to wait years to learn.

The acquirements of graduate days have never quite the same relation to one's personality as those which have grown up with one. And it is this I would like to urge on every woman who tries to specialize. Specialization is not education. It belongs to a woman as his tools belong to a carpenter. They can always be used, always furnish occupation, but can never in any sense become a part of his individuality. Indeed, when too closely

associated with his existence, they serve to dull the edge of his perception which finally embraces only what pertains to his trade. Education, on the other hand, is a part of one's individuality. It is the result of drawing out what is already present in the germ and cultivating it until it is capable in itself of affording pleasure to its possessor.

The theory that one subject is as good as another for purposes of education is a great mistake. In all olden times *the humanities* were regarded as the only legitimate objects of interest, and to-day they should stand as they have ever stood as preëminently the pursuits which can bring about a true education. From history and literature, we learn the thoughts and doings of bygone times and from them derive a standard to which we, if we are college women in the best sense of the term, will be gradually approaching even though we do so without conscious effort.

I do not mean by this that scientific pursuits are undesirable—far from it. But to allow these to usurp the whole time of a college course, simply because that course is elective, and the student prefers them to language or literature, is to do an irreparable injury to one who is incapable of realizing it because of her youth.

Much of the indispensable literary material might be acquired in the days before college was thought of, if pains were taken by the older members of the family to direct the reading of children. The bushels of children's books turned out every year by writers who know not even their own language are fast crowding out the beautiful old fairy tales and hero-legends which once formed the basis of every child's library. What girl cares now for the woes of Balin and Balan, or who can tell you one knightly exploit of Sir Lancelot? Not one in a hundred. But they all know how long Elsie Dinsmore sat on the piano stool, and the details of her methods for the reformation of her father. They, many of them, never heard of Muses or Graces; for them the woods have no Dryads; the little brooks no Undines. But they know how Zoë tried to run away from her home, where from all ordinary considerations one would expect her to stay gladly.

It is often said that the hours of reading are part of the recreation hours of a girl, and that no greater demand should be made upon her mental powers than the reading of light literature.

But wherein does the interest of the "Elsie" Books, for instance, exceed that of King Arthur, or the effort in reading the Tanglewood Tales, that expended in following the languishing heroines of Mary J. Holmes? It is merely a question of habit, and in the reading of one there grows up the familiarity with good English and noble thoughts, whereas in the other arrant nonsense is combined with faulty expression. This may seem an exaggerated statement, but I know whereof I speak, and the opinion is not a hasty one, but the result of observing many girls both in college and in preparatory schools.

Another serious mistake in the general idea of education is the prevailing opinion that it is the means to an end, and not the end itself. One studies Greek in order to teach Greek; History in order to deliver lectures. This is again the carpenter with his tools. It is so trivial a conception of the worth of knowledge! Of course a woman may use her education for some purpose. That is natural. But that is not its end and aim, but merely an episode. But if she is really educated (and not learned) her knowledge will be to her a never failing source of pleasure, for the saying, "My mind to me a kingdom is," though old is always true.

And, lastly, in a finished education should be valued a sense of simplicity—"Know thyself," the old Greek said, and never attempted an unnatural pose. It is the straining for effect, unconscious though it be in most cases, which stamps one as a wanderer from the path of "sweetness and light." Pretense is fatal, for what does not belong to one, to one's own personality, sits badly in its unaccustomed place, and it does not take a very clever person to discover it, nor yet an unkindly one to ridicule it.

These are some of the things which are crowded out in the hurry of pursuing knowledge. The dictum of the wise man is forgotten, but as the pendulum swings back it may again reach the plane where each one will be constantly reminded not to get learning, or fame, or riches, but "with all thy getting, get understanding."

ANTOINETTE LAWRENCE, *Psi*, '89.

A WORD ABOUT THE OLD QUESTION.

Many persons seem to think that rushing is an unqualified evil. Members of fraternities look upon it as a necessary evil, while persons outside of the fraternity are not so able to see its necessity. Several people have told me that they considered that the greatest evil of the whole system of fraternities, and the one which rushing emphasizes, is the line which is drawn between the fraternity and non-fraternity students. The rushing system they say, places a girl on one or the other side of this line, almost as soon as she reaches the college grounds. A college King's Daught'er's Society has proposed as a remedy for this that all the fraternities enter into a contract not to rush until after the first month of the college year, and during that time to meet all the new girls in the same way. They argue that this will be an advantage to the fraternities, because it would give them a better opportunity to get acquainted with the girls.

In theory this seems an excellent plan, but could it be carried into practice successfully? Would not the fraternity girls at once find congenial acquaintances among the girls who had the fraternity spirit? Such a result seems to me to be inevitable and so the line would be as distinct as if no contract existed. This line must always exist where any considerable number of people meet together, and it is the natural result of the laws of personal attraction and repulsion. Fraternities and rushing serve simply to make the line more distinct; they do not cause the line.

The real evils of rushing as I see them, are to be found in the effect which such a system has upon the girls being rushed, and the reactionary effect upon the fraternity.

As a rule the girls are young when they enter college and the rushing begins—if, indeed, it has not been begun while they are in High Schools. It is an exceptional young girl who can stand the sudden rush of popularity and the continual deference to her wishes without getting an exalted opinion of her own importance. In my experience I have seen many fine girls so spoiled that it has required years to repair the injury. Some method of rushing should be discovered that would not have such a baneful result. It is not the rushing but the method which causes this evil. The receptions, teas, calls, and drives, are no doubt excel-

lent methods of promoting acquaintance, and of discovering the social qualities of a girl, but is that all that is needed? Do the most pleasant acquaintances always, or even usually, make the best friends?

Then there is the result upon the chapter. Did you ever stop to inquire why it is that girls, as a general rule do not consider it such an honor to be invited to join a fraternity as they used to? Is not it more than probable that the idea which the "new" girls get of their own worth, may have something to do with it? If they are not to confer an honor on the fraternity, why this head-long scramble to get them to join? I hear the girls in the active life of the chapter saying, "That sounds very well, but really what can we do? The circumstances are such that we just have to rush that way." I confess that I cannot answer such a question. Still it seems to me that if each chapter would consider the evils of the present rushing system they might devise some plan that would at least reduce these evils, and at the same time suit the conditions of their chapters.

The results of these methods are not all evil. In the chapters the girls seem pretty generally to look upon the rushing season as a trying time, still it seems that its influence is often beneficial. If the chapter is to be a prosperous one the active girls must learn to judge quickly of the cardinal points of character. They must have remarkable social graces which add much to their personal attractiveness; they must learn to consider others before themselves. Besides this there is the continual trial of character which is necessitated by the conditions which exist between rival fraternities. The continual necessity of keeping a sweet and generous spirit within the fraternity where there is a conflict of opinions, gives another opportunity for the strengthening of character. Such trials like all others leave the girls either weaker or stronger, but in this case the circumstances are in favor of the strengthening, because the true Kappa chapter seeks to foster all that is noble.

If in future all our chapters would seek to eliminate the evils of rushing, and to emphasize its benefits, the criticism to which fraternities are subjected, would be greatly decreased.

MAUD RAYMOND, *Beta Nu.*

A PAGE OF HISTORY.

There is a gentle knock at the door and the new girl opens it, wondering who has come to see her. She knows so few girls as yet, only having been a student for a few days, but such a friendly, smiling face greets her that she feels at her ease immediately and is only too glad to welcome the visitor. A cozy chat ensues, questions are asked and answered, and the new girl finds herself saying, with an effort to be very emphatic, that she "hasn't been a bit homesick," she "thinks college is very nice" and she "hopes to come back next year." Probably the visitor asks her to take a little walk sometime or to come to her room often; then she suddenly remembers that "she is very busy and really must go," but a pleasant impression has been left behind and the stranger sincerely hopes that she will come again.

They do take a walk and meet some other delightful girls and the new girl soon notices that they all wear the same pin, and decides that the girls who wear it have all been very kind indeed to her. She unconsciously feels drawn to them, though she does not as yet attach any significance to the pin itself.

A great many walks follow; little trips, perhaps, away from the college, and jolly little spreads in the rooms at night. But now the knocks at the door become more frequent and other faces appear—faces that she has seen and been attracted by, but that have not come directly in her way before. She goes to a spread where she meets an entirely new set of girls and wonders why she did not realize before that there were so many thoroughly charming people in college.

These new friends seem to be so entirely in sympathy, one with another, that she almost envies them, wondering if they would care to have her friendship. Isn't there something that she can do in return for their kindness to her? A great many thoughts suggest themselves, but nothing seems quite good enough, so she determines to wait and seize the first opportunity. Sometimes she wonders why her best friends speak so seriously about finding the girls with whom she is most in sympathy and remaining true to them; a mistake in that respect would be a dreadful thing they tell her. She thinks so too, but she wants to be with them all for they have all been so kind. Yet it is true,

there are a certain few that she almost unconsciously seeks when a trifle downcast or in want of encouragement. It is just these few whom she would wish to see, and the atmosphere of a certain room is at once so cheerful and so strengthening that she almost invariably finds herself going in that direction.

Time passes, now she knows almost all of the students, but feels perfectly happy when with a certain few. Of course, she thinks that they do not care as much for her, but she wishes most heartily that they did. It seems strange that they should care to know her wishes and plans; they really seem to feel concerned if she leaves them for any length of time, and very tactfully ask her all about it when she next appears among them. She is naturally overjoyed to know that they are interested, but something more is in store for her, and when at last she knows beyond a doubt that the girls she has admired and loved from the depths of her heart, really want her for a life long friend, her cup is full to overflowing and things seen hitherto as through a haze, loom up before her bright with possibilities. Then she realizes how very necessary it is to take time and serious thought before taking the important step. This had been given her, so now, at the critical moment she is ready and anxious to give her decision.

BETA IOTA.

ITERUM ATQUE ITERUM.

Now, when our universities are opening to start a new year, the heads of fraternity girls are bursting with the worry and excitement of rushing. This brings up the oft repeated query as to whether rushing pays. It seems as if this question ought to be settled finally.

Of course there are two sides to this question as to all others; there is the affirmative and the negative. The affirmative declares among other things, that rushing is necessary in order that a student may become acquainted with and influenced by fraternity girls: that the new student enters college with extravagant ideas of the social life there, and will consequently be disappointed if she fails to receive some such attention, and will unhesitatingly join that fraternity which gives most promise of making her college life interesting for her. This is her guage of a fraternity;—from which will she derive most fun?

For my part there is a strong argument against rushing. For the girl who is so selfish as to expect that the fraternity girls will do nothing else in their college career than to run at her beck and call, and to strew her path with flowers, is too selfish to appreciate the underlying and more potent influence of fraternity life. She cannot forget self long enough to sympathize with and encourage her sisters, but on the contrary is always besetting them with her trifling vexations and places her own personal benefit above the benefit of the whole fraternity.

It is sad and yet it is only too true that some girls of this class are brought into our fraternity every year by this mad and hazardous system of rushing. Our girls think they know the character of the girl in whom they are interested, but we learn too late that they did not.

Then there is still another phase of this question. If ever during her college year a student ought to devote herself to her studies it is the first month. She comes from her various summer dissipations with her mind in a perfect maze and confusion and cannot accomplish her lessons satisfactorily. Now if she wants to conquer her work and be a credit to her fraternity she must settle down to hard work for a month at least until she finds her lessons easier. This she cannot do during rushing season as everybody knows, so her work is neglected.

But times are changing as do also the ideas of fraternity girls, and with these changes we notice that the idea of non-rushing is becoming more general. Hail then to the day when Kappa girls show themselves so independent and so strong minded that they can calmly go about their business and with a simple dignity ask those whom they know will be a credit to the fraternity, without demeaning themselves by rushing !

OMEGA.

*Alumnae Department.**THE IDEAL CHAPTER.*

Does not the ideal chapter exist? This query was elicited by one of the articles in a recent KEY.

It may at first seem boastful to assume that such could be the case. But on a little reflection are not the chapters which are worried by the friction among their members and the numerous other perplexities of fraternity life, in truth working out their very salvation?

What would accrue to the chapters or the individual members of the same, the beginning, middle and end of whose life was harmony? For in time even that desired attribute would fall short, and what then?

We are divinely made and in us all there is that divine spark ever urging us to something higher, and there is as much truth as poetry in "Ah! but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

And so when our chapter life falls so far short, let us not despair of our fate, as we style that we may not fathom, but be assured that all these discomfitures are for no mean purpose, and that after all the really real may be the really ideal.

BETA NU ALUMNA.

"YOURS IN THE BONDS," MARY.

"Yours in the bonds." Bonds? They are the symbols of slavery, allegiance to another; our own interest lost in some one's else. Can this be what she means? Bonds! A pledge to do one's duty at a risk of personal loss. Has she assumed such cares? Ah, no. Kappa bonds are not of such a nature, but are the links which bind us to all the holy relations of life. They are akin to those family ties which become more precious as the years roll by; akin to the love which is the pivot about which the whole life turns. Bonds! Kappa bonds are the bonds of

common tastes, common hopes and fears; bonds of a common joy and sorrow. They are the bonds in which the individual is best served by considering the interest of all. Bonds of a common ideal of noble womanhood. More than all perhaps to the alumnae, they are the bonds of a common memory of happy college days, forever linking us to the most precious friendships we have ever formed, and to those noble aspirations which, though never fully attained, still hold the life steadfastly towards nobler purposes. Who would not willingly wear such bonds? All hail the Kappa bond!

Yours in the bonds,

UPSILON ALUMNA.

DUTY IN OUR CHAPTER.

Though we may not always have believed it as we grow older we come at last to the truth that a sense of duty is no trifling force in any life and that the lack of it is very likely to mean selfishness.

And this sense of duty comes into our chapter life, for life here as in every phase, is not wholly devoid of moods. There are, indeed, moments when we exult in feeling, when our hearts glow—and we cannot help their glowing—with the warmth of chapter kinship. Then there is no need to think of duty. But wait! another moment will come and in it there will be no passion of enthusiasm, no thought of love, but only a dead dried feeling that would spend itself in the new plan of rushing to which all the other girls were agreed, that would sit silently by and show not one sign of interest in the merriment of the hour, thinking that, after all, Jane has a very disagreeable habit of throwing back her head when she laughs.

Here it is that a sense of duty rescues us. Instead of there being another person who languishes and calls for help from the ever ready helpers, there is one more helpful and one less helpless person. We find our chapter hour together must be a time for a keen interest in chapter affairs, for a hearty pleasure in the companionship of each other, a time to lay aside all small prejudices of dislike and indifference, and to do with all our might the thing that is before us.

Only by such a strong and unreserved giving of ourselves do we best help our sisters and receive in return the most help from them ; only by such loving efforts can we maintain the infinite beauty of friendship and fraternity.

MILFRED MYERS, *Beta Zeta*, '98.

PERSONAL NOTES.

PSI.

At 530 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y., August 24, Isabelle Kittenger was married to Dr. William D. Young. They will be at home after October 15 at 29 Park St.

Thursday, August 24, Grace Greenwood Lockett was married to Mr. Roy H. Brown, of Decatur, Ill. Her future address is 830 West North St., Decatur.

At Ithaca, N. Y., Monday, September 4, Mabel Alexander was married to Mr. Henry B. Needham. Mr. Needham is on the staff of the New York *Evening Post*, and their home will be 203 West Ninety-first St., New York City.

BETA DELTA.

Isabel Ballou, '99, will teach in the Bay City High School the coming year.

Ella Rouesch will teach in Alpena again in the fall.

Bertha Wright expects to teach in the Champion High School.

Laura Rinkle will not return to college in the fall, but is to spend the year in her home, Booneville, N. Y.

EPSILON.

Josephine Luella Van Leer was married to Frank Jones, of Chicago, on June 1, 1899.

The Parthenon.

Being fraternity girls we cannot appreciate the attitude that girls outside fraternities feel obliged to take toward us. It was with deep regret that I listened to what seemed actually a confession from a particular friend who was not a fraternity girl. She said: "You don't know how far away you seem. And it isn't really in you, it is the mere fact that you wear a little gold key and I do not."

Doubtless many have had the same sort of an experience, and I hope all are trying to bridge over the abyss formed by that badge so dear to us and which is designed to bind, not to sever.

Certainly a fraternity is not a union for exclusion, but a nucleus from which we can work and form broad friendships and give help to our friends less fortunate than we. For every day we do realize how fortunate we are, when we return to our pleasant Kappa home after a day's hard work, perhaps unsatisfactory laboratory experiments, and find there peace, harmony and sympathy.

Friends may be very good friends indeed, but when not in a fraternity there is nothing binding, and often little things will break friendships of long standing. Can we not teach by our actions that there is an unorganized, universal fraternity, whose members should be kind and sympathetic? If women see how lasting our friendship is within our organized circle, will they not feel our influence and become more considerate of one another and at the same time feel nearer to us?

At Stanford we have an especially good opportunity to cultivate the acquaintance of non-fraternity girls, as we are a little community on the campus, all college people, and all away from home. It has been the effort of our chapter to entertain "outside girls" as much as possible in order that they might not feel obliged to talk in whispers and be deaf to everything except remarks directed to them alone while they are in our house. This has been accomplished to a certain degree by throwing open our house one evening in each month to all our friends. A great many attend each evening "At Home" and we try to give them a few happy hours, providing music and dainty refreshments.

It would give us great pleasure to read more upon this subject from sister chapters.

WINIFRED JUNE MORGAN, *Beta Eta*.

We have not reached those halcyon days when rushing shall have ceased. Still in every KEY, in every fraternity magazine, we read and reread, write and rewrite of the evils of rushing; how far it is to be carried, its dangers to old and new girls, the time of pledging, and so on. These are the problems which every chapter again has to face, and so back to the old, old subject go the thoughts of all the Kappas this September.

Remarks on
Rushing.

So much has been said and so much will be said that it seems superfluous to add even one word, yet, just as we start another year, I want to call especial attention to Beta Epsilon's protest in THE KEY for October, 1898. We feel that as long as rushing continues, Kappa Kappa Gamma must do her share, but to do this we certainly need not overwhelm even the most desirable "rushees" with flattering attentions. With Beta Epsilon every chapter will say "in electing a girl to membership we have offered her an inestimable privilege." Let us help her to realize that in offering her this privilege we are giving her what is best of the whole college life to every Kappa, and that we can offer her nothing better. As far as possible teach her what the fraternity has meant to each of us—that to us it is the dearest part of our lives, that it is beyond our power to repay the debt though we bring our noblest efforts, our heartiest loyalty, our greatest love to uphold the honor of the two blues. Teach her to know with us that in after years we shall remember with greatest joy these days when as active members we gathered in a cosy room filled with Kappa emblems and Kappa pictures, that we wish for her no greater happiness than to share with us these privileges to loyally wear the key and to share our joys and sorrows, while above us all, over our great chain of chapters waves the blue and blue of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

E. D., *Beta Iota*.

The questions which Beta Delta discusses in the last KEY concerning members of other chapters, are along so important and troublesome a line that they require special mention.

It seems strange that in a fraternity where we are all one we need to be troubled about welcome to other members, but it is often a vexing question. When a girl leaves one chapter of a fraternity to enter a college where another chapter is located, it is obviously the duty of the one she leaves to inform the other of the new comer, and thus insure her of an immediate welcome. It is a duty the members owe to themselves, the girl, and the new chapter.

**Members of Other
Chapters.**

But it is undoubtedly the fault of the girl herself, if she has not been an active member for some time, and does not care to ask for a letter, to make herself known to the new chapter at once. Two or three words will suffice, so why should she hesitate? Do not all Kappas feel at home with each other? Reti- cence can not be an excuse. But if this is not done and there is no way for the chapter to know the girl is a sister, they may justly feel aggrieved when the fact is made known to them.

The same should apply to members being temporarily in a place where there is a chapter. In many cases it is impossible to discover the visitor's presence, and if she makes no advances herself she goes home, as a rule, saying that the Kappas at such and such a place are very cold, while a few words would have altered matters materially.

An instance of a different kind—a pledged girl from a sister chapter came to remain for a time in our city. A note concerning her was sent to us by that chapter, and we did what we could to make her feel that we enjoyed knowing her. It was a pleasure to us and it would perhaps have been missed if not for the thoughtfulness of the others.

Of course, if a visitor has been out of college for some time, it rests with her to make herself known. This may seem a small matter out of which to make much ; but it is one of those little things that count in fraternity life. There, above all, should be that perfect harmony in everything that makes it all a delight.

Epsilon.

Is it a good plan to have a committee of seniors whose duty is to look after the work of the freshmen and see that it comes up to the proper standard of excellence? It seems to me that it is.

A Necessary Committee.

In the excitement of new college life and the fun to be had which, by the way, is perfectly proper and good in the right amount, girls often neglect their work: even girls who were considered excellent students in the school from which they came. Now a committee for the purpose of encouraging good work and discouraging bad, can emphasize the importance of keeping up a certain standard of scholarship which is very necessary to the fraternity which wishes to hold its own. This committee can keep before the minds of the freshmen the importance of all this and so do much, not only for their fraternity, but for the freshmen themselves. What do the readers of THE KEY think about it? Have any chapters tried it, and if so, with what result?

HELEN DUNHAM, *Beta Delta.*

The article on Welcoming Sisters, in the last KEY, suggests in its general statement a special case likely to confront any new member with its perplexity. The member from another chapter,

Welcoming Sisters.

or the alumna of the last decade—the one but for her golden key a total stranger—is sure of her greeting from almost any active member; but when the alumna of a year or two comes back to the old chapter room there is danger of a special awkwardness. The president, the older girls whom she really knew, are quite possibly attending lectures; the chapter-room is tenanted by underclassmen, who either have met the old member once or twice or have merely seen her, before they themselves were Kappas. Is it their place to welcome one who has felt herself at home in the chapter-room for a longer time than they have held the right of entry? Should they take for granted that this is one of the many times when a welcome is to be assumed as of right, without words? Will the older Kappa feel herself held as more of a stranger by the former reception or the latter?

Clearly, it seems—as one thinks the matter over afterward—the responsibility rests with the active members. However strongly they may feel the right of the elder to make the first advance, they are after all the actual hostesses, with all that that implies of responsibility for swift perception and adjustment of circumstances. The momentary silence that leaves a Kappa standing on the threshold, half doubting, perhaps, whether she really has dropped out of the chapter life, is an awkwardness to be ended by the prompt greeting of the undergraduate. There need be no welcome so formal as to imply that the alumna is indeed a stranger, but surely it can do no harm for even the youngest Kappa to make clear to that graduate most conscious of her long identification with the chapter, the fact that her place is indeed kept open, and her return to it felt as a distinct pleasure.

J. B. G., *Beta Epsilon*.

In the January KEY Omega presented a puzzling problem of which we have not yet seen the solution. A girl having been pledged for several years, when at last desiring to be initiated, is not known to the active members. We have not had such an experience, but would not the chapter's duty depend upon the pledges made at the time the girl was pledged? In some chapters the girl is considered pledged when she has accepted the chapter's invitation and donned the double blue, in others there is a service in which one or more pledges are taken by the girl, and in some cases by the chapter also. If one of the pledges states that the girl is to become an active member at some future time when the chapter shall so designate, then it is for the chapter to decide when she shall be initiated, if ever.

Of course no chapter would pledge a girl whom she did not intend to initiate, but this pledge would prevent any such complication arising as that mentioned by Omega.

Would it not be advisable to adopt suitable pledges to be used by all the chapters?

KAPPA.

How many chapters would be willing to give the pennant, representative of the college in which they are located, in exchange for those from other chapters? We know too little of various universities in which Kappa Kappa Gamma has chapters. We are apt to content ourselves with our own local affairs. A catalogue does not furnish adequate information about an institution, at least about every day matters, and besides it is not particularly interesting reading. An exchange of juniors' annuals would involve considerable expense. Now I do not think that an exchange of flags would necessarily be accompanied by a great amount of information, but it would furnish a very pretty souvenir and serve as an excellent decorative device for our several chapter halls.

In so many ways college is a life by itself. We live for four years in a world apart, and we ought to know as much as possible about all parts of it. It is a world to which much sentiment is attached. Some deprecate this, but I say that college would not be much without sentiment. We love the stars and stripes. We love our college emblem.

How many would like to see their fraternity rooms decorated with flags from sister colleges? If it should seem to you that we can get a bit nearer in this way, Beta Tau for one would like to try the experiment.

HARRIETTE A. CURTIS, *Beta Tau.*

The initiation of almost every fraternity girl remains with her always as a beautiful and happy memory, that time as a period of good resolves. Whose fault is it that to the majority this is no more than a remembrance, or at most an occasional renewal of the effort to

The Initiate.

“ Bleiben bei der Wahrheit,
Bleiben immer bei dem Recht.”

The new girl often does not realize that after her initiation she is as much a Kappa as the older girls; that as long as she has be-

come a Kappa the duties of the fraternity fall upon her shoulders as well as upon her sisters ; that the work assigned her is as much an obligation to be fulfilled as is the learning of her lessons. Not only the fraternity duties incumbent upon her, but also the continual exercise of tolerance, self-restraint and all womanly qualities are what the fraternity requires of her. The sooner the new girl becomes not periodically but lastingly enthusiastic and in no way half-hearted in fraternity affairs, the more good will both she and the fraternity obtain from their connection with one another.

On the other hand the older girl often fails in the effort necessary to make her interests and those of the freshman the same. After the excitement of the first few weeks has worn off, in the enjoyment of being again with her old friends, she does not assume the responsibility of trying to be a help to the freshman. Then is the time when the new Kappa needs her most. By kindly advice and friendly interest she can rub off the rough edges and unconsciously begin the system of polishing which every college girl has to undergo. Through this close contact with one another, followed by a mutual helpfulness, each will unwittingly come nearer the attainment of the ultimate object of our fraternity life—the development of true womanliness in all its members.

Of course in every chapter a state of helpfulness does exist. But how much more complete would it be if we always kept in mind the beautiful service of our initiation, truly an incentive and inspiration to be carried with us not merely through college but forever.

ETA.

Since reading the article in the last KEY on "The President and the Chapter," I have been wondering, as I have wondered before, why it is that a girl looks so rueful when she is elected treasurer of her chapter. The girl who enjoys the honor thus conferred upon her is, to say the least, rare. If we were to consider the matter for a little we could not help seeing where the trouble lies. Is it a pleasure to have a new assessment greeted with, "Why, where did all that other money go?" or "Girls, I'm simply dead broke!"

The President and the Chapter.

Is it merely thoughtlessness on our part, or what is the cause of the trouble? I fear that much of the difficulty can be attributed to thoughtlessness. We forget to bring our money at the time promised, or we do not consider that our treasurer is doing the very best she can.

But in some cases, perhaps, a girl has some right to complain. In the excitement and hurry of rushing a girl we fail sometimes to give her a proper idea of what it costs to join a fraternity; consequently, when she has joined she really finds it hard to pay her fraternity dues in addition to her other college expenses. In all fairness, every girl should be given an opportunity to "count the cost" beforehand. Many a girl comes to college absolutely ignorant of fraternities, and unless she has some one to tell her what to expect she will have trouble, no matter how uncomplaining she may be.

A chapter has no right to undertake anything beyond the means of its members, but when it does undertake to accomplish something, promptness and cheerfulness in paying are duties as well as paying itself.

It is sufficiently trying to collect small amounts and to pay innumerable little bills without having to endure complaint. The new year is just beginning—can we not make some improvement and in so doing lighten the duties of our treasurer?

J. I. G., *Beta Gamma*.

Chapter Letters.

ALPHA PROVINCE.

PHI—BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

Phi is happy to greet her sister chapters all returned from summer festivities. Two principal events stand out in her doings during the summer. One is the annual Kappa picnic. One day in June fourteen Kappas, of whom three were alumnae, repaired to Lynn, the home of Helen Forbes, '98. Until luncheon time, an important epoch in the history of picnics, the moments were agreeably filled with strolling along the beach and enjoying the beauties of the Atlantic. After that sumptuous repast, photography was the order of the day, and pictures of conscious and unconscious Kappas in all imaginary attitudes were gleefully taken. The rest of the day was spent in dancing and singing. So occupied were we that we nearly missed the train home, but as one of the girls ingenuously remarked, "They waited the train for us, for we were Kappas, you see."

The second story is about a two weeks' sojourn made by seven or eight Kappas, with Mrs. Bourne as chaperone. The spot was Paddock's Island near Hull, Mass. It was so near Boston that the girls kept running home, so the number varied. The girls had a delightful time, living in genuine camp style. They did their own cooking, and one night gave a dinner of eight courses to some people who were working on the new fort there. The revelers sailed on the boat that brought stone for the fort, and they rowed and bathed. Fortunately no mishaps disturbed the charm of their adventures, and besides the enjoyment derived from the trip, the Kappas carried home a more intimate knowledge of their sisters in the bonds.

BETA EPSILON—BARNARD COLLEGE.

Unfortunately, the chapter letter of Beta Epsilon, which should record the events of these past summer months, must needs bear the nature of a personal one from the corresponding secretary, for she has had the ill luck to have spent these months far away

from all her sisters, and has had no communication with them except such as Uncle Sam has permitted by means of his postal service.

Our Round Robin which stands in the capacity of an official communication for the chapter, has displayed the fact that there has existed a regular Kappa settlement in the neighborhood of Lake George, where the five or six of our members who are summering there, have been able to exchange all those little fraternity signs and tokens which prevent them from feeling the separation that vacationtide usually entails, and which keep the warmth of Kappahood fresh in their hearts. I am sure that all of us less favored ones have envied, and yet rejoiced with those of our number who have been so fortunate.

Beta Epsilon, as I take it for granted are all her sister chapters, is looking forward with much genuine pleasure to her little family gatherings around the chapter-room fireside, which a short month will bring forth. We are hoping for a prosperous year, and for new members to fill up the void in our ranks which was left by the exodus of Ninety-nine. Our Pan-Hellenic compact, which does not end until late in February, starts on the second year of its existence. Its first was passed through without a hitch, and without a regret on the part of Beta Epsilon. If our second trial should prove as successful, surely we can stand as an argument in favor of the compact.

One great disappointment we have to record, and that is that one of our dearly loved members whom we had expected to have with us this coming year, has recently announced her engagement, and her intention to marry in October. She will spend the winter in Costa Rica, and her loss will be keenly felt by every member of the chapter.

We wish for all our sister chapters a most successful and bright new college year !

PSI—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Psi is an orphaned chapter, and is wearing mourning for its three faculty members. Mrs. Barr and Mrs. Hammond are fortunate enough to be in Europe for the year, while Mrs. Willcox has gone to the next best place, Washington. What shall we do

this fall, with these hospitable houses closed to us, and with no one but ourselves to whom to tell our troubles? If it were not for the editor of *THE KEY* and the other town girls, we should be tempted to commit suicide; but they urge us to live for the freshmen.

The women's fraternities at Cornell have no contract this year, so invitations to membership may be given at any time after registration day. Some of the Kappa Gammas are coming back early for the purpose of viewing the land before the contest begins. Doubtless, however, the other chapters will also be on the field, so battles may take place at any moment. Why doesn't some philanthropic person found a hospital in which disabled fraternity girls might be cared for after the excitement of the rushing season? The treatment might include, besides a little sleep and study, a course of reading in the magazines of the rival fraternities, in order to convince them that they were not the only rushers in the world. Until some such institution is provided, many of us will never entirely recover from the rushing fever; and when the fit is on us, we are not responsible for what we may say or do. At times even our own vision is affected, and we see paragons of virtue and mountains of undesirability, where other people can discern only ordinary girls. We have had our illness so long, however, that it has become almost a part of ourselves. We like it and should hardly know how to amuse ourselves were it suddenly to disappear. Best of all, we hope that when the fit is over, we shall wake up some morning, not to find ourselves famous, but to discover some new sisters who deserve to be.

BETA BETA—ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY.

The fall term at St. Lawrence opens September 19.

Mrs. Williston Manley, '89, gave a very pleasant reception August 11 in honor of Miss Brown, '92, to which all the Kappas in town were invited.

Commencement week last June was an especially enjoyable one. There were fifty Beta Beta girls at our annual banquet, and we had the pleasure of entertaining Miss Sarah Cauble, '95, of Delta chapter.

Dr. Lucia E. Heaton, '79, and Mrs. Nelson L. Robinson, '76, were among the charter members, and assisted in organizing the chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Miss Amy Lyon was elected to membership first of the four that were chosen, on account of scholarship.

All the members of Beta Beta expect to return this fall and the prospect is that several desirable girls will be added to our membership.

BETA TAU—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

At this writing the girls of Beta Tau are almost as widely separated as are the chapters of Kappa Kappa Gamma, but the bonds prove as strong to keep the former in touch as the latter. Borrowing the idea in part from THE KEY, which acts as an organ of unification for the fraternity at large, we have instituted a Round Robin that serves the same purpose in our chapter. It operates this way: one girl writes a letter to another, who reads it, writes a letter and sends both to a third girl, continuing thus until all the chapter have been reached. When the second round is begun, each girl takes out her first letter and inserts a new one. This circulating letter has been a great pleasure to us, as it will be to you, if you try it.

More visits than usual have passed between the girls this vacation and so with these and our letter we keep pretty well informed.

Syracuse commencement passed off very pleasantly. Eva May Bryan graduated second in her class and received a Phi Beta Kappa. Carrie May Allen also received honors. During commencement time our annual alumnae banquet was held at the chapter house. Mabel Willard, '97, who had just returned from Europe, acting as toast mistress, called for the several toasts. We had a very enthusiastic meeting and then said good-bye until Saturday evening, September 16, when we reopen the house by a party to alumnae and parents. College opens the following Tuesday.

We still regret the loss of our good '99 girls and with them Elizabeth Alexander and Florence Terry who cannot return this year.

We hope for you all a happy summer and a prosperous college year.

BETA ALPHA—UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Scattered to widely separate places the members of Beta Alpha come together in thought at the close of the summer to send once more their greetings through *THE KEY*.

We have had a happy, restful summer, and as usual, can scarcely realize that it is over, that in a very short time we shall have settled down to our winter work. Although no two of us have been together during the summer we have heard of each other occasionally, and we have met other Kappas from other colleges. It is delightful to find one's key making friends in nearly every place, and in places where one felt she would probably find all strangers.

And what will the winter bring us, is the question which now arises. How many will come back, and who will come to college for the first time, just as some of us came four years ago? We are especially interested in the second question, for we hear that a goodly number of women will enter the freshman class this fall and since last year was so successful and inspiring, our hopes run high.

While we have been recreating, many things have been going on in and about our college. New and spacious greenhouses with rooms for investigations in botany have been added. A vivarium has been completed, which will offer peculiar advantages to students of zoology. A new house has been made ready as a sort of club house for the use of the women. In this last we feel that a dream is being fulfilled, for we will have a gymnasium for which Pennsylvania women have longed for many a day.

With this letter some of us feel that a change occurs in our fraternity relations; for some of us now say farewell to the chapter life, while the remaining ones hold out their hands in welcome to those that "will fill our places, dressed in the well-known hue." We may feel that our chapter life is over but our interest and sympathy remain with it, assuming toward the fraternity as a whole, nobler and more beautiful proportions. With a slight alteration one of Penn's songs seems very appropriate here.

"And when to all our college life we've said our last adieu,
We'll never say adieu to thee, our colors blue and blue."

BETA IOTA—SWARTHMORE COLLEGE.

The harvest moon has just ceased brightening these glorious nights. I wonder how many Kappas have had joyous good times under that moon, and how many delegates and visitors to the Convention of '98 have been enjoying reminiscences of the harvest moon a year ago.

Since our last letter Beta Iota has passed through the same old tribulations of spring examinations and the goodbyes to the seniors. After commencement week, which was as full of interest and excitement as usual, the active chapter and a few alumnae journeyed to Brown's Mills, In the Pines, New Jersey, where our annual camping party is held. The pleasure and relief of such a life after the somewhat restricted college days is inexpressible, and such enjoyment will never be forgotten. All sorts of fun was afforded by rowing, swimming, driving and riding. Every year we feel as though this was such a happy way to end the college year, and such a satisfactory farewell to our seniors after the hurry and rush of commencement.

One day in August, all but one of next year's active chapter met and spent the day at Pen Mar in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and we were made very happy by this little glimpse of each other. Owing to the small number in last year's chapter, the loss of four active members leaves very few for the fall work, but '99 will prove an exception if Beta Iota is not successful.

We wish all Kappas a very happy year, and drink a health to the general prosperity of the fraternity.

GAMMA RHO—ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

Gamma Rho sends greetings to her sister chapters.

Commencement week was most enjoyable. Our annual banquet was held at the Ponce de Leon Springs, a little resort nestled among the hills east of town. There were thirty sisters present, and the well loved faces, the witty and thoughtful toasts, the Kappa songs, and the perfect freedom and sympathy made an impression not soon forgotten. One can hardly tell whether joy or sorrow predominated at our commencement banquet. Joy for the meeting; sorrow for the parting.

Marian Fuller, who has been attending the University of Wis-

consin, invited us to meet her guest, Miss Raymer, of Eta. We heartily wish that we might often have the privilege of meeting girls from other chapters.

The next Gamma Rho bride will be Francis Colter, whose engagement to Mr. Walton of Boston is announced. Gamma Rho bridal banquets have become an established and well-beloved custom.

During the summer Marian and Belle Howe, Winnie Mount, Helen Russell, Elizabeth McCracken, Mrs. Emma Foster Smiley of New York City, Mrs. Alice Roddy Applebee of Boston, Dr. Jessie Smith of Cleveland, Mrs. May Richmond Gardner and Mrs. Maud Kelper Zinc have visited Meadville.

Charlotte Heiner, our sweet singer, who graduated this year, has been very ill. We all sympathize deeply with her.

We have sympathized with Jessie Porter Anderson and Georgia Porter, whose brother died last week.

BETA PROVINCE.

LAMBDA—BUCHTEL COLLEGE.

An August news letter for an October KEY is a premature and rather hopeless task, especially when some of us have been separated from Kappa ties nearly the whole summer.

Vacation comes and scatters our girls in all directions, but we always look forward to their return in the fall. Lambda has lost four girls this year by graduation; but we must not count them lost, for their active Kappa life has surely been sufficient for them to keep in touch with the chapter.

We are always glad to have our seniors come back to teach, a pleasure which we often enjoy. Sophia Sawyer, '99, will teach here in the public schools this year, and Clementina Barber, '00, will teach this winter, but expects to return to college for the '01 class.

We regret very much that we soon lose one of our resident girls, Elizabeth Fisher, who will make her home in Cleveland, O., after September. Although she has been out of college for several years, she is well known among the new girls as a true and loyal Kappa.

Lambda girls have been circulating a chain letter this summer which, I think, is quite pleasant for those who form the last links ; but I was unfortunate enough to add the second, consequently must miss all but the introduction unless it circulates faster.

The prospects for Buchtel this year seem quite promising. Our president and professors have been at work this summer and hope to reap a good harvest in the fall.

Tickets are being sold for a "Buchtel Lecture Course" this winter, in which the following are to appear : F. Hopkinson Smith, Earnest Gamble, Professor L. H. Clark, Dr. Emil C. Hirsch, and a play, "Strathmore." is to be given by the College Dramatic Club.

I know we all wonder how our Kappas have spent their vacation, where each girl has been and all about her ; but only that girl herself can satisfy these eager questioning sisters. Some of us have found rest in having a gay, good time, and some in remaining quietly at home ; but I trust in what ever manner our rest has been, our Kappa girls have been successful in making others happier for the short vacation and the coming month will bring with it glad hearts and rosy cheeks to every chapter of K. K. G.

BETA GAMMA—WOOSTER UNIVERSITY.

Since the publication of the last KEY, Beta Gamma has several events to chronicle.

The first is the lawn party which was held at Westminster Hall, a few weeks before the close of the term. By every one present, this social function was pronounced one of the most successful of the season.

Commencement week was fraught with all the pleasures incident to that time.

We regret to state that Mary Moore, Edith Maxwell, Ada Daltzell, Laverne Bishop, and Genevieve Billman, will not be soldiers in our ranks this year.

A pleasing innovation in our chapter's history this summer has been the circulation of a round letter among the active members, thus establishing, to the satisfaction of one and all, a continuous publication of interesting news.

Last, but not least, must be mentioned the result of the Trust-

ees' efforts in securing a President for Wooster University. Rev. Louis C. Holden, of Beloit, Wisconsin, has been chosen to fill the responsible position of President, and judging from the innumerable commendations heard on all sides, Mr. Holden will surely prove to be a favorite with all.

Beta Gamma is already supplicating the muses for partiality towards her and her sister chapters in the coming campaign. May her efforts not prove fruitless !

BETA NU—OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

The most delightful time of college life is now near at hand when, after being separated for the summer months, Beta Nu is again brought together in her daily life.

Faith Welling's country home has been the scene of a great many jolly Kappa picnic parties during the August heat.

Ohio State University has just had the honor of entertaining the American Association for the Advancement of Science during the last week in August. Every effort was put forth by the Columbus scientists to make it the most valuable meeting of that association. Five members of Beta Nu were invited to assist in making the social functions a pleasure to the guests.

We have just returned from a house party on Lake Erie where we have been enjoying the healthy farm life for two weeks. Nothing is more invigorating for Beta Nu than for us to enjoy a few weeks together away from the city heat.

On August 20, one of the class of '99, Dorothy Canfield, sailed on the S. S. Amsterdam for a year's tour of the continent. We all showered her with wishes for a safe and happy voyage.

We are looking forward with anticipation to the meeting with our new President, Dr. Thompson, formerly of Miami University. Still we never expect to find as kind a friend as Dr. Canfield, the father of our Kappa Dorothy.

Miss Gallop of Chi has been the guest of Elizabeth Baldwin, '99, for the past week. Miss Baldwin entertained on August 29, with a charming tea in honor of her guest.

Beta Nu extends her best wishes to her Kappa sisters for an unusually happy and successful year.

BETA DELTA—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

Since our last letter, commencement has come and gone and with it our three seniors have left college life behind, but not entirely so, for there are chapter reunions to come and we are sure that they will return to us then. The house was not closed at commencement, for the summer school opened shortly afterward and three of the girls, with the mother of one of them, remained. Besides these permanent occupants, several of the older girls came and went, paying flying visits to the house. Jessie MacIntyre spent two weeks there, and her sister, Florence MacIntyre Clark, afterwards came to see the girls. Such jolly times as they had. Mrs. Clark and her husband intend to move from Decatur, Illinois, to Kansas City, Missouri, in the fall. She was very much interested in looking up in the catalogue the Kappas there, and hopes she may have the pleasure of seeing them all. Sophie St. Clair, of Ishpeming, also spent a day at the house and the girls enjoyed her visit very much, for they had not seen her since '97, when she was in college.

Summer school lasted six weeks and the girls were almost sorry to have it end, for they had found Ann Arbor really enjoyable in the summer time.

One of our '98 girls, while on a trip through California this summer, spent a day both at Berkeley and at Stanford, meeting some fifteen Kappas of those chapters. She came home enthusiastic over our California chapters, having found the girls the charming, wide-awake and enthusiastic women who are our ideals both as college and fraternity girls. One plan proposed by the Berkeley chapter seemed an especially good one. It was that a small book of views (blue prints, perhaps), of the chapter house, campus and university buildings should be prepared so that the chapters could exchange these. This would be another way of telling the chapters about each other and so bringing the fraternity as a whole closer together. Miss Layton also saw the plans for Beta Eta's new house and assures us that it is to be a fine one worthy of the chapter who will make its home there.

XI—ADRIAN COLLEGE.

It seems only a short time ago that the girls of Xi bade each

other goodbye for the summer, and yet the longed for vacation is nearly gone.

Two events of the last week of June remain in our memories. One was the lawn party given by the active chapter to their friends at the country home of Harriet Tayer, where "the sounds of sweet music—soft stillness, and the night" helped to make it one of the happiest occasions of the year.

The other was the final meeting of the chapter and its visiting alumnae in our Kappa Hall. The inspiration of that meeting will still be with us when we are again gathered together after our summer's separation.

Frequent exchange of letters has kept us informed of each other's movements. There has been the usual exodus to watering places, and the usual exchange of friendly visits, mingled with quiet happy days spent at home.

Now our thoughts are eagerly turning to the opening of college, the new girls, and the modes of rushing to be pursued. We cannot help being a little envious of our sister chapter at Leland Stanford, which will claim Helen and Frances Fickes next year.

Jennie Gilkey will remain at her home in the city next year, so we hope to have her with us in many of our meetings. May the year be a happy and successful one for all in the bonds of Kappa.

KAPPA—HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

How short the vacation has seemed and now to think that it is nearly time for work again! But with the thought of work a very pleasant thought comes also—that Kappa sisters will be together once more.

Kappa girls have been widely scattered during the summer. We almost envy some of our more fortunate sisters that can be together in vacation nearly as much as in winter. Perhaps, though, we appreciate each other more when we do meet again.

This summer we have had a circulating letter. I wonder if some of you haven't enjoyed one, too; if so, you know just how much one is worth. Now we are thinking of a chapter room for the coming year and are quite elated over that. Still it makes us sad to think of all the girls who will not return to us this fall and how much we shall miss them. But we shall soon be in the midst

of studies and the excitement of rushing and the days to come will bring their pleasure and those of the past will cause sweet memories.

When we write you again we hope to have some new sisters to introduce to you and also hope to help you all to welcome others.

Success to you all and many pleasant times is the wish of Kappa.

GAMMA PROVINCE.

DELTA—INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY.

For the corresponding secretary to write a chapter letter in the summer with no fraternity inspiration is like the editor compelled to write jokes at a funeral. There is little definite news at hand but the letters from Delta girls report "jolly good times even if it is warm."

Nearly all our old girls will return this fall and Delta can proudly say that the year promises success. New girls are heard about every few days and our enthusiasm grows with the news.

We have a four weeks' contract with the three other chapters at Bloomington and what busy weeks they will be! We trust and promise that our next letter will have more news for you. A successful and happy reunion in all chapters is the wish of Delta.

BETA LAMBDA—ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Our vacation period has nearly reached its close and a few days will again bring the members of Beta Lambda together.

We are looking forward with considerable anticipation to our first year as Kappas and have laid some plans for work and play which will take a more definite form when we get together.

We expect to open the year with a membership of eight and feel that we are quite ready to put forth our efforts to make a strong chapter. Our strongest hopes are that such efforts may be crowned with success.

Owing to the newness of the chapter and the wide separation of individual member our letter for this numbers of *THE KEY* must necessarily be uninteresting, but we will try to make our future attempts more acceptable.

ETA—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

Eta lost only two seniors this year and has already pledglings to take their places. Everything looks hopeful for the fall rushing. Nine or ten of us expect to be in the chapter house. For several years we have had to be contented with rooms, and are now doubly able to appreciate the joys of a house all our own. It is only a few blocks from the campus and the yard runs down to the shores of Lake Mendota. With its big, old-fashioned rooms and strange nooks and corners it is very nearly ideal.

Looking forward to such a happy year Eta wishes her sister chapters equal pleasure and very great success in all they may undertake during the coming months.

UPSILON—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

Now that the summer vacation is almost past and the time for the opening of college draws near, the thought of each loyal Kappa turns instinctively toward her chapter with renewed interest. Though scattered so widely, we still hear from time to time of the jolly vacations the girls are having and not seldom of pleasant meetings with Kappas from other colleges.

We are glad that all of last year's chapter will return and in addition our pledgling, Helen Davison, will come into the active chapter life.

During the past month we have been deeply grieved to learn of the death of Mr. Tubbs, father of Myra Tubbs, '94. The chapter extends to her its deep sympathy.

Upsilon is looking forward with pleasure to the coming year with its renewal of warm friendships and happy associations, and sends best wishes for a prosperous year to sister chapters.

EPSILON—ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

The greetings and best wishes of Epsilon to her sister chapters for a prosperous year in Kappa Kappa Gamma.

It is rather a difficult task to write this month's chapter letter, for after commencement there are comparatively few events touching the chapter as a whole. How often we wish that our chapter meetings could go on during the summer, but our vacation only

makes us go back to them with a keener appreciation of their pleasure and helpfulness.

On May 30 Epsilon was entertained at the home of Anita Lundy with one of the most delightful of lawn parties. We gave a very pleasant informal affair at the home of Virginia Sinclair, in Normal, on June 6.

Then came commencement, and it was such a one as we have never had before; so its pleasure made our regret deeper at parting.

Our annual picnic was held this year with Mrs. Benjamin at her country home near Bloomington. About forty alumnae and active members were present and Kappa love overflowed.

A surprise in the shape of a Kappa spread was sprung upon Mrs. Ferguson, an alumna of Xi, but whom we love so well that we claim her as our own.

Through the summer we have been separated in the search for pleasure and cooler climes, and we are not sorry that our work begins again so soon. There is so much pleasure in anticipation, for we cannot help wondering what this year has in store for us.

DELTA PROVINCE.

CHI—UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

Chi sends her greetings to all chapters of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

During these last summer months the chapter has been frequently assembled at the various homes for regularly called meetings or social gatherings. Usually both have been included, so that the same interest has been shown as during the college sessions.

The most interesting event of the summer to those who were able to participate was our week's outing at Prior Lake. Alumnae, actives and pledges were included, and it was a rare opportunity for knowing one another better. The girls had been at Prior Lake before and all were glad that they were not forgotten and that a warm reception awaited them.

It is just the place to have a thoroughly good time and we should like some of our sisters from other chapters to enjoy it with us some summer. This year Edith Kenderdene of Beta

Iota was with us. It happened that she was visiting in Minneapolis for the first time and was at the home of her cousin, Alice Webb, a Chi girl. We all wish that Chi's girls could play as fine a game of tennis as Beta Iota's representative. We are always glad to meet our sisters from other chapters and can assure them a warm welcome in Minneapolis.

Rushing has not been seriously discussed during the summer as we have ten pledged girls who will be wearing the key before many months. We regret that Elizabeth Brown, who was pledged to us, has recently moved to Elmira, N. Y.

May Merrill, who was pledged here but was initiated by Beta Epsilon, is to be with us the next year.

When this letter is published we shall be hard at work again. We have the same rooms as for years past but greatly improved as to heating. Every day the girls will be together, at least during the noon hour, and many are the happy times anticipated.

BETA ZETA—IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

To all the chapters of Kappa Kappa Gamma Beta Zeta sends greeting.

The time has rolled around again for another chapter letter, and although there is little in the way of news to write, the members of Beta Zeta are all looking forward to a happy re-union at the opening of the fall term.

Many of us have met during the summer and delighted in a quiet little chat over Beta Zeta and her future, while others have made acquaintances from chapters other than their own—one of these meetings being in Chicago where several of the Kappas were visiting, and another in Sioux City where the writer spent a very enjoyable week among her Kappa sisters.

Four of our girls were graduated last spring, and two others do not expect to return. It will seem hard at first without them, but as we still have twelve members left to begin the fall work, we feel that we are very fortunate and look forward to the fall rushing with much interest.

We wish you all success and a happy year.

THETA—UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

Has it never occurred to you how well the October issue of THE KEY illustrates the universal acception of that wise saying, "Brevity is the soul of wit." At the time the news letters are written the collective life of the chapter seems at a standstill, the girls are scattered far and near in their search for a pleasant vacation and there is absolutely nothing for the poor corresponding secretary to say. Such has been Theta's fate this summer, some of whose members have been separated by a whole continent. However, the harvest moon will see nine of the ten reunited and then the happy days will come once more. To all her sister chapters Theta wishes as auspicious a beginning and as successful a result as that to which she looks forward.

SIGMA—UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

And now in a few weeks we shall all be together again !

Sigma has been rather lazy this summer as fitted the weather, with only an occasional chapter meeting to call together the few of us left in town. Once we did bestir ourselves to give a picnic supper on Eleanor Raymond's lawn, and twenty-five couples sat down at the long tables to enjoy the spread. Afterwards we danced, or sat in the hammocks under the trees to watch the others.

I must tell the other chapters of our plan which seems like an unusually brilliant one to have been concocted in such warm weather. We have written to every one of our members, new and old for their pictures, and we are going to make an album of them for the edification of future members. "We" are not doing it at all, for May Whiting deserves all the credit, but then it is fun to play we helped.

Lincoln is going to have a flower parade September 20, and we are planning to have a big carriage of some sort, decorated with our light and dark blue fleur-de-lis. What a happy choice of both color and flower that was ! But we will tell you all about it next time.

Stella Elliott was married Aug. 17, to James Canfield, of Columbus, Ohio. The wedding took place in the east where Stella

has been with her mother spending the summer, and was a very quiet affair.

A happy and prosperous year to all Kappas.

OMEGA—KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Omega sends greetings to her sister chapters.

Although many of our girls have left for their summer vacations there are still quite a number remaining in Lawrence and in spite of hot weather we are enjoying each other very much.

There have been many pleasant gatherings of alumnae and active Kappas, the first of which was a moonlight walk to the home of Georgia Leonard, just outside the city. Later in the summer we had a trap ride to Lake View, about five miles from town and there had a delightful breakfast. It is needless to say that we enjoyed these and many other meetings and that they were the means of bringing us into closer bonds of sympathy.

During the last year there have been many improvements at the university. The Fowler shops, erected at the cost of \$21,000, are the gift of Mr. George Fowler of Kansas City. The buildings will be ready for use at the opening of the fall term. Last winter the legislature appropriated \$55,000 also for the construction of a building, the new home of the chemistry department.

August 23 Don Bowersock entertained the Kappas and their friends with a farce entitled "A Slight Misunderstanding," presented by six Kappas. Later in the evening there was dancing in the pavilion.

Omega is looking forward to a prosperous year and wishes the best of success to all Kappas.

PI—UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

We Kappas of Pi came home sunburned and brown from a happy vacation, all eager to see the new fraternity house. Fate had favored our search for we were able to rent a house very near the university grounds.

The colossal task of settling was barely finished before the rushing began, and since that time we have scarcely been able to breathe.

On our return to Berkeley we were rejoiced to discover that

Mrs. Kelly, a charming Kappa of the first Rho chapter, had settled near us. We so seldom come in contact with any eastern Kappas that when we do the day is one to be remembered. So you may be sure that we were glad to get a glimpse of Miss Currier and Mrs. Raymond.

The arrival of our new college president, Professor Wheeler of Cornell, is anxiously awaited, for it is hoped that he will be able to increase the reputation and standing of our university, which are already so high.

The heartiest of greetings are sent to all, but especially to Beta Lambda, who has lately taken her place as the youngest in our flock.

BETA ETA—LELAND STANFORD JR. UNIVERSITY.

Two months have passed since we closed our house at Stanford university, we thought never to reopen it. But our plans have failed and we are sorry to say that Beta Eta is not to have a new chapter house this semester.

During the summer our girls live in such widely separated cities that as in former summers, we have our Round Robin sent out after college closed and now ready to make the second trip.

This July our Southern California Kappas had a re-union in Los Angeles. It was unexpected, but that made it all the more enjoyable.

When college opens we expect thirteen girls to return. With so many we hope to do good work, and in our next letter we can surely give you the results. This year we have a six weeks' contract with all the women's fraternities. The fraternity will realize what an amount of work has to be done in that time.

Beta Eta's best wishes to all chapters for a successful fall semester.

College and Fraternity Notes.

Delta Chi has recently published a new and complete catalogue.

Alpha Phi has established a new chapter, Kappa, at Leland Stanford University. Eleven new members came in, and were initiated on the twentieth of May.

During the summer semester of 1899 just closed, the number of women in attendance at the German universities was 355, namely: Berlin 179, Bonn 45, Breslau 27, Erlangen 4, Göttingen 29, Halle 19, Heidelberg 13, Kiel 8, Königsberg 20, Würzburg 11. The absence of female students from Munich is conspicuous. We may add that the University of Strassburg has just decided to admit women to its courses of study on the same conditions as men. Hitherto this institution has been most obstinate in resisting the innovation. There is now no German university in which women may not pursue their studies.—*The Nation*.

The summer school of Harvard University has completed its thirtieth annual session. Seven hundred students were in attendance this year, most of them teachers or persons engaged in other lines of professional work. The Southern States contributed largely to the enrolment. Of the forty-seven courses of study offered, those in education were among those most largely attended. Historical excursions were made each Saturday by an average of two hundred students.

It appears from later announcements concerning the generous gift of John D. Rockefeller to Brown University that the conditions under which it is given are not so prohibitive as at first appeared. It was yesterday announced that an offer of \$250,000 had been received from Mr. Rockefeller on condition that the remaining portion of the \$2,000,000 endowment fund should be raised by commencement day of next year.

Although it might be construed that Mr. Rockefeller's fund will not be available until the balance of \$2,000,000 is raised, his offer was not in that language. As soon as Brown has raised \$750,000 additional the \$250,000 will be available.

The incorrect announcement was due to the fact that the

\$300,000 already subscribed is on condition that \$2,000,000 is raised, and unless the terms of the subscriptions already made are changed, \$300,000 will not be available as gifts to the university until the \$2,000,000 is subscribed. It is believed, however, that the terms will be modified so that the \$550,000 now conditionally subscribed will be available when the balance of \$1,000,000 has been subscribed.—*New York Tribune*.

Under date of January 11, 1899, the Hon. Willis S. Paine, Chi, '68, wrote to President Harstrom as follows :

"A monogram badge is being prepared by J. F. Newman which he hopes he will be able to express to you to the end that you may receive it on or before Friday, the 13th inst., care of Young's Hotel, Boston. Please find herewith a presentation address, to be read to the newly elected President of the Grand Lodge when the pin is presented to him. All the societies here, like the New England, the Holland, etc., observe the custom of having the new President receive from his predecessor in office an emblematic badge or medal and he, in turn, transmits it to his successor, and thus it is presented in perpetuity. I desire the same rule to be observed in this case, and that the badge shall be presented by each President of the Grand Lodge to his successor. This will tend to dignify the office and make it more desirable. In case you will consent to be your own successor (which I sincerely trust will be the case) kindly ask Brother Holmes, or in his absence Dr. Dougherty, or in his absence the oldest Theta Delt present at the election, to read the presentation address to you. I desire to have the presentation address or something analogous thereto made a part of the Constitution or adopted as a By-Law, so that the custom may be maintained of making the induction into the office of President more of a formality than heretofore.—*Theta Delta Chi Shield*.

The Association of Collegiate Alumnæ has issued a forty-page pamphlet giving a detailed account, with value, conditions of application, and whatever the student would care to know, of the fellowships and scholarships open to women in this country for graduate work, and of the scholarships open to women for undergraduate work in the nineteen colleges belonging to the Association. This information has never been collected before, and will be of value not only to the many who want to choose a place

for study, but to the many more who are interested in the progress of education generally. It is generally understood that opportunities for women are broadening, but it is not so clearly realized how far this process has advanced. This compilation shows that of the twenty-four colleges and universities now doing graduate work of scope enough to bring them into the Federation of Graduate Clubs, only three fail to admit women. Of those that admit women, only three fail to provide scholarships and fellowships for them ; and of these three, one does not offer fellowships or scholarships either to men or to women. The universities which have the unenviable distinction of refusing to share their stores of learning with women simply because they are women are still (we take occasion to mention this curious anachronism from time to time) Clark, Princeton and Johns Hopkins.

The Rev. E. B. Parsons, Secretary (at Williamstown, Mass.) of the United Chapters of the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity, is preparing a catalogue, one line to a name, of the members, with a brief history, the constitution, list of officers, and a select obituary.

Editorial.

Rushing :—Shall it be done? why shall it be done? when shall it be done? and how shall it be done? have all been so thoroughly discussed from year to year that it seems as if nothing remained to be said upon the subject. Yet the most important point of all has this year escaped mention. It is this. The chapters are not separate organizations without duties or responsibilities toward each other. They are like a diminutive solar system and are attracted and held in their places by one another. A chapter cannot break away, find a separate mark and run its own course toward it any more than a planet can escape from its fixed path. Since this is so each chapter owes the others a high standard in regard to its membership. Strong feeling on this subject is consistent with all right theories of fraternity living.

In initiating a new member the chapter gives her a claim upon every other member, young and old, of every other chapter. Under such conditions a good deal of judgment should be used in selecting new members. The element of choice is all that gives the fraternity value. Even the most broad minded girl would not care to join were the organization open to all who cared to apply. Look to it, then, that this year's initiates shall conform to the standard which the fraternity has set for itself; that girls shall be chosen who possess character and ability as well as charm and whose friendship will still have value in the days after college when many of the college friendships have faded into pleasant memories.

Before the next KEY is issued the time fixed for sending in subscriptions will again be here. If there are Alumnae in your vicinity, be sure to give them an opportunity to send their subscriptions with those of your chapter. It is a good thing for alumnae to have the magazine—not for the improvement of their minds but it is because the only official organ of the fraternity and the regular perusal of it is almost certain to maintain one's interest in the organization even though one may be cut off from any chapter.

With many alumnae it is simply a question of being reminded that subscriptions are now due and the chapters who wish alumnae to continue to be interested in Kappa Kappa Gamma and in them can find no surer method of bringing it about.

Beta Alpha possesses some music which was especially written as an accompaniment for the little song upon the first page. Should other chapters desire it, there is no doubt they can obtain it from Beta Alpha's Secretary and make as many copies as they like.

The fraternity is greatly in need of an authorized cut. Inquiries are constantly coming in as to what cut should be used for college annuals, menu covers and similar purposes. It has become impossible to answer with any degree of certainty. Aside from the old Lowell cut, which was authorized by the fraternity but is never seen nowadays, and the later cut made by Dreka, which was much used but never authorized, as far as can be discovered no cuts are in existence.

We have no flag, we have no coat of arms; we can have no panoplies in our chapter rooms unless we borrow them from other people. We seem to have few of the symbols which we see our rivals possess. We are poor but honest. This public confession of our destitution is made in the hope of bringing about some improvement in our condition. It is true that hitherto we have lived happily without all this paraphernalia but in our idle moments we have often dreamed of what life might become should we, too, possess it.

The cut, at least, is a necessity. It is possible to get one made by some engraver's professional designer, just as we can get a drawing for our coat of arms from some professional searcher after the hidden truths of heraldry but it would be much more fitting that our ideas and designs should come from one of our own number. Among our fine arts students there ought to be some one who could draw an acceptable design for a cut and would later make some suggestions as to a flag and a coat of arms.

Who will volunteer?

Exchanges.

In this day of reforms someone ought to found an academy to determine what constitutes fraternity journalism. The first question to be discussed would be that of the subject matter of admissible contributions. Why should the fraternity magazines publish poems, stories, and other articles of so-called general interest, especially when these are almost invariably of so poor a quality as to attract only the friends of the writers? In the questions of fraternity policy and other topics of a like nature, a clear statement of opinion is possible to nearly everyone, but the people who can write even mediocre stories and verses are rare, so at least one may judge from the contributions published in fraternity magazines. If the latter are to be of real value to their readers, they must fill a want not otherwise supplied.

The Alpha Phi Quarterly has some interesting articles upon life in Japan and at the University of Berlin. The rest of the magazine is devoted to matter, concerning which the KEY and the *Quarterly* would doubtless come to blows, if the academy, suggested above, were to be founded; but since the story and the verses were written for Alpha Phis and not for Kappa Gammas, we will content ourselves with saying that, since we feel sure that the *Quarterly* has good reasons for its policy, we should like to hear what those reasons are.

The July number of *The Trident* contains a discussion concerning the ideal chapter, and the following is taken from the grand president's letter upon the subject:

In enumerating the qualities which mark a chapter as ideal in an officer's eyes, I should say, first of all, "prompt, business-like methods of procedure." Would I had the power to impress upon each chapter all that term involves. Have you any idea how long it takes an officer to obtain an expression of opinion or a reply to a request from all our chapters? I fear there would almost be some blushes for shame were we to tell, and it is simply because of a lack of business-like promptness, or perhaps a little touch of procrastination.

By the ideal chapter communications are answered, if not immediately, at least in a very short time, and not left unheeded for weeks. This chapter pays its obligations when due, and does not have to be fined frequently for tardy payment. At convention time it has its delegate appointed in season, and well in-

formed on the chapter's opinions and policy. The entertaining chapter is also informed concerning the way and time of her arrival. This ideal chapter is business-like in its own chapter life as well. In business meetings it attends to business, and things irrelevant are set aside for the time. How much needless worry and extra writing would be saved if we would all resolve and stick to the resolution to be prompt and business-like in our fraternity affairs! Would I had a pen eloquent enough to make this plea of some avail!

It may be said that all these things depend largely upon the officers. Very true! Then let us be even more careful in the choice of these officers—choosing them not for personal popularity, good looks, wealth, or social precedence, but for their true executive ability. It is sad to say, but the hard fact remains that petty jealousies, little personalities sometimes keep the really most capable persons out of office. We certainly come far short of the high ideals embodied in our watchwords when such things enter our fraternity circle. Of course it is hardly to be supposed that, in a large chapter, alumnae and active, all spirits should be perfectly kindred, but if we practice the lofty principles of our fraternity idea there need be no jar.

The Caduceus publishes a list of the members initiated into Kappa Sigma during the past year. This seems to be a great convenience, and is recommended to the consideration of other magazines as well.

When will fraternities cease to make fools of themselves at initiation time? The following extract from *The Record of Sigma Alpha Epsilon* furnishes its own comment.

The *Chicago Chronicle* not so very long ago had the following amusing story of an initiation out at Illinois Psi-Omega:

"While going through part of the ceremony which initiated him into the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity James Lee Dick, a freshman at Northwestern University, was arrested by Officer Moberg last Saturday evening on the charge of begging on the street. The officer had taken him for a genuine specimen, for he carried a tin cup for pennies and flaunted a placard bearing the inscription: "Please help me, I am blind, and the sole support of a wife, mother-in-law and fourteen children."

At the station Chief Bartram and Sergeant Waldron took in the situation at once, but ordered the prisoner taken to a cell as though that had been part of the program. Magistrate Levere, who was a Sigma Alpha Epsilon in college, had heard of the arrest and entered the station shortly afterward. Dick was taken before him for a hearing, and when Prickett, another member of the fraternity, agreed to sign bonds for the prisoner's reappearance in court, Dick was permitted to go."

Answers to Correspondents.

Corresponding Secretary: Yes, you were quite right to refer to the new members of your chapter as the flower of the class. Any botanist will tell you that your statement holds true of the whole species in question.

Hurried Sophomore: Never ask a girl to join the fraternity, until you know her name. Most absurd mistakes have sometimes arisen solely through neglect of this simple rule.

Literary Aspirant: In preparing contributions for THE KEY, it is well to remember that the latter is the organ of a Greek letter fraternity, and publishes nothing of so-called general interest. The usual rule is to print no articles that do not mention at least two Greek gods. References to Phoebus alone are not sufficient, therefore your Ode to Sleep could not be accepted. You would better remodel it and trim it with owls, keys and dark and light blue.

A. B.: In rushing always remember that freshmen are hungry, and that a display of the chapter's best gowns is not adapted to win people who are having their first experience of boarding house or dormitory fare. We would suggest oatmeal and roast beef as suitable attractions.

Alumna: Unlike our distinguished predecessor (selig), we have not yet published a book; but we offer THE KEY as a substitute; and like said predecessor, we wish each of our girls to buy one.

Query: In making contracts with other fraternities, always maintain a wise dignity, and do not agree to any arrangement that tends to undue haste. It is rarely expedient to ask a girl earlier than ten years before she enters college. At this immature age her tastes are not fully formed; and you may find, when it is too late, that instead of being an incarnation of the Kappa ideal, she is a born Omega. She may even grow up to enjoy spreads as only a Zeta can. Nothing is more destructive to chapter unity than a promiscuous use of Greek letters.

Scriptor: Manuscript should always be written on both sides of the paper. This gives the editor an opportunity to copy it before sending it to the printer. As her handwriting is naturally illegible, much time can be spent to advantage in the practice thus afforded her. A copy book with the phrase "Many Men of Many Minds" might be as effective, but would not be half as interesting reading.

RUTH ASK MORE.

A PIANO AT A NOMINAL PRICE.

Chicago's largest music house, Lyon & Healy, have bought for a fraction of its cost, the entire stock of Lyon, Potter & Co. These splendid pianos are offered without reserve until all are sold. In this stock are a number of new Steinway pianos, and hundreds of new and second-hand pianos, including instruments of the following well-known makes : Sterling, Huntington, A. B. Chase, Vose, Fischer, Weber, Chickering, G. W. Lyon, etc., etc. In square pianos there are fine-toned instruments at \$25, \$40, \$60 and upwards. In upright pianos, neat instruments at \$100, \$120, \$140, \$150, \$165, \$190, \$200 and upwards. In Baby Grands, some nice specimens at \$250 and upwards. Nearly all these pianos were intended to sell for at least double these clearing sale prices. A good plan would be to order a piano, leaving the selection of it to Lyon & Healy. However, they will send a list and full particulars upon application. Any piano not proving entirely satisfactory may be returned at their expense. Address simply, Lyon & Healy, Chicago. Distance is no obstacle in taking advantage of this remarkable chance to obtain a piano, for in proportion to the saving to be made the freight charges are insignificant. Write to-day so as to avoid disappointment.

