

THE KEY

OF

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA.

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Cornell University.

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~THE KEY.~

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No. 1.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR SETTLEMENT WORK.

When I am asked what are the essential qualifications for settlement work, I am always a bit puzzled. It is as if we were asked, "What are the qualifications for being a person?"

The question is cosmic. It refuses to pigeon-hole itself as neatly as it should. If it must come to definition, I should say the settlement worker must be a true democrat.

Not all democrats have to be settlement workers, but all settlement workers have to be democrats.

Most peoples' servants eat in the kitchen. If the lady of the house has her servants eat in the kitchen because she believes that's the best way for all concerned, that's one thing; but if she fancies there's anything so fundamentally different between her and her cook that eating at the same table is out of the question, then that's another thing. Such a person is not qualified for settlement work, because the settlement believes that, no matter how great the differences between people, the likenesses are still greater and far more fundamental.

The good settlement worker is, further, a true democrat, because she sees that democracy, like love, doesn't, as a rule, come at first sight, but is a process and a growth. Good citizens are not born; they are made. And one of the offices of the settlement is to help make them.

The attitude of mind is the principal thing. All who want, *really* want, to be settlers can finally become good settlers, no matter where they settle. For the settlement ought to be a sample and a sign. It lays claim to no permanency as an institution.

After this primary qualification come many others in its train.

Health is the first. The mournful resident should reside elsewhere. The poor don't need tears.

The second is willingness to do any job that must be done.

And the third is efficiency in any one of the many lines of work the settlement offers. It isn't necessary that every resident should be able to expound the Austrian theory of value, but an elementary training in economics and sociology is certainly desirable. It doesn't, however, matter so much what the training has been, as long as there has been good mental training of one kind or another. That training has other witnesses than a college diploma. Hope, faith, and charity almost cover the ground. Add intelligence and health and the recipe is complete.

Hope that work is not in vain; faith in the ultimate realization of the kingdom of God on earth; love for people and finding when one knows them that that's not a task, but something quite natural and simple; intelligence to see how to work; and health to put it through.

MARY W. KINGSBURY, *Phi*.

CHAPTER SWINGS.

Are chapter swings advisable? Perhaps it is best before we attempt to answer this question to explain just what we mean by a chapter swing.

By this we mean a preliminary initiation, which is of the chapter alone and entirely separate and distinct from the fraternity initiation. The character of such an affair would be frivolous and it would be, in intention, more or less of a farce.

There are forcible arguments on either side of the question. First we will consider a few points in favor. The freshmen need some experience to make them congenial with the other members of the chapter. Many jests are made at the expense of freshmen, and yet underneath the jest there lies considerable truth when one speaks of the "freshness" of the youngest class in our American colleges. This "freshness" may be due to timidity, bashfulness, ignorance, or conceit, but from whatever source it arises, it may well be dispensed with, and the average fraternity girl has no desire to retain it. Here it is, then, that the chapter swing is useful. Its devices are like grains of salt thrown in to season and make palatable the younger members. Sometimes a small pinch

is needed—again a larger amount will not be disagreeable. However, the amount must be governed by the disposition of the initiate.

By this process the members may become acquainted with their pledgling as in no other way. The disposition will show itself plainly, and the members know what to expect of each initiate.

Again it has been said, "The freshman expects something of this sort and is disappointed if she does not receive it," but is it not a question how far our acts should be governed by the expectation of the freshman? And if they do not receive this do they not receive what is much better?

Lastly, such an initiation forms a relation between upper and lower classmen which cannot be gained through the regular initiation. There the girls are not sisters; nor are they equals, for they have not yet entered upon the fraternity life nor taken its vows.

On the contrary the upper classmen may maintain their full amount of dignity—and the freshman realizes her entire lack of everything except humility. Such humility is a good thing, for the same principle may apply here as in everything else, "The best master is he who has learned to obey." If the freshman learns humility at the very first she is apt to continue in obedience throughout her under class years, and when she becomes an upper classman she is worthy of the honor bestowed upon her.

But the arguments are also strong on the other side. The affair is frivolous, and there is some danger of carrying frivolity too far. What is intended as nonsense may become unkind, and wound rather than heal.

In knocking off the corners there is sometimes danger of injuring the model.

As regards knowing our new member, we ought to know her before we pledge her, and though we cannot know her perfectly, there is in the fraternity only that which elevates and strengthens the disposition. It is better if we do not find out our friend's faults, for perhaps she may conquer them under the fraternity's influence and we may never know she had them. Her good traits will show for themselves.

As to the relation of the members of the different classes and the especial submission of the freshman, it is clear that these may

be accomplished in the chapter itself by the maintainance of a dignity which will command respect—and this is always better than forced respect.

Beside these objections two others are advanced, one that such an affair causes publicity which might be avoided; the other, that such a chapter affair would detract from the sacredness and dignity of the initiation proper. That is perfect in itself; to add to it or to detract from it is only to mar it.

FLORENCE CARPENTER, *Beta Tau.*

COLLEGE FRATERNITIES FOR WOMEN.

Ever since the appearance of the first feminine Greek-letter society at Monmouth College in 1867 the movement has rapidly gained in favor at the coeducational colleges, and at present there are existing about ten of these fraternities, with one hundred active chapters and a membership of over ten thousand women.

Pi Beta Phi is really the oldest, but Kappa Alpha Theta, formed at De Pauw in the spring of 1870, claims to be first, because Pi Beta Phi was only a local college society for several years under the name of the I. C. Sorosis, afterward changed. In the fall of 1870 Kappa Kappa Gamma was established, and this is the largest and most prominent of all the feminine secret societies, having twenty-six active chapters, besides several alumnae associations. Next in prominence are Kappa Alpha Theta, Pi Beta Phi, Delta Gamma, and Alpha Phi. Others are Gamma Phi Beta and Epsilon Kappa Pi, while Delta Delta Delta, established in 1889, at Boston, is the youngest of the sisterhood.

These feminine fraternities only exist in coeducational colleges, as the charters of the women's colleges forbid them. They do not have any connection with the men's fraternities, but they are similar in character and aim.

Most of the societies are governed by a grand council of officers, although there are many varieties in the mode of government. The college chapters meet once a week, usually in the evening, but the alumnae associations only come together occasionally, and then celebrate their reunion with a grand feast and social function at some prominent hotel. At the regular weekly gatherings busi-

ness affairs are first attended to, and then the young members lay aside all serious matters, and spend a few hours of gayety and enjoyment, with music, dancing, plays, and other amusements. No outsider is admitted, but once during each term an open meeting is given to the gentlemen in the evening, and an afternoon affair to the ladies of the college.

There is always a spirit of rivalry among the different fraternities to secure the most desirable of the new students on their entrance, and each novice is much lionized when first joining the coterie of her choice. Indeed, the girl who remains an outsider during her college course misses the pleasantest part of the social life, as these secret circles do much toward forming and strengthening the ties of friendship, and in bringing the girls in closer touch with college manners and methods.

All the fraternities have their colors, badge, flower, songs, secrets, grip, password, and other characteristic features. Several publish magazines, among the most popular being the *KEY*, the publication of Kappa Kappa Gamma; the *Arrow*, of Pi Beta Phi; the *Trident*, of Delta Delta Delta; and the *Kappa Alpha Theta*, sent out by the society of the same name. The badge pins are quaint and odd in appearance, and are highly prized by their owners.

The secrets are only mysterious to the uninitiated; in reality they are scholarly and often uplifting in influence, incentives to unselfish and noble actions and ambitions. The initiate is made to realize that the purposes of the fraternity are of a serious nature, meant to be an aid, not a hinderance, to growth. To quote from the *KEY*: "The basis of fraternities is made of principles which teach right living and right thinking. The initiate must dwell upon those until they have become a fact of her life and are reflected in her conduct. This is the deeper significance of the fraternity."

Some of these Greek-letter societies have built chapter-houses, where they hold their meetings, and which serve as club-houses for the members. The buildings are pretty and well designed, and arranged with artistic taste.

Each year the national fraternities, with their local and alumnæ chapters, grow in numbers and interest, and at such prominent universities as Cornell, Ann Arbor, and Syracuse their influence

is widely felt, and in smaller colleges they promote a loyal and enthusiastic concern in the progress and welfare of the Alma Mater.—*Harper's Bazar*, October 2, 1897.

B. K. PH.

Bachelor of Kappa philosophy ! Why not ?

It occurred to me, the other day, that a degree in the Science of Sisterhood would be no less dear than one in physics or philology. Here we are, at the end of four years of college life, with two diplomas in our hands. The one, B.A., B.Ph., or B.Sc., secures for us at once a standing among our fellow-beings as college-bred girls. It means that we can command their attention when we have anything to say,—their respect and admiration, if we will.

What does the other,—B. K. Ph.,—mean ?

"The —— chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma hereby certifies that Mary Brown has completed the required course in Kappa philosophy and has sustained a high character and reached such attainments in love and goodwill as entitle her to this diploma."

Such is the godspeed that her fond chapter sends after each departing Senior. They have learned who shall say how much ?

This one has won patience out of the very teeth of quick-temper and nervousness, through persistent, daily practice in Kappa kindness, however fractious her moods.

This one has learned promptness by getting to fraternity meeting on time !

That one has learned to break down the barriers of a reserved nature, to seek and give sympathy in "blessed fellowship divine." Another has lost her awkward self-consciousness, another has learned to express herself in the chapter since good listeners are ready, and a man-less girl is just as welcome always as the most petted and popular, and so on *ad infinitum*.

I steadfastly believe that just as one's graduate life is the grand test of one's college training, so the graduate in Kappa philosophy has her best chance to use her attainments when she goes forth into the big world.

I have always thought that it is wrong to demand of a college girl any outside activity, or of a Kappa any outside "charity."

During her undergraduate life she is monstrosly busy. The very mention of sewing or Sunday school classes, social settlements, or even neighborly calls, must fall on deaf ears, or be dismissed with a passing sigh of regret. She has no right to take up these "extras." But after her graduation, the public may expect much of her.

Verily, O *alumnæ*, now is the accepted time to show your metal! Equipped as you are, with a four years' stock of friendship, go forth now to a world so terribly in need of just such "experts in sympathy"! Take up these good deeds that active college life crowded into the back-ground or limited to the school circle!

Hasn't the world a right to demand results from this sort of training? Can we fail in heart-culture any better than we can in head-culture, when we hold in our hands our diplomas and degrees of B. K. Ph.? "O—you queens—you queens! Will you not go down among them?—among these sweet living things, whose new courage, sprung from the earth with the deep color of heaven upon it, is starting up in strength of goodly spire; and whose purity, washed from the dust, is opening, bud by bud, into the flower of promise;—and still they turn to you, and for you, 'The Larkspur listens—I hear, I hear, and the Lily whispers,—I wait.'"

M. E. T., *Beta Nu*.

HOW ONE OF THE SONGS WAS WRITTEN.

Perhaps it may awaken a thrill of sympathy in some degenerate undergraduate, or a distant memory of like irregularities in some ancient *alumnæ*, to receive the confession that *Far in the Distance* has always the flavor of stolen fruit to the author; that it was written at an hour when the pen should have been taking notes of the learned but somewhat obscure words which fell from the lips of the august professor of paleontology.

Within a dozen years great improvements take place, and perhaps the high standard of a younger generation knows no such lapses. Perhaps, too, pedagogy as well as studentship, has had its progress, and the descriptions of the Paleozoic age have received the clear and interesting treatment which they deserve, and poetical effusions find no place in the science-absorbed mind.

But much of the education we retain in later years, comes from outside the lecture-room. There are deep, clinging memories, pictures graven on the mind, too beautiful for pen to portray, friendships, and the memories of friendships, which have made permanent impressions on us—such influences were, perhaps, the real origin of the song.

Those who know the beauty of Cornell, will readily recall the pictures which called forth the words. Perhaps many will feel that they came closer to Nature from living in those beautiful surroundings, and that the lake and the gorges, so rich in beauty in summer or winter, the hills with their tender blue, and the freedom of the open country, left a permanent impress on their lives; that they were strengthened with the strength which comes from Nature's grandeur and solitudes, that they were broadened with the growth which comes from new sympathies, and were enriched with the joy of keener sensitiveness forever.

Possibly such influences, though unconscious, mingled with the impulses from warm friendships and deep fraternity interest, intruded themselves on the mind which should have been grappling with the conditions of Nature in earlier ages—and brought forth the song.

ANNIE NEALE CURTIS, *Psi*, '86.

Alumnae Department.

THE FOUNDING OF THE KEY.

As a preliminary request, may the author of this article beg its readers not to count the number of times that the word *I* occurs? Personal experience and some old numbers of *THE KEY* are the only references I have. Even my assistant editors never discussed *THE KEY*, as a whole, with me; consequently all I know is *quorum pars fui*.

The convention of 1881 at Bloomington, Indiana, was a great awakening for the Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity. Government by Grand Chapter was done away with. Government by

Grand Council was planned in every detail and put in course of action by the election and instruction of new officers. As if all this were not enough for one convention, the innovators also proposed a thing which had never, to all appearances, occurred to any other woman's fraternity: the publication of a periodical representing the fraternity's interests.

Most of the convention enthusiasm was felt rather than seen by me. With the other youngsters, I was idling serenely in the background, only occasionally coming in for a meeting of the convention. As a matter of fact, I did not know enough about the fraternity to take much interest in it. Graduated from DePauw University very young, after a short, absorbing course, I had just grown somewhat accustomed to my chapter when I assumed the alumna relation, and gave myself up to tutoring, literature in general and Plato in particular. Had I but had the guide, philosopher and friend now provided for each Kappa, I might have had a more enlightened curiosity.

However, I had observed the Grand President, Tade Hartsuff, then an undergraduate of Butler University; and I judged that that eager, vivacious, black-eyed, black-haired young woman could make things go. Consequently, I was only mildly surprised when, after the banquet which closed the convention, she flashed into the dressing room where I was putting on my wraps, seized me—wraps, reserved manner and all—in her arms, and kissing me on both cheeks, informed me that the fraternity was to have a magazine; that its name was to be THE GOLDEN KEY; its motto "Every door is barred with gold and opens but to golden keys;" and its editor-in-chief, myself. Neither name nor motto impressed me very favorably. I considered the first an infringement of the privileges of Gabriel Varden, of Barnaby Rudge fame, and a reflection on the material of our badges. Never very fond of mottoes, the context of this one struck me as sinister. However, I meekly accepted the only available assets of the new venture, and went my way.

Sometime in the the winter following this convention, I finished reading Plato. and it occurred to me to move in the matter of the THE KEY. Laura Kelly of Greencastle, now Mrs. A. J. Pruitt of Chicago, and Louise Landers of Indianapolis, now Mrs. George Neff of Kansas City, were associate editors. Why they

did not reproach me with my tardiness I do not know. Perhaps they thought my college record and exploits on the *Asbury Monthly*, entitled me to the initiative. More likely, they were busy and forgot about it, as we were entitled to do under the Grand Chapter.

Correspondence with the President revealed that she was having her own troubles in beginning a more severe discipline in the fraternity and keeping up her college studies; but would help get a printer and some money for the first number. An assessment of five dollars a chapter had been agreed upon, at the convention, I think, or perhaps by the new council; but the funds had not come in.

Probably it was in February that I was, at last, in Indianapolis, pursuing a printer and glancing at the first fraternity periodical that I had ever seen. It was the *Crescent of Delta Tau Delta*; and Miss Landers, whose brother belonged to that fraternity, was anxious that our magazine should resemble theirs. I remember I shocked her by saying that I never heard of, much less seen, a magazine that I wished to make one like; but I meant no disrespect to *The Crescent*.

Presently, Miss Hartsuff and I found a common sympathy. She was a red hot radical or rather, improver, and I was a white hot one. We both believed with all our hearts and minds and souls in the new woman and her future. Could the fraternity be for that? Could THE KEY help that? We gradually fired each other until by luncheon time she broke away from the table and walked the floor, prophesying good concerning Kappa Kappa Gamma and the future of woman, while I responded, chorally, with what the wisest had thought of it all and how they had prepared the way.

That was really the forge where THE KEY was hammered out of shapeless metal. After that, everything was a matter of detail. There was no force on earth except death, that could have stopped THE KEY. Death itself could not; for love is stronger than death.

No money coming, I wrote to each of the chapters reminding and explaining at length, a very painful task for me, for I would almost as willingly ask money for myself as for anything else. The letters were generally taken in good part, and postal orders

began to come, made payable to Minnetta Kelly, Laura J. Taylor, Laura Louise Landers, other variations on all three names, and one daring departure, Maria F. Sloan. Fortunately the Green-castle postmaster was the father of two Kappas and knew all about *THE KEY*. He allowed me to take the money and receipt for it; and by the time we had enough for the first number of the magazine my proper signature was rather strange to me.

That first number appeared in May, 1882. My last copy of it went to the editorial file, some years ago, and I do not remember much about it. Miss Landers managed the printing; Miss Kelly and I secured the chapter letters, which I think were far from numerous; some manuscripts which were promised failed to come; and I have a dark suspicion that I wrote most of the number, including the poetry.

Next year *THE KEY* was placed on a subscription footing. Those voluntary subscriptions would have been amusing to any one not interested in the fate of *THE KEY*. They were on the frequent feminine plan of taking two or three numbers for a community, lending them around, and thereby saving money for chocolates and other necessities. I could not blame the girls, but was obliged to point out that *THE KEY* could not exist on good wishes, which seemed to surprise them.

Miss Ollie Morgan, of Indianapolis, was business manager this year, and we both asked for advertising, which the newness and consequent insecurity of our publication made rather hard to obtain, and both strove with the printers, who had a persistent idea that a girl's magazine might appear a month or so after the date contracted for without doing any harm. Of course we had written contracts, but Indianapolis job printing was in its raw stage then, and while we changed printers, we did not change fortune. What astonishing shapes, shades and numbering came to us! I used to think that if I could have the manuscripts that were promised, a chapter letter from every chapter, and one single number of *THE KEY* which was the shape, color and number I had ordered, I should die happy; and so I did, editorially speaking, for except the large size of the Greek letters, my last number of *THE KEY* was what I expected it to be. Once a number was two weeks in arrears, and after repeated inquiries and interviews the printer stated that his workmen were sick. I wrote him that

if I did not receive the books next day I would take my medicines with me and be their physician. In fact, I borrowed some medicine from my parents, who are physicians, and prepared myself to go ; but the magazines came on an early train. The observer will see that some of the numbers are very scanty in contents. That was when we did not have enough money to pay for more. Once, just as I was about reluctantly to abandon a number, my first story was paid for, and I was joyfully able to get out a KEY of the usual size, if any size can be called usual, in that day.

Meanwhile, the fraternity character of THE KEY steadily improved, owing, primarily, to the habits of punctuality and business attention taught by the Council. During the last year that the editorship was with me the chapter letters came on time, some contributors sent manuscripts on the proper day, and finance required no makeshift. THE KEY had at first offered no criticism of other fraternity journals, seeing nothing improving in the personalities usually indulged in. But two or three of the men's periodicals tried to make sport of one of the accounts of a Kappa convention. After that there was a merry war, and by common consent THE KEY came out with the honors. One fraternity even instructed its editor in convention, seriously or otherwise, to answer THE KEY ; but he did not try it. The last notices I had were very respectful.

Probably, in so short and hurried an article, I have not given sufficient prominence to what my associate editors, and especially the President, Miss Hartsuff, did for THE KEY. But the reason is not that I do not value it highly now, but because I was too immature to appreciate it then, and so do not remember. In the crude human fashion, I received the sunlight without remark, and was astonished only by the storms. The same reflection applies to relations with other fraternity magazines. Many of them were courteous, considerate and kind ; and more than one editor earned the respect and friendship of the person in charge of THE KEY.

MINNETTA T. TAYLOR, *Iota*.

PERSONAL NOTES.

PSY.—Mabel Simis, '97, is studying medicine at Johns Hopkins. She is living there with Mary Hawley and Mabel Austin, two well known members of Chi.

Emily Dunning, '97, is studying medicine at the Woman's Medical College, New York City.

Jessie J. Cassidy's little book, "The Legal Status of Women," is creating quite a sensation. Some of the laws in which women are particularly interested are decidedly queer. In Idaho there is no provision for compelling the husband to furnish support for the wife. On the contrary, if he is infirm, his wife must support him. In Nebraska "the husband is expected to furnish suitable maintenance according to his idea of suitability." If his idea is hazy, no provision is made for that. In New Mexico "nothing specific is required." Nevada requires the husband to "furnish only the necessaries." If his wife happens to be of a luxurious frame of mind, she will have to furnish her own luxuries. The law does not prohibit this. In Arkansas "no support for the wife is compelled by law, unless she secures a divorce."—*Ithaca Journal*.

The Woman's Parliament of Southern California has just closed its sixth annual session, held at Unity Church, in Los Angeles. Mrs. Kate Tupper Galpin presided at the various sessions, and all the leading topics of the day were under discussion at the hands of some of the ablest women on the Pacific coast. Mrs. Mila Tupper Maynard, of Santa Monica, a graduate of Cornell and at one time connected with Hull House, Chicago, made an interesting speech on "The Business Woman." She advanced the idea that a professional woman must live a dual existence and be a man while yet a woman. The average woman is unable to devote to a profession the exclusive attention necessary to attain success as a specialist. She can, however, remain supreme in the noblest speciality of all, that of raising children.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

Laura S. Dickey, '92, is studying at Chicago University.

Grace N. Dolson, '96, graduate student, '97, is studying philosophy at the University of Leipzig.

BETA GAMMA.—Cora Altman, '97, is teaching at her home in Huntington, Ind.

Harriet Agerter, University of Chicago, '97, is Dean of the Female Seminary in Oxford, O.

The engagement of Gwen Jones, '92, to Mr. Arrell Perne, of Poland, O., has recently been announced.

Olla Allmandinger, '97, is teacher of Latin in the High School of Hampton, Iowa.

Alice Cornell, '96, is teaching in the Mary Holmes School for Freedmen, West Point, Mississippi.

BETA NU.—Gertrude Kellicott, '95, took the course in library science at Amherst, Mass., this summer, and will act as assistant in that branch at Ohio State University.

May Cole, '97, has moved to Chicago, where she is attending the Normal School.

Lucy Allen, '97, is engaged as cataloguer in the museum at Ohio State University, under Prof. Morehead of the archaeological department.

Flora McCarter is at Bryn Mawr, taking advanced work in literature.

Marion Twiss has a position in the Ohio State Library.

Winona Schweir, '97, is a student in the Columbus Normal School.

Florence Derby, '95, has re-entered Ohio State University for advanced work.

Mary B. Scott, '96, is teaching in Miss Arbaugh's school at Clifton, near Cincinnati, O.

DELTA.—The marriage of Francis E. Brewer, of Gilbertsville, N. Y., and Miss Mary G. Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Morgan, took place last evening, September 2, at Center M. E. Church, Crawfordsville, Ind. Miss Olive Van Camp, of Indianapolis, presided at the pipe organ. The ushers were C. M. Tillie, of Gilbertsville, N. Y.; S. L. Wilhite, of Bloomington; E. P. Hammond, of Lafayette, and F. H. Jobbins, of Aurora, Ill. Miss Bess Nicholson sang "Oh, Star of My Heart," and on the entrance of the bridal couple the Lohengrin wedding march was played. The bridesmaids were Miss Alice Patton, of Remington, Miss Fannie Jones, of Bloomington, Miss Anna Lane, of Greencastle, and Anna Robinson of Owensville. The maid of honor was Miss Monta Kelso, of Nevada,

Mo., who was accompanied by her little sister Madaline. Then came the bride, leaning on her father's arm, and the groom with H. L. Gilbert, of Columbus, O. The officiating clergyman was Rev. E. B. Thomson. At the home of the bride's parents a reception was held. The bride and groom left on the night train for a trip in the East, and after Oct. 4 will be at home at No. 173 West Seventy-third street, New York, where the groom is connected with a school.—*The Indianapolis Journal*.

Roxanna Smythe was married to Noble Campbell, October 27. The Delta girls were present at the wedding. Mrs. Campbell will still live in Bloomington where she has always been a very strong fraternity worker.

IOTA.—Laura E. Beazell, '95, has just been appointed the General Secretary of the Y. W. C. A. college associations of the Southern States with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga. For the two years previous Miss Beazell has been located at Sacramento, Cal.

Edith Beck, '95, is taking a post graduate course at Leland Stanford University.

Laura Florer, '93, is teaching in the public schools of Terre Haute, Ind.

ETA.—The engagement of Agnes Bowen, ex-'94, to Mr. Ross Cornish, Sigma Chi, has been announced.

Georgia Hayden has returned to her home in Eau Claire after spending a year in Europe, studying and traveling.

Jessie Griffith, '93, was married October 14, to Mr. George Katz, at her home in Fond du Lac.

The engagement of Elizabeth Palmer to Mr. Robert McMynn, Chi Psi, is announced.

EPSILON.—Ethel Tyner is studying at Smith College this year.

Rachel Baumann, '88, made a six weeks' tour through Canada recently. Miss Baumann is well known here as an elocutionist but the following note from a Toronto paper shows that her talent is recognized elsewhere too: "A new candidate for public favor as an elocutionist made her debut last night before a Canadian audience, in Park Street Methodist Church, which edifice was crowded to the doors. Miss Baumann fairly took the large and cultured audience by storm. Her versatility is remarkable, and it was no meaningless compliment the pastor paid her when he predicted for her a brilliant success throughout Canada."

The Parthenon.

I believe that in the minds of all Kappas there is an ideal chapter, toward which they strive. And I believe that the ideal chapter of most of them is a chapter without clashing, without friction; a chapter in which life is perfectly serene, and the girls agree on every subject. Ideal, of course; and a manifest impossibility. Who could expect to bring together fifteen girls, of widely different temperaments, from widely different homes, and find that they agreed perfectly in everything? They may and should be congenial; but they must be unlike.

Did you never see a beach of water-worn pebbles? Did you notice how each was carefully rounded off—no Friction in the Chapter. angles left? Yet the stream was gentle, and the pebbles were not scratched. I believe friction to be a characteristic of good chapters—gentle friction, which rounds off all our angles, yet leaves not one enduring scar.

Once started in the stream of fraternity life, a Kappa rubs against many others. Her little sharpnesses of character are slowly rubbed away. At the end of her college course, she is cast upon the great beach of the world, in company with many others, and finds that with the loss of her most aggressive angles, her passage through the world is robbed of half its difficulties.

Therefore, let us not reject the new girl because her opinions are the least bit decided, and she asserts them in a slightly aggressive way. She may be a strong girl—a lovable girl; and may not these little angles of hers help in rounding off our own?

MARY MARSEE, *Mu*.

The question often comes up, shall any invitation ever be withdrawn and if so how long shall the fraternity wait?

To some it seems that if a girl is worth asking she is worth waiting for. But to others it seems hardly worth A Question. while to upset the peace of mind and the college work of the whole chapter for weeks or months for the sake of any one girl.

This is especially hard to decide in a large college where there

are so many desirable girls and the number to be taken so small. We would like to know the opinion of the fraternity.

M., *Omega*.

THE KEY has given space to much earnest discussion about the admission of new members. Pages of sound advice have been addressed to the one Kappa whose personal dislike alone keeps a new member from the chapter. "Hold out," say most, "If you dislike her, don't let her in!" "If you dislike her"—yes, it's simple enough then. But suppose your mind persists in remaining absolutely negative—neither liking nor disliking the candidate proposed? Surely, in other chapters than Beta Epsilon, there must be Kappas whose friendships grow thus slowly; who cannot become acquainted with a freshman in a few brief weeks; who can only say weakly of the candidate, "I don't know her well enough. She doesn't attract me in the least. She doesn't repel me in the least." Is it fair to make the chapter risk waiting a year or so, until the suspended opinion tips one way or the other? Or should the member stifle conscience, trust to the judgment of her sisters, and admit the new girl? Counsel us, advisers of THE KEY, counsel the unfortunates to whom the formation of a real acquaintance is a long and difficult process!

V. C. G., *Beta Epsilon*.

In many university towns, where the custom of the college girls is, as it is in Michigan, to have their board and rooms anywhere about town where they can, the question comes up in the chapter, "Shall we have a house?" This means a house to live in, and to make a home for each member who is so far from her own—not simply a hall in which to hold meetings and entertainments. Beta Delta wrestled with this question for a long time, but now thinks she has solved it, and would like to give in her testimony for the sake of some sister chapter which is confronted by a like question.

Our answer is unquestionably, yes. In spite of all the doubts and questioning of the advisability of renting or buying a large house ; in spite of the care and responsibility it brings, and the fear that the house may not be filled, still our experience has been very much in its favor.

There are many apparent advantages in having a house, advantages which arise from just that care and responsibility which we dread so much. Business terms and ways

A Chapter House. become familiar to us, and the idea of handling money in trust for other people. But the greatest of all good is the effect which it has on the relations of the girls themselves. How much stronger is the bond which draws us together ! How beautiful it is for us, when we turn wearily from our work at college to go "home," and not to a lonely boarding house. This word, home, seems to strike at the root of the question, and no more discussion is needed. We all know what it is to have a home, and the dreariness of being without it, in our first days at college. Beta Delta's message to all doubting Kappas is, "Only try it, and you will never willingly be without a home again."

Beta Delta.

The question asked by Beta Delta in the October KEY as to whether it is the chapter's business to criticize small personal shortcomings in the younger members especially invited the thoughts of Epsilon, and after some careful consideration she wishes to give her conclusions, hoping that therein Beta Delta may find a partial answer, at least, to her query.

By the word criticism we should remember is meant not only the finding of the flaws in one's character but

Criticism. also the commendable points. A new girl comes into our chapter. We as older members should be quick to see and recognize all that is sweet and good in her, thus encouraging her to the attainment of a fuller development of those virtues already possessed and to the addition of others.

But no girl can be perfect and it is here that Epsilon wishes to offer a few suggestions as to the attitude of the chapter toward

the girl in question. Suppose she, new and a stranger to college ways, before her entrance into the fraternity had formed certain associations, seemingly advisable to her, but not at all desirable in the eyes of her older and more experienced sisters. Why shouldn't they in a tactful way open the girl's eye to the things which she in her impulsiveness has overlooked? This can be done in a spirit not of fault-finding, but love and if the girl have the right spirit herself she will profit by the advice.

Then perhaps her habits of studying and reading have not yet been formed or may be tending in a direction that in the end will prove harmful to her whole life. By quiet suggestion and most emphatically by good example she could be brought to see what was best and to act accordingly. Or her tastes in music, art or literature may have been as yet uncultivated. Here would be an opportunity for the lovers of any one of these arts to win for them an admirer as ardent as themselves.

But above all, before we attempt any criticism whatever, we should realize to the best of our ability the ideals which we wish to place before our younger sisters. Then perhaps more than by words of kindly advice, we could in a subtler way lead our charges into higher planes of thought and action.

VIRGINIA SINCLAIR, *Epsilon*.

The conventional Leatherstocking Pioneer is always represented against a background of log cabin and forest primeval. Not so with the Bluestocking Pioneer, however. Ten years ago, we, Barnard College, did not exist; we are still pioneers;—but because of, or in spite of our merits, our sphere of action and usefulness has already been rolled from a narrow brown stone front to a new and spacious Barnard College. college building. Barnard is now a fitting part of the University whose buildings, but lately finished, were pronounced by an impartial outsider to be the most complete in the country. This paragon of college buildings, then, is ours, to make or to mar,—above all, to fill with traditions for future ages. And when many of these traditions will be indissolubly connected with Kappa Kappa Gamma, what fear is there of marring?

Beta Epsilon Chapter is to share in the general prosperity. Its horizon is to be widened by several feet. It is not without regret, however, that we have given up our 9 x 14 feet room on the busy thoroughfare, in favor of a room of twice the size, twice the respectability, perhaps, but half the independence, within the college itself. Novices, henceforth, will feel distinctly less of a thrill than formerly, on entering the hallowed precinct, one door of many opening on the same hall must lose some of the glamour surrounding a door which can be reached only at the risk of life and limb, across avenues of treacherous mud and slippery car-tracks. The absence of the thrill, however, may insure the frequent presence of the timid young initiate, which is much to be desired. More than that, even, we may hope and expect from our new chapter room. Its size will enable us to entertain our fellow Kappas as hospitably as we have always wished, but never before been able to do, while its nearness to the rest of our college will perhaps counteract a too great tendency towards exclusiveness and self-esteem.

M. J., *Beta Epsilon*.

Chapter Letters.

ALPHA PROVINCE.

PHI—BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

Since our last chapter letter Phi's time has been occupied with the routine of pleasure and duty including rushing parties, initiation and term examinations.

At the close of the last college year Phi entered into a pledge day agreement with the four other women fraternities of Boston University: Alpha Phi, Delta Delta Delta, Pi Beta Phi, and Gamma Phi Beta. The day chosen was October 29, and until that date Phi was kept busy in coping with the other sororities some of which are twenty strong and more. We have held several rushing parties, the last one being given in connection with the usual chapter birthday party when our alumnae were invited to meet the freshmen. Now the contest is over and Phi has every reason to feel proud of her success.

Initiation was held at the home of Ella Titus, '92, in Somerville. Eight of our nine candidates were initiated, one being kept at home on account of a death in the family. After the initiation service there was the usual merry-making with toasts and songs.

Since initiation Phi has made new plans for her weekly meetings. The fraternity has been divided into three committees, art, music, and social. Every fourth meeting is to be given up to a social time, while the other meetings are to be placed in the hands of the art and music committees. In this way we hope to combine the profitable times with the good ones.

We are looking forward to the work of the next term, when Phi with its new members may influence to no little extent the college life of others. Phi has always stood for making as little distinction as possible between fraternity and non-fraternity girls, and the present chapter mean in no way to fall behind the example of their predecessors.

Phi sends greeting to all the Kappa sisters, especially to the recent initiates.

BETA EPSILON—BARNARD COLLEGE.

At last Beta Epsilon is settled in the chapter room in the new buildings of which we have boasted in anticipation for so long. The buildings are charming in every way, and the room which was set apart for Kappa Kappa Gamma, next to the reading-room, on the second floor of Milbank Hall,—a room of spacious extent, and with a magnificent view of the Hudson and the Palisades,—is not the least charming part. Our house-warming was given on October 29, not in the chapter room, but in the college theatre, which is ideal in its classic Greek beauty. It was the first reception of the year, and to it were bidden all the friends of Beta Epsilon, both in and out of college. Impromptu dancing ended the festivities, and the whole affair was voted a great success.

The fact that we have had a rival fraternity to contend against, for the first time in our experience as a chapter, has not seemed to disturb our equanimity in the slightest degree; indeed, we have proceeded as calmly as ever, adhering to our traditional, conservative policy of not taking in freshmen. Our fall initiation was held the day after Thanksgiving; we are sure that all our Kappa sisters will welcome our three new members; Miss Striker, '99, Miss Duer, '99, and Miss Goldsborough, '00, as worthy representatives of Kappa womanhood.

Miss Dunn, Miss Wilcox and Miss Wheelock, of '97, and Miss Clews, '96, are pursuing post-graduate courses at Barnard, and it is delightful to count them still as active members. A number of our alumnæ have visited us this fall.

PSI—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

The Kappas of Psi were overjoyed this year at the return of Mabel Stebbins, '95, to the city. Her family have moved here and will be with us for some time adding another attractive Kappa home to the many that already exist here. Ethel Stebbins has been very sick but is now convalescing and will join the family soon.

This autumn, as we look back on it, is one that will be long remembered by us, for the pleasant rambles in the autumn woods in search of ferns, for the merry impromptu spreads of evening

and for the quiet rows sunny afternoons on Lake Cayuga. One of our greatest pleasures has been our weekly chapter meetings. Such a spirit of harmony exists that we are dreading even now the inevitable separations at the end of the year.

Although the entering class of girls was unusually small this year, we have done little rushing and that has not been elaborate. Our opening tea was given at Mrs. Barr's and we entertained a few times at different Kappa homes. Perhaps the jolliest of these gatherings was at the home of Mrs. Wilcox where we gave a little play and two of the girls made a decided hit in the guise of the sterner sex. We also gave a small and informal dance in the Sage Gymnasium. This room, usually grimly suggestive of dumb-bells and Indian clubs, under the combined talents of some of the girls, became quite a bower of beauty.

The result of our rushing was very satisfactory to us. At present we have three pledglings of whom we are justly proud; Edness Chester Lauren, Frances Talbot Littleton, and Adelaide Hayes Dovey. We want you all to welcome them and we know they will be true and loyal girls.

One of our unexpected pleasures this fall has been the opportunity of having Isabelle Kittinger, who was visiting Mary Hull, with us again for a short time.

We are looking forward eagerly for the next number of THE KEY to hear of the success of all our sister-chapters and to meet the new pledglings of Kappa Gamma.

BETA BETA—ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY.

Since the October letter the days have flown by for Beta Beta, days full of excitement and pleasure. At the opening of college there was the renewing of old ties and the forming of new acquaintances among the freshman girls.

Many festivities took place. Three of the members of Beta Beta, Misses Shaw, Stallman and Atwood, all of '99, invited the freshman girls to meet the active Kappas at the home of Miss Atwood. The alumnae showed their interest and loyalty by giving a reception to the chapter and the freshman girls at the home of Mrs. Manley, ex-'89.

The larger part of the chapter made a shopping tour to

Ogdensburg which has the distinction of being "our only city," about twenty miles from Canton. They did not buy out the town, but made sundry purchases which much enhance the appearance of our room. Just before initiation the Kappas donned aprons, armed themselves with brooms, pails and mops, and ascended to the chapter room. Then took place a cleaning analogous to those spring cleanings of which we so often hear. Then one of our girls, who succeeds at anything she undertakes, with the aid of another dauntless maiden, made a most comfortable divan for one corner of the room. Such were the preparations for initiation. On the evening of October twenty-second seven girls entered the realms of Kappa: Lura Conkey, Mary Barlow, Harriet Jackson, Mina Treeman, Grace Sherwood, Mabel Benner and Helen Crobst. The initiation banquet was held at the home of Dr. Lucia Heaton, and was the gift of Dr. Heaton to the chapter.

On the Saturday evening before Thanksgiving a Grange supper was held at the chapter room, which was a most unique and enjoyable affair.

Wednesday afternoon of December first, Beta Beta gave a reception at the home of Miss Austin, '00, in honor of Mrs. Florence Lee Whitman, '82, of Cambridge, Mass., and Mrs. Cammie Woods Gaines, '78.

On December third took place the formal opening of the new chapter house of Beta Zeta of Beta Theta Pi. The house makes a new and attractive feature on the campus and the Betas are to be congratulated on the completion of so roomy and so beautiful a home.

The other sorority at St. Lawrence, Beta of Tri Delta, has rented a club house which was formally opened on November eighteenth.

This may look somewhat as if the St. Lawrence people gave themselves up to social duties, but that is not the case, and I might a tale unfold should I attempt to tell you of the work we do.

It is generally supposed that June is the season for weddings, but Beta Beta's members seem to prefer the fall.

On October 26, Inez Ladd, ex-'99, was married to Rev. L. D. Case, of Rome, N. Y.

On November 10, Eva Bates, ex-'96, and Mr. Frederic J. Sanford were married at the home of the bride in Danbury, Conn.

At Southbridge, Mass., on December 1, Miss Bertha Clark, ex-'96, was married to Mr. Harry Oldham.

BETA TAU—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

On the twenty-second of October Beta Tau initiated six new members—Bessie Janes, '98; Maud Andruss, '00; Mary Bates, '00; Edna Miller, '01; Elinor Thayer, '01, and Adelaide Jeffreys, '01. We feel assured that all our sisters would be as proud as we are of our new members.

Work is progressing and we do not neglect our social duties. December first Beta Tau gives a floral party. The features of the evening will be music and a floral love story and the favors, chrysanthemums.

We receive very interesting letters from our sisters abroad. They are delighted with their traveling experiences and have now settled down to their work in Paris. Jessie Peck, '88, is studying music in Leipzig with Professor Krause, who, she writes, is one of the most celebrated teachers in Germany.

Miss Lake and Miss Skinner of Beta Delta visited Beta Tau this fall.

One of our '98 girls has had to leave college on account of her health, but we hope she will be with us again next term.

BETA ALPHA—UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Beta Alpha sends greetings and good wishes to her sisters in the bonds of Kappa Kappa Gamma. When we met in the fall, many of our active members became associate, but, although not present at our meetings, they still show a lively interest in the welfare of their chapter.

We wish to introduce our two initiates, Julia Black Hodges and Eleanor Ethel Hayes, both of whom we are proud to have with us.

Beta Alpha is rejoicing in the possession of a fraternity room to which she has been looking forward for many years. All our spare moments and thoughts are for the room in which we hope to entertain the chapter of our neighboring college before the year is much older.

BETA IOTA—SWARTHMORE COLLEGE.

Cordial greetings from Beta Iota.

During the past three months Beta Iota has not been idle. College duties, varied occasionally by delightful social affairs, have kept all our hearts and hands busy.

The first event which caused us to rejoice was the initiation of Eleanor Lansing Cass into the bonds of Kappa. This was on the twelfth of October. The following day, being the date of the founding of Kappa Kappa Gamma, was celebrated in our usual manner. That is, by a theater party. A number of our alumnae were with us and they added greatly to the pleasure of the day.

Lydia Biddle, '94, one of our most interested alumnae, sailed some weeks ago for a short trip abroad. We miss her frequent visits to us, and shall be glad to welcome her home again.

The Beta Iota Alumnae entertained the active chapter the latter part of October at the home of Arabella Moore, of Philadelphia. Cards were played for an hour and afterwards we all had an enjoyable social time. Two dainty prizes were awarded to the fortunate ones at euchre.

On November tenth Mary Hayes, '94, entertained us at her home in West Chester. A most delightfully informal afternoon was enjoyed by us.

The annual football game between Swarthmore and Haverford took place on November thirteenth. Beta Iota drove over to Haverford in a coach, chaperoned by Mrs. Thos. F. Carter, who is still living in Swarthmore. The day was rather cold, but we thoroughly enjoyed it all.

During the Thanksgiving holidays Eva Rengier, '98, invited us to her home in Lancaster. With so many Kappas together, 'tis needless to tell of the charming time we had, thanks to the kind hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Rengier. Among numerous other pleasures was a coaching party to attend the Franklin and Marshall-Swarthmore football game.

Best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year !

GAMMA RHO—ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

Once again Gamma Rho is holding high carnival and next Saturday evening, Dec. 4, hopes to welcome into her number nine new members, eight of whom will be active, one, pledged. Such a contest as there has been! The first week of college a contract was proposed by Kappa Alpha Theta and agreed to by the other two women's fraternities, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Alpha Chi Omega. The matter had been agitated two years before by Kappa Kappa Gamma and her members were very glad to have it successfully carried out this year. By the terms of this contract fraternity was not to be mentioned to the new girls except in reply to direct questions, and no invitations were to be given until the Monday before Thanksgiving. A happy arrangement to avoid rushing? No indeed! It merely prolonged and intensified it. Such a series of parties and entertainments were given as had scarcely been known in all the history of the college. Lack of space forbids an account of any of those given by Gamma Rho with the exception of two, for Hallowe'en, rhymed invitations were sent out inviting the guests to a witches' party. On one end of the cards was a black witch's head surrounded by a gold band crowned by a fleur-de-lis. The envelopes were sealed with a Kappa Gamma monogram generously presented by one of the members. A large and elegant house standing on the outskirts of the town and unoccupied at the time was "borrowed" for the occasion. It was lighted from cellar to attic with jack-lanterns and in one room were gathered all the gruesome things imaginable. Two genuine skeletons stood out against dark backgrounds. Snakes and frogs and spiders abounded. A fortune teller's tent and a cauldron showed themselves though only vaguely for there were no other lights except the grinning jack-o'-lanterns. When the guests were all assembled a grand march followed to the tune of the Midway air. On the third floor the most ghostly of ghosts slowly emerged and disappeared from a mysterious black pit while a clanking chain was suggestive of the most terrible thoughts. When everybody had again reached the first floor, the scene changed and two large rooms were brightly lighted for dancing to the gay music produced by the colored fiddlers while in the adjoining room all the old, well

loved Hallowe'en tricks were indulged in. Later in the evening pumpkin pies, doughnuts, candy and apples, served in a brightly decorated heart, delighted all our friends.

Two or three weeks later the formal party of the year was given in the beautiful home of one of the town girls. There the finest orchestra in the town discoursed the music, flowers abounded, the dining room was beautiful in light and dark blue, the girls all looked their best and one of the professors said afterward he had never seen a prettier party, nor known a more enjoyable one.

Now success has crowned our efforts and Saturday evening we older Kappas will usher in the new girls already so enthusiastic. Yet we cannot but feel how little they now know of the joys of Kappahood for Kappa Kappa Gamma reserves a joy unknown and unsuspected by any who have not entered the mystic sisterhood.

BETA PROVINCE.

LAMBDA—BUCHTEL COLLEGE.

Thanksgiving with all its joys and sorrows has come and gone and once more the students are in their respective places.

It has been our custom to give a Thanksgiving dinner to some needy family but having so many expenses it has been impossible for us to do so this year and we are very sorry.

The rushing season is over and we are proud to introduce two new Kappas, Anna Durling, and Maud Herndon.

We are now busily engaged in our preparations for the first initiation which is to be on Thursday, December second. Lambda has rushed very little this season but we have the girls whom we asked.

On the afternoon of October sixteenth, our chapter with a number of the alumnae entertained the prospective members and enjoyed ourselves immensely. Social games were indulged in and a light lunch was served.

Our College has certainly been very prosperous this year and we all feel that our new president, Mr. Priest, is doing all in his power for the interest and welfare of the institution.

One local fraternity, Zeta Alpha Epsilon, has been organized by the men, and another, the Lone Star, has been reorganized.

On Hallowe'en, in the college dining room, which had been christened Mystic Hall, the students gave a delightful party. The room was artistically decorated with jack-o'-lanterns, corn and autumn leaves, and Hallowe'en games were the order of the evening.

Lambda feels proud to count among the faculty of our college four Kappa sisters: Elmie Warner, '97, preceptress and teacher of elocution, Estelle Musson, teacher of piano. Minnie Fuller, teacher of art, and Belle Armstrong, '96, teacher of Latin.

Every Wednesday evening from 5 to 6:30 the students have a little social in the college parlors. These gatherings have been very successful, as it has been the duty of two of the hall girls to entertain at each meeting. In this manner we are permitted to assemble for a few moments and thus strengthen the ties of social life.

To all who wear the golden key Lambda sends best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BETA GAMMA—WOOSTER UNIVERSITY.

The material for this letter is not lacking, but how is one to arrange it? Beta Gamma holds her head high with pride as she adds to her membership eight new names, the autumn's harvest. Two of them, Nancy and Edith Johnson almost belonged to us before, as they have posed in history as "pledglings" for a time. The other six are altogether new and line up as follows:—Laura Arbaugh, Bertha Clark, Frances Langfitt, Effie Pomeroy, Eleanor Ewing, Anna Ewing. October 13th witnessed our greatest joy when all these fine girls took the solemn vows of Kappahood. We would like you all to hear of our newest plans, but the pages of *THE KEY* must not divulge the secrets, however much we want to tell you of the success of our innovations.

The pretty home of Nell Ihrig in Bloomington lent itself most gracefully to the anniversary banquet following initiation, and here good cheer reigned.

Alas for the outside world! We selfishly shut ourselves in with our merriment, our wit and wisdom, the beauty of the occasion,

the feast of good things, and all to ourselves enjoyed them. Thirty Kappas cannot be together and not be gay, *Nicht wahr?*

College work goes steadily on and all are hard at work. December seems to promise great things musically and a number of special recitals under the patronage of the School of Music are scheduled for the remaining weeks of the term. But talking of music aren't we all glad of the new song books? No meeting is now complete without passing round the precious books—and who isn't glad she is one of us when we join with enthusiasm in

“Hail to the colors blue and blue,
Hail to the golden key.
Hail to the sisters tried and true
Hail to the K. K. G.”

BETA NU—OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Beta Nu thinks that she has every reason to be thankful this fall for her many successes. The very first week of school two Kappas joined our number, Elizabeth Baldwin from Chi and Nelle Green from Mu, and in the midst of our rejoicing we can appreciate and sympathize with these two chapters in their loss. Miss Alice Thorne from Beta Delta visited us that week and we enjoyed seeing her again very much.

After this, rushing took a great deal of our time and as a result on November fifth, we initiated Fredrika Baldwin, Mary Hunt, Margaret Kauffman, Maybelle Raymond, Henrietta Kauffman, and Faith Welling. We had our initiation at our chapter rooms and afterwards our alumnae gave us a delightful banquet at Maud Raymond's.

We had only one rushing party, this year, which was a dinner at Mabel Rice's but still there have been many other social functions; first and foremost being the Chi Phi coaching-party, whose destination was Central College, where Beta Nu feels quite at home, it being the place where we have our house parties every summer.

Then Eliza Barcus had a ghost party Hallowe'en and many of the fraternities have entertained, thus balancing hard work with pleasure.

But there are other sides of college life beside the gay and festive ; since October we have had a Kappa room for our very own and we have had many delightfully, cozy meetings in it. We first have our business, then a social good time and a talk, concerning fraternity government, which is very profitable and interesting.

BETA DELTA—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

For Beta Delta, the lines have fallen in pleasant places thus far this year ; the University of Michigan has never enjoyed greater prosperity during the opening months, the weather has never been more delightful, fraternity enthusiasm never greater, and our chapter home is all for which we could wished.

Mrs. Whittemore, aunt of one of the girls, has charge of the house and makes it very pleasant and homelike. This is the first year that the girls have boarded in the house and they now feel that in other years, they have missed one of the most pleasant features of fraternity life.

We are very glad to have with us again this year, Florence Mabelle Halleck, '96, who is studying for her master's degree, and Isabel Ballou, who left college in '93, and now will graduate with the class of '99. Those of last year's girls, who are unable to be with us, we miss greatly.

A number of the girls had a very pleasant day in Detroit on the occasion of the Michigan-Minnesota football game. Mrs. Carrow, one of our patronesses chaperoned us and we were charmingly entertained, while in the city, at the home of Alice May Boutell.

Beta Delta has had pleasant visits from some of her absent girls this fall. Mrs. Florence MacIntyre Clarke spent a week with us early in October, on her return from her wedding trip in Europe ; Nina Paddock was here for a few days, later in the month ; and during the past week, Mildred Weed spent a few days with us.

Our initiation was held on November sixth, and was a most happy occasion. Blanche Barney was the only one of our absent girls who was with us that evening.

Before time for another letter, eighteen hundred ninety-eight will be with us, and Beta Delta sends New Year greetings to all her sister chapters.

XI—ADRIAN COLLEGE.

The rushing season is over. The rushers came out of it with colors flying. Darwin would say they were "Natural Selections," Huxley would call them "The Survival of the Fittest," and Calvin would make them out "Predestinated from the Beginning." Their names are: Blanche Wheeler, Clara Spencer, Maggie Knapp, Harriet Tayn, and Wynetta Thorpe.

We are very proud of our new sisters and feel assured they will prove worthy and loyal Kappas.

Xi has enjoyed a most pleasant and prosperous year and we have been happy to have with us, at a number of our meetings the following named alumnae, Grace Thomas, '97, Mildred Moore, '97, Mary Cole, '97, Maud Metcalf, '96, Kate Goodman, '96.

Thursday evening, November twenty-ninth, at the home of Florence Reynold, '98, one of our resident members, a very enjoyable informal reception was held for the Kappa girls and their friends.

Our hall has been made very sad by the loss of Helen and Frances Fickes, who have been called home on account of the death of their father. We can not tell how much our two sisters are missed, for they were dearly loved by all, and our deepest and warmest sympathy goes out to them in their affliction, and we only hope they may come back to us.

KAPPA—HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

First of all, Kappa wishes to present to you her new acquisitions of whom she is very proud: Willa Wood, May Guernsey, Rosa McDougal, Grace Daley and Daisy Prideaux as active members, and Bertha Wilder, Elva Bailey, Myra Walworth, and Florence Birdsall as pledged members. Initiation and pledging nights of this fall term will always be happy memories to us, and we are so glad of the inspiration and strength afforded us by our new wearers of the double blue.

Receptions and parties for the students have been more numerous than ever this year, and the classes of freshmen and sophomores vie with each other in making the Hill ring with their yells.

Thanksgiving time was a festive one. Delta Tau Delta made

their friends happy by an invitation to dine in a neighboring city, Angola, Ind., about thirty miles distant. About noon, a special car on the L. S. & M. S. R. R. took the merry party away, and at eleven at night a special train brought them back. The reception in the afternoon, the banquet and toasts in the evening were most enjoyable. Several Kappas were among the favored ones, and we are sure that we voice the sentiments of all when we pronounce the trip one of the social events of our college life. Alpha Tau Omega entertained, also, that evening at their chapter house, and everyone reported a joyous Thanksgiving time.

Mrs. Copp, our new lady principal, has entertained several times at her pleasant home, and has completely won our hearts by her loving, sympathetic ways.

Chapter meetings have been helpful this term, parties now and then, only making more firm the ties which bind us in sisterhood.

Just now we are planning for a party of our own to be given down town, December third. We expect about one hundred and twenty-five guests, and hope to make them have a good time.

We join in wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

GAMMA PROVINCE.

DELTA—INDIANA UNIVERSITY.

Delta sends greetings to all sister chapters and wishes to present her eight new girls: Georgia Michler, Nannie Cox, Lou Keefer, Mary and Mabel Warner, Nora and Eva Darvalt and Nellie Laughlin.

This fall our contract with Theta was extended two weeks making six weeks altogether. Both fraternities were very much pleased with the new contract as they knew they would have a longer time in which to become acquainted with the new girls and so there was not so much rushing—in fact, no rushing.

Our chapter house has been refurnished and with its new paper it looks very pretty. We are in a truly Kappa house now. Kappa in color as well as in name, as it is dark and light blue throughout.

We have held one open meeting this term. It was the usual delightful time.

On Thanksgiving evening Mrs. Kassell gave a dinner for the Kappas remaining in town and their guests.

We have had visits from several of our alumnæ this fall. We are always glad to meet old Kappas even though they left college years before we entered. We feel that we are one in spirit, and that knowing them strengthens our love for Kappa and Kappas.

Our football season closed Thanksgiving. The deciding game, DePauw v. Indiana at Greencastle ; Indiana won by a score 14-0. This gives Indiana University the State Championship.

We are all looking forward to our Silver Anniversary, January 2. Although we are growing old in years we are young in the cause and are ever learning more.

IOTA—DE PAUW UNIVERSITY.

Since we last greeted you through *THE KEY*, the spike is one of the most important things that has come and gone. During the first two weeks of school, the chief aim seems to be to get in the greatest possible number of spiking parties, each fraternity trying to impress the new girls that it is the most ideal fraternity in the University. As a result of this endeavor there are vivid recollections in our minds of hay-rides, tallyho parties, teas and amateur theatricals. Another interesting result is the fact that we have eight new Kappa sisters to present you, girls whom we hope will prove loyal Kappas, and of whom we are already very proud. They are Margaret Guthrie, Ethel Chaffee, Lucy Poucher, Hallie I andes, Georgiana Lindley, Mabel Pavey, Matilda Bowman and Blanche Nixon.

We had no inter-fraternity contract this year, but the Thetas were pledged among themselves to give no proposition until three weeks after the opening of school.

Our initiation was held at the chapter house on the Saturday evening preceding the anniversary of the fraternity, and as usual, many of the alumnæ were present. After the ceremony all adjourned to the dining room and enjoyed a spread furnished by our thoughtful alumnæ. It was a more impressive ceremony even than that of last year which we thought a beautiful one.

We are fortunate this year in having for a chapter house, the commodious mansion of a former Kappa, it being considered by

far the finest chapter house in town. While it is some little distance from the campus, we are compensated for the walk by the quietness and beautiful surroundings.

We have taken up as part of our literary work this term the study of other fraternities, mainly through their magazines, and find it quite interesting.

We are extremely sorry that not long since Georgia Lindley one of our new initiates, was compelled to leave school on account of nervous prostration. We lose in her an enthusiastic Kappa and a most earnest student.

MU—UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS.

This fall has been a very successful one for Mu. Commencing the year with eight active members we have added only three new girls to our list whom we take great pleasure in introducing to you. They are: Blanche Noel, Grace Grokin and Mabel Craycraft. Never before have we had such a small number but we thoroughly enjoy it and feel that instead of being a weakness it has proved a strength to us, has made us know each other better and has drawn us more closely together in the bonds of Kappa Kappa Gamma than we ever were before.

In celebration of the thirteenth of October we gave a banquet at the home of Retta Barnhill one of our alumnæ. There were about thirty present and it was especially enjoyable to see so many older girls with us again and know that they had not forgotten us but loved the girls and the fraternity as dearly as ever.

One of our girls Nelle Green is in Columbus this year and another one, Carrie Howe, in Boston, and we greatly appreciate and enjoy the descriptions they give us of the fraternity life of Phi and Beta Nu. It makes us feel more closely united and better acquainted with our sister chapters to hear of their affairs and progress in fraternity life.

Mu sends her best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ETA—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

College opened September twenty-eighth. How glad we all were to see each other again and how eagerly we scanned the faces of the new girls wondering who among them would become

Kappas. Now that rushing is over Eta has three new Kappas to introduce to you : Bertha Brown, Lila Bartlett, Flora Mansfield, and one pledgling, Carrie Dilatush, who we hope will be wearing the key by the time this reaches you.

This year introduces a new era in the woman's department of our College. We have a Dean, Miss Emery, a graduate of Bryn Mawr. Since her arrival Self-Government has been established. Everyone seems very interested in its success.

Our town alumnæ have been more than kind to us this fall, giving us receptions and teas at their homes. Now they are thinking of re-establishing an Alumnæ Chapter here.

Eta sent four delegates up to Minnesota for the Minnesota-Wisconsin game. The girls had a delightful time and are still singing Chi's praises. One thing that added greatly to their pleasure was the fact that Wisconsin beat Minnesota 39-0 on her home field. Forgive me, Chi. Since then we have had two more victories and now Wisconsin is Champion of the West.

Eta sends best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year to all.

UPSILON—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

Upsilon has two new members to introduce to the fraternity : Daisy Sheppard, of Oskaloosa, Ind., and Gertrude Reed, of Evanston.

Daisy Sheppard was a Kappa in spirit before she came to Evanston for she had been well brought up by a Kappa sister.

This year we have with us Lila Keyes of Delta, and only Delta sisters can know how dear she is to us. We must not forget to mention our pledgling, Ida Gray. We hoped to initiate her this semester, but she cannot matriculate until after Christmas.

Upsilon has had a new problem to deal with this year and that is, what is to be done with the girl who is anxious to be a Kappa but whose parents object to fraternities? We cannot advise the girl to go against the wishes of her parents, and yet it is not fair to the girl to leave her position in the fraternity world unsettled. Will some one who has had this problem to contend with give us some advice?

We are not mighty in numbers now, but because of this the girls seem to be nearer to one another. Perhaps we say too much

about harmony but we are so happy that we must tell of it. We were delighted when one of our pledgelings told us that she preferred Kappa because the girls were so united. Our strongest desire is for a chapter home, but that is something to be dreamed of for the present.

The election of our convention delegate has directed our thoughts to next August, when we hope to see you all, and when chapter letters will be a thing of the past.

EPSILON—ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

On October 13, the anniversary of Kappa Kappa Gamma, the active girls of Epsilon gave a reception to the Kappa Club of Bloomington. The Kappa Club has a large membership this year and has chosen as its line of work the study of Russia. The members have arranged for two lectures on Russia, to be given by Madame de Blumenthal, who is the teacher of French in the Wesleyan. Madame de Blumenthal is the wife of a Russian count and is a highly educated and cultured lady.

Epsilon wishes that all her sisters might see her chapter hall, now that it has been re-papered and re-painted, all in dark and light blue. The paper has a dark blue background with the fleur-de-lis design in gold.

On Hallowe'en night we entertained our friends at the home of Virginia Sinclair, in Normal, Ill. The evening was spent in typical Hallowe'en sports and fitting refreshments were served.

On November 24, the twenty-fourth anniversary of Epsilon, the active girls gave a reception to all the Kappas in Bloomington and Normal. We had with us one of our charter members, Mrs. Kate Graves, who was initiated just twenty-four years ago that day.

A very Happy New Year is the wish of Epsilon to all her sister chapters. One term of the school year is ended. Christmas time with all its joy and happiness will soon be passed and we shall be entering another term, ready for more work and pleasure.

DELTA PROVINCE.

CHI—UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

Chi sends heartiest Christmas and New Year's greetings.

Already our first term has slipped by. Chi started on September seventh with eleven girls in the chapter and ten pledged; on the twenty-seventh of September these pledglings became full-fledged Kappas and we are proud to introduce to our sister chapters: Ellen Janney, Della Brooks, Marjorie Higbee, Vera Morey, Lucy Hart, Edith Ives, Florence Kiehle, Alice Warner, Grace Trask and Margaret McMillan.

College has seemed rather quiet this year, but when we come to look back on the last term, it really was quite gay. On the thirteenth of October the Alumnae entertained the chapter at the home of Miss Merrill.

The great event of the month, the one looked forward to by all, was the Military-Athletic ball on Friday, the twenty-ninth. It was a great success.

On the thirtieth came the Wisconsin-Minnesota football game. Many Madison people attended and Chi had the pleasure of meeting and entertaining five of the Eta girls, receiving with them informally on Saturday evening.

Our gayeties ended on the thirteenth of November at a little party given for the girls by one of our Alumnae, Mrs. Davis.

Again we are settling down to prosaic college life—examinations are on and the new term begun.

BETA ZETA—IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

In the January KEY we read with interest the reports from the chapters of their fall campaign and the names of our new Kappa sisters. Beta Zeta's new girls are seven, and we wish to introduce them to you. Marion Morton, '98, was formerly a student at Drake University, and Anna Wyman, '99, came to us from Smith College. And then there are Katherine Close, Carrie Tullors, Helen Carder, Adda Hurlburt, Maud Kingsbury, of the class of '01—they comprise our "Kindergarten" of which we are so proud.

Our fall festivities began with a reception to the Kappa Moth-

ers and the new girls, at the home of Rita Stewart. Then followed an informal picnic at Edgewater Boat House, where pleasant hours were spent in rowing and paddling, snapping pictures, dancing, eating and singing. Several times we have been delightfully entertained in the pretty rooms of Maud St. John and Helen Clapp. Beta Zeta has no chapter room this year, but the hospitality with which we are received in the girls' homes helps to compensate.

Frances Rogers, '93, and Margaret Van Metre, '97 were visitors in the fall; and then very often some one of our girls has a visiting father, or sister, or cousin, or aunt, which has been the occasion of an oyster supper, a musicale, or a taffy pull. But the most profitable entertainment was Rita Stewart's "Darning Meet" held one Saturday morning for those of us who had mending to do. All were present; we ate popcorn and gossiped and sewed.

The State Convention of Y. W. C. A. in which a number of our girls are interested, was held in Iowa City in November. They were four busy days attended with much interest and success.

The class of '00 instituted this year the "Sophomore Cotillion" which will probably be an annual function hereafter, if we are to judge from the success of this first attempt.

On Thanksgiving Day last Miss Cornelia Ingham, '93, was married to Mr. Will McChesney, Δ. T. Δ. They make Iowa City their home and we rejoice in having another married Kappa sister with us.

THETA—UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

Theta sends greetings to her sister chapters.

Since the last publication of *THE KEY* another three months have passed away during which Theta has been active in adding to her ranks four charming girls whom we should like all our sisters to know. We are proud to introduce to Kappa Kappa Gamma: Mabel Phelps, Ethel DeBolt, Irene Blair and Ida Dobyns. We are anticipating with a great deal of pleasure the return of two old members for the second semester, Bessie Potter and Mary Turpin. Miss Potter was our delegate to last conven-

tion and was unable to return to college last year so much of the good we were anticipating from her trip to convention had to be deferred to a later time. On the whole we think we can say with truthfulness that our chapter is now in a more flourishing condition than it has been for years.

Convention, though seemingly far in the future, will be upon us before we know it. The question of who is to be delegate is a question now agitating all the chapters and it is a question not to be decided in a hurry. As we are so near the place where convention is to be held many of Theta's members are hoping to attend. We realize that the true meaning of the fraternity is gained better by attending one convention than by being active in a chapter for two years.

The University men are rejoicing in the fact that they are to have a new dormitory. We wish that we might have one, too, for the accomodations for women students are none too good and we hope that a dormitory would induce many girls to come here who otherwise would not.

Three more weeks and then Christmas. All the girls are anxiously awaiting that happy time.

To all our Kappa sisters we wish the merriest and happiest of Christmas-tides.

SIGMA—UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

The work of this semester began on the opening day of the University and has kept the girls at the grindstone almost constantly since. However, the machinery that turns the wheel, stopped long enough for the great football games, in which Nebraska came out a glorious victor. Nebraska triumphantly waves the pennant this year. We have not suffered a single defeat in the league games and but one during the whole season.

Our initiation was unusually late this year, yet two of the girls were pledged during the first week. It was not until November that a Friday or Saturday evening could be selected when all the girls were free from engagements. We have three new members initiated: Nelle Stoldbrook, Emma Outcalt, and Marguerite Winger, and one pledged, Daisy Hauck, who will probably be a full-fledged Kappa before this letter really appears. With our

new members, our chapter roll counts fourteen. This is the smallest chapter Sigma has had within the memory of our Seniors. We feel that we know each other a little better than when our chapter was larger.

Sigma sends best wishes to her sister chapters, and a Christmas greeting, and hopes that she will see many of their members at Convention next summer.

OMEGA—KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Rushing season has come and gone. We have been very successful this year pledging eight new girls. Seven of these and a last year's pledgeling have been initiated. Our new Kappas are Olive Lewis, Jessie Gaddis, Minnie Marks, Lou Grosh, Marie Morris, Edith House, Jennie Jones and Mabel Henry. Our new pledgeling is Alice Spaulding.

We have had two initiations. In planning for the last one we decided not to have any "funny" part. Some of us had been wanting to try this for a long time. The result fully justified our belief that an initiation would be more impressive without it.

We made the spread a feature of the evening and toasts were given on such subjects as "Kappa of the Future," "Our Fraternity," "The Fleur de lis," "The Key" and "How the Twentieth Century Girl will rush."

The University event of the fall was the Kansas-Iowa football game. All the fraternities were out in gaily decorated vehicles. McCook field was crowded with enthusiastic Kansans whom the score of 58 to 0 greatly rejoiced.

PI—UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

Since Pi's last, as well as first, letter to THE KEY, many events of much interest have transpired. Most important of all was the initiation of six freshmen which occurred on the night of the sixteenth of October. This date may seem early to most college girls; but in explanation we may say that the University of California opens its year during the month of August so that two full months had elapsed before the freshmen took their vows.

The rushing season was one of much pleasure and but little anxiety to us, for we had many to choose from with but slight

fears of refusal. Our previous existence as a local organization helped us very materially in the good work, and we feel the results are worthy of congratulation.

Our chapter house is now well established. Four of the girls live there with the mother of one of them. This is our meeting place and the scene of our initiations, chapter meetings and other good times. During the rushing season many were the teas and luncheons given here—sometimes to freshmen alone, at others to our friends among the faculty and the college men.

The week following the initiation Pi had the honor of being hostess at a reception given by us to Mrs. Phoebe Hearst, our University benefactress and regent. Our guests were the Faculty and the ladies of the Faculty, the women of the senior class, and the holders of the Hearst scholarships, Mrs. Hearst's special proteges. There were about three hundred in all who availed themselves of this opportunity to meet one who has done and will do so much for our University.

Since then we have devoted ourselves strictly to college work and studies and have done comparatively little entertaining, save on the third Thursday of each month when we are at home to our friends in the afternoon and evening.

On Thanksgiving Day came the time so long anticipated by both Stanford and the University of California students, the Intercollegiate Football Game. We have never won before, and we lost again. But the never say die spirit of our University is above all defeats and already we are thinking of the fray a year hence and are determined that the fate which seems to follow us shall be averted if human efforts can avail.

On the fourth of December comes the final college festivity before the examinations. This is Junior Day, celebrated in the afternoon by a farce written by a member of the Junior Class, and in the evening by the Junior Promenade, a dance given in the gymnasium. The farce is presented by members of the Junior Class and this year the leading part is to be taken by a Kappa, Blanche Terrill. But this is still in the future so no description can be given.

Pi sends best wishes to her sister chapters and hopes to hear from all of success such as her own has been thus far.

BETA ETA—LELAND STANFORD JR. UNIVERSITY.

We cannot introduce any new Kappa sisters to you, for our asking day has not yet arrived. At a Pan-Hellenic meeting held this fall, we advocated the extending of the six weeks' contract to one semester. The other three fraternities,—Kappa Alpha Theta, Pi Beta Phi, and Delta Gamma,—were opposed to this plan, and we then unanimously decided to stand alone. We feel that it is an advance in the right direction. But as it is necessarily somewhat of an experiment, it still remains to be seen how successful a one it will prove itself to be.

Although we have not any freshmen, we have a little sophomore, and want you to meet Edna Hobson who was initiated in September.

Edith Beck of Iota is here with us. She is taking advanced work in English.

We must tell you how very much we are enjoying our house and house-keeping. To be sure, some of it has been rather uphill work and we might fill volumes with our experiences, ludicrous and otherwise. But the worst is passed, and our family of ten is a very happy one.

Now that the football excitement has subsided with a score of 28 to 0, in favor of Stanford, we must turn our attention to that less exhilarating pastime of work and examinations.

Several of us spent Thanksgiving evening and part of the next day, at the Berkeley Kappa House. We cannot tell you how much we enjoyed our visit.

To all the Chapters, Beta Eta sends greetings with best wishes for a pleasant vacation.

A PLEDGE DAY LYRIC.

I went to my love in hope and fear,
Trembling alternately,
And whispering, asked if she would share
Her future life with me.

She glanced up with a smiling face
And looked so true and good,
Then put her little hand in mine
And softly said she would.

Oh, my little Kappa pledgling,
On some dark night near by,
We'll go to a bright lit altar
And get married, you and I,

And when the service is over
And you are fast bound to me,
Instead of a ring, as token,
I'll give you a Golden Key.

A. C. S., *Psi.*

College and Fraternity Notes.

DELTA KAPPA EPSILON will hold their next convention at Chicago, Ill., November 22-25.

SIGMA XI, the scientific honorary fraternity, has established a chapter at the University of Nebraska.

At the last convention of DELTA DELTA DELTA the word sorosis was discarded and fraternity adopted in its stead.

THETA DELTA CHI has withdrawn from Kenyon College, as there was but one active member left in the charge.

PSI UPSILON has granted a charter to the *Omega Club* of the University of Chicago. About twelve active members were admitted and they have been petitioning for four years.

DELTA KAPPA EPSILON has embarked upon a new venture. Under the direction of their fraternity officers there are being manufactured D. K. E. rugs on which the coat of arms and the pin of the fraternity are reproduced.

PHI KAPPA PSI has adopted a new pledge pin. The pin formerly used bore the letters $\Phi. K. \Psi.$, thus making the candidate wear the fraternity letters before his initiation. The new pin is a shield-shaped badge of enamel bearing the design of a Roman lamp.

DELTA TAU DELTA held its Karnea at Chicago, August 25, 26 and 27. Out of 37 active chapters 33 were represented. The fraternity is in possession of an elaborate new catalogue, upon which the compiler and publisher states that he has spent 2,640 hours.

DELTA UPSILON has published a catalogue of its fraternity library. It is divided in three parts. 1. College fraternity publications. 2. College publications. 3. Delta Upsilon publications. Professor Melville G. Dodge, of Hamilton College, is the fraternity librarian.

At their recent convention KAPPA ALPHA took the following action: "To debar all members of the Kappa Alpha Order from

joining the following organizations:” “Theta Nu Epsilon; Boar’s Head, at Tulane; Golden Helmet, Golden Dragon, and Junior Secret Society, at Sewanee; Gimghoul, Pi Sigma, N. Society, and Gorghon Head, at North Carolina; 18K, Zeta Tau Kappa, and Yuppali, of the University of Georgia; Tilka, Zeta, and Peter Magill, of the University of Virginia; Skeleton and Hand, of the University of Texas; and all such similar organizations. And all Kappa Alphas now connected with such organizations shall be compelled to withdraw at once.”

An interesting point in the development of college life in great co-educational institutions is marked by the erection of a fine clubhouse for the women’s league of the University of Michigan. Women have been admitted to the university for twenty-six years and now number six hundred. When completed, the clubhouse will contain, besides the gymnasium proper, with its running track, swimming-pool, and baths, spacious parlors, a rest-room, committee-room, and small library, while the corner of the basement is to be fitted up for a kitchen. On the third floor there will be an auditorium seating seven hundred, and fitted up with a stage for plays, lectures, and other entertainments.—*Public Opinion*, 11 Nov., ’97.

The *Century Magazine* has offered to give, during four successive years, three prizes of \$250, open to persons who receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts in any college or university in the United States during the commencement seasons of 1897, 1898, and 1899 and 1900.

1. For the best metrical writing of not fewer than fifty lines.
2. For the best essay in the field of biography, history or literary criticism of not fewer than four thousand or more than eight thousand words,
3. For the best story of not fewer than four thousand or more than eight thousand words.

On or before June 1st of the year succeeding graduation, competitors must submit type-written manuscript to the editor of the *Century Magazine*, marked outside and inside, “For the College Competition,” signed by a pen-name, and accompanied by the name and address of the author in a separate sealed envelope, which will not be opened until the decision has been made. It is

to be understood that the article submitted has not been previously published.

The *Century Magazine* reserves the right to print the prize manuscripts without further payments, the copyright to revert to the authors three months after the date of publication.

These prizes have been offered with the aim of encouraging literary activity among college graduates.—*Ex.*

The young college women are going in for secret fraternities with as much zeal as the sterner sex, but when it comes to details they are utterly different. Instead of tapping kegs of beer they give college dances in the chapter-room.

One queer club at Smith College is the Order of the Hibernians, whereof each member must be ready to tell an Irish story, sing an Irish song, or do other "stunts" unspecified. This local club does not belong to the fraternities, for Smith, like Vassar, is extremely conservative in its management.

Barnard has only one chapter—that of Kappa Kappa Gamma—and the finest rooms in the country have been provided for it in the new buildings of the Columbia group. Boston University has several chapters. There are eight large fraternities bearing rather gibberish names, wholly unfamiliar to the uninitiated. One of the oldest is Alpha Phi, of which Miss Frances Willard is the most distinguished member. In a Michigan university nearly every society has a chapter-house—an unpretentious little building, where they keep house under the care of a chaperone, generally some woman professor, and gratify their feminine instincts for dainty housekeeping and experimental cooking.

The best organizer of women's chapters bore the rather odd name of Tade Hartsuff; she is now Mrs. Kuhns. Other famed Kappas are Mrs. Mary A. Livermore: Miss Warren, Latin professor at Vassar, and Miss Katherine Sharp, professor of library instruction in Chicago University.

Some of the large fraternities are considering the advisability of incorporating their orders, as the men do, and building or renting chapter-houses.—*New York Tribune*, Nov. 9, 1897.

Editorials.

There is no excitement like ardent enthusiasm and the impressions received under excitement are the most intense in their nature. For this very reason extreme care should be exercised when a girl is to be initiated into the fraternity. The idea of the organization which she then receives will remain indelibly stamped upon her mind. Later experiences may deepen her interest in the order but the first impressions can not be erased. The mind is not a palimpsest and the first writing on the initiate's mind survives under all later inscriptions. What that writing is to be depends upon the chapter.

The initiate is treading on unknown ground. The divinity that hedges about a king performs the same kindly service in the Greek letter fraternities. What to the members is perfectly simple and natural appears to the initiate in the light of a great mystery. What conception of the fraternity does the chapter wish the candidate to have? Do they wish her to regard her initiation as a frolic and the organization at large as a huge social club or do they wish her to be impressed with the deeper significance which is attributed to the fraternity? What means shall they employ to bring it about?

Suppose the candidate be met in some adjacent gorge, blind-folded, whirled away in a carriage, greeted at her destination with rattling of bones, clanking of chains and gibberish, compelled to tilt with the goat, be branded with hot irons, imbibe steaming decoctions from a skull, gulp down bitter doses out of miniature coffins, gaze on the spirit form of a dear departed sister and all of the other well-known and time-honored observances reserved for such occasions. Suppose all this is but a prelude to being brought before the chapter and assured that the fraternity has high ideals and noble aims and purposes. Can she be expected to believe it and to be impressed with their seriousness? If she is made to promise that she will save up her old shoes to feed the goat and spend her ninety-seventh year polishing the handle of the door of the temple, can she believe that the real vows which she takes are binding? Scarcely. Nonsense is the seasoning of life but seasoning has its proper uses and places.

Mr. Walter Besant says that 'women can never understand the divine right of foolery' but in spite of this remark it is true that foolery has its charms for most young women and the mock initiation is commonly the essence of "fooling." If the absence of such an initiation is a deprivation to upper and under class-women, hold it; but let it be neither a part of nor a preparation for the fraternity initiation. Hold it after the regular initiation and make it a third or a forty-seventh or a thousandth degree, or any other excuse for its nonsense. Then the initiate will know what is expected of her and exactly with whom she is dealing and things which might wound a sensitive girl at her initiation will then pass as a part of the general foolishness.

This plan meets the arguments in favor of a "chapter swing" quite as well as the other one. Let the regular initiation be serious and dignified, something the candidate will remember all her life. If the mock initiation is supposed to be a preparation for it we should change our fraternity bird from the owl to the lark at once.

The ideal initiation consists of two parts: the Ritual established by the fraternity and a formal banquet with toasts and merry-making. At the banquet there should be some alumna who can explain to the initiates the purpose of the fraternity and what their attitude toward it should be. The Ritual provides for the upbringing and criticism of younger members and an explanation of it aids in settling the questions which are troubling Epsilon and Beta Delta.

Word has come from Miss Martin that the catalogue will be ready for the printers about Christmas time. No pains have been spared in the effort to make this catalogue as nearly accurate as it is possible for a publication of its nature to be. It is hoped that it will be ready for distribution before the next issue of the Magazine appears. Every member of the fraternity ought to own a copy, and those who wish to subscribe should send their names at once to Miss Anna H. Martin, Reno, Nevada.

The new Song Book has given so much pleasure to some of the members of the fraternity that it awakened a new interest in the

songs. A search was instituted as to their authors and the circumstances under which they were written but, as yet, the only detailed account which has come to light is that of Miss Curtis, published in this number of *THE KEY*. It is a disappointment to find that nothing definite can be learned about "Knocking, Knocking," which is the most interesting song of all, perhaps, since it is the first which the initiate hears. It is supposed to have been written by Gertrude Kendall of Delta chapter. Miss Kendall died some years ago and her sister, who was a member of the chapter at the same time, knows nothing of the song.

Investigation has brought out the curious fact that a large proportion of the songs were written by friends rather than by members of the fraternity themselves. "Clavis Vestra Candeat," which is much used by all the chapters, was written for Eta by Mr. Howard Morris, and the four songs which Mu contributes to the present volume were written by Professor Miller of the University of Indianapolis, Editor of the *Scroll*.

It is desirable to know as much as possible about these songs, for their history will be a part of the history of the fraternity which must be issued before many years. If any one knows or can learn anything concerning them, will she send the information to the Grand Registrar or the Editor of *THE KEY*?

The following item is clipped from one of the New York papers: "The Greater New York Alumnae chapter of the Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity held its first afternoon tea of the season at the studio rooms of Miss Annie Laurie Woods, in Twenty-second street, on Friday. About thirty persons were present, among them graduates of Leland Stanford, Boston, Northwestern, Cornell, Syracuse and St. Lawrence universities and Barnard College. Miss Jessie Cassidy, a graduate of Cornell, who has recently written a successful book on the laws relating to women and children, gave a talk. Mrs. A. B. Hepburn, of St. Lawrence, was elected President, and Miss Van Riper, of Barnard, Secretary. The next meeting will be held in January."

The mere description of such a meeting makes one long to be a part of it. Kappa Kappa Gamma seems far behind the other fraternities in the matter of alumnae associations. The present regulations in regard to these associations are not at all stringent

and there is no apparent reason why we should not have associations in Chicago, Syracuse, Philadelphia, Madison, Indianapolis and the Twin Cities. Some enthusiastic and enterprising alumna should undertake their organization.

The calendar is now ready for distribution. It resembles the previous calendars in size and shape, and its blue cover bears, in dark blue, the design which was used on the 1894 calendar. Its distinguishing feature is, that an attempt has been made to limit the quotations to authors who have been living within the last decade. Like the other calendars, it is suitable for a holiday gift to some sister Kappa. The price is twenty-five cents and orders should be sent to Miss Annabel Collins, Maplehurst, Iowa Falls, Ia.

The reading of the exchanges and the comparison of other fraternities' methods and manners with our own, suggest some questions in regard to which THE KEY is in the sloughs of ignorance. The accounts of the many conventions which have occurred since the last issue of the magazine almost without exception speak of the "Beta Kappa Two-step" or the "Alpha Gamma Waltz" which was played at some convention function. A pang of envy overtakes us at every mention of fraternity music. A spasm of genuine covetousness assails us when we hear the "D. K. E. Waltz" and the "Marching Song." Has Kappa Kappa Gamma no music? We have never heard of any. If it exists, will some kind friend introduce it to THE KEY? If we have none, can not some of our much discussed fine arts students be inspired to justify their presence in the fraternity by writing a Kappa Kappa Gamma waltz, or even a polanaise, a nocturne, a ballade, a prelude or a fugue?

Another question, suggested by an article in *Kappa Alpha Theta* is, are we to have no more province conventions? Hitherto in our history province conventions have been spasmodic and when one province was seized, the convention microbe infected the neighboring province. Is it to continue so, or are they to become regularly established institutions?

THE KEY, which was offered as a prize for the best article contributed to the magazine last year, was, by Grand Council vote,

awarded to Annie Pitman of Eta chapter, the writer of "Fraternity Vows" in the April Parthenon. The other articles which received votes were "The Whole Duty of the Initiate," "The Alumna at the Fraternity Table," "Privileges and Responsibilities," Psi in the October Parthenon and "The Keeping of Chapter Records." The first two articles were barred out, being written by the management of the Magazine. "Privileges and Responsibilities" was written by the Grand Registrar and "The Keeping of Chapter Records" by the Editor of the Catalogue.

Of the chapter letters, Beta Epsilon had the best record for the year, the chapter head being awarded to Louise Dunn, writer of the January letter. The other letters which received votes were Phi and Chi in January, Beta Tau and Beta Zeta in April, Upsilon and Beta Eta in July. The two prizes will be offered again for the year 1898.

THE KEY has arranged to continue its general exchange with the grand officers and chapters of the other women's fraternities. In consequence each of the grand officers and chapters of Kappa Kappa Gamma should regularly receive copies of *Kappa Alpha Theta*, *Anchora*, *Alpha Phi Quarterly* and *Trident*. If the exchanges do not come, please notify the editor.

THE KEY files of Iota, Beta Beta, Phi and the Editor are now complete. The numbers still missing from other files are as follows: The Grand President lacks Vol. I, nos. 1 and 4 and Vol. II, no. 1; the Grand Secretary lacks Vol. V, no. 2 and all up to Vol. V except Vol. II, nos. 3 and 4; Vol. III, nos. 2, 3 and 4; the Grand Registrar lacks Vol. I, no. 1 and Vol. IV, no. 3; the Grand Treasurer lacks Vol. I, Vol. II, nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, no. 1 and Vol. IV, no. 1; Eta lacks Vol. I; Vol. II, nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, nos. 1 and 2; Vol. IV, nos. 2, 3 and 4; Chi lacks Vol. VI, no. 1; Vol. X, nos. 2 and 3; Delta lacks Vol. I, nos. 1 and 2; Vol. II, nos. 1 and 2; Vol. III, no. 1; Vol. IV, nos. 2 and 3; Vol. VIII, no. 2; Beta Tau lacks Vol. VIII, no. 3; Vol. XI, no. 1; Epsilon lacks Vols. I, and Vol. II; Psi lacks Vol. I; Vol. II, nos. 2 and 3; Vol. IV, no. 3. Let every registrar compare these lists with the lists in THE KEY for October 1896 and see if she cannot supply the missing numbers. A copy of

January, 1897, is much desired at THE KEY office. If any chapters have extra copies of the magazine, particularly of the very early numbers, please send them to 89 E. Buffalo St., Ithaca, N. Y.

A letter just received from Miss Nellie Simpson, too late for the *Alumnæ* Department, is printed here :

"The Boston *Alumnæ* Association has had meetings and very enthusiastic ones. On October 30 we started in very auspiciously on our third year of reorganization. We have averaged about forty members with an average attendance at our meetings of about fifteen to twenty. We do not attempt any line of work, but simply spend the time in renewing the old friendships ; as this can be best accomplished over the teacups some slight refreshment is always served by the committee. We meet in the active chapter's rooms, and in consideration of this privilege, and because of our own personal interest, we try each year to assist the active chapter financially as much as possible. We have been fortunate to secure for our association members from other chapters than Phi. It has been one of our greatest privileges to meet and to know fraternally girls from Beta Beta, Beta Eta, Beta Nu, Chi, Omega and Sigma. We are remarkably happy in having on our membership list the Grand President and a past Grand President. We send cordial greetings to the fraternity at large and especially to our *alumnæ*. If the latter can have an association in any other central place we would strongly advise them to follow the example of New York and Boston, as we have certainly found great enjoyment and profit in our association."

Exchanges.

What would fraternity journalism be without conventions? On the other hand one may ask, "What is fraternity journalism *with* conventions?" Whatever the reply, there has been a large crop of conventions this fall and a bountiful harvest of enthusiasm is being gathered into the fraternity treasure houses.

Among the magazines upon the table this month the *Kappa Alpha Journal*, *The Kappa Alpha Theta*, *The Arrow*, *The Trident*,

The Phi Gamma Delta Quarterly, *The Sigma Chi Quarterly* and *The Delta Upsilon Quarterly* are convention numbers. Each gives its testimony and the sum and substance of them all is that conventions are the source of perpetual youth and happiness. God bless the man who first invented conventions!

Perhaps of all the convention material, that which will most interest the readers of *THE KEY* is a stray fact or two taken from *The Kappa Alpha Theta*. Since their former convention KAPPA ALPHA THETA has established three active chapters located at the University of Illinois, Brown University and the Woman's College of Baltimore, and, better yet, she has gained three alumna chapters, at Chicago, Columbus, O., and Indianapolis. Eight applications for charters have been refused. The Journal, which has been issued but three times a year, is to become quarterly and has received an increased appropriation. Chi chapter is to publish a song book and a new edition of the catalogue is to appear before next convention.

From an article in the same magazine we quote the following:

"In the first place let us consider the effect of a 'Travelling President' upon each individual chapter. Each chapter has its own ideals, but are the individual ideals all equally high? This is where our much needed 'Travelling President' could be of so much aid, by showing us our faults and our virtues. Also, she can help to unify the different forms, and especially can she thoroughly investigate the condition of doubtful chapters.

"As for the effect upon the fraternity as a whole, can we help realizing the good that would be accomplished? Would it not arouse enthusiasm? By raising the ideals of each chapter would not the fraternity as a whole be benefitted? Thus the chapters being brought into nearer touch with one another, and in that way giving to each new ideas and new suggestions, the true and deeper meaning of a fraternity would be realized to a greater extent. By so doing could each individual help but feel that she has not simply the responsibility of her chapter, but of the whole fraternity? She has not only her own reputation to uphold, nor even the reputation of her chapter, but the reputation of her fraternity, of hundreds of girls, sisters, rests upon her shoulders alone."

The idea is not a new one. It has already been tried, if we mistake not, by one woman's fraternity. Theoretically, it is flawless, but actually there is about one woman in a thousand who could fittingly assume the office of "Travelling President," and when that woman was found she would be too valuable, wherever she might be, to be spared to travel from chapter to chapter.

In point of development, *The Trident* is the breaker of records. Although Delta Delta Delta is the youngest of the women's fraternities, within the past three years its journal has grown from a mere slip of a magazine to a volume of noteworthy dimensions. Their convention voted to keep Miss Allen in the editorial chair for another term, and they could not have reached a wiser decision, for the present prosperity of the magazine is almost entirely due to her unceasing labor in its behalf. *The Trident* is to make an innovation among the women's magazines by publishing the fraternity history as a supplement to its July number. This is done in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the fraternity.

The Arrow of *Pi Beta Phi* opens with photographs and personal sketches of their Grand Council. They are an attractive looking body of young women. The magazine passes into the hands of a new editor, and THE KEY is pleased to extend to her a cordial greeting. She outlines her plans for *The Arrow* thus:

"The new editor has no particular policy to announce regarding the management of *The Arrow*. She purposely leaves herself foot-loose in this matter. *The Arrow* is for *Pi Beta Phi* and for *Pi Beta Phis*, and whatever will further the best interests of our fraternity or its members, that, with all it includes and excludes, will, we hope, make up the contents of *The Arrow*.

"Nor is it necessary to limit too closely the term 'best interests.' The purpose of *The Arrow* is threefold and it exists first to strengthen the bond of the fraternity by promoting acquaintance and interest between chapter and chapter; second to facilitate the practical workings of our order, and third to help us in the realization of the ideals for which *Pi Beta Phi* stands."

SIGMA CHI has adopted a coat of arms, which appears upon the cover of the *Sigma Chi Quarterly*. In its proper environment it consists of a seal, against a blue background upon which is outlined a white cross, the whole being surmounted by an eagle with a key in its beak. How could the *Quarterly* refrain from such a glorious opportunity to use the words, "azure," "couchant" and the like?

A glowing account of the Convention held August 25-28 is given under the suggestive title, "What and *who* we did at Nashville." The writer is obviously of the school of OUIDA for he assures us that Sigma Chis "were greeted, pampered, iced

and punched, by the fairest of that divine coterie of beauty which God loaned Nashville and for which Paradise is disconsolate. "

The *Beta Theta Pi* is, perhaps, the most even in tone of any of the fraternity magazines and it has a right to be as it rejoices in having Mr. Wm. R. Baird for its editor. We quote from an editorial on secrecy, and its attitude is so sensible that we hope every reader of *THE KEY* will consider it :

"The fraternity has reason to congratulate itself upon the fact that of late years no seal of secrecy has been imposed upon its members regarding its constitution, laws, system of administration, or manner of government. Its policy in regard to the publication of such matters is precisely that of every well-regulated private family or business enterprise. No family exposes its private affairs to the public, and no sane business man opens his books or discloses his methods to his rivals in trade. So it is with us. We deny no information concerning ourselves to any one who has any right to seek it, but we refuse to spread broadcast the minutes of our deliberations or the pages of our organic law without reason. This reflection is apropos of the publication of the constitution and code of laws adopted at the July convention. We do not conceal their contents, and college authorities everywhere who have supervision over our active members are welcome to all proper information concerning these regulations, but we do not expect our chapters to freely give out copies to other Greeks, or those who have no good reasons for desiring to see them. "

The *Delta Kappa Epsilon Quarterly* opens with an exceptionally good article entitled "Progress or Stagnation. " We wish that it might be quoted entire but there is only space for one short but significant paragraph :

"It would be disastrous for the Fraternity to enter upon a policy of reckless extension. What it should do is to study the field, observe the gaps in its line, and be prepared to fill them as opportunity offers. There is no hurry. It is better to leave a space blank than to fill it unworthily. But when an application is received from a desirable group of students, in an institution of the highest class, situated in a region marked "Unexplored " on Delta Kappa Epsilon maps, it ought to be considered in a hospitable spirit. It will be especially advisable to keep an eye on the State universities of the West. Eventually they are going to be the great centers of learning of this country. Some of them have reached maturity already."

The *Anchora* has acquired a new gown as well as a new home.

It is now in the hands of the Baltimore chapter of Delta Gamma and wears a charming dress of crinkly white paper which resembles crepon. Miss Brown, the new editor, had a difficult position to fill in following Miss Firkins, whose ten years' experience had made her a power in fraternity journalism. But the first number under the new management is fully up to the standard and THE KEY extends to Miss Brown her most cordial congratulations.

With the October number of *The Scroll* appears a manual which is a perfect mine of information about Phi Delta Theta and all the other fraternities. However, the thing in *The Scroll* which most attracts our attention is the announcement of the withdrawal of their chapter at Illinois Wesleyan. It is a movement which all Kappa Gammas must regret. *The Scroll* editorial on the subject is quoted entire :—

"The charter of Illinois Epsilon, at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois, has been returned by the members of that chapter in college during the past year, and Illinois Epsilon has become inactive. This action was taken on the advice of the General Council. It can be explained in a very few words. With the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois drawing very heavily upon the former constituencies of all the smaller colleges in Illinois, and with Northwestern far outstripping other Methodist schools in the state (as well as for other reasons, doubtless), the attendance and income of the Illinois Wesleyan University have been steadily declining of late. The whole number of male collegiate students last year did not reach seventy. Phi Delta Theta decided that it was to her best interest to withdraw. Illinois Epsilon has furnished many loyal alumni, scattered over the country in positions of trust and influence, many of them having held high official positions in the Fraternity. Of these we are proud and of the history of the chapter they founded and sustained. That Illinois Epsilon has ceased her activity is no fault of theirs. The Fraternity will still claim and receive their loyalty, their interest and their active support."

The Western College Magazine appears upon our table for the first time. It is an inter-collegiate monthly, seemingly devoted to the interests of the western colleges. In the current number the "college song, colors and yells of every important college in the west" are given. Among their number we find the University of Nebraska, University of Kansas, University of Missouri, and University of Iowa, where our own chapters are located. The magazine comes from Temple Block, Kansas City, Mo.