

~THE KEY.~

VOL. XV.

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No. 4.

A KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA SONG.

TUNE—"Girvan's Woods" or "Twenty Years Ago."

I.

We sing the colors blue and blue of our fraternity ;
The light blue of the skies above, the dark blue of the sea.
But wider than the heavens, and deeper than the sea,
And boundless as the universe is our love for K. K. G.
And boundless as the universe is our love for K. K. G.
O, Kappa Kappa Gamma, our dear fraternity,
O'er all this world, through all our lives, we shall be true to thee.

II.

We sing of Kappa's precious gem, the diamond turned to blue,
Whoever wears it feels the power of impulse good and true.
And Kappa's lily fresh and fair, the stately fleur-de-lis,
But fairer far than gem or flower are the girls of K. K. G.
But fairer far than gem or flower are the girls of K. K. G.
O, Kappa Kappa Gamma with colors blue and blue,
Through all this world, through all our lives, to thee we shall
be true.

III.

We sing of Kappa's golden key, of magic power possessed,
It can undo the closest lock if skillfully 'tis pressed.
It opes the door into a life so broad and full and free,
This golden charm unlocks the hearts, of the girls of K. K. G.
This golden charm unlocks the hearts of the girls of K. K. G.
O, Kappa Kappa Gamma, our dear fraternity,
Through all our lives, with all our hearts, we shall be true to
thee.

Gamma Rho.

THE CONVENTION.

It is only the girl who has been fortunate enough to represent her chapter at some Convention who knows how the journey Conventionward differs from all her other journeys. The Convention-goer is ever the most fondly expectant of mortals since she never knows at what moment she may discover some new yet dear friend. Instead of sitting quietly in her seat with the indifferent air of the chronic traveler, who hopes for nothing and expects less, she gazes at each girl who enters the car, peers at the ribbon at her throat, scans the folds of her dress, or fixes her eyes on her belt in search of a fraternity pin and, failing to find it, examines her face critically, hoping there to discover some sign which shall point her out as another Convention-goer. With each station she grows more anxious until the happy moment comes when she really spies the long looked for badge and goes forward with fear and trembling to speak to its owner and to find a few moments later that an acquaintance is begun which affords infinite possibilities in the way of friendship. After several of these pleasant experiences the delegate, who perhaps has hitherto known no member of the fraternity outside of her own chapter, begins to realize that Kappa Kappa Gamma has been for her only a partially discovered country and that it has delightful realms which she has not yet explored.

It was with this feeling of a newly acquired kingdom that some of the delegates arrived at Lincoln, August 23, to attend the Fourteenth National Convention of Kappa Kappa Gamma, and the feeling was strengthened as they found the members of Sigma busily meeting every train, cordially welcoming all new comers and finally whisking them off in a gaily decorated carriage to the Hotel Lincoln which was to be their home for a week.

To the eastern girl who was accustomed to seeing the Greek letter fraternities ignored in the town and dwarfed by general university interests on the campus, a drive through the main business street of Lincoln resembled a triumphal procession. The city seemed to have exerted itself to the utmost to show its loyalty to Sigma chapter: strips of dark and light blue bunting formed an effective background for the display of various wares, gilt keys set with innumerable jewels sparkled in several shop windows,

silvered Greek letter Sigmas flashed from unexpected corners, fleur-de-lis, nurtured by the kindly hand of some skillful manipulator of paper blossomed at every turn, pennants of dark and light blue were set in motion by every breeze, a card with the pleasant sentiment "we welcome you, Kappas" touched many a loyal heart, while even the railway office tried to prove that corporations have souls by urging every passerby to "go to Omaha with the Kappas." The cordiality with which the girls were received and the courtesy with which they were treated on every side are among the pleasantest memories which they have to take back with them into the routine of student life.

The first social event scheduled in the programmes sent out to the chapters, was an informal reception for the delegates, held at the home of the Misses Winger. Here some hundred girls were happy in meeting each other, learning to know Sigma from Kappa or to distinguish Pi from Delta and chatting about chapters, fraternities and colleges until long after midnight; finally parting to meet again at nine o'clock on Wednesday morning when the Marshal announced that "the Fourteenth National Convention of Kappa Kappa Gamma is now open."

Between the two important announcements, which began and terminated Convention, a number of sessions were held, many things were discussed and much business was transacted. A full record of these is to be found in the Convention minutes and with an account of the "special session" should be given to the chapters by their respective delegates.

Through the kindness of the authorities, all business sessions were held in the University Chapel, which had been charmingly decorated for Convention by two of Sigma's mothers. The gallery was festooned with dark and light blue bunting, palms were placed about the platform and the owl and a huge key occupied a place high above the head of the Grand President. Nor was it alone the inside of the building which had been glorified for the fraternity's use, for a huge blue and blue banner waved from the flag staff on the chapel roof. This banner with which Sigma's members had intended on "fraternity day" to adorn the Nebraska State Building at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, after a few days of gay existence disappeared and was not again seen during Convention,—but "that's another story" and must be left for some other fraternity magazine to chronicle.

After a busy day of sessions on Wednesday, rest and pleasure came in a picnic tea given at the home of Miss Ena Ricketts for all Kappas and a few friends. Refreshments were served on small tables on the lawn and later in the evening dancing and other informal amusements were in order. This was a very jolly time! It resembled, some of the delegates said, a huge chapter meeting and it was a happy evening of making new friendships and enjoying those already made.

Thursday passed quietly away with sessions and committee work, but Thursday evening brought with it more festivities in the form of a musical given at the home of Miss Mabel Richards. This was more elaborate than the previous entertainments had been and the delegates and visitors for the first time met many townspeople and members of other fraternities. The arrangement of the house is unusual and it was a surprise and delight to the girls who knew nothing of it beforehand. It is built in Italian style with a large court surrounded by balconies. These balconies were decorated with flowers, palms and dark and light blue flags, while the mosaic floor of the court happened through some prophetic instinct to have been laid in fleur-de-lis pattern. The piano was placed in the court and the larger number of the guests were seated there, although some preferred to linger in the balconies. The programmes which were intended for souvenirs were hand-painted and were very pretty. The music was as follows:

a. Murmuring Zephyrs.....	Jensen-Niemann
b. Hexentanz.....	MacDowell
Miss Maude Risser	
The Robin.....	Neidlinger
Mrs. Mark Woods	
Solo.....	Selected
Miss Eleanor Raymond	
a. The First Meeting.....	Grieg
b. Nocturne.....	Nevin
c. Valse.....	Carreno
Mrs. Will Owen Jones	
Ballade et Polonaise.....	Vieux-temps
Miss Silence Dales	
Nymphs and Shepherds.....	Purcell
Mrs. Mark Woods	
a. Liebeslied.....	G. Merkel
b. Pan-Pastoral.....	B. Godard
c. Etude, G Flat.....	Chopin
Miss May Colson	

Another business session came on Friday morning while in the afternoon the Convention was entertained by the Nebraska chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta at the home of Miss Weeks. The house was decorated with crimson and cream, the university colors. Punch was served in the house and ices on the lawn where the Theta colors were ingeniously displayed in orange colored ice and some very dark chocolate wafers. As Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma stand side by side in friendly rivalry at almost every college, it was a great pleasure for many of the delegates to be able to meet the Lincoln Thetas and to visit with them about common friends.

On Friday evening a charming lawn party was given at the home of Miss Lottie Wheedon. A pavilion decorated with the two blues was built on the lawn and here those who were so minded danced to the music of an excellent orchestra. Refreshments were served in a booth and in tents at different places about the grounds while over everything countless Japanese lanterns twinkled and the blue banners floated. Nothing could be prettier than this glimpse into fairyland.

Saturday morning was given over to a business session and in the afternoon Miss Macfarland of Kappa Alpha Theta gave a pretty tea in honor of her guest, Dorothy Canfield, the delegate from Beta Nu.

In the evening a formal reception was given at the home of Miss Clara Hammond. Here the delegates again met students, faculty and townspeople and enjoyed themselves, chatting, listening to the music or wandering about the lawn. Many of Sigmas older alumnae were present and it was delightful to meet them and at last to know the girls of whom one had always heard.

Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, a special service was held at the Episcopal church through the kindness of the Rev. H. P. Silver. A sermon suitable to the occasion was preached and nearly all the Kappas and many other fraternity and university people were present.

One business session was held on Monday morning and the afternoon was taken up with committee work. In the evening the Kappas were entertained by Sigma Chi at the home of Mr. Fitzgerald. The extensive grounds were prettily decorated with Japanese lanterns and a large pavilion had been built for dancing.

Although many parties had preceded this and some of the delegates were beginning to be too tired to dance, no one was too weary to look on and enjoy the lights and the beautiful lawns and it was voted a great success.

Tuesday morning the final session of Convention took place and after some hours for rest the Convention again met for the last time at the banquet. This was held in the large dining room of the Hotel Lincoln and here nearly one hundred Kappas from different chapters sat down at the table together for the first time in their lives. The tables were set in the form of the Greek letter Sigma and were beautifully decorated with flowers which had been sent by other fraternities. At each place was a pink rose tied with lavender ribbon, a pretty reminder of the kindness of the Phi Kappa Psi chapter.

During the banquet the orchestra gave a concert which was received with hearty applause. The sensation of the evening, however, occurred when the ice cream came in, in layers of dark and light blue frozen in the form of the conventional fleur-de-lis. One delegate allowed hers to melt "because she could not eat anything so pretty" and, Sigma's originality met with much praise. After this, the chairs were pushed back and Miss Ricketts of Sigma, who acted as toastmistress, introduced the first speaker. A copy of the toast list is given below.

Ena Katherine Rickets.....Toastmistress.

I. To Pi—THE LATEST BORN.

"I charge you, charge your glasses,
I charge you, drink with me,
To the last and newest chapter,
Beside the western sea."

—With Apologies to Mr. Kipling.

Elizabeth Pauline Palmer.....Phi.
Response: Blanche Roberta Terrill.....Pi.

II. To THE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF OTHER DAYS.

"When time, which steals our years away,
Shall steal our pleasures too,
The memories of the past will stay,
And all our youth renew."

—Moore.

Myrtle May Dickson.....Upsilon.
Response: Shirley H. Smith.....Kappa.

III. THE GREEKS IN WAR.

"I have done as you have done, that's what I can; induced as you have been, that's for my country."

—Coriolanus IV.

Eliza V. Marchand..... Chi.

IV. PAN HELLAS.

"What's in a name?"

—Shakespeare.

Dorothy Canfield..... Beta Nu.

V. AT THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

"Knocking, knocking, who is there?"

Waiting, waiting, Kappa fair."

Jessie Gaddis..... Omega.

VI. THE FLEUR-DE-LIS.

"O! fleur-de-lis, bloom on, and let the river

Linger to kiss thy feet;

O flower of song, bloom on, and make forever

The world more fair and sweet."

—Longfellow.

Helen Winnifred Whipple..... Psi.

There were numerous yells improvised and others; there was dancing on the part of two of the girls and there was much happiness and much merriment on the part of everybody so that it was already morning when the large circle was formed and our "Parting Song" was sung.

The next day a special train conveyed the larger part of the Convention to Omaha to attend the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. It was Greek letter day at the Exposition and tiny badges of dark and light blue ribbon were given to all who entered the grounds that day. A general fraternity meeting was scheduled for the morning at eleven o'clock but the testimony of an eye witness is that the few who were gathered together in the name of fraternity at that hour, disbanded as if by common consent at the sound of the band which heralded Buffalo Bill's parade through the grounds. For this reason, the readers of THE KEY will never know what that meeting might have done for the cause of Pan Hellenism!

For some hours the Kappas roamed about the grounds and in groups ranging from two or three to a dozen persons, looked at the Indians, had their fortunes told, watched the pickaninnies dance, played with telepathy or stood about while urged to "ride Moses through the streets of Cairo." In the evening they all

came together again at the Japanese tea gardens, this time at the invitation of the Nebraska chapter of Phi Delta Theta. These charming little gardens had been decorated with dark and light blue pennants in honor of Kappa Kappa Gamma and over the door Phi Delta Theta had been woven out of Japanese ferns. Here the Kappas were cordially received and hospitably entertained while they sat about quaint little wicker tables and were served by an understudy of "the great god Bud" with the most delicious of teas in the daintiest of cups. The moment for leaving was postponed as far as possible but when it finally came each girl brought away with her a Japanese parasol tied with the Phi Delta Theta colors. These will serve in some college room to recall many times that delightful ending of a delightful week.

Such is the general outline of Convention but those who were a part of it know that the best of it will never be told. There are so many pleasant things that can not be formally recorded. Every girl could tell of her appreciation of the Convention pins which Mr. Auld so kindly sent, of the pleasure of welcoming members of a chapter which had never before been represented at a Convention, of the kindness of Sigma mothers, of the cordiality of Sigma girls, of many happy hours spent with new friends, and of many delightful plans for future meetings; some could tell of luncheons, visits and drives out on the prairie where the sunflowers grew above the horses' heads, while the Grand Council would probably wish first to mention the kindness of one Sigma father and then to speak of the pleasant days they spent in the Phi Kappa Psi house, of the thoughtfulness which prompted its loan to Sigma chapter, and of the three Sigma girls who spent the time with them there. Each one has her own memories which will stay with her when the discomforts of hot weather and the annoyances of a long journey are forgotten. It is these memories which help to make up the influence of a Convention on the fraternity, for it is safe to assert that every one who attended this Convention brought away with her a better knowledge of the fraternity a more thorough understanding of the spirit by which it is governed and a more earnest purpose to work for the realization of its aims and ideals.

THE CHAPTER AS A TRAINING SCHOOL.

Among all the institutions for the general improvement of women, there is perhaps none more worthy than the network of women's clubs which overspreads our country. To be sure, there is danger of excess here as in most movements, but on the whole the motives are commendable and the results encouraging. The woman's club has given to many women sorely needed opportunities for culture, it has proved a delight and a stimulus to others already students, and it has been the social salvation of many a community.

Although the methods and aims of the college fraternity are necessarily somewhat different from those of the woman's club, it seems to me that the two should have much in common. There are clubs and clubs, but the most common type is one whose members undertake with more or less thoroughness some branch of study and pursue this by means of papers and discussions at regular meetings. The club, however, means more than this. It frequently means that women who otherwise would have no thoughts outside of housekeeping, dress and social events are brought to a genuine interest in art, literature, science or philanthropy. It means that some who have before hardly ventured beyond their own thresholds are brought into pleasant social relations. It means that many a village has improved schools and a public library, where once such things were unknown because undesired.

It means especially that many a woman learns for the first time the lesson of loyalty to an organization; learns to rise above her petty likes and prejudices, to yield gracefully to the will of the majority, and to work in spite of personal sacrifice for the greatest good to the greatest number.

Now all these are lessons which the average woman greatly needs, and which are and should be taught not less by the college fraternity than by the club. And alas, many a club comes to grief because none of its members has had sufficient experience in similar work to serve as a guide to the rest. It is here that the fraternity may, so to speak, serve as a training school for missionaries. Happy is the inexperienced club which contains one or more Kappa alumnae—that is, if these are of the right sort.

The ideal club woman, of course, knows how to digest what she reads, to present dry facts in an interesting manner, to get the substance from reference books without copying their phraseology, and to help her less trained sister to do the same. This much we may expect the college curriculum to do for her. But she should also have a working knowledge of parliamentary usages, be able to draft a good practical club constitution, and secure compromises between disagreeing factions. She must encourage the timid member, suppress the monopolizer, conciliate the offended and persuade the obstinate. Especially, she should know how to select the right person for the right place, and should be above appointing her personal friends to positions for which they happen to be unfitted. And withal, she must be sanguine, sunny, energetic and full of charity. Are not all these also the characteristics of the ideal fraternity woman, and should not the fraternity endeavor to give this sort of training to its members? Through either organization may come sweetness and light to college or community. The Kappa alumna may not be so situated that she can have much intercourse with her chapter after graduation. But if under the tutelage of the key she has learned some of these great lessons and can pass them on to others through her influence her chapter may well feel that its mission has been fulfilled.

Beta Nu.

A FABLE.

Once upon a time a number of wise men said to one another, "Go to! Let us found a new community, and make ourselves the rulers thereof." So they bought land, and they built buildings, and they sent a proclamation through all the country saying, "Come ye people, and be ruled by us."

Now when the people came, the rulers began to make laws, and soon they formed themselves into a senate of elders and claimed power over life and death. All who did not do as they were commanded were sent back into the outer world with the brand of failure upon them, and many were the minor penalties inflicted. The most stringent law was that which exacted continual industry. Those who neglected to observe this law were subjected to a punishment so terrible that it was never referred to

save in symbolical terms. Its victims were never seen again and with bated breath people referred to them as being "plucked", or "busted", or as having "flunked".

Not long after the foundation of the community the people began to separate into tribes. At first they all dwelt together at the foot of a mighty precipice; but soon a portion climbed to the top, and made their dwelling there. Because they were above the others, they thought themselves superior, and drew a hard and fast line between their own ranks and the people in the plain below. As a term of contempt they gave the latter the title of barbarians, while they called themselves Greeks. The contests between the two were frequent, but such strife was frowned upon by the senate, and the trophies of victory had to be guarded in secret.

Although the Greeks were united against the people of the plain, when warfare was over, they were no longer friends among themselves. They were divided into smaller tribes, and bitter enmity existed among them. They never laid aside their weapons lest there should be a sudden attack. Conflicts with the barbarians took place only on stated occasions after long preparation; but their strife with one another was unceasing.

Now the people of the country were of a nomadic disposition, and every year many in the community persuaded the senate of elders to dismiss them with its blessing. With equal regularity strangers begged for admission, and those who were not markedly unqualified for warfare were allowed to enter. These at first pitched their tents on the neutral ground between the barbarians and the Greeks, and waited to see where they should build a permanent abode. Some of them went down to the plain almost immediately. Others delayed in the hope of being asked to climb to the cliff above. And soon all the tribes of the Greeks put on their holiday array, and went down to view those camping on the neutral ground. They chose the brightest and most beautiful and assisted them to climb up the precipice. Often the same person would be chosen by several different tribes, and there was much fighting as to which should give assistance in the climb.

When once the tribes and the chosen ones reached the cliff, everywhere there was joy and festivity. The Greeks concealed the fact that they were obliged to labor, by performing their tasks

at night. The days they filled with rejoicing. They gave mighty feasts to the newcomers, and took them to view the strongholds of the enemy and helped them to evade the laws of the senate. So attentive were they that sometimes they were the means of subjecting the strangers to the unmentionable punishment. The short intervals which the Greeks allowed the newcomers to devote to labor were spent by themselves in inter-tribal conflict. The slightest ground for attack was seized with eagerness.

Naturally this continual feasting was acceptable to the strangers, and they thought they had come to a land of plenty. But soon many of them ceased to be pleasing to the Greeks. They were not good fighters themselves, they did not come of a martial family. Sometimes their uniforms were at fault. As soon as this had become apparent to a tribe, the stranger was taken to the edge of the cliff, and dropped with a thud into the ranks of the plain dwellers below. The barbarians did not receive them gladly, for they knew that they did not come of their own will.

After a time, the tribe decided which of the strangers they wished to be of their number, and either won them from the other tribes in mighty battle, or lost them irrevocably. Then each tribe had by night strange and mystic ceremonies, the nature of which no man knows ; and their new members built dwellings among them. As soon as this was accomplished, each tribe brought out from its strongholds magical instruments of a curious sort. With them they looked at all the strangers who had fallen to other tribes, and straightway declared they were fit only for the plain. Then for a brief season, until the return of summer brought again the roving instinct into play, they lived in quietness ; and the senate of elders ruled in peace.

Alumnae Department.

AN EXPERIMENT.

In what way can a close bond of union between the active and alumna members of a chapter best be secured? This is the problem which confronted Beta Delta at the close of its second triennial reunion held in Ann Arbor in June of this year. We had enjoyed a most successful and inspiring time together; the meetings both business and social had been a source of much profit as well as pleasure, and it was with some regret that at the meeting of the alumnae association on the last day, it was acknowledged that the association, as such, was a failure. Formed three years previous with the avowed object of bringing about "the closer union of the alumna and associate members with the chapter and each other," it had confessedly failed to accomplish its end, though this end was felt to be as desirable and necessary as ever.

It was found that neither had the alumna members been kept in close touch by this means nor had the active chapter profited as much as it should from the combined and sympathetic efforts of the association. These negative results were felt to have been the natural outcome of an attempt to band together for systematic work, a number of girls, who after leaving college, were so widely scattered, whose interests were so varied and the claims upon whose time and attention were so multifarious. With the president in the northern peninsula of Michigan, the members of an executive board, whose duties by the way had not been sufficiently defined to allow of their useful co-operation, scattered in various states of the union, and a corresponding secretary in Ann Arbor, the entire work of the association had devolved upon this last officer, whose untiring efforts alone had kept any life in the feeble form of the association.

These were the painful facts that confronted us; the question was what should we do about it. We were reluctant to give up our endeavour to attain an object the worth of which we fully recognized, but we felt the need of some other form of organization which should be competent to carry it out.

After much discussion, a plan was formulated, by following which we hope to accomplish our purpose; but as it is as yet in its first stages of development, we do not wish to be too sanguine of its success nor too anxious to recommend it to other chapters, many of whom may have felt the need of an organization for the accomplishing of a similar end. According to this plan, the old association and its object were not abandoned but it was decided to entrust the carrying on of its business, not as formerly to officers scattered far and wide, but to an alumna chapter to be located where the greatest number of Beta Delta alumna happen to reside in any one place during any year; said chapter to have power to appoint its own officers, regulate its own business and transfer if necessary the place of meeting. Besides this alumna chapter, four deputies to be chosen from the association at large, will aid in the work of bringing all the members of the association into a closer relation with each other.

This alumna chapter is located for the coming year at Detroit, where there will be, at least six alumna members of Beta Delta during the school year. At a preliminary meeting held in Ann Arbor at the time of the reunion in June, officers, consisting of a president, secretary and treasurer, and assistant secretary were elected and the four deputies appointed. It is hoped that we will accomplish much this year, both for the association, by keeping in systematic and constant communication with its members, and for the active chapter which with the rapid growth of fraternity rivalry in Ann Arbor, is in need of practical assistance. Part of our duty will be, of course, the collecting of alumna and association dues the former to be forwarded to the chapter, the latter to be used in transacting the business of the association. We will also endeavor to aid the chapter in securing desirable members by keeping it informed as to the arrival of freshmen with whom some of our members may be acquainted. Besides the practical aid which we may render the chapter our aim is to help it also in striving to reach the ideal of fraternity life and spirit and by keeping ever fresh in our hearts and minds all the nobility and beauty for which our loved fraternity stands, to lift still higher the standard of Kappa in the University of Michigan.

Beta Delta.

RUSHING.

One who has seen the passing of a generation of Kappas through the doors of the active chapter cannot fail to realize that problems change with the times. A disposition of sympathetic helpfulness will lead such an alumna to realize new conditions and recognize the limitations they impose. She will confess that the beautiful light of her own golden key has become but a hazy illumination, and will eagerly welcome new light for present conditions.

Rushing seems just now the root of all evil. With a rational equivalent for that process, natural affinity might have time to work out salvation for the sensitive conscience with no danger of injustice to chapter or candidate. It seems certain, however, that this problem cannot be settled independently by any fraternity. Interfraternal conference and union if possible would appear to be the necessary initiatory step in reform.

GRACE MERRILL, *Eta*, '76.

PERSONAL NOTES.

PSI.—Frances Pearson, ex-'97, was married August 27 to Mr. James A. Weeks. Her future address will be Spring Glen, Danville, Illinois.

Edith Read, '98, is teaching at Catskill, N. Y. She is associated with Mabel V. Root, '97.

Grace Swearingen, '93, is studying English at the University of Munich.

Anna Van Benschoten, '94, who has been teaching at Binghamton, N. Y., since her graduation, has resigned her position to take graduate work at the University of Chicago.

BETA NU.—Ellen B. Talbot, who has been a graduate student at Cornell for the past three years, is this year teaching in the Emma Willard School at Troy, N. Y.

KAPPA.—Mignon Kern, who for some time has been instructor at De Pauw University, has a year's leave of absence for further study and expects to spend the year in Paris.

IOTA.—During the vacation, Miss Emma Coffey of Iota was

married to Mr. Remus Richards of Battle Creek, Michigan. Mr. Richards is a graduate of De Pauw University and is professor of mathematics in the High School at Battle Creek.

CHI.—On Thursday, September first, Anna C. Marston was married to Dr. Douglas Ayres at "Maplewood", Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota. They will be at home after November first at Fort Plain, New York.

BETA ZETA.—Theresa Peet who has been teaching at Villisca, Iowa, has given up her position to spend the year in graduate work at Wellesley.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Collins announce the marriage of their daughter Annabel to Mr. William Tatnall Coe, on Tuesday, September 27th, 1898, Maplehurst, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

SIGMA.—Anna Broady is teaching English Literature in the Beatrice, Nebraska, High School.

Jessie Jury is again teaching in the Wilbur, Nebraska, High School.

The Parthenon.

Ever since this country first had a West, western hospitality has been proverbial. Yet, though we know the world-wide reputation for generosity, this section of our country has, nevertheless, the reception given us and the entertainment provided for us in Lincoln were beyond all our expectations. From the moment we arrived when we were immediately taken in charge by the committee from Sigma, there was one continual round of feasts and fêtes. We were sure of our welcome. Our colors floated proudly from the University Hall and covered the walls of the chapel. The merchants A Tribute to Sigma, of the town were infected with Kappa enthusiasm, the blue and blue, the fleur-de-lis and the key were conspicuous everywhere. The doors of the beautiful homes of Lincoln were wide open to us at all times, and the masters and mistresses of these mansions prepared splendid entertainments in honor of Kappa. The local chapters of the fraternities we know at home showered kindnesses upon us,—and as for the girls of our Sigma chapter, I doubt if we can ever make them know how much we have appreciated their painstaking thoughtfulness, kindness and generosity. Not only did our hostesses welcome us heartily and entertain us royally, but they have kept the old adage as to hospitality to the very end, for they speeded their guests on their homeward way, taking us even to Omaha, where the parting festivities were held. Surely that week in Lincoln will become a glorious tradition for Kappa.

ISABELL BALLOU, *Beta Delta.*

Just now patriotism is the main topic of conversation. Every one admires and extols the patriots who are serving their country so valiantly in Cuba, Porto Rico, the far-away Phillipines and the reserve camps at home. We also admire the patriotism of our antagonists. It has often seemed to me that although men are enthusiastic in their country's as well as their fraternity's service, women are deficient (unintentionally, of course), in the latter. The late war has awakened us and now that its crisis is past let us turn our enthusiasm anew into fraternity channels.

Although associated with a young woman for two years in college it was with surprise that I lately learned that she is a member of a fraternity. This it was that suggested to me the startling question "Are we such blue Kappas that all with whom we associate are certain of that fact and also certain that we are im-

measurably proud of it?" We all love our fraternity heartily but do we let others see that we love it? No doubt the young woman referred to was loyal to her vows but shall we imitate her reticence? This is a plea for active fraternity enthusiasm. This is widely separated from a boisterous parade of loyalty, or from anything in any way unwomanly. What is wanted in this last decade of the nineteenth century is strong ideas with determination to enforce them. We know that the influences of Kappa are able to make of all its members the best and noblest women possible. We want to make of it the best and noblest fraternity possible. Therefore let us fairly kindle with enthusiasm, holding the blue and blue pennant only a very little shade less dear than our beloved stars and stripes and serving it as loyally as we would the latter.

HARRIETTE A. CURTISS, *Beta Tau.*

As the beginning of another college year approaches, we again feel concerned about the happiness of the non-fraternity girl. How many of us can truly say that we do all in our power to make her feel happy and comfortable among so many girls who are linked together by the bonds of sister-

The Girls Outside. hood? Her path is not an easy one to travel, and I think we scarcely realize how entirely out of everything she must, at times, feel. Place yourself in her position and imagine how you would feel when you saw a crowd of girls starting for a fraternity banquet, or house-party, and I warrant a very lonely and miserable sensation would creep over you.

Of course it is natural that we should love our own fraternity sisters better than any other of the college students, but that is no excuse for our not doing our duty toward one who is not so fortunate as to have sisters with whom to share her joys and sorrows.

I do not say that all fraternity girls are deserving of censure, for their actions toward the non-fraternity girl, but, I do claim that the majority are. Can't we all be a trifle more thoughtful and kind? I am sure it will never do any of us harm, and it may brighten one girl's whole college life. Let us try it at any rate, for we will never regret having done so.

M. G. B., *Beta Iota*.

I never read without regret the somewhat exaggerated expressions of delight which appear now and then in THE KEY, accompanying the lists of new members. A chapter must, as a matter of course, be sincerely glad when its initiates join it, otherwise the invitations would not have been extended; but an attitude either of triumphant self-congratulation, or of gratitude to the initiate seems to me neither just nor dignified. Surely the true point of view is that in electing a girl to membership we have offered her an inestimable privilege, which we are indeed glad to have her accept, but glad, quite as much on her account as on our own. Great as our happiness in having her with us may be, the benefits received by the chapter from her membership must always be insignificant compared to the benefits which she receives from her fraternity.

A Protest.

A. D., *Beta Epsilon*.

Recent events in the fraternity, point definitely towards the desirability of a system of personal communication between all the chapters.

Considering the fact that our chain of chapters extends across the continent, it may seem impossible to carry out such a plan, but even the impossible is worth striving after if, in the chance of its attainment, this ideal sentiment of fraternity loyalty, which we all religiously believe ourselves to possess, may be made a living reality whose expression will be something different from the earthquakes of fear which regularly attack the chapter at the announcement of the matriculation of a Kappa from another chapter. This kind of loyalty is based on the fear that the out-

Closer Commu-
nication.

side impression of our fraternity standard may be lowered by some unworthy representative; a better kind of loyalty would be one founded on such a faith in the individual chapters that we would be able and willing to take its members for better or for worse. Such a faith can come only from personal acquaintance.

The greatest difficulty in the way of a system of personal communication which would keep our standards equal and interests common, would be the expense of maintaining an officer in the Grand Council whose duty it would be to visit regularly each chapter.

J. B. T., *Beta Eta*.

At this particular time the topic of absorbing interest to Sigma chapter is the convention.

The advantage to the chapter holding the national convention is even greater than we had thought. When a chapter as a whole, meets for the first time representatives from every other chapter, then only is the real significance of the fraternity comprehensively realized.

The characteristics of each chapter seem to have suddenly crystallized out of a vague formless mass. The relation of the parts to the whole becomes distinct and in place of a hazy, half-defined idea, we have a clearly outlined conception.

Our own relation to the fraternity has been brought home to us more forcibly than possible in any other way and henceforth there must be a different point of view, in the general perspective the chapter assumes its proper proportion and position.

Another very important effect is a remarkable stimulation of the feeling of good-fellowship for all members of Kappa. That stimulus is felt, to be sure, by all present at the convention but the chapter in which every member feels it, is of course, most benefited.

Last, but not of least importance is the opportunity it affords, for knowing personally each member of the Grand Council. It means that this chapter is placed in a position to appreciate far better than before, their work in the past and to judge fairly their work in the future.

The chapter that next holds the convention is to be sincerely congratulated.

Sigma.

The coming of September calls again to our minds the puzzling question which is ever present, but especially so at the opening of school. How far are we to carry our rushing?

Rushing in the extreme is an evil and not to be considered, but none at all is just as objectionable.

Is there not a way by which we can win the desirable girls and this without conspicuous exertion? Do we need to have a party here and to go there in order to make these girls desire to become members of Kappa How Far? Kappa Gamma? Can we not make them feel that there is something more in our fraternity than mere enjoyment?

After the initiates have been admitted, we are apt to think our task has been accomplished. This is the time we ought to be more enthusiastic and thus make the initiates feel that we have noble and true aspirations. If we show them that we have greater interest in them now than formerly, which we certainly have, then they will soon love the fraternity with heart and soul and not sometimes wonder what constitutes this fraternity life.

Of course the fraternity will become dearer to the new girls as days go by, but let us older members strive to place in them a strong love for the fraternity immediately.

BERTHA HUSTON, *Lambda*.

The problem which frequently arises in the mind of each fraternity member when requested to vote upon a candidate is "What are the qualities which the new girl should possess in order to be of advantage to the chapter?"

Although some may consider this a thread bare and superannuated subject, yet new ideas are constantly arising on all topics and since the session of *The Old Question*. the last Convention, Beta Gamma is of the opinion that some valuable information on eligibility might be presented by some of the delegates.

It is very hard to establish a standard when individuality is the rule, but could not an answer be given which would furnish a key for unlocking the portals of scrupulous and careful decision in an affair of so much moment.

Beta Gamma.

A question of interest and importance, which has surely been discussed by every chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, but which, in a general way, has not yet received a satisfactory solution is this:—How far should a chapter let a girl's relatives who are worthy members of the fraternity influence them in considering her for membership? Of course we realize how much depends upon the desirability of the girl as a member.

Relatives. Let us take a case, however, which is not wholly imaginary and which all must see would be difficult of decision. A girl comes from a small town to attend the college which has been the Alma Mater of her mother, and of many dear friends and relatives. All her knowledge of college life is infused with knowledge of fraternity. Several of her aunts have been Kappas and she has a cousin who is an energetic worker in the active chapter. So she comes full of enthusiasm and interest in fraternity matters.

The girls in this chapter know all these things, they feel that they owe much consideration to this girl's relatives and yet they cannot be reconciled to the girl herself. There is something about her which they are sure does not belong to her cousin, and still it is a vague indefinable thing to which they object, a mere suggestion of lack of refinement, which they cannot describe to each other, but of which each girl has a definite consciousness. Then the question arises whether they shall not ignore this feeling of aversion, from whatever source it may come, and thus spare their sisters many bitter feelings or whether it would not be better, in any event, to remain true to their convictions of what would be best for Kappa Kappa Gamma. Will not some one who has had experience help us to solve this troublesome problem?

BLANCHE P. NOEL, *Mu*.

The question which Beta Epsilon asks in the April KEY is one which should be carefully considered by every chapter. "How far shall a girl's class standing affect her chances for fraternity."

Very true it is, as the article argues, that many excellent and otherwise desirable girls fail to get good examination marks, but the daily class work is what should be considered by the chapters.

If a girl fails day after day in recitation, she either shows lack of application or want of ability. In either case she does not deserve to wear the key.

If her poor class standing is due to a want of interest in her work, when in a fraternity she might feel that her work reflected discredit on her chapter and her pride would come to the rescue. But if she be naturally **Class Standing.** slow, I should say that her elements of desirability along other lines must be extraordinary in order to admit her into Kappa.

What we want are girls who will be an honor to us in college and who will reflect credit upon us in the broader life outside the fraternity, women to whom we can point with pride and say "They are Kappas". I never realized how much this meant until recently. At the meeting of the State Federation of Clubs, many of the prominent places were held by Kappas and the success of the meeting was largely due to their influence. How proud we were to know these women and to be able to say they were Kappas.

This question brings up the subject of a term contract. A girl's class standing can be easily seen in a term's work and her fitness to be a wearer of the key more easily determined.

M. B. L., *Delta*.

In the April number of THE KEY the problem was set before us concerning rushing. "Shall we be recognized as Rushers or not?"

This constant effort to do away with rushing does not appeal to me. Of course, I do not believe in making such a fuss over new girls that the chapter would draw down upon itself the notice of the outer world, but I do see no harm in rushing in a quiet, in-offensive way.

I hardly think that the remark that to a new girl "there is a feeling of injury and objection to being a bone of contention among the fraternities" is an entirely plausible one, for what girl objects to being popular and who would feel injured in knowing that she was wanted by several sets?

I fear that too many people look at the term rushing in a one-sided way. They think only of keeping a girl continually in sight and finding out all her qualities so that they may thus be able to decide whether or no she would make a good Kappa, while one of the chief objects in rushing seems to me to be more entirely for the benefit of the new girl. Is that not the only way that she can learn to know us? And should not such a chance be offered her?

She must not feel compelled to enter a fraternity trusting that she may know the girls better later, but not daring to refuse lest her chance to become a fraternity girl be lost forever.

Let us then not shudder when we hear the term rushing, but consider that, if it is done in a good and open spirit, it is the means by which we may best learn to know our prospective sisters.

E. M. N., *Beta Iota*.

There is a subject that has been much discussed in this chapter during the past year. It is, shall a girl be pledged to join us before she has entered the University? There seem to be good arguments on both sides of the question. Sigma has made the negative side her rule and has been successful in her conflicts with the other fraternities in cases of this kind.

But whether this will always be the result is the question. It is safe to apply our rule to girls who either know a great deal about fraternities or nothing at all, for in nine times out of ten they will not give their answers to one fraternity until they have entered college and had time to compare the different ones. It is with the girl who knows only a little about fraternities that the danger comes in. She thinks they are all alike and does not hesitate to join the first one by whom she is asked.

Is it well to make an exception in her case? Sigma has answered 'no,' because she thinks it best to make a rule and keep to it. Whether she is wrong remains to be proved. Success has emboldened her to risk losing a girl once in a while in order to keep this rule.

ELLEN B. GERE., *Sigma*.

This is a matter that is now being more carefully considered by the Grand Council than ever before and it is worthy of all consideration. According to the Grand Registrar's report, the archives of some chapters are in a deplorable condition. This is due, perhaps, in a large measure, to the negligence and carelessness of older members and also to new requirements for archives. Were some older chapter papers at hand, much could be straightened out in fulfilment of Archives. new archive requirements.

Much as we may deplore what has been lost through this source, it does not relieve the present members from their obligations, it rather behooves us to be more careful and more exact, that later the same charge may not be laid against us.

As it is of importance that the archives should be accurately kept it is very important that the proper sort of chapter registrar should be chosen, she should be a conscientious girl of systematic habits. Too much importance can not be given to the latter qualification for often a girl is very conscientious but extremely unsystematic.

Every year, the registrars should go over the archives, not merely to make the chapter report but also with the view of improving them in any manner possible.

IDA E. HOWARD, *Theta*.

Chapter Letters.

ALPHA PROVINCE.

PHI—BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

The twelve girls from Phi send greetings and best wishes for success during this coming year to all their sisters.

Frances Jones spent the early part of the summer in North Hampton and Connecticut.

During the month of July, Bertha Hirshberg was in Toronto.

Demetria Simmons spent a very delightful summer in North Adams.

We are very happy to state that Cora Templeton, who, for several months has been ill is gradually recovering and expects to resume her college work this fall.

A Mid-summer Kappa picnic was held at the home of Sara Bryant, at Green Hill, Nantasket, at which girls from five chapters were present: Mignon Talbot of Beta Nu; Lulu G. Farrant and Louise Dunn from Beta Epsilon; Lucy E. Wight from Beta Beta, and Bertha P. Richmond, with several other members from Phi.

Mignon Talbot, Lulu Farrant, and Louise Dunn were all taking work in connection with the Harvard Summer School.

Blanche Terrell of Pi is intending to take a course in the Emerson School of Oratory this year.

BETA EPSILON—BARNARD COLLEGE.

Like all the rest of the fraternity, Beta Epsilon is waiting eagerly for the first accounts of convention. It is our misfortune that by far the larger number of our active members were unable to attend this year, and we have had to vest in our delegate alone the pleasant privilege of becoming acquainted with our sister chapters.

Most of the members of the chapter are scattered far apart this summer; so, to prevent their losing, in even the slightest degree, the feeling that although college terms may come and go, the chapter stays with them always, we have been repeating last

year's very successful experiment of sending a letter the rounds of the chapter. The Round Robin, travel as fast as he may, will have hard work to finish his journey before the summer's end; but meanwhile he is serving the same end, by drawing together the individual members of the chapter, that is attained by the chapter letters in *THE KEY*, which we all read with so much pleasure.

Beta Epsilon wishes you all good luck for the coming year,—to you and the initiates who will join you before the appearance of the next *KEY*.

PSI—CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

The September chapter letter is certainly the hardest one of the year to write. The close chapter intimacy has been broken up for the summer months and things non-collegiate have occupied our minds, so that a vivid recollection of the past year and lively anticipation of the one coming are all we have wherewith to construct our epistles.

This fall anticipation is at its height in view of the fact that convention has been held. Like loyal Kappas, we are all waiting with intense interest to hear from our delegate, a detailed description of the business meetings and the social functions as well, with which Sigma so royally entertained her sisters. We are anticipating no less the pleasure of seeing each other, giving one another the good old grip and joining together in that exhilarating pastime known as rushing.

May every chapter of Kappa Gamma be happy and successful in their rushing this fall.

BETA BETA—ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY.

The Fall Term at St. Lawrence has opened and all signs point to a prosperous and happy year. The members of Beta Beta, with the exception of one, are in their places ready for the pleasures and work of another college year. Miss Ione Jillson, '00 is studying law in an office in Canton, and at the same time pursuing studies in the college. Miss Sherwood, '01, has left college to take up the study of medicine.

There has been a succession of college festivities since the opening but even with such allurements the members of Beta

Beta are more engrossed with the task of getting their college work in hand, a thing which is always difficult after the long summer vacation.

At the meeting of the Phi Beta Kappa this summer a charter of that fraternity was granted to St. Lawrence. This is, of course, a just cause of pride and joy to Lawrentians, to thus have the merits of this Alma Mater recognized by so eminent a body.

BETA TAU—SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

Through the courtesy of Florence Carpenter, '98, as soon as college closed all the Beta Tau girls who were able to leave went into camp in the "Florence Cottage" at Sylvan Beach. Kappa camp was held three weeks and during that time nearly every active and many alumnae members spent a few days there, while several remained the entire time. Every moment was enjoyed and we all desired to send a vote of most hearty thanks to Miss Carpenter for the cottage and to Miss Ruth Guibalt, '84, for her chaperonage.

Alice Weston, '96, and Lucy Harrison, '97, who have been spending some time abroad have sailed for home from Antwerp. They expect to be in Syracuse next year and we are very anxious to see them again and hope to have them with us often.

Our new chapter house is completed and the city girls are doing much to make it homelike for the rest when college brings them back. We would like to invite you all to the opening, which is to be given to the girls and their parents September 7.

We are unusually anxious for college to open this year. Every one is enthusiastic over the prospect and we promise to do much for Kappa Kappa Gamma and each other.

After September 17 we shall be at home to you all at 718 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, N. Y.

BETA ALPHA—UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

As another summer vacation draws to a close we are anxious to be back at our places in college and with additional interest this year, for we shall hear our delegate's report of convention. We who have had to stay at home are anxious to hear of the doings of other chapters and of all that has happened at convention.

By the time our chapter letter appears in print we will have settled down to our regular routine of college life ; but we look forward to the coming year with pleasure.

Beta Alpha extends to all best wishes for a happy, successful year.

BETA IOTA—SWARTHMORE COLLEGE.

To the sisters in Kappa Kappa Gamma, Beta Iota sends a cordial greeting.

Since the last issue of *THE KEY*, each member of Beta Iota has been enjoying herself thoroughly and yet, judging from the tone of the circulating letter which is now toward the completion of its third round, we shall all be glad to get back to Swarthmore and continue our chapter life.

All the members of Kappa Kappa Gamma who attended convention at Lincoln will agree, I know, with the four members of Beta Iota who were there, when they say with one accord that a more ideal eight days have never or never could be spent by Kappa.

Many of us were tempted to vote for the convention to be held at Lincoln again in 1900, for the Sigma girls certainly know how to make convention a success.

Beta Iota expects to start the college year with eight members and we all look forward to a happy and prosperous year.

Let us close our letter with a most hearty and earnest wish for the same for all our sister chapters.

GAMMA RHO—ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

How anxiously all the poor girls who, for one reason or another, could not go to the convention are awaiting the return of their more fortunate sisters, so that they themselves may hear of the fine times that the girls have been having together at Lincoln. It certainly does seem a shame that we all could not go to the convention, but then we can at least have a share in the good times when hearing all about them.

Quite a number of Gamma Rho's girls were made very happy this summer by receiving an invitation to a house-party to be given by Sara Crawford, who is one of our pledglings. Fourteen of our girls, pledges, active and alumnae together, went down to Sara's home in Cooperstown, a dear little country village. What

fun we all had, visiting, singing our fraternity songs, walking, driving, hunting for eggs, clerking in Mr. Crawford's country-store and doing a thousand other things just as enjoyable. Indeed we were all sorry when it came time to say good-bye to each other and we all left after our pleasant week thinking that our pledgling and her father and mother were the kindest people in the world to have given us such a delightful time.

It seems a very short time since college closed and yet it is only a few weeks until we shall be going back to college and to study. Isn't it surprising how important a place fraternity takes in our anticipations for the college year?

BETA PROVINCE.

LAMBDA—BUCHTEL COLLEGE.

The opening of college is awaited with some anxiety by Lambda on account of several changes of interest to us.

Dr. Claypole, Professor of Science, who has been connected with Buchtel, resigned on account of his wife's health and will remove to California. We shall miss him very much and also Misses Gifford and Stockman, though with the latter we were not so closely associated since they were teachers in the Preparatory Department.

Several of our girls, who were not with us last year are to return this Fall and thus our chapter, which has been so small will be restored to its former number.

The majority of Lambda's girls reside in Akron or vicinity so we have seen each other frequently, but you may be sure that we are anticipating delightful meetings in our hall this winter.

We send best wishes for a happy and successful year to all Kappas.

BETA GAMMA—WOOSTER UNIVERSITY.

Beta Gamma's scribe being for the moment unable to perform her duties, the task of writing the chapter letter falls upon one long disused to that pleasant work.

In view of the opening of college next week, commencement time seems to be an occasion far remote, but we must stop a

moment to recall its happy days and the joyous meeting of sister with sister as the old Kappas gathered in to the scene of their former joys and sorrows. Some of them arrived in time to attend our final initiation, when two of our pledglings entered into the full enjoyment and privileges of the fraternity, already so dear to them.

Half a dozen of our visitors lingered with us a week to attend the wedding of Katherine Lucas to Mr. Harry Hughes Johnson, Delta Tau Delta, of Cleveland, Ohio.

The loss of this sister, who has been during her six years residence among us such an ever-ready help and inspiration is deeply felt by all. Since that time our girls have scattered far and wide, but another week will bring them all together again, with the exception of our four '98 graduates.

The attractiveness of Wooster University is greatly increased this fall by the new home for the School of Music.

One of the elegant and spacious mansions of the city, situated near the college buildings has been presented to the university and during the summer has been fitted up as the Ranke Conservatory of Music, with apartments for the music students.

Those of Beta Gamma who are in Wooster are busy having the chapter room re-papered and otherwise beautified to delight our eyes and serve for our comfort during the coming year.

With best wishes for the success of each chapter in the campaign soon to begin and hopes for the happiness and prosperity of all.

BETA NU—OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

During the summer the girls of Beta Nu have been scattered all over the country, but with the first of September there will be the usual home comings and before this letter reaches its sister chapters Beta Nu will have begun another school year.

Before separating for the summer we held our annual house party at Central College, about twelve miles from Columbus. We had a better time than ever before; our happiness was marred only by the thought that we could not meet there another year. But we hope that we will be able to hold our house party hereafter at the home of one of our girls in Worthington.

We were very sorry that we could have but one representative

at convention, still we were all present in spirit and our best wishes went with our delegate.

We are still looking forward with eagerness to this year's mingled work and pleasure and wondering who will be our next Kappa sisters.

Beta Nu wishes all her sister chapters a pleasant and useful year.

BETA DELTA—UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

The very nicest event that has happened in Beta Delta history since our last letter is the chapter reunion that was held during commencement week. Twelve of the girls of former years were with us. The usual round of gaieties attended this reunion:—drives, a college spread, an afternoon reception to friends among the ladies of the faculty and city—all these in addition to the college festivities which come with a commencement season.

On the last evening, we held a banquet with forty-four at the table, including our patronesses. We doubt if Kappa Kappa Gamma enthusiasm can be any greater at the convention now in session at Lincoln, Nebraska, than it was with us that evening.

The reunion was not only a source of pleasure to alumnae and active members alike, but it was most helpful to the active chapter. It came to an end, however, as all things have a way of doing, and soon we were saying adieus.

Two months of our summer vacation have passed since then; months filled with many and varied pleasures for us all. Now we are nearing the time when we begin to look forward to seeing each other again. Some faces will be missing as we gather around the table once more, and some that we have not seen for more than a year will be with us. The best wish that we can make for our new fraternity home on Monroe Street is, that Beta Delta may be as happy there as in her former home.

XI—ADRIAN COLLEGE.

Since Xi wrote her last letter for *THE KEY* commencement has scattered her members in many directions; some to distant homes, others for their summer outings.

Only one, Florence Reynolds, left us by graduation. We

realize that we lost in her a faithful and loyal member, but as she resides in the city we hope to have her with us many times during the coming year.

We have been pleased to meet our Kappa sister, Villa Osborn Stark, who stopped over with us a few days, while on her trip east with her husband, Rev. H. R. Stark, of the First Presbyterian Church, Washington, Iowa.

We are waiting anxiously for the opening of college, September twenty-eighth, when we can again gather in our chapter hall so dear to us and discuss plans for the future.

When the girls of Xi meet once more, the long planned for convention will have come and gone but we are sure the inspiration of it will make us more fervent Kappas this coming year.

KAPPA—HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

Those of Kappa who have been in Hillsdale this summer have had many of the alumnae with them and have truly enjoyed it. At an informal gathering at Zoe Smith's home last week, we met Mrs. Harriet Rice Bates, Nellie Montgomery, Claire Sand, Shirley Smith and Winifred Hill.

This year, Nellie Montgomery is to teach in Hudson, Mich.; Claire Sands returns to her school at Harpers Ferry, W. Va.; Shirley Smith begins her Junior year in the medical course at Ann Arbor and Winifred is to teach in Chicago as she has been doing the past two years.

The announcement of the marriage of Mae Steele to Mr. Myers of Hillsdale, was received in August, by our chapter. Mae Steele was a graduate of the class of '95 and it is with much pleasure that we welcome her back to Hillsdale.

Cora Bailey, who was our chosen delegate to convention is unable to go on account of the illness of her father. We regret that she can not be in Lincoln both because she would like to be there and because our chapter wanted her there.

Our college opens September 13 and it is with greater energy than ever before that we hope to begin the year. We think that our chapter will be strong and we hope that the word strong in its truest meaning may be applied to each and every chapter in the coming months.

GAMMA PROVINCE.

DELTA—INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY.

All of us know how hard it is to write a news-letter in the summer, when the girls are scattered and are having too good times to bother about writing to each other. Letter-writing in the summer is a virtue of which few can boast.

The girls of Delta are resting before commencing the year's work and will come back prepared to rush the new girls to distraction and to win all the "spikes." Our prospects are very encouraging for the coming year. So many of the girls have friends who will be in college and we know that friends are usually easy to manage.

Our chapter house has been remodeled during the summer and all of the first floor is now hard wood, so we can dance to our heart's content. At the end of the school year each member pledged herself to give two dollars to the furniture fund. We were to earn the money during vacation, and at our first meeting in the fall, we are to give our experiences.

This being our convention year, we are anxious to get back to college to hear the report of our delegate. During convention week, our hearts will be in attendance though we cannot be there in person. What a great impetus it would be to the fraternity at large, if each chapter could send a full delegation to this fountain-head of fraternity spirit. But our delegates will give us such explicit accounts of all that is done, that we can be vastly helped by even a second-hand convention.

Delta wishes a happy and successful year to each chapter.

IOTA—DE PAUW UNIVERSITY.

Iota sends greetings to her Kappa sisters. For three months now her members have been scattered far and wide enjoying vacation but now they are planning to return to De Pauw. The vacation has seemed so short, commencement with all its gaieties seeming as though but yesterday. During commencement week our annual reunion was held at the home of Mrs. Acler; and a very enthusiastic one it was. Many of the alumnae were present, among them some that had not visited Iota for a long time.

The October KEY will find us busy trying to make Iota an ideal chapter.

We shall miss our '98 graduates very much this year. Their places will be hard to fill, but we are encouraged by the fact that all of our last year girls except the seniors will return. We are very anxious to be together again and every letter carries some new plan for the "spike."

The prospects for the coming year are very encouraging.

Iota sends best wishes to all Kappas.

MU—BUTLER COLLEGE.

When this number of THE KEY reaches its readers, Mu girls will have taken up their studies again—some of them for the last time. We were fortunate in losing none of our sisters by graduation last June, and, with the exception of two, they will all be with us again. One will attend Barnard College, where, although we feel her loss, we know that she will still be among Kappas.

Mu begins the year with nine earnest, active members, and the hope of several more. We expect to be inspired to greater efforts than ever by the return of our delegate, full of fraternity enthusiasm instilled by convention.

We have great hopes for this year, in every way. We expect to be helped greatly by the Indianapolis Alumnae Association, which last year was not fully organized. The active members of Mu Chapter, as well as its alumnae, are always welcomed at the meetings of the association, and we gain a great deal from meeting these representatives from so many different chapters. Psi, Beta Gamma, Upsilon, Delta, Iota, and Mu are well represented, and we always have visitors from other chapters.

We also expect great results from the coming "spike." We hope to be stronger than ever this year, and to accomplish more than ever before.

Mu wishes all her sisters a happy and successful year.

ETA—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

To our sisters in Kappa Kappa Gamma, greeting.

Convention time is so near that Eta is looking forward with great pleasure to meeting you all and getting better acquainted

with Kappa Kappa Gamma as a whole. We expect to have four or five representatives at Lincoln and how we shall enjoy talking over our plans for the future.

Eta's life has been particularly pleasant this last spring and we rejoice at having two new pledglings to introduce to Kappa, Nell Parkinson and Ethel Raynier. The latter expects to begin work with us in the fall.

Commencement was as gay as usual and its pleasures were rendered greater by a visit from one of our old girls, Fay Parkinson. At our banquet we were fortunate in having with us Miss Fuller of Gamma Rho, who was visiting in Madison.

We were all sad when it came to parting and leaving the dear old place, for, while we lost but one senior, the rest of us will not all be together next year, as Bertha Brown is to be at the Albany Library School, and Carrie Dilatush expects to join Beta Eta's ranks at Leland Stanford.

Eta sends the best of wishes to you all for success in the coming year.

UPSILON—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

Upsilon's letter will necessarily be a short one for this number.

Convention has been the one and all absorbing topic during our vacation months. For a long time we have been looking forward to, and anticipating the pleasures crowded into that busy week in August and now it is a thing of the past; and by this time the delegates have all recounted to their respective chapters, vivid descriptions of the week's program, and doubtless in this account have used strings of adjectives that convention alone can call forth.

Other than convention this has been an uneventful summer for Upsilon. So in closing she will simply send her heartiest thanks to Sigma as a hostess for the many courtesies, the hospitality and the jolly good times that she gave her guests.

EPSILON—ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

At last our long anticipated visit with Sigma at Lincoln is over, and most of us are again busy with our studies. It does not seem possible that the convention of '98 is a thing of the past.

What a charming hostess Sigma made! How many pleasant acquaintances were formed! What enthusiasm and interest was manifested by each member!

Commencement week with Epsilon was full of importance as Dr. Smith of Montpelier, Vermont, formally accepted the presidency of the university and made his inaugural address on commencement day. We are all captivated by Dr. Smith and are confident that he will prove a good friend and adviser to all the students.

We lost but one girl in the class of 1898, Leona Miller. She had the honor of representing her class with a toast at the annual Alumni Banquet.

One of the pleasant times for the spring term of school was a picnic, for only the active chapter, taking place the last Friday before commencement. You can imagine the disappointment when rain clouds began to gather before the hour for starting on our little excursion into the country. We were not to be daunted so we took our supper to our fraternity room and had our lunch in true picnic fashion.

For several years it has been our custom to have an annual picnic during the summer vacation, thus enabling many of our alumnae, who have been away during the year, to attend. This year we were sorry not to have representatives of other chapters with us. It has been our good fortune for the last two years to have from one to three chapters represented by visiting sisters. The day was an ideal one for a picnic. We took our supper to Houghton's Lake, a beautiful little body of water three miles from the city. There forty hungry girls sat down to a heavily loaded table, and it is needless to say, did full justice to the good things. We all had our pictures taken in a group and will keep them as a souvenir of the occasion. After boating, riding and a social time we departed for home, voting the picnic one of Epsilon's most pleasant experiences.

Many of our girls spent the summer away from Bloomington so we were unable to be together as much as usual.

Carrie Cole of Phoenix, Arizona, a former member of Epsilon, visited in the city this summer.

Lucy Bates, of 1894, has been chosen as professor of Literature and Latin in a high school in Missouri.

Gertrude Shreve will pursue her studies in elocution in Chicago the coming year. Maude Kilgore, of 1897, will teach in the Lexington, Illinois, school.

We lose one of our freshmen this term, Mary Tullis. She has been chosen as one of the teachers in the Colfax, Illinois, school.

Epsilon wishes all her sister chapters success in securing new members for Kappa. She hopes to introduce you to some new sisters in the next issue of *THE KEY*.

DELTA PROVINCE.

CHI—UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

September 1, finds us all very willing to take up college and chapter life again. Through the summer we have had regular monthly evening meetings and several afternoon reunions. These, with picnics and two Kappa weddings, have brought Chi girls together very often.

Now, we can think of nothing but convention and are all eagerly looking forward to our delegate's account of it. To the great sorrow of the rest of us we could neither "buy, beg nor borrow" our way to Lincoln.

BETA ZETA—IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

In order to make connections, "ye scribe" will have to remember way back to commencement week before the five Senior Kappas became rather reluctant alumnae. Many Beta Zetas of former years were back with us then, among them Francis Rogers, Mrs. Kate Legler Evans, Mrs. Agnes Hatch St. John, Mrs. Helen Orton Mannett, Elena MacFarland and Bertha Blum, ex-'98.

Our seniors were represented on the program of commencement week. Marian Morton was one of the principal characters in the class play, "In Foot-ball Clothes," and she carried the part most excellently while Ruth Paxson was one of the speakers on commencement day, and delivered a very good oration on "The New Charity."

The last spread of the year was held in the evening of commencement day at the home of Mary and Anna Barrett. This

was one of the impromptu feasts, which we have found even more enjoyable than more elaborate ones which need much planning before hand. Each girl brought a dime and two foragers were sent out with the collected money to bring back provisions. There are a number of chafing dishes in the chapter, and we can cook the most delicious little suppers imaginable.

Bertha Blum and Elena MacFarland stayed a while after commencement, visiting Kappa friends. The town girls of Beta Zeta have had the pleasure of meeting two Kappas from Lambda, Miss Crosby and Miss Pierce, who visited friends in Iowa City at different times during the summer. We were invited to meet Miss Crosby at a reception given in her honor by her hostess and while Miss Pierce was here the Kappa Kappa Gammas and their friends spent a delightful afternoon picnicing at Edgewater. This is one of the prettiest boat houses on the Iowa river and has been frequently thrown open to Kappa picnic parties.

Annabel Collins stopped over several hours between trains on her way to convention, and there was a gathering of the clans to visit with her. It is always an inspiration to us to talk with her for she is such an enthusiastic Kappa. We are looking forward with much pleasure to having her with us at the beginning of the school year.

We will sadly miss two of our loyal Kappas this fall. Anna Wyman, on account of ill health cannot return until the winter term and Winifred MacFarland will be with her sister, Beulah, at Ottumwa, where they have government positions as Assistant Microscopists.

Since Miss Collins' visit with us, we have been more interested than ever in convention and await impatiently the return of our delegate, to hear all about it.

Beta Zeta sends East and West her heartiest wishes for the success of Kappa Kappa Gamma every where.

THETA—UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.

Theta sends greetings to her sister chapters and wishes that more of them could have enjoyed with her, the privileges of the more intimate association of convention. Not until one has

been at convention and heard the chapter oral reports, does one know how meager the news contained in the news-letters, is.

By the time this news-letter is in print, the old girls will have returned, some of the new ones will be wearing the key, the delegates will have come back from convention with warmer enthusiasm and new ideas and chapter life will be well on its way and may it be a prosperous one for each chapter. Theta's own prospects for the coming year are brighter than they have been for years. We hope to start the year with nine members—one less than the total number of last year's girls. While the law with regard to special students will, at first probably affect us considerably in that we will often be forced to pass by many otherwise desirable girls; yet in the end we think it will be a gain. It will raise the standard of our chapter, exclude triflers and mark our members as girls of a more intellectual stamp.

SIGMA—UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

With the business meetings of convention, the committee meetings sandwiched between, and the additional festivities, Sigma is almost too exhausted to write her letter for *THE KEY*. It was only yesterday that she made a flying trip to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha to catch the last glimpse of the Grand Council, the delegates and visitors who had been present at the Fourteenth National Convention of Kappa Kappa Gamma. How much more meaning has the Fourteenth Biennial to Sigma than the thirteenth or, indeed, any other! What a thrill went through us when our Marshal, Laura Houtz, declared that "the Fourteenth National Convention of Kappa Kappa Gamma was now in session."

Ten days may seem to others a short time in which to form warm friendships, but I think Sigma will never forget the faces—even though the names may be a trifle mixed—of the girls whom she now misses so much. It was almost with tears that many parted yesterday in the pretty Japanese garden at the head of the Midway.

Whatever success our convention may have had is due largely to our Marshal and her deputies. The interest which the other fraternities of Nebraska, both men and women, showed in our convention has also helped us greatly. The Phi Kappa Psis

gave us the use of their chapter house for our Grand Council. The Sigma Chis gave a most delightful out-door party at the beautiful home of Mr. Paul Fitzgerald. The Kappa Alpha Thetas gave a very charming reception at the home of Miss Emily Weeks. Phi Delta Theta ended the festivities with a tea in the Japanese gardens at the Exposition. Other fraternities extended courtesies which were sincerely appreciated by Kappa Kappa Gamma.

Sigma is already looking forward to the convention in New York, where some of us have planned to meet again our Kappa sisters.

OMEGA—UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS.

The bonds of our fraternity are seldom dearer than when there is a parting at hand. Omega realized this more thoroughly when the Kansas University came to a close and we knew that it was time to separate. However, for a number of us there was the bright light ahead—the convention, where we would come to know some of those members of our great family who were geographically very far away from us. Omega looks anxiously forward to the time when the representatives shall return and fill the rest of us with the enthusiasm which they have imbibed. We hope to soon be able to add more worthy names to the already long list.

PI—UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

With the opening of the Fall Semester in August, the members of Pi have returned with enthusiastic Kappa spirit to college. We have profited from the close association in the bonds of Kappahood, and the separation during the summer vacation has made us appreciate all the more our devotion to the fraternity and to each other.

The University of California has opened under the most favorable circumstances. Eight new men have been added to the faculty, and several temporary frame buildings are occupied by the overflow from the other large halls. One half of the first floor of East Hall has been assigned to the women of the upper classes for their own especial use, and the rooms lately used by them have been given over to the women of the freshman class.

It is a peculiar fact, but the classes of even-numbered years are looked upon as being better classes, generally, than those of odd-numbered years, and the class of nineteen hundred and two is no exception to the rule. The class is large and seems to be a very fine one.

Many familiar faces are missed on the Campus; our own dear graduates being among the number, but we are proud that many of the men have left us to serve their country. The University of California has won renown on the battlefield for several of her men have distinguished themselves in the engagements in Manila. Some of our girls while on Red Cross duty heard from the eastern chapters through officers who recognized the key.

Gertrude Scott writes most interesting letters of her gay time in the Hawaiian Islands where the soldier boys and the news of annexation were received with wonderful enthusiasm and much merry-making.

Alice Rising will meet her father, Professor Willard Rising, in Chicago. Professor Rising was made vice-president of the great convention of scientists which met this summer in Vienna. We expect to hear on their return much that is interesting and instructive of the great college world that lies East of our own beloved University.

Mrs. Tamar Gray Cole, Iota, visited Berkeley with her husband on their honeymoon. Pi was glad to receive them at the chapter house and earnestly wishes that others from far-away chapters would visit her.

BETA ETA—LELAND STANFORD JR. UNIVERSITY.

Again the writer of the letter from Stanford to *THE KEY* sits down to perform that pleasant task in Beta Eta's chapter house. But not in the midst of Beta Eta. For as yet the "Owls' Nest," or the "Owlery"—sometimes spelt with an H,—the writer occupies alone with the ghosts of the things that have been, the dim foreshadowings of that which is to be. However, they are anything but gruesome ghosts, and with the delight of again being under the blessed roof, one enjoys them thrice as much as when one meets them far in the world.

But in another week the spirits will have hidden themselves

away in dark corners, of which the "Owlery" has many, to come forth only at certain mystic hours between dusk and dawn ; and the memory of the life that has been, will give way to the life which is. Before THE KEY has come from the press, the house will have rung with the glad cries of welcome time after time, and Beta Eta will have been well started on its round of lectures, recitations, and laboratories, and of all the events, little and great, which make the college life dear to us all.

Even now the last of the packing is being done in many of the homes,—or the tears of sorrow at home-leaving that were in sight as the tickets were purchased, are giving place, as the same tickets are being punched, to smiles at thought of the rapidly decreasing distance to the beloved Quadrangle and its hurrying throng, to the fraternity house and its own little band.

More frequent than usual have been little Kappa reunions during the past summer. Some up in Washington, close to the Queen's line, others in the south, not far from Mexican soil. A few have been together high in the Sierras, while many have been the places, between there and the coast, where two or three have been able to meet for a bit of a visit after the well known hand clasp. The greatest gathering was around Monterey Bay, on whose shores at one time were eight Stanford Kappas. But vacation is over now, and all thought is turned college-ward.

During the coming month, as most of the eastern chapters return to the work and pleasure of the year, which we shall have already entered, Beta Eta's thoughts will turn to you from her own busy life, with best wishes that it will prove a very happy and successful year to you all.

In Memoriam.

MINNIE STEWART FIELD.

Mrs. Minnie Stewart Field, of Alpha Chapter, Monmouth, Illinois, who, while a student in Monmouth College, founded the Kappa Kappa Gamma society, one of the most popular woman's college fraternities in the country, died last night in a Cincinnati hospital, aged 56 years. She was a daughter of the late Judge J. H. Stewart.—*Clipping from a Chicago paper, June 22.*

College and Fraternity Notes.

It is astonishing how slowly the sentiment in favor of the admission of women to the universities is gaining ground in Germany. To be sure, three hundred and fifteen female students attended the various universities of the Empire during the academic year just closing, but most of them were foreigners and the German physicians, at their recent meeting at Wiesbaden, adopted resolutions to the effect that no especial benefit would result from the admission of women to the medical profession, nor any great harm as long as the facilities for their preparatory education were not extended beyond their present scope.

In case, however, further advantages (such as the opening of girls' gymnasia by the State) should be granted, the crowding of larger numbers of women into the medical profession would prove detrimental rather than a benefit to woman herself, while it would be of little benefit to the sick, bring no advancement to the universities or to science, and while detracting from the dignity of the medical profession, would not further the welfare of the people at large.—*The Nation*, August 4.

Phi Gamma Delta has lately secured a beautiful home at Cornell University. Like the much talked-of Chi Psi chapter house at Cornell, this house was built for a residence and was the home of Mr. William H. Sage. In spite of this fact, it is admirably adapted for chapter house purposes.

The *Shield* of Phi Kappa Psi has again changed hands and is hereafter to be edited by Mr. Frank Chapin Bray. Mr. Bray is an alumnus of Allegheny College and is exceptionally well fitted for the work, having been on the staff of the *Hartford Courant*, the *Middletown Daily Herald*, the *Erie Morning Dispatch*, as well as several magazines. Mr. Gretzinger, the former editor, resigned in order to give more time to his duties as Registrar of Bucknell University.

The first woman has presented herself for the degree of doctor of philosophy in Berlin University and has submitted her thesis. She is a Fraulein Neuman, and her subject is physics.—*Public Opinion*, September 1.

An article in Yale University in the *Beta Theta Pi* says: "Women are admitted to the school of Fine Arts and to courses

of instruction leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, but not to other departments or courses of the university."

The fiftieth annual convention of Phi Gamma Delta will be held at Washington, October 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1898, under the auspices of Alpha and the Pittsburg Alumni Chapters of that fraternity. Washington was selected as the place of meeting because it was there at Washington and Jefferson College that the fraternity was founded in 1848.—*Kappa Alpha Journal*.

The sixty-fourth annual Convention of Delta Upsilon is to be held in Philadelphia, Pa., October 20 and 21, 1898.

The Faculty of Bucknell University passed an act at their meeting on March 11th, requiring one year's residence as a college student before a man can be received into a Fraternity. The Fraternities are not permitted to receive students of a preparatory school. Nor will any one be allowed to join a Fraternity until he has completed and passed in one year's work. Its terms apply to the women's societies as well as to the men's, and is extended in principle to the sororities in the Institute. The act also prohibits class and social Fraternities.—*The Shield of Phi Kappa Psi*.

On July 2, the members of the local society Gamma Nu Sigma, organized last November at the University of Cincinnati became members of Phi Delta Theta. There are eleven charter members, all residents of Cincinnati.

Mrs. Hearst's plans for the University of California include two club houses for undergraduates in connection with the gymnasium. They are to be provided with all the appointments for the modern club house.

Delta Kappa Epsilon closed the year at Kenyon with three men: one senior and two freshmen.—*The Scroll*.

Beta Theta Pi's fifty-ninth annual Convention was held at Cincinnati, Ohio, July 19-22.

Phi Kappa Psi expects to publish a history within the next three months. It is in charge of Mr. C. L. Van Cleve, who was a long time Editor of *The Shield*.

Delta Delta Delta announces three Province Conventions, Alpha Province with Beta Chapter at Canton, N. Y., September 27, 28 and 29; Beta Province with Epsilon Chapter at Galesburg, Ill., September 5, 6, 7 and 8; Gamma Province with Kappa Chapter at Lincoln, Nebraska in October.

With the beginning of the college year *The Trident* is to be issued during the first week of the months in which it is scheduled to appear.

The Chicago Chapter of Sigma Nu has resigned its charter and become a local society called Q. V. It is rumored that Q. V. is a petitioner for a charter from Chi Psi.

The name Somers given to the torpedo boat purchased in Germany recalls the meeting on the brig Somers in 1842 as a result of which Philip Spencer, one of the founders of Chi Psi was hanged. Members of Chi Psi were called "Pirates" long afterwards, as it was claimed that Spencer intended starting on a career of piracy. His friends and many others claim that he was innocent of the charge.—*Western College Magazine*.

Alpha Phi will hold its Convention in Boston, October 19-22 inclusive. The programme is as follows:

Tuesday, October 18, Arrival of Delegates.—Informal Reception.

Wednesday, October 19, A. M.—Opening Session.

Wednesday Afternoon and Evening—Committee Work—Reception.

Thursday, October 20, A. M.—Business Session.

Thursday Afternoon, Committee Work—Sight Seeing.

Thursday Evening, Business Session.

Friday, October 21, A. M.—Business Session.

Friday Afternoon, Historical and Literary Pilgrimage.

Friday Evening, Convention Banquet.

Saturday, October 22, A. M.—Closing Session.

The munificent founder of the new medical college in New York City, which is to be a department of Cornell University, is Col. Oliver H. Payne, son of the late Senator Payne, of Ohio, and brother of the late Mrs. William C. Whitney. Colonel Payne, whose connection with the Standard Oil Company for many years past has brought to him a large fortune, gives \$1,600,000, of which about \$600,000 will be expended for an entire block of land in the city and the fine building to be erected upon it, while the remainder will be an endowment fund. In California, Miss Jennie Flood, daughter of the late James C. Flood—one of the four "Bonanza" millionaire miners of the Comstock—has just given to the University of California her beautiful country house at Menlo Park, with 540 acres of land surrounding it.—*The Independent*.

Editorial.

The Kappa Kappa Gamma fraternity has again convened, deliberated and adjourned, and the delegates have gone back to college, taking with them a new regard for the other chapters and increased admiration and affection for Sigma. An account of the social side of the Convention is given in this number and a full record of the business transacted will soon be in the hands of each chapter.

The fraternity has good reason to be pleased with the progress which has been made in the last four years. It is quite manifest that the chapters are more closely united, have a more intense interest in each other's welfare and a much better knowledge of each other than they had four years ago. This may be attributed to the fact that during that period many of the chapters have been visited by members of the Grand Council, but it is far more likely to be due to the detested examinations. In fraternity life, as elsewhere, interest increases with knowledge, and the rank and file fraternity member has much more general knowledge of the fraternity than she had four years ago. It is apparent too, that the sectional feeling which showed itself some years ago has entirely died away and the words which Mr. Kipling applied to a city, apply with equal force to us "From East to West the tested chain holds fast, The well forged link rings true."

There is still room for improvement in the knowledge the chapters have of each other, yet it is difficult to see how the improvement can be accomplished. Were it possible for the chapters to enter into correspondence, something might be done but with the shifting membership of the fraternity, this method would mean no permanent acquaintance between chapters. For lack of better means of communication, the chapter letters to THE KEY have to suffice. Will the Corresponding Secretaries try making them as full and as interesting as possible and see if the chapters do not learn to know each other still better?

The re-election of an entire Grand Council is unprecedented in the history of the fraternity. With the exception of the Grand Secretary, who saw much active service as deputy from 1894-1896, the members of the Grand Council are now entering upon

their third term of office. They are grateful to the fraternity for the confidence in them which it has shown. They desire only its best good. They have labored faithfully for it in the past and with the knowledge and experience in fraternity work which they have acquired, they hope to serve it even more faithfully in the future.

In the discussion of new girls in which all the chapters are indulging at this time in the year, one thing should be remembered : —that a girl whom the chapter has been rushing but a few weeks, no matter how dear she may be to some particular member, should not be so dear as the girls with whom she has been associated and has worked for some years. By keeping this fact constantly in mind, much harmful discussion and consequent bitterness of spirit might be avoided.

With this number the fifteenth volume of THE KEY is concluded and the chapters are again urged to see that a file of the magazine is bound and kept for reference in the chapter room. So far as has yet been reported Iota is the only chapter fortunate enough to possess a complete file.

Each year it is becoming more impossible to procure the earlier numbers while each year they are becoming more valuable to the chapters. If left scattered about they are certain to be lost. Some girl borrows one to look up a disputed point, lays it aside and perhaps, forgets to return it. Soon after it finds its way to the scrap basket. The way to prevent this is to have the copies bound and kept in the chapter room, so that they will be convenient for consultation but too heavy to borrow.

The earlier volumes are so small that two or three of them can conveniently be bound together. If you do not have them all, bind those which you have. The undertaking is not an expensive one, since ten dollars will provide a satisfactory and serviceable binding for the set. A complete list of the volumes was given in the magazine for October, 1896. If any chapter wishes advice about the best arrangement of the volumes for binding or desires any further information about the matter, the Editor will be glad to supply it.

The Grand President reported at Convention that 137 Song Books were still unsold. Are there not some girls who wish to own their Song Books? There are few souvenirs of her fraternity life which a girl is permitted to take with her when she leaves the chapter and the Song Book is the most valuable of these. Will the chapters make an effort to see that their members and their alumnae are supplied?

The news of the death of Minnie Stewart Field will be learned with genuine regret by every loyal member of Kappa Kappa Gamma. In her we lose a most devoted member, one who thoroughly believed in the fraternity's aims and ideals and practised the belief in her daily life.

It was mainly through her efforts that our Alpha Chapter was projected and the fraternity's first steps were taken under her guidance. Beside being one of the founders of Alpha, she initiated Beta and took an active part in the organization of several others of the earlier chapters.

Even after the withdrawal of Alpha's charter, she still retained her active interest in the fraternity, made herself acquainted with its working and kept in touch with its development.

Within the last six months she spent much time and labor in trying for the use of the fraternity, to trace and locate all the members of Alpha chapter.

In the sight of such devotion as this, one must believe that the fraternity has an influence which lasts beyond college life, and the memory of Mrs. Field must continue to be an inspiration to many Kappas who have never known her.

"Shall we immediately announce our pledglings?" is a question which is now agitating some of the chapters. Where a Pan Hellenic contract exists the question is decided by mutual agreement, but where every chapter is acting on its own responsibility, it may lead to much debate.

In analyzing the question it may be considered from two standpoints,—that of courtesy and that of diplomacy. Courtesy is the corner stone of fraternity life, diplomacy is a flying buttress—beautiful for adornment but not vital. Courtesy regards the feelings of others, diplomacy appears to regard them. Courtesy

would deter us from subjecting a rival organization to the mortification of asking a girl already pledged to us, while diplomacy would prompt us to afford our rivals every opportunity for rushing her.

The matter is simple enough to decide. Kappa Kappa Gamma delights in successful conflicts and must do, so long as she is human, but courtesy is more to be desired than fine gold. With this the homily ends!

When all the chapters are looking forward to and planning for their initiations, the problem of fraternity decorations is of absorbing interest. At Convention, Sigma solved it most effectually by the use of numberless small pennants, made of dark and light blue stuff. At the risk of appearing to emulate the *Ladies' Home Journal*, directions for making them are given here.

Two pieces of cambric are required, one of light, one of dark blue. The dark piece is three sided, measuring $9\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 12$ inches; the other is four sided, measuring $18 \times 8 \times 12 \times 3$. Join the twelve-inch edges and turn a quarter inch hem at the top, through which a cord can be run. Notch the narrow end with a notch four inches deep. This makes a flag the size of the ordinary college flags.

In addition to this each member of Sigma wore a tiny flag about five inches long made of dark and light blue ribbon. These, too, might be of use to the chapters.

The fifth edition of Mr. William Raimond Baird's *American College Fraternities* has at last appeared. It is very valuable book for the fraternity student and should be the property of every chapter. Its price is two dollars and it may be procured at 271 Broadway, New York City.

If any members of the fraternity desire photographs of the convention, they may be had by applying to Mr. Townsend, Lincoln, Nebraska, or to Sigma's Corresponding Secretary.

Exchanges.

Many of the fraternity magazines must have been overcome by the heat or are still enjoying the summer vacation for very few of them have found their way to THE KEY.

Among those which have survived and made the journey in safety is the *Quarterly of Delta Kappa Epsilon*, which brings with it a bit of history called "The Development of a Fraternity" showing how external influences may affect even so close a corporation as a fraternity. The article traces the effects of successive Conventions upon D. K. E. and shows—what one is glad to believe—that during the Civil War the student's loyalty to a principle was stronger than his loyalty to his fraternity.

"The history of the organization is divided into three periods, thus:—

1. The Formative Period, from the foundation of the fraternity in 1844 to the Civil War in 1862; 2. The Reconstructive Period from the Civil War to the organization of the D. K. E. Council in 1881; 3. The Period of Centralized Government, from the organization of the Council to the present. The first of these periods has been most ably treated by Brother Charles H. Beckett, Pi, '81 (Vol. 2, p. 12 of the *Quarterly*), in an article which has become one of the Fraternity classics, and which should be read by every member of the Fraternity who desires an accurate knowledge of our history. It ends with the letter to the Southern chapters, adopted by the Sixteenth Convention held with Phi in July, 1862, deploring the separation caused by the war, and asking that Fraternity intercourse be soon resumed.

Then follows the chaos of the war. While the land was reeking with the blood of conflict, Fraternity life was almost at a standstill. It is true conventions were held regularly, one in New York with Nu, December 28-30, 1863, and one in Schenectady, July 25-27, 1865, at each of which thirteen chapters were represented; but little business of importance was transacted, and great difficulty was experienced in obtaining men to take part in the public exercises. At the Nineteenth Convention held in Rochester with Beta Phi in April, 1865, only six chapters were represented, but the following resolution, passed with cheers, shows the spirit which actuated the few who remained:

"*Resolved*, That we as a convention rejoice at the restored political and civil relations of our common government, and that we welcome back with undiminished regard the Southern Chapters of our Fraternity, and earnestly desire and request that they renew their former relations with the Fraternity at the earliest

possible moment, and that we extend to them an invitation to the next Convention at Ann Arbor."

The history of the second period, as shown by the conventions, reveals the struggles of our various chapters to recover from the losses of that war, and to fill up the gaps which it had made in our lines. No other college fraternity had made such sacrifices as ours for the cause of the nation, and for the cause of the South. Many of our men in northern colleges were sons of the South who believed in the justice of their cause, and who hastened to its defense; while a chain of our chapters stretched across the entire confederacy, and their members, almost to a man, seized arms and were found where the fight was hottest. The Dekes of the North, inspired by the same ardor, were among the first to leap forward at their country's call; so that of the 3,060 names which appear upon our rolls up to and including the year 1865, 1,542 or more than 60 per cent. of our living members at that time, served in the armies of the two contending forces. As a result, when the roll of chapters was called at the end of the war, Gamma, Psi, Delta, Omega, Eta, Iota, Zeta Zeta, Alpha Delta, Tau Delta and Kappa Phi were among the missing, and the colleges in which they were situated were mostly destroyed; while in the North many of the chapters were so depleted that their very existence was problematical.

The Twentieth Convention was held in the fall of 1866, with the Omicron Chapter at Ann Arbor. Unfortunately the minutes of that convention are lost, and nothing can be told about what was done there unless some of our chapters find a copy of those minutes among their archives. On January 8 and 9, 1867, however, a special convention at the call of Phi was held with the mother chapter, at which ten of the northern chapters were represented, and much time was devoted to the discussion of plans for the strengthening of some of the chapters in the North, and the revival of those in the South wherever possible. An address to the southern chapters was adopted, urging their members to hasten their re-establishment, and closing with the following words: "Please accept for yourselves and convey to all our brethren you may meet, our sincere wish that all the unpleasant occurrences of the past be buried in oblivion, and that we, one and all, both in the South and in the North, stand shoulder to shoulder, hand joined in hand, in the endeavor to push our loved Fraternity to the acme of glory, and show to all the world our fidelity to our motto 'always friends at heart.'"

A charter was also granted by this Convention to Wesleyan University, and honorary membership was conferred upon three of the heroes of the war. The literary and social sides of the Fraternity were not forgotten, for an oration and poem were delivered, and the Social Union gave two plays for the entertainment of the delegates,

while a banquet with speeches and songs ended the Convention at 4 A. M."

Phi Kappa Psi has accomplished something absolutely original in fraternity history. Mr. Swope, a member of Phi Delta Theta has performed several acts of kindness of interest to Phi Kappa Psi. Their last Convention passed a resolution thanking Mr. Swope for his interest and trouble. A letter from Mr. Swope is given below:—

"MY DEAR MR. GRETZINGER—Permit me to thank you, and through you, Mr. Van Cleve and the Phi Kappa Psi Convention, for the vote of thanks tendered me by your recent National Convention, as noted in *The Shield*, for a copy of which I am also indebted to you. I appreciate the action of your Fraternity the more because it was so wholly unexpected by me, and because in my experience I do not recall another instance of the same sort. I am pleased also because such incidents as these mark the progress of inter-Fraternity relations and a breaking away from the old spirit of malice that prevailed so largely when I was initiated into Phi Delta Theta Fraternity seventeen years ago. I recall that at that time there was an absurd report in circulation that our Fraternity had a negro Chapter in the South. The report was, of course, without foundation, and, although promptly denied, continued for years to circulate in the Greek press, making its annual appearance during the active recruiting period. The circulation of this report was malicious, as you can see if you should have the opportunity to refer to the files of the Fraternity publications of the early '80s, and note the abuse, insults, and epithets which the editors customarily hurled at each other.

Any incident of inter-fraternal spirit tending to better the feeling between Fraternity rivals, and to reduce the possibility of the recurrence of such unpleasant experiences as your Fraternity and mine has had with Chapters in the Northwest, ought to be welcomed by all who have the best interests of the college Fraternity at heart. The best Fraternities all have a field of usefulness that is enhanced, in my opinion, by an honorable and dignified rivalry with which the spirit of courtesy should not only be consistent but highly desirable.

Please remember me to Mr. Van Cleve, of whose long and valuable services in behalf of your Fraternity I am cognizant."

FRANK D. SWOPE.

LOUISVILLE, KY., June 1st, 1898."

In *The Scroll*, Mr. Morrison of Alpha Chapter writes of the way in which the Phi Delta Theta pin came to be made and of its significances.

"The body of the pin was of solid gold, indicating that as that

was the most precious of metals, we wished to have nothing in our work or lives but the very best, and that not in tinsel or appearance, but in reality.

It was to be *shield-shaped*, somewhat ornamental in the upper part, not because any such form for such an object had ever been seen by any of the founders. The key of the Φ . B. K. was not our model, nor the crescent of the A. Δ . Φ ., nor yet the then sharp-cornered rectangle of the B. Θ . II. fraternity. These were the only badges known at Miami. It was shield-shaped because it was meant that the order should be a shield to each man who wore it, but only when such brother was being and doing what would stand the test of the All-seeing eye that is central in the upper part of the shield.

The *scroll* (partly the thought of Mr. J. M. Wilson) partially unfolded refers to the roll containing the names of our royal brotherhood, each man's name written with his own hand.

The *border* was ornamented with a handsome chasing to show that with all the solidity of character, mental, moral and social, that we aimed at, we still desired to have these qualities associated with things elegant and beautiful."

The Theta Delta Chi *Shield* is largely taken up with an account of the Semi-Centennial Celebration held in New York City in the month of February. The "Oration" delivered by President Capen, of Tufts College, is printed in full and we quote a couple of verses from the Semi-Centennial Poem, verses which express what every old fraternity member feels.

"No treatise offer I for him who delves
In learning, and no poem for the shelves
Where stand the tomes of verse immortal; No;—
Just simple talk we have among ourselves;
Of how we still the old emotions feel;
And how we find the old friends true as steel;
And with what force, though we are turning gray,
The recollections of the past appeal."

It is a pleasure to every one who reads *The Shield* to learn that Mr. Clay W. Holmes is to continue as its Editor. Mr. Holmes is the wisest and most experienced of the fraternity editors and it is entirely to his efforts that the success of *The Shield* is due. Long may he wave!