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# THE KEY.

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## *THE POSSIBILITIES OF FRATERNITY JOURNALISM.*

THE problem of fraternity journalism is one that is periodically attacked and periodically abandoned as insoluble. Writers upon this theme are proverbially pessimistic; their pens are dipped if not in gall at least in the blackest and muddiest of ink. Often they have "learned in suffering what they teach in song"; and after a year or so of thankless editorial labors give voice to the dismal conclusions which, unfortunately, their own magazines uphold only too well.

For a novice to oppose mere theory to practical experience, to make any further attempt at the solution of this knotty problem, may seem impertinent if not hopeless. In abandoning her sanctum, however, the writer of this article abandons also her editorial character, and assumes, for the time, that of a private critic with all a critic's privileges and immunities.

One of the first points to be noticed is the incomplete character of most discussions upon this subject. Oftenest, the writer voices his own personal woes under cover of a general criticism; makes wholesale accusations without naming specific faults; or at most points out the most glaring errors without suggesting any means for their correction. The question is this: are these faults inherent, are they necessary evils of all amateur journalism, or are they at least partially external, and therefore rectifiable by patience and forethought? A satisfactory answer to this question necessitates a consideration of the chief characteristics of amateur journalism.

Upon those two pet grievances of the fraternity editor, lack of money and lack of literary support, we can touch but briefly; seeing that they are

really matters of fraternity legislation. Altogether too much time and paper have been wasted in soliciting subscriptions and lamenting over the manuscripts that never come. If the members of a fraternity have not enough society spirit to pay the one or two dollars apiece necessary to the support of their magazine, let the fraternity government make subscription obligatory for active members. If the chapter letters appear tardily or not at all, impose a fine upon the delinquent secretaries. If sufficient literary material is not forthcoming, insert a clause in the constitution requiring each chapter to furnish a certain number of articles every year;—deficiency punishable by a fine. So many difficulties beset the struggling fraternity journalist that such merely mechanical hindrances should be summarily disposed of. Harsh as it may sound, it is none the less true that a few dollars' fine will often bring about what pages of pleading have failed to accomplish; a few words inserted in the constitution will fill the empty desk of the editor as though by magic.

Suppose then that the financial and literary support is an accomplished fact, that as regards the externals of print and paper and well filled pages the magazine is satisfactory. What then? What characteristics still remain to stamp it as an amateur periodical? The answer must be in the form of a paradox. It is the absence of definite characteristics that is the distinguishing feature of most fraternity magazines. One of the first faults apparent on the examination of such a journal is its heterogeneousness. An article on the "Spanish Gypsy" elbows a "Plea for Alumni Chapters." "Theism an Essential to the Highest Art" has for a tail-piece some rollicking chapter song. There is no central idea to give unity to this varied assortment, no suggestion of a line of thought running through a series of articles, no special feature to distinguish the issues of one year from those of another. The relation of a well balanced homogeneous magazine to this jumble of miscellaneous elements is like that of one of those well ordered dinners where soup and meat, salads and sweetmeats lead up to and follow one another in pleasurable succession and a school-girl feast of pie and pickles, sardines and cream cakes. In either case indigestion, mental or physical, is almost inevitable.

Lack of novelty is another negative characteristic of fraternity



journalism. The promised reforms of successive editorial boards rarely penetrate beneath the covers. Once inside these, we are safe from all surprises. The same unwieldy poem draws its slow length along the first few pages. The same personal and editorial and exchange departments occupy the same relative places. The same subjects are discussed in the same set phrases. Almost the only difference between a copy of '85 and one of '89 is a difference of date. Indeed, by means of a few changes of a name here and a date there, one fraternity journal could be converted into almost any other at an hour's notice. We might fancy that the example of the "big magazines" might exert some reviving influence upon fraternity magazines. But, no! The methods of fraternity journalism remain as fixed and unchangeable as though *Harper's* and the *Century* never had existed.

Few words are needed to emphasize the third great fault of fraternity journalism, lack of originality; — or what amounts to the same thing, — insincerity; not the insincerity of conscious deceit, perhaps, but the insincerity of expressing in phrases not our own, thoughts to which we have not yet attained. The reproach of "amateurishness" lies oftenest, not in its crudity, — that could be pardoned, — but rather in the absurd pretension it makes to the thoughts and experiences of maturity.

Unity, novelty and originality; these, then, to state the matter in positive form, are the prime necessities of fraternity journalism. The mode of best satisfying these needs is not wholly clear. In the case of the first two, however, reform clearly lies within the power of the editor-in-chief. Care, forethought and an exhaustive study of proper models will work wonders. Let the ambitious fraternity editor examine the successful periodicals with an idea of determining the conditions of their success. The system of solicited contributions, of special papers, above all the mapping out at the beginning of a general outline for the year's numbers; — all these can be transferred, with some modifications, to amateur journalism. Find out at the start those of your chapter, and personal friends in other chapters, upon whom you can rely for articles. Search the files of your magazine for the names of those who have done good work in the past. Write to chapter correspondents for further information. Assign



special subjects to those interested in special lines of thought. A little preliminary work of this sort, and you can be sure of some satisfactory matter for every number ; and need not make up the magazine at the last minute from a lot of miscellaneous articles, whose only connection is that of occupying space in the same journal.

Then the battle is half won. Unfortunately we must say only half won. Even when the leading articles are assured, space still remains which must be filled from the great mass of floating contributions. It is in treating of these that we reach the third essential and the most elusive one, — that of originality.

Here, at least, the direct influence and responsibility of the editor cease. Further suggestions must be addressed to the contributors. The convenient example of the prominent periodicals, moreover, is no longer available. Indeed, it would be better if we could put them entirely out of mind. Half the failures of young writers are due to their efforts to compete with the contributors of *Harper's* and the *Atlantic*. An examination of fraternity literature might well warrant the supposition that the thoughts of youth are trite and commonplace, and that real freshness and simplicity come only with gray hairs. The real trouble lies, as I said before, in lack of sincerity. We young people have thoughts and feelings of our own, but we fear the imputation of crudity or "freshness," and so try to express not the feelings that we have, but those that we fancy we ought to have.

I believe that every person who has ordinary skill in writing possesses the power to be interesting if he chooses ; only he must never be afraid to reveal his real self. The doubts and desires and aspirations of one human being during a single day's existence have a value far outweighing that of the most learned history or brilliant essay. We dismiss as commonplace these everyday experiences. The joy of friendship, the daily delight in sky and stars and sunset, the first delicious awakening to the intellectual life ; these are rejected for compilations from encyclopædias and biographical dictionaries. But sometimes there arises some Amiel or Bettine or Marie Bashkirtseff, who makes of these despised experiences a book which all the world must read.

M. B. D.



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*AFTER COMMENCEMENT PAPERS.*

## I. WOMEN AND JOURNALS.

TO be given the subject of "Women in Journalism" and then to be left to one's own devices, is to be a second Crusoe on an island so large as to preclude exploration, with the double disadvantage of finding the best fruit trees already shaken and the springs drunk dry.

Women in journalism have suffered long and patiently at the hands of aspiring school-girls, not to mention the additions to college literature, in which they have been instrumental; and it were no kindness, certainly, to those hard and faithful workers to muster them in a triumphal procession with Sallie Joy White and Margaret Sangster at its head as drum-majors, and to make them circle and wheel, aim, fire and ground arms, so to speak, for the pleasure and instruction of the multitude. Since such a parade, which would be at once cheap, effective and easy of execution, is out of the question, together with aimless prattle about one's own affairs, what remains to the victim of editorial and fraternal demands who must write willy-nilly, even if there should be nothing to say?

Out of a short but fairly varied experience in journalism are born certain reflections in regard to the fitness and adaptability of women for the work which, in view of their practical bearing, may well find a place in the KEY, and will perhaps be of interest or of use to some whose taste and inclination is leading them towards the making of newspapers and journals.

That there is room for college-bred women in the field there is no doubt. Evangelical journalism, reform journalism in its various phases offer opportunities for work, less varied perhaps than that which a daily paper affords, but productive of much good and the satisfaction that comes from the consciousness of lending a hand in sweeping a corner of the world clean, and in making it bright, warm and attractive for the large class of people whose right impulses must be fostered and whose good resolves must be tenderly cherished. There can be no question of fitness here.



There are burdens to lighten, wrongs to redress and truths to advance. Through the medium of women's minds and women's hearts many of these things must be accomplished. Painstaking, precision, conviction and broad sympathy with men, aside from the faculty of presenting one's own thoughts acceptably, are the requisites, and with these the task may be undertaken without misgiving — even with the assurance of success.

But in newspaper work the question of fitness does present itself, not from a mental, but rather from a moral and physical point of view.

It is popularly supposed, as some one has said, that a woman has but to present herself to an editor and express a modest desire for work, to have him step graciously from his chair, lead her in knightly fashion, with bow and flourish, to a commodious apartment where she will find all the appliances of her trade ready at hand and the devil in obsequious attendance upon her manuscript. The good old days of the fairy tales and false chivalry are past. In this eminently practical age brains as well as cabbages must be taken to market and it not infrequently happens that they are hard to sell. Pertinacity, tact, and, it must be confessed, a lusty voice to cry one's wares are indispensable adjuncts to one's stock in trade. Editors, too, are much-nagged and pestered men and it should not be a matter of surprise if they are sometimes curt, especially toward women, whose business-like methods are held generally in suspicion.

The first point gained and a position secured, neither flowery beds of ease, nor private offices, nor any kindred luxuries await the struggling journalist. Women as well as men must learn to climb the stairs of fame, know that they are steep and slippery and get terribly out of breath before they can hope to rest on any of the turns and landing-places. Other stairs less metaphorical but quite as tiresome must be ascended, weary steps taken, distasteful things done. In the office and out of it there will be room for the exercise of Christian and Spartan virtues alike, patience, long-suffering, endurance, fortitude and self-reliance. Timidity, the lot and heritage of womankind, must be laid aside like a shabby, worn-out garment. The heart of a man and the manners of a lady, the sympathy of youth and the caution of age are characteristics and possessions of which long series of assignments, late hours and familiarity with city streets after nightfall will



reveal the desirability. Consideration, generosity and a certain off-hand courtesy a woman will experience almost invariably at the hands of her fellow-workers, but she must become in turn inured to tobacco smoke, oblivious of shirt-sleeves and insensible to the profanity, which, in spite of precautions on both sides, she will sometimes hear.

Given, however, good courage and a sincere love for the work, its fascination and breadth more than counterbalance its gruesome features. It is instinct with life, and leaves room neither for stagnation or *ennui*. It means an exhaustive knowledge of "all sorts and conditions of men" and an unflagging interest in current events.

In quickening the powers of observation, analysis, criticism, and concentration of mind and purpose, the training is invaluable, bringing with it a new and unaccustomed sense of power. If, more than any other, the newspaper woman must learn to "scorn delights and live laborious days," more than most others she finds in her work her reward; in events, a very varied and progressive education; in men, constant amusement, surprise and something better; in the practical and good-natured fellowship of other journalists the fraternal element that exists outside of college, as well as in, and upon which, when all is said, the kind, old world is based and its society adjusted.

GERTRUDE EVELYN SMALL, '89.

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## II. WOMEN IN MEDICINE.

IT is true that the study of medicine is no longer essential to a liberal education, as in the days of old. Nevertheless this same study may serve as the threshold to other than the mere practice of medicine. But it is the study of medicine with direct reference to practice which commonly presents itself to the woman drawn by influences within or without to medical science. The two most potent attractions are probably the opportunity offered to women and the personal interest in this particular work.

It is impossible from the standpoint of the third year's study to speak



with absolute authority on the practice of medicine, yet equally impossible to have studied thus far without having had old convictions strengthened or overthrown, and new ones formed. Nowhere perhaps, is the ideal better expressed than in *Middlemarch*: "I should never have been happy in any profession that did not call forth the highest intellectual strain, and yet keep me in good, warm contact with my neighbors. There is nothing like the medical profession for that: one can have the exclusive scientific life that touches the distance, and befriend the old fogies in the parish too." Here, then, is the secret: a life with books; diligent and untiring study; the close human contact; the never-ending search for the truth; the cordial and truest sympathy with human life, especially in its pathos, its suffering. Here is the advantage over commercial life; while more exacting, because unrestrained by business hours, it gives a nearer approach to human souls. It has not the inspiration of theology in that the spiritual is not the prime motive; but the spiritual may be reached through the physical, and the physician may avail sometimes when the preacher fails; nor is there the need in medicine, as in theology, of ready speech or eloquence, it is essentially a labor of deeds. The physician has not the opportunity of the teacher of oft-repeated daily influence, but the physician is never sought except in need, and the soil then is not barren. Moreover, the woman physician has among other women a field of work peculiarly her own. She enters the home always welcomed, even though it be a sad greeting, and, particularly as a general practitioner, she becomes the family adviser. She may work here, not only for the immediate family, but also for the bettering of future generations of the human race. She must, however, be a firm believer in the ultimate triumph of truth over error, else the misery in the world will well nigh dishearten her; for "They that are whole have no need of a physician," and it is the tale of woe, not of joy, that is poured into her ear.

Of the mere study of medicine, it is different, very different from the studies of the college course. It is good, but good rather as a means than as a delight in itself. With a few exceptions, there is neither the delight of language study, nor the charm of the mental sciences, nor the exact satisfaction of mathematics; and at times it becomes so absorbingly phy-



sical that there must be a mighty struggle to remember and make real the ideals. But they exist, and that is enough; the strife will never cease. As to the age for entering the medical school, by all means after the college course or its equivalent as an educational and ripening factor. After the first step into medicine, there is little time for the "liberal arts," and she who possesses a small allowance will have no leisure to acquire if her medical study or practice be at all successful. Every working hour will be filled with the immediate work, and the recreative hour, more often moments, will be ill-spent in delving at elementary principles. On the other hand, granted the foundation of a liberal arts course, the lines of recreation are well nigh infinitely varied, and the whole life broader and deeper. The responsibility of the physician demands maturity of body, of thought, of judgment. The dealing with life and death is too serious to be thrust voluntarily into a young life. It is a criticism upon medical schools that a trained nurse may not work under a physician's instruction until she is twenty-three, while a physician may administer deadly drugs at twenty-one. Finally, the older a woman is on entering the medical school, the less likelihood of the interruption of her work by marriage. While a few women have successfully combined the practice of medicine with married life, probably only the rare woman will distinguish herself both as home-keeper and physician. The medical education in no wise will unfit for home life, but if a woman intends to marry, the time spent on technical medicine might perhaps be better spent otherwise, both as a possible means of livelihood and as a direct preparation for home and social life.

Aside from ordinary practice, there are new opportunities and wider fields every year to which medicine may be preparatory; as teacher of physical culture, teacher of physiology and hygiene, microscopical investigation, city missionary work, or work in the foreign field as medical missionary. Or the work may turn in a direction, which, while comparatively recent, is increasing yearly in acknowledged importance, moral education. Any new line of work has its unwonted and peculiar hardships. Obstacles will be presented by cautious friends as well as by alarmed enemies. Pioneers must necessarily be filled with a strong will, good sense, enthusiasm, and patience. The delicacy of the subject,

the limited vocabulary and sheer ignorance of parents and teachers make this a peculiarly needed work. Although for many years it may not offer financial reward, it is one of the lines of philanthropy which may well enter the social life of a community to give new purpose and vigor to the work of those who, in the midst of home life, will labor for the advancement of purity and honor.

SARAH M. HOBSON (*Phi.*)

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*A WINTER APPLE.*

[T lay before me on my study table,  
So ripe, so juicy, and so rosy red,  
That in a pensive mood, soliloquizing,  
While musing on life's changes, thus I said:

"Speak, O my friend! so ruddy and so mellow,  
Smiling upon me from my table there,  
In what green orchard did you ripen, sweet one?  
Where did your tinted blossoms scent the air?

"Did your green leaves o'ershadow birdlings tender,  
And whisper softly in the summer breeze?  
O! tell me, did the sunshine, warm and soothing,  
Flick through the branches of the apple trees?

"And when the storm king in his awful grandeur  
Thundered his threatenings dire above your head,  
Then did you trembling hang, in helpless terror,  
Fearing the daisied grass might be your bed?

"O! tell me what that gallant sunbeam whispered  
That bright day when the birds were wild with joy,  
Say, did he whisper, 'You of all are fairest!'  
Flushing with brightest red your cheek so coy?"

But all in vain my queries, for no answer,  
No murmur came responsive to my voice;  
Unable to resist, I seized the treasure,  
And ended all its sorrows and its joys.

NETTIE J. HUNT (*Upsilon*).



*THE PARTHENON.*

## ΑΙ ΚΩΠΑΙ ΑΘΗΝΗΣ.

[T is easy to imagine that in ancient times no one of the many divinities could have been dearer to Grecian girls than Athena Parthenos, whose protecting power was over all their land, whose wisdom carried out the plans of Zeus himself, whose beauty was like "clear, shining after rain."

And yet, perhaps in so imagining, we only fall into the too common error of attributing to people of a by-gone age ideas and feelings which are products of a latter civilization. For to our sorrow we are forced to realize that most of the women of Greece in its Golden Age might well have failed of comprehending what was best in their gods, as they failed of entering into the glorious intellectual life that went on about them.

At all events, whether or no the girls who lived when the bright Parthenon glistened from the summit of the Acropolis revered their maiden goddess as loyally as their duty was, we, in a day when the old gods are dead, feel, it maybe, even more deeply because of clearer insight, the meaning of the honors paid to Athena.

Into our Parthenon, which readers of the KEY will perceive is newly built, we shall come, not to assist in sacred processions, not to receive the crown of victory after contest, but to give each other as good counsel as may be in us concerning matters of interest to many modern Greeks. May Athena be pleased to inspire us with thoughts worthy of our meeting-place!

And first let all Kappas give diligent heed while this important question is under consideration: Shall Kappa Kappa Gamma enter only co-educational colleges?

Before discussing the subject of introducing Kappa Kappa Gamma in other than co-educational institutions, let us examine the cause, purpose and essential character of the fraternity that we may the more clearly see the relation which would exist between the accomplishment of that purpose and the conditions resulting from such an experiment.

Shall Kappa  
Kappa Gamma  
enter only Co-  
educational Col-  
leges?

The conception of all bodies, or organizations, may be attributed to a



recognition of power in union, the degree and kind being limited by the purpose, and available ability. The idea of centralization or union of forces for the attainment of advance and knowledge has been illustrated in all ages, by all nations, whose rational convictions have been codified. And from this underlying principle of power, the character of every society is determined, restrictions and limitations being made. Hence organizations must necessarily be constituted of harmonious elements, at least in the one purpose of the union. Here comes the idea of friendship, in our college fraternities; for sympathy, upon which all friendship is based, is the master-key to all power with God and humanity.

It is a matter of course that members of Kappa Kappa Gamma must be above average ability, in fact, must be congenial in intellect as well as heart. In this alone has our quality as well as quantity a limit. It is an old adage that it takes a diamond to cut a diamond, and it is especially applicable in this instance, it being necessary that all should be of the first water that by contact each may receive a brilliant polish. The aim of Kappa Kappa Gamma is intellectual as well as social. It is necessarily such from its origin, the fraternity being established because the fraternities which existed and were open to young ladies at that time did not efficiently meet the demands of a body intellectual in bent. The proposition of Kappa Alpha Theta in Monmouth College was refused, Kappa Kappa Gamma being established upon principles of literary as well as social culture.

There is an argument urged by some in favor of introducing Kappa Kappa Gamma in large colleges for women such as Vassar and Wellesley, namely that it will give us prominence. Now it would aid us very materially to gain the highest degree of prominence of which a fraternity is capable, but the question is, whether we are to attain this by doing efficient work in the eminent co-educational schools where we are established, or are we to sacrifice the very purpose and character of our fraternity to gain a prominence which, if sifted, is of a doubtful kind after all? I say sacrifice the purpose and character of the fraternity. I mean this: no fraternity having an existence in these colleges for women, class and society spirit runs high, and they do not and cannot appreci-



ate the distinction between our fraternity as an exclusive secret organization, and class societies. This was very adequately and forcibly illustrated several years ago : Mr. Baird, the author of the fraternity manual, desired to plant a chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma in Vassar; in reply the editor of our magazine at that time asked if the young ladies would be willing to be governed by the rules of a secret fraternity in regard to the members not being allowed membership in similar organizations. Mr. Baird presented the matter to his friends. As a result, no application for a charter was made. This would be the same in regard to other points of constitutional law. Not being accustomed to fraternities, one or more laws would be disregarded to suit the ideas of general societies.

Then, again, from our very character, we are essentially practical. And if a united sisterhood in intellectual and social advancement, our parts should be harmonious, our purpose common. This is not true in regard to women's colleges and co-educational institutions. The course of study is entirely different. The aims of the two classes of schools are different. One aims at accomplishments, the other preparation to fill usefully and intelligently the sphere of thought and action open to young men and women. The one class tends to encourage the long prevailing fashion of considering woman as shrouded in mystery, different from man in that she intuitively sees that which man arrives at after a long process of reasoning. In fact, it advocates and educates girls to play a part in society through accomplishments, accepting according to an old fashion a minor position in real life in consequence of their sex, and not having one law, namely, ability, governing the responsibility of each class alike.

Hence, judging from our purpose and character as a fraternity, I do not think it wise that Kappa Kappa Gamma should be introduced in other than co-educational Colleges.

E. JEAN NELSON (*Iota*).

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Upon learning the subject for the next "Open Letters," I was immediately impressed with the peculiar situation of Kappa Kappa Gamma, a woman's fraternity, with no chapters, in colleges devoted exclusively to women. Shall we attribute this to the fraternity having been organized



in a co-educational college in the West, and therefore far from any large women's college? Still, one would think that nineteen years have been sufficient to outlive any tendency arising from that source. The truth seems to be that since all these colleges, or at least the greater number of them, forbid secret organizations among the students, we have, without a question, accepted the decree as one of the unalterable rulings of fate, and made no active attempts to conquer this unwarranted prejudice against us and other Greek societies. It cannot be that we have felt it undesirable to have chapters in such colleges as Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, Bryn Mawr, Mt. Holyoke. They are universally acknowledged to be fine educational institutions; undoubtedly their standards are as high as those of many colleges where we have chapters. From them have graduated some of the most charming, cultured and intellectual women we know.

The sentiment of Nu is that it is just as desirable for our fraternity to enter women's colleges as co-educational institutions, subject of course to the same considerations of attendance, scholarship, etc. The chief difficulty to be apprehended in this innovation is that there are so few of these colleges which maintain a high standard, and the precedent once established will subject us to many applications for charters from colleges in which we do not care to place chapters.

ALBERTA D. GARBER (*Nu*).

"Shall Kappa Kappa Gamma enter only Co-educational Colleges?" There is but little doubt that every Kappa would answer "No" to this question.

The object of a fraternity is to foster true friendship; to render assistance in doing good; to give advantages by which the mind may be developed; and to promote social intercourse among a set of congenial girls. In these ways and many other ways, benefits may be derived from a secret society. Why not let girls in a college for women derive these benefits from a secret society, as well as those in co-educational colleges? A college for women, as well as a co-educational institution, is a school in which the different branches of learning are taught which will be of use for future employment.



Of course, the standing of the school must be taken into consideration. But that must be considered in every case. On an average, the girls in colleges for women are as good mentally, morally and socially as those in co-educational colleges. Where can nicer, purer, sweeter girls be found than those at Vassar or Wellesley?

The larger the fraternity world is, the more influence it has, and the more capable is it of doing good. Each fraternity is striving for the *best*. Soon the best will be secured by the other fraternities and the Kappas will be "too late." We, as a fraternity, will do well to extend a heart and hand of sisterhood to any girls of the best, no matter whether they are found in a co-educational or a non-co-educational college.

STELLA KIRKER (*Sigma*).

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It seems almost absurd for us to doubt the advisability of allowing our fraternity to establish chapters in the various colleges for women. Why should we deprive deserving girls in such institutions of the undoubted benefits to be derived from the establishment of such a chapter among them?

We might look at the matter in a philanthropic way and dilate upon the good that would be the direct result of such an action. But we have only to remember how our happiest moments have been connected with Kappa Kappa Gamma, to immediately decide that it is the only right thing to do. But to argue from another and more selfish point of view, many of our Kappas expect to go to Vassar or Wellesley.

How pleasant it would be to feel the grip and see the KEY and, though thousands of miles from familiar places, to know that we are one in the bonds of Kappa, one by the magic KEY!

It is surely a subject worthy the consideration of every Kappa.

MAY TIBBLES (*Sigma*).

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When we consider this question, we have to accommodate ourselves to existing facts.

Now, neither Smith, Vassar, nor Wellesley allow the establishment of

a secret society. Wellesley, it is true, has two flourishing Greek letter societies, but they are essentially the same as any local society, although they claim fraternity as their basis. No such society, subject as it is to faculty direction and supervision, can attain the catholicity of the independent Greek letter fraternity.

These institutions must be freed from the prejudice against fraternity. And, indeed, until such prejudice be removed, these are the very institutions that a modern-spirited, broad-minded society does not care to enter. These restrictions show that the boarding-school system of petty rules is still carried into colleges that ought to give with a liberal curriculum a corresponding freedom of action. Experience has shown that this freedom when granted is rarely abused, whereas the spirit that is aroused by restraint is too well known to need description.

There are few colleges for women that are as yet on a par with the institutions for men and those for both men and women. The curricula may be as good, but the baleful influences of centuries of restricted training and manner of life are not yet eradicated. A company of girls together is not a normal state of things. Co-education is the end toward which educationalism is directed. For men it cannot fail to be of value; for women it is still more necessary at this present stage of the world's history. In no way can ideas of equality and the trend of modern progress be so naturally and simply taught as by co-education.

The matter sums up; then, something like this: Co-education is the ideal method. Girls educated by themselves are not so apt to form normal notions of life as those educated among men. It is the normally cultivated women that we want in our fraternity. Therefore, co-education is the stronghold of a fraternity like ours. But, on the contrary, it can be said with reason that the colleges for women are becoming broader year by year, and that by the time the regulations against fraternity are removed, they will be plenty modern enough to have a charter from any good fraternity. But until these best Eastern institutions for women do open their doors to the Greek world, co-educational colleges alone should be considered.



And now Delta, our eldest sister, speaks to us about the true Kappa life.

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The question in our last KEY, "What O'clock in Kappa?" somehow set Delta a-thinking. She referred the question to herself, "What o'clock in the life of Delta?" And there came to us this sober reflection that Delta is the oldest living chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, and in her position as oldest sister we realize that she must have somewhat of age upon her own record. As we glance down the long line of twenty-two sister chapters, each grown to that good age when, with credit, she can take her place and earnestly engage in Kappa life, we turn tremblingly to search for gray hairs in the head of Delta, and marvel that we find them not. We are surprised that her life seems just as young and strong and ardent as it has been since the beginning. In one sense of the word we know that she can never grow old—for in Kappa life there is "a heart that can change not"—and if she has in one way grown old, shall we regret her age? Or who is he that will regret his years, be they ever so many, if for each year he can point to some noble work—some good accomplished? And can Delta do this? And have the members of Delta found out the good to be accomplished in a true Kappa life?

It is almost six years since I was before the assembly of the members of Delta and took upon myself the obligations of a Kappa life. Have I been able to fulfil those obligations—to faithfully keep my promise? If, in my weakness, I had many times failed, I would still say, "Kappa pledges you to nothing but that which, if rightly kept, cannot fail to make of you a better woman." We are sisters, and in order to be true to our promise we must keep the interests of every sister as near to our hearts as our own interests. Is this a hard thing to do? Yes, if there is in our hearts anything of selfishness, for self is a hard thing to overcome; but once mastered we have learned one of life's grandest lessons. And it is by this integrity to each member that we shall most effectually promote our combined fraternal interests. For in this way we have been united into one solid mass, no particle of which can be shaken without disturbing the whole. During a spiking season I was once asked the question, "If I become a



Kappa will it be necessary that I love all the girls?" I think the question amounted to this, "Does your promise require blindness to faults?" By no means; it requires nothing of blindness, but a great deal of helpfulness and charity. Whatever of shortcomings may be in any of us, rest assured they will be pointed out, for the fraternity man or woman is continually a target. Our sisterly regard might blind us to faults, but the hands of the outside world will be continually pointed at them. That which in "Miss Jones the Kappa" is severely criticized is entirely overlooked in "Miss Jones the Barb." Why is this? It is because the people outside of our fraternity recognize that we aim at a high standard, and are always ready to note any failure to live up to this.

And here comes in the question of initiates. I once heard a gentleman say of a newly initiated brother, "I don't know what kind of a man he is, but he has big eyes and lots of boodle." I have since often wondered if there is a clause in the constitution of that fraternity which reads "Such men shall have big eyes and lots of boodle." I know that big eyes have been considered a fortune in themselves — but alas! "even gold will not stand the test unless searched for in the heart and not in the pocket." To us the question of initiates is made clear. Choose the women pointed out in our constitution, and we cannot fail to have good Kappas. Of such sisters we can truly hope to say, "Your best interests are mine also," and of our labor in the cause of Kappa, "Labor for you is rest."

"What good can be accomplished by a true Kappa life?" We answer, "more good than we can recount." The grand aim for which Kappa was founded has been attained somewhat, if, by her golden chain, we have been bound together in ties of truest sisterhood, and if for any one the standard of life and of womanhood has been raised. We have nearly attained, if through her mystic links we have been so firmly united that we have wept together over a common sorrow, rejoiced together in a common joy, or triumphed in a common victory. We have grandly accomplished if our union has taught us "loyalty" and that faithfulness to a trust is the highest test of character. And let us remember that, in order to be true to the trust in our promise, we have but to be true to that



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great love of integrity and sincerity which has been placed in the heart of every good man and woman. We have but to be true to ourselves.

DELTA.

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Chapter letters and articles for the Parthenon (open letters) should be sent to Ella A. Titus, corresponding editor. Please write on one side of the paper only, and leave a margin at the left of the page.

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*PENSÉE.*

“THERE’S a strain that runs in my soul tonight,  
That fills all my life with longing,  
That shall lead the world into duty and right,  
And banish the power of wronging.”  
But the hymn so perfect, so sweet, and grand,  
No longer the heart rejoices,  
For the notes are written by earthly hand,  
And rendered by mortal voices.

“Let me paint a picture with all the prints  
Of Nature in grace contending,  
And the pencils of Heaven shall lend their tints  
In the rainbow’s perfect blending.”  
But the inspiration grew faint and died  
Along with the vain endeavor ;  
The painter’s eye could be satisfied,  
But the artist’s vision never.

“A hope that has led when my path was dark,  
Somewhere in my being slumbers ;  
Let me seize and study this beacon spark,  
And render its praise in numbers.”  
’Twas a noble purpose. At fearful cost  
Was the poet’s dream defeated,  
For the spark went out and the hope was lost  
Ere the story was half completed.

"I will live a life so perfect and true,  
That all of the world may heed it;  
And never a sin shall claim the view  
Of the erring hearts which read it."  
But the saint-life wearied and died at birth  
Affright at one heart's contrition,  
For an angel of Heaven would seem on earth  
The prince of a fool's ambition.

The musician's strains, and the painter's dream  
And the poet's untold story,  
And the unlived life, lack an added gleam  
From Another's hand for their glory.  
For life is only a record of birth,  
And God in His wisdom has given  
The half-formed treasures of earth to earth,  
And a paradise only to Heaven.

RHO.

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### College and Fraternity Notes.

Phi Beta Kappa has entered Kansas State University. This is its first chapter west of the Mississippi.

In Great Britain, 210 women are entitled to write A. B. after their names. Of these 144 graduated in London University, fifty-five at Royal University of Ireland, eleven at Victoria University.

When the announcement was made that henceforth women would be admitted to the honor examinations at Cambridge, the University students turned out in great numbers to cheer Miss Helen Gladstone and her companions. Women who are graduates of the fourteen colleges represented in the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, U. S. A., will be admitted to these examinations without further condition.

At the University of Pennsylvania the recent decision which makes the institution co-educational met with great opposition from the students.



Delta Tau Delta has chosen the pansy as its fraternity flower.

There is a strong movement among the trustees of St. Lawrence University in favor of establishing a woman professorship at that institution.

Tri-Delta has entered Knox College. This makes the third chapter established within one year by this progressive young society.

The total number of women graduates of the fourteen leading colleges open to women is 2611. Of these, 38 per cent. are married; 36 per cent. teaching; 5 per cent. engaged in other occupations; 20 per cent. at home.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, has reached San Francisco. While at Portland, she filled the pulpit of the First Unitarian Church for two successive Sundays.

Pi Beta Phi (I. C. Sorosis) has entered Columbian University, Washington, D. C. It is the first woman's fraternity to enter this institution, which has admitted women only since 1888. The University was organized under its present name in 1871, and includes 565 students, 126 of whom belong to the Academic Department.

The annual convention of the Alpha Phi Sorority was held Thursday, Friday and today, with the Eta chapter of Boston university. Delegates were present from Syracuse, Northwestern, De Pauw and Cornell Universities. Business meetings were held Thursday and Friday at the rooms of the Women's Club, Park street, and were largely attended by delegates and members of the different chapters. On Friday evening Miss Jane Bancroft, an alumna of Syracuse University and a fellow of Bryn Mawr, delivered a brilliant and able address before the society and invited guests upon the subject, "The College-bred Girl and her Opportunities." This was followed by a reception given by the entertaining chapter in honor of the visiting delegates. The convention closed with a lunch at the Brunswick.

The seventh annual convention of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority was held with the Epsilon chapter at Northwestern University, November 6, 7 and 8. Fourteen delegates were present from Syracuse, Ann Arbor, Madison and Boston. The first session was held on Wednesday afternoon, and others occurred Thursday and Friday mornings. Friday afternoon

Miss Michaels, the dean of the Woman's College, gave a reception to the delegates, at which they met the women of the local chapters. The convention banquet on Friday evening made a most pleasant ending to the convention, which was unanimously pronounced one of the most successful in the history of the Sorority.

The annual convention of Delta Kappa Epsilon was held in Boston, October 16 and 17. About 150 delegates were present, Brown, Colby and Dartmouth leading with seventeen, ten and eight respectively.

Hon. J. T. Wheelwright, Harvard, '76, read the convention poem, and H. A. Herbert of Alabama was the orator of the evening.

Wellesley students have established, or rather revived, two Greek-letter locals, the Zeta Alpha and Phi Sigma societies.

St. Lawrence University, Canton, N. Y., has received over \$50,000 last year in endowments, the principal item being \$25,000 from Columbus R. Cummings of Chicago, to found a professorship of natural science.

The University of Minnesota is completing a physical and chemical laboratory which is the last in four new buildings. One of these, the museum and science hall, was the gift of Governor John S. Pillsbury who gave \$150,000 to the State for this purpose.

Madison University has just erected a large library building, the gift of James B. Colgate of New York.

Miss Mila F. Tupper, Psi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, who was graduated last year from Cornell University, was recently ordained to the Unitarian Ministry. Miss Tupper has already entered upon her duties as pastor of the First Unitarian Church at La Porte, Indiana.



## Chapter Letters.

BETA — ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY.

Despite the exceedingly unpleasant weather which has attended this fall term at St. Lawrence, our work for Kappa Kappa Gamma has been taken up with renewed zeal, and the Saturday night meetings are bright and hopeful enough to shame the clerk of the weather.

With the beginning of the College year came the class of '93,— the Freshman, objects of great interest and unceasing contemplation to each and all of Beta's members. Contrary to the usual rule, this year the Freshman class boasts of two girls and half a girl to each man, and this we all know is quite the equivalent of three to one. That woman is supreme in this particular body is evident.

Beta Chapter has already begun a process of starvation on her faithful goat, allowing him for his food but the anticipations of the nice *green* mädchens he soon shall feast on, thus adding to the anguish of the victim. Thus far two victims have been met and conquered. Margaret H. Traver, '92, and Ella May Adams, '93, can testify that our Billy is no myth.

With the graduation of the class of '89 last June, came the prospect of losing six very active Kappas, whose places could not be easily filled. Luckily for Beta, a happy turn of fortune's wheel has made most of these new alumnæ residents of our college town. Among the teachers engaged for this year, in our Union School, are Cora Morrison, Minnie Walker and Anne Woods, all of '89. These three Kappas, together with Jessie Howe, '89, and Mary Atwood, formerly of '89, are now enrolled as active members of Beta Chapter. The two remaining Kappas of '89, Jessie Merritt and Halcyone Morrison, are also teaching in this State, (N. Y.) and at places but short distances from Canton.

On the eve of Sept. 30, our chapter had the first banquet of the term. This was an occasion of mingled rejoicing and regret. On that night we revealed to Margaret Traver the mysteries of a Kappa spread and gave her her first taste of Kappa toast; and at the same time we said farewell



to Lucia Heaton, '79, and wished her God-speed in her chosen work. Miss Heaton, whose home for the present is in New York City, has been, by reason of her long connection with our fraternity and her exceptional abilities, a strong rock for Beta Chapter in all times of worry or excitement; her departure from Canton is a source of deep regret, both in our chapter and among Miss Heaton's friends in the town.

Florence J. Lee, '85, for the past year enrolled as an active member in Beta, is also in New York, where she will follow her profession of music, both singing and teaching. Miss Lee has been thoroughly fitted for her work, studying abroad and at home. We hope for her the success she merits. Our chapter has a goodly number of alumnae residing in New York. Many of Beta's most worthy Kappas are pursuing their various vocations in that city, and we who are still active members feel that the organization of an Alumnae Chapter there would be a grand good thing.

The scheme for our literary work for the year has not yet been decided on. We find it more difficult to prepare a suitable programme than to do the work itself. But our girls have the will and the way is sure to be found.

Our chapter already has as many members as it had last year and with hope of other initiates to swell our ranks, aid in our work and enjoy with us our many good times, Beta has every reason to look forward to an unusually pleasant and profitable year.

#### GAMMA — WOOSTER UNIVERSITY.

Gamma chapter began the year with an unusually large number of members. However, seven have been added to our ranks by initiation, Misses Kate Deer, Sylvia Firestone, Gertrude Robinson, Alice Bechtel, all of '93, Georgia McDowell of '94, Alice Anderson and Josephine McDowell, music students.

Gwen Jones, formerly of '91, has returned to college, and has now entered the ranks of '92.

Winona A. Hughes of '91 was one of the delegates to the state convention of the Y. W. C. A., held in Dayton, Oct. 11-14.



Our literary work has been the discussion of general topics, in connection with a biographical sketch. We have taken up the lives of General Boulanger, Anna Dickinson, Talmage, and Jenness Miller, and leading topics of the day.

Some one is appointed to read up a topic for the next time, while each of the others is expected to contribute her share to the general fund of information.

Since a large number of our girls are members of the oratorio chorus, studying the "Elijah," we decided to take up the life and works of Mendelssohn at our next meeting.

The first social event of the season was the "spelling bee," given by Misses Alice and Sylvia Firestone, at their home, Friday evening, Nov. 1.

Although the work done in the fraternity seems comparatively small at times, yet we shall all be better and stronger women for having enjoyed fraternity life.

#### DELTA — INDIANA UNIVERSITY.

"It is not when all is well, but when all is better, that we see the bright side of life and feel tempted to make of it a holiday." Certainly, then, Delta should feel tempted to make of her life one glorious holiday. We feel each year that our life is growing better, that we are becoming more and more filled with the true Kappa spirit, that we are finding out how much we can do for Kappa, how much she can do for us. We entered upon our work with eleven active members, each determined to succeed in every task assigned to her. We have since initiated five members and pledged one.

#### INITIATES :

Emma Brant, Fort Scott, Kansas.  
Katharine Miller, New Harmony, Indiana.  
Anna Pote, New Harmony, Indiana.  
Amy Brown, Columbus, Indiana.  
Maude Sims, Atica, Indiana.

#### PLEGGED :

Blanche Wicks, Bloomington, Indiana.

Katharine Miller comes to us with the honor scholarship of the New Harmony High School. All are strong students, worthy a name on Kappa's roll. Our "spiking" season is not yet over. Even now, it seems like sending news in the midst of battle. But our Kappa banner floats proudly, we are on the road to victory, nor do we expect to show the white flag. The battle over, will our work be ended? No, it will only have begun. We will still have labors to perform in the interest of our Fraternity.

If a good beginning makes a good ending, we feel sure that the present year for Delta will end well, indeed. Among the social events, we mention the reception of Beta Theta Pi, on the evening of Sept. 27.

The National Convention of Kappa Alpha Theta was held here during the past week. On the evening of Nov. 1, a banquet was given to the visiting members. During the afternoon of the same day, Kappa Kappa Gamma was invited to call in a body, and become acquainted with the delegates and visitors.

On Hallowe'en, Delta was entertained by Mrs. B. F. Adams, Jr. The evening was spent very pleasantly. We are glad to know that our married members still take so much interest in us.

Since August we have lost by marriage five of our non-active members, all earnest workers for the Fraternity. One of the papers in giving an account of the marriages, adds, "Kappas seem to be in demand." Yes, and we hope that all of our members may be such pure, true and earnest woman that in every path of life there will always be a demand and a need for Kappas.

#### EPSILON — ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

College at Illinois Wesleyan has opened this fall with a larger roll than formerly. Only ten Kappas respond to roll-call as yet — but there are some charming girls in college not yet initiated.

Several improvements and comfortable additions have been made to the buildings during the summer months.

A Chair of Elocution has been added to the Faculty and Miss Margaret Langstaff, a graduate of Cumnook School of Elocution, employed as



instructor. During the week of October 15-18 the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta fraternity was held here, entertained by Illinois Epsilon. Their private meetings were held during the day, and the evenings otherwise employed.

Tuesday evening they held an open session at the Opera House. Wednesday evening, the Chapter here gave a ball in honor of the visiting Phis, and many golden keys were seen sparkling alongside of the shield and dagger.

Lottie Probasco and Rachel Boumann, two of Epsilon's girls, left us this fall to attend the Boston School of Oratory. The evening before they left, the girls gave a little farewell party for them at Miss Forman's home.

Miss Kittie Rineheart is studying music in Chicago.

Misses Lulu and Grace Adams are at the Ladies' College, in Jacksonville. Epsilon misses these sisters very much; also some others whom she hopes to have within her halls next term.

October 24, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Kappa Alpha Theta girls were entertained by Phi Gamma Delta at the home of Mr. Van Leer.

Several of the girls have procured pins this fall, so that now most of the girls in college wear a badge.

#### ZETA — IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

The beginning weeks of this college year have passed rapidly away amid general prosperity. There has been an increase in all the departments of the university. The Freshman class is large and among its numbers are some very desirable fraternity members, three of whom we are proud of as Kappas: Stella Price, Lizzie Rees and Laura Clarke. This makes our active membership nine. Beside these new initiates we welcome back one of our old members, Susie Paeton.

Every one is exceedingly busy with college work and has little time for anything else. In consequence our tennis ground has been deserted for some time and only dry leaves play and whisper "love all."

Even our chapter work has felt this pressure of school duties, but now we have a well-arranged course of study, taking up Italian Art this fall. We limit ourselves to one artist and his works for each hour, thus making

each meeting complete in itself while contributing to a definite course.

Although we were all so busy the attractions of the October woods proved too great to be withstood. One bright Saturday morning, laden with baskets, we took the north-bound train, and at a pretty grove a few miles from the city we built our fire, boiled our coffee and supped in truly rural style. Dame Nature was lavish in her contributions to our entertainment, shedding her nuts into our pockets and her burrs into our dresses.

During the last week the students have been much interested in a project for a new Christian Association Building, which is to cost \$25,000. Already over \$10,000 have been raised by students and professors alone so with the help of the people of Iowa City we soon expect to add another building to the university.

#### ETA — WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY.

Eta began the year with the same number, save one, that she had last year, our number at the beginning of the year thus being thirteen. Since then her heart has been gladdened by four additions to her mystic circle — three being members of the Freshman class and one of the Sophomore class.

Our Sophomore girl entered amidst great rejoicing, as she was in college all last year, but unable to join us. The names of our fall initiates are as follows:

Julia A. Armstrong, '92.  
Georgia Kendall, '93.

Susie Main, '93.  
Jennie Pitman, '93.

Eta has had reason to rejoice many times, but never more than when, a few weeks ago, two girls pledged themselves to us. They are the first girls who have ever been invited by all of the women's fraternities here. Circumstances are such that they cannot join us this year, but still we enjoy the happy privilege of feeling assured about them.

The festivities of the term were opened by a card party given by Edith Locke. Early in the term Jennie Pitman also entertained the Kappas and some of their friends.

Our anniversary day was celebrated at the home of one of our Sophomore girls, Helen Thorpe.



October was ushered out by a Hallowe'en Ribbon German, given at the home of one of our Senior girls, Flora Mosely. It is needless to say that the evening was passed very pleasantly.

At present we are engaged in renovating our Kappa rooms.

THETA — MISSOURI UNIVERSITY.

Once more does Theta send greetings to her sister chapters.

With mingled feelings of pleasure and regret we had our first reunion: pleasure at seeing the dear familiar faces once more around our fireside; regret at the empty places so recently occupied by some of our most valued sisters. But sorrow only draws the remaining ones closer together, so the lonely "six" consoled each other. Our motto being "Slow but sure," we have as yet added but one link to our golden chain, Rosalie Broadhead, who is a host in herself. The night of the 26th of October beheld the great event. After the mystic ceremonies were over, we celebrated the event by a royal candy pull and dance. All Kappas of course know what that means by experience.

We can find no words in which to express our appreciation of the new song-books. They play a most important part in our "family gatherings."

Owing to the fact that we all take an active part in the Girls' Literary Society at the M. S. U., our literary work is a supplement to the society work. We have decided on the study of Ruskin, besides a study of the Fraternity for this term. We would be very glad to receive hints on the latter.

The University is progressing rapidly; it is becoming more and more a center of interest to all the state. The legislature has just presented our Literary Society with a beautiful piano.

One of the chief College events so far has been the Union Literary Open Session. It was one of the best entertainments ever given. We can say with pride that so far the Philaethean Society has the reputation of giving the best entertainments, and we shall endeavor to make this year no exception.

Columbia is renowned for its beautiful autumns, and we Kappas have

shown our appreciation of the fact by a series of nutting parties. How we shall enjoy cracking our nuts this winter by our fireside, and talking of old times !

Ulie Belle Denny, S. B., '89, is pursuing her studies at Roanoke, Mo.

Anna Bates is principal of High School at Memphis, Mo.

Karleen Colemary is spending the winter at various places east and north. She will return next Semester.

Ida Post is teaching at Bolivar, Mo.

Sarah Sanderson is at her home in Rich Hill, Mo., on account of ill health. She will return next Semester.

Laura and Mary Clark are seniors at the Mary Institute, St. Louis, Mo.

#### IOTA — DE PAUW UNIVERSITY.

De Pauw University, under the guidance of Dr. J. P. D. John, the acting President, opened with an attendance of over seven hundred students, the increase in number being largely in the college classes. Of course this made the "spiking" season very exciting. Twenty-three Kappas entered into the fall campaign. In accordance with the contract renewed with Kappa Alpha Theta, propositions were not made until October 31. The following list of new Kappas testifies to our success : Hallie Hall, '91, Bessie Ruth Herrick, '92, Eleanor Florence Wright, '92, Nellie Barbara Fatout, '92, Minnie Beam, '93, Mary Chaffee and May Smith. All of these, we think are well fitted to maintain Kappa's reputation for scholarship and true womanliness.

The Anniversary was celebrated Friday evening, October 11, at Jean Nelson's home. Forty Kappas gathered in the cheerful dining room to partake of refreshments and listen to the toasts, Minnetta Taylor acting as toast-mistress. Music and conversation filled up the pleasant hours until we said "Good night."

Kappa songs seem more beautiful than ever, since Chi has given them such tasteful setting, yet the lack of music is a great disappointment to Iota.

We would like to hear more of the subject of alumnae associations. In some of our cities flourishing associations might easily be formed.



Iota alone has twelve members in Indianapolis. Probably Mu and Delta are as well represented.

The Convention of Kappa Alpha Theta at Indiana State University reminds us of the near approach of our own convention. It is hoped that much may be done then toward better organization and more systematic work of the fraternity as a whole as well as toward a mutual exchange of ideas for chapter work and methods.

We look forward to the time when we can take up the international course of study, but while waiting for that, we expect to spend some time on *Les Misérables*.

#### KAPPA — HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

There were many new faces to greet us upon our return to college work, the enrollment in college for this term being considerably larger than that of the past year.

The death of Professor Clarence O. Williams, which occurred the morning of the opening of school, cast a gloom on the pleasure of meeting old friends. He had endeared himself to all, and the college as well as the students has met with a great loss, as his place will be difficult to fill. With his sweet-faced bride of three months we have the deepest sympathy.

Our president, the Honorable George Mosher, and Mrs. Mosher, left us for two weeks this term to attend the National Convention of the Free Will Baptist Church, held at Harper's Ferry. Mr. Mosher was secretary of the convention.

Kappa as usual has her share of the honors to be obtained in the Literary Societies. She is represented by two of her number on the committee to select lecturers and entertainments for the year. In the classroom she endeavors to keep up her rank to its usual good grade.

Two of our girls, Shirley Smith and Florence Keith were sent as delegates to the Y. W. C. A. convention held at Ypsilanti this fall. Miss Smith and Dora Stamats were also delegates to the Y. W. C. A. convention held in Coldwater.

We have heartily welcomed to our midst a sister from Gamma, Caroline Bates.



At the first meeting of the term we had with us Carrie Durgin, one of our most promising girls. She graduates from Oberlin, O., this year.

We miss Edith Andrews at our meetings. She has been ill for two weeks past, but we hope soon to have her with us again.

Kappa has at present four pledged members. Before this reaches the KEY they will probably be wearing the blue and the blue, and we trust they will always be an honor to the truth it represents.

The literary work for the term is to consist mainly of selections from popular authors.

The Pi Beta Phi's have given a number of receptions this term to the new and old students, the first being a "Russian Tea," the second "Kaffee Klatsch," and the last "Café au Lait." An hour of pleasant chatting helps to bind all closer in the bonds of Pan-Hellenism.

On the evening of October 3, a "wooden wedding" was celebrated. For five years Winnifred Root and Shirley Smith have been chums. They have roomed, moved, studied and quarrelled over the same things together, and shared equally the highest honors in society; and the celebration of this anniversary seemed very appropriate. Those present at the festivities had an excellent time, and wished them many happy returns.

We were delighted with the new song-books and the first evening after their arrival sang ourselves hoarse in glad appreciation. Many thanks are due to those who so faithfully fulfilled their work in giving them to us in such good form.

It is a gratification to hear that we are to have a Kalendar all our own again this year, and we look forward to its appearance with bright anticipations.

And why should we not be glad that it is our fraternity which is endeavoring to keep itself at the head in all things? What true pleasure and just pride we can all feel when we speak of its merits, of the high place it occupies, of the things it aspires to! To the new as well as to the old student, these facts in regard to Kappa Kappa Gamma are convincing.

LAMBDA — BUCHTEL COLLEGE.

Through the medium of the KEY, may Lambda's greeting reach



every Kappa circle with the message of hope that the season is one of happiness and prosperity with all her sister chapters.

Though nothing meteoric in event has happened thus far, our prospects were never more encouraging.

We began work this year with ten active members, and are pleased to record the presence of an energetic alumna, Gertrude Matthews, '89, at every meeting, where her influence has been an ever helpful one.

The time stipulated in a contract between Delta Gamma and ourselves, to do no pledging of new students until November 1, has just expired, and both chapters pronounce the experiment a success in every respect.

Truly, dignity hath ways to win the heart of a barbarian, and "rushing" is doomed to become an unknown custom of Kappa Kappa Gamma. Our conquests are gratifying in every instance, and we take pleasure in adding to the roll the names of Eva E. Dean and Otilia Poehlman, '93, Clara I. Sheak, special.

Of last year's students we have chosen Dian M. Haines, whom we initiated September 23, and pledged Mary E. Baker.

The results of an entertainment given by Mr. Battis, of the School of Expression, Boston, on the evening of November 1, under the auspices of our chapter were beneficial both intellectually and financially. Our literary work has been of an interesting nature as well as instructive, but we shall be glad when an international plan of study has been adopted, for in that lies the secret of closer unity among the chapters, and the establishment of the highest possible standard of membership.

We are glad to repeat that the KEY is an inspiration to every Kappa, for it awakens the indifferent and encourages the loyal.

We were unfortunate in not being able to celebrate the anniversary of the fraternity, but hope to make an occasion of the next, when she will bid adieu to her "teens" and, like the hopeful maiden, looking back upon her first score of years with a tear for the happy past, will turn with a smile to the glorious future.

MU — BUTLER UNIVERSITY.

Mu sends greeting to sister chapters.

With the return of studies, five of our last year's chapter returned,



ready for earnest, honest work. Since that time our number has been doubled.

Lona Iden, who has been out of college for a while, is with us again. Harriet Iden is teaching in the public schools, so we have her presence also. Mamie Hay, daughter of the professor of natural sciences, who was pledged last year, was initiated at the beginning of the year.

On Saturday evening, September 28, we had a very pleasant initiation, at which Mrs. Dill, one of our charter members, and several alumnae assisted. After the ceremonies, several gentleman who had been invited to a social, came in and joined us in the merry-making. They were profuse in their congratulations, and we are sure we have never pinned the golden key on three more worthy and loyal girls than Romaine and Stella Braden, and Grace Meeker.

Jennie Armstrong, '89, Kate Hadley, '88, and Martha Murry, '87, have visited us and added to our enthusiasm.

Since our last letter we have had reason to be proud that a Kappa has won a Sophomore essay prize. Grace Murry is the first girl who has taken this honor.

The college is very prosperous this year. Owing to additional classes, some tutors were chosen from the senior class. It is a source of pride to us that one of the two persons chosen was a young lady, and that young lady, India Martz, a Kappa.

Our new song-books are beauties. There is not a single Kappa among us who does not want one of her very own to keep, after she is out of college.

#### NU — OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY.

A Kappa greeting to our Kappa sisters.

We are all hard at work with the energy that is characteristic of the fall term. Both the University and Nu Chapter have begun the year with good prospects for growth. Ten of our circle have returned to the familiar halls of Ohio State University, — two, Alla Berta Rickey and Alberta Garber, as post-graduate students. We have also three pledged members, who will doubtless be Kappas by the time that this letter is read.



They are: Carrie Wright, '92, Louise A. Merrill, '93, Clara Byers, '93.

It is a loss to us that Mary Blakiston and Carrie Pocock have not joined us again, but as their homes are in the city they are with us occasionally. We deeply regret also that Hattie Caywood, who was pledged to us, was unable to return this year. Amid these losses we have the joy of having Cora Rigby with us once more, to advise and suggest and work. The numerous plans that she has devised have been very helpful to us.

For our literary work, we have taken up the study of Florentine Art, somewhat after the plan suggested in the September KEY, and are deriving enjoyment and benefit from it. A serious obstacle, however, to the best results of our work is that we cannot hold our meetings oftener than once in two weeks. The lack of a chapter room, together with the unfortunate arrangement of the schedule of recitations, obliges us to meet on Saturday afternoons at the homes of the members, and as we are widely separated it is scarcely possible for us to give up the day every week. We recognize the disadvantages clearly, and are trying to devise ways and means for securing a room near the university, so that we may hold our meetings once a week after recitations are over.

Nu chapter planned to celebrate her own anniversary and that of the founding of the fraternity, in a simple and yet pleasant way, by a long walk in the woods on the 12th of October; but much to our regret, the rain forced us to give up the jaunt.

The work of compiling the Kappa Kappa Gamma Kalendar, which was carried on with such success last year by our sisters of Phi chapter, has been intrusted to two of our number this season and is progressing well. There will be little change in outward appearance; only the quotations will be new. It is hoped that the Kalendar will be ready by the middle of December.

The term has been broken by very few festivities as yet. A social given by the Browning Literary Society on the evening of November 1, enlisted the efforts of several of our number and was enjoyed by nearly all. We were delighted to receive a visit from Ruth Cyrus of Epsilon, who was in Columbus for a few days during October and came out to the university to see us.



## XI — ADRIAN COLLEGE.

The first week in September brought the usual influx of students new and old into our college, and each found the usual confusion of faces and Babel of voices, as greetings and introductions mingled with the more sober work of registering and "getting settled." To the uninitiated, perhaps, no difference was noticeable in the manner of the various girls as they met again after the summer's separation; yet here and there an unusual lighting up of the face, an added cordiality in the tone, and a peculiarly close grasp of the hand told that two of Xi's members had come together. And soon after the opening of the term we were all gathered in our cosy chapter hall, few in numbers, but dauntless in spirit and full of eager plans for the year's work.

On mustering our forces, and pressing our associate members into the service, we counted no less than ten in our little band, and felt greatly encouraged. Already we have widened our circle to receive Misses Ada Foster and Rose Talbot, whom we find an invaluable addition.

For our work so far we have continued a plan adopted last year, which has proved a source of much pleasure and profit. Each evening is devoted to the study of the life and works of some one of the later American writers. Our programmes are always more or less informal in character, and much time is spent in discussion and conversation. They thus furnish a pleasant contrast to the more "cut and dried" routine of the literary societies.

We are delighted with the new song-books, and only find them an "embarrassment of riches," when each girl insists on having her own special favorite sung. But where, oh where, is the promised music? Its absence was a great disappointment to all of us.

Two of our girls have places on the *College World*, this year, one being editor-in-chief; and we shall also be represented at both the society anniversaries, one of which is to be celebrated this term and one next.

Since we last wrote, two more of our old members have entered the state of matrimony. Hettie Meikle, '87, and C. E. Sheppard, '89, were married September 4, at Miss Meikle's home, in Lancaster, O. Hattie Trumble,



who was in college the first term of last year, was also united in marriage to Mr. H. G. Fleming, October 16. Several of our girls were present on this latter occasion.

The members of Xi have all been so busy this term, that no one has had time to write a special article on the subject, but perhaps we may be allowed a few words in this department on the question of our fraternity flower. We are much interested in the discussion, and unhesitatingly give our vote for the forget-me-not, which is our chapter flower, and which surely has the most beautiful meaning and the tenderest message of all. Though small and inconspicuous, it has been like a strong chain to us, binding us all together with links of loving remembrance, and we think the fraternity at large could make no better selection. Whatever flower is chosen as our emblem, however, the message Xi will always send to her sister chapters is the message of her chapter blossom, — "Forget me not."

#### OMICRON — SIMPSON COLLEGE.

Simpson opens this year with a new President and three additions to the Faculty. The attendance is greatly increased.

The Science Hall, which was dedicated last Commencement, adds much to the facilities of the school.

Work on the Ladies' Boarding Hall has been suspended until spring. The financial outlook of the school was never brighter.

Kappa has only eight active members. We miss from our circle one of our strongest members, Anna Jones Baker, who was married during the summer vacation, and now resides in Denver.

Three of our members were recently sent as delegates to the state convention of the Y. W. C. A.

We heartily extend our best wishes for the prosperity of our sister chapters.

#### RHO — ALLEGHENY COLLEGE.

Rho Chapter began this term with only five active members, having lost four of last year's girls.

On Hallowe'en we initiated Misses May Warner and Margaret Douley. The ceremonies began at midnight and ended with a banquet at three o'clock.

Besides our new girls, we have two pledged members, Misses Lillian and Eula Minett.

Ever since our instalment we have met at the home of one of our members, but now we are rejoicing in the possession of a chapter room, which will be furnished ready for us in a week or two.

Among the pleasant social events of this term have been receptions given by several of the men's fraternities, at each of which Rho was well represented.

#### SIGMA — NEBRASKA UNIVERSITY.

Sigma begins the new year much reduced in numbers but strong in fraternity "push" and enthusiasm.

May Tibbles, '92, is teaching, but we expect to have her with us again soon. Mary Holmes, '91, is kept at home by the illness of her mother. Nellie White, '92, is also unable to return. We miss these three.

An informal reception was held at the home of Stella Kirker, October 11, to which several of the new girls were invited. The afternoon was pleasantly passed.

Sigma has had no initiates yet this fall, and the goat is getting so frisky from lack of exercise that we have decided to bring him out from his stall next Friday. Announcement of the result will be given later.

We joyfully announce the arrival of Sigma's first baby. We bring before our sister chapters the need of a Kappa primer. Surely our youth should be early taught to love and honor the *blue* laws.

#### TAU — SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY.

The beginning of the college year found Tau with full ranks, alive with fraternity spirit and ready for the year's work, which began with an earnest and exciting rushing season lasting about four weeks. As a result of the faithful efforts of the girls, nine Freshmen were pledged and on



October 19, which was the sixth anniversary of the establishment of Tau, we held an annual initiation and banquet at the home of Grace Hill, '90, at which time the following girls were made Kappas: Myra Stephens, Kate Brown, Mary Avery, Marion Duncan, Jessie Burdick, Minnie Woodworth, May Reed, Bessie Reed and Myra Husted, '92. Agnes Ford, '93, whom we also pledged, will not be able to join at present. We were favored at initiation by the presence of one of our charter members, Mrs. Wallace, '85, of Oswego.

On Hallowe'en Grace Carpenter, '91, entertained her Kappa sisters and some of their friends at a Witch Party. The parlor was converted into a miniature forest in one corner of which sat the witch Eszschacka-hauptl, who during the evening revealed the future of those in attendance. Thirteen of the girls who compose the Kappa Kaldron were dressed as witches, and each carried a small broom tied with Kappa colors. The guests numbered about sixty and a most enjoyable evening was passed in dancing, singing Kappa songs and playing Hallowe'en games.

We are much pleased with the new song-books, and feel that too much cannot be said in commendation of the patient and faithful efforts of those to whom the appearance of the book is due.

On Thursday evening, October 10, the Chi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta, consisting of eleven members, was established here. For some time a movement has been in progress by a local society, Kappa Delta Phi, to obtain admission into the above named fraternity. It was expected that a charter would be granted last June, but owing to delays it has been impossible to establish a chapter until now. The installation ceremonies were conducted by two members of Iota chapter of Cornell University. There is plenty of room in our growing institution for the new chapter, and plenty of good material for her construction.

In University affairs we note with pride the establishment of a chair of Theistic Science, occupied by Dr. Haanel, late of Victoria University, Ontario. Dr. Haanel's lectures are listened to with interest, not only by the members of his classes, but by the students in general, and by many of the city people.

## UPSILON—NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

With happy hearts we have all come back to begin another year; and in these six or seven weeks Upsilon has been very prosperous. We have initiated three new girls, Nettie Hunt, '92; Lilian Whitney, '93; Hattie Caughran, '93; and have pledged four girls.

Nettie Hunt has recently been elected a member of the Illinois Woman's Press Association. Among the prominent members are: Miss Francis E. Willard, Miss Rena A. Michaels, Dean of the Woman's College, Dr. Stockham, Mrs. Elizabeth Boynton Harbert, and Miss Mary Allen West.

We are justly proud of this honor conferred upon one of our members.

September 13 we were entertained very pleasantly by Edith Baker, one of our pledged girls, at her home, and on October 19, Belle Alling, '88, invited us to spend the evening with her. It is needless to say that we enjoyed ourselves very much.

September 20 is a day that will be remembered with great pleasure by the Kappa girls at Northwestern, for on that day we enjoyed such a pleasant visit from Miss Lamson, Miss DeWolf, Miss Tupper and Miss Bisbee of Psi chapter.

Miss Lamson, whose home is in Chicago, has extended an invitation to the Upsilon girls of '90 to meet some of her Psi friends at lunch on November 2.

Gamma Phi Beta holds her convention with Epsilon chapter at Northwestern this year. Of the Kappa girls, Elizabeth Brown, '90, Clara Tucker, '90, and Nettie Hunt, '92, are invited to attend their banquet.

We are delighted to tell our sisters that a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa is to be established in this University. We deem it a very great honor, as this will be the first chapter established west of the Alleghanies, but feel certain that Northwestern is deserving of that honor.

Our new song-books have arrived, and we are greatly pleased with them. Nothing could be prettier than the blue binding, lettered with the deeper blue, the white band and its glittering words, "Kappa Kappa Gamma."



## PHI — BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

The opening of the college year found Phi alive with enthusiasm. The season has been an interesting and busy one, but our labor has not been without its reward.

Our Kappas-to-be seem even now to possess much of the true fraternity spirit, and we have reason to hope for much from our worthy initiates who are, as we say, "regular Kappas." They are: Grace Casey, Mary Hitchcock, Grace Parker, Alice Smith.

The condition of the chapter during this fall has been unusually good. United we have stood and the interest of the chapter has been the interest of each member. We have great confidence in the power of Kappa to unify.

Emily Bright entertained the chapter at her home on the afternoon and evening of October 12, the 13th being the anniversary of the founding of Kappa. Of course we had a royal time and the "Kappa cup of tea" was a joy to all. Nor has this been our only social Kappa gathering. On October 30 Mabel Davis gave a reception in honor of our members of '89, and it was an occasion of no little enjoyment.

Phi has been favored this term by visits from four sister Kappas: Miss Pratt and Miss Olmstead from Chi, and Miss Baumann and Miss Probasco from Epsilon.

On November 2 the sad news of the death of Emily Bright's mother reached us. Mrs. Bright was a personal friend to many of us, and her kind words and helpful spirit Phi will not soon forget.

There are now represented in the university six secret fraternities besides our own. Eta chapter of Alpha Phi was never in a better condition. Gamma Phi Beta and Delta Delta Delta are prospering.

The men's fraternities are represented by Beta Theta Pi, Theta Delta Chi and Delta Tau Delta.

Alpha Phi held its annual convention in Boston the 10th, 11th, and 12th of October.

Representatives of all phases of the college life were invited to attend the public session.

The University debating and Philomathean societies are flourishing and the Philological and German clubs are interesting literary features.

The number of students is increasing every year and the University has a promising future.

CHI — MINNESOTA UNIVERSITY.

Chi has adopted the plan of meeting for a social evening once a fortnight at the different girls' houses, as the conflicting interests of our members render impossible our pleasant afternoon meetings in our Kappa room. We leave all business for the weekly noon meeting, and confine ourselves to having a good time. So far, all has worked like a charm.

We have met at Miss Brown's and Miss Thompson's, have talked, played games, taken refreshments, and then ended the evening by gathering around the piano and singing with a zest our Kappa songs.

And those Kappa songs! With what strong fraternity spirit they fill us, until we seem to overflow with enthusiasm. They cause a good deal of fun among us, too. For we are not all singers, and those who are, are despicable enough to drop their voices now and then, for one cause and another; and we who are left are heard shrilly voicing something which sounds like "My Bonnie," when we ought to be singing "Swanee River," and the laughter that ensues is anything but pleasant to us.

Chi opened the year with a reception to the Freshman girls, and made many pleasant acquaintances. She has also entertained some of her friends at a German, given at the home of the Misses Mary and Maud Best.

Miss Pratt entertained us royally on Hallowe'en; but the tricks and pranks that were played that evening are kept religiously secret.

We have lost and have gained two members — Gertrude Tucker is spending the year in Colorado, and Nellie Hall has just started for a six month's tour through the southern States. We miss them greatly. We have added to our number Maud Best and Julia Thompson, both popular girls and strong members. One of our alumnæ, Miss Anna Shillock, at present taking a post-graduate course, has been admitted as an active member.

Miss Edith Phillips has had the honor of being elected Prophet of the Senior class.

We welcomed back a short time ago, Miss Clara Blake from a European tour, and Miss Pratt, who spent the summer in the East, and



told of pleasant hours with Phi. A number of us spent the summer at the neighboring lakes and in travel, and all have had a splendid time.

The University has made several improvements. Among others, it has erected a fine building for the Law School, and completed Pillsbury Hall a magnificent home for the sciences. A new Chemistry Hall is rising, and the Campus has been improved with a view to field sports.

#### PSI — CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

Although the college year so far has been quiet and uneventful the members of Psi have found their fraternity life unusually enjoyable.

Our number has been increased by the addition of two more members of the class of '92—Miss Baker and Miss Taylor. Miss Lathrop, formerly '90, and Miss Bisbee, '91, also returned to the University this term.

By a Pan-Hellenic council the time set for asking the Freshmen to join is unusually late this year, thus giving us a better opportunity to become acquainted with the new girls, and avoiding the risk of making mistakes.

Miss Tupper, '89, is to be ordained November 7, and will then take charge of the Unitarian church at La Porte, Ind.

We expect a visit soon from Miss Jacks, who since leaving college last spring has been travelling in Europe.

Miss Boileau, '89, intends to be with us at our next initiation.

#### OMEGA — KANSAS UNIVERSITY.

With Omega this fall has been a season of good resolves and plans. A fine scheme of literary work for chapter meetings has been devised; but it is hardly safe to pronounce upon its real merits at so early a date. And we have laid plans for social entertainments, plans for the gaining of new members, and plans for abstaining from all "rushing." For anything in the line of plans call on Omega!

But do not think us mere theorists. Really we have done something more than plan.

Half-past two every Saturday afternoon finds twelve or fifteen Kappas

assembling for a few hours of that sweet fellowship which we have come to think belongs only to Kappas. One Saturday the chapter had the pleasure of listening to a lecture by our professor of Greek, Dr. A. M. Wilcox, on "Life in Modern Greece." This was a very pleasant occasion and the first of the kind in our history.

On the evening of October 18 the Kappas were "at home" to a number of their friends at the residence of Mrs. C. P. Grosvenor. The evening was spent in conversation and music.

The beginning of the year brought quite a number of eligible-looking new girls to the university. But, as our sisters may remember, we are a party to an inter-fraternity pledge which gives ample opportunity to examine and be examined.

And our non-fraternity sisters have become more than usually interesting. Little groups of whispering girls, new and unaccountable friendships springing up between old girls who have distantly known each other for years, betoken the rising of a new fraternity in our midst. Its name, according to rumor, is Delta Delta Delta.

I. C., Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Kappa Gamma await the appearance of a sister chapter with mingled feelings.

Our university is in a flourishing condition. Good crops in Kansas means a good attendance at the university.

The men's fraternities have found an unusually large amount of good working material.

Again has one of Omega's Kappas appeared at Hymen's altar. Franc Eddy and Newton C. Johnson were married at the home of the bride at Morganville, Kansas, on September 19. Their home will be in Lawrence.

A few of last year's members are not with us, and very much do we miss them. Mame Henshaw, our ex-corresponding secretary is in Denver, Col. Mamie Johnston teaches music at Waterville, Kansas, and Amy Hayes is a teacher in the schools of Paola, Kansas.

Our chapter is looking forward to a happy and prosperous year, hoping to hold high the standards of Kappa Kappa Gamma. We wish all of our sister chapters the very best of success. May fraternity be made to mean more than ever before to all Kappas.



## Personals.

### GAMMA.

Carrie Stroup of '91, was recently married to M. H. Frank of '89, principal of Central College, now preparatory to Wooster University.

Della Walker of '89 is in business in Chicago.

Lura Kean of '89 is at her home in Springville.

Minnie Deer of '89 is principal of the High School in Van Wert.

Carrie Bates of '92 is now attending Hillsdale College.

### IOTA

This has been another season for weddings. Minnie Cole was married August 15, to Freeman R. Conaway, at Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Maud Robinson was married August 4, to Dr. Charles W. Frink, at Indianapolis, Indiana.

Marie Alcott was married October 23, to Will L. Divine, at Chicago, Illinois.

Ida Coffey was married October 9, to Will E. Sanders, at Brazil, Indiana.

Ella Adams, Ella Bourne, Lulu Ward, Eva Kyner and Harriet Perkins are for various reasons at home this fall. Their loss is very much felt by the Kappas.

Jessie Cowgill, '89, has accepted a position as teacher of English Literature in the Minnesota Normal, Red Cloud, Minnesota.

Kate Stone, '88, Florence Allen, '88, Rhoda Kelly, '88, are all teaching in the same places as last year.

Miss Eva Donaldson of Gamma was the guest of one of the resident Kappas recently.

Miss Kate Hadley of Mu was present at the anniversary.

### KAPPA.

Martha M. Kelso, '91, was recently married to Luke A. Emerson, '89, a Delta Tau Delta. Their home is in Toledo, Ohio, 346 Indiana Avenue.

Minnie Woodman, who has been teaching in Oketo, Kansas, was married October 9, to Frank Thomson. Their home will be in Oketo.

## LAMBDA.

Minnie Fuller and Olive Slade have been admitted to the Art League in New York City where they are now pursuing a course of study.

Married: Winnifred Herrick at Akron, Ohio, September 11, to Fred Bruce.

## SIGMA.

Laura M. Roberts, a graduate of '87, left in September for Berlin, Germany, where she will make a specialty of the study of the German language.

Edith L. Leighton was married September 18, to Mr. Samuel Hall of Watertown, Wisconsin.

Hattie Babcock was married at her home in Denver, Colorado, August 15, to Mr. Albert Seachrist.

## TAU.

Mary D. Allis, '87, and Elizabeth Bridgeford, '87, are teaching in the Syracuse High School. Jessie T. Peck, '88, of Yates, Penn., will spend the winter and spring in Chicago.

Anna Packard, '87, will spend the winter with her brother in Denver, Col.

Lettie C. Farwell, '90, is teaching music in Franklinville, N. Y., this year.

Minnie Belshaw, '90, was recently married to E. J. Hermans, of Syracuse, N. Y.



### Editorial.

"How closely the sentiment of Christmas comes home to us! And why? Because it is that of fraternity. It is the day which is every year consecrated to recalling the central truth that all men are brothers."—*George W. Curtis.*

FEW words are so easy of speech and so hard of comprehension as this one, — fraternity. Frequent repetition, perhaps, has dulled its signification. At any rate to the majority of people fraternity remains if not a myth, at least a mystery. Even for us Greeks the word's acquired meaning has almost superseded its real significance. To realize this we have only to read the quotation from the December *Harper's* in the light of our own interpretation of the fraternity idea. Plainly enough the conception is inadequate that makes fraternity feeling synonymous with pleasure in chapter relations, or pride in badge and colors, or even with enthusiasm for the progress and achievement of the ten or twenty chapters that constitute our Fraternity. And yet, beyond a vague feeling of general kindliness, an undefined sense of obligation toward hospitals and soup kitchens, our fraternity feeling seldom amounts to more than some one of these conceptions. It is only after repeated reading and careful consideration that we approach to the real meaning of the words, "The burden of Christmas is fraternity"; that we even dimly conceive of the fraternity that goes deeper than badge or colors, the fraternity that underlies and makes possible all these beautiful relationships between man and man.

Does it seem vague and unreal, this idea of "universal brotherhood?" It may be so. And yet the fact is not so hard to understand. The vagueness is due to our own reluctance to accept and realize such relationship.

We read Emerson's history and receive with unhesitating complacency a share in "Cæsar's hand and Plato's brain." Brotherhood with great poets and artists and statesmen seems reasonable enough; it is the brotherhood with the crippled beggar or the harsh-voiced shop-girl that seems vague and unmeaning.

It is not always so. Sometimes there is a moment of supreme illumination, a moment when the veil is lifted, and we see the toiler in the mines, and the cobbler at his bench, the factory girl at her loom, the seamstress in her garret, and say of all, "Yes, these are my sisters and my brothers."

It is only a moment. The veil is drawn again. But in that moment we have caught some vague conception of the real significance of fraternity. The brotherhood of man is no longer a mere phrase, but a living reality.

Does all this seem to belittle that thing which we call fraternity? It was not so meant. Rather should each little body of men or women be uplifted and strengthened by the thought of the deeper truth symbolized by their union.

The good Fraternity is the school for humanity. The laws of its well-being are the laws of universal fraternity. Through a realization of the mutual sympathy, the mutual responsibility of its members, we attain to the conception of universal sympathy and responsibility, a conception of that fraternity that unites not tens, or hundreds nor thousands but the whole of mankind.

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Yet, when all is said, this idea of universal sympathy remains vague and unsatisfactory until it is realized in concrete form. Better than a dozen Christmas sermons is one noble action. The most direct appeal that I make to you lies not in any words of mine, but in the example of the seven college girls who are today putting into practice some of the most advanced doctrines of modern philanthropy.

It is a familiar story by this time, yet it will bear repetition, this record of the brave young teachers and doctors who have made their home among the poor and degraded of New York City, in order that they may give to them that personal help and sympathy that is the only rational charity. No better guarantee of success could be desired than the practical, unsentimental attitude of these young philanthropists toward the problems of vice and poverty that they have so bravely faced. But, whatever the outcome of their undertaking, one result is certain: that of arousing



many other college students to a sense of the possibilities and obligations of their own position. Christmas will doubtless be a happier, holier day to many poor families because of the presence among them of that little household. But whatever gifts of love and sympathy the "College Settlement" may prepare for their needy neighbors, none will be so timely nor so inspiring as the one which we shall all receive of their own brave example.

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Formality is one of the worst foes of the successful chapter meeting. Nine-tenths of the ills attributed to "dull subject" or "lack of interest" could be remedied by a different arrangement of the chairs or the discarding of set "papers." Indeed, it may be stated almost as an axiom that for a chapter meeting speeches are always better than essays and discussion is better than either.

We have only to recall certain evenings when lounging before a blazing fireplace or huddled among the rocks at the sea's edge, we have forgotten time's flight in talking of things nearest the heart, to realize how inspiring such discussions among friends may be. True, a part of the charm was due to place and circumstance, to the crackle of logs, the scent and sound of the sea, the sunset glow along the wet beaches; but the chief worth of those talks, the spontaneity, the suggestiveness, the self-revelation, all these are possible in the chapter room; provided always that we will relinquish the cut-and-dried essays which we seem so unwilling to give up.

Formality has its rightful place, — in the business meeting; but when once that is over let us relax from our severity, draw up our chairs and talk for a while together with the unconstraint and simple sincerity of true fraternal love.

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We cannot impress too strongly upon the recent initiates the importance of preserving mementoes of their life in college and fraternity. The *alumna* whose chief regret was that she had not kept a memorabilia book during her four years at college, is not alone in her sorrow. Many a girl would give half her knowledge of the higher mathematics in exchange for

the flowers that she wore at her initiation, the menu card of her "Junior banquet," and her dance order for the "Pan-Hellenic ball." "The trash of today will be the treasure of the future." The battered cards and faded ribbons that we now toss away carelessly will be unspeakably precious in that time when they shall be the only material reminders of college and fraternity associations.

A word as to methods of arrangement. One of the most convenient devices for keeping memorabilia is a "Standard" letter-file. The different compartments serve to keep separate the various memorabilia; and some written labels pasted over the printed letters will indicate at a glance the place of each article.

The addition to these mementoes of a date, names, and, perhaps a few suggestive words increases their interest; and in the case of flowers, ribbons and the like, is often necessary to future recognition. If at the end of every year or six months, the contents of the letter-file are arranged in a stout scrap-book, the owner will possess a souvenir at once unique and artistic.

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Just a few words to readers and contributors in regard to one or two new features of the KEY. "The Parthenon," new in name only, literally "speaks for itself." "Women and Journals," and "Women in Medicine," are the first of a series of "After Commencement Papers," written by college women, upon their chosen professions and occupations. Any further contributions to the series will be welcome; also any characteristic cuttings from the new books and magazines for the "Weekly Calendar."

The especial appeal of the editor, however, is for more reminiscences, especially those of the beginnings and early days of our older chapters. If they are illustrated by extracts from old letters and journals, such articles will be particularly valuable. But be sure that they are not mere chronicles of events. Remember that the words that you read so clearly "between the lines" are to most of us quite invisible.



## Exchanges.

Selecting at random from the fraternity magazines that lie before us for review we happen first upon the *Rainbow* of Delta Tau Delta. A large part of the present number is devoted to bright and interesting chapter letters and accounts of the recent fraternity convention. The article on "Homogeneity of Membership" is a sensible and thoughtful one. In the editorial columns the custom of initiating preparatory students is severely but justly censured and arguments against honorary members in fraternity are brought forward.

The *Chi Phi Quarterly* for November has beside articles on "Chi Phi in the Civil War" and "Where Chi Phi is in College," an excellent article on "Fraternity Consolidation." The writer thinks that the fraternities in American Colleges are in danger of becoming too numerous. As a remedy for this superabundance of fraternities the consolidation of several week's fraternities into one strong one, at the same time weeding out worthless chapters, is suggested. The article concludes "cut the number of fraternities down to thirty, twenty or even ten. Make them compact, and strong within themselves, make them centralized organizations instead of groups of scattered chapters, confine their numbers to proper limits, discourage the formation of any new ones, and then, and not until then, will the American College fraternity fulfil the promise and possess all the advantages that are claimed for it."

The *Phi Gamma Delta Quarterly* opens with "Some Chapter Suggestions" in which the importance of a full attendance at fraternity meetings is insisted upon. In the same number the "Dangers of Fraternity Life" are represented. After speaking of fraternity egotism and narrow-mindedness the writer concludes, "Consider your own fraternity in relation to the others as an 'equal among equals' and measure yourself in relation to your brothers by the same standard, and fraternity egotism will be a thing never heard of," etc.

Such admirably liberal sentiments as these are refreshing, and we can but wish that we might more often find the same broad and generous views in fraternity publications.

In reading the September number of the *Arrow* one feels that it is somewhat lacking in force and vitality.

It contains little of general fraternity interest, most of its pages being filled with chapter letters and personals.

Two numbers of the *Shield* of Phi Kappa Psi are at hand. The September number contains an account of the Springfield Alumni Association banquet. It be-

gins: "Phi Kappa Psi added new glories to its crown of laurels Tuesday evening, by its reception banquet and reunion at the Arcade Hotel. Confessing no peer, and acknowledging no superior Phi Psi demonstrated its position last evening in a glowing way," etc.

Might we venture to suggest that a little less self-laudation would give a rather pleasanter impression to that inconsiderable part of the world that has not the felicity of belonging to Phi Kappa Psi?

The October number begins with a bright and entertaining review of the college annuals.

The editorial department devotes itself largely to the launching of thunderbolts against the *Delta Kappa Epsilon Quarterly* and its unfortunate editor. Without doubt this kind of warfare is exceedingly interesting to the two fraternities intimately concerned, but it can scarcely be considered edifying to the Greek world in general.

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## Once a Week.

### A CALENDAR OF CURRENT LITERATURE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2. — Pure democracy will never solve the social problem. Our life must be impregnated with an aristocratic element. Of course I do not mean either aristocracy of money or birth, or even of spirit; I mean the aristocracy of character, will and mind. Only that will make us free. From two classes of society I hope this sort of aristocracy will be brought among our people, from our women and working men. The overturning of social conditions which is now imminent in Europe, chiefly concerns the working men and women.

— *Henrik Ibsen.*

DECEMBER 9. — When the gate of our child's paradise shuts behind us, we say that it never was paradise. The gold is fairy gold, yet it was true gold, then. Every one's true gold is the fairy gold of another, or of his other self.

— *May Kendall (Such is Life).*

DECEMBER 16. — There is one thing ours from the time we enter the world, if we did but know it, it is a part of life's mystery that we should so seldom know it, the power to fashion our own immortality, not in our bodies but in the things we do. A sort of choice or chance — which is it? — seems to be ours to seek the stars or tread the depths.

— *A Modern Correspondence (Fortnightly).*



DECEMBER 23. -- How closely the sentiment of Christmas comes home to us ! And why ? Because it is that of fraternity. It is the day which is every year consecrated to recalling the central truth that all men are brothers.

— *George William Curtis (Harper's for December).*

DECEMBER 30. — There must be something beyond the grave ; this transitory existence cannot be all ; it does not satisfy either our reason or our aspirations ; there must be something beyond ; if there were not, this life would have no meaning, and God would be an absurdity.

— *Marie Bashkirtseff (The Journal of a Young Artist).*

JANUARY 7. — If discontent ends as it began, a mere emotion, it is worse than useless, it is pernicious. If it become a motive, then is it indeed that divine discontent which has stirred all great souls, a thing to be cultivated, fostered and encouraged.

— *Elizabeth Deering Hanscome, Phi (The Golden Rule).*

JANUARY 14. — When we talk of friendship's failing, we only assert that we do not know what is meant by friendship. Perhaps none of us do ; it is an ideal like religion.

— *May Kendall (Such is Life).*

JANUARY 21. — A moral aim is a fine thing, but in making a story an artist is a traitor who does not sacrifice everything to art. Remember the lesson that Christ gave us twice over. First he preferred the useless Mary to the dishwashing Martha, and next when that exemplary moralist and friend of humanity, Judas, objected to the sinful waste of the Magdalen's ointment, the great teacher would rather it should be wasted in simple beauty than utilized for the benefit of the poor. Cleopatra was an artist when she dissolved her biggest pearl to captivate her Antony-public.

— *James Russell Lowell.*

JANUARY 28. — Has it never happened to you, on finding yourself alone of an evening in the country, under a clear and cloudless sky, to feel your being pervaded by a mysterious longing, a vague aspiration toward the Infinite ; to feel yourself, as it were, on the threshold of some great event, some supernatural occurrence ? Were you never, in your dreams, transported into unknown regions ?

— *Marie Bashkirtseff.*

FEBRUARY 4.— Over a bridge built of dreams and exaggerations Love often goes blindfold towards the realities it may never reach itself, leaving a track that the stronger may follow, and would not have thought out for themselves.

—*A Modern Correspondence (Fortnightly).*

FEBRUARY 11.— There is no glow comparable to that which attends the reception of a kindness from an accidental source. Eye-kindling, heart-warming, it at once brings home to us the sense of universal brotherhood and the faith (if perchance we have lost it) in the underlying goodness of human kind. . . . Whenever I stop to tell the beads of my especial joys and blessings, not last, nor smallest, nor most infrequent are those that strange fingers carved.

— *Gertrude E. Small, Phi (The Golden Rule).*

FEBRUARY 18.— Without knowledge of life there can be no true enjoyment of life. Life, I maintain, in the face of the sentimentalists, to be an acquired taste, For the educated palate there are all sorts of gustatory surprises — olives, caviare, a host of sauces — far more delicious than, if not quite so wholesome as, the roast beef and boiled pudding of domesticity.

— *Amy Levy (Wise in Her Generation).*

FEBRUARY 25.— May I a critic by profession, say the whole truth to a woman of genius? My advice is to follow your own instincts, — to stick to nature, and to avoid what people commonly call the "ideal"; for that and beauty, and pathos and success lie in the simply natural.

—*James Russell Lowell (Life Letters of Harriet Beecher Stowe).*




Printers of the Daily Crimson, the Harvard Monthly,  
the Harvard Index.

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**PRESIDENT**—Kate B. Cross, 2634 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.  
**SECRETARY**—Emily H. Bright, 12 Somerset Street, Boston, Mass.  
**TREASURER**—Flora C. Moseley, 120 Langdon Street, Madison, Wis.  
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**TAU, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**—Lena C. Hammond, Crouse Avenue, Syracuse, N. Y.  
**PSI, CORNELL UNIVERSITY**—Laura Stanley Dickey, Sage College, Ithaca, N. Y.  
**LAMBDA, BUCHTEL COLLEGE**—Jennie L. Sisler, Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio.  
**GAMMA, WOOSTER UNIVERSITY**—Etta Hoelzel, Nold Ave., Wooster, Ohio.  
**RHO, ALLEGHENY COLLEGE**—Meda Donley, Meadville, Pennsylvania.  
**NU, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**—Nellie Talbot, 640 Franklin St., Columbus, Ohio.

#### **BETA PROVINCE.**

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**MU, BUTLER UNIVERSITY**—India Martz, Irvington, Indiana.  
**KAPPA, HILLSDALE COLLEGE**—Harriet E. Rice, Hillsdale, Michigan.  
**XI, ADRIAN COLLEGE**—Rose B. Talbot, Adrian, Michigan.  
**ETA, WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY**—Tillie Bacon, 525 Langdon Street, Madison, Wisconsin.

#### **GAMMA PROVINCE.**

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**OMEGA, KANSAS UNIVERSITY**—Annie L. McKinnon, 1409 Mass. Street, Lawrence, Kansas.  
**SIGMA, NEBRASKA UNIVERSITY**—Bertha McMillan, 1503 H Street, Lincoln, Neb.  
**THETA, MISSOURI UNIVERSITY**—May Mansfield, Box 692, Columbia, Missouri.