

VOL. V.

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# NUNTIUS

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF ETA SIGMA PHI



VERGIL ISSUE

ARTICLES BY

ANNA P. MACVAY

EDWIN L. GREEN

ORIGINAL TRANSLATION

OTHER FEATURES

NOVEMBER

1930

# Nuntius

National Journal of Eta Sigma Phi

MAUDE BRAZZELLE (Alpha Iota)  
Editor-in-Chief

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## CONTENTS

Vol. V.	No. 1.
EDITORIALS .....	1
MINERVA'S SECTION	
The Celebration of Vergil's Two Thousandth Birthday, by <i>Anna P. MacVay</i> .....	2
Vergil's Family, by <i>Edwin L. Green</i> , (Honorary Member, Alpha Iota Chapter) ..	3
MUSE'S SECTION	
Dido, a Dramatic Fragment, by <i>X, Omicron Chapter</i> .....	4
Sonnet 2000 Years After, by <i>X, Omicron Chapter</i> .....	5
LARES' AND PENATES' SECTION	
Chapter Reports .....	6
National Officers, Eta Sigma Phi.....	9

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## Editorials

### VERGIL

The world-wide celebration of Vergil's birth is perhaps the greatest honor ever paid to any poet. It is an event of international significance; all lands are united in paying special tribute and honor to one of the world's greatest poets. His writings, which are of universal appeal, have influenced every civilized nation of the world.

Several years ago plans for this great occasion were begun, and some of our leading scholars have been laboring diligently to make it a success. Their work has not been in vain, for newspapers of every country give accounts of the Vergilian Commemoration.

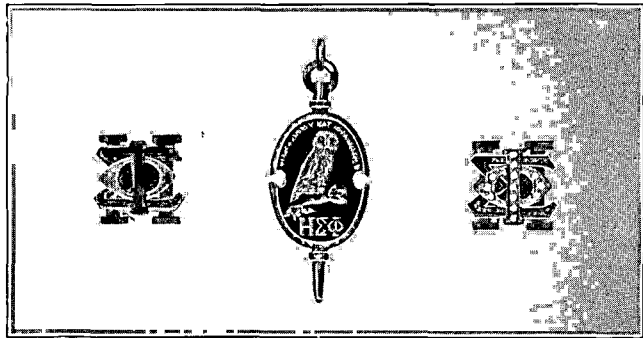
In America the Vergilian Bimillennium has been widely commemorated in the leading colleges and universities, and especially in the various chapters of Eta Sigma Phi.

### NEW KEY

Several Chapters have been anxious that Eta Sigma Phi have a key as well as a pin. At the convention held in Philadelphia last spring, a national key was adopted so that there might not be many local keys with little or no significance.

It is only appropriate that an honorary society which has attained the distinction Eta Sigma Phi has should have for its insignia a key in addition to a pin.

The key which has been chosen is beautifully symmetric in design, with a black enamel background, and gold letters



standing out surmounted by the owl and olive leaf of gold. It is beautiful in its uniqueness and simplicity. In order to appreciate the beauty and attractiveness of this key one must see it.

Order blanks have been mailed to each chapter, and if they have not received a supply, the Chapter Secretary or Treasurer should write to Wright and Street, official jewelers, at once.

## CONVENTION

Although it may seem early, it is not amiss to suggest that various chapters consider attending the convention. It is not too soon to begin thinking of ways by which your chapter may raise money to send the two delegates who are entitled to represent your chapter. Plan your budget so that you will be able to send one delegate at least.

Word comes from Mu Chapter (University of Cincinnati) that preparations have already begun to make this convention the greatest in the history of Eta Sigma Phi. Let's help them "put it over" by sending a large delegation.

Attendance at a National Convention of Eta Sigma Phi is an experience not easily forgotten. Friendships formed and memories brought away will live forever.

## LAST MINUTE

The first issue goes to press. How it will be received time alone can tell. However, criticism both favorable and adverse will be appreciated. The editor will be glad to receive letters from the members of the various chapters giving some suggestions as to what the readers want.

The editors are striving to improve the *NUNTIUS*. This cannot be accomplished without the cooperation of every chapter. So contribute to the Muses' Section and send in your chapter reports promptly.

Please have your chapter reports which are to be sent to the editor of the *NUNTIUS* typewritten and on a separate page. This will facilitate matters greatly.

## Minerva's Section

# THE CELEBRATION OF VERGIL'S TWO THOUSANDTH BIRTHDAY

By Anna P. MacVay

No statesman ever influenced his contemporaries more deeply than did the poet, Publius Vergilius Maro, widely known to students as Vergil, author of the *Aeneid*, who was born on October 15, 70 B. C. His two thousandth birthday in 1930 will be commemorated throughout the world, because his fame has increased with the lapse of centuries. His life of fifty years spanned the epoch when the Roman Republic hastened to its downfall and the Empire arose to dominate the world.

He was not born a Roman citizen but was granted the franchise in 49 B. C. by Julius Caesar, returning from Gaul that time he dared to cross the Rubicon. Having thus gained the coveted honor together with his father and neighbors he appreciated it, perhaps more than native Romans who neglected their duties as some Americans disregard their civic responsibilities.

Into Rome of the first century before Christ the wealth of the world flowed, and luxury was fast undermining the ancestral virtues of industry and frugality. The Roman armies were recruited from the farms which thus suffered from lack of man-power. Great estates worked by slaves soon swallowed up the small free-holds, and the people crowded into the city where they found their chief enjoyment in exciting shows. Their demand for "bread and games" was met by demagogues in extravagant style much as political bosses in some of our cities provide picnics and free coal for their dependant voters. Party strife and civil wars disrupted the Roman republic and ended in the dictatorship of Octavianus who later became the Emperor Augustus.

The age of Augustus was one of rehabilitation and renewal of national concord and economic well-being. In this work Vergil played a major part. In the *Eclogues* he depicted from personal experience the sufferings that ruthless soldiers inflicted on helpless country-folk and the blessings that would abound in a Golden Age of world peace. In the *Georgics* he glorified the occupations of farming and pictured the joys of every season. His verses promoted a back-to-the-farm movement among the veterans of the civil wars and the denizens of the crowded city.

The poet's sympathetic interest in country life derived from his birth. His father was a farmer near Mantua in northern Italy, who added to his income by lumbering and bee-culture, honey being the staple then that sugar is today. From boyhood experiences the son not only gained the expert knowledge of husbandry, rearing of live stock, arboriculture, and

the care of bees, which he displays in all of his poems and especially in the *Georgics*; but he learned that work is man's greatest blessing and that the fruits of labor are peace and plenty and the joys of simple living.

In composing his earlier poems Vergil so developed the dactylic hexameter that in his hands it became the facile medium of expression, which caused Tennyson to salute him as: "Wielder of the stateliest measure ever moulded by the lips of man." When the *Georgics* appeared Vergil was immediately acknowledged as the primate among Roman poets; but his greatest poem was yet to be written—that for which all his previous work was but a preparation and a prelude.

At the behest of the Emperor he began to write the *Aeneid*, the immortal Roman epic. He shrank from undertaking it because he realized the vastness of the task and the frailness of his own health. This poem engrossed his powers for the last twelve years of his life, and was not entirely completed at his death. It portrays the long series of hardships and adventures of Aeneas and his band of exiles who were driven by harsh fate from Troy on the Hellespont and wandered for seven years before they were allowed to settle on the Tiber and be free to practice their religion. They were the Pilgrim Fathers of Rome, and their aspirations were like those of our forefathers who founded the American Colonies.

Vergil's purpose in writing the *Aeneid* was to awaken in the Romans of his time pride in their ancestral virtues. He inculcated Duty as the watchword and Faith as the guiding principle of patriotic action. His supreme message echoes in Tennyson's immortal lines, "that men man rise on stepping stones of their dead selves to higher things." His cardinal teachings are: hatred of war, the blessings of honest toil, love of country, and dependence upon a guiding Providence in hazardous human affairs. Because of the *Aeneid* the world has unanimously placed Vergil among its greatest poets.

In 1924 the scholars of Italy called upon other nations to join in celebrating in 1930 Vergil's two thousandth birthday. Because of the unusual importance of this event one day and even a month will not suffice to honor the Poet whom Dante addressed as his guide and master, and from whom the greatest writers for twenty centuries have drawn inspiration. The Early Church long considered him one of the inspired prophets, and though that belief is no longer held, its influence persists because his teachings are felt to be Christ-like in spirit.

## VERGIL'S FAMILY

*By Edwin L. Green*

*(Honorary Member, Alpha Iota Chapter)*

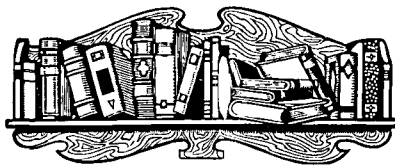
From one of the ancient lives of Vergil we learn that he was born on the Ides of October in the consulship of Crassus and Pompey (Oct. 15, 70 B. C.), his mother Magia Polla, his father Vergilius, a countryman; from another, that his parents were of humble origin, especially the father, who was according to one tradition the hired man of his father-in-law. The family of the Magii appears on inscriptions as of some local celebrity. As the greatness of all great men is said to be due to their mothers, Vergil's mother must have been no ordinary woman. His father is spoken of as "rusticus", which does not, however, imply anything more than country origin, although the city man has from early time used the term "country man" as implying a lack of culture, rude, untrained.

When the elder Vergil came into possession of his father-in-law's property, he is said to have much increased it by buying additional lands and by raising of bees. At any rate, he must have had considerable means to be able to educate his son. He is said also to have been a potter, which no

doubt meant he had a pottery on his lands. One story has it that sixty veterans received allotments from his lands as taken from the young poet.

The location of the farm, for Vergil was born at Andes near Mantua, has been subject of much discussion. Pietole, a village three miles from Mantua, claims the site, and here a monument has been erected to its great citizen. Much has been written about the racial origin of the family, whether the poet had Celtic forebears, Etruscan, or pure Roman or Italian. The name Vergilius appears to be true Italian from perhaps the neighborhood of Rome. Professor Frank holds that the family was immigrant to the territory north of the Po during the period after Hannibal's day.

Vergil's mother married a second time; the second husband bore the name Proculus. The life attributed to Donatus makes the father die after Vergil had reached manhood and gives him two brothers; Silo, who died young; and Flaccus, who lived to reach manhood; and gives him a half brother (alio patre), Valerius Proculus, who became, according to another account, heir to Vergil's estate along with Maecenas and Augustus. Vergil himself is said to have died from pulmonary trouble. It may be that his brothers were carried off the same way.



# Muse's Section

## DIDO\*

A DRAMATIC FRAGMENT

By X, Omicron Chapter

[*The Afric strand of the Middle Sea. Towers of Carthage in the distance, right; left, the ocean—a ship at anchor. Anna and slaves (female) in procession deploy in stately dance, carrying branches, while Anna speaks.*]

ANNA:

Bring hither branches dry and thin and long;  
Bring wood made pregnant by the ancient Titan,  
Big with the spark that flashes to flaming birth,—  
Dry wood bring hither, my slaves, for the sacrifice.

(*The dance is more sprightly. It continues, and Anna resumes*)

Here on this stone pile, place the logs . . . some here . . .  
And thus . . . pile them high; the sacrifice  
Shall be a mighty one. The queen's command  
We must obey with hands and heart not niggard.  
Yea, splendidly slaves must fan the regal wish  
Till it shall sparkle with reality.

A SLAVE:

Thou sister of the purple, deign to tell us  
For what or whom this sacrifice is made.  
What god to please, whose wrath to soften, tell us,  
Is this the sacrificial altar built?

SECOND SLAVE:

Does aught of truth cling to the common hearsay  
That the sad prow touching with pious tread  
The waters near our shore is in some wise  
The cause of this great sacrifice to heaven?

ANNA:

It is the royal whim. No more of reason  
Do we require who do the royal bidding.

SECOND SLAVE:

Thou are not wroth with me? Methought I saw  
This morning when the queen came from here chamber  
A furtive tear. And all of Carthage knows  
That Dido never wept before there came. . . .

(*She lowers her head  
Caressing her and ignoring the implied questions*)

ANNA:

Come, let us pile the wood still higher, yea,  
This sacrifice will rival those 'tis said  
The Hellenes have.

[*Anna stops short upon hearing a rustle in the foliage at the rear. There emerges presently a bearded, rough-clad man, tall and imposing when he stands to his full height, but sweat stands out on his face and neck, and his arms in places are bleeding. The maidens scream, scatter, then gather in a huddled group. Anna addresses the stranger.*]

Who . . . who are you?

THE STRANGER:

I did not know. . . you will excuse. . . My name  
You need not hear. But those who are my friends  
Call me Priamides, for such I am,  
I left the blazing citadel, my home,—  
My much-loved Ilium I left when he,  
Our leader, left,—Aeneas, godlike hero,  
I was upon his ship,—on yonder ship.  
And he did love me well, and we were friends,  
But there were those who were envious of the velvet  
Of love between us; among them there arose  
A plan to abandon me upon these shores.  
For this day sails Aeneas, leaving Carthage.  
He and his host will father a city,—O greatness,  
O glory of the city he will found.  
I like an outworn robe will be left behind.  
Aeneas will not know, and I—my pride  
Restrains my arms and voice from any means  
Of sending to Aeneas's ears the story,  
O bitter story of my betrayal by friends!

ANNA:

Were these your words, stranger—For this day sails  
Aeneas, leaving Carthage?

STRANGER:

Yea, this day  
His sails will belly and meet the wind; this day  
Aeneas sets out once more to father his city.

A SLAVE:

What is this mythic city he will found?

STRANGER:

A city that shall teach the world how states  
Shall mould the laws to what the people need.  
The city shall not stand forever; no,  
But it shall be the one Eternal City,  
Its statehood at a distant day will drown

In tyranny, as all our states must die.  
But later,—a thousand years, two thousand years  
Shall pass, and a government shall exist on earth  
Drawing its model from the Eternal City,—  
A government of all, for all, in which  
The governed govern in equity and right.

(*Whispers*)

Queen Dido cometh!

[*Enter Dido. Her eyes are red; her manner though majestic is like that of a chained lion. No sign is given of emotion, but it is plain that great feeling is being repressed. The slaves make obeisance.*]

DIDO: (*Catching sight of the stranger*).

Who is this man? He appears  
To be a Trojan exile. What is his name?

ANNA:

He is a scion of the royal house of Troy.  
His comrades have abandoned him, while they—  
The truth is that his comrades. . . .

DIDO:

'Tis known to me  
That Aeneas sails this day from our shores.  
This is the sacrifice I burn today;  
A purging from my heart of the thought of him.  
I will confess it—I did love Aeneas.  
O joy of the knowing his love for me in return!  
Joy and delight of his embrace! O short  
Our gladness at the mutual touch of love.  
But now I must forget him. In the fire  
Of sacrifice I will burn out the image  
Of him and the thought of him from out my heart.  
The Gods will render aid in answering  
My fervent prayer. For I must rule my city.  
And not one foreign thought may cramp my mind  
From ruling my city well.

(*She breaks down*)

O gods! What words!  
How can the thought of him be torn from me,  
Burned from my heart that burns only for him!  
My city! Alas! For him I would destroy it,  
Send all its men to life-devouring war,  
Or crush its towers to crumbling grains of sand  
For him,—Aeneas! Oh, pile the wood on higher,  
Come, fire the bottom, let the flames rise high,

(*The maidens are bewildered. They obey her. To the Stranger Dido addresses these words*)

And thou,—betrayed by them as I by him,  
Have you ever loved, has your heart ever been shattered?

STRANGER:

I love. . . freedom for man. The state is my love.  
The tyrant everywhere is my foe; I preach  
Equality of all before the law.

DIDO:

The government of men may be for thee  
The anchor to which your ship of life is tied.  
My anchor is love,—love only for the departing,  
The hero of Trojan battles—O my beloved!  
His anchor is destiny and duty to gods.  
He shall one day be called the duty-loving,  
And I am a lover of love and of Aeneas.  
Oh torture of the heart!

(*By this time the pyre is blazing.*)

What can compare  
With anguish of the breast? Naught physical,  
However grievous the suffering, can compare  
With bitterness of the soul. Oh tears. . . flow,  
Give me release from how long restraint.

(*She begins to be hysterical. Anna tries to calm her. She is shouting.*)

Come back to my embrace, come back, Aeneas!  
The promise of the cave, superb joy,  
Mad ecstasy of love and love's embrace!  
O how can one I love so betray me!

(*The ship is seen moving in the distance.*)

O now that Carthage is without thy face  
The city is a desert, a starless night,  
A wingless bird, a tree barren of fruit.  
And I must live here,—live long—live?  
I will not live, I cannot live without thee!

(*She has mounted the pyre. The slaves and Anna are unsuccessful in preventing. She utters the following words as the flames dash high and a harmonic moan passes through the congregation of slaves.*)

O insurmountable power of love's remembrance,  
I die for thee,—I die for the loved one's image.  
Aeneas. . . beloved. . . Aene. . .

(*She screams in pain,—and dies.*)

\* The variations from the traditional version are intentional.

#### SONNET 2000 YEARS AFTER

By X. Omicron Chapter

Music of birds in summer filling the trees;  
Subharmony of booklets dancing down  
The side of hills green with the season, brown  
With softness of the violet that one sees  
Growing in meads where brambles sharp have grown;  
The word of peace where seeds of strife are sown;  
Or beauty where the weeds are fullest;—these

Are ways of hearing Vergil's mellowed voice.  
Thus only can we praise him, thus compare  
The beauty of his words with that which long  
Will win from man his unresisting choice.  
For things men know are ah! how few that share  
The soul-embracing beauty of Vergil's song.

# Lares' and Penates' Section

## CHAPTER REPORTS

### ALPHA, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

The first meeting of the year was devoted to business alone. The second meeting was in the form of a rushing tea with Professor Bonner as the speaker. An appointed committee is already making plans for a banquet to be given immediately after the Christmas holidays.

### GAMMA, OHIO UNIVERSITY

Gamma Chapter is starting this semester with approximately thirty active members. At our final meeting of last semester we chose the following officers: President—Mary Cooper, First Vice-President—Elizabeth Denner, Second Vice-President—Nettie Tarrasuck, Secretary—Audrey Jacobs, Treasurer—Steve Seech, and Sergeant-at-Arms—Lea Fisher.

The executive council held its first meeting on October 15, at which meeting extensive plans for the work of the first semester were made. Our first regular meeting was held on October 30. Members of the chapter who attended the Ohio Classical Conference at Toledo gave interesting reports. Our chapter was especially glad to have one of its honorary members, Professor H. F. Scott, chosen as Conference president for 1931. Our second meeting will be held in conjunction with the Classical Club.

This year Miss Mary Brokaw, who received her M. A. degree from the University of Chicago, has been added to the teaching staff of our department. Also, two new courses have been added to our curriculum. Gamma Chapter is looking forward to a successful year.

### DELTA, FRANKLIN COLLEGE

Delta Chapter has undertaken the program of a study of Vergil in keeping with the Bimillennium. This is to be accomplished by special reports at the monthly dinner-meetings.

We have been formulating plans for the presentation of a medal in the local High School.

The November meeting is to be an initiation meeting for our pledges.

### EPSILON, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Epsilon Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at the University of Iowa begins the year's program with twenty active members. Plans are being made to initiate four new candidates at the first meeting. In view of the fact that the American Philological Association and the Archaeological Institute of America, with which the usual February Conference of Iowa Latin teachers will be merged, will convene in Iowa City during

the Christmas holidays, Epsilon Chapter plans to aid in the entertainment of the delegates.

As has been done the past two years we shall continue to award Eta Sigma Phi medals for scholastic excellence in Latin to High School seniors in the vicinity.

In view of the great interest aroused by the Vergil celebration, Epsilon Chapter has voted, on a motion made by Professor Flickinger, that the officers and members of our Chapter give publicity to the fact that the bimillennium of Horace's birth (December 8, 65 B. C.) falls in 1935 and attempt to secure the cooperation of the national society of Eta Sigma Phi and other classical bodies both here and abroad in celebrating this anniversary in a fashion worthy of the poet's fame and popularity.

This year's staff of officers includes: Alpha Braunwarth, president; Jean McManus, vice-president; Amelia Pavlovsky, secretary; and Edith Atchison, treasurer. We hope to send one or two delegates to the National Convention in Cincinnati next spring.

### ZETA, DENISON UNIVERSITY

This fall Zeta Chapter presented a play in honor of the Vergil anniversary. We gave *Dido and Aeneas*, a pageant drama, arranged by Miss Erna Kruckemeyer of Hughes High School, Cincinnati. There was much comment about the beauty and dramatic power of the play. We were assisted most effectively by the Conservatory of Music and Orchestras, the dancing sorority.

At our first open meeting, Dr. L. R. Dean gave an illustrated talk on the Vergil cruise which he conducted this summer. We are centering our first semester programs about Vergil, and our second semester about Greek literature. Dr. R. S. Conway is to speak here February ninth.

### ETA, FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Eta Chapter at Florida State College for Women has been doing some very interesting work this year in connection with the Alumnae and teachers of the classical departments throughout the State. Through this extension work we are keeping in direct contact with those interested in the classics. We send out mimeographed letters which contained information and different ideas that will help them in the teaching of Latin. We also tell them of our work in Eta Sigma Phi, and the projects we are undertaking in Classical Club.

Miss Olivia Dorman, formerly of Alpha Chapter and one of the founders of Eta Chapter, is now studying in Rome and is research assistant to Dr. Charles Beeson in his work there.

At our last meeting Miss West, who was abroad this summer with Miss Dorman, gave us some interesting facts about her trip.

Five new members were initiated, and one honorary member, Dr. Frances Theleman who is a Phi Beta Kappa.

Our year's program will consist of a study of the satirists.

#### IOTA, UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Iota Chapter held its first meeting on October 14th at the home of Professor Bassett, at which there were present about thirty members. At this meeting, three candidates were initiated into Eta Sigma Phi. There was a special program in honor of Vergil given by three of the members and at the conclusion of this, Professor Prindle, head of the Latin Department, spoke very interestingly on the purpose of the *Aeneid*,

At this meeting the attendance of the members was called to a lecture which is to be delivered on November 4th by Professor Marbury Ogle of Ohio State University, on Vergil. Since the November meeting will fall on this same evening, it was decided that the Chapter should attend the lecture in a body.

We are considering the question of holding a Saturnalian banquet for the December meeting.

#### KAPPA, COLORADO COLLEGE

The membership of Kappa Chapter was more than decimated—it was almost depleted—by graduation in June, 1930. There is at the present time a total active membership of only half a dozen, with four or five pledges eligible for initiation. There are, however, a number of students who will be eligible by the end of the year.

A Greek play *Andromache* was presented at Colorado College last June, under the auspices of Eta Sigma Phi and the Colorado College Classical Club. The Club serves as a sort of prerequisite to membership in the local chapter of the Fraternity.

#### MU, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

The activities of Mu Chapter this year are all subordinated to plans for the convention. We hope to have 100% representation. Some information concerning the convention will be printed in the *NUNTIUS* later.

#### NU, MORNINGSIDE COLLEGE

NU Chapter has started rather auspiciously this year. We have four new members, and three pledges who attend our programs, and whom we hope will be eligible for membership next semester.

On our Home-coming Day our float was intended to portray the *Three Gates*, fittingly garbed, posed against a black background, on the cab of a truck. The weather hindered such plans, and we merely decorated a member's sedan.

We plan to award two Eta Sigma Phi medals in the spring.

#### PI, BIRMINGHAM SOUTHERN COLLEGE

The Pi Chapter began its year with seven active members. Among those returning were Robert Clingman, president; Mary Ruth Morgan, vice-president and Gilbert Miller, acting secretary and treasurer. These officers have all had experi-

ence and are planning to aid in what we hope will be our biggest year. In addition to these, the Classical Club, a little brother to the fraternity, numbered about twenty-five in its membership.

The major activities planned are programs, the decoration of a classical room, and the election and initiation of new members. By programs we do not mean roll call, business and adjournment, but real, live, interesting features of the classics that anyone would enjoy. Also the chapter plans to decorate a room for its own use. Dr. Currie, our talented advisor, is going to assist the members in painting the walls with scenes from Roman and Greek life as well as construct exhibits, etc.

It might be of interest to tell that Dr. Currie has been very active in the work we hope to continue with him. He made busts of Cicero and Vergil in marble. These have received much comment and praise and now stand in the Latin room. In addition, several Latin poems were translated into English verse by him. These have been published and have brought many compliments, especially his conception of Horace's Fifth Ode.

The chapter also took a part in the Vergil celebration. The features of this celebration were talks by Mr. Feidleson at this college, and by Dr. Currie at the State Latin Teacher's Meeting.

#### RHO, DRAKE UNIVERSITY

Rho Chapter will hold initiation Tuesday evening November 18th. Afterwards there will be a formal banquet in honor of the new members.

The thing that is uppermost in our plans this year is that of preparing to send a delegate to the National Convention to be held at Cincinnati in the spring.

Definite arrangements as to the nature of our meetings, which are held once each month, have not been made. However, there are some very fine speakers available, and with our own members taking part also, we are looking forward to a splendid year's work.

#### SIGMA, MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Since last spring, Sigma Chapter has been working on plans for the celebration of Vergil's 2000th birthday. This fall we continued our efforts and were very fortunate in bringing to our campus Dr. Walter Miller, Dean of the Graduate School of Classics at the University of Missouri.

Dr. Miller came Oct. 14th and spoke in our weekly assembly on "The Spirit of Vergil." Phi Beta Kappa and Eta Sigma Phi gave a luncheon for Dr. Miller Tuesday noon. At this time he spoke of Vergilian celebrations the world over. That night he gave an illustrated lecture on "Aeneas at Cumae and Avernus."

Our chapter intends to continue celebrating the poet's birth throughout the year.

#### UPSILON, MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Many students, we think, have read the isolated works of the foremost classical writers, and possibly have studied the development of certain literary types, but do not yet see them



in their proper relationship to one another. Hence it is the purpose of Upsilon Chapter to study Latin literature as a whole from the earliest literary fragments to post-Augustan literature. Each member of the chapter has agreed, prior to each meeting, to study in some history of Latin literature, a brief account of the period under consideration.

The first program will deal with the following topics:

1. Early Epic.
2. Early Tragedy.
3. Early Comedy.

'*The Mind of Rome*', edited by Cyril Bailey, with its translations of fragments of early epic and early tragedy will be an important source of material for this first program.

#### PHI, WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Last year, in addition to the Latin Club contests and the State Latin Contest, which were mentioned in the *Nuntius* for July, 1930, we also presented a play based on a translation of Dido made by Prof. C. G. Brouzas, the head of our Latin Department. This play was held in April for the entertainment of the students who were here for the State Latin Contest.

In the coming year we are planning to sponsor the same contests mentioned above for High School students. In addition we are preparing to put on a series of programs devoted to Vergil and perhaps to give another play in the spring.

The Latin Department at West Virginia now has a splendid collection of Greek and Roman sculpturings, etc., which are very beneficial to our chapter of Eta Sigma Phi.

#### PSI, VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Psi Chapter has been busy with preparations for the Vergilian Celebration which was held at Vanderbilt University on October 15th. Dean Walter Miller of the University of Missouri gave the lecture, "*Aeneas at the Gates of the Underworld*." Later a reception was tendered him by the Classical faculty and the members of the Vergilian Committee.

On October 12th, the two Nashville newspapers had Vergilian editions to which members of Eta Sigma Phi contributed.

Last spring Psi Chapter gave seven Vergilian medals to the seven preparatory schools in Nashville. In the rotogravure section of the Vergilian edition, there were the pictures of the seven recipients.

#### ALPHA ALPHA, WINTHROP COLLEGE

On October 4, 1930 Alpha Alpha Chapter at Winthrop College held its initiation service in which the twenty girls who had been deemed eligible for membership were admitted into Eta Sigma Phi. After the formal ceremony the new members were entertained.

#### ALPHA BETA, DENVER UNIVERSITY

Alpha Beta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi consists of four active members. The fraternity sponsors Classical Club, our local classical organization. Meetings are held once every month. The last meeting, held on Vergil's birthday anni-

versary, was appropriately Vergilian in program. During that week Dr. Cressman had charge of a Vergilian exhibit in the library where rare and ancient works of the author were displayed.

Alpha Beta is looking forward to an enthusiastic year for the classics.

#### ALPHA DELTA, AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

The Alpha Delta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at Agnes Scott College held the first meeting of the year on October 15th, with the president, Fanny Willis Niles, presiding. It being Vergil's birthday, the entire program was devoted to his honor. It included the following numbers: *What we know about Vergil*; *The Aeneid as a Work of Art*; *Vergil, the Modern Poet*; *Later Tradition of Vergil*; *Vergil, an Appreciation*. After the program a delightful social hour was enjoyed.

#### ALPHA EPSILON, LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

We wish to report that we had installation of new officers last May. The following men were elected to office: L. M. Cohn, President; E. A. Collins, Vice-President; S. R. Kaplus, Corresponding Secretary; C. R. Lowenstein, Recording Secretary; A. Dechnik, Treasurer; E. A. Sindel, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Last month nine new members were installed into Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. As a compulsory part of the initiation duties the Neophytes had to wear togas about the campus for one week. This custom was installed by Alpha Epsilon last year.

Alpha Epsilon Chapter is doing her share in the Bimillennial celebration of Vergil's birth. The Classical Department of Lehigh University is contributing a series of lectures on Vergil. As a high light in our program we are having none other than John Erskine, author of *Helen of Troy*, *Adam and Eve*, etc. deliver a speech December 2nd on "Vergil After Two Thousand Years".

#### ALPHA THETA, HUNTER COLLEGE

Alpha Theta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at Hunter College has been devoting much of its time to the celebration in honor of Vergil.

At our initiation last semester scenes from Vergil's Eclogues were presented by the undergraduate members. This performance we expect to repeat at the meeting of our Alumni Association on November 22nd.

Alpha Theta Chapter cooperated with the Classical Club of the college in the preparation of a Vergil Bulletin which was issued as a supplement to the college paper.

We are making plans at present for the initiation ceremony to be held on November 14th.

#### ALPHA IOTA, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Alpha Iota Chapter has begun a very successful year. Eleven new members were initiated. After the initiation a banquet was given in their honor.

The Chapter is proud to announce that of the five students elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the University of South Carolina in November, four of them are members of Eta Sigma Phi, one being president of Alpha Iota Chapter.

## ALPHA MU, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Alpha Mu Chapter has started its year with two well-attended meetings and is now planning the initiation of several new members.

At the first meeting of the year Eta Sigma Phi met with the Classical Club. Dr. Walter Miller, one of the leaders of the Vergilian Cruise, described many of the delights of the Cruise. On Vergil's anniversary another member of the cruise addressed Eta Sigma Phi. A true Vergilian atmosphere was created by the reading of a passage from the *Aeneid* and Tennyson's *To Virgil*. The study of some particular Latin author will be undertaken at the future meetings.

## ALPHA XI, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Alpha Xi Chapter gave a Vergil celebration this fall to which the Latin teachers of the St. Louis' schools were invited, for the purpose of acquainting them with Eta Sigma Phi. Programs for the coming year have been planned, especially to interest the new students in the study of the classics.

Since our chapter is still a young organization, we have begun no extensive work among the High School students but hope to do so in the future.

## BETA, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

## THETA, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

## LAMBDA, UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

## XI, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

## OMICRON, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## TAU, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

## CHI, COE COLLEGE

## OMEGA, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

## ALPHA GAMMA, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

## ALPHA ZETA, WASHINGTON SQUARE COLLEGE

## ALPHA ETA, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

## ALPHA KAPPA, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

## ALPHA LAMBDA, UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

## ALPHA NU, DAVIDSON COLLEGE

## ALPHAOMICRON, LAWRENCE COLLEGE

## NO REPORTS

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