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ETA SIGMA PHI

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Editor-in-Chief

ROBERT C. McCLELLAND
Department of Ancient Languages
College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, Virginia

Treasurer

AUGUSTA M. PORTER, *Omega*
Pi Beta Phi House
Williamsburg, Va.

Associate Editors

EDWIN A. WILLARD, III, *Omicron*
4725 Oak Ter., Merchantville, N. J.
NEVIN L. FIDLER, *Alpha Epsilon*
1224 Maple St., Bethlehem, Pa.
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RUTH V. TRIMBLE, *Omega*
Williamsburg, Va.

National Officers

Megas Prytanis
ELLIS FINGER, JR.
1359 N. West St.
Jackson, Mississippi

Megas Protopharchos
HELEN BURTON
831 1st Ave., E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Megas Deuteropharchos
ELIZABETH GIEDEMAN
48 Hepburn Hall
Oxford, Ohio

Megas Epistolographos
HILDEGARD BREIHAN
Blake Hall
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E. CLARENDON HYDE
213 Thilly St.
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Megas Pyloros
MARGARET COVERT
820 East First St.
Bloomington, Indiana

Executive Secretary
HAROLD B. DUNKEL
48 Classics Building
University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

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The Eta Sigma Phi Convention

By MAURICE S. CROWLEY
Prytanis of Pi Chapter

PI CHAPTER of Birmingham - Southern College, Birmingham, Ala., looks forward with great pleasure to the privilege of serving as host for the Thirteenth Annual Convention. The program of the Convention is fast taking shape and should be one of the most enjoyable the society has ever had. Ample time has been allotted for business sessions and with this first prerequisite for the program provided, sufficient time remains for all social functions; affairs which, it is hoped, will be enjoyed by every delegate and visitor.

On Thursday evening, April 22, there will be a reception at the beautiful Stockham Woman's Building on the picturesque college campus. On Friday morning, the business session of the Convention will get under way. The business meetings will be held at the Hotel Redmont in downtown Birmingham and on the college campus. The same morning, the Convention will be honored at the regular morning chapel program, at which time we shall have a principal speaker of the Convention. The entire Convention may attend the chapel program; but, if business presses so that it will be necessary to send only a representation to the college and allow the business meetings to continue, that will be the plan.

Because of the inadequacy of rooming accommodations on the college campus the Convention headquarters will be at the Redmont Hotel, a very popular gathering place for conventions, and famous for its Southern hospitality and Southern meals. The Redmont has 250 rooms, all outside, with free room service, three dining-rooms and one coffee shop. The hotel is located conveniently, being in the heart of "The Magic City of the South."

On Friday afternoon the Convention will be entertained at a tea at Howard College, Birmingham's other institution of higher learning. There is not a chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at that school but the Latin and Greek department has invited members of the Convention to be their guests on that afternoon.

On Saturday afternoon the Convention will visit one of the beauty spots of Birmingham, known to residents of the city as "Vestavia," the most unique residence in the city. It is the home of former Mayor George Ward. While traveling through Italy Mr. Ward visited the Temple of Vesta which stands near Rome. He was so impressed by the edifice that he had plans of

it drawn up and built this mansion as an exact replica. It is located atop Shades Mountain overlooking the famous James Valley in which Birmingham is located.

On the way to Vestavia one passes by Vulcan, an iron man built by the Chamber of Commerce for the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. It is the second largest statue in the United States, being surpassed in size only by the Statue of Liberty. Vulcan, mounted on a 120-foot tower atop Red Mountain, majestically overlooks the city. The statue is fifty feet tall and weighs 120,000 pounds, one thumb being three feet long and weighing 175 pounds. It required several trains to carry it to the Exposition and back.

Saturday night will be the time for the formal dinner and the installation of the new officers. This will be carried out at the Redmont Hotel, where there is a spacious and beautiful dining-room.

When one visits the city of Birmingham, he immediately becomes aware of the industrial wealth of the city. As one enters from any direction he sees the famous steel mills that have made "The Magic City of the South" known as "The Pittsburgh of the South." Because of its proximity to the vast treasures of red iron ore that are stored in Red and Shades Mountains, its abundant supply of both skilled and unskilled labor with satisfactory working conditions, and low taxes, Birmingham is an ideal manufacturing center.

As a result of these advantages Birmingham has become the largest industrial city in the South, having made phenomenal strides during the past few years. There are today some 400 industrial and manufacturing concerns in the city, and the population today (382,000) is ten times as great as it was in 1900.

Of greater interest to the members of Eta Sigma Phi would be Birmingham-Southern College, the home of the host chapter of this year's Annual Convention. The main building stands on the grass covered Hilltop in the midst of the College Highlands. From the south windows of the main building one can see the entire city of Birmingham from Boyles to Bessemer, a distance of twenty miles. The main building is the Munger Memorial Hall, given to the college at the cost of \$250,000 by Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Munger of this city. The building stands on the original site of

the Birmingham College Building of many years ago. In beauty and equipment, Munger Memorial Hall is one of the finest and most modern college buildings in the South.

The Stockham Woman's Building, erected during the winter of 1930-31, represents a gift of more than \$75,000 from Mrs. W. H. Stockham of Birmingham for the women students of the College. On the main floor is the reception room where the reception for the Convention will be held on Thursday evening. The building also contains the meeting rooms for the women's organizations, the women's gymnasium, and the offices of the Education Department.

The history of Birmingham-Southern College is as interesting as that of the South. Before the Civil War it was in Greensboro, Alabama, a school conducted as a seminary by the North Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The charter was granted in 1856 by the State of Alabama. The school flourished under the first president, Colonel John Erwin of Greensboro, until the Civil War. The destruction that swept over the South in those dark days of the sixties all but destroyed the institution. Professors and students entered the Confederate armies; the endowment was swallowed up in the ruin of the country; and, when the War Between the States was over, there was left to Southern University only the main building and the ground on which it stood.

In 1883 the Alabama Conference was divided into two sections, the North and the South. At

the first meeting of the North Alabama Conference it was decided to establish a college for men within the bounds of the Conference. After careful consideration of various offers and inducements for the location, the committee agreed to locate the college in Birmingham. For twenty years the two colleges were maintained by the Methodists of Alabama. Finally, in 1918 the two conferences consolidated the two colleges under the name of Birmingham-Southern College. The consolidation was promptly effected and the new institution opened its doors to students on September 11, 1918.

In 1921 the College gained an added recognition when Dr. Guy Everett Snavely came to it as the new president. Under his administration the growth of the College has been little short of phenomenal. The enrollment has grown from a few hundred to over a thousand; the College is now recognized as an "A" grade school in every particular, and the endowment has increased to approximately one million dollars. Dr. Snavely has served as president of the American Association of Colleges and Universities and will next year take up his duties as the executive secretary of that organization.

To this city of Birmingham, rich in natural resources, and to this College, rich in intellectual heritage, Pi chapter will welcome all delegates and visitors to the Thirteenth National Convention of Eta Sigma Phi.

A Message from the Megas Prytanis

TO the Chapters of Eta Sigma Phi:

My dear Friends:

As I turn to my last official message to you through our common publication, the NUNTIUS, I am fully aware that in our year's work there is much undone and so much to be done. Since the next time we receive a copy of our splendid publication, there will be a new Executive Council, and since your message from the Megas Prytanis will come from another part of the country, from another person with probably different attitudes toward matters, and with different ideas, this could easily be a farewell speech. But I promise you that it won't be, so you need not stop reading.

Even though this is my last message, in one sense of the word, we are only beginning. Our year's work as a rule revolves around our spring convention, and rightly so. There we come to-

gether as one body in order that we may discuss, plan and work together, so that our common problems might find the best solution possible. There, each of you has your word, and you aren't forced to sit back and accept the decisions of a dictator. Whether all of you realize it or not, there has been a great amount of activity going on among the members of the executive council, and in one sense of the word your destinies are being determined for you. But you get your chance next month when we come together for our thirteenth annual convention.

My sincere intention was to warn you before I actually started talking about the convention, but you can already see that I am so full of it that I can't control my thoughts. My primary motive in extending to you this greeting and sending you this message is to impress upon you your responsibility in making this convention the big

success it should be, and the big success it can be if each chapter shares its part of the responsibility.

In the past issue of the NUNTIUS we have had brought before us the situations which we as classicists now face and which we as Eta Sigma Phi's might be forced to face. So with those things in mind, it is quite obvious that we must not sit back and leave the fate of our fraternity to the efforts of one man or a few men, or to one chapter or to a few chapters. If our organization is not what it should be, then it is not the fault of one or two persons; nor is it the fault of one or two chapters. It is the fault of us all. We should so strengthen our local organizations that, so far as EACH of us is concerned, Eta Sigma Phi will grow and prosper in future years.

The immediate part we can play in bringing about such a desired position is to support the approaching convention. Birmingham may be a long way off, and on first thought it might seem quite impossible to be represented at the 1937 convention. But when you think that this is your only direct contact with the national organization and when you consider the fact that another convention will not roll around for another year, try to do everything in your power to have at least one representative of your chapter with us at the opening session.

There are numerous ways to raise money for sending delegates to the convention. I shall not take time to list them, but should like to make a suggestion. Your university might be sufficiently interested to help you with one person's expenses if you can guarantee them enough in return. We of Alpha Phi have been rather successful in raising some money by assessing a 25c fine for each unexcused absence. Incidentally, that has also aided us with the problem of occasional attendance. Analyze your local situation and make some money to have your chapter represented in Birmingham.

Pi chapter at Birmingham-Southern has planned for us an interesting program of entertainment, and it is left to us to provide a large convention to take advantage of this opportunity.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a detailed program of the convention and a story of the plans, including a welcome from the Birmingham group, so I need not dwell further on these matters. I do guarantee you a splendid week-end if you plan to spend that of April 23 in Birmingham.

You have probably already received requests from the different officers asking for certain information or for dues, etc. I urge you not to postpone attention to these matters, as it is imperative that we have this information to make convention reports. You have probably received also a copy of the convention program and some first-hand information concerning the details. Please let us know at your earliest convenience how well you will be represented. This is necessary for the appointment of committees, drawing up the convention roll, and other purposes.

Now as I bring this message to a close, I should like to apologize for using this space to make so many requests and to appeal to you as I have. But I assure you that my efforts have been due to my sincere love for Eta Sigma Phi and to my interest in its welfare. If it has done no more than to make just one chapter determined to be represented at the convention, then it will have been a success. But the success I would like for it is to affect several chapters in this way. My goal would be one-hundred per cent attendance of every chapter!

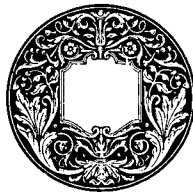
I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Mr. McClelland of the NUNTIUS staff for granting me the opportunity to greet you through each issue. I should like also to congratulate him and his staff on the splendid publication which they have so successfully edited. Our journal is something of which we should be very proud and of which we are very proud. It offers us unlimited opportunities.

A further summary of events of the year will be a part of the convention program. Until then I extend to each of the chapters my very best wishes for your continued success and prosperity.

Fraternally yours,

ELLIS FINGER, Jr.

Megas Prytanis.



The National Officers

By FAGAN SCOTT, Alpha Phi

AS IT is impossible for all of us to become personally acquainted with our national officers, we present to the membership at large those people who have directed so efficiently the course of our society this year.

It cannot be said that Mr. Finger had any idea of being chosen Megas Prytanis when he attended the national convention in Chicago last year. In fact, the chapter which he represented—Alpha Phi chapter at Millsaps College, Jackson, Mississippi—had been installed only a few months earlier; and Mr. Finger admits that upon being told that he was a candidate for the presidency, he found himself leaning on a chair for support. However, neither his short membership in Eta Sigma Phi nor his surprise at finding himself national president has been detrimental to him in rendering efficient service in the duties of his office. As he has stated in his messages in the NUNTIUS, his chief interest is in the welfare of the organization. Under his guidance, his own chapter at Millsaps College has become one of the most active organizations on



the campus, in spite of the fact that it was installed only last year. When it was installed, Mr. Finger was president of the Classical Club. He was chosen to be the first prytanis of the new organization and was reelected at the end of the term.

For more salient features of his career, Mr. Finger was born October 8, 1916, in Ripley, Mississippi, which has since been his home. In high school he began to show traits of leadership which were to become more pronounced with maturity. He was on the staff of the high school paper, president of the junior class, and valedictorian of the graduating class of 1933.

Mr. Finger's activities in college, likewise, have been many and varied. He is president of the Y. M. C. A., vice-president of Pi Kappa Alpha, and was a delegate to the convention of that group held in New Orleans last spring, a member of the International Relations Club, Eta Sigma (scholarship fraternity), Band, Christian Council, Pan-Hellenic Council, and is on the staff of the college annual. He has a Blue Ridge Scholarship, was a

Rhodes scholarship applicant this year, and has a general average of well above ninety for his three years of scholastic work in college. He was also a participant in the S. I. M. A. mathematics contest held in Shreveport, Louisiana, last year.

The ambition of our Megas Prytanis is to continue his study of the classics in graduate work at some northern university, preferably Harvard. With his ability and his love for the classics, Mr. Finger should do much in promoting the ideals of the fraternity.

Our Megas Prototyparchos, Miss Helen Burton, was born January 13, 1916 in Kansas City, Missouri. She attended Grant and Roosevelt high schools in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and graduated



in 1929 from Hillcrest School for girls in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Her activities in high school include: vice president of the Latin Club, president of Mathematics Club, member of Gamma Delta (dramatics), member of Aristotelian chapter

of the National Honor Society, and a member of Girl Reserves.

In Coe College her major subject is French, although she has spent a great deal of time studying music. She is president of the Coe College chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon, national honorary music sorority, and was sent as a delegate to the national convention held last June at Mills College, Oakland, California. She is treasurer of the local chapter of Phi Sigma Iota, national honorary romance language fraternity, a member of Coe College Vesper Choir, Women's Glee Club, A. W. S., Y. W. C. A., and W. A. A. She is a student of music theory under Professor Louise Crawford. Miss Burton was prytanis of Chi chapter of Eta Sigma Phi last year, was a delegate to the Chicago convention and is deuterohyparchos of the local chapter this year.

The Megas Deuterohyparchos, Miss Elizabeth Giedeman, began her life twenty-one years ago in Sandusky, Ohio, where she now lives. In 1933, she graduated from the Sandusky high school, having been on the honor roll there for four years, a member of the Forum Club (debating), and a member of the Commercial Club.

She entered Miami University in the fall of 1933 and has participated in many of the activities there.



In 1935 she won the Bishop Latin Prize which is offered every year to the best Latin student. At present she is reading for honors in Latin. She also holds the office of chrysophylax in the local chapter of Eta Sigma Phi.

Miss Giedeman is recording secretary of Kappa Delta Pi, an honorary society in education, and a member of the Big Sister Organization, a plan to help freshmen become acquainted with college life.

As one may surmise, Miss Giedeman is well liked by all who know her. She has a remarkable sense of humor, a great appreciation for the efforts of others, and is always willing to help in any way possible. It may be added that at this time she is doing her practice teaching in Latin at the McGuffey high school.

We now turn back to Alpha, the chapter which Miss Hildegard Breihan, the youngest of our national officers, represents in her capacity of Megas Epistolographos. Miss Breihan went to the University of Chicago from Topeka, Kansas, where she was born July 16, 1917.



In high school in Topeka, besides attaining the honor of being valedictorian of her class, she found time to participate in many extra-curricular activities among which are the following: National Thespians, the Senior Dramatic Club, a story-telling club, Election Commissioners, Parliamentary Law Club, Pia Societas (honorary Latin club), and the National Honor Society. Upon her graduation from high school, the University of Chicago offered her a full scholarship

Miss Breihan went to the University of Chicago in the fall of 1934 as a freshman. In her first year there she served as a member of the Auxiliary of Ida Voges Hall, on the college cabinet of the Y. W. C. A., and joined Eta Sigma Phi. Her field of specialization is Latin, and her ambition is to teach Latin in relation to ancient history and to the times in which it was spoken. At the present time Miss Breihan is a member of the executive cabinet of the Y. W. C. A., secretary of the Federation of University Women, and a member of the Board of Women's Organization, in addition to being megas epistolographos of Eta Sigma Phi.

Miss Breihan is numbered among the most charming and popular women on the campus. She has always had a smile for everyone and is never too busy to help a friend, in spite of the fact that she has been working outside of school ever since she entered the university.

The Megas Grammateus, Miss Ruth Rifenerick, was an honor student at Royon high school in Youngstown, Ohio, and upon graduation received the Pan-Hellenic award given by that school to the best all around student. She was a prominent member of the French Circle, once serving as chief clown in its circus, and was also social chairman of the Girl Reserves.



In Wooster College, her interest has been primarily in French and the classics. She is a member of the honorary French fraternity, Phi Sigma Iota, and is also a member of the local French Club. She has furthered her career in the entertainment world by appearing in French plays and two classical presentations, "Iphigenia in Tauris" and "The Menaechmi". She serves as the chrysophylax of the local Alpha Upsilon chapter of Eta Sigma Phi.

Miss Rifenerick's ambition is "to do something with French," the subject which holds her chief interest and in which she has attained honors. More definitely she is preparing herself for teaching. It is of interest to note that her mother, Mrs. Verna M. Rifenerick, is the head of the Latin department at Cheyney high school in Youngstown, Ohio and is president of the Youngstown Latin Club.

Miss Rifenerick's chief characteristics seem to be her willingness to cooperate and her interesting conversation.

The finances of the national organization are guarded by Mr. E. Clarendon Hyde, a senior at the University of Missouri. We feel that we have every reason to believe that our finances are safe,



because, as we examine the data on hand, we note that Mr. Hyde expects to spend the next three years in theological school working on a degree of Bachelor of Divinity. He will probably spend the next two years at Union Theological

Seminary in New York City and finish in some Episcopal school. His intention is to become a teacher in a theological school, not to be a parish priest.

Our Megas Chrysophylax was born in Columbia, Missouri, June 8, 1915, and with the exception of two years spent in New Haven, Connecticut, he has lived there all his life. In high school he was a member of the National Honor Society, and in college he has ranked consistently high on the honor roll. He has been librarian and vice-president of the German Club, vice-president and president of the Episcopal Student Association, a representative on the Student's Religious Council, a member of the Athenaeum Literary Society, Rifle Club, and DeMolay, and was awarded a book by the German department of the University for being one of the two outstanding students majoring in German. Mr. Hyde is also a member of Acacia Fraternity. His major field of study in the university has been German, and his minor has been a combination of Greek and Latin. He has been enrolled in the college of arts and sciences but graduated last January with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He is continuing work at the university however, taking courses that he hasn't had time to study before.

We now turn to Theta chapter at Indiana University, where we find our Megas Pyloros, Miss Margaret Covert.

On a blustery March day of 1916, Apollo paused for one instant in his course through the sky to smile kindly upon a dark haired child in a white basinet at Winfield, Kansas, and thus an ardent devotee of the classics was sped on her way through the world.



Passing through the usual A-B-C jingle stage, Miss Covert proved herself one of the blessed of Apollo when she wrote her first poem, "Stars", at the tender age of six. Since her early debut into the world of letters, she has been continually adding to her literary training and ac-

complishments. Among her most recent achievements she numbers the front page editorship of the Danville (Indiana) high school paper; exemption from required composition courses at Indiana University; and the publication in the May, 1936, issue of CLASSICAL NOTES of "Hades Up To Date", a rhymed prologue to a classical dramatic skit written in collaboration with two of her classmates. A reward somewhat less imposing, but still most acceptable, is the theatre ticket she frequently wins by her verse contributions to the humor column of the Indiana Daily Student.

Miss Covert's chief hobby is collecting poetry, humorous skits, shows, and recipes. She is as noted for her baked beans and brown bread as for her notebook of funny stories about Latin, which she has kept throughout her college days. This last collection she hopes will prove as interesting to her pupils of the future as it has to her classmates. Like all true classicists, she considers as the Seventh Heaven of Delight at least one visit to the land where the hallowed shades of her beloved Martial and Virgil still linger.

In addition to the poetical and culinary pursuits, Miss Covert takes great delight in sports. She was a member of the Woman's Athletic Association because of her proficiency in basket ball and swimming. She is an active member of the Classical Club and Euclidean Circle and is president of Theta chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. She has been elected to Alpha Lambda Delta and Pi Lambda Theta, national honorary scholastic and educational sororities.

We are fortunate indeed to have as our national officers this year students who have proved themselves leaders in their respective colleges and who have records of which both they and the national organization may well be proud. We are glad to place our confidence in them, and we trust that their success will continue as it has begun.

EDITORIALS

In this issue we are happy to submit two articles relating to the coming convention. The first consists of the message of the Megas Prynianis. The second has **THE CONVENTION** been prepared by the prynianis of Pi chapter, our prospective host. We wish to offer a vigorous second to the ideas set forth in both of them, and to express our appreciation for the welcome which has been extended by our fellow-members at Birmingham-Southern College. Certainly if the efforts of Mr. Finger and Mr. Crowley are matched by the local chapters, we may look forward with confidence to an enjoyable and fruitful meeting.

The fraternity should seize this opportunity to effect a complete renaissance of its affairs. While not pessimistic in regard to our organization, we yet cannot agree with the poet that "all's well with the world". In fact it has seemed for some time that there are evidences of weak spots which call for considerable strengthening. The fraternity needs a revival of spirit and interest. Perhaps we have grown too complacent, too prone to rest content with our laurels, too willing to let the life of the fraternity drift along in its already well worn grooves. There exists an unfortunate tendency to permit the responsibility not only for its growth but even for the maintenance of the present status to devolve upon a few chapters and upon the Executive Council. Surely the growing list of inactive chapters is indicative of an unhealthy condition, both in the affairs of Eta Sigma Phi and in those of the classical field in general. The difficulty encountered by the officers in securing prompt and effective cooperation from the local chapters is another disturbing factor.

If Eta Sigma Phi is destined to maintain its position as a leading organization in the nearly forty colleges and universities where chapters have been established, to bear its responsibilities in the field of classical learning, to advance instead of retreat from its ideals, purposes, and honored position; then we insist that a true renaissance is necessary. The delegates to the Convention should approach their deliberations with high hope and earnest resolution. When through combined efforts they have settled their problems, they should depart as members of an organization

determined to maintain and promote with renewed zeal the purposes to which they have pledged their faith and enduring support.

Perhaps some of the sentiments expressed in the foregoing paragraphs could well be applied to the affairs of the NUNTIUS. While the staff has, in general, been highly gratified by the cooperation of **THE NUNTIUS** many of the chapters, they nevertheless regret that others have not extended their efforts to promote one of their most vital projects. All matters pertaining to the publication will, of course, be presented at the Convention, but we desire here to stimulate some thought regarding them.

First, there should be wider representation in the Lares and Penates column. Of the thirty-eight active chapters, there were represented in the November issue twenty-two; in the January issue, twelve. As this is written, two days beyond the time all communications were expected to reach the staff, the editor of that column has received six reports. It appears unlikely that we can elicit for any issue this year reports from all chapters on the active list.

Secondly, we regret the lack of interest in the columns devoted to Minerva and the Muses. In the three issues of the journal, apart from the staff members themselves, six members have contributed to the former column and three to the latter. We are loath to believe that nothing is produced by the many local chapters which is worthy of appearing in print. We are almost as reluctant to conclude that members of chapters are too indifferent to prepare and submit copy to the staff. Why should not the Nuntius be used as an active clearing house of ideas and a focal point for the dissemination of all matters pertaining to the fraternity?

We hope that the editors of next year will be aided by the cooperation of all chapters in observing both in spirit and letter the regulations which govern the matter of subscriptions. It is never pleasant to discuss finances, but we find it necessary to urge that each member and each initiate support the journal in the manner prescribed by the national constitution. If this is not done

changes must be made, either in the format of the quarterly or in the frequency of its publication.

In these matters, too, perhaps a renaissance of spirit is an urgent necessity. We do not wish to believe that the attitude toward the NUNTIUS confirms the fears which we have expressed above concerning the fraternity in general. Rather, we should like to be convinced that, when all facts become known, the local chapters will extend their earnest cooperation, and that they will instruct their delegates to the Convention to work toward a renewal of interest in all matters which pertain to our national welfare. Of these, the NUNTIUS is by no means least.—The Editor-in-Chief.

Again it is necessary to call your attention to the fact that it is impossible for the staff of the NUNTIUS to publish a complete and representative journal of Eta Sigma Phi without your entire cooperation.

We have received a number of complaints from members who have not received their copies of the NUNTIUS. This unfortunate condition arises as a result of apparent disregard of our re-

quest for the return of the tentative mailing lists which were sent to the chapter secretaries several months ago. Further complications will also be avoided by your notifying us at once of any change in address.

Chapter reports have always been an outstanding feature of the NUNTIUS. They furnish the prime source of information concerning the activities of each chapter. Through them ideas are exchanged and new goals are set. It should be the aim of every individual member of Eta Sigma Phi to make his or her chapter the best in the entire organization. Lack of cooperation by one chapter mars the benefit derived by the whole group. This is your magazine, members of Eta Sigma Phi, and your attitudes and responses are most important factors in its success or failure. We appreciate the cooperation which many of the chapters have given us in replying to our communications, but in order for the NUNTIUS to be a publication worthy of Eta Sigma Phi we must have the support of each and every member of the fraternity. Let us have a report from each of our thirty-eight active chapters in the May issue!—M. J. S., R. V. T.

Program of Thirteenth Annual Convention of

Eta Sigma Phi

Birmingham, Alabama, April 22-24, 1937

Thursday, April 22

8:00 P. M. Reception at Redmont Hotel

Friday, April 23

8:00- 9:00 A. M. Executive Council Meeting
 9:00-10:15 A. M. Opening Session of Convention. (Business includes roll call, reports of national officers, appointment of committees, etc.)
 10:15-11:30 A. M. Chapel Program—Birmingham-Southern College
 11:30-12:00 A. M. Paper—"The Value of the Classics", by Dr. D. M. Key, Millsaps College
 12:00- 1:00 P. M. Lunch
 1:00- 2:30 P. M. Business Session. (Proposed Legislation, recommendations, etc.)
 2:30- 4:00 P. M. Committee Meetings
 4:00 P. M. Tea at Howard College
 7:00-10:00 P. M. Dinner—Paper by Dr. George Currie, Birmingham-Southern College

Saturday, April 24

8:00- 9:00 A. M. Executive Council Meeting
 9:00-10:30 A. M. Business Session. (Reports of Committees, etc.)
 10:30-11:00 A. M. Recess—Additional Committee Meetings if necessary.
 11:00- 1:00 P. M. Final Business Session of Convention
 Election of Officers
 1:00- 2:00 P. M. Luncheon
 2:00 P. M. Convention Photograph and visit to "Vestavia"
 7:00- 9:00 P. M. Convention Banquet
 Installation of Officers, Redmont Hotel
 Adjournment

MINERVA

Galen, A Great Physician

By MARY CAROLINE ULMER,

Alpha Alpha

JUST as we often regard the work of Hippocrates as the foundation upon which the edifice of Greek medicine was erected, so may we regard the work of Galen, who practiced at Rome about six hundred years later, as the apex of the same edifice. That Galen crystallized or brought to a focus the best work of the Greek medical schools which preceded his own time deserves our praise. It is almost entirely in the form of Galenism that Greek medicine was transmitted to later ages.

Between the time of Hippocrates and the last half of the first century A. D. in the medical world, several different sects of physicians had arisen. The "Dogmatic" school developed an over elaborate system of theory. At the opposite extreme were the "Empiricists" in Alexandria. The so-called "Methodists", who intended to maintain a balance between the Dogmatics and Empiricists, developed a system of medicine of great simplicity both in diagnosis and in treatment. Galen did not belong entirely to any of these schools. He was an eclectic in the best sense of the term, but he did pay special tribute to his illustrious predecessor, Hippocrates.

Galen, born in Pergamum in 133 A. D., was a man not only of great intellectual gifts, but also of strong moral fiber. He studied all the chief philosophical systems of the time and roamed over the Greek world in search of medical knowledge. He spent some time at the famous school in Alexandria; and in 163 A. D. ambition drew him to Rome, where medical practice was at a low ebb. Before Greek medical knowledge had been brought to Rome in the first century B. C., medical practice in that city was replete with religious superstition and appeal to the supernatural. In the second century A. D. there was still need of much improvement. Because there were no requirements for entering upon a medical career, many unqualified practitioners had found in medicine a lucrative profession. Galen took no pains to conceal his contempt for the ignorance and venality of his fellow-practitioners.

The date of Galen's entry into Rome is rightly regarded as a cardinal date in the history of Roman medicine. He is considered the founder of experimental physiology; and, certainly, his physiological investigations were revolutionary.

He performed section of the spinal cord at various levels to determine what parts controlled movement and what parts sensibility. He correctly interpreted the effect of cutting above the origin of the phrenic nerve. He described the heart with its three layers of fibers, and accurately described its valves. One of his greatest contributions was the demonstration that the arteries contain blood, and not air, as the Alexandrian school had taught for over four hundred years. From his researches into the functions of the kidneys we know that he often practiced vivisection. He was an indefatigable dissector, and his physiological investigations are unrivalled in antiquity for their fullness and accuracy.

Not only in experiment was Galen accurate, but also in observation and reasoning. As his master, Hippocrates, had done, he attached fundamental importance to clinical observation—to the evidence of the senses as the indispensable groundwork of all medical knowledge. He could make rapid generalizations from observations, and his logical proclivities disposed him particularly to deductive reasoning. His method of reasoning undoubtedly helped him much in his search for truth, but probably it often led him astray.

In spite of his accurate experiments, observations, and reasoning, superstition played some part in his practice of medicine. Some of the drugs, which he used to a shocking extent, were composed of the most repulsive and poisonous ingredients. One consisted of stewed snakes and about seventy other such ridiculous elements. The sound of them sends a shiver down one's back, and one is tempted to ask how such ingenious mixtures were concocted and how many more patients they killed than they cured.

Galen wrote prolifically about his work, and a large number of his writings have come down to us. No one has attempted to determine how much of his work is original, and how much is taken from the labors of his predecessors. But there is no doubt that he was much more than a mere compiler of other men's writings. He not only collected and organized the best of the work done before him, but added to it the results of his own observations and experiments. His writ-

(Continued at bottom of next page)

Defending the Classics

TEACHERS of the ancient languages are too prone to rely for the welfare of their subject upon the traditions of the past and upon a reputation built up during generations of real educational achievement. We are told that there are values in the study of Greek and Latin which can never die. We are assured that the classics have survived too many depressions in the past for us to become alarmed at the assaults now being launched upon them and at the present decline in their popularity and dignity.

Such arguments fail to take account of the fact that there has been a revolution in educational thinking as radical and as far reaching as that which has taken place in the social and economic spheres. We may not agree that we have come to the end of an era, or that the present world situation calls for the scrapping of all or the majority of our long-established ideals, ways of thinking, and institutions. We must, however, admit that there has been a significant change in all of these. The political situation in Europe and America testifies to this.

The serious questioning of values and methods in foreign language teaching is not a recent occurrence. It is, in fact, a part of the movement that calls for the more exact formulation of educational objectives and the more accurate evaluation of results. Further, the philosophy of Dewey, the doctrines of the Counts school of social scientists, and the tenets advanced by Progressive Education have deeply affected educational thinking and have led to a revaluation of every field of study in the schools in terms of modern social objectives. The preservation of a particular subject field in the curriculum depends now more than ever upon the approval of school administrators, and upon the support of those persons who have realized the value of the subject in their own lives and wish to preserve such value for their own children and the children of the community. Tradition and vested interests count for little in the face of failure to secure results which can be shown to function in social improvement and in the enrichment of individual lives.

In view of a situation in which enrollments in Latin and Greek are steadily decreasing; in which former supports, particularly from college entrance and degree requirements, are being removed; and in which courses in foreign language are being withdrawn from the school program to make way for subjects such as social studies with a practical and immediate appeal, definite action

is required of proponents of classical education. In the first place material, methods, and objectives must be scanned and reorganized when necessary in the light of the aims of modern education which have been proved to be sound and attainable. There are sufficient richness of content and flexibility in procedures to enable teachers of the classics to meet this challenge and to maintain their subject as an important element in secondary and college curricula. In the second place all who believe in the value of the classics, both teachers and laymen, must be on the alert to defend them through organized efforts, through favorable publicity, and through active participation in every movement which concerns their welfare.

In such an undertaking the members of Eta Sigma Phi are peculiarly fitted to take an active part. A primary objective of the fraternity is to promote the welfare of classical studies. Many of its members become teachers of Latin and Greek. They are young, ready to adopt new ideas, trained in understanding and evaluating modern educational theories and practices. If they will approach their task with open minds and willing zeal, the infusion of such new blood cannot fail to revitalize aims and procedures. But besides this, members of Eta Sigma Phi have contacts with college companions, parents, and the public at large. If the study of the classics has been a power, a joy, an inspiration in their lives, they can infuse into their associates some of their own love and become a veritable cloud of witnesses to the value of such study for the boys and girls, for the young men and women of America.

—A. P. W.

(GALEN—Continued from preceding page)

ings were popular during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, and Latin translations of his treatises were studied in medical colleges until the beginning of the nineteenth century.

One is justified in asking what contributions Galen has made to modern medicine. Certainly there must be something to be gained from the wisdom of the past! Through it he has bequeathed to us the high ideal which he upheld for the medical profession, his insistence upon maintaining contact with nature as the primary condition for arriving at an understanding of disease, his broad outlook, and his realization of the inadequacy of physical formulae in explaining physiological activities. Surely it was not for nothing that the great Pergamene gave laws to the medical world for over a thousand years!

Preliminary Report of High School Work

By ELIZABETH GIEDEMAN,
Megas Deuterohyparchos

At the last national convention held in Chicago, Illinois, Stuart Garver reported on his work as chairman of the National Committee for High School Expansion, and the delegates voted to continue the good work he had started—that of investigating the advisability of Eta Sigma Phi's conducting a national Latin contest. To continue the investigation of the possibilities of such a national contest, each chapter was contacted two months ago and was asked to report on its activities for the present school year. Thus far only about one-third of the chapters have answered, and hence a complete report is not yet available. However, some very interesting data have been received, showing that Eta Sigma Phi members are

really interested in promoting high school expansion work. In order to get more complete information we hope that the remaining chapters will report as soon as possible.

The National Chairman is now working on the selection of a permanent faculty committee to aid in the continuance of the work. Also, in connection with her efforts and those of the various chapters, the megas deuterohyparchos is forming plans to contact various high school teachers to find out how effective our efforts have actually been.

In view of these facts, I urge all chapters who have not already done so to send me a report of their activities thus far; and I urge ALL chapters to be ready to send a detailed report of this year's activities, so that I may give you recognition in my report at the national convention in Birmingham, Alabama, this spring.

For further information, write to Elizabeth Giedeman, 39 Bishop Hall, Oxford, Ohio.

IN MEMORIAM

Members of Lambda chapter and the entire classical world were saddened by the death of Dr. Alexander Lee Bondurant at the University of Mississippi on January 12.

Head of the Department of Latin for almost half a century at the University, Dr. Bondurant was prominently connected with every classical organization both in Mississippi and the United States. One-time vice-president of the American Classical League, president of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South during 1924-1925, lecturer on the Vergilian Cruise, he was decorated with the Order of the Crown of Italy in 1930. Besides being a charter member of Lambda chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, Dr. Bondurant was organizer of the local Latin Club and the North Mississippi Classical Association, a branch of the Mississippi Classical Association.

Not only as an internationally known classical scholar, but as a gallant prototype of Southern manhood will the memory of Dr. Bondurant be enshrined in the hearts of his friends and colleagues.

WILLIAM JOHNSON
Treasurer of Lambda Chapter

THE MUSES



Translations from
Roman Poets

By JOSEPH H. VARNER, Jr., Alpha Upsilon

CATULLUS, III

Ye Venuses and Cupids, stay
And shed, with kindly folk, a tear;
My sweetheart's bird has passed away,
The favorite treasure of my dear;
The pet by death has been removed,
Whom more than her own eyes she loved:

For he was dear, and her he'd known
If e'er a maid her mother knew;
Whenever to her breast he'd flown
He stayed, nor from that bosom flew,
But fluttering—now here, now there—
He chirped to his sole mistress e'er.

But now he goes the shadowy way
Unto that country from whose bourn
Never a traveller, they say,
Succeeds in making his return—
But maledictions dire and fell
On you, ye cursed shades of hell!

'Tis you, who greedily devour
All fair things nature doth contain.
O deed accurst! O dreadful hour!
'Tis you, my pretty bird who've ta'en.
Poor bird! through grief that thou art dead,
My darling's eyes are swollen and red.

CATULLUS, XXXI

Half-island Sirmio, the paradise
Of all the isles o'er which, in vasty sea
Or limpid lakes, Neptune hath sovereignty:
How blithe, how free, I cast on thee mine eyes,
Scarcely believing (to my glad surprise!)
I safely view not Thynia now, but thee!
What can compare with being trouble-free,
When the heart casts away its load of sighs?
Then home we come, by foreign labors bored,
To find repose upon the bed we love.
This pays for labors, over and above.
Hail, lovely Sirmio, acc'aim thy lord;
And you, rejoice, ye waves of Lydian foam;
Greet us with laughter, all ye smiles of home.

YES AND NO

From the VERGILIAN APPENDIX

Two little words, Yes and No, are so famous all people repeat them.
Take them away, and nothing remains for men to discourse on.
All words are centered in these—whether dealing with business matters,
Whether relating to leisure, and whether stormy or quiet.
These words at times are opposed to both of two courses for action,
Often opposed to one: it is thus that character, talent,
Aye, and contention, easy or hard, come into existence.
If an agreement is reached, without pause, "Yes, yes!" interveneth.
Or, if a quarrel is raging, dissent will ejaculate, "No, sir!"
Hence the forum breaks forth with clamorings, hence are the tumults
Of the infuriate circus, 'tis hence that so great insurrections
Rise in the playhouse, and hence are the mighty disputes of the senate.
Sons, with bridled zeal, may sow in the hearts of their fathers
Seeds of marriage, by speaking these words with tactful affection.
Hence moreover a school, through gentle discipline peaceful,
Argues, in slow and lengthy debate, philosophical tenets.
Hence do the whole dialectical tribe of the wise vie in wrangling.
Now it is light. Is it therefore day? There are different view-points.
True, for whenever, by many a torch, or by flashes of lightning,
Light is given to men nocturnally, that is not daylight.
"Yes" and "No" must repeatedly grant, then, the fact that it is light,
But that it is not day. Hence rise a thousand dissensions.
Hence come vociferous mobs, who, wildly enthused with such uproars,
After the shouting has died, gnash their teeth at the maddening silence.
Men's existence is what two monosyllables make it.

RES GESTAE

NEWS OF FACULTY ADVISOR OF ALPHA ALPHA

(This article is reprinted from "The Johnsonian," Winthrop College newspaper, January 29, 1937, and was submitted by Kate Glenn Hardin, grammarian of Alpha Alpha chapter.)

Dr. Donnis Martin, head of the classics department, will leave Monday for New Haven, Connecticut, to work in the Yale Library on "Latin Poetry of the Empire." Dr. Gladys Martin, of Mississippi State College for Women will collaborate with her on the book.

Dr. Marian Blake will replace Dr. Martin for this semester. Dr. Blake has a bachelor of arts degree from Mount Holyoke. She received her master's degree and doctorate from Cornell University. In 1924-25 she was a fellow of the American Academy in Rome. From 1927 to 1929, she was a fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation.

Dr. Blake's research was done in Italy on the subject of Roman pavements and mosaics. She taught at Converse and at Mount Holyoke College.

* * * *

OMEGA CHAPTER HEARS DR. RAND

By Julia Bader

On February 19, Omega chapter and the student body of the College of William and Mary were privileged to hear one of the most interesting lectures of the year, given by Dr. E. K. Rand, professor of ancient languages, Harvard University. He was introduced by Dr. A. P. Wagener of the ancient language department of the College. Dr. Rand's subject was "Horace's Sabine Farm," and he illustrated his lecture with a number of interesting slides taken on his three trips to Italy.

The most authoritative archaeological survey of the site was made by Lugli, said Dr. Rand. The house has been reconstructed as accurately as possible, although there is still doubt as to the actual location. The location of the famous fons Bandusia, according to Dr. Rand, is one of the mysteries that may never be solved. Slides were shown of the reconstructed home of Horace as well as the foundations which now mark the place. The house, although not pretentious, contained a great hall, two dining rooms, kitchen, bath, bedrooms, and slave quarters. It was surrounded by a beautiful walled-in garden. Professor Rand also showed slides of the beautiful Italian country and its typical peasants.

Dr. Rand concluded his lecture by showing two slides of the head of Horace. The second is in the Fine Arts Museum of Boston, and this according to Dr. Rand appears to be more like Horace. He described Horace's face as "the strong independent face of a man who has lived. It is not an aristocratic face; nor was Horace an aristocrat, being the son of a slave. But it is truly a face worth studying."

* * * *

ALPHA RHO PAYS HIGH TRIBUTE AT TESTIMONIAL DINNER

By James M. Ware

Alpha Rho chapter recently gave a testimonial dinner in honor of Dr. George T. Ettinger, retired educator, at the Americus Hotel, Allentown, Pa.

Dr. Ettinger, who retired on February 1, has been associated with Muhlenberg college for more than 63 years as student and teacher. He is a member of Alpha Rho chapter and was instrumental in bringing the chapter to the Muhlenberg campus.

High tribute was paid to the distinguished educator by Dr. Harry Hess Reichard of the German department. He placed Dr. Ettinger as an educator in the class with the late Francis A. March, Sr., former professor of Anglo-Saxon at Lafayette college and considered one of the great English scholars of America, and with Basil L. Gildersleeve, professor of Greek at Johns Hopkins University for a period of 25 years after its founding. Dr. Reichard, a graduate of Lafayette college, was the only faculty man present who had not studied under Dr. Ettinger.

In response to the tribute paid him by the Reverend Russell W. Stine, who challenged him to write his memoirs of Muhlenberg and the community in which the college has been growing for 70 years, Dr. Ettinger said that he would seriously consider the request; one which has been emphasized several times since he retired from his faculty post.

Others who spoke of their associations with Dr. Ettinger and lauded him for the foundation he gave to Muhlenberg men and for his work on behalf of the college were as follows: Dr. Robert C. Horn, acting president; Dr. Robert R. Fritsch, professor of English Bible; Dr. Edward Fluck, recently named instructor of Latin for the remainder of the academic year.

Dr. Ettinger, responding graciously to the tributes, spoke of the many changes at Muhlenberg during the 63 years he has been associated with it; a period that covers all but six years of the history of the institution.

George Machajdik, prytanis of Alpha Rho chapter, presided as toastmaster and presented Dr. Ettinger with flowers.—Abridged.

INACTIVE CHAPTERS

- KAPPA—Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- MU—University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- XI—University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.
- TAU—University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.
- PHI—University of West Virginia, Morgantown, W. Va.
- ALPHA IOTA—University of S. C., Columbia, S. C.

It is difficult to gather a heap in a long time, but it is easy to squander the whole in a day.

—Diphilus.

* * * *

Time will discover everything to posterity; it is a babbler, and speaks even when no question is put.—Euripides.

LARES and PENATES

DELTA CHAPTER

Franklin College

By Jean Halliday

Delta chapter has been enjoying a very successful and helpful program this year. In December an informal Christmas dinner was held. Members of the Latin department who are not members of Eta Sigma Phi were special guests at this meeting. The program consisted of a review by Jean Halliday of Seneca's tragedy "Agamemnon."

In January, Elsie Giddings, prytanis, gave an interesting review and criticism of Eugene O'Neil's "Mourning Becomes Electra." Plans were started for a tea for high school Latin students and their teachers, to be held sometime this spring.

At the February meeting pledging services were held for John Spencer. Mr. Spencer is the son of Dr. William Gear Spencer, president of Franklin college and an honorary member of Delta chapter. After the pledging, Edith Jackson gave a report on myths in Greek tragedy.

Just now two thoughts are uppermost in our minds. We are planning an initiation to be followed by a formal dinner on the evening of March 9. The second is the convention in Birmingham. We hope to see many of you there the last of April.

* * * *

ZETA CHAPTER

Denison University

By Mary Brown

Zeta chapter held its first meeting of the new year at the Alpha Phi house on February 16. Miss Marie Lein, head of the Greek department, member of Phi Beta Kappa, and an alumna of Alpha chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, conducted the program. Before the leaping firelight the chapter studied the replicas of the works of the ancient calligraphers, while Miss Lein pointed out the development of paleography from the first majuscule manuscripts down through the delicate and lovely script of the Irish to the present day minuscules. It was truly an enjoyable program.

Zeta chapter has taken up many new projects this semester, the main one being to present the new library with some gift of classical nature.

Mr. C. P. Smith, instructor in the Newark schools and an honorary member of Zeta chapter, has recently been appointed chairman of the State Committee on the revision of Ohio high school standards pertaining to the teaching of foreign languages.

* * * *

THETA CHAPTER ENJOYS BANQUET

Indiana University

By Isabel Hogue

Theta chapter held its annual initiation services on March 6. The following were received into membership: Nancy May Benefiel, James Chittick, Cynthia Ann Demaree, Mildred Hanson, Helen Harris, Marjora Kunz, Lucretia Long, Hazel Roach, Rachel Roach, Mrs. Helen M. Rogers, William Salyer, Doris Taylor, Edythe Thornton. Special initiation services will be held at a later date for Betty Alice Smith.

Following the services March 6, a banquet was held in honor of the new initiates and of Professor Lillian Gay Berry for her service as scholar and educator in the Latin department of Indiana University. The favors, prepared by Marjora Kunz and Steven Visnyai, contained scenes from Miss Berry's life and were accompanied by excerpts from the original poetical biography, "L'Iliad".

The program was as follows: "Forsitan et Haec Olim Meminisse Iuabit", by Margaret Covert; "Felices Ter et Amplius", by Mrs. Helen M. Rogers; "L'Iliad", by members of the chapter; "Memorabilia", by Isabel Hogue; "Friends, Romans, Countrymen", by Mr. Albert Stump; "Fratres Ave atque Vale", by Margaret Covert.

Under "Memorabilia" the former students of Professor Berry who were present were introduced. Among her students were members of the faculty of Indiana University, high school Latin teachers in the state, faculty members of various teachers colleges, and members of the professions of law and medicine.

First coming to Indiana University the year that Dr. William Lowe Bryan became president, Professor Berry has accomplished much to give her the title of "first woman." She was the first permanent woman instructor in the University outside of the depart-

ment of Physical Education for Women; first woman from Chicago University to study in Rome on a fellowship; first woman professor in Indiana University; and the first woman on the faculty to be listed in "Who's Who in America."

Dr. Bryan, president of Indiana University, and Dean Stout, head of the Latin department, expressed appreciation of Professor Berry's work as a scholar and teacher. Professor Schuman of the Latin Department spoke of their experiences together at an excavation camp in Egypt.

Mrs. Sanford Teter, first woman member of the University Board of Trustees, spoke of Professor Berry as a friend and citizen, "one of the most beloved and one of the 'first' citizens of Bloomington."

Discussing Prof. Berry's achievements on the campus, Dean of Women Agnes E. Wells mentioned her interest and cooperation in all projects attempted by women students, and spoke of her as another "Aenas" with a constant joy of travel and exploration in new fields.

Speaking for men students who have studied Latin with Professor Berry, Mr. Albert Stump, lawyer of Indianapolis, mentioned the widespread influence her teaching has had among her students and expressed the hope that "when she thinks of all who have been in her classes, she will remember those who have carried into their neighborhoods some thing finer than they would have had without her teaching—the light of a finer and better understanding of life."

A copy of Huelson's, "The Roman Forum and the Palatine", inscribed with the names of all who attended the banquet, was presented by the organization to Professor Berry. In response Professor Berry said, "I hope only that after you have given your ideal of me instead of the real me, in my future years of service here I can live up to your kind words."

Messages of felicitation from Professor Berry's former students who were unable to attend the reunion were read at the banquet. These included Wendell Wilkie, president of the Commonwealth and Southern, one of the greatest power companies in the country; President Ralph Tiley of Indiana State Teachers College; Philip Lutz, Jr., Indianapolis lawyer and former

attorney-general of Indiana; Albert L. Rabb, Indianapolis lawyer and member of the University Board of Trustees; Judge Walter E. Treanor of the Supreme Court of Indiana; Professor Ralph Menk, head of the Latin Department of Ball State Teachers College; Miss Julie Willkie, chemist in a Canadian company; Miss Pearl Franklin, prominent woman attorney in Chicago. * * *

AN ACTIVE YEAR AT OMICRON
Ohio State University
By Violet Strahl

A banquet, a dinner, and a party have not been the least of the activities of the Alpha Tau chapter for the last four months. November 17 at a closed business meeting we decided upon our annual Christmas banquet, sang Latin songs, and enjoyed an exhibition by Virginia Barker of Latin aids used in high school. Mr. Wilfred Eberhart, of the Department of Education, immediately following the banquet held at the Dutch Tavern on December 8, contrasted campus life during the summer with the less serious activities of the regular winter quarters at Ohio State University.

Our first meeting of the winter quarter was an informal dinner at the Dutch Tavern on January 28; after which Dr. Hough, of the Classics department, commented upon his slides of the stamps concerning ancient and classical subjects. After the slides we were given an opportunity to examine the collection proper.

On February 18, members and their guests will have the pleasure of attending a party at the home of Miss Evalyn Beery, prytanis, and Miss Anna Louise Cozad, protohyparchos. In the meantime a Latin play for presentation in nearby high schools is being developed. * * *

OMEGA CHAPTER
College of William and Mary
By M. Virginia Gilbert

On February 11, Omega chapter holds its first meeting of the new term. Augusta Porter read a paper on "The Medea" as written by Mildred Heineman, a recent graduate. This selection was followed with a criticism of "The Medea" by Ione Murphy. The program was closed by a report on Greek houses given by Martha Sherratt.

In the spring the chapter will present the "Mostellaria" of Plautus in the original Latin. Several scenes from the play will be given also as a

part of the college's annual "International Night," at which all languages taught at the school are represented. * * * *

PSI CHAPTER ENJOYS ROMAN INITIATION
Vanderbilt University
By Landis Shaw

Psi chapter held its regular Roman initiation banquet on January 28. It was a gala affair. The U-shaped table was decorated with sprays of flowers. At each place was a program written in Latin and rolled up like a scroll. Dr. E. L. Johnson was chairman of the program. Miss Charlotte Williams and Mr. Alfred Livingston supplied the toasts. Extemporaneous speeches were given by Dr. Clyde Pharr and Dr. J. A. Robins. The musical program consisted of a violin solo by Ovid Collins and a xylophone solo by Margaret Johnson.

After the banquet the following new members were initiated: Edmund Benz, Margaret Crouch, Frances Evans, and Margaret Johnson. * * * *

LAMBDA INITIATES NINE
University of Mississippi
By Leslie Rogers

Lambda chapter announces the initiation of the following pledges: Margaret Murphy, Lillian Moore, Guion Bowie, Vassar Bishop, Hallie Eggleston, Madeline Cole, Mittie Creekmore, Lawrence Olsen, and David Hamilton. The initiation ceremony was held in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A. building, March 4, at the regular March meeting. * * * *

ALPHA ALPHA HEARS INSTRUCTIVE TALKS
Winthrop College
By Kate Glenn Hardin

Alpha Alpha chapter held its regular monthly meeting on March 9 in Johnson Hall. The topic for discussion was the women of Homer. Talks were made on the following characters: "Helen", by Annie Rosenblum; "Penelope", by Louise Buzhardt; and "Nausicaa and her mother", by Jean Flynn. * * * *

ALPHA BETA PLANS PROGRAMS
University of Denver
By Elinor Roberts

For the year 1937 Alpha Beta has planned a series of programs on the lives and works of several Roman authors. These programs include infor-

mation about the life of the man, his character, and some examples of characteristic passages from his works in the original which are to be translated at the meetings. The first program, which deals with Pliny, will be under the leadership of Mr. Gus Profit, prytanis. Other names under consideration are: Terence, Tacitus, Cicero, Horace, Catullus, Curtius, Ennius, Livy, Lucretius, Ovid, and Plautus.

The contest in translating the odes of Horace, which was initiated last year but was postponed because of the great amount of work required in the translating, has been resumed. The "Ode to the Bandusian Spring" seems, among others, to be a favorite for the contestants. The prize for this contest will be an Eta Sigma Phi pin or key. * * * *

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER
Washington Square College
By Florence M. Cromien

"Fairly dumb" is commonly abbreviated "Ph. D." An "M. D." is, of course, "most dangerous. A "dryad", as every scholar knows, was "an ancient prohibitionist." Mere mention of Proton, "a sea-god", Electron, "daughter of Agamemnon," and Atom, "the first man," suggest the vitality of Greek and Roman cultural bequests in the modern scientific world. So members of Alpha Zeta parodied a new course, "Greek and Latin in Current Use," in a skit presented at the Saturnalia, December 18.

A second skit "discovered" to the audience, in the phraseology of old playwrights, the entrance to the underworld. A voice from behind a screen, interviewed "members of the classics department" who sought permission to enter the realm of Orcus. Each applicant was allowed to enter only after he had satisfactorily answered severe questions concerning his qualifications. One applicant, for example, said in his own behalf that he gave his students plenty of homework so that when they "get through my class, they know their syntax." Promptly Orcus admitted him, saying, "You need a good dose of these parts."

Irving Krongelb and Mayer Franklin wrote both skits. They were assisted in acting them by Alice Checkovitz, Rita Tunick, Sylvia Posen, Vera Miller, Dorothy Weisler, Florence Cromien, and Frederick Dorst.

Mr. Krongelb repeated, by request, the pantomime of a subway commuter, which he had enacted last year.

After the more formal entertainment, everyone formed a large circle and entertained themselves with parlor games directed by the president, Mr. Krongelb.

Earlier in the season, November 18, the chapter had heard Professor Floyd A. Spenser discuss Greek drama. He limited his subject to criticism of the "Daughters of Atreus" by Robert Turney, a play which many of the members had attended as a group a short time previous.

(The editor regrets that it was impossible to print this report in the January issue. It arrived after all copy had been sent to press.)

ALPHA XI HOLDS INITIATION

Washington University

By Ruth L. Jacobs

The first meeting of the new semester, held on February 19, was a business meeting. Plans were made for the new term and the question of convention delegates was considered. On February 29, pledging was held for Miss Margaret Watson and Mr. Alfred Martin. Mr. Martin Scharlemann then gave a talk on "The Carolingian Reform," which proved interesting and helpful.

On March 12, initiation was held for the following students: Miss Marie Bergmann, Miss Mildred Eisenmayer, Miss Edith Greiderer, Miss Lois Jane Keller, Miss Susan Jane Ross, Miss Vera Smith, Miss Bernice Schumacker, Miss Margaret Watson, Mr. Martin Scharlemann, Mr. Adolph Wismar and Mr. Albert Martin.

The next important business which the chapter will undertake is the annual Latin contest for the students of the high schools in St. Louis and vicinity. Miss Virginia Borrenpohl, protohyparchos, is in charge of the contest.

ALPHA PHI HEARS INTERESTING LECTURES

Millsaps College

By Fagan Scott

The January meeting of Alpha Phi chapter was held on January 16 at the home of Miss Dorothy Chichester. Following a brief business meeting, Professor J. Reese Lin gave a discussion of the early philosophers of Greece. Mrs. Henry B. Cobb was initiated as an honorary member of the fraternity. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by Miss Chichester.

On March 5, the chapter met in the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house with

six members of the fraternity as hosts. Dr. J. L. Decell, pastor of Galloway Memorial Methodist church, spoke to the group on personal impressions gained from a recent tour of the Grecian metropolis. Dr. A. P. Hamilton presented picture scenes to accompany the lecture. After the program plans were made for delegates to attend the national convention in Birmingham in April.

ALPHA CHI CHAPTER

Tulane University

By Dorothy E. Everett

The December meeting of Alpha Chi chapter combined business and pleasure. There was consideration of ways and means to secure a page in the "Jambalaya", the Tulane University year-book. Miss Jean Till read the report that she had prepared for the NUNTIUS on the chapter's installation two months before. The Eta Sigma Phi pins were then distributed among the members. With this conclusion of business, Dr. May A. Allen, honorary member and faculty adviser of the chapter, described a series of slides showing ruins in and near Rome. All the members then joined in the playing of a game which we call "Beheading." The object is to think of a Latin word which can lose its first letter and give another Latin word. For instance: Behead the trademark of a famous Hollywood corporation and get what I do when I see the original. The answer, of course, is "leo—eo." After playing this game, the meeting was adjourned.

The January meeting was canceled and in February there was a business meeting of the active members to select a meeting date that would make it possible for all members to attend.

At the March meeting Misses Lucille Artigues and Dorothy Everett read Plautus's "Mostellaria," which they had translated into modern idiom and slang. The play is to be presented in Dixon Hall of Newcomb College with full costuming and scenery.

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Norman, Okla.

By HARRIS L. RUSSELL

Alpha Lambda chapter of Eta Sigma Phi is enjoying its most active and profitable year since 'way back when.

The chapter meets every two weeks at four in the afternoon. Cards are mailed to each member to serve as a reminder of the meeting. Games are played for thirty minutes. Tea is

then served and a speaker addresses the meeting. Most of the meetings are open to the public, formal invitations being extended to a varied group at the time of such meeting. In this way interest in the classics and in the organization is fostered.

There have been several noteworthy talks. Dr. Phillip Harsh of the Latin department gave an illustrated lecture on the excavations at Olynthus. Dr. Harsh was engaged in archeological research in Greece for over a year and presented a very interesting and instructive description of that type of scholarly endeavor.

Dr. Lloyd Stow of the Greek department described his travels and researches at Athens and throughout Greece in a delightfully lucid and vivid manner. At the close of his talk he explained in detail the operation of the national organization of Eta Sigma Phi, with which he has been closely associated since holding the national presidency in '29.

Alpha Lambda chapter is distinctly fortunate in counting in its membership two such scholarly and amiable professors as Dr. Stow and Dr. Harsh.

The second semester pledge meeting was held on March 17. At this time eight students were pledged to membership. After the pledging service Miss Catherine Holman of the English department entertained members and pledges with the recounting of her adventures as "An Oklahoman in Italy".

Initiation will be held March 31. A banquet and—of course—a speech will follow the initiation. Coming events include a talk on Greek humor and a steak fry. The spring program will be terminated with a real Roman banquet with triclinia and all the trimmings "ab ovo ad mala".

We have a membership that is distinguishing itself not only in the classics but in every field of undergraduate activity. Miss Flossie Greene is a pledge to the Mortar Board Honor Class. She has achieved straight A's since her enrollment in the University five and one-half semesters ago.

Miss Helen Anderson was recently chosen president of the Women's Self-Governing Association. Miss Anderson, Mrs. Bills, Miss Walker, Miss Greene, Miss O'Keefe made straight A's last semester. Mr. Russell, a Latin and Greek major, demonstrated the superiority of the classical student over the non-classical scientist by wresting the Bausch Lomb prize in advanced morphology from several disgruntled Science majors.

On behalf of my fellow-members may I extend a cordial greeting to all the members of Eta Sigma Phi, and a sincere invitation to any of you who happen to be in Oklahoma "to come on down to Norman and see us—sure 'nough".

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(Continued on next page)

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 Epistolographos: Fagan Scott, 429 Hamilton St.
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