



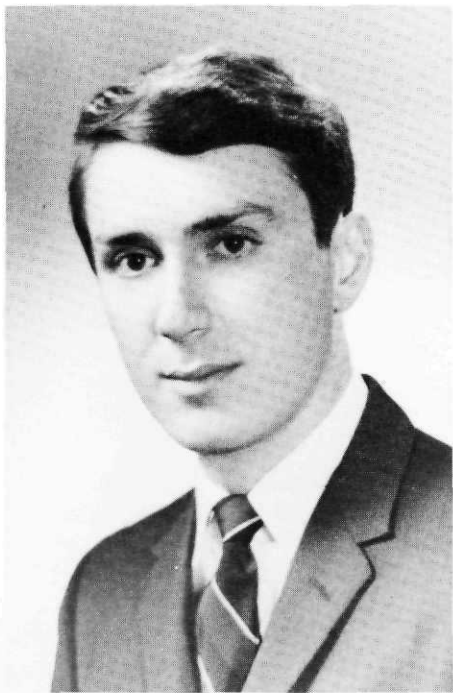
Nuntius

Published by Eta Sigma Phi

VOLUME 41

NOVEMBER, 1966

NUMBER 1



MEGAS PRYTANIS WILLIAM A. TOSCHES is a senior at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts, and a member of Delta Lambda Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. An honor graduate of Milford High School, Milford, Massachusetts, he has continued his excellent record of scholarship as an undergraduate and his name appears on the Dean's List. Prytanis Tosches is majoring in Natural Sciences and Classics, with special emphasis on Greek. His minor is Philosophy. In addition to his activities in Eta Sigma Phi he is a member of the Young Republicans, the International Politics Club, and the Bridge Club.

Our Prytanis finds time for recreation and participates in skiing, tennis, swimming, and sailing. During the summers of 1964 and 1965 he was a camp director on Cape Cod and last summer he made a Medicare Survey for an insurance company. After his graduation from the College of the Holy Cross Mr. Tosches plans to study medicine.

Dear Fraternity Members:

Once again summer is behind us and we find ourselves back at school for what I hope shall be a successful year both for the fraternity as a whole and for all of our members in particular.

Beginning this fall it is my hope that our chapters across the United States and Canada will apply themselves to developing new and stimulating ways of involving both the academic and non-academic worlds in classical study. It is important that we search out new methods of expression and new ideas for achieving the aims of the fraternity.

With this in mind, I ask that each chapter send to me a list of all activities which it has conducted in previous years. When all of these are received, a master sheet will be compiled by the National Office and be sent to each chapter. This will enable us all to profit by what some have found successful, and may further stimulate new ideas. Those of you who have ideas on what projects the fraternity might embark upon are also asked to forward them to me.

This year at the annual convention all chapters will be asked to submit a report of their year's activities. These will then be evaluated by a committee and awards will be made to the most active chapters. It is my hope that this inter-chapter competition will prove beneficial to us as a group and to the classical movement as a whole.

Please feel free to write to me regarding any problems or questions which may arise. I shall try and be as helpful as possible.

Best regards for a successful year.

William A. Tosches

WILLIAM A. TOSCHES
Megas Prytanis

Thirty-Ninth National Convention

The Thirty-ninth National Convention of Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity will be held on April 7 and 8, 1967, in New Orleans, Louisiana, as was requested by the members of the Thirty-eighth National Convention. The convention hotel will be the Sheraton-Charles, which is located near the world-famed Vieux Carre.

The hosts for the convention will be the members of Alpha Chi Chapter at Tulane University and Mrs. Susan Levy, Adviser of Alpha Chi Chapter, and Professor Graydon W. Regenos, Chairman of the Department of Classical Languages. Details of the arrangements for the delegates to the convention will be announced later.

Other Members Of The Grand Executive Council

MEGAS HYPARCHOS James W. Brodman, a senior at Canisius College, Buffalo, New York, holds a Presidential Scholarship, has been on the Dean's List each semester, and ranks third in his class. His interest in the Classics dates from his study of four years of Latin and three years of Greek at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, New York. Although



he has continued to study the Classic at Canisius College, his major is history. He is Prytanis of Delta Beta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, President of the Canisius Historical Society, and a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the national honor society for students of history.

Mr. Brodman is looking forward to a career in college teaching and plans to attend graduate school. During the past summer he attended the summer session of Harvard University on a scholarship. A course in the Renaissance, his special interest along with the Mediaeval period of European History, was of particular value to him.

MEGAS GRAMMATEUS Theodore A. Berktold, a native of Lake City, Minnesota, learned to sing Latin songs in the one-room school near his father's farm, a possession of his family since it was claimed by his great-grandfather under the Homestead Act, and began his study of Latin at St. Felix High School in Wabasha, Minnesota, where he was a member of the National



Honor Society and President of the Student Council. A senior at St. Mary's College, Winona, Minnesota, he is majoring in Classical Languages and his minor is philosophy. Our Megas Grammateus is a member of Gamma Lambda Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi.

Mr. Berktold is enrolled in the Diocesan Seminary of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Winona and will attend a graduate school of Theology for four years. His grade point average of 3.60 should assure him success in his future studies. After ordination and completion of his formal studies he would like to teach Classical Languages in one of the schools of the Diocese.

Awards in 1966 Contests

The following are the winners of awards in the 1966 Eta Sigma Phi Contests. The contest winners are listed below in order for each contest. A total of twenty-nine chapters participated in the contests.

Twenty-first Annual Essay Contest (Nine contestants from six chapters): John A. Druska, Beta Tau Chapter; Joel Bruce Newby, Gamma Iota Chapter; John Garfield Davis, Gamma Iota Chapter; Karen L. Tichy, Beta Xi Chapter; Janis Hoth, Beta Omicron Chapter.

Sixth Annual Greek Prose Composition Contest (Two contestants

from two chapters): Margaret Ellen Apperson, Delta Alpha Chapter; Joseph Mondello, Gamma Phi Chapter.

Seventeenth Annual Greek Translation Contest (Nineteen contestants from twelve chapters): P. David Kovacs, Alpha Upsilon Chapter; Lawrence D. Crowson, Jr., Pi Chapter; A. Dwight Castro, Alpha Pi Chapter; William E. Higgins, Beta Tau Chapter; Frederick E. Persiko, Alpha Pi Chapter.

Sixteenth Annual Latin Translation Contest (Sixty-six contestants from twenty-five chapters): P.

MEGAS CHRYSOPHYLAX Hartley Schearer is a Junior at Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, Virginia, and he is studying for a major in Latin and in Greek. He is Grammateus of Beta Theta Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, Vice President of the Union - Philanthropic Literary Society, and spends as much time as possible working with the Campus Christian Association.



Mr. Schearer's extra-curricular activities are numerous since he is Editor-in-chief of the HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MAGAZINE, an Editor of the KALEIDOSCOPE, the college yearbook, and Feature Editor of the TIGER, the campus newspaper.

During the past summer our Megas Chrysohylax studied Latin palaeography on a grant and then relaxed by playing bridge and tennis, reading, and studying Italian, as well as working on the revision of the Eta Sigma Phi ritual. He intends to become a college professor of Classics.

David Kovacs, Alpha Upsilon Chapter; Paul M. Parvis, Alpha Sigma Chapter; Barbara G. Buckman, Beta Rho Chapter; Helen K. Edmunds, Beta Xi Chapter; A. Dwight Castro, Alpha Pi Chapter.

Chapter Foreign Language Census: First place was awarded to Alpha Pi Chapter, Gettysburg College, on the record of A. Dwight Castro. Second place was awarded to Delta Delta Chapter, University of Alberta, on the record of Anna Burko. Third place was awarded to Beta Tau Chapter, Georgetown University, on the record of William E. Higgins.

Alumni News

Sarah S. Uzzell, Megas Prytanis last year, is now at Stanford University, working in the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace, after a summer holiday in Europe. She enjoyed Greece and Athens more than Rome and found the sites there much more thrilling.

B. Louis Briel, Jr., retiring Megas Hyparchos, attended the summer session of the American Academy in Rome as the Eta Sigma Phi Scholar and is now beginning graduate study at Harvard University on a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship. An account of his summer in Italy will appear in the January NUNTIUS.

James H. Pace, our Megas Chrysohylax of 1965-66, has a full schedule of graduate work in Classical Languages at Tulane University, where he holds an N. D. E. A. Fellowship. During the summer months he was employed by the United States Post Office Department and in addition to his regular duties as mail sorter he sometimes delivered the mail by bicycle.

Francis M. Lazarus, an alumnus of Delta Beta Chapter who was our host at the Thirty-eighth National Convention and did so much to make our visit to Buffalo a success, was offered two N. D. E. A. Fellowships, one to Stanford University and the other to Cornell University. He chose to attend Cornell and is now studying under the direction of Professor James Hutton.

Robert Karl Bohm, our Eta Sigma Phi Scholar to Rome in 1964 and an alumnus of Muhlenberg College, is now teaching Classics at his alma mater and advising Alpha Rho Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. He was graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary last spring. During the summer he was an assistant minister at Lansdale, Pennsylvania, and he now is associated with the work of this Lutheran congregation part time.

James J. Hessinger, an alumnus of Delta Beta Chapter, was awarded a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship.

Judy Seidel, an alumna of Delta Eta Chapter, attended the summer session of the American Academy in Rome on a Fullbright Scholarship.

ANNUAL REPORT ETA SIGMA PHI MEDAL FUND

Cash on hand, August 31, 1965\$ 139.10

RECEIPTS:

Sale of large silver medals (100 @ \$3.75)	\$375.00
Sale of small silver medals (271 @ \$1.25)	338.75
Sale of bronze medals (193 @ \$1.25)	241.25
Discount on Canadian check paid by purchaser....	3.25
Accounts outstanding paid	16.25
Overpayments	3.90
Total receipts	978.40
Total cash and receipts	1117.50
Accounts outstanding	33.75
	1083.75

DISBURSEMENTS:

Payments to Medallie Art Co. for medals	\$706.00
Postage	11.00
Checks	2.00
Discounts on Canadian checks	3.75
Overpayments returned	1.50
Transfer to general treasury	200.00
Total disbursements	924.25
Cash on hand, August 31, 1966	159.50

INVENTORIES:

Medals in custody of Medallie Art Co. and paid for:	
8 large silver medals	\$26.40
25 small silver medals	27.50
22 bronze medals	18.70
	72.60

Barbara Payton-Wright, Megas Grammateus of 1964-65, was married on September 10 to Mr. Conrad R. Akery at Houston, Texas. She is the Executive Secretary to the world-famous heart specialist Dr. Debakey.

Eta Sigma Phi Represented At Inauguration

Professor Theodore Bedrick, a member of our Board of Trustees and Adviser of Gamma Iota Chapter at Wabash College, represented Eta Sigma Phi as a delegate to the inauguration of Alan C. Rankin as the seventh president of Indiana State University at Terre Haute on April 14, 1966. Indiana State University is the home of Gamma Alpha Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi. It was an honor to the Fraternity to be asked to send a delegate to this inauguration and we are grateful to Professor Bedrick for representing us.

High School Contests

Megas Hyparchos James W. Brodman has suggested that the National Office should coordinate the activities of the chapters which conduct high school contests to encourage the study of Latin in the high schools. Requests for information concerning the contests conducted by the various chapters are received frequently. In compliance with Mr. Brodman's suggestion chapter officers are requested to supply the National Office with information concerning the tests given, including types of tests, sample questions, effectiveness of tests, and any other information which might be helpful to other chapters. The Eta Sigma Phi medals may also be used to encourage the study of Latin in high schools and chapters should award these in local schools.

NUNTIUS

VOLUME 41

NOVEMBER, 1966

NUMBER 1

Published four times during the academic year: November 15, January 15, March 15, and May 15. Sent without charge to all active members of Eta Sigma Phi, for each year in which dues are paid. Price to others: \$1.00 per year. All communications regarding publication or business should be addressed to *The Editor: H. R. Butts, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama 35204.*

Official Publication of Eta Sigma Phi, National Honorary Classical Fraternity, Founded in 1914, Nationalized in 1924, Incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, June 20, 1927.

Published by Vulcan Printing & Lithographing, Birmingham, Alabama

OFFICERS

WILLIAM A. TOSCHES—College of the Holy Cross	National President
JAMES W. BRODMAN—Canisius College	National Vice-president
THEODORE A. BERKTOLD—Saint Mary's College	National Secretary
HARTLEY SCHEARER—Hampden-Sydney College	National Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Professor Oscar E. Nybakken (1967) University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, CHAIRMAN
Professor Theodore Bedrick (1968) Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana
Professor Grace L. Beede (1967) State University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota
Sister Mary Isaac Jogues (1969) Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Professor Francis L. Newton (1968) Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

HONORARY PRESIDENT

Professor Gertrude Smith
University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Professor H. R. Butts
Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama 35204

From Your Editor . . .

Your editor and executive secretary wishes to express publicly his appreciation to Professor Gertrude Ewing of Gamma Alpha Chapter, Indiana State University, for her service on the Board of Trustees of Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity. Professor Ewing retired at the last national convention after serving three terms. She attended every national convention during her tenure on the Board of Trustees and each time brought several members of her chapter, and she was a faithful attendant at meetings prior to the beginning of her official service to the Fraternity. The Members of Eta Sigma Phi and the National Office are in deep debt to Professor Ewing for her valuable advice and loyal support during the years as well as for her generosity to the Endowment Fund. At all times since she became a member of Eta Sigma Phi when the chapters of Sigma Pi Rho were welcomed into our Fraternity our members have learned to turn to Professor Ewing for advice and assistance, for they

know that she will be ready and able to give the leadership which is needed. It is a pleasure to report that she will continue to advise Gamma Alpha Chapter and we look forward to working with her and visiting with her at conventions.

It is not possible for NUNTIUS to recognize all of its faculty members at their retirement from active teaching but your editor wishes to express his appreciation to two who retired this year.

Professor John G. Glenn retired as Chairman of the Department of Classics at Gettysburg College at the end of the last academic year. He was the Adviser and guiding spirit of Alpha Pi Chapter for many years and under his leadership Alpha Pi has always been a strong and effective chapter. Professor Glenn was so cooperative at all times that your editor wishes to express his appreciation for this above all else. It is good to know that Professor Glenn will continue to live in Gettysburg and participate in the

activities of Alpha Pi Chapter.

Professor Lillian B. Lawler has retired a second time. It is difficult to think of Eta Sigma Phi without Professor Lawler as one of its advisers, for she has been a leader of the Fraternity from its earliest years. She was the Adviser of Alpha Theta Chapter at Hunter College before her retirement from that institution, and very soon she was the Adviser of Epsilon Chapter, for when she returned to her home in Iowa City, she was asked to become a member of the Department of Classics at the University of Iowa again and the leader of Epsilon Chapter. We hope that her present retirement will also be short and that we may soon list her as the Adviser of another chapter. Professor Lawler has recently published two books in her field of special interest, *THE DANCE IN ANCIENT GREECE* and *THE DANCE OF THE ANCIENT GREEK THEATRE*.

Omnes vobis maximas gratias agimus et habemus.

NEW ADVISERS

It is a pleasure to introduce and welcome the following new advisers who have recently been reported to the National Office as members of our *collegium suorum*:

Professor Harry A. Hultgren has returned as Adviser of Gamma Chapter since Professor Lloyd Urdahl has moved to Alfred University.

Professor Oscar E. Nybakken, Chairman of our Board of Trustees, will again advise Epsilon Chapter since Professor Lawler has retired.

Professor J. W. Jones, Jr., has been appointed Adviser of Omega Chapter by Professor George J. Ryan, Chairman of the Department of Classics.

Professor Edna S. deAngeli has been announced as the new Adviser of Alpha Epsilon Chapter by Professor Joseph A. Maurer, Chairman of the Department of Classical Languages.

Professor Ruth Pavlantos succeeded Professor John G. Glenn as Chairman of the Department of

(continued on page 8)

Delta Mu

OUR NEW CHAPTERS



Quadrangle at Illinois State University showing, left to right, Fell Hall, Cook Hall, and Edwards Hall (Foreign Languages)

Photograph Courtesy of Illinois State University Photographic Service

Delta Mu Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi was installed at Illinois State University at Normal on May 4, 1965. The installation ceremony, held in the lounge of Fairchild Hall, was conducted by members of Gamma Omicron Chapter at Monmouth College under the leadership of Professor Bernice Fox, Adviser of that chapter, and Professor Harold Ralston, Chairman of the Department of Classics at Monmouth College. The new members of Eta Sigma Phi and their guests from Gamma Omicron Chapter were entertained at a reception following the installation. Twenty-nine charter members and five honorary members were initiated into the new chapter. The honorary members are Dean Arlan C. Helgeson of the Graduate School, Dean Francis B. Belshe of the Undergraduate

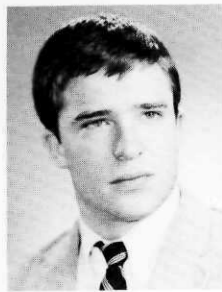
School, and Professor Henry R. Manahan, Professor Helen Chiles, and Professor William N. Kennedy of the Department of Latin.

Delta Mu Chapter was organized from the Latin Club which was founded in 1920. Membership in the Club grew from nine in its first year to over twenty-five at the time that it was replaced by the Eta Sigma Phi Chapter. Much of the work of establishing Delta Mu Chapter was done by Miss Carol Hervatic, Secretary of the Latin Club, and Professor William N. Kennedy.

Illinois State University is located at the geographical center of Illinois at Normal, which, with its twin city of Bloomington, makes up a metropolis of over fifty thousand people. The University, founded in 1857, is the oldest

state-supported institution of higher learning in the state and the second oldest teacher training school west of the Allegheny Mountains. A four-year college program, leading to the Bachelor of Science in Education degree, was inaugurated in 1907. In 1943 the University established a five-year program leading to the degree Master of Science in Education, and in 1962 it was authorized to grant degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts and Master of Science. Six-year programs and the Ph. D. degree were approved for some fields. Now, in 1966, it has been changed from a teacher-training college to a multipurpose institution. The student enrollment is about eighty-six hundred and the faculty numbers approximately seven hundred, forty per cent of whom have earned doctorate degrees.

When the new chapter was installed, Nancy Hart was chosen as Prytanis and was assisted by Hyparchos Gerald Day and Grammateus Carol Hervatic. Delta Mu Chapter is under the leadership of Prytanis Susan Richards, Hyparchos Carol Johnson, Grammateus Beverly Barke and Chryso-phylax Richard Rundquist this year. Professor William N. Kennedy is the Adviser of the chapter. (Material for the above article was furnished by the chapter under its 1965 Prytanis Gerald Day and the history was taken from the undergraduate catalogue of the University, according to the writer.)



The poem printed below, "The Birth of the Bacchae," won the Third Prize in the Annual Essay Contest for 1966 in which the topic was "Euripides' Tragic Conception of Man's Irrationality." It is printed here because of its unusual form and because of a desire to publish the literary efforts of our members. The essay which won

First Prize will be published in the January issue, as is the usual practice.

The Birth of the Bacchae

by

JOHN GARFIELD DAVIS

Who is this man that dares to censure Gods?
Who lives today, a remnant of the past
And reigns supreme on Hades' hallowed chair
As patron saint of life's absurdity?
Who is this bold defier of the rule
Which starves the mind to save the sacred fool;
By close examination of life's essence
Determines what the price of wisdom be.
Yet if he struggled hard in his own life
His name will testify to further strife
Which marks his gravestone with unending odes
Of disconnected dithyrambic modes!

Screaming, blatant critics—
Thesmophoria!
Thesmophoria!
Hater of women!
"Dreariest of poets"
"Clumsiest botcher"
Ranae, Ranae
Add to these infamous laurels
A conciliatory note,
That you, Euripides,
Are "the most tragic of all poets."

Your life reflects your tragedy—
A lowly birth;
An exiled death;
Oh, wanton wife!
Oh, motley mother
And forsaken friends!
"Berekekeke, coax, coax!"
Come save your name, Euripides,
By a play of retribution.
So, soon another song is sung—
"Auf den Knien" critizieren.

Make tragic consequence of comedy.
Through ridicule and cold disaster give
Your adversaries food for thought!
Do not resemble chattering Agathon,

John Garfield Davis, author of "The Birth of the Bacchae," is a student at Wabash College and a member of Gamma Iota Chapter. He is from Barrington, Illinois, and is in his senior year. Following a year's study abroad, four months of which were at the Goethe Institute, he became a German major. Mr. Davis says that he is an acolyte in the Episcopal Church, collects, among other things, Russian classical music, butterflies, and ideas, likes dogs, speed and night, and dislikes cats, stagnancy, and daytime. He claims athletic prowess in skiing, and enjoys reading poetry, philosophy, Winnie the Pooh, and Time magazine.

But fashion clearly Archelaus to please
And Socrates' good council do not lose!
As for those simple souls you oft' portray,
Touch lightly thereupon, and don't display
That tendency for structural discord.
Yet satiate your strident will to scold
That haughty female disregard for man.
And thus seek just retort by staging well
A "Thesmophoria" of your design
Which will bring tears, though not your bones
to Athens.

But deep beneath these superficial aims,
You must give purpose to your lyric words.
A piercing ray must penetrate their minds
To teach the lessons you've derived from life
Drive deep your dagger in the heedless soul
Who "scorns the unknown Powers"; for they "will
Not let this hubris go unpunished": free
Of well deserved, painful suffering.
Draw wine-red blood from eyes that do not see:
"The only wisdom is humility"
That comes when man "submits to griefless life"
Which quick "will teach him moderation's" laws!
Blind virtue is a reckless path which leads
Through twisted ways to willful tragedy.

So purpose now, brave poet, you've assigned;
Whose portrait will you chose for this design?
Ah, yes! Fine choice the city Thebes will be;
For long ago they exiled men and taught
A mortal lesson of immortal powers.
The characters will fit your personal scheme,
Which calls for harmony and silent hues
Of men and women, and of age and youth.
The Bacchic legend would all parties suit:
Adopted maenads and ubiquitous Death
Though *Ranae* will resist with bubbling noise,
Proud Zuexis will your lyric paintings hail
To Hades! ancient order; tragic form;
The end is near and nothingness beyond!

I see it now!
From latent quill
To vibrant life—
Arise!
The muted Chorus begins to chant—
Higher!
The tension mounts to Bolero's height and—
Higher!
The colors speak and lyrics move—

80

85

Higher!
Suddenly—
Stillness!
Silence!
Thesmophoria!
The deadly passion
Of suckled breasts
Takes toll for tortures
Of the womb! !

90

NOTES

(References are to lines of poem)

3 This is a perversion of Aristophanes' *Ranae*, which ultimately seats Aeschylus upon the tragedian's throne in the house of Hades.

4 See Corrigan, Robert W., *Euripides* (New York, 1965), 7: "The final meaning of many of the plays written by the world's first 'absurdist' playwright, Euripides" is the futility of life and the absurdity of the human condition. At length I must also subscribe to this view, even in the light of conflicting ideas, e. g. Verrall, Norwood, Grube.

8 See Grube, G. M. A., *The Drama of Euripides* (New York, 1941), 6: "All our sources agree in depicting him (Euripides) as melancholy, unsociable, gloomy and meditative." Also Decharme, Paul, *Euripides and the Spirit of His Dramas* (New York, 1906), "He (Euripides), belongs to the race of those who take life seriously; who have had too close a view of it to find it satisfactory, and have suffered."

14 Thesmophoria is the scene of Aristophanes' *Thesmophoriazusae* which places Euripides in every sort of ridiculous situation. I consider the parallels between this play and the *Bacchae* to be of some significance. It mocks, quite specifically, Euripides' antipathy for women and utilizes the female disguise for secret entrance to a purely female function. Since this was a pre-*Bacchae* comedy, Euripides may have seen the parallels and paid them spiteful consideration.

16 This alludes also to the criticism of Aristophanes. As a point of historical reference, his relationships with two wives were discordant enough to effect such an aversion. See Decharme, *op. cit.* 8.

17 Cf. Swinburne's "Some of the shorter and simpler lyrics redeem in some measure his (Euripides') reputation of the dreariest of poets," quoted by Norwood, Gilbert, *Essays on Greek Drama* (London, 1958), 1.

18 Cf. Headlam's "... Euripides, who sneers at him (Aeschylus), is himself the clumsiest botcher in comparison," quoted Norwood, *Essays*, 1.

23 See Aristotle, *Poetics* 1453: "And Euripides, though he does not construct his plays well in other respects, does in fact appear to us as the most tragic of all the poets." It is only fair to add that Aristotle is also highly critical of Euripides' poetic structure and too frequent utilization of the *deus ex machina*.

25 Aristophanes refers to the low station of Euripides' mother in four different plays: *Acharnians*, *Knights*, *Thesmophoriazusae*, and *Ranae*, but other information would tend to exclude this half of the story, e. g. "As a considerable collection of books could not be made without very great expense, Euripides must have belonged to a family of comfortable circumstances," Decharme, *op. cit.*, 3.

26 That Euripides spent his last days in distant Macedonia is a known fact, but the reasons for his self-inflicted exile are vague. Sandys, John F., *The Bacchae of Euripides* (London, 1885), xxxiii, says that it was a combination of "domestic discomfort," the unpopularity of "his friend, Socrates," and the wife of Alcibiades, which drove him to Macedonia.

27 Euripides' first wife, Melito, supposedly was seduced by his servant-friend Cephisophon. Aristophanes chides Euripides with reference to this in *Ranae* 944. His second wife, Choerile, was a noted adulteress, with which the name became synonymous, cf. Decharme, *op. cit.*, 8.

29 See notes to lines 26 and 27.

30 These are the sounds of the annoying frogs as translated by W. J. Hickie.

34 Cf. Goethe, quoted by Norwood, *Essays*, 1: "Wenn ein moderner Mensch wie Schlegel an einem so grossen Alten Fehler zu rügen hatte, so sollte es billig nicht anders geschehen als auf den Knien."

35 This alludes both to the parody theory, i. e. along the lines of Aristophanes' *Thesmophoriazusae*, and to the comic appearance of Cadmus, Tiresias, and Pentheus before the tragic consequences.

38 "These (Agathon and his prototypes) are small fry, and chatterboxes, twittering places of the swallows,' disgraces to the Art . . ." *Ranae*, 92-97, Butcher's translation. Agathon was a great admirer of Euripides, who followed him to Macedonia, and was considered a fine poet, even by Aristotle.

39 Archelaus was Euripides' pleasing patron and king of Macedonia; out of gratitude the *Bacchae* was originally entitled *Archelaus*.

40 Socrates was, it seems, a close friend of Euripides, and it seems to this writer that the latter must have been influenced by such a prodigious mind. In Plato's *Gorgias* Socrates says: "Yes, according to my views, Polus, the man or woman who is gentle and good, I say is happy, and one that is unjust and wicked is miserable," Sandys, *op. cit.*, xxxiv.

42 There is a conspicuous lack of servant-types in the *Bacchae*, which Euripides had previously utilized so freely and novelly. Some would assert that Tiresias fits this role, but the seer is a common figure in Greek tragedy.

43 Euripides' lack of structural unity and order has been one of his greatest criticisms. That he had some eighty-nine hasty productions may in some way account for this. The continuity in the *Bacchae* is, at any rate, remarkable.

45 See notes to lines 16 and 27. Euripides does not compromise this attitude in the *Bacchae*.

48 The death of Euripides was greatly mourned in Athens, "the aged Sophocles clothe himself in black." His fame had certainly been enhanced by his exile. Cf. Decharme, *op. cit.*, 12 f. He became the most quoted, most read poet of contemporary Greece. The citizens pleaded for his bones, but in vain, because he had been secretly buried in Macedonia. At any rate, "an inscription, attributed to Thucydides, recalled that if the earth of Macedonia held the bones of Euripides, 'all Greece was his tomb.'" Decharme, *op. cit.*, 13.

54 Corrigan's translation, speech of Cadmus. (p. 219)

55 Corrigan's translation; speech of Dionysus. (p. 186)

56 This does not refer to Pentheus, who never really suffered.

58 This, the Messenger, and the quotation from the Chorus in the following line, are Corrigan's. (p. 210)

60 Corrigan's translation of Phaedra's speech in *Hippolytus*. (p. 98)

62 This alludes to the death-wish which seems to permeate the tragic characters of Pentheus, Cadmus, and Agave. This is the final escape from the absurdities of life.

65 The city of Thebes, it must be recognized, is a primary recipient of the tragedy. The people there have suffered inestimable loss through their excesses. Athens, I feel, is here the primary target.

66 At the end of the play not only are Cadmus and Agave exiled in shame but there are no men left on the stage—the city has been taken over by women! Lysistrata now rings a familiar note! It is to be remembered that the tragic figure Oedipus was also exiled from Thebes.

68 Another theory of mine. Since Euripides probably suffered that conspicuous characteristic of old age (the close internal relationship between soul and mind), and because senility was a legal charge against an elder; the *Bacchae* as a result is a very personal drama in which the author is very conspicuous, the characters being either real figures or specific archetypes.

70 Following the previous hypothesis I can not help thinking that Pentheus represents the daring Euripides of an earlier age and Cadmus the suffering Euripides who has lost all that was dear to him, but gained an enlightened understanding of life's essence. Tiresias, then, becomes the synthesis, and his prophetic injections sustain a correlative irrationality; super-human in nature, which makes no distinction between old age and youth.

72 This refers to the prevalence of the Bacchic cult and followers in his adopted home of Macedonia.

74 "The patron poet of the *Bacchae* may have had his walls adorned with those pendant grapes, in painting which, according to the familiar story, Zeuxis was unrivalled." Sandys, *op. cit.* xxxvi. Zeuxis was also the palace painter of Archelaus.

75 Many critics feel that Euripides never really found the proper medium of expression; "he (Euripides) clearly saw that the inherited forms of tragedy had little or no relevance to the world in which he lived," Corrigan, *op. cit.*, 11.

76 This notation is put here to explain that I also have reached the end with no specific conclusion. The absence of meaty objective comment is due largely to the same futility Euripides encountered in life; for I have encountered it in studying Euripides. He seems to have struggled interminably with reality and found it penultimately incomprehensible—certainly a valid conclusion in any age.

NEW ADVISERS—(continued from page 4)

Classics at Gettysburg College and will advise Alpha Pi Chapter.

Mr. Robert Karl Bohm is the adviser of Alpha Rho Chapter since Professor Anna Motto has become a member of the Department of Classics of St. John's University.

Mr. Richard Hebein will replace the Reverend Francis J. Guentner, S. J., as Adviser of Beta Zeta Chapter, since Father Guentner's duties now make it impossible for him to continue to advise the chapter.

Mr. Daniel Scavone is serving as Adviser of Beta Xi Chapter this year while Sister Marie Aquinas is spending the year in Jerusalem.

Professor Allan D. Wooley has become the new Adviser of Beta Rho Chapter since Professor James N. Settle has gone to the ACLS in New York.

Professor Patrick Henry will advise Beta Tau Chapter since Professor John J. Peradotto has accepted a position at the University of New York at Buffalo.

Mr. Richard Caldwell has been

appointed Adviser of Gamma Lambda Chapter by the Reverend Robert H. Taylor, who is now Chairman of the Department of Classics at St. Mary's College.

Mr. David B. Dietz has been announced as the Adviser of Delta Beta Chapter in place of Mr. Philip F. Wooby, who has accepted a position at the University of Puerto Rico.

Sister M. Jordan has become the Adviser of Delta Iota Chapter to relieve Sister M. Bede Donelan of some of her many duties.

PRICE LIST OF

ETA SIGMA PHI INSIGNIA

Plain badge, 10K yellow gold	\$7.00
Plain badge, 1/10 10K gold filled	5.00
Close set pearl badge, 10K yellow gold	11.50
Crown set pearl badge, 10K yellow gold	15.50
Owl Key (Alternate Member Key), 10K yellow gold	8.25
Owl Key Pin (Alternate Member Key), Key Pin), 10K yellow gold	9.00
Owl Key, 1/10 10K gold filled	5.75
Owl Key Pin, 1/10 10K gold filled	6.50
Official plain badge key, 10K yellow gold	7.75
Official plain badge key, 10K white gold	9.75
Pledge pin	1.25
Pledge button	1.00

GUARD PINS

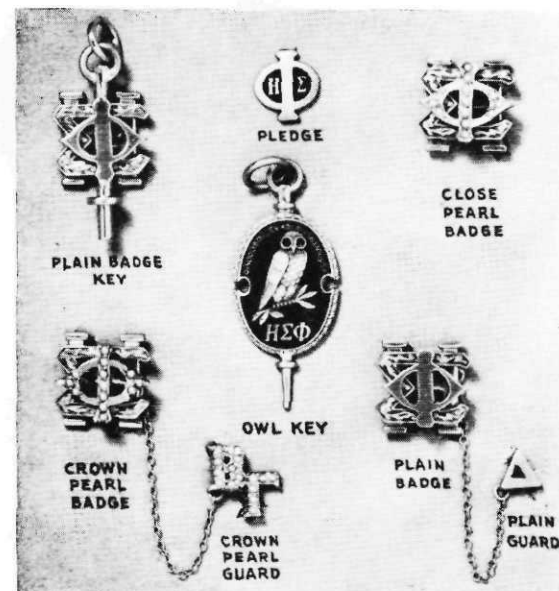
	Single Letter	Double Letter
Plain, 10K yellow gold	\$3.00	\$4.75
Close set pearl, 10K yellow gold ..	6.00	10.25
Crown set pearl, 10K yellow gold ..	8.50	15.50

TAXES

Add any state or city taxes in effect in the area to which mailing is directed.

ETA SIGMA PHI INSIGNIA

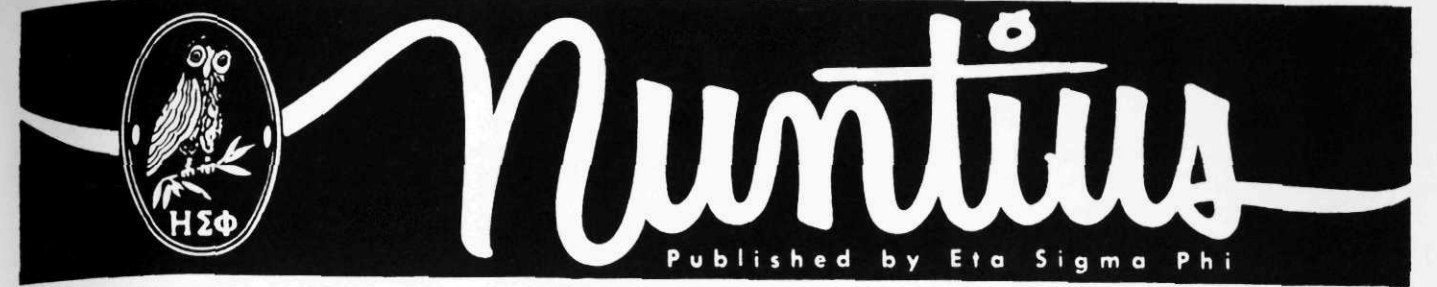
Illustrations exact size



TAXES

Add any state tax in effect to the prices listed.

L. G. Balfour Company
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS



VOLUME 41

JANUARY, 1967

NUMBER 2

AGENDA

SCHOLARSHIPS. Applications for the Eta Sigma Phi Scholarships to study at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and the American Academy in Rome must reach Professor William H. Willis at Duke University by January 31, 1967. Graduating seniors and alumni who have received their degrees since 1962 and have not yet received the Ph.D. and are interested in teaching Latin and/or Greek or are now teaching are eligible. The Committee wishes to remind you that those who have applied in the past and did not receive a scholarship should apply again if they are still interested. Each scholarship pays full expenses while at the school but does not pay transportation to Rome or Athens. Most graduate schools will allow up to six hours of credit for work in the summer sessions. Application blanks have been supplied to each adviser and additional ones may be obtained from the Executive Secretary.

CONTESTS. February 10, 1967, is the deadline for informing the National Office of your intentions to take part in the Eta Sigma Phi Contests, which are explained in full on page 10 of this issue. You will observe that there are two new contests this year, a Latin Prose Composition Contest and an additional essay contest which has as its topic "Ten Essential Books for a Classicist's Library and Why These Are Chosen." Members of Eta Sigma Phi and students in classes at colleges and universities where there are chapters of Eta Sigma Phi are eligible and your editor wishes to encourage you to participate in at least one of the contest.

(Continued on page 13)



Forum Romanum, photograph by H. R. Butts

ROME, 1966

by

B. LOUIS BRIEL, JR.
Eta Sigma Phi Scholar

American Academy in Rome, 1966

Writing a report on a summer of study in Rome is quite a difficult task, for it is a near impossibility to describe properly such an experience in words. A visit to Rome is an unparalleled opportunity for the young Classicist, for only by visual, mental, and spiritual contemplation of the artifacts in Rome can he truly appreciate the greatness of the heritage which we have been bequeathed by the Romans. Let me simply say that this past summer was the most meaningful experience of my life, and for this opportunity I heartily thank Eta Sigma Phi. In this report, therefore, I shall not attempt to provide the reader with a resume of my experiences, but shall discuss at some length my feelings about a controversy raging in Rome during the summer.

During the past summer an article appeared in the *Rome Daily American* in which a young 'beat' poet proposed a suggestion for cur-

ing all the ills of Rome as a city. The name of this young poet would be recognized by few and probably deserves notice by even fewer, but his proposal is so abhorrent to educated Romans and Americans that it merits only a solid refutation. This young man is of the belief that Rome as a modern city is doomed because, as he opines, its heart is dying or already dead. He continued with a suggestion that the proper method of remedying such a situation would be to erase most of the ancient city from the map and begin anew. His proposal was in fact to plow under everything Classical, everything Medieval, everything from the Renaissance, including St. Peter's, and leave standing only the monument to Victor Emmanuel II, that gigantic hunk of marble to which the Romans give the playful appellation 'the birthday cake.'

As a Classicist and one who has just completed the rewarding ex-

(Continued on page 14)

ETA SIGMA PHI CONTESTS

Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity announces the following contests for 1966-1967:

1) TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

Subject: "The Spirit of Ovid's *Aeneid* (*Metamorphoses* XII-XV)"

All papers must be original. Format, mode of citation, and the like, must be uniform within the paper and quotations must be duly credited. Entries must be typewritten, in double space, on one side only of letter-size typewriting paper. The maximum length is 2250 words.

2) EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GREEK TRANSLATION CONTEST

This contest will consist of the sight translation of a passage in Greek which is considered within the comprehension of students in the second year or above of the study of Greek.

3) SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL LATIN TRANSLATION CONTEST

This contest will consist of the sight translation of a passage in Latin chosen in reference to students who have had two or more years of Latin in high school (or the equivalent in college) and at least one or more semesters in college.

4) SEVENTH ANNUAL GREEK PROSE COMPOSITION CONTEST

This contest will consist of the translation of a passage of English into Greek. This contest is intended for advanced students of Greek who are in their third or fourth year of college Greek.

5) FIRST ANNUAL LATIN PROSE COMPOSITION CONTEST

This contest will consist of the translation of a passage of English into Latin. This contest is intended for advanced students of Latin who are in their third or fourth year of college Latin.

6) SPECIAL ESSAY CONTEST

Subject: "Ten Essential Books for a Classicist's Library and Why These Are Chosen"

The requirements for this essay are the same as those for 1) Twenty-second Annual Essay Contest.

ELIGIBILITY: The above contests are open only to students in classes in Greek and/or Latin in colleges and universities which have active chapters of Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity.

Written notice of a desire to participate, postmarked not later than February 10, 1967, must be sent to the Executive Secretary. Materials for contests Two, Three, Four, and Five will be mailed by him in time for the contests to be administered simultaneously in all competing schools. Contest papers in all of the above contests are to be forwarded to the Executive Secretary and must be postmarked not later than March 1, 1967. Each paper must be accompanied by an identification page, which will be supplied in advance of the contest. There is a limit of three papers from any one school in contests One, Two, and Three.

Prizes in contests one through five are as follows: first, \$50.00; second, \$35.00; third, \$25.00; fourth, \$17.50; fifth, \$12.50. In contest six the prizes are: first, \$25.00; second, \$15.00; third, \$10.00. If less than five schools present entries in any one contest, no more than three awards will be made in this contest.

Decision as to place in the various contests will be made by a Board of Judges from chapters in the Milwaukee Area, who will identify the papers by code designation only.

7) CHAPTER FOREIGN LANGUAGE CENSUS

This contest will consist of a report of foreign language credits held by college undergraduates in Greek, Latin, Sanskrit, French, German, Hebrew, and other foreign languages. Credit in courses in which the contestant is enrolled at the time of executing the contest blank should be included. No more than sixty hours of credit in one language will be considered in arriving at the total points. This contest is among the chapters of Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity and reports will be accepted only from college undergraduates who are chapter members and are attending the college or university to which the chapter belongs. Only one award will be made to any one chapter. The prize for the chapter reporting a student with the highest number of points is \$25.00; second highest, \$15.00; third highest, \$10.00. An official contest blank must be used in entering this contest.

Address all Communications to the Executive Secretary.

Prize Winning Essay,
Twenty-First Annual
Essay ContestEuripides' Portrayal
of Man's Irrationality

by

JOHN A. DRUSKA

John A. Druska, a senior at Georgetown University and a member of Beta Tau Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, is a native of Chicago, where he attended St. Roman School and St. Ignatius High School. His major interests is creative writing, in which field he may do his graduate work. He has contributed a number of stories and poems to the Georgetown literary magazine and last summer he attended a Writers' Conference on a scholarship. He is Editor-in-chief of THE HOYA, the school newspaper, co-Editor of STIMULUS, a magazine of opinion published by the colleges and universities in the Washington area, and President of the Georgetown Film Society. During his life Mr. Druska has been a private tutor, a short-order cook, and played softball in a Chicago park league, but he has in mind the teaching of English in high school as his vocation. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa last spring. This essay is being published also in VIEWPOINT, a Georgetown publication devoted to critical articles in the humanities.

Pentheus, in the *Bacchae*, dares to challenge a god. Dionysus answers him: "You do not know/ the limits of your strength. You do not know/ what you do. You do not know who you are." (505-507; all quotations are from Greene, David, and Lattimore, Richmond, *The Complete Greek Tragedies*, Voll. III and IV, Chicago, 1958-1959). Inflamed with curiosity, the king spies on the *Bacchae* and is discovered. As *Agave* later bears her son's head, impaled on a thyrus, home to Thebes, it is all too clear what Pentheus' limits are, and who he is. The king is a man, and the price of his life, as *Hecuba's* chorus says, is death.

Euripides marks the limits of man's action both precisely and terrifyingly. He telescopes his characters as individuals bound in tense circumstances, yet at the same time undercuts their stature by the very necessity to which they must answer while alive.

His men constantly assert a given fate: from the chorus in *Alcestis* ("You must endure what the god gives," 1071) to the close of the *Bacchae* ("But god has found his way/ for what no man expected," 1391 f). More often than not, this order apparently compels to doom, demands the sacrifice of good, and burdens man with untold evils. Men, who try to view order through the action of their gods, thus tend to question the gods' validity in bad fortune, and to praise and uphold the divinities when luck goes their way.

The latter is not usually the case for long, since "Luck pirouettes" (*Heracleidae* 611). As a result, *Hecuba* can say: "The inconsistent gods make chaos of our lives" (*Hecuba* 958). *Heracles* says he can not believe in the gods if they are as flawed as humans. And *Hecuba* again, this time in the *Trojan Women* (1240), cries: "The gods meant nothing except to make life hard for me."

A god often appears unjust, as *Apollo* in the *Ion*, or *Aphrodite* in the *Hippolytus*. A god confuses, confounds, thwarts human purposes. *Electra* complains: "Not one god has heard/ my helpless cry or watched of old/ over my helpless father" (*Electra* 199-201). And she concludes: "Never believe in god/ again if evil can still triumph over good" (583 f). The relation between man and the ultimate order—god, through the particular gods, becomes increasingly more unsure and opaque. "What is god, what is not god, what is between man/ and god, who shall say? Say he has found/ the remote way to the absolute . . ." (*Helen*, 1137-1139).

Their conception of the gods, Euripides suggests, is the link men forge — by means of prophecy, oracle, myth—between themselves and whatever final order limits their lives. And, in the course of his work, the playwright indicates that the link is made of sand, that true communication between man and god, man's attempt to perceive the order of the cosmos, ends only in uncertainty. An angry *Menelaus* rejects prophecy in *Iphigenia in Aulis*, and *Achilles* afterwards credits all of the proph-

ets' successes to luck. Struck to the quick by fate, men doubt; their fortune reversed, they assent to the gods. In either case, limit redefines itself. True order, if indeed such exists, stays hopelessly beyond, in cosmic silence.

Left but with his life, and the sometimes assistance of what he calls gods, man's lot is "the pain of being" (*Suppliant Women*, 1005). *Macaria* yields her life in the *Heracleidae*, and with it, she believes, her suffering (592-596):

Afterward: is there
An afterward? I hope not. If
there's then
No end to all our troubles,
where do we
Go from there—since death it-
self, they say
Supplies the cure for every-
thing that ails?

But whether one views death as the required sacrifice or, as *Electra* in the *Orestes*, an end to be avoided as long as possible, it remains, in cold fact, the period to man's existence as he understands it.

Euripides' men, as they grapple with the stuff of their being; exist as center points in a profound tension between, first, life and death; and secondly, the disorder of life with its own limits on earth, and an assumed order of necessity that decrees life to continue, even as men die, in a certain but invisible pattern. It is this ambiguity in man's existence, the painful ambivalence of mind and body within him, that strikes the keynote to Euripides' portrayal of man's irrationality.

Man knows he will die, but his life is the violent experience of who he is alive. That living men desire clarity, that they burrow a path which is compelled but which they wish to make their own, is the heart of their irrationality, the enigma of the human heart.

Myth serves as the author's backdrop for his characters' action. However, it doesn't order what must happen. It prepares. What follows, *Medea's* killing or *Orestes'* revenge, is an act of the individual, of a man. If this action usually seethes with the unexpected, that is only because of who man is.

Heracles returns home to conquer *Lycus* and save his family. Before his arrival, *Megara* despairs and surrenders to necessity: "No man alive can budge necessity" (*Heracles* 311). *Amphitryon* urges hope, but all seems lost until

NUNTIUS

VOL. 41

JANUARY, 1967

No. 2

Published four times during the academic year: November 15, January 15, March 15, and May 15. Sent without charge to all active members of Eta Sigma Phi, for each year in which dues are paid. Price to others: \$1.00 per year. All communications regarding publication or business should be addressed to *The Editor: H. R. Butts, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama 35204.*

Official Publication of Eta Sigma Phi, National Honorary Classical Fraternity, Founded in 1914, Nationalized in 1924, Incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, June 20, 1927.

Published by Vulcan Printing & Lithographing, Birmingham, Alabama

OFFICERS

WILLIAM A. TOSCHES—College of the Holy Cross	National President
JAMES W. BRODMAN—Canisius College	National Vice-president
THEODORE A. BERKTOLD—Saint Mary's College	National Secretary
HARTLEY SCHEARER—Hampden-Sydney College	National Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Professor Oscar E. Nybakken (1967)	CHAIRMAN
University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa	
Professor Theodore Bedrick (1968)	
Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana	
Professor Grace L. Beede (1967)	
State University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota	
Sister Mary Isaac Jogues (1969)	
Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	
Professor Francis L. Newton (1968)	
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee	

HONORARY PRESIDENT

Professor Gertrude Smith
University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Professor H. R. Butts
Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Alabama 35204

Heracles appears, as if daylight. He dispels Megara's gloom and guides his children "like a ship that tows its little boats behind" (632). The chorus celebrates: "The gods of heaven do prevail" (773); but their happiness quickly veers to grief. "Instantly, god's fortune is reversed! Instantly, and father murders sons!" (885-886). Heracles, assailed by madness, destroys his family. What the hero appeared to be at one moment, he no longer is. Still, neither is he simply the berserk killer of wife and children. He seems, rather, to have struggled with necessity and lost.

Necessity exacts its costly toll, life. At the end of *Heracles*, we confront a human being made small by circumstance: a man seemingly destroyed by the eruption of compulsion. How terrible is the order man believes controls him. Yet, a man acts, a man kills.

The problem is not so much one of necessity forcing a man to a deed; but it concerns the source of necessity, the creator as well as the actor.

However much Euripides' backdrop consists of myth and its fateful forecasts, the plays do root necessity in man. He is actor; but, caught in the tension of the fact that one day he will not be, and that there should be something stable, he is also—if unwittingly—the creator of necessity. The individuals in Euripides live their lives, in fact are slaves of life, and yet they create what has to be by their very action. Their lives assume the shape and substance of new myth. Their essential freedom is found and experienced only in and through their essential irrationality; and their freedom is nothing more nor less than the necessity to be. Myth, death, the

nothingness of the hereafter, the compulsion of the present; highlight man's freedom — man very being, his will to live, as in rational.

This basic humanity is incapable—Euripides faces it to the full, dissects character, portrays man as he curiously is. In his irrationality man insanely confronts the decisive rational facts of being and non-being, his sole hope in the violent grace of himself in action. Medea's bloodletting defies rational limit. Her passion, as she says, overshadows her afterthoughts, and is the offshoot of her suffering. "I/I in a kind of madness, have contrived all this" (*Medea* 1013-1014). Finally she has nothing left, but herself—yet hers is a perverse triumph, a human triumph, a fearfully lonely triumph, but one she bases on love.

Heracles, after his attack, wants to yield to his limits. Theseus, though, offers love as an antidote. "Where there is love contagion cannot come" (*Heracles* 1234). Whether the gods are flawed, or whether there are no gods because the divine should be perfect, whether necessity urges man, or man has made necessity: here it hardly matters. As the breakdown in human relationships crushed Medea and flared her passion, so in Heracles' case the assertion of friendship redefines Heracles' self, and sets off his necessity to live (the same as Amphitryon's earlier irrational hope in life) against the eventual necessity of death and the further limits man's being himself imposes. The basis of Medea's and Heracles' heroism is asserted love—the former kills for this reason, the latter lives. It may be heroic written definitely in lower case; but that makes it no less noble.

On the other hand, suicides in Euripides are occasionally worthy sacrifices, but usually the worst of human defeats. Menoeceus in *The Phoenician Women* is one example of the former. Phaedra also kills herself. But the play's hero is Hippolytus, who craves life for his innocence, only to be cruelly destroyed. Yet in his loss and not in Phaedra's, in his humanity, there is triumph: that of a man being himself, defining an irrational freedom. Similarly, Ion gains a name, but the play's resolution depends only on who he is, and the fact that he is.

The slaves Euripides writes of all have fallen on bad times; but they too need to live, and to be free—this desire often grounded

in their terror at war and its aftermath. "Strife is a terrible god" (*The Phoenician Women* 799). And for Euripides, the slave's life is in reality a mirror of man's life. The strife constant within men chains them to a veering fortune and the passions of individuals who must be themselves. Heracles' madness makes him no less Heracles, but, by the hardest possible path, reveals his stark identity. Theseus leads him out, as a once mighty Heracles had led his children, like a towing ship.

Characters may at times prefer death (Orestes for a while in *Orestes*, or as Andromache sees happiness in death in *The Trojan Woman*). But fortune's changes, the surging tides of self, argue for life. Andromache says, "Longing for death drives deep" (*The Trojan Women* 594). But Hecuba answers, "death is nothing, and in life the hopes live still" (633). And, as Adrastus stresses in *The Suppliant Women*, "there is one expense no mortal can recover: A human life" (775-776).

All the violence that veins Euripides' drama, all the irrationality that accents man as man, all the defeat and insanity of war are grounded in man's experience of his life, as something that is lived but cannot be foreseen or comprehended. In *The Suppliant Women*, when the mood is set by dirges, when the full horror of war is borne in with seven rotting corpses, when order seems only chaos, there fires still the need for a future, for life, as embodied in the present. Iphigeneia mourns:

In grief I ask: Why cannot mortals be

Twice young, then reach old age a second time?

If anything goes wrong at home, we right it

By afterthoughts; but not so with a life.

If youth and age came twice, a double life

Would be our lot, and we could set things right

No matter what mistakes were made. (1080-1087)

Men, however, live and die but once. And yet, in the children of the dead, future triumph is predicted.

In their flesh, the boys perpetuate a thoroughly human order, one built on love—of a Heracles and a Theseus, of an Orestes and an Electra and a Pylades—and on sacrifice—of an Alcestis for an Admetus, of an Iphigeneia and of

a Menoeceus. It is an irrational order, one that constantly bristles against the fact of mortality; one that produces as much evil as good; but one that does offer life, and is man's to create and act.

Finally we return to Pentheus, as the masterpiece and touchstone of Euripidean characterization. He dies, Dionysus says, since he does not know who he is. As Agave brings home her son's head, the god has evidently overcome the man.

I mentioned earlier that Euripides writes of men, in the framework of myth, making new myth. The men he writes of, as he bares their selves, penetrate to the core of necessity and only thus, paradoxically transcend it, make it theirs. They are men, and because Euripides couples the physicality of their actions with the internality of their identities, they are psychological analogies, the stuff of myth. So too with Dionysus; and herein lies the key to what may seem Euripides' awkward treatment of the gods. If his gods appear more to be men, that is only because the order they personify, the imperfect link they form between heaven and earth, is in truth inside man.

Euripides portrays Dionysus not as a god who acts out the life force, but as the god who is the life force. His ritual slaughter of Pentheus is not, then, a god winning out over man. Pentheus, in originally denying the god Dionysus, sided rationally with himself, but really denied his whole identity by doing so.

Pentheus dies, the price for ignorance of himself, literally torn apart by a life that clawed from within as much as by the violent hands of his slayers. In his death, though, is born the irrational triumph of Pentheus the man: the exorcism of limits impossible to exorcise, the violent burst of freedom that is never free. Pentheus does die, but his death heralds the very symbol of man living, the necessity for Dionysus.

In his death Pentheus could not have known why he was a man, and why he suffered for it: such is not man's province. In that profound moment, though, he experienced fully who he was, the irrationality of his plight, the fate of man who must be man or die—and then die anyway. Pentheus dies to create myth. And in Euripides' terms, in his portrayal of man's irrationality, this means that Pentheus dies for life's sake alone.

AGENDA—Continued

NATIONAL CONVENTION. The Thirty-ninth National Convention of Eta Sigma Phi Fraternity will be held April 7 and 8, 1967, at New Orleans, Louisiana, with Alpha Chi Chapter as host. Each chapter should be making plans now to send delegates. You are reminded that a chapter is required to send delegates to a national meeting at least once each six years, but this is only a minimum requirement and chapters should send delegates as often as possible. Chapter members always receive inspiration from meeting other students of Latin and Greek and return to their home chapters with renewed interest and enthusiasm.

MEDALS. Each chapter is asked to award at least one Eta Sigma Phi medal in a local high school and in high schools near the chapter. Medals to recognize outstanding scholarship in second-year Latin, a bronze medal which sells for \$1.25, and in fourth-year Latin, a small silver medal at \$1.25 and a large silver medal at \$3.75, are available. Every effort is being made at this time to encourage the study of Latin in high schools and Eta Sigma Phi should do its part by rewarding those students who have done well in the study of Latin in high school and thus encouraging them to continue beyond the second year in high school and to study advanced authors in college. Medals should be ordered from the National Office at least three weeks prior to the date on which they are to be awarded.

ENDOWMENT FUND. There is still an urgent need for contributions to our Endowment Fund and no chapter has made a contribution since the beginning of the present academic year. This fund supplies the money from which we support the scholarship program, and this program is one of the most significant opportunities which membership in Eta Sigma Phi offers to its members. Chapters which have surplus funds which are not needed for chapter expenses should make contributions to the fund now so that this money may begin drawing interest to pay for the scholarships. The accompanying article will give you an idea of the value which one of our members received by his summer in Rome.

ROME—Continued

perience of living and studying in Rome, I feel that I am in an excellent position from which to examine this suggestion. First of all, let me express an opinion that no civilization can truly understand itself or function effectively in the modern world unless it understands and appreciates the lessons which its past history provides. This is one of the admitted goals of Classical Scholarship, to provide an accurate and helpful study of the roots of Western civilization in order that Western man may live more profitably in the present by understanding the past. If the records of Greek and Roman civilization were suddenly obliterated, the cause of freedom and peace in the modern world would suffer a serious setback, for it is its enduring record of greatness which definitively sets Western civilization apart from that of the East.

To the contrary, however, the remains of Rome's greatness have not always enjoyed the care and respect which they are accorded at present. For centuries after the so-called Fall, spoliation and earthquake took their toll upon the monuments. During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries tons of marble were dismantled from such structures as the Colosseum for the aggrandizement of Papal Rome. With the ascension of Benedict XIV to the Papal throne, most of the spoliation was brought to a halt, and from this time until the present, the remains of ancient Rome have had a fortunate history.

The Italians themselves have taken the lead in preserving and restoring the ruins, and it is they who most clearly realize the urgent need for the preservation of their past. Today in Rome there is going on constant excavation and restoration of the monuments of antiquity. It is easy to see the old and the new in close juxtaposition in modern Rome, but a calculated effort is being made to assure that the old is not in any way disgraced or marred by the new. Just this summer it has been decided that the SOUND AND LIGHT program in the Roman Forum will be discontinued because, as the argument goes, the bleachers set up in the Forum for the program detract from the esthetic beauty of the setting and obscure some of the remains of the Palatine Hill. Rome's train

station is a marvel of modern ingenuity, yet sitting squarely within its giant main floor lobby are portions of the Servian Wall, in a careful state of preservation. Even to Mussolini, who ranks at least second or third in the Handbook of Villains, Classical scholarship owes a debt of gratitude. In accordance with his dream to found a new Roman Empire, Mussolini naturally turned to the ancient Roman Empire for inspiration, and to house copies of every major piece of Roman artwork, he built a splendid eighty-room museum, the MUSEO DELLA CIVILTA ROMANA; today Mussolini's museum of Roman statehood provides for the visitor to Rome the fortunate opportunity to view the remains of the entire ancient Roman world without leaving the capital city. Thus we see that from the creation of the Campodoglio by Michelangelo solely to house the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius until the present, the Italians have cared about their past and have been wise enough to preserve it.

To the average Roman of today, the glorious past history of his race means much; it is perhaps the closest that he will ever come to paradise. He knows that the political greatness of his nation has passed for a moment but through a knowledge and appreciation of the old, he looks forward to a more promising future. He therefore prides himself upon at least a rudimentary knowledge of Rome's history and her monuments, and he, last of all, would like to see them gone.

In final retrospect, we can safely say that our poet was mistaken. The past has not killed Rome's present or her future. To the contrary, the chief sustaining factor for the Italian economy lies in the tourist trade which visits Rome and Italy every year to become acquainted with antiquity. The real problem which Rome faces today is the same which large cities throughout the world are combating, how to convert an established city into a productive modern metropolis. Rome, like most cities, is expanding constantly outward toward her suburbs, and this creates difficulty. In short, Rome, as old as she is, is experiencing growing pains; still, this is a problem for which Rome can find a solution not by destroying her past, but only by building a new future upon the past.

AMONG THE CHAPTERS

Several of the reports in this issue are published late because there was no room for this section in the first issue of this year. The reports are always worth while but each chapter would like to have its activities reported promptly. Your editor apologizes for the delay in this matter.

PI

Birmingham-Southern College

Pi Chapter has held two meetings this year under the leadership of Prytanis Sally Robertson. Each week a dinner meeting. Professor Butts spoke on the Greek Drama at the first meeting and in November Professor Max Miller of the Department of Anthropology, an alumnus of Alpha Phi Chapter at Millsaps College, gave an illustrated report of the archaeological dig in Israel where he and some students of the College worked during the past summer. The group found some Hellenistic remains which the chapter saw slides. Prytanis Robertson reports that new members will be initiated soon after the Christmas holidays.

ALPHA EPSILON

Lehigh University

During the past summer a Workshop for Study of Latest Methods of Teaching Latin was held at Lehigh University under the direction of Professor Joseph A. Maurer, Chairman of the Department of Classics and sometimes Adviser of the Alpha Epsilon Chapter. Twenty-two secondary school teachers from seven states enrolled in the workshop, which was presented in cooperation with the Classical Association of the Atlantic States. The program, conducted on the graduate level, familiarized the teachers with the aural-oral approach and gave them experience in the language laboratory and in audio-visual aids. The roll of Advanced Placement Latin was also considered. Professors Douglas D. Feaver and Edna S. deAngeli assisted with the program. Professor Feaver, lecturer for the Archaeological Institute of America this year

will lecture on "Ancient Greek Musical Instruments," a subject to which he has devoted much research, and "Archaeology of Corinth at the time of St. Paul."

ALPHA UPSILON

The College of Wooster

The following report of Grammateus Nancy Mossbarger of Alpha Upsilon Chapter concerns its activities of last year. During the year eight active members and two associate members were initiated into the chapter. The chapter presented awards to students at the Wooster High School. One was awarded to a sophomore student and the other to a senior for achievement in third and fourth year Latin. The last meeting of the chapter was held at the home of Dr. Warren Anderson. Karen Vitelli, who spent a year in Greece, presented a report on her senior Independent Study topic, "The Comedy of Aristophanes," and Nancy Mossbarger discussed one aspect of her junior Independent Study, "The Ritual and Doctrine of Mithraism." Seniors Sherry Kintner, Karen Vitelli, and David Rhody were presented gifts.

BETA ALPHA

University of South Dakota

Professor Grace L. Beede, Adviser of Beta Alpha Chapter, has very kindly reported the following to the national office: "Programs of Beta Alpha Chapter are concentrating this year on the Mediaeval period: 'St. Jerome and the Classics,' 'The Mediaeval Love Lyric,' 'Mediaeval Drama,' 'Life in Mediaeval Times,' 'Mediaeval Art,' and 'Mediaeval Political Thought.' These programs, presented by members and guest speakers, will culminate in the Mediaeval Festival to be held in March 1967. Departments of Music, Drama, and Classics will collaborate in the week-long festival. On Dakota Day, October 22, Beta Alpha Chapter prepared a most effective entry of Apollo and the Nine Muses in a parade whose theme was A Salute to the Arts. The chapter plans to send a delegate to the New Orleans convention in April."

BETA XI

Rosary College

Beta Xi Chapter held its first meeting on October 6, Prytanis Roxanne Calibraro reports. "This was primarily a business — social meeting. After the business portion of the meeting, refreshments were

served. During this time members of the Department of Classics, both old and new, faculty and students, had an opportunity to become acquainted and to discuss the activities of future meetings. Our Adviser this year is Mr. Daniel Scavone while Sister Marie Aquinas is in Jerusalem for the current academic year doing Biblical study. A dinner for the Department of Classics is being planned. A guest speaker or a film is on the agenda."

GAMMA ALPHA

Indiana State University

The new school year got off to a good start for Gamma Alpha Chapter with the annual Eta Sigma Phi — Latin Club Welcome Back Party held during the first week of school, according to the letter of Grammateus Sharon Gregg. "The Department was well represented at the Kentucky Classical Association, the Indiana State Teachers Association, the Indiana Foreign Language Conference, and High School Day by several of our members accompanied by Professor Ewing. We are very happy this year to have an addition to our Latin Department in the person of Dr. Joan Madsen, who attended the University of Michigan, the Danish Graduate School for Foreign Students at the University of Copenhagen, and received her Ph.D. at Northwestern University. She is currently writing a book on methods in teaching high school Latin. She was made an honorary member at our initiation on November 7 at which time we also initiated nine active members. Many of our members are looking forward to a trip to Italy this summer for eight weeks of study. We are anticipating a very busy and exciting year."

GAMMA SIGMA

University of Texas

Owen Clayton, Prytanis of Gamma Sigma Chapter, reporting on the activities of his chapter for last year, says: "Our chapter has not accomplished much this year, owing to the high degree of academic activity of our members and old officers. On April 4 we held our annual initiation ceremony, in which seven initiates, including Miss Lynda Bird Johnson, who has been an avid Latin student since high school, were inducted, raising the number of student active members to thirty. On April 13 new officers for 1966-1967 were elected

and these were formally installed at a dinner on May 3, with the new Prytanis calling on the chapter to slough off the lethargy of the past and take its rightful place as a leader in presenting the classical world to students and community alike. Our proposed idea for next year is regular monthly meetings, and a second is a public lecture series by members of the Department of Classics on various aspects of the Classics in modern life. It is hoped that when we meet again in the fall, we shall have more fresh ideas for building up the chapter and fomenting a revival of interest in the Classics in the University and local community."

DELTA DELTA

University of Alberta

Krystyna Spirydowicz was elected Prytanis of Delta Delta Chapter for the present year at the March meeting. Her report of the activities of the chapter in the latter part of last year included the following: "Besides the usual series of lectures and slide shows throughout the year we held a most successful display in February. This display was in conjunction with Varsity Guest Week-end, when the University opens its buildings to the public. Members of the Chapter converted a lecture hall into a Roman library. Greek and Roman statuary were on display, as well as an authentic Latin document from the fifteenth century. Several Classics majors, dressed in Roman garb, were on hand to answer questions and to operate the Department's Greek typewriter for anyone wishing to see his name in Greek letters. In another room slides of Greece and Rome were shown throughout the day." The chapter looks forward to a successful year again.

DELTA ZETA

Colgate University

Delta Zeta Chapter in cooperation with the Department of Classics at Colgate University and the J. C. Austin Classical Society is presenting a series of films on Greek history and civilization. One is a three part series, entitled "The Glory That Was Greece," of which Part I is the "The Age of Minos;" Part II, "The Age of Victory," dealing with the Persians Wars; and Part III, "The Age of Civil War," showing the disastrous result of the Peloponnesian War. The films, produced by the BBC Television Film Studios, are narrated by Sir Comp-

ton MacKenzie with photography by Charles de Jaeger and script and production by Stephen Hearst. Each of the above is 45 minutes in length. "The Ancient World: Greece," one of the Ancient World Series of New York University, is also being shown. It attempts to recreate the glory of ancient Greek civilization as expressed in extant art and literature. The narration is drawn entirely from translations of the works of ancient Greek authors and has a musical score composed by Menelaos Pallandios and performed by the Athens Symphony Orchestra. This film has a running time of sixty-six minutes and is in color, but the first series is in black and white. The program says that the films were provided through the courtesy and generosity of the Royal Greek Embassy Information Service, Washington, D.C.

DELTA ETA

Seton Hill College

Shown in the picture below are the officers for the chapter for this year, left to right: Pyloros Rosemary Wargo, Kubernetes Veronica Dreskler, Grammateus Sharyn Lynch, Chrysophylax Elizabeth McRedmond, Hyparchos Marilyn Kautzman, and Prytanis Anne Dansdill.



Sister Rose de Lima, Adviser of Delta Eta Chapter, reports that Mr. Harry D. Stratigos who teaches Modern Greek at the College, is

negotiating with the Greek government to make available a Summer Session at the University of Athens for Seton Hill College students and others who are interested. Judy Seidel, an alumna, attended the American Academy in Rome last summer on a Fullbright scholarship and reported her experiences to the chapter recently. One of the members of the sophomore class is planning her junior year in Greece.

DELTA THETA

Dickinson College

Delta Theta Chapter enjoyed a paper on "In Pursuit of a Will 'O' the Wisp, or Research with a Small r" by Professor Cora Lutz of the Department of Classics at Wilson College last year. Following this Dickinson College and Wilson College began consideration of a long-range project to establish a program of exchange classes between the two colleges. Prytanis Allison Browning and Chrysophylax Edward Phillips later cooperated with Dickinson's Student Senate in evaluating the faculty of the Department of Classics in a program initiated to increase student-faculty communication by offering a mature criticism of teaching methods, course material, and departmental policy in general. Delta Theta Chapter holds its pledging ceremony at the base of the flagpole, which is the traditional gathering place for students of Classics. New members were initiated by the chapter last May.

DELTA IOTA

College of Saint Teresa

Delta Iota Chapter prepared an attractive folder for its initiation ceremony last spring. Following the initiation Mr. Norman Sobiesk of the Department of Ancient History addressed the chapter. Members of Gamma Lambda Chapter at Saint

Mary's College were guests at initiation and the coffee hour which followed. Shown below are the newly-elected officers of the chapter with retiring Prytanis Helene Testroet: Hyparchos Gail Mann, Prytanis Louis Leifeld, and Chrysophylax Kay O'Dea.



DELTA LAMBDA

The College of the Holy Cross

Megias Prytanis William Tosches supplied the National Office with a copy of *DEKAEI Ten Years of the Hellenic Tradition Seminar at Holy Cross College*. This gives a roster of the finalists each year from 1957 to 1965, examiners, and notes on each year. In this first ten year period authors studied have been Euripides, Thucydides, Plato, Sophocles, Herodotus, Aeschylus, Aristophanes, and the orators. During this period covered by the record seventy-six individuals from fifteen states have participated. Megias Tosches is participating in the seminar this year.

DELTA MU

Illinois State University

Professor William N. Kennel of Delta Mu Chapter has informed us that the chapter is planning to send at least two carloads of members to the national convention in New Orleans. The chapter is selling candy to earn money for the trip. This year the chapter is very active.

OFFICIAL JEWELER TO ETA SIGMA PHI



L.G. Balfour Company
ATTLEBORO MASSACHUSETTS

IN CANADA L. G. BALFOUR COMPANY, LTD. MONTREAL AND TORONTO