

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF THE NATIONAL PANHELLENIC CONGRESS

The National Panhellenic congress held its fourteenth session at the Claremont hotel in Berkeley, August 12 to 14. Each of the eighteen women's fraternities were represented, L. Pearle Green being our official delegate. I was there also, in a happy irresponsible way, enjoying the sessions and the meeting with other fraternity women, but blissfully ignorant of the fact that Miss Green was going to levy upon me later for a Journal article on my impressions. These impressions, however, were many and strong, and so, in all fear of our Editor, I am hereby attempting to record a few of them.

My first impression of a Congress meeting was not very flattering. That eighteen women, sent as delegates by their respective fraternities and undoubtedly among the most representative members of those fraternities, should be so handicapped in their powers and so unable to take any decisive action seemed, to use our much harped upon word of last summer, most inefficient. Of course one realizes the necessity of having an unanimous vote of all fraternities on important questions but that requirement necessarily limits progress sadly. It seemed to me, at first that we were really getting nowhere, that these meetings were scarcely worth while. And, in fact, this Congress has not much to report in the way of action. A very fine codification of its former decisions had been prepared and was accepted. Other reports were read and approved and new committees appointed, but the only other definite action that I recall was the decision to meet biennially hereafter instead of annually.

On second thought, however, I realized that the purpose of the Congress was not necessarily to take decisive actions. Discussions were numerous and valuable. Each person present learned better how the other fraternity women felt on some of the very problems that were confronting her, and learned more of the various aspects of those problems. She gained much, too, from the experiences of others in coping with them and went back to her own tasks better fitted for them. The similarity of aim among these many fraternity women who had assembled from all sections of the country, was certainly pronounced. The inspiration for one's own work was doubled, as one realized that each fraternity stood ready to help the others in the furthering of their common ideals.

The biggest impression, however, that I brought away from the fourteenth meeting of the Congress was due to the personnel of its members; among them were wives and mothers, social workers, teachers, doctors, deans of women, lawyers, all women that one was glad to know. That such women have the interest of their college frater-

nities so thoroughly at heart that they will sacrifice the other demands of their busy lives to give their time and energy to the promotion of the Panhellenic spirit is sure proof that the love for our fraternities is well founded and abiding, and that the fraternities themselves will become ever greater and greater instruments for good. The Panhellenic Congresses are of value now and of real promise for future fraternity development and welfare.

Hope Davis

ALPHA CHI INSTALLATION

The installation of Alpha Chi chapter at Purdue university occurred in May, 1915. On Thursday evening, May 20, the members of Phi Lambda Psi were pledged to Kappa Alpha Theta. On the afternoon and evening of May 21, thirty-four members were initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta, at the home of Mrs. Bird Goslee Crockett, Alpha. Then on the following day occurred the installation service, the luncheon, attended by more than a hundred Thetas, a reception to college and city friends of the new chapter, and the first chapter meeting.

The Thetas in attendance were:

ALPHA

Laura V. Marshall, Lenore A. Briggs, Elizabeth Hammond, Anna Shields, Lilian Hays, Margaret Briggs, Mary Mik, Elizabeth M. McGaughy, Blanche Swalklin Allen, Julia Preston Minch, Bird Goslee Crockett, Ethel Rottmans, Catherine Tillotson, Ellen Thompson, Irene Hammond, Elma Hawthorne, Cathryn Switzer, Ehrma Lee Green, Esther Bassett, Gladys E. Martin, Margaret L. Keiper, Ethel McKinstry Arnett, Mary Clippinger, Jessie Gobin, Helen Guild.

BETA

Grace Maxwell Pilputt, Florence Wandell, Clara Sluss Becknell, Martha Voglesong, Inez Lemmon, Mildred Hatch, Helen Brian, Mildred Showers, Dorothy Thornburgh, Helen A. Berry, Luella G. Smith, Lucile Gray, Edna June Carr, Rachel Williams, Mildred Rieman, Hilda Springer.

GAMMA

Dorothy L. Renolds, Helen Tipton, Charlotte Bachman, Mary Louise Rumlper, Margaret J. Erisman, Mary Beach Pierce, Helene L. Shultz, Miriam Wilson, Charlotte Galpin, Emma L. Clinton, Beth Wilson, Mary E. Eichrodt, Lola Connor, Lucile Adams, Elizabeth Stephenson, Helen M. Reed, Katherine Riley, Gail Barr, Fern Brendel Metzger.

November, 1915

DELTA

Wilma M. Hill, Cecilia Ward, Helen Johnson.

TAU

Verna Minch.

PI

Alice Temple Day.

Ruth Haynes Carpenter, Grand President, University of Minnesota; Hope Davis, Grand Vice-president, Brown University; L. Pearle Green, Grand Secretary, Stanford University; Sarah E. Cotton, President District I, Indiana University; Arda Knox, President Indianapolis Alumnae Association, Indiana University.

Alpha Chi chapter's charter members are:

Mildred Ohaver, Leila Bryan, Kathleen Brady, Laura Enders Romburger, Tressa M. Moore, M. Edith Gamble, Anne E. McVicker, Mary N. Howard, Eleanor Taylor, LaCegail Bone, Lena Sutton, Gaile Williams, Emma Smith, Grace T. White, Nellie Earhart, Josephine McCord, Alice Hupe, Mary Agnew, Agnes Phillips, Irma Connell, Esther Evans, Philena Palmer, Helen Eldridge, Bernice Duryea Nicol, Margaret Gamble, Idabelle Towsley, Lera Crane, Gladys Craine, Lyla V. Marshall, Beatrice Fisher, Lucille Riley, Aneta Beadle, Harriet Benjamin.

PHI LAMBDA PSI

In the fall of 1904 a few girls banded together under the name Phi Lambda Psi and in two years proved themselves worthy of recognition by the faculty. Each year the number was increased and the union was strengthened in many ways. The members endeavored to take part in all college activities, and promote good-fellowship, or, in other words, a Purdue Spirit, to be in the real push and work of the serious college life. In a purely social way, Phi Lambda Psi had a high standing and she upheld her right to this social prominence by her scholarship.

An alumnae chapter was organized in 1913, its purpose to strive to maintain the bond of unity among the alumnae and to act as advisory council to the active chapter and to cooperate with them in the interest of the fraternity. In 1914-15 the total membership was 80 including 32 alumnae and 16 non-graduates.

We had long been looking forward to membership in a national fraternity and had worked with this aim in view. Knowing that Kappa Alpha Theta stood high in the fraternity world, she was our goal. In January 1913 the active campaign for Theta began. Now that the goal has been reached, we realize more than ever what her standards mean.



ALPHA CHI'S CHAPTER HOUSE

As a local, we were known only to the little world about us but in emerging from local to national, our sphere is broadened a hundred fold and the aims and standards of the fraternity gives the greater responsibility which strengthens those who are working in it.

There are even higher demands in the college life and attitude upon the campus in order to fulfill and maintain the Theta standards and be known as such. As a part of the national fraternity the choosing of those to follow means the selection of girls who will maintain true Thetahood. Each member now fully realizes that this new sisterhood is not alone for the four years of college, but for life.

Philena Palmer, Alpha Chi

AS YOUR NEIGHBORS SEE YOU

We, of Alpha, are so proud to think our "littlest" baby is so near her mother chapter and that our own district has been added to by this Theta baby. She is so young and yet she has already made her mother swell with pride. If all of you could have attended convention this summer you would know why I say "already proud." Dear, little Philena Palmer, the Baby delegate, carried so much enthusiasm to convention and there, with a friendliness and warmth, found a place for herself and her chapter in every girl's heart. A tender baby, though it be strong, needs the kind wishes and loving support of its older sisters and each and every chapter of Theta opens its door to you of Alpha Chi. Your link in our chain means much to us as well as to you. We are also strengthened by its addition. You, Alpha Chi, have begun your work for Theta with such courage and enthusiasm that when we look into the future we always see a flourishing chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta at Purdue university.

We believe in you, we love you and you will not fail us. We of Alpha, extend to you a loving welcome in our sisterhood. Come! join your link with ours.

Lillian Hays, Alpha

I am a Beta chapter alumna, graduating a year ago, but in all my fraternity life I have never felt more keenly my fraternity's spirit than at the installation of Alpha Chi chapter.

The best thing about the whole week-end was the continuous enthusiasm of all the Thetas there. There were active girls from all of the Indiana chapters, alumnae from even more, and then three members of the Grand council. Such an assemblage is certain to inspire our loyalty, but this gathering showed most vividly the staunch friendship of Theta for Theta. There was a cheerful greeting from every one, continual smiles, and faces that shone with sisterly love.

The new Thetas, those that we were making into Alpha Chi chapter, were as enthusiastic as we older ones. The splendid spirit which they displayed predicted a well knit chapter life. The personnel of the chapter appealed to me as particularly strong. They impressed me as "all-round" women, the sort of which we can always feel proud. As I went through the very impressive initiation conducted by the Grand officers, I thought, "There is not a girl here whom I would not be glad to initiate into my own chapter." That is the highest compliment I can pay.

My impressions can be but songs of praise for the ceremonies seemed a splendid beginning.

Dorothy Thornburgh

Not to be telling tales out of school, but I recently received a letter saluted, "Dear Visitor at Alpha Chi Installation—is that event so far in the past that you have forgotten about it?" It is rather far in the past considering the rapidity with which events follow one another these busy days, but as for its being forgotten about—decidedly no. Although a frequent visitor in Lafayette, I know none of the now Alpha Chis so my curiosity-in-a-pleasant-sense—or my anxiety—or whatever it was, was at high tide on my arrival, and the pleasure my curiosity, or anxiety or whatever it was, received is the reason my answer no is so decided. From the very first, at the station where we were met, it didn't seem that we were meeting very-soon-to-be Thetas but Thetas right then in that town of Purdue—and such a town it is—a town that is its university. And from what I heard from friends not Thetas, our baby chapter—though with no characteristics of such except age—is herself rather a prominent personage in that university, and in a place so overwhelmingly masculine such prominence is something of which we may be doubly proud. Our baby is quality instead of quantity in her college. Indeed I haven't forgotten Alpha Chi—oh, but it was her installation I started out to talk about! Well it's Alpha Chi herself that's important anyway.

Not to be selfish at all, but we're glad she's in our district.

Lorene Jeffries, Gamma

CONVENTION THROUGH OFFICIAL EYES

A few days ago I opened my mailbox and found a letter post-marked Ithaca, New York. Doubtless all members of Kappa Alpha Theta realize that Ithaca, New York, is just another name for L. Pearle Green. I tore open the letter eager for a word from our Grand secretary and editor, only to find a type-written page in which she made an appeal for a contribution for the convention number of the Journal.

Imagine, if you can, the feelings of a mathematics teacher when a Grand officer writes "Send some message of inspiration to the members at large. Write of the thing that to you was most significant—the most worth while!"

Horrors! My first duty as a District president to be one of a literary nature! Little did I dream that I was to punctuate and to paragraph when I was elected to preside over District I of Kappa Alpha Theta!

Everyone who has attended a National convention, or made a grand tour of the West, knows how very much worth while either experience is. But when both are combined into one glorious pleasure our feelings and impressions refuse for a time to be analyzed. Every thing that happened from the time that we boarded that wonderful Kappa Alpha Theta Special, till the last goodbyes were said after convention, was greatly worth while.

I might discourse at length concerning the many interesting events along the way; of the perilous trip which a part of the Indiana delegation took in Glacier National Park; of how the rear wheels of the automobile in which we were riding never touched the ground but twice from the time we left Lake McDonald until we reached the Park entrance. I might tell of another auto trip which the same group took to Seaside the night after the convention closed; of how they became acquainted with a fruit vender who asked if they were some of the "Sonority" girls from Gearhart. I might tell how happy he was when he found out they were Hoosiers for hadn't he once lived on Twenty-third street, in Indianapolis.

I might tell what pleasure it was to meet Charlotte Malott Kruegle at Spokane, Anna Jones Sutton at Seattle, Katherine Blynn and Blanche Blynn Ruby at Gearhart; I might tell that Mrs. Edna Trueblood Hadley, formerly of Indianapolis, pinned on the Theta colors with her Kappa Kappa Gamma pin, and took the Indiana delegation for a ride over Seattle.

These incidents may not "inspire" the members at large, but they impressed me greatly. They make me understand in a newer and bigger way the meaning of the word "Sisterhood." To board a train where there were not a dozen familiar faces and to feel instantly an intimate acquaintance and a close kinship, gave me a splendid sensation; to be met at every step by strangers to whom no introduction was necessary, because the Theta pin was in evidence, made me realize that our sisterhood is a big broad bond; to be met and welcomed by sisters on the Pacific Coast, with all the warmth of years of personal acquaintance made us feel glad that we were of those sought out as being worthy to wear the Kite.