

Present and Future

ARE YOU sentimental? or at least do you have your occasional moments of entrancing reverie? Then relax and follow me into the fascinating realm of extension which comprises hard work, sweet sentiment, adventure, various and sundry problems, but never a dull moment.

Proudly we present our three newly installed chapters. Gamma Kappa chartered November 9, 1946 at George Washington university; Gamma Mu at the University of Maryland, born on St Valentine's day in the year 1947; and Gamma Lambda installed two weeks later at Beloit college, Wisconsin. All are true products of this atomic age. In July 1946, Grand convention gave permission to colonize at these three institutions. Local alumnæ, fraternity officers, and undergraduates planned and worked during summer months. Result—successful fall rush at all three colleges! Intensive pledge training followed and then the big event—initiation into Kappa Alpha Theta and new chapters developed with all the festivities and thrills that accompany charter membership.

Gamma Mu has the distinction of being the first and so far *only* chapter ever to be installed at a District convention. I wonder whether the members of this new chapter, or the hundred odd alumnæ and delegates of District VII who came to Haddon Hall at Atlantic City, New Jersey, were the more thrilled and excited. It was an experience never to be forgotten either by the thirteen newly initiated members or the old timers who glibly talk of District and Grand

conventions too numerous to enumerate.

Establishing new chapters, setting up Advisory boards, arranging for proper functioning of House corporations, acquainting chapter officers with required routines, are but a minor part of the "over all" picture. We have three splendid, hand picked, new chapters. Now they must be guided and developed like a growing child. Your fraternity officers, Advisory boards, and local alumnæ, individually and as groups, contribute their share. Theta undergraduates may help too. Should any of you transfer to these colleges notify the District president as soon as you are accepted by the administration. Or, if you have friends matriculating at these colleges be sure that Theta rush chairmen have their names and information about them.

Although Kappa Alpha Theta has these toddling triplets, is she satisfied to close her ears to the many requests for new chapters? No, extension for Theta, as for all fraternities, is a most important and vital issue at present. Your officers give every inquiry close attention and study. The general policy is to favor areas where we are not represented already; where an administration invites us to come on campus; where we have strong local alumnæ interest and enthusiasm. Several attractive campuses are being considered. From time to time I will report to you on them. "An informed membership is an intelligent membership."

PEARL VAN SICLEN HIGBIE,
Extension chairman

New College Chapters

Little did we think at this time in 1946 that one of the features of each issue of volume 61 of this magazine would be news of new college chapters. Four new college chapters in one academic year is, we believe, a top record for Kappa Alpha Theta.

Three of these chapters came by the colonization route: Gamma Lambda at George Washington university, which has been formerly introduced through the magazine; Gamma Mu at the University of Maryland, partially introduced; and Gamma Lambda you can read about on pages 278-288. Gamma Nu comes into the fraternity by the more formal plan of petition by a local group (in this case known as Beta Xi) and by letter vote of officers and college chapters. It will be installed at North Dakota State college at the time of District X's convention, June 16-18, in Fargo, where Theta has a strong and enthusiastic alumnæ club, which has aided and guided the petitioning group, Beta Xi.

Except for the following brief note on Gamma Nu's pledging, its introduction through the magazine will be delayed until the fall issue.

HOW PROUDLY we Theta pledge pins! James Moore and M twenty-nine alumnæ to Kappa Alpha Theta ing were girls from University of North alumnæ club. Follow a buffet supper in the Country Theater.

Gamma Mu—U

The March issue of university of Maryland, a brief story of the chapter has been Kappa Alpha Theta who had the pleasure installation to write chapter. Also, elsev the story of District corded, there is mu and eagerness to b Alpha Theta.

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HOW PROUDLY we wear our Kappa Alpha Theta pledge pins! Sunday, March 30, Mrs James Moore and Mrs Dale Merrick pledged twenty-nine alumnæ and thirty-one college girls to Kappa Alpha Theta. Assisting in the pledging were girls from Alpha Pi chapter of the University of North Dakota and Fargo Theta alumnæ club. Following pledging we all had a buffet supper in the Log Cabin of the Little Country Theater.

GAIL NELSON

Gamma Mu—University of Maryland

The March issue carried pictures of the University of Maryland, of the pledged group, and a brief story of the chapter's personnel. By now, this chapter has become so much a part of Kappa Alpha Theta that it is difficult for one who had the pleasure of participating in its installation to write of Beta Mu as a potential chapter. Also, elsewhere in this issue, where the story of District VII's convention is recorded, there is much about Beta Mu's talents and eagerness to be TOP chapter in Kappa Alpha Theta.

The lure of the installation of this chapter, made this District VII convention its largest on record meeting. After the initial dinner with Philadelphia alumnæ as hostess, the installation of Beta Mu chapter began. The thirteen charter members initiated are: Bettye Bell, Martha Jean Crawford, Caryl Fessler, Pat Furman, Mary Louise Herman, Barbara Hudson, Lue Lambson, Eleanor Morris, Joan Morrison, Virginia Morse, Jean Perdue, Martha Sanders, and Bettye Smith. Four pledges, Marilyn Alden, Mary Ellen Stanley, Jane Zinch, and Ellen Yanda have to wait till next fall to be initiated. Already to these pledges, have been added two more second semester entrants.

The girls of Gamma Mu are a versatile group, as varied as the states from which they come: thirteen girls from six different state backgrounds. Their home states are Arizona, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia—with some other geographic backgrounds represented in the pledge group. But, in spite of the varied backgrounds, they are a closely knit group of friends, welded into a chapter by the hard work of the three transfer Thetas who are students at the University of Maryland: Jean Ford, Beta Phi, colonizer, Mary Dow, Alpha Chi, and Sally

Reed, Beta Beta. Kappa Alpha Theta owes much to these three girls, whose own personal and college backgrounds are varied too. That they could work harmoniously and successfully to build a new chapter speaks worlds as to the efficiency and training of their own college chapters. Hats off to the girls, and to their chapters, too.

Following initiation that Friday evening there was a reception in honor of the new Thetas. There they were not only greeted, but together with the majority of conventions entertained by college chapter stunts, notably the singing by Beta Eta girls. (By the way Beta Eta college members, not to miss attending college classes, drove down each afternoon from Philadelphia, and drove back each next morning in time for 9 o'clock classes. Talk about loyalty!)

Wearing Theta badges, Gamma Mu girls were admitted to all sessions of convention and shared in all the between-sessions events and more intimate talk-fests and exchange of ideas.

Saturday night came the combined Convention and Installation banquet. A beautiful function, with everyone in formal dress and tables loaded with flowers and alluring food. Theta was honored by having as a special guest at the banquet, Dean Adele Stamp of the University of Maryland, who is a staunch friend and wise adviser to the group of girls now Gamma Mu chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta. Besides Dean Stamp's fine talk, the after-eating part of the banquet was much enlivened by the brilliant talents of Virginia Davis Boyce, former Grand vice-president, and toastmistress beyond peer, and by brief toasts from new and old Thetas.

After the banquet, Gamma Mu chapter became an entity through the Installation service and presentation of its charter. The next morning, these girls, guided by Grand president, Mrs Grimm, and aided by other national and district officers, held their first chapter meeting, where organization standards were established and chapter officers elected.

In the few weeks since their installation, the girls of Gamma Mu have moved into a chapter house, given an introductory tea for faculty and campus-friends, and pledged two girls! For details see their FIRST chapter letter in this issue.

Welcome to Gamma Mu, of whom we confidently expect a future of success and wide fraternity service and honors.

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AN SICLEN HIGBIE,
chairman

Volume 61 of
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action through

May, 1947