

How Theta Grows

Figures in the February issue regarding extension by National Panhellenic conference groups brought-up questions we'd assumed had been answered by detailed stories in this magazine, one about each new chapter when its establishment was "the latest important news". But—either Thetas do not read (this magazine) or else do not remember what they read. So, before introducing the latest extension news, here is a bit of history.

Does Theta grow slowly? By leaps and bounds? or how?

Between 1937 and 1942 growing slowly would scarcely be accurate, for after the establishment of Gamma Epsilon at the University of Western Ontario in October 1937 there was no additional college chapter until Gamma Zeta was chartered in October 1942.

Slowly might be the answer for the next four years: Gamma Zeta (Connecticut) in 1942; Gamma Eta (Massachusetts) in 1943; Gamma Theta (Carnegie Tech) in 1944; Gamma Iota (Kentucky) in 1945.

All four of these new chapters were represented at the 1946 Grand convention, each being the only new chapter in one of the four years intervening between Theta's 36th and 37th Grand conventions.

How many new chapters will send their first convention delegate to Mackinac in June? SEVEN. Growing by leaps and bounds seems to characterize this two year period.

Already this magazine has introduced the three

chapters whose colonization was authorized by the 1946 convention: Gamma Kappa, installed November 10, 1946, at George Washington university; Gamma Lambda, installed at Beloit college, May 2, 1947; and Gamma Mu, installed February 15, 1947, at the University of Maryland; and also Gamma Nu, chartered June 19, 1947 at North Dakota State College, which as a well established local won its charter by letter registered votes of Grand council and College chapters.

By the same method, letter registered votes, fifty year old Sappho club at San Jose State college won its charter. The story of Gamma Xi's installation is in this issue. (An interesting coincidence: both Beta Xi and Gamma Xi chapters are in California, and both stem from established locals in two former State teachers colleges, each, for some years now, a bona fide university.

Now some advance news, so you may be up-to-date at convention, though the full stories won't appear in this magazine until next October.

Two further colonized groups have qualified for Kappa Alpha Theta charters, and will have delegates at Mackinac. Shortly after this issue goes to press, Gamma Omicron chapter will be installed at the University of New Mexico, the charter date, March 14. Then at Iowa State college, May 8, will come the installation of Gamma Pi chapter.

The two year record. Quadruplets in the college year, 1946-47; triplets in 1947-48.

Gamma Xi Installed

Happiness, pride, and joy abound in the hearts of some thirty-seven "junior" members of Kappa Alpha Theta since their initiation into the recently incoming Gamma Xi chapter at San Jose State college.

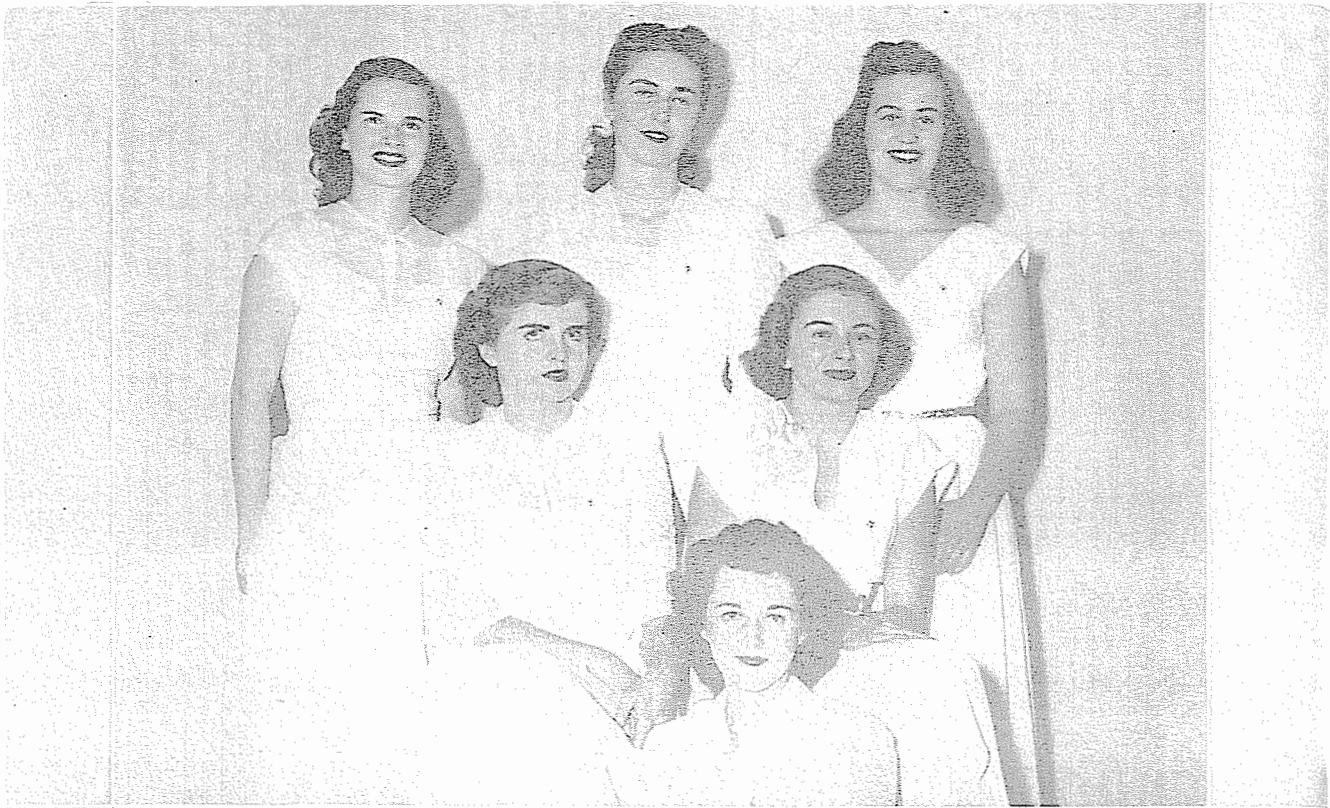
The week-end of February 6-8 marked the installation date of Sappho Society, founded in 1898, as the 72d college chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta and the first national women's fraternity on the San Jose campus.

Installation ceremonies began the evening of February 5, when Sappho alumnae were pledged in a ceremony conducted by Mrs Wilson, former president of District VII, at the home of Mrs Raymond Gallagher.

The Hotel Sainte Claire was the setting for initiation rites, which were directed by Mrs Paul K. French, Grand alumnae secretary. The initiates were Marianne Anninger, Dorothy Burleson, Priscilla Dutton, Barbara Kennedy, Jean Klotzboch, Virginia Miller, Ann Myren,

Barbara Perryman, Patricia Polk, Shirley Quement, and Nancy Rundle, San Jose; Marsha Blase, Janice Fuller, and Jeanne Hjelm, Greenwood City; Georgia Bullock, San Francisco; Yvonne Cadwallader, Los Altos; Lois Carlyle, Gilroy; Barbara Curry, Saratoga; Dona Dickinson, Santa Rosa; Grace Hetrick, Whittier; Bonette Holland, El Centro; Gloria B. Krouskup, Salinas; Dorothy Lane, Burlingame; Miriam McClurg, Covina; Marilyn Norton, Alameda; Joan Schwartz, North Hollywood; Loverne Wolcott, Sacramento; Betty Young, San Diego. Alumnae initiated were Jacqueline Wise, Palo Alto; Mrs Lilian Gray, Mrs Norman Wilson, Edith Graves, Lucretia Martin, and Mrs Donald E. Salisbury, San Jose.

Friday's activities began with a luncheon at the chapter house, 184 South 11th street, in honor of visiting delegates and officers. Palo Alto alumnae club sponsored the buffet supper that evening, for initiates, San Jose alumnae,



GAMMA XI SENIORS
GAMMA XI JUNIORS

visiting delegates and officers. The initiation of seniors took place earlier in the afternoon. The ceremonies for the juniors and sophomores were conducted Friday evening.

The chapter was installed Saturday evening at which time the charter was signed and presented to Virginia Miller, retiring president. A formal banquet followed the ceremonies. Officiating at the banquet were Mrs French; Mrs Otis Dolan, toast-mistress; Catherine De Motte Quire, assistant Dean of women at the University of California who was the main speaker of the evening; and Mrs M. Kenzie Miller, District president.

Honored guests included Miss Helen Dimmick, Dean of women; Mrs Izetta Pritchard, assistant Dean of women, and Dr Grace Hamilton, assistant professor of English, all at San Jose State college.

Among Theta alumnæ present were Mrs Dudley R. Clarke, former Grand alumnæ secretary; Mrs G. O. Wilson, former District president; Miss Bernice Tompkins, associate professor of history at San Jose State college; Mrs Kevin R. Twohy, president of San Jose Theta alumnæ club; Mrs E. A. Garretson, past Grand president; and Mrs S. Francis, past District president. Other guests included representatives from alumnæ and college chapters, in District VII.

Sunday morning the newly-elected chapter officers were installed at the Theta house by Mrs French. Mrs Clarke and Mrs Miller also were in attendance to explain the functions and duties of officers. The first Theta chapter meeting was then conducted. The officers are: LoVerne Wolcott, president, succeeding Virginia Miller; Dorothy Lane, pledge captain, and Jeanne Hjelm, scholarship, vice-president; Priscilla Dutton, recording secretary; Marilyn Norton, corresponding secretary; Betty Young, treasurer; and Bonette Holland, editor.

Gamma Xi's nineteen fine pledges are Louise Aunger, Sacramento; Virginia Caveney and Carol Seibold, San Francisco; Helen Chandler, Los Gatos; Gay Cottrell, Patricia Ferguson, Joyce Lehrbach, Gloria Lint, Jill McIntosh, Patricia Ralston, and Shirley Smart, San Jose; Frances Courtney and Yvonne Hjelm, Redwood City; Alice Daley, San Mateo; Lois Garibaldi, Stockton; Mildred Gurries, Gilroy; Jeanne Lockwood, Santa Cruz; Nancy Martin, Oak-

land; and Joann White, San Francisco.

The newly-installed chapter was presented by Kappa Alpha Theta to college faculty members, representatives of social organizations and activities, Sappho and Theta alumnæ, friends, and families of initiates, at a reception in the Student Union Sunday afternoon. The affair also honored national and district officers and Mrs George B. Myren, president of the Theta Mothers' club.

The Gamma Xi Viewpoint

Although none of us old timers were unfamiliar with the ways of fraternities, having been active members of Sappho from one to four years, we couldn't have been more excited, more inspired, and more enthused at the prospect of becoming pledges all over again—that is, pledges to Kappa Alpha Theta. Since early in the spring of 1947 we had been anticipating with full hearts and bright eyes the day when our dream of belonging to the object of our delight in the fraternity world would condense from the vapory oh-if-it-could-only-come-true to the liquid it-has-actually-happened-to-us stage. The thought of a reversion from adult to cocoon failed to daunt our spirits or blacken the glorious technicolor picture.

We remember still the beginning question-and-answer sessions with Bernice Tompkins, our adviser and the person who made possible the new affiliation; Mrs Mary Stull Twohy, the enthusiastic and capable president of San Jose Theta alumnæ club; and Mrs Pauline Lively, who had a great share and concern in the project. Here in the bosom of our Sappho home, vague ideas about national fraternities in general were clarified and the objectives and ideals of Theta more clearly defined. Here were formulated the plans for steering our way along the path leading to recognition and acceptance. Under the guidance of this experienced executive crew we were soon embarking on an adventurous trail of experiences quite foreign to us as recent members of a long-established society (Sappho had been founded in 1898 and had long since grown out of the toddling age when we present members joined).

Correspondence flowed back and forth, or perhaps we should say it darted like the ball in a game of ping pong. Virginia Miller, our pert little energetic blonde president surpris-



GAMMA XI SOPHOMORES
GAMMA XI PLEDGES

ingly enough continued her studies despite the new center of interest which demanded so much of her time and attention. With grim determination of purpose and inexhaustible good humor she and Miss Tompkins led us on into the realm of the up-to-now unknown. Virginia, Barbara Curry, and Ann Myren prepared the lovely brochure which was to be our chief means of selling ourselves. Our hearts were officially thrown into the Theta ring.

And then the suspenseful and almost chokingly terrifying waiting-in period before returns. A chorus of grateful and relieved sighs and jubilant shrieks greeted each new notice of an affirmative vote. Finally the great day arrived. Officially we had been welcomed in, Mrs Dudley R. Clarke triumphantly announced to us. The feeling of keen excitement and happiness was mounting and continued to do so until it reached the peak at our initiation and installation in February.

With hearts full, knees trembling, and minds questioning, "Is this actually happening to me?" we began our week-end of climaxing activities. As the juniors and sophomores strode into the Hotel Sainte Claire they were met by a smiling, bubbling group of happy seniors already initiated earlier in the afternoon. We all gathered in the Empire room for a buffet dinner complete with songs, gay conversation, and introduction of all those present by calling of the chapter roll. Following this pleasant interlude initiation ceremonies continued for alumnae and lower classmen. Our beautiful new badges gracing our white formals we fairly floated home that evening and didn't succeed in coming down to earth until the following Monday.

Our good spirits gathered momentum Saturday when we were presented with the charter of the Gamma Xi chapter by Mrs Clarke. Afterwards we were feted at a gala banquet at the St. Claire. Mrs Otis Dolan, toastmistress, opened the banquet with the lighting of the four candles in honor of Bettie Locke Hamilton, Alice Allen Brandt, Bettie Tipton Lindsey, and Hannah Fitch Shaw. Songs and gay chatter filled the room with warmth and good cheer, reflecting the loving mood of the gathered throng. After the lovely dinner, Mrs Dolan inspired us with her splendid opening address and introduced the speakers one by one—Virginia Miller, retiring chapter president; Mrs

Catherine de Motte Quire, Mrs M. Kenzie Miller, and Mrs Paul K. French. Mrs Quire, main speaker of the evening, instilled us with many lofty thoughts, emphasizing that though now affiliated with a national fraternity we were not changed—that our chief responsibility was to our college, without whose existence our chapter would remain unborn. Mrs Miller's topic was "Each to each more closely bind", and Mrs French's speech stemmed from "The cup with handles manifold, Its willing rim by sisters' kisses worn." The honored guests were introduced and greeted with warm applause. Miss Tompkins read the wonderful Thetagrams from all over the United States and Canada—from Theta sisters so kind and sincere in congratulation and felicitation. Their messages renewed the feeling of occupying a wonderful part in a glorious whole. Retaining their symbolic pansy corsages, the guests made their exit wrapped in "Remember the black and gold" sung by the "baby" members who remained standing.

Sunday brought an end to the happy times. Refreshed and having transferred the shiny new badges from pajamas to dresses, we gathered in the living room of our chapter house with Mrs French, Mrs Miller, and Mrs Clarke, who assisted us in conducting our first chapter meeting. Very explicitly and patiently they acquainted us with our new duties. We especially appreciated the opportunity to chat informally with these impressive guiding lights, whom we've unanimously decided are just as nice to know as we knew they would be. We only wish that we could have many more such talks and that we could give to the pledges the thrill we experienced in sharing Theta thoughts and ideas with these charming women. We truly felt wrapped in Theta love. We realize too that to these pledges and all future Gamma Xi's similar Theta love will later come even over great distances—from just as far away as lives the most remote member. We can say already even in our state of infancy that we will return the same deep, true affection and loyalty.

Came Sunday afternoon. It found us all lady-like and dignified in formals again, but with a change of background. The Student Union at the State college was the place designated for the reception. Drove of people—professors, friends, relatives, and representatives of various



GAMMA XI INSTALLATION BANQUET—FEBRUARY 7
BUFFET DINNER GIVEN BY PALO ALTO THETA ALUMNÆ CLUB

social organization and activities greeted us with smiles and congratulations and stayed to enjoy tea served by the Sappho and Theta alumnae in a pretty pastel background. The scene was truly a florist's paradise so abundant were the tributes sent by friends and social organizations. With the last good-bye fading in the hall, we struggled home terrifically tired but tremendously happy with our new-found friends and content and secure in the knowledge that we are a link in the sacred chain that binds so many hearts in love.

Bonette Holland

An Alumna Report

THE CONTINUITY of Theta loyalty and the cohesive power of strong purpose made the installation of Kappa Alpha Theta's newest chapter an experience of lasting value.

A year ago Thetas living in and around San Jose did not know each other, but February, 1948 found them working together like true sisters, proud to be welcoming a splendid group into the fellowship which had enriched their own and hundreds of other lives. For those of us who have mourned the loss of Phi chapter, this acquisition of a sister chapter to carry on Theta traditions in the beautiful Santa Clara Valley of California meant a renewal of faith in the permanent.

It was my privilege to sit at the banquet between Bernice Tompkins, adviser of Sappho society whose quiet work had brought us this fine new chapter, and Dean Helen Dimmick, the wise and understanding Dean of women who has recognized the potential contribution of Greek letter women to the campus. Bernice's loyal efforts represented the consistency of one who has lived her beliefs. Her mother, Nellie Jones Tompkins, was a member of the original Phi chapter, which functioned in San Jose—at the College of the Pacific—before Stanford was founded. Bernice and her sister, Vivian, were members in the middle years of Phi's Stanford existence. We are all grateful that, as Mary Flowers Dolan pointed out in her banquet introductions, Bernice did not sit back and sorrow when the days of Theta service on the Stanford campus ended. Instead she had the vision to help prepare this neighboring group to carry on our ideals.

The whole spirit of cooperation among the

Thetas of Santa Clara county was sufficient to prove to the college authorities that women with sincere purpose believed enough in the value of such affiliation to give of their best in making it possible. The president of the San Jose Theta alumnae club, which was formed a year ago to give backing to the movement, is another Theta daughter, Mary Stull Twohy. Her mother, Ada Taylor Stull, is an Omega, and Mary a member of Beta Xi. Among the fifteen hard-working and determined members of San Jose alumnae club were recent graduates of Beta Mu and Omega, and alumnae from all over the country.

Perhaps the best way to share the national feeling of the whole undertaking with readers of the magazine is to tell their chapter friends what each contributed to the success of installation. Jo Ann Carswell, Alpha Upsilon, a student at the college, acted as Marshall for both pledging of both undergraduate and alumnae, and for most of the initiation. Anita Hincelot, Beta Mu, taught Theta songs to the Alumnae club and to the college group, and helped in many ways with initiation. Hetty Deleuron, Omega, worked with Mrs George B. Myren president of the Theta Mothers' club, in arranging every detail of the beautiful Sunday afternoon reception when the chapter was introduced to the community.

Beta Mu contributed through Doris Conway Weeden, Barbara Collar, Carol Riley, Evelyn Chambers, who made hotel arrangements and planned hospitality for out-of-town guests; Helen Wilson, who arranged the initiation hall. Pauline Lively, Beta Epsilon, was rush adviser at the rush season just prior to installation. Irene Cook, Alpha Sigma, led the music at initiation with Jeanette Williams, Tau, as soloist. Alice Gallagher lent her home for two pledgings. Palo Alto alumnae club contributed a buffet supper on the day of initiation. Jean Hartman, as secretary of the alumnae club, did innumerable behind the scene tasks that contributed to the finished undertaking, and Louise Curtner Chase lent her musical talents and her community spirit to the success in many ways. Every member of San Jose alumnae club worked long and arduously and rejoice in the results of their effort!

The way in which this was all accomplished gave credence to the high-minded banquet talks

by Helen French, Irene Miller, and Catherine DeMotte Quire, assistant Dean of Women, University of California, who expressed all that Theta hopes for its youngest chapter.

CAROL GREEN WILSON

From Gamma Xi's Nearest Neighbor

Again Omega has a next-door neighbor! Ever since Phi at Stanford was lost, a year or two before most of us now in Omega were in college, we have been the only Theta college chapter in California north of Omicron and Beta Xi, five hundred miles away. The nearest chapter has been Beta Mu at Nevada across the Sierras. Now we have Gamma Xi at San Jose just a stone's throw from Berkeley.

Those of us who attended the installation at San Jose in February realize that for a college girl to witness an installation is for her to take a refresher course in the meaning and scope of the fraternity idea. The new Thetas showed a selfless enthusiasm as individuals and as a chapter, an enthusiasm which an older chapter may lose so easily unless it constantly and consciously guards against it. At the installation banquet, telegrams from all over the United States were read, congratulating the baby on its birth and wishing it the best of luck, and best of all each carried a warm and sincere welcome into Kappa Alpha Theta. The new chapter thus was made to feel immediately a part of a widespread organization of women who are never too busy to stop and send a friendly greeting to a new member of the Theta family.

Aside from the fact that the installation was a tonic and an inspiration to all who attended, it was also a promise of new friendships and good times for Omega's girls, as well as for the rest of District VII. Gamma Xi has filled the place of Phi, and we have a rather special attachment for that place. Just a short time ago several

Gamma Xi members attended a tea we gave for our District president, Mrs Miller. We look to this as a signpost toward many years understanding and fun together.

Yes, we of Omega again have a next-door neighbor, and we love it. It's been a long time!

Barbara Gray, President, Omega

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Why more chapters? This query has been put to me by various alumnæ in varying tone inflections. There is but one honest answer—TO GIVE MORE GIRLS THE OPPORTUNITY OF SHARING THE PLEASURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH ARE YOURS!

Perhaps this statement needs elucidation. During and since World War II the numbers of women (as well as men) attending colleges have increased enormously. This increase in enrollment is not sectional but nationwide; in the privately endowed institutions as well as those controlled by the states. Thus new fields have been opened. Many college administrations are anxious for more groups to be developed on their campuses to take care of the increase in the number of girls who wish to become affiliated. Then, too, there are new campuses—either where national women's fraternities were not admitted previously or where colleges have recently received higher scholastic ratings.

In proportion to the number of requests Kappa Alpha Theta's growth has been most conservative. From 1942 to March 1 of this year nine chapters have been installed, with two colonized groups to become chapters before the close of the current college year. For the same period of time, 7 years, during and after World War I, our chapter roll shows that eleven chapters were added. Does history repeat itself?

PEARL VAN SICLEN HIGBIE

