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THE

PHI ALPHA

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The report of the Convention Committee on Chapter Standards and College Relations which follows, is the second in our series of reports delivered to the delegates of the 117th Anniversary Convention, held in New Orleans in June. The Co-Chairmen of the committee were John L. Butterfield, Virginia Tau, undergraduate and Richard L. Moore, ESCh, alumnus.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

117th National Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana
June 17-19, 1973

Report to the Convention from the Committee on Chapter Standards and College Relations.

The Committee on Chapter Standards and College Relations took as its primary mission the consideration of the relationship between the Fraternity both as a local and a national organization with higher education in general. Consideration of the atmosphere existent on the campus leads the Committee to acknowledge the present generally favorable operation on the campus as seen by increasing numbers of initiations in fraternities overall. The specific causes of this turnabout from previous years cannot be identified, however the Committee feels that contributing factors include changes in internal chapter operation such as reduced time limits on pledgship and a lessened emphasis on total conformity on the part of its members. We feel this has contributed to a more favorable atmosphere. The turmoil of the campus over the previous decade has resulted in a general conception of fraternity life and membership as an acceptable lifestyle on a campus without necessarily carrying with it the feeling of elitism and snobbery.

The changes in chapter operation have caused realignments of association between the fraternity system and institutions of education and among fraternity chapters on the campus. The overriding concern appears to be that of the relationships previously mentioned and not about internal chapter standards in general.

It is noted that many Interfraternity Councils have lost their effectiveness as representatives of the local fraternity. The result has been a subsequent increase in the difficulty of maintaining traditional forms of communication with college administrations. This lessening of a formalized communicative relationship causes concern on the part of the Committee. It must be noted that an organization of service and communication is urged and required for long-range chapter success. An incidental yet important observation is that the current financial situation for many schools will cause a reduction in student activity positions in many cases and that the task of maintaining continuing communications between and among chapters and administrations will become more difficult.

When concerned with the relationship between fraternities and their given institutions we sense a distinctly different attitude of Greeks from that of their predecessors. As we find the fraternity man seeking a new and more independent role on his campus we also find the administration not necessarily keeping pace with these diversifying attitudes. The trend in the Greek system is beginning to focus on the individual and not on the group (as a whole) with whom he associates himself. Today's Greek system is changed a great deal from its so often stereotyped image. Fraternities question where their own particular values lie. They don't always do what is considered to be the "fraternity thing" anymore, such as blood drives and community projects. In short then they decide for themselves what their course of action is to be. Fraternities are not necessarily always the willing do-gooders, that they, for so many years, have been thought to be. That is not to say they have abandoned all old values, rather, they are simply re-examing them. They decide for themselves what activities they want to engage in. They are actively resisting their given role of the All-American institution. Fraternity men, one will find, are not the stereotype many people, including educators, think them to be. There is a definite de-emphasis of the requirements on today's Greek. Because of changing times the Greek system as a whole is defensive about its new role on college campuses across the country. Part of the problem then lies

with non-Greeks who are not readily aware of the changing role of fraternities. The Committee recommends that each chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon engage itself in programs on its campus which will tend to educate non-Greeks to this changing role. In addition, chapters should encourage the same action by the interfraternal groups to which they belong.

The back cover of the November issue of the SAE magazine, **The Record**, is devoted to an announcement of the publication of the new volume of SAE history The Era of Levere, which covers the years 1910-1930. The volume was researched and written by Fraternity historian Joseph W. Walt who is also editor of **The Phoenix** and chairman of the history department at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa. Copies of this most readable volume may be ordered from the National Office, P. O. Box 1856, Evanston, Illinois 60204 for \$10 apiece.

THE CHAPTERS

Fall Rush Report

With the majority of Fall Rush completed, the official and unofficial reports indicate significant increases over last year. Most notable are a few chapters whose 1973 pledge classes are much larger than they have been in the recent past.

Massachusetts Beta-Upsilon (Boston University), on whom we reported briefly last month, has 14 pledges. As recently as last spring the last active member was graduating and the pledge class was an amorphous group with no direction. With assistance from the National Office the pledge class was solidified, two men were initiated at Leadership School and a graduate advisor, Bruce Coates, Northwestern '73, (Illinois Psi Omega) was appointed.

The two new initiates, Andy Connelly and Ron Cohen, with the assistance of the House Corporation and Coates, have pledged 14 men in what observers are calling an astounding feat.

Other chapters whose pledge classes are significantly larger than in past years are: Missouri Beta (Washington University) with 13; Minnesota Beta (Mankato State College) with 12; South Carolina Delta (University of South Carolina) with 23; Virginia Omicron (University of Virginia) with 19; Tennessee Eta (Union University) with 21 and Iowa Sigma (Simpson College) with 26.

Other chapters holding stable or showing slight gains are: Kentucky Epsilon (University of Kentucky) with 38; Maryland Beta (University of Maryland) with 28; Mississippi Theta (Mississippi State) with 34; Missouri Alpha (University of Missouri) with 35; Missouri Gamma (Westminster College) with 26; Washington Beta (Washington State) with 27 and Washington Gamma (University of Puget Sound) with 22.

Massachusetts Iota-Tau at MIT has developed a unique electronic information board which allows the chapter to pinpoint the location of an individual rushee at any time, reports E & L Consultant Jim Luety. According to the report information is fed into the system so that the chapter may keep in close contact with each rush prospect during formal rush.

Penn. State University is going farther in their use of electronic systems in rush, according to "News & Notes," a bulletin edited for the Fraternity Executives Association by W. A. Butler, Executive Secretary of Delta Upsilon. According to the report, Penn. State's IFC is using a computer to match rushee personalities to "individual fraternity characteristics." The system reportedly cuts down the number of men each fraternity has to screen by supplying them with a list of prospects suited to their needs and desires.

Computer systems are also making inroads into chapter financial management. E & L Consultant Jack Dilley reports that Ohio Rho at Case-Western Reserve has put its financial system on a computer program. Dilley reports that the system will save the Eminent Treasurer many hours of paperwork.

The installation of Kentucky Delta at Eastern Kentucky University brings to a close SAE's extension for 1973. The former Beta Omicron Gamma local was the last of the successful petitioners to the New Orleans Convention to be installed. Installing officer Joe Mancini, assisted by ESDA Russ Heuer, initiated 51 men into the bonds during October 27th ceremonies in Richmond, Kentucky.

An SAE graduate student, attending the University of Colorado in Boulder is needed to act as an advisor in the revitalization effort for the chapter. Any chapters who have had brothers move on to post-graduate work at CU should contact Michael Thomas, Director of Publications and Alumni Affairs, P. O. Box 1856, Evanston, Illinois 60204.

THE PROVINCES

Curt Westbrook Florida State '60 (Beta) has been named Archon of Province Nu-Epsilon, replacing interim Archon Tom Kessler. Kessler had replaced the resigned Charlie Dean.

Word has reached the National Office that plans for mini-leadership schools are proceeding well. Provinces Epsilon, Nu-Epsilon and Rho plan to hold leadership training sessions in the near future.

INTERFRATERNALLY

The fledgling Association of College Fraternities met October 17 at The Levere Memorial Temple and elected SAE's Eminent Supreme Recorder Jack Hotaling president pro tempore. Another SAE, Eminent Supreme Herald Dick Generally was appointed to chair the committee responsible for drafting the articles of association for the group founded by SAE, Delta Upsilon, Delta Sigma Phi and Tau Kappa Epsilon.

The hope, expressed at the meeting, was that the ACF would develop into a protective trade association, perhaps based in Washington, D.C.

THE LEVERE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

The number of student loans made by The Levere Memorial Foundation is expected to double this year if current trends continue, according to Assistant Secretary David A. Poe. The prediction is based on a comparison of figures which show that from May to September of 1972 eight loans were made whereas the same period this year produced 15 loans. Last year the Foundation made a total of 37 loans, Poe added.

The doubling of the number of loans will have the effect of nearly quadrupling the amount of money loaned since the limit on each loan was raised recently from \$500 to \$1000.

This information comes in the wake of federal government announcements that an estimated 60,000 college and trade school students have defaulted on \$55.2 million in federally guaranteed loans over the past five years. According to the Office of Education, only \$3.2 million has been recovered so far. The announcement went on to say that 75 percent of the defaults were by trade school students.

By contrast, of the 1,723 student loans made by the Foundation since the program started only six are in the hands of collection agents, according to Poe. He said, "these loans would have to be considered questionably collectible."

ON CAMPUS

State Colleges Urged to Raise Tuition — In a recent recommendation the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education, headed by former University of California president Clark Kerr, advocated a raise in tuition at state institutions. The recommendation came on the heels of another recent tuition increase proposal from the Committee for Economic Development.

At a recent meeting of the American Council on Education held at the conclusion of the Carnegie Commission's work, Kerr outlined the significant differences between the Committee's proposal and that of the Commission. The Commission's report urged a raise in public tuition to one-third of educational costs over ten years with tuition to remain low in community colleges. The Committee proposed an increase to half the costs over 5 years in senior colleges and universities and over 10 years in community colleges.

Fraternities Held Liable in Liquor Case — United States District Judge Malcolm Muir has ruled that civil liability may be imposed on fraternities under a Pennsylvania criminal statute making it unlawful to furnish liquor to a minor or to a visibly intoxicated person. In his decision, Judge Muir rejected a contention by a fraternity in litigation over the matter, that liability would not be imposed by the Pennsylvania courts on a purely private organization serving liquor as a social courtesy.

Successful Rush at Oregon State — The 29 fraternities at Oregon State pledged 520 men this fall. The Interfraternity Council president said that the fraternities have pledged 92 percent of the men signed up for rush. The 520 was an increase of 90 men over last year.

Independent Students Buy House — Fifteen undergraduates at Union College have purchased a \$27,500 three-story house on the edge of the campus. The house has nine bedrooms and three bathrooms. The yearly cost per student will be \$350 while dormitory accommodations range from \$500 to \$775 yearly.

The students borrowed the entire purchase price from the parents of three of them and will pay the parents 5.5 to 6 percent interest annually. When the students graduate the house will be sold and the loans repaid.

Only One Left at Yale — Two of the most prestigious of eastern colleges, Yale and Harvard, have not been fertile ground for fraternities. SAE, recently revived, is the only fraternity with a chapter on the Harvard campus and just this fall Delta Kappa Epsilon closed its doors at Yale leaving only Zeta Psi on the New Haven, Connecticut campus. Zeta Psi plans to close sometime this year leaving Yale, once a campus that supported 35 fraternities, chapterless.