EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

With the dawn of December 29 the assembled members of Alpha Rho Chi at Columbus roused themselves in preparation for the first day’s work of the eighth annual convention. The first arrivals from other chapters were Brothers Dixon and Law of Kallikrates, and Dock and Johnson of Mnesicles, who dropped into Columbus about eight o’clock on the evening of December twenty-eighth and were followed about an hour later by Brothers Farley and Cowen of Iktinos and Brother Baker of Andronicus. The visitors then observed the informal initiation of two men by the Demetrios chapter.

The convention opened about eight o’clock the next morning, being slightly delayed by the late arrival of the three delegates from Anthemios, Brothers Whitten, alumni representative, Phillips and Olson. The formality of examining the credentials took up part of the time, the question of alumni representation and proxy voting for junior delegates being raised because of the presence of two alumni delegates, namely G. A. Whitten of Anthemios and F. L. Smith of Demetrios. The proxy voting for junior delegates was raised in the case of Andronicus, which only sent one delegate. Another interesting and more or less unfortunate circumstance was the absence of any of the Grand Council, Brother Peterson having his vote for the Grand Council to Chester Dock, which furnished the spectacle of the junior delegate from Mnesicles writing out four votes on most questions. Brother Smith was elected President of the convention and Brother Arnold of Demetrios, an active of Demetrios, was called as clerk of the convention.

The next important move was the appointment of committees. Suggestions were made that the convention provide some substitute for the present lax means of amending the constitution. Alumni representation was also referred to the same committee. A committee on music was appointed, and another was appointed to take care of expansion of the fraternity.

The reading of the various reports, discussion of some of the tentative suggestions occupied most of the day, but on the thirtieth some real work was accomplished. The committee on constitution and by-laws reported favorably on the admission of decorators and landscape architects and the convention voted affirmatively. It turned in a drawn-up interpretation of the constitution and by-laws which the convention accepted. Brother G. A. Whitten was called on to explain the plan of the Chicago Alumni association and was given the right by motion to continue the work with the recognition of the fraternity and was asked to submit the final plan at the next convention. The committee on expansion submitted the petition of Kansas, which

THE WORTHY GRAND ARCHITECT

The newly elected Worthy Grand Architect of Alpho Rho Chi is a man who, by his constant interest and activity in the fraternity, has influenced the development of Demetrios Chapter from its earliest days.

Dwight P. Ely was initiated into the mysteries on April 1, 1916, and since that day has never ceased to labor for the advancement of the organization, and, even since his graduation, he has kept in unusually close touch with affairs. He is about the house a great deal, eating there, and spending most of his leisure hours “with the boys.” He has conducted the class of instruction for all pledges for a number of years, has expended a great deal of work, thought and money in the building up of our ritual equipment, and never fails to take a prominent part in the initiations.

He has been very active in the affairs of the Columbus Alumni Chapter, helping it to grow and take its place as the means by which the active chapter has been able to buy its house and progress as it has. Brother Ely was elected President of the Alumni Chapter in March, 1922.

To upbuild Alpha Rho Chi to the expression of our highest ideals has
ever been the effort of Brother Ely. He has a very keen appreciation of the niceties and joys of fraternal brotherhood striving always for the strengthening of the bonds of love and harmony which must characterize the perfect fraternity. He knows the symbolic significance of the ritual as few of us do, and the brotherly instruction he has given all of us in our pledge days in his Monday night classes, prepared us in a manner to appreciate and understand the initiation more fully, and, initiated, to take our place in the fraternity better.

Asking for a little personal glimpse of his past, the writer was given a slip of paper on which was recorded, "Thirty years ago on January 17, in the little village of New Philadelphia, Ohio, which nestles among the clay banks of the Tuscarawas River, the home of the village minister (and his wife) was gladdened by the birth of a little baby boy, ycleped Dwight Palmer Ely. At an early age his parents noted his precocity, but thought it best to keep it a secret to avoid jealousy among the parishioners, and it has always remained so."

Despite the handicap due to the secrecy surrounding his precocity, he was admitted, when the time came, to Denison University, at Granville, Ohio, in the Class of 1914, coming a few years later to Ohio State University, where he was graduated from the Department of Architecture in 1917. His service in the Army dated from July 15, 1918, to December 6, 1918, at the Machine Gun O. T. S., Camp Hancock, Georgia. At the present he is occupied as a Fire Prevention Engineer.

And so, Brothers All—Meet Brother Ely! —

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION
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was voted upon favorably. A committee on ritual and costume explained the inability of the previous committee to produce the requested material and was made a permanent committee to report at next convention.

An interesting, we might almost say tense, moment came after Harold Peterson, present W. G. S., and D. P. Ely of Demetrios were nominated for the position of W. G. A. The vote was cast and the ballot read, the result being a tie. A second vote was cast with the same result. To end the awkward state of affairs, the junior member of Mnesicles withdrew the candidate which his chapter had put forward, making the election of D. P. Ely unanimous. Mnesicles was awarded the Archi for another year, and with the offer, made by Chester Dock, that Mnesicles be host for the next convention, the eighth annual convention of Alpha Rho Chi drew to a close. The evening of the thirtieth was occupied by a banquet at the Chittenden Hotel, Howard Dwight Smith being the speaker of the evening.

AN EPOCH-MAKING MOVE

At the last convention, December 30, Brother G. A. Whitten of Gary, Indiana, introduced a scheme, still in a tentative form, for an alumni association which had been drawn up by the Chicago Alumni Chapter. The scheme was enthusiastically received by the assembled delegates and was referred back to the Chicago chapter for further perfection. The scheme, should it be as valuable as it now seems to be, will be one of the greatest moves for the development of the fraternity since the original organization was completed.

This scheme called for an alumni association for each chapter to which all graduates of that chapter would belong regardless of where situated. Th enrollment of this organization would be automatically applied to each new graduate. It would carry with it the right to collect dues for necessary expenditures. The organization would be incorporated under the state law where situated and would be independent, as far as incorporation is concerned, from the central organization of Alpha Rho Chi, in order that it might be permitted by existing state laws to take charge of the real estate transactions and other similar activities for the active chapters to which they were connected. The association would provide means for a central executive body which would have active charge of actual business as well as have charge of keeping the alumni directly in touch with their common interests. These alumni associations would send one delegate each to the Alpha Rho Chi convention and would provide the means for financing the expense of these delegates.

For the first time we have prospects of a thoroughly unified fraternity with both actives and alumni closely in touch and represented in its life and government.

RAVAGES OF CUPID

During the past Christmas season Old Nick must have been busy distributing wedding rings and the resulting wedding announcements, because from Anthemi1 alone we have received reports of four marriages among their alumni. The newly-weds are E. E. Newcomb (21) and Miss Mary Phelps of Lawrence, Kentucky; B. G. Webb (20) and Miss Josephine Downing of Louisville, Kentucky; P. S. Hall and Miss Rhoda McClelland of Ripon, Wisconsin; and Joe H. Wildermuth (20) and Miss Madeline Haven of Gary, Indiana.

In a letter from G. A. Whitten of Gary, Indiana, we received a clipping from the "Gary Tribune" with a heading "Madeline Havens Becomes the Bride of Joseph Wildermuth." It was a home wedding with just the close relatives and friends of the couple present. Mr. and Mrs. Wildermuth are spending their honeymoon in the east and will be at home at 425 Jefferson after February 1.

Mrs. Wildermuth attended Northwestern University and is a member of the Beta Gamma Upsilon Sorority.

CRAWFORD WINS FIRST MENTION

R. C. Crawford of Andronicus got a first mention placed on the first Esquisse-Esquisse, Class B, of the fall term of the Beaux Arts in New York. It was an eight-hour sketch problem of a small open air theatre in a private estate.
TIME FOR THOUGHT

At the last convention of Alpha Rho Chi were representatives from the westernmost, from the northernmost, and from one of the Atlantic coast states. With the increasing widespread location of chapters, the time approaches when for several reasons the present system of holding conventions will become unwieldy, and it is about time that the fraternity begin considering how best to change the conditions of representation or provide some other convention arrangement.

With the new alumni representation, each chapter under the present system is permitted to send three delegates. This increased representation, coupled with present unwritten custom of rotation of conventions among the chapters would eventually result in a California convention with the other chapters having the right to send eighteen delegates. Such a convention would practically bankrupt the fraternity. We could, perhaps, leave that to the best judgment of the chapters, trusting them to send but a single delegate. But what about the alumni?

Another consideration is the length of time required for the round trip across the continent and the resulting interference with school that such a period of time for travel would necessitate. The California delegate put in several days on the road and if you add to his journey the distance from Columbus to Virginia you will have the maximum possible trip which would be practically prohibitive to most students.

Just what changes could be made we do not know. To reduce the active delegation to a single member would place the alumni vote on an equal basis with the active, which would hardly be just. Another possibility would be the choice of some central location for conventions which would not reduce the expense a dollar but would equalize to a certain extent the expenditure of time of the various members of the convention. The problem is a knotty one, and the earlier we begin thinking about it the more certain we shall be to have a solution when that becomes imperative.

AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The eighth annual convention has come and gone. During the period of two full days the delegates threshed out several problems, the most important of which was this, the formation of an alumni association.

The delegates had all been instructed by their respective chapters to straighten out the question of alumni representation, which had been left very indeterminate in many respects by the previous convention, and the fact that there were only two alumni present further emphasized the necessity of clearing up the matter. Just who were to choose this representative, who were to pay his expenses, and the right to such representation by proxy had been matters of argument and doubt.

The Columbus members of Demetrios had already framed up a form of organization which it was expected would care for the many tasks that only such an organization could, but the first real solution was brought forward by the Alumni Chapter at Chicago. This would provide for alumni representation, for real estate supervision in the various chapters, for active association of the alumni in a chapter of their own and for a variety of minor interests of which perhaps a most important one would be a dependable source of alumni support for the Archi.

The first draft of the idea was as yet incomplete and it was referred back to the Chicago chapter for presentation in a completed form to the ninth annual convention.

By far the most important piece of legislation that has come before the organization in some time, it should awaken the active interest of every member and we should watch its development carefully that we might be prepared to offer suggestions, criticisms, support, and once it is formulated, active co-operation in putting it into effect. It is unnecessary to dwell on the needs of such an organization, and the Archi is prepared to push it with all the enthusiasm we possess.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONVENTION

Being that this is our first taste of a convention, personally, we confess that we really have no true basis for judging what general tendencies are, and consequently we have "simply got to ask some questions." Are baldheaded men considered more handsome, more brainy, more impressive, or more aggressive than others? At least that was our conclusion after sizing up the bunch around the convention table, for only fifty per cent of those there had no superfluous hair on their domes.

In spite of a certain amount of politics, or because of it, this last convention was evidently one of the smoothest running affairs imaginable.

Last year's delegates would have felt quite at home because of the commanding presence of G. A. Whitten.

Evidently the men of this year's choice were a silent bunch, or maybe that was because they were out among strangers and didn't act like they do at home. At least, a number of the junior members said next thing to nothing during the whole convention.

But, speaking of silence everyone of the delegates talked a whole lot more effectively while sound asleep and saying nothing than most alumni do when it comes to talking about themselves. Modest bunch of architects in our alumni band.
THE ARCHI

We wish to quote the following extracts from a letter from Myron Dassett (Mnesicles), who is now a student at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. “Aside from a visit from Ed Loye and Galen Oman, my contact with A.P.X. since leaving Minneapolis has been very slight, as you may know. Howard Gilman writes often enough and always with such force and humor that it seems a moment’s chat with him—such as we used to have around the table at 1021 University.”

“One other surprise I had which I almost forgot to mention and that was Prof. S. Chatwood Burton’s visit last April. We had a jolly lunch together with Joe Lalonde, the famous mural painter from St. Paul, and managed to cover pretty well the gossip in connection with Minnesota and New York, where Joe and Mr. Burton had many acquaintances in common with me.”

“Since then my brother Joe has been here. We traveled in Normandy, Brittany and Tourraine, and then spent three weeks here while he got oriented and saw a bit of Paris. Then we went through Alsace and Lorraine and finally to Germany. At Nuremberg we parted. Joe to go home, and I to go to Dresden, then Prague, Brunn, a ten day camping trip in the Carpathians, then to Vienna and Budapest. War having broken out in Turkey, I was unable to get farther than eastern Hungary.”

“I am now settled in my ‘new’ apartment, which dates from the 17th century. Every Sunday evening from six on I am “at home” at No. 1 rue de l’Albâye, and would be pleased if any brothers would drop in at any time. Since there is no ‘concierge’ and the entrance is locked, just yell for Mike and perhaps he is not there just drop a letter in the box on the door. I will always be glad to hear from the fellows—address letters through Poste Privee—Credit Lyonnaise Bold. des Italiens—Paris.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Mike.”

A PRACTICAL PROBLEM

The President of the University, in view of the present campaign to raise ten millions for a greater University of Southern California, has offered a prize of twenty-five dollars for the best design for a new campus layout. The jury will consist of the president, the faculty of the Architectural Department and the prominent architects of the city. The competition is conducted along the plan of the Beaux Arts system.

Esquisses were submitted and the designs drawn up and criticized by several architects. The problem called for a plan at 1/32" = 1'0" and an aeroplane perspective at the same scale to be submitted by each contestant. The competition closed January 15th. Seven men competed, but the results have not yet been reported. The best designs submitted will be displayed in various places up town during the closing days of the campaign as a special advertising scheme.

ANTHEMIMOS NEWS

Chapter activities have been few since the last publication of the Archi. We have entertained informally at dinner in honor of Scarab, another professional architectural society, and again in honor of Mr. Lorado Taft, who is giving a series of lectures at the University.

“Newk” dropped in on us for a couple of days after the holidays. Some more of the old alumni that were back lately are: “Pewie” Dunlap, Spencer, Dave Postle and Geo. Lindeberg.

In the billiard tournament, we have won all our games so far, but in basketball we have not fared so well. The Department of Architecture has been very successful in obtaining the drawings of the Tribune Competition. This is their first trip out of Chicago, so we consider ourselves very fortunate. A number of Anthemimos men entered the competition, and one of them, “Pewie” Dunlap, was one of the eight highest receiving rewards.

Only one out of some fifteen of the boys who wanted to go to the Junior Prom formal this month were able to obtain tickets, and so plans are being laid for Demetrios to give our first formal next month if the mare can be kept going without too much goading. Formal has been talked, pleaded for by our Arrow Collar Ads and Social Lions, and orated against by our Plebeians for many years, and now, with a committee armed with instructions and everything, it is hoped that we may be able to obtain the Elks Country Club for this dinner dance in the latter part of February. A number of the alumni have expressed their intention of being with us.

IKTINOS NEWS

Iktinos closed the first stretch of the school year at Michigan with a hilarious Christmas party at which everyone seemed to have a very enjoyable time on the evening before the holidays began.

Brother Kline is keeping the active members of Iktinos busy this year by sending them after the inter-fraternity championship in every athletic sport that is played here by fraternity teams. At the present time basketball and bowling are keeping many of the men from over-working themselves with studying. Brother Kline is quite an authority on this business of winning championships. Shortly before the holidays he was awarded the coveted M for his performance on the tennis courts last spring, and was decorated with the pledge badge of Tau Sigma Delta, national honorary architectural society, on the same day.

MNESICLES NEWS

An informal dancing party was held at the chapter house on Saturday evening, January 13.

Our bowling team, which was so successful last year, has again come up to our highest expectations, and after a season of sensational bowling scores has copped off the championship cup of Professional Inter-fraternity Council. The scores were 847, 892 and 961; the high score, 601, being made by Dewey Gerlach.

Our boy Chester (C. J. Dock) and Larry Bakken, both Norsemen in good standing, received their sheepskins at the Christmas Commencement. They both bought larger hats.