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The Alphabet, Winter 1958

Alpha Beta Alpha

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THE ALPHABET

VOLUME VIII

WINTER, 1958

NUMBER 2



DEDICATION

This issue of "The Alphabet" is gratefully dedicated to the printers of Indiana State Teachers College in appreciation of their skill and patience.

OUR PRESIDENT



Our president, Marilyn Mellott, graduated from Everett High School, Everett, Pennsylvania, in 1954, and is now attending the State Teachers College in Millersville. She has just finished student teaching in her minor field, English, and is now doing her library practice at J. P. McCaskey High School at Lancaster.

During the time that she has been at Millersville, she has served on various Alpha Beta Alpha committees. She was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee during her sophomore year, and during her junior years she served as Vice-President of Kappa Chapter. She was also chairman of the Program Committee during that year.

In addition to her activities in Alpha Beta Alpha, she has been a member of the Student Christian Association, Future Teachers of America, and Touchstone, the college yearbook staff.

This year she is a Senior Class Representative to Welfare, the gov-

erning body of dormitory women, and a Senior Class Representative to Student Council. She is also Secretary of Student Services which directs those areas of college life not directly under the administration of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And she is a member of Snapper, the college newspaper staff.

Marilyn is engaged, but she hopes to get a job as a school librarian and practice at least a year before she gets married.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S COLUMN

After many and excessive delays, we have finally gotten the 1956-57 dues records straightened out, and have had the National "books" audited (a summary of the audit report appears elsewhere in this issue).

At the recent ALA Midwinter meeting in Chicago, the ABA Sponsors held a breakfast; representatives of Gamma, Eta, Mu, Pi, and Xi were present, as were representatives from two petitioning institutions, Northern Illinois University (DeKalb) and St. Catherine's College (St. Paul, Minnesota). This was a most stimulating get-together, and we discussed many aspects of the Fraternity and its work.

It is quite evident by this time that our originally projected proposal of having simultaneous Book Fairs in all Chapters during National Library Week cannot be achieved during this first year. Some of the Chapters will hold Fairs at the scheduled time; other Chapters will delay their Fairs until summer; and other Chapters will not be able to conduct Fairs this year at all. Book Fairs are excellent sources of revenue, and they are most appropriate activities for organizations such as ours; so we

sincerely hope that by 1958-59 all Chapters will be conducting annual Fairs.

Rho Chapter was installed at Kutztown State College, Pennsylvania, on November 20. In addition to the two groups mentioned above, a group from Shepherd College (Shepherdstown, West Virginia) is also petitioning for a Chapter (Phi?!).

The ubiquitous Susan Bush has persuaded the ISTC printer to print copies of our National Constitution for us at a very low price; so we hope to have an ample supply of copies by the end of this semester.

The design for the new membership certificates has now been determined upon, and it is very attractive. We hope that we will be able to have these certificates ready for distribution before the end of May.

President Mellott has appointed a Nominating Committee, so we should soon be having an election of officers for 1958-59.

Plans are already under way at Illinois State Normal University for the 1959 Convention.

NATIONAL OFFICERS

President—

Marilyn Mellott (Kappa)

Vice-President—

Mrs. Lillie King Shaw (Theta)

Treasurer—

Yvonne Coffey (Alpha)

Executive Secretary—

Dr. Eugene P. Watson, (Alpha)

Councilmen—

District No. 1, Barbara Stobaugh; (Eta); No. 2, Ida Loving (Beta); No. 3, Frances Green (Xi); No. 4, Shirley Sue Soto (Nu); No. 5, Mrs. Ethel J. Newell (Theta).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1956-57 (SUMMARY)

Cash Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$2,038.31	Total Cash and Income	\$2,911.41
Income			
Initiation Fees	201.00	Expenditures	
Membership Dues		Chapter Installations and Charters	\$ 71.54
Active Student	344.00	Postage and Express	117.68
Active Professional	95.00	Printing of "The Alphabet"	367.76
Alumni	217.00	Stationery and Supplies	55.84
Contributing	9.00	Jewelry	13.29
Total Dues	665.00	Convention	1,280.91
Sale of Stationery	1.10	Total Expenditures	1,907.02
Cash from Convention	6.00		
Total Income	873.10	Cash Balance at Close of Fiscal Year	\$1,004.39
Total Cash and Income	\$2,911.41		

Note: A summary of the financial statement relative to the 1957 Convention appeared in the Spring, 1957, issue of *The Alphabet*.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

ALPHA CHAPTER

Northwestern State College
Natchitoches, Louisiana

With the end of the semester, final exams, and graduation, news is rather scarce here in this part of the South. Alpha Chapter held its fall pledging ceremony and Christmas Party December 5, 1957. The Old Lemee House, one of the places of historic interest in Natchitoches, was gaily decorated in Christmas splendor as the scene of the occasion. Those pledged were: Sue Riggs, Betty Latham, Mrs. Inez Kirk, Barbara Briant, Charles Ainsworth, Rebecca Salley, Syble McClellan, Doris Ann Brett and Judith Hammond. At the same meeting four pledges were initiated as members. Members, led by President Kay McFarland, gave the pledges a hearty welcome to the Fraternity, and after the ceremony an informal party was held. After everyone visited and enjoyed refreshments, Christmas carols were sung.

The members of Alpha Chapter always like to get letters telling of news of their alums. For instance, Christmas brought a letter from a former President, Sue Hughes. Sue has recently married a librarian from Canada and is now Mrs. C. Ross Carter. She and her husband are both employed by the Brooklyn Public Library in New York.

Alpha's president, Kay McFarland, has just accepted a teaching position at Eastwood Elementary School in Lake Charles, Louisiana. She plans to finish the year there and in the fall she will go to Denver to the university there to get her degree in Library Science. We will miss her here at N.S.C.

Congratulations go to Miss Frances

Henry who has recently been married and is now Mrs. Lewis Pirkle.

GAMMA CHAPTER

Indiana State Teachers College
Terre Haute, Indiana

Gamma Chapter held its first meeting of the 1957-58 school year in the Alpha Beta Alpha room in the library on October 2. Seven prospective members were present. The program was centered around acquainting them with the purposes of Alpha Beta Alpha.

On October 5 Gamma Chapter had its annual Homecoming Breakfast in the Crystal Room of the Hotel Deming. Prospective members were again invited. Several alumni members were also present.

The Alpha Beta Alpha officers at Indiana State Teachers College for this year are: President, Sarann Owen; Vice-President, Betty Westfall; Secretary, Susan Bush; Treasurer, Jane Stubbeman; and Reporter, Sue Smith.

Nine students and one professional member were pledged to Gamma Chapter on November 6. They were: Frances Smith, Anna Mary Smith, Sherri Roach, Colleen Magnuson, Alice Morton, Kay Stephenson, Kay Gibson, Mary Tucker, Darlene Meki, and Mrs. Geraldine Gates. It was announced at this time that the theme for the meetings for the remainder of the year is "Around the World." The programs planned will take the members to the Near East, to Europe, and to South America.

The Christmas party was held in the Library Science Classroom on December 10. Kay Stephenson, Mary Tucker, and Kay Gibson headed the pledges in planning the party. A Christmas tree was again decorated with homemade tree ornaments and gifts of money. This year the money is to be used to furnish the Alpha Beta Alpha meeting room of the library. Miss Nelle McCalla, sponsor of Gamma Chapter, showed the slides which she took while she was serving as the librarian of the Beirut College for Women in Bierut, Lebanon, last year.

Gamma Chapter celebrated its sixth

birthday as a member of Alpha Beta Alpha on February 22, 1958. The Annual Anniversary Banquet was attended by forty-six students, professional members, faculty representatives, alumni members, and guests. Entertainment was provided by the State High School Choir. The initiation ceremony was conducted for eight students, two professional members, and six alumni members. Following the initiation, Miss Georgia T. Rankin, State Supervisor of School Libraries and Teaching Materials for the State of Indiana, spoke on "Opportunities for Librarianship." She told of the many opportunities librarians have for overseas work with the State Department and with the Armed Services.

News from our alumni brings the notice that Beth Koho, former president of Gamma Chapter, was recently married to John Fisher. She is presently the librarian in the elementary schools at Jackson, Michigan.

DELTA CHAPTER

University of Alabama
University, Alabama

Delta Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha in carrying out the program theme of Looking at Librarianship had outstanding librarians as speakers for the October and January meetings. The program for the October meeting was presented by Miss Eugenia Yeuell, who has recently returned from a tour of duty as a librarian in Germany. At the January meeting Mrs. Elinor Arsic, field representative of the Public Library Service Division of Alabama, spoke on the opportunities in public librarianship since the enactment of the Library Services Act.

The November meeting consisted of the initiating and pledging ceremony for the fall semester under the leadership of Miss Sandra Jeffcoat, President.

The new pledges are Mrs. Frances Roberts, Mrs. Ellen Joiner, Mrs. Mary Dale Sanford, Patricia Hughghins, La Juana Dagman, Linda Stapp, Joyce Shepard, Jane Pruitt, Karen Young, Jane Hinderer, Rebecca Warren, Martha Forman, and Carelen Arnold.

Miss Jamie Sue White, vice-president of Delta Chapter, presented the Christmas program for the December meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

Corrections:

Because the following new members were incorrectly listed in our Fall, 1957, issue, we apologize, and herewith give the correct listing.

Delta Chapter: Five-year Alumni Members: Mrs. Gladys Shivers, Librarian, Perry Co. High School, Marion, Ala.; and Mrs. Lucille Smith, Librarian, Grove Hill High School, Grove Hill, Ala.

EPSILON CHAPTER

Murray State College
Murray, Kentucky

Epsilon Chapter had a busy Christmas season. Several weeks before Christmas the chapter members began selling Christmas cards. From this project they netted about \$35.00 for the club treasury. On Wednesday, December 11, 1957, there was a Christmas party at the apartment of Louise Nelms, vice president of Epsilon, and Jo Ann Luther. At the party Miss Rezina Senter, the sponsor of Epsilon Chapter, was presented with a floral arrangement for her home and a pair of earrings.

Epsilon Chapter sponsored a high school librarian's workshop on December 13, 1957. There were approximately 200 students and teachers from surrounding counties. Library science students gave group conferences on book talks, mending, references, vertical file and children's library.

At the last business meeting it was voted to make purchase of Alpha Beta Alpha fraternity pins compulsory for each member.

Epsilon Chapter honored John Boggs, past national vice president, with a going-away party in the club-room on January 22. The chapter president presented him with a gift. He is the only January graduate.

Among the alumni is Nellie Strickland, who is serving her second year as Armed Services librarian in Japan.

ETA CHAPTER

Texas Woman's University
Denton, Texas

Members of Eta Chapter attended the annual Christmas party December 12 in the library science lounge. Elisa Garcia, chairman of the pledges, headed the entertainment committee. Several games were played, and Vanita Lee led Christmas carols accompanied by Alrene Rice on the accordion. Mona Munson told a Christmas story.

The four library science faculty members—Misses D. Genevieve Dixon, Loretta Kreuz, Anne Marinelli, and Mrs. Frances deCordova, sponsor of Eta Chapter—furnished refreshments of cookies, candy, and egg nog for the party.

To show appreciation for the help that the library science teachers gave Eta Chapter members this year, they

presented each faculty member with a Christmas decorated ivy plant.

At a short business meeting held at the party, Barbara Stobaugh, Gainesville, Texas, was elected National Councilman for the Fourth District.

Elizabeth Benbrook, president of Eta Chapter from Mount Pleasant, Texas, was one of the twenty-five members elected to *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities* from Texas Woman's University.

KAPPA CHAPTER

Millersville State Teachers College
Millersville, Pennsylvania

Kappa Chapter opened the year's activities with a Get-Acquainted Party in September. Nancy Cunningham, former vice president, assumed the duties of president at this meeting, since Helen Wardrop Wambaugh is no longer at Millersville. Teckla Collier was elected as the new vice president.

The program for October was an illustrated talk by Mrs. Josephine Roye on her summer seminar tour of Europe last year. On October 26, Miss Mae Graham, supervisor of school libraries in Maryland, spoke at the annual luncheon sponsored by Kappa Chapter. Her talk was on "The Administration of School Libraries." Eighty students and librarians were present at the luncheon.

The following girls were pledged at the November meeting: Margaret Brelsford, Sarah Darlington, Joyce Donohue, Neala Eyler, Barbara Fasnacht, Judy Graham, Ella Graham, Julia Heil, Kathryn Jenkins, Patricia Kirckesner, Carole Lock, Jane Ritzman, Helen Ryno, Mary Reary, Paula Schell, Jane Smoker, Cynthia Wiley, and Delores Zeiders. Also on the program was a panel discussion, "Books I Would Like to Have if I Were Marooned on a Desert Island." The members of the panel were Ruth Runkle, Nancy Eshelman, Ruth Gilbert, and Barbara Fasnacht.

On November 2, Kappa Chapter was host to the Student Library Association of Pennsylvania. Two authors of popular juvenile adventure books, Donald Cooke and Captain Joseph Icenhower, spoke to the group. Marilyn Mellott, national president of Alpha Beta Alpha, and the officers of Kappa Chapter went to Kutztown State Teachers College, Kutztown, Pennsylvania, on November 20, to

install the new Rho Chapter. At this time they were guests at the Kutztown Book Week Dinner.

The December meeting was in the form of a Christmas Party at which the pledges entertained the members.

During the fall several successful projects have been carried out. In October Kappa Chapter's Homecoming display won second prize in the campus-wide contest. Stuffed animals and school jewelry are being sold by the members, and each week hoagies are sold in the dormitories.

LAMBDA CHAPTER

Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The pledging ceremony for Lambda Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was held in the Library of the University High School of Louisiana State University on November 21, 1957.

The following students were pledged: Betty Gondrola, Mary Ann Adcock, Stephen W. Gagahan, Birdie Compton, William Wilson, Linda Gates, Carolyn Walker, Ellen Fitzgerald, and Abby Glaudot.

A supper party honoring the new pledges was held at the home of the sponsor, Dr. Shirley K. Stephenson, following the pledging ceremony. A special guest for the supper was Miss Coral Melson of Millersville, Pennsylvania. Miss Melson is a member of Kappa Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha at State Teachers College, Millersville, Pennsylvania. Lambda's president, Blanche Compton, graduated in January, 1958, and the vice president, Annis Jones, assumed the duties of president.

Annis Jones spoke on a panel discussion during the fall conference of teen-age library assistants which was held at the Adult Education Center of Louisiana State University. Miss Jones spoke on "What Alpha Beta Alpha Means to Me."

Members and pledges of Lambda Chapter were guests at an evening meeting of a regional workshop on Library Service for Young Adults held at L.S.U. during February. This workshop, which was intended for librarians interested in services for young people, was sponsored by the Library Education Division of the American Library Association and the Library School of Louisiana State University, with the cooperation of the Louisiana State Library and the ALA Young Adult Services Division.

MU CHAPTER

Illinois State Normal University
Normal, Illinois

With the opening of a new school year, Mu Chapter started its program rolling for the year. Guiding the Chapter's activities for this year are President, Mary Plager; Vice-President, Robert Abbott; Secretary-Treasurer, Shelia Anderson; and Historian, Eloise Cline. Miss Eunice Speer assumed the role of sponsor.

On September 16, 1957, Mu Chapter held its first meeting. Old friends and new friends mingled together, actively carrying out the meeting's theme, "Getting to Know You." The policies, rules, and regulations of the organization were explained to the newly interested members of the student body.

At the October 7th meeting the pledging and initiation ceremonies were performed. Each pledge received a pledge pin for the semester at a rental fee of a quarter. Following the business meeting, Mrs. Winifred Metzler, University High School librarian, talked of her experiences in connection with the International Reading Program.

Gaiety reigned on the weekend of October 18th and 19th as many alumni returned for Illinois State Normal University's centennial Homecoming. The Alpha Beta Alpha float, the result of several weeks' planning and a week's actual construction, paraded the streets of Normal in the Homecoming parade, publicizing Mu Chapter. After the parade a coffee hour was held to welcome old friends back to ISNU. These friends included visitors from Missouri, Michigan, and Wisconsin, as well as the president of ISNU and his wife. The first president of Milnerites, Margery Hinrichs, was a guest as was Melissa Ritter who was president when Milnerites began transactions to become a chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha.

Mu Chapter's first newsletter came out the sixteenth of October. The deadline was set early so that the alumni members might be encouraged to come and participate in the Homecoming plans. Other projects for the chapter include making a movie record of some of the highlights of the year's activities.

Other programs this year have included a film, "Carpet Under Every Classroom," and a Christmas party held at the home of the sponsor, Miss Speer.

The chapter has decided to purchase the "Wall of the Crest" which is to be put on display on the campus.

Miss Shirley Scribner, formerly president of Mu chapter, is now unit district librarian at Peotone, Illinois. Miss Lucy Ward, another of last year's graduates, is the librarian for the elementary and high school at Herscher, Illinois.

NU CHAPTER

Marshall College

Huntington, West Virginia

The December 19, 1957, meeting of Nu Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was an outstanding one for the members. They decided to carry out their plans for sending books to India.

And then their guest speaker, Dr. Ken Hechler, a professor of political science at Marshall College, was introduced. Dr. Hechler reviewed his recently published book, *The Bridge at Remagen*. After the meeting Dr. Hechler stayed to talk individually with some of the members.

PI CHAPTER

Our Lady of the Lake College

San Antonio, Texas

Pi Chapter had its pledging ceremony on October 17 in the library science department. There were twenty-six pledge—student and professional. Guests at this meeting were: Miss Grothaus, who is retiring after thirty-five years as Director at the San Antonio Public Library; Mrs. Leah Johnston, retired children's librarian; and Mrs. Jeanette Sebring Lowrey, author of *Margaret*.

The Activities Calendar for the year had been prepared and was distributed by Anna Rose Haile, Pi Chapter President.

Mrs. Johnston was speaker for the October meeting. Her topic was "How Bright the Future!"

Four Alpha Beta Alpha members planned and carried through an orientation period for the college freshmen on October 23.

Book Week was observed by an exhibit of children's books and by a tour of the public library followed by lunch at Casa Rio—the tour and lunch were open to all Pi Chapter members.

Pi Chapter sponsored the annual Christmas Story Hour December 19, in the library science department.

Mrs. Geraldine LeFevre, who has gained her story-telling experience at the Landa Memorial Library, was guest speaker. Her story was entitled "Christmas at Cactus County." Anna Rose Haile, president of Pi Chapter, read "The Christmas Story." Members of the German Club sang carols after the story telling. Pledges were in charge of invitations, arrangements, decorations, and refreshments.

There was a joint meeting with the Bexar Library Association on January 13 in the college library. Miss Geraldine Dixon of Texas Woman's University of Denton, Texas, the guest speaker, talked on "Trends in Library Service." Since Miss Dixon is Pi Chapter's Alpha Beta installation sponsor, the chapter presented her with an orchid corsage. Refreshments were served by pledges and officers.

February 12, Pi sponsored a Games Party to raise funds to defray the costs of a delegate's attending the Alpha Beta Alpha convention.

Pi Chapter took charge of the February 17 college student assembly period. Brother Anthony Frederick of St. Mary's University English Department spoke on Catholic Book Week. "The Best in Catholic Reading" lists were distributed.

During National Library Week, March 16-22, Pi Chapter took part in a Library Resources Fair. There was a booth for portraying library education and recruitment in San Antonio.

RHO CHAPTER

State Teachers College

Kutztown, Pennsylvania

Rho Chapter of Alpha Beta Alpha was installed on Wednesday, November 20, 1957, on the campus of State Teachers College, Kutztown, Pennsylvania. Installing the chapter were the National President of Alpha Beta Alpha, Marilyn Mellott, and the officers of Kappa Chapter of State Teachers College, Millersville, Pennsylvania—Nancy Cunningham, president; Teckla Collier, vice-president; Jean Stradtman, secretary; and Janet Cooper, historian. The acting sponsor of Kappa Chapter, Miss Beatrice U. Datesman, shared also in the ceremony.

There were twenty-two students and faculty members initiated into Rho Chapter. The officers are Ronald Schaffer, president; Jack Moyer, vice-president; Jane Osterstock, secretary; Joan Dunkle, historian and reporter;

and Mrs. Betty Holland, treasurer. Mr. Nicholas G. Stevens, Director of Library Education at Kutztown, is sponsor of the group.

Following the installation ceremony, the combined Rho Chapter and the

Junior Library Club sponsored a Book Week dinner. Dr. C. Duncan Yetman, of the college English Department, addressed the group on the subject, "The Helpful Goblin."

Rho Chapter would like to express

its sincerest thanks to the officers of Kappa Chapter for their aid in helping the Chapter to get under way. The Chapter is looking forward to a successful first year in Alpha Beta Alpha.

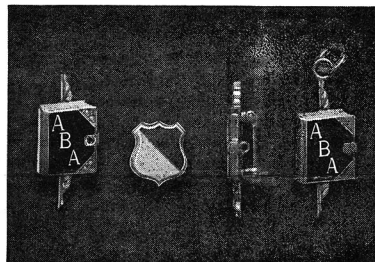
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503	700	503	501

MEMBERSHIP TABULATION (1956-57)

	Alpha	Beta	Gamma	Delta	Epsilon	Zeta	Eta	Theta	Iota	Kappa	Lambda	Mu	Nu	Xi	Omicron	Pi	TOTALS
Honorary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Institutional	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Active																	
Student	16	28	15	24	17	18	22	15	24	48	12	16	29	10	30	15	339
Professional	13	6	7	1	1	3	4	9	4	5	2	13	1	11	10	4	94
Alumni																	
Five-year	1	0	0	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Life	61	49	79	141	17	17	67	27	92	54	3	24	6	14	3	0	654
Contributing	1	0	3	8	2	0	4	0	1	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	29
TOTAL	93	83	104	190	38	38	97	51	121	107	21	59	36	35	43	19	1,149

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