CHAPTER 2

1913 to 1930

Historians: Dorothy Batten, A; Marguerite Archambeault Chenery, A;
Hattie Kelly Thomas, A; Agnes Sandine Brunson Toms, BB


Ruth Duffey, AA

Dear Pearl:

I shall describe to you in the best way I know how the events of the sorority from the years 1913 to 1930. Helping me in this endeavor is Amy M. Swisher, for many years adviser to Alpha Alpha, who contributes information covering the years 1918-1926.

Miami [Ohio] has always been a fraternity-minded university, three of the older fraternities being founded there, and in later years, a few sororities. During the school year 1911-1912, three local sororities were organized in the normal school at the suggestion of Harvey C. Minnich, Miami's first dean of what is now the school of education.

Dean Minnich realized how valuable sorority membership might be to a girl training for the teaching profession and coveted membership in a group for every girl if possible. So it was not surprising to have him select a small group of girls as a nucleus for each of these three locals, and then advise and assist them in every way he could.

The first of the three locals was admitted to Sigma Sigma Sigma. A second, also organized in 1911, remained a local for some time. Our group, Pi Alpha Tau, was formed in the spring of 1912. It was a small group (there were seven girls), but strong, and we were recognized on the campus for our poise, good scholarship and varied interests. I was the eighth girl to be received into the chapter the following year of 1912-1913, and was elected secretary in the spring of 1913.

A sorority friend of one of the girls, a Delta Delta Delta, I believe, gave her a Sorority Handbook and advised her to write to the author, Ida Shaw Martin, for help in going national since Pi Alpha Tau wished to follow the action of the local that had already become national as a chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma.

That badly battered handbook was given into my keeping, together with some correspondence that had been received from Mrs. Martin, and the instruction to give Uncle Sam's mails a little additional business to see if we couldn't line up other local sororities that would be interested in helping to organize a national.

Fondly,
Ruth Duffey, AA

1913 to 1914

The importance of Ida Shaw Martin

About the same time that Pi Alpha Tau at Miami of Ohio was corresponding with Ida Shaw Martin, Alpha Chapter members had written her for advice as to what they should do. Through Mrs. Martin, Pi Alpha Tau got in touch with the girls at Farmville. As a result, Pi Alpha Tau was installed as the Pi Tau Chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha in May 1913.

Alpha and Pi Tau chapters immediately elected Mrs. Martin to honorary membership, and with her years of sorority experience she proved to be invaluable to the girls in those early days of reorganization. With Mrs. Martin's help Alpha Sigma Alpha carried on an extensive correspondence with every local sorority that it could get in touch with during the school year of 1913-1914.

Those were hectic days. Naturally the sorority members wanted to make a good impression on these strange girls to whom they were writing, so it was a common occurrence for Ruth Duffey, AA, to send an S.O.S. down the hall in Hepburn to all Alpha Sigma Alphas to congregate in her room and think of some choice words for her to use in the letters.

1914 to 1915

Two more interested groups

When October of 1914 rolled around, the sorority had two other groups that were sufficiently interested in Alpha Sigma Alpha to arrange for a convention. These groups were Kappa Theta Psi at Kirksville, Mo., a very large group several years old, and Gamma Pi Beta at Indiana, Pa.

The Phoenix rises

A weekly publication for Alpha Sigma Alpha, The Phoenix, appeared in the fall of 1914. It was issued from Ida Shaw Martin's office in Boston, and Volume I, Number 1, dated Nov. 1, 1914, consisted of four 8 by 11 sheets duplicated in a bluish-purple ink with single-spaced pica type.

To the older Alpha Sigma Alphas it must have seemed very crude after the attractive printed publication once issued by the sorority, but to those struggling to renew the strength of Alpha Sigma Alpha, it meant an important forward step.

To issue it, a Rotospeed machine was purchased, and it was calculated that if 100 sheets were run each time, the total cost of production would be 1 cent a sheet. At a dollar a year, each girl was to receive 25 editions, and there had to be 100 subscriptions. Two issues were mailed biweekly, and chapters received their allotments by express.

The first paragraph of the new publication deals with the meaning of "phoenix." This material was later incorporated into the printed "Symbolism."

Next is discussed the impending Miami convention Nov. 27-28, 1914. Business sessions were scheduled for all day Friday and Saturday, with a model initiation on Friday evening from 8 to 10 p.m. One of the suggestions made was that a national historian be elected to write an authentic account of the first 13 years of the sorority.

National council 1914-1918

President, Phoenix editor
Ida Shaw Martin,
Delta Delta Delta sorority

Vice president (1917)
Ida A. Jewett, AB

Secretary
Elva Doyle, AB

Edith Gamble, AB
(upon the death of Elva Doyle Reed in 1917)

Treasurer
Ruth Duffey, AA

Historian
Dorothy Batten, A

Registrar (1917)
Eleanor Lowry, AΓ

Ritualist
Minnie M. Shockley, ΓΓ
(1917)

Librarian
Jennie Lind Green, BB
(1917)

Mary A. Paden, BB

There is also a discussion of the naming of chapters:

"The Central Office [a.k.a. Ida Shaw Martin] has a new suggestion to make and that is that 'Alpha' belong to the Mother Chapter in Virginia and that the others represented at the convention be named with some Alpha combination. For instance, Miami might be Alpha Alpha; Kirksville, Alpha Beta; Iowa, Alpha Gamma; and Pennsylvania, Alpha Delta. This will give us the idea of 'one' developing into 'four' additional chapters. The Central Office, in the case of the adoption of such a ruling, would recommend that no other combination of 'Alpha' ever again be used, that letter being considered the absolute property of those that were associated with the new foundation."

From the nature of the material presented, the first Phoenix was intended to be esoteric. For more on The Phoenix, see p. 339.

From The Phoenix issues dated Dec. 1 and 8, 1914, there is an account of the convention and the constitution and bylaws adopted. Although far briefer than the constitution and bylaws of today, there are many of the same articles in the document adopted in 1914.

Undergraduate chapters could be established in normal schools or teachers colleges requiring at least 14 units for entrance. Conventions were to be held every four years and were to be the supreme governing board of the sorority.



Ida Shaw Martin, a founding member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, was instrumental in reorganizing Alpha Sigma Alpha in 1914.

A council of four

In the interim the government was vested in the national council composed of president, secretary, treasurer and historian. Because it was felt more efficient to allow the newly elected council to determine the individual duties of each councilor, these were not defined in the constitution but suggestions as to division were to be made to the next convention for incorporation into the constitution.

In the chapter bylaws, chapters were limited to 32 actives, and officers were listed as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, registrar, historian, librarian and chaplain. The historian had the duties of the present editor-historian.

Regular, special, annual and social meetings were provided; regular meetings were to be held every two weeks. The celebrations were Founders' Day, Chapter Day, commemorating the installation of the chapter, St. Valentine's Day and Alumnae Day, which was to be as near May 25 as possible.

There was no chapter constitution, regulations for chapters all being placed in the bylaws. The national secretary was made custodian of the badge, and the official jeweler was designated as A.H. Fettig of Baltimore. Official stationery was ruled to be pearl white with the printing in crimson.

It was also ruled that, "The Virginia Chapter shall be known as Alpha, the Miami Chapter as Alpha Alpha, the Missouri Chapter as Alpha Beta, the Pennsylvania Chapter as Alpha Gamma. The letter ALPHA shall be forever reserved for the use of these four chapters, which formed the basis of the reorganized sorority." Another convention ruling stated, "The grip, as always used, both open and secret, shall stand."

Elected as national president was Mrs. William Holmes [Ida Shaw] Martin. Other officers

were Elva Doyle, AB (Kappa Theta Psi), secretary; Ruth Duffey, AA, treasurer; and Dorothy Batten, A, historian.

Standing committees were designated as finance, Mrs. Martin and Ruth Duffey; extension, Mrs. Martin and Elva Doyle; publications, Dorothy Batten and Ruth Duffey; and education, Elva Doyle and Dorothy Batten. The committee on education was given charge of the annual sorority examination.

Miami convention

The Miami convention was held on the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 27 and 28, 1914. Dorothy Batten, A, Elva Doyle, AB, and Lennye Tucker of Kappa Theta Psi arrived on Thanksgiving afternoon. What an excitement there was when it was time to meet them. Before many hours had elapsed, the girls at Miami felt that they had known them for years and years.

They had planned no entertainment for Thanksgiving night because the Indiana [Pennsylvania] delegate, Ruth K. Ritchey, was to arrive late that evening. Some of them met her, and the others attended an entertainment given by the university for the students who couldn't get home for the holiday.



Delegates to the crucial 1914 convention included, from left, Ruth Duffey, AA, Elva Doyle Reed, AB, Dorothy Batten, A, and Lennye Tucker, ΚΘΨ.

Dorothy had been Alpha's president the preceding year and a 1914 graduate. Hence she represented both actives and alumnae. Elva Doyle was Kirksville's official delegate. Ruth Duffey was Miami's 1914 president and a 1914 graduate, and represented Miami's alumnae, while Miami undergraduates attended in a body.

These included Dorothy Clason, Harriet Smith and Helen Boggess of the class of 1916; and Nelle Berry, Ruth Coblentz, Ruth Elder, Eloise Everett, Gladys Fenton, Ethel McKinney, Nora Moser, Catherine Prudent, Ruth Sloneker and Bernadine Sutkamp of the class of 1917.

Alumnae were Jessie Chenowith, Rana Fonts, Winifred Johnson, Helen Lincoln, Elizabeth Newhall, Elizabeth Schaeffer, Helen Sexaner, Katherine Schultz, Harriet Wilson and Ruth Wyatt, all of whom had graduated from Miami in either 1913 or 1914.

It was a matter of extreme regret that the group from Iowa State Teachers College at Cedar Falls was forbidden by faculty opposition from becoming nationalized.

As mentioned in the history of Alpha Beta Chapter, Kappa Theta Psi had a Beta Chapter at this institution, and original plans for the reorganization of Alpha Sigma Alpha called for both the Alpha Chapter at Kirksville and the Cedar Falls group to become Alpha Sigma Alpha chapters. The Iowa girls had authorized their mother chapter at Kirksville to send a representative to the Miami convention.

When Lancinda Leedom, Pi Tau president and official Miami active delegate, called the convention to order on Friday morning, there was an attendance of 29. There were four visiting delegates, four active Pi Taus, 10 Pi Tau pledges and 11 Pi Tau alumnae.

Dorothy Batten was elected convention chairman and Elva Doyle, secretary. The revised constitution, which had been submitted by Mrs. Martin, was carefully discussed — article

by article — and finally adopted. The afternoon session was spent discussing and voting on chapter bylaws, regulations and convention rulings.

Friday evening there was a model initiation held in the kindergarten room of the training school, as were all of the meetings. Elva Doyle of Alpha Beta was the first initiate, Ruth Ritchey of Alpha Gamma, second, and then the Miami pledges. Lennye Tucker took the vows with the Miami girls. (Recall that the Miami actives and alumnae had already been initiated into Alpha Sigma Alpha because Alpha Alpha Chapter had been installed previously as Pi Tau Chapter, more than a year before.)

A dream come true

There probably have been more elaborate initiations, but Ruth Duffey recalled that there wouldn't be another quite so beautiful and so impressive as this one. It was more than just initiation. It was the culmination of months and months of intensive working, thinking, dreaming, planning — a dream come true.

Saturday morning was given to completing the discussion of regulations and to further discuss and clarify points that were still somewhat indefinite in the girls' minds. At the conclusion of the discussion they elected officers.

These business meetings had been a strain, for the girls felt very keenly their inexperience and inability to deal with many of the problems that they had to decide, and yet they all dreaded to hear the motion for adjournment that they knew had to come.

For adjournment meant that in just a few hours they'd have to say goodbye to Dorothy with her gracious Southern charm, to Elva of the lovable sunny disposition and to sweet smiling Lennye.

There would be many bigger conventions, with more social affairs and varied activities, but to Alpha Sigma Alphas who struggled with the difficult problems of those early days, the Miami convention was the most significant. In those two short days they adopted a constitution, a much more elaborate ritual, made some changes in symbols and customs and arranged for a weekly publication, The Phoenix. This was to be 25 issues of four pages each.

In order to carry the expense of The Phoenix, they had to have 100 subscriptions, so they set out to get them. When the 25th issue was published in May, the subscription list had 200 names on it. In addition, the active girls had paid entirely for the mimeograph (really a Rotospeed) on which the magazine was printed. (It was mentioned in a Phoenix issue that Alpha Gamma's share was $7.50.)

In spite of the important legislation enacted, the delegates in 1914 could not deviate from the pattern laid down by their older sisters of Alpha Sigma Alpha in previous conventions.

According to The Phoenix of Dec. 16, 1914: "It was a matter of deep regret to all at the convention that the girls from Missouri and Dorothy Batten, who had to return to take charge of her North Carolina school on Monday morning, were forced to leave on the noon train, especially as the Miami girls had planned a party for Saturday afternoon.

"Ruth Ritchey and many of the Miami alumnae were able to remain for that very delightful affair, however, which was held in the parlor of Bishop Hall, one of the Miami dormito-

ries. The room looked very pretty with its decorations of chrysanthemums and smilax. On the tea tables were red candles in crystal sticks and shaded with crimson.

"Ruth Duffey and Helen Boggess poured, while the Miami freshmen served tea, sandwiches and mints. Between 75 and 100 guests were present to shower congratulations on the reorganized sorority and to wish it success in the new field."

Even The Phoenix of Dec. 24, 1914, echoes the convention in the form of personal letters to Mrs. Martin. Here we read that Dean Elizabeth Hamilton of Miami is adviser for Alpha Alpha and that Dean Minnich of the university was greatly pleased that the convention was held at Miami.

"He is a great friend to all the sororities and believes that every girl should become a sorority member, if she gets a chance. He very kindly excused us from classes on Friday and Saturday and made many valuable suggestions to us. Convention sessions were held in the Normal Building, a three-story building, the second and third floors of which are used by the William McGuffey School, the school where the sophomore normal students do their practice teaching. The Kindergarten Room was placed at our disposal for the business sessions and for the initiations."

Strength in alumnae

The Jan. 1, 1915, Phoenix is confined to a discussion of the provisions of the constitution and to extension. The viewpoint of Ida Shaw Martin, president, is apparent in her article titled "Extension":

"A sorority's strength is in its alumnae who carry the teachings of the sorority into the thick of life, making a test that will prove whether the ideals of the order are really well worthwhile.

"If a sorority can hold the interest of its alumnae, if it can devise ways and means of making sorority affiliation absolutely indispensable to the complete happiness of the girl who has left her school days far behind, it will have demonstrated its value far more than it ever can by merely adding more girls to the bottom of the list as fast as they retire at the top. The other kind of extension is, of course, also necessary, but care must be exercised in arranging for such growth.

"The Thanksgiving Convention did much to safe-guard this kind of extension by deciding not to enter any institution that does not require 14 entrance units, which is the same as saying a four-year high school course. Such institutions as this would therefore rank with the best colleges in the land, and this requirement, if adhered to strictly, will place Alpha Sigma Alpha abreast of the best collegiate sororities in the country.

"In considering the claims of a petitioning group, then, the first requirement to be demanded is that the school shall be of A rank. The second point to be considered is the type of girl, and the Extension Committee intends to exercise great care, when in receipt of petitions, that this imperative requirement is also met."

By Jan. 16 it was possible to announce the acceptance by Ida A. Jewett, AB, a member of the Kirksville faculty, to supervise the cabinet work on education. Five state secretaryships

were also announced as filled: Georgia: Sourie Glover, ΣΦΕ; Missouri: Marion Gardner, AB; Ohio: Helen Lincoln, AA; Pennsylvania: Ruth K. Ritchey, AΓ; Virginia: Charlie R. Jones, A.

Sourie Glover had established Nu Chapter at Shorter College while a faculty member of that institution. Charlie Jones was also no newcomer to national work, having been a national historian. Both Helen Lincoln and Ruth Ritchey had been present at the 1914 convention.

National reports first appear

The present-day chapter officer who wonders "who on earth began this business of monthly letters to national" would read in the Jan. 24, 1914, issue of The Phoenix that "there shall be a report of chapter activities sent in to the Central Office on the first day of every month.

"The Chapter President shall assign this duty to either the Historian or the Secretary, as may seem best, but the President is the one who will be held responsible for its prompt appearance. This report should cover not only the chapter activities, but should also touch upon any interesting things that may have happened in school."

National councilors burdened with the problem of keeping themselves well-informed on sorority business may read that a round-robin letter carried all the interesting original letters from Mrs. Martin to Ruth Duffey, AA, in Ohio, then to Elva Doyle, AB, in Missouri, then to North Carolina to Dorothy Batten, A, and finally back to Boston.

It may also be read that, in the December 1914 issue of Banta's Greek Exchange, a history of Alpha Sigma Alpha had appeared as part of the Sorority Study Series edited by Mrs. Martin, who was then the Exchange's sorority editor.

Hattie plans "state meets"

In February the sorority announced the appointments of Francis Jones Hoge, A, as West Virginia state secretary and Hattie Virginia Kelly, A, to the cabinet post of social life. Regarding Miss Kelly's work, we read:

"One of her plans is to make a study of the kind of social life that our chapters, undergraduate and graduate, now have and how this may be improved. Another plan is to have a scrapbook into which shall go all the souvenirs that you will send her of your good times. She wants to make a collection of these, so she can pass around the best ideas to chapters that want suggestions for social affairs or rushing stunts.

"One of the best plans, however, is for STATE MEETS. She is planning to have a BIG ΑΣΑ MEET in every state that has any ΑΣΑs in it." Tentative plans called for "plenty to eat, rousing songs, and stirring speeches."

A week later, the acceptance by Elizabeth Schaeffer, AA, of the position of secretary of hygiene was reported. On the same page of The Phoenix we find her initial contribution: an article on the sins of the undergraduate during her midyear examination "cramming."

King Asa

The achievements and genealogy of King Asa, jingled so many years by initiate and alumnae, apparently first saw the light of Alpha Sigma Alpha on Feb. 16, 1915 — a most appropriate date, no doubt, for the national president had already called attention to the magic of the sum of the year's digits as being auspicious for the sorority.

The song prefaced the long story of the ancient ruler, that story so famous in the old red book of "Symbolism." In fact, the length of the story caused its continuance, in the following week's issue, ironically enough, issue No. 16.

The Phoenix recognition pin in 14 karat gold made its bow in print late in March. Like the official badge, it was to be ordered only through the national secretary and bear a number and the owner's name on the back. The pin was one-half inch long and three-eighths inch across the wing spread. It was made in dull finish.

The school year of 1914-1915 was an experimental year. The acts of the Miami convention must be tried, hard work had to be done and each venture must be undertaken in the spirit of faith.

And in the world ...

1915

The Victor Talking Machine Co. introduces a phonograph, the Victorola.

"A strong-minded mother"

The infant Phoenix was the central medium by which the various parts of Alpha Sigma Alpha were linked. As a journalistic venture, the present-day Alpha Sigma Alpha would claim nothing for it. It consisted entirely of instructions and discussions of sorority rulings and policies, chapter newsletters and excerpts from articles on morals and Greek organizations.

It reminds one greatly of the family mail pouch sent periodically to the faraway children by a strong-minded mother whose experience and age are assumed to give her authority of opinion and action.

Only infrequently does Ida Shaw Martin, president, mentioned as the "Central Office," fade into the background. Alpha Sigma Alpha at that period needed a personality with Greek experience and technique who could pull together various components, weak in diversity of interests, youth and discouragements. No one, after reading those 112 pages of exhortations, explanations and letters, could doubt that the sorority received such "in good measure."

However, not even a keen-witted woman of Greek experience in Boston was responsible for the 210 Phoenix subscriptions by the end of the year. Only local girls, not a central office, could be responsible for 97 alumnae initiated from the ranks of the Kappa Theta Psi group in Kirksville.

1915 to 1916

Association of Pedagogical Sororities

The school year 1915-1916 opened auspiciously with The Phoenix in a new dress (because of the purchase of a mimeograph to replace the Rotospeed) and the announcement of the organization of the Association of Pedagogical Sororities:

"During June 1915, considerable correspondence passed between the president of Alpha

Sigma Alpha [Ida Shaw Martin] and national officers in Sigma Sigma Sigma, relative to the formulation of an association that should endeavor to secure uniformity of standards in pedagogical sororities in matters of common interest.

"Both governing boards had been endeavoring individually to make their respective sororities count as an educative force wherever there were chapters, and, when the idea of an association was suggested, both were quick to see the possibilities in such an organization.

"As Sigma Sigma Sigma was holding its National Convention in Cincinnati, July 6-9, and as Alpha Sigma Alpha had a National Officer living relatively near, it seemed wise to call a conference at Hotel Gibson, headquarters of Sigma Sigma Sigma. Accordingly, Miss Ruth Duffey, National Treasurer of Alpha Sigma Alpha, and Miss Helen Boggess, a graduate member of the Miami Chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha, met the Council of Sigma Sigma Sigma for preliminary discussion on July 10.

"As there were some slight differences of opinion on several points, there was no definite organization formed, both sides feeling that the whole matter could well be left in abeyance for a while, so as to allow both sororities full opportunity for careful deliberation.

"It is customary, when a Panhellenic is formed, to have the oldest sorority present assume the Chairmanship, while the next point of age serves as Secretary. The Chairmanship should then have gone to Sigma Sigma Sigma and the Secretaryship to Alpha Sigma Alpha.

"The former, however, very graciously insisted that the National President of Alpha Sigma Alpha, Mrs. Ida Shaw Martin, author of The Sorority Handbook and Sorority Editor of The Greek Exchange, should be honored with the Chairmanship. Mrs. Martin was loath to accept an office contrary to precedent, but was at length prevailed upon at a final conference between the two sororities on Sept. 4.

"Miss Marguerite C. Hearsey, Panhellenic Representative of Sigma Sigma Sigma, had been summering in Jaffrey, N.H., and was returning to New York City via Boston, where Mrs. Martin's home is, so a meeting was easily arranged. The accompanying pages set forth the Constitution of the Associated Sororities, the Code of Ethics, and the Model Constitution for Local Panhellenics, which were duly formulated and accepted, and which are now binding on all chapters of Alpha Sigma Alpha and Sigma Sigma Sigma that meet on common ground.

"Those affected, therefore, are the chapters at Virginia State Normal School, Miami University Normal Department, and Pennsylvania State Normal School. The first establishment in each case will call the meeting for organization, which should be effected within the shortest possible period after the opening of the Fall Season.

"As it is customary in Hellas to extend the courtesy of membership to all other Greek-Letter Sororities on the campus, it is recommended that the significance of the newly established Association of Pedagogical Sororities be explained fully to them, and that they be invited to join the Local Panhellenic."

Marguerite C. Hearsey, Sigma Sigma Sigma, was the first secretary-treasurer of the new association. The name was changed to the Association of Education Sororities in 1919 at the

group's biennial meeting in St. Louis.

Aster, narcissus bloom

Certain rulings of the Miami convention proved impracticable in application. For example, the familiar coat-of-arms was found by the engraver, E.A. Wright Bank Note Co., Philadelphia, to be more attractive and distinctive, and the open motto was discovered to be more adaptable to a ribbon and if stated in the second person plural of the command, rather than the singular.

It was also decided, as a result of a national council study, that the aster and the narcissus would be more appropriate to the sorority's ritualistic plan than the chrysanthemum and daffodil.

On New Year's Day 1916, Theta Zeta Beta of the Colorado State Teachers' College, Greeley, was notified that its petition to Alpha Sigma Alpha had been granted. Sixteen days later, a preliminary petition from the Sorosis Club of the State Normal School, Alva, Okla., was received.

Elva Doyle Reed, AB, slated to be the Colorado installing officer, Marion Gardner, AB, and the insignia committee, composed of Kirksville alumnae, began preparations for the new chapter paraphernalia. On Feb. 19, Beta Beta Chapter was installed at Greeley. Mrs. Reed was assisted by Vanda Mitchell, AB, of Denver.

From Colorado, Mrs. Reed and the installation trunk went to Alva for the installation of Gamma Gamma from Feb. 21 to 24.

In March, the well-known membership certificate, or shingle, was ready for distribution.

April brought sorority examinations and a request to the Springfield, Ohio, alumnae to prepare a rushing manual for use the following fall.

The Phoenix issues of this year are filled with business, news, symbolism, discussion of the Greek-letter world and justifications of hellenic systems. There seem to have been 127 pages during the year, with other mimeographed material inserted periodically. Among them is found an early examination.

1916 to 1917

Rush manual printed

The rushing manual mentioned as a project of that year materialized in connection with The Phoenix of Sept. 16, 1916. It consisted of six mimeographed sheets and contained the following divisions: Principles in Rushing, Whom to Rush, How to Rush, Ideals, Training, Organization, Arguments and Its Rivals (a history of the three sororities then in the Association of Pedagogical Sororities).

It concluded with the advice "You are a member of a STRONG sorority, one that ranks with the best in the country. Live it, talk it, dream it, work for it. In no other way can you so effectively convince others of its beauty, its greatness and its power."

At the beginning of this school year, chapter treasurers were required to keep a more detailed set of records and were furnished with three books: a receipt book labeled "special

assessments" to be used whenever there was need for a special levy on the membership, a book for initiation dues and one for regular dues.

Each book gave one sheet to each member, and the initiation book had receipts for national treasurer, secretary and president, as well as for the chapter. It was urged upon the chapters that "the first and third meeting of each month be set aside for business, the second for general sorority news and sorority study, and the fourth for a jolly get-together of actives, alumnae and pledges."

One of the hopes at the beginning of this year was for the publication of a directory, and before the year ended, this was realized.

In The Phoenix of Nov. 24, 1916, there appeared the song "The Shield of ΑΣΑ" (sung to the tune of "The Orange and the Black"), beloved by generations of Alpha Sigma Alphas since then.



Elva Doyle Reed, AB, was the first member of the reorganized sorority to die.

Elva Doyle Reed dies

On Dec. 19, 1916, Alpha Sigma Alpha recorded with deepest sorrow the death, at the birth of a son, of Elva Doyle Reed, AB, the sorority's untiring and greatly loved national secretary. For the first time since the reorganization of the sorority, death came to the membership.

Of Elva Doyle Reed, it was written, "No sorority ever possessed a more lovable member, a more devoted member, a more efficient National Officer. From the moment of her initiation at the Miami Convention, to which she went as the delegate from Kirksville, to the day of her death, Alpha Sigma Alpha was to her almost a religion.

"Alpha Sigma Alpha owes to Elva Doyle Reed a deep debt of gratitude. So long as the Sorority shall stand, it will be a monument to her devotion, to her belief in its destiny as an educative force, to her faith in its ultimate and abundant success."

Until the death of Mrs. Reed, no sorority regulations had existed concerning the wearing of mourning. Ida Shaw Martin, president, notified the chapters by telegram of procedure based on best Hellenic custom, and the Eastern chapters were able to wear mourning on the day of the funeral. Thus began the Alpha Sigma Alpha custom of draping the badge with black grosgrain ribbon for a stated period in honor of a deceased member.

Among the bequests of Mrs. Reed was one leaving $50 to the national sorority, the only instruction being that the money should be devoted to The Phoenix. It was undoubtedly her plan to tide the magazine over the unusual financial strain under which it was then existing because of increasing costs of supplies, but members of the national council felt that the money with such sacred association should have more than transitory use.

It was, therefore, made the nucleus of the Elva Doyle Reed Life Subscription Fund. Her husband Charles R. Reed and her sister, Gertrude Doyle, AB, were the first beneficiaries to receive The Phoenix during their lifetimes. The sorority owes the inception of its endowment fund for publications to Elva Doyle Reed's love for Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Without this fund, the maintenance of publications of quality would have been impossible. The Norfolk Alumnae Association was first to contribute to the life subscription fund after its creation by Mrs. Reed's bequest. It sent $10, the result of a card party.

Council expands

Early in 1917, the formation of a larger national council was announced. The Phoenix leaves the reader uncertain as to the procedure involved in its choice, but apparently Ida Shaw Martin, deciding a larger council was necessary, asked the approval of the other two councilors, Elva Doyle Reed's office having not yet been filled. Accordingly, the national council was increased to eight members, with titles and duties as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the National President to preside at the National Convention, to see that all Sorority Officers perform their duties faithfully, to hold the power of final decision on all disputed points, and to have general supervision of the work of the Sorority.

"It shall be the duty of the National Vice President to serve as Dean of Chapter Advisers, to exercise general supervision over the Undergraduate Chapters, and to have charge of the Annual Sorority Examinations.

"It shall be the duty of the National Secretary to attend to the general correspondence of the Sorority, to supervise the work of the State and Class secretaries, and to superintend the establishment and work of the Alumnae Associations.

"It shall be the duty of the National Treasurer to receive all National Dues and Initiation Fees, to pay out monies only by order of the National President, and to keep a strict and accurate account of all receipts and expenditures.

"It shall be the duty of the National Registrar to care for the National Card Catalogue, and to publish a Directory of the membership as often as funds are available for the purpose.

"It shall be the duty of the National Historian to gather material and data for a History to be published whenever the National Convention shall so decide. She shall keep an accurate historical account of the Sorority in general and of each Chapter year by year.

"It shall be the duty of the National Librarian to care for the National Files and to supervise the Chapter Programs.

"It shall be the duty of the National Ritualist to supervise the secret work of the Chapters, and to see that all Initiation Services are conducted in accordance with National Rulings."

Each national officer was to supervise the work of the corresponding chapter officer.

There were also set up the following committees: hygiene, education, social life, ethics, interior, finance, extension, alumnae service, catalogue, history, manual and songbook. These consisted of two councilors each.

The above plan made no provision for an editor. The Phoenix remained in the charge of Ida Shaw Martin, president, with state and class secretaries as assistant business managers.

Because Alpha and Alpha Alpha were already represented on the council, it was decided that the secretaryship should go to an Alpha Beta, as Mrs. Reed had been from that chapter, and because Alpha Beta had on its roll 159 names, a large number for the small national sorority. The remaining officers were to be divided among Alpha Gamma, Beta Beta and Gamma Gamma.

And in the world ...

April 6, 1917

The United States enters World War I, declaring war on Germany.

Music in code

The modern college girl, accustomed to convenient methods of communication, would be puzzled by the ingenious method adopted by the "central office" [Ida Shaw Martin] of 1917 in sending out original music to the membership. Because the work of mimeographing music was considered too difficult and expensive, the music for "There Is an Island" was written in letters.

The code was deciphered by such instructions as "Half notes are indicated by the use of capitals. Eighth notes are indicated by the use of / through small letters. Chords are separated by the ; and bars by the *. Rests are indicated by the use of the ==." What good training for future code breakers in the F.B.I.

WWI influence begins

Although the first World War had not yet begun, to one reading the chapter letters for 1917, the term "first aid" stands out. Beta Beta members in Greeley, Colo., who would work in the new Campfire movement were taking, among other things, "first aid" lectures, given by the director of physical education. They rejoiced that because college credit was given for this, they were able to sandwich it into their busy lives.

Echoes of war now creep into Alpha Sigma Alpha's record as the United States was preparing to enter the European conflict. While Missouri and Oklahoma were busy with thoughts of summer school ahead, Alpha Gamma wrote of the organization of a campus Red Cross unit.

In Virginia, Alpha was participating in a campus campaign for the Belgian children, for which the chapter had a week of self-denial in order to contribute the $12 necessary to keep a Belgium baby from starvation. Kirksville alumnae began making surgical dressings and collecting materials for the Red Cross.

Delta Delta installed

In Ohio, all thoughts centered on the installation of Delta Delta Chapter at Ohio University in Athens. Services were held Feb. 20-21, 1917. Helen Lincoln, AA, state secretary, and Ruth Duffey, AA, treasurer, were installing officers. The Athens Chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma most graciously loaned its room for the services. Until that time, Sigma Sigma Sigma had been the only pedagogical sorority on the campus, having entered in 1912.

(However, Greek-letter organizations first entered in 1841 with the installation of Beta Theta Pi, and five National Panhellenic Congress groups were existing in the college of liberal arts.)

The declaration of war soon began to make itself felt among the national council and various chapters. Gamma Gamma reported that when the summer session opened with 560 students, fewer than 100 were men, for male students were enlisting or working in the harvest fields.

The Kirksville Red Cross Chapter, originally organized by the Alpha Sigma Alpha alumnae in that town, increased to hundreds of local female members. Three important offices,

including that of president, went to Alpha Sigma Alphas, patronesses or alumnae.

Delta Delta reported that the 1917 commencement "lacked some of its customary brilliancy, because so many of our men had answered the call of the Government." When school opened in the fall, Alpha Beta made Saturdays regular Alpha Sigma Alpha days at Red Cross headquarters and spent the first Saturday there with its rushees.

1917 to 1918

First life subscription

The Phoenix of Oct. 24, 1917, announced the purchase by the national sorority of a $1,000 bond of the Second Liberty Loan. Into this bond went the sums accumulated from the $2 reservation from every initiation fee (an amount supposed to be divided equally between the General Endowment Fund and The Phoenix Endowment Fund), the Elva Doyle Reed Endowment Fund, the chapter gifts of $50 to endow the copies of The Phoenix for chapter advisers and chapter libraries, and the first individual life subscription, which had been taken by Minnie M. Shockley, ΓΓ.

Since the total of these was inadequate, an advance loan had to be made from the general treasury. In this way, it was planned that at the close of the fourth year after the reorganization at Miami the sorority would possess an endowment fund of $1,000, all loaned to the American government in its emergency.

Alpha Gammas formed the habit of dropping in at Red Cross rooms on Monday afternoons, their free time, and helping with surgical dressings. In reporting to national council, they also mentioned the sugar shortage, even the brown sugar having given out at the college.

Alpha was also doing without, for it gave up its annual banquet in order to turn over the money to the Students' War Fund. These girls also assisted in a benefit vaudeville performance for the aid of the War Relief Fund. Alpha Alpha furnished $50 of the $4,000 Miami University Y.M.C.A. War Fund.

Epsilon Epsilon installed

In spite of war work and interest, Alpha Sigma Alpha was able to see its earlier work bear fruit with the installation on Nov. 16-17, 1917, of Epsilon Epsilon Chapter at Kansas State Normal School in Emporia. Installing officers were Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, vice president, and Miss Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, ritualist.

Kappa Delta Theta, the local installed as Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, was the oldest organization of girls at the Kansas State Normal, having been founded in 1901. It petitioned Alpha Sigma Alpha because of the influence of Blanche Stevenson, ΓΓ, and Grace McGinnis, sister of Eileen McGinnis Higbee, both girls being new matriculates at the college that fall.

Miss Jewett's road trip

During the school year of 1917-1918, Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, was fortunate in securing a month's leave from Kirksville to be spent in the interests of Alpha Sigma Alpha. Her itinerary

included visits with Alpha Alpha, Delta Delta, Alpha and Ida Shaw Martin, president, as well as other members of the national council. With Miss Jewett went the "installation trunk," outstanding in undergraduate minds for its grandeur and completeness.

First to share its glories in inspection initiation was Alpha Alpha, whose cup of joy was nearly full, even though the string quartette of Beta Theta Pi, which was considered quite the nicest musical organization, was unexpectedly called for military duty.

Two members of Delta Delta Delta and one of Chi Omega substituted for entertainment at the gorgeous tea held in Miss Jewett's honor. Joined by an Alpha Sigma Alpha, these musicians made a most acceptable substitute. This month of inspecting was one of Miss Jewett's splendid and valuable volunteer services to the sorority.

Coincident with Beta Beta's wail that the coal shortage and Colorado blizzards did not comfortably mix, came word from Miami that "the importance of the war to Miami students was brought out most sharply the other day when a service flag bearing 255 stars was hung from the stage of the Auditorium.

"The announcement of the courses for the second semester makes the fact that we are at war also very evident, for the 50 new courses included wireless telegraphy, military French, military training and various others suggestive of the strenuous times. Special stress, too, is laid on agriculture, plant breeding and such other preparation as is needed by those who will go into the work of trying to make two ears of corn grow where one grew before."

February found the national librarian, Mary Paden, BB, asking each chapter and alumnae group to make a scrapbook for wounded soldiers sent home to hospitals.

Convention in Chicago

For the first time since the memorable convention of Thanksgiving 1914, Alpha Sigma Alphas convened nationally on Easter weekend 1918 at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago. The April 1918 Phoenix gives this account:

"Every train seemingly was on time, every little identification bow in place, every Travelers' Aid representative at her post, so the arrival of the delegates was made easy. It was a great relief to know that the Travelers' Aid had been supplied with a copy of the train schedules and the names of the delegates, as well as with a sample of the identification bow, white over green.

"The first to arrive in Chicago was Ruth Duffey, AA. Her train was so early that she did not dream there would be anyone in the station when she arrived to look out for her, so she was greatly surprised to be greeted with, 'Miss Duffey, I believe,' and still more amazed to find the greeting in a masculine voice of unusual richness and depth.

"The Travelers' Aid having been told that Miss Duffey was National Treasurer, naturally supposed that she would have large sums of money with her, so called up the Police Commissioner, who heard it U.S.A. Treasurer, instead of ΑΣΑ Treasurer over the telephone and who promptly assigned the handsomest captain on the force to the task of seeing that Miss Duffey was received and shadowed until her valued self and her valuables were safely under the roof of the Convention Hotel."

Convention sessions were held in the Rose Parlor of the new Hotel Sherman, which was so new that "every room is supplied with a private bath."

It seemed just like one big chapter off-duty during play time, but when the sessions were held it was evident that many minds had been thinking on the topics presented to the chapters for discussion, and that earnest consideration had been given to every item, for each delegate showed by her perfect knowledge of every matter presented at the sessions that she had come prepared to voice the opinion of many Alpha Sigma Alphas.

Yet through all the gatherings there ran the strong current of feeling that the chapter must stand aside when the national welfare was the point at issue. Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, vice president, presided because of the absence of Ida Shaw Martin, president.

Conventions every four years

Delegates amended the constitution to provide for national conventions every four years because the original plan of two-year interims had proved financially impossible. Changes also were made in fees, among them being that "the National Graduate Dues shall be levied according to the type of membership: $100 for Honor Roll, $50 for Life, $25 and $1 annually for Life-Annual, and $3 for Annual Membership."

Members voted that the official badge should be pearl bordered. The choice of the pledge pin was left to Ida Shaw Martin, president, in order that she might determine which lent itself best to the ritual scheme. The design for the Mothers' pin was accepted: a gold crown, supporting four whole pearls and bearing the sorority letters in black enamel.

Delegates also established a central office and voted that no normal school or teachers college should be considered as a possible field for a new chapter unless it had an annual income of at least $50,000 and an enrollment of at least 250 students.

Life subscriptions to The Phoenix, at $25 each, were established. It was decided that The Phoenix should be a printed and bound magazine, issued monthly, in the charge of an editor-in-chief and a staff. The official stationery was designated as palm green embossed with the coat-of-arms and the lettering "Alpha Sigma Alpha" in palm green.

The convention body made a provision for a board of eight supervisors: art, examinations, extension, music, paraphernalia, scholarship, service, sorority study and Syrinx. The Syrinx was to be an esoteric magazine. Members also authorized for a ritual for the initiation of mothers and patronesses and decided that a uniform system of keeping records and accounts should be installed among the chapters.

The new editor for The Phoenix was elected by the convention: Ann Brewington, AB, a student at the University of Chicago. She apparently never served on the magazine, however; every issue continues to list Ida Shaw Martin as the editor during this period.

The editor's assistants, as well as all other members of the national council, were to be chosen by Ida Shaw Martin, president.

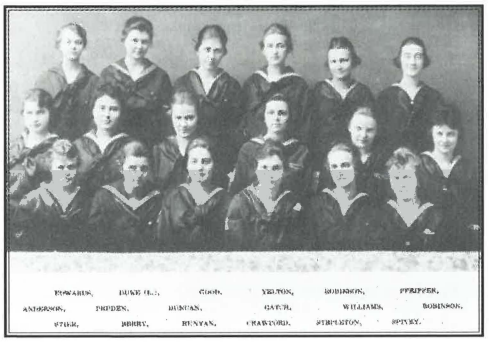
And in the world ...

Nov. 11, 1918

World War I ends.

Jolly get-togethers

It is reported that the social side of conventions was definitely not neglected, whether the activity was scheduled or not. "There were many jolly get-togethers between sessions and late at night in the different rooms." On Friday night, an informal gathering was held for everyone in the Rose Room. The girls sang ΑΣΑ songs and danced to the playing of Maude Barriger, EE, and Ruth Duffey, AA. During the evening there was singing by Jessie Stephens Walker, AB, and Marie Richter, ΔΔ.



Alpha Chapter in 1918

Early Saturday morning, before sessions, there was a sightseeing trip around Chicago. Dinner that night was held in the College Inn of the hotel. After the dinner, which the usual floorshow of the hotel had enlivened, the group separated into two divisions, part seeing "The Riviera Girl," and the others attending the "Music Master," in which David Warfield was playing.

However, in spite of the late (or early) hour at which members had finally reached their beds, everybody was up to attend the Easter Service at the Chicago Auditorium where the famous Frank W. Gunsaulus was the preacher. It was considered quite appropriate that the prelude should be "Chrysanthemum Song" from Bonnet. Immediately after the service came the closing event of convention, the Jonquil Dinner in the hotel's Italian Room. A jonquil theme was carried out in decorations.

There was but one shadow on the horizon and that was the consciousness that parting was very near for some of the delegates. There was one more gathering in the Rose Room to say goodbye to those leaving immediately, and then the party divided into two sections. One group went to the famous Art Institute to see a special Spring Exhibition, while the other went to hear the world-famous Galli Curci at the Auditorium.

The house had been sold out days before, but members were so fortunate as to be allowed to sit on the stage where they had a close view of the great singer. Quite unexpectedly Miss Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, knew one of the managers, and he was most fortunate in securing permission to have the sorority members presented to Madame Galli Curci.

So uplifted was everyone by all the glorious events of the day that people felt that one more thing was needed to crown the day. Taking a taxi, Alpha Sigma Alphas were driven to the beautiful Catholic Cathedral, where in the subdued light streaming through stained glass windows, amid the fragrance of countless blooms and incense that still lingered, members knelt and asked God's special blessing on Alpha Sigma Alpha, to the end that it might be a means for Him to use to further His great purposes on Earth.

But as absorbing as was the thoughts and prayers for Alpha Sigma Alpha, members did not forget the brave boys who were even then undergoing their baptism of fire at the front, for an earnest petition went up for the Easter promise of universal brotherhood.

1918 to 1919

The war effort

During the summer of 1918 the finance board decided that the sorority should purchase a $4,000 bond of the "Fighting Fourth" Victory Loan, and that each of the eight chapters should raise $500 as its share.

In a letter dated Oct. 1 of that year, Ida Shaw Martin, president, outlined possible ways for raising the money. "Five Honor Roll Memberships at $100, or 10 Life Memberships at $50, or 20 Phoenix Life Subscriptions at $25, would make the whole amount available at once.

"Another and popular method is the following distribution: one individual Honor Roll or two Life Memberships, four Life Subscriptions, 16 quarter-Life Subscriptions at $7, one Honor Roll Membership for the Chapter, one Honor Roll Membership for the chapter adviser.

"From the statements already made we believe that everyone should understand that not one cent of the money received in this way is to be spent in or by the Sorority. Every penny is to be sent to the Government through the purchase of a Victory Bond."

When the long-awaited printed Phoenix made its bow in October 1918, the first article dealt with the Victory Drive to purchase the $4,000 bond. First to reach its quota was Alpha Beta, and individual pictures of its 24 active members formed a full page of illustration for the article. Moreover, a contribution had already been received from little Charles Robert Reed Jr., son of Elva Doyle Reed, AB.

Second over the top was Gamma Gamma. The picture of this active chapter in November has a most nautical appearance, for each member was attired in the favorite middy blouse of the period, with large sailor collar and regulation tie, which undoubtedly was fastened with the square knot learned from a navy relative.

In December, the picture of honor was that of the Alpha Alpha actives, looking even more militant in their navy middies trimmed with white braid. This chapter was third to reach its quota.

Chapters continued to participate in campus and town Liberty Loan drives and to play their part in the war effort. At one of Alpha Beta's dances, the chapter adhered to its conservation pledge and served only punch.

Men being almost an unknown at Indiana [Pennsylvania], the male parts in the class play were taken by girls. Alpha Gamma, indeed, reached beyond the usual campus work and adopted a French orphan for a year. On several campuses beloved faculty members left to serve the Y.M.C.A. in France or the federal government.

Beta Beta's back yard became a war garden planted with radishes, onions, lettuce, beets and beans. Although a system of fines was outlined for members failing to give the allotted hours to its care, none was ever collected because the girls so thoroughly enjoyed the work. Money usually spent on senior Alpha Sigma Alpha gifts by Gamma Gamma was donated to the Red Cross in each girl's name.

In addition to the usual war activities, certain actives of Alpha Beta completed a course in military drill. The Student Army Training Corps, known to the co-eds of that day as the

National council 1918-1922

President
Ida Shaw Martin,
Delta Delta Delta sorority

Vice president
Ida A. Jewett, AB

Secretary
Margaret Veil, AΓ

Treasurer
Ruth Duffey, AA

Registrar
Naomi Caldwell, ΔΔ

Historian
Marguerite Archambeault
Chenery, A

Ritualist
Minnie M. Shockley, ΓΓ

Librarian
Agnes Sandine
Brunson, BB

And in the world ...

Jan. 16, 1919

The 18th Amendment is ratified, forbidding the manufacture, sale, import or export of liquor in the United States. Thus begins the period known as Prohibition.

SATC, and the flu epidemic were major events of the fall of 1918, and in their effect upon the campuses, had their echo upon Alpha Sigma Alpha.

The government's refusal to allow new publications made it necessary to abandon plans for The Syrinx. Materials ordinarily used in paper manufacture were considered more important in war operation. Therefore, the printed Phoenix had to be considered esoteric in order that there might be a medium for informing the sorority membership of organization events and policies. However, editions were published in all months, except January, from October thorough June.

The influx of girls to Washington for government work caused the formation of the Washington Alumnae Association with 12 Alpha Betas being charter members.

Timed to the ringing of the victory bells was the advent of little Lois Howard, daughter of a soldier father and Helen Lincoln Howard, AA. Young Lois fulfilled Alpha Sigma Alpha specifications by weighing exactly 8 pounds.

Increased taxation was also reflected in sorority regulations, for the U.S. tax of 5 percent on the retail prices of jewelry caused an increase in the prices of all badges and pins.

Wilma Wilson initiated

The first weekend in April 1919 was indeed a red-letter one since it marked the installation of the XX [double X] Club of the Teachers' College at Warrensburg, Mo., as Zeta Zeta Chapter. The installation was the result of two years of effort.

Installing officers were Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, vice president, and Miss Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, ritualist. Members from Alpha Beta, Epsilon Epsilon and Gamma Gamma assisted them. Among the initiates of the charter group was Wilma Wilson, who became one of the sorority's best known and loved national officers. For more on Wilma Wilson Sharp, see p. 331.

College life

National and state events continued to be mirrored in chapter life. The Missouri legislature decided that there should no longer be normal schools in the state but that all training schools should be teachers colleges giving a full, four-year course and granting the degree of bachelor of arts.

A "Good Roads" bill in the Oklahoma legislature interested Gamma Gamma girls who wished that all of them were old enough to vote for it. With their wish went an invitation to Alpha Sigma Alpha of other states to come to Oklahoma where women had the right to vote.

At Miami, members of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity introduced an innovation by setting aside a weekend for their mothers. The whole house was turned over to the visiting ladies, the boys seeking accommodations elsewhere.

The idea, with its attendant festivities to which various students and faculty were invited, was so well-received that there was a possibility that the various organizations might decide to devote the weekend of Mother's Day to that form of entertainment. The Alpha Alpha girls suggested that it was an idea worthy of general adoption by the colleges of the country.

At the close of the school year of 1918-1919, the Phoenix Honor Roll had grown to enviable length. Because of the legacy left by Elva Doyle Reed, AB, and subsequent gifts by her husband and small son, her name was placed forever at the head of the list.

Five members and the chapters of Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Beta Beta, Epsilon Epsilon and Zeta Zeta, and the Alpha Beta adviserships, were also included in this group. There were 11 on the life membership list, including Alpha Gamma, Gamma Gamma and the Beta Beta adviserships. Nineteen life subscribers to The Phoenix were listed.

1919 to 1920

Sorority loses Alpha, Alpha Gamma

Early in 1919 a "democratic" wave had swept over the student body at Indiana, Pa., so that as a result, sororities were asked to give up their charters. They did this with the greatest regret, feeling that the real loser was the college. Hence, the fall of 1919 found Alpha Sigma Alpha without its Alpha Gamma Chapter.

In the March 1920 Phoenix, the sorority announced its important decision to enter only institutions offering a four-year teacher-training course, no institution that was not of the highest grade and none where the faculty was not in sympathy with the sorority idea.

Alpha withdraws

Coincident with this was the mention of the regrettable withdrawal in 1919 of the mother chapter at Farmville, Va. While faculty antagonism and "insubordination" were given as reasons by Ida Shaw Martin, national president, subsequent testimony proved that the fault was Mrs. Martin's, who had given the chapter just cause for its stand. Alpha Chapter continued to operate as a local group at Farmville.

Alpha Sigma Alpha was the first education sorority to limit membership to four-year teacher colleges. This move was made possible by the loss of the chapters at Farmville and Indiana, Pa., the only institutions on the sorority's roll that did not offer a four-year course.

At its meeting in late 1919, Alpha Sigma Alpha urged that all members of the now-named Association of Education Sororities limit their chapters to four-year institutions.

In the fall of 1919, The Phoenix was cut to four issues, published in November, January, March and May, although for some reason the January issue was not published. Because in November Alpha Sigma Alpha celebrated the fifth anniversary of its reorganization and the 18th of its founding, the magazine was largely a historic pamphlet, containing the history of the sorority and of Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta and Alpha Gamma chapters.

The March 1920 issue was esoteric. From it readers learn that a published esoteric is no more expensive and is more satisfactory than a mimeographed circular (because of postage rates). The octave or round-robin idea is discussed and urged as a medium of keeping alumnae in touch with one another and the sorority.

It is also explained that the Phoenix cut carried on the title page of that year (and for so many subsequent years) is a reproduction of a beautiful stained glass window commemorative of the great Boston fire of 1872, and that the headings on the Honor pages were the

And in the world ...

Aug. 26, 1920

With the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, women finally gain the right to vote.

work of Mary Ruth Early, AB.

This design, consisting of the monogram of Alpha Sigma Alpha in a circle flanked on right and left by wings, likewise became familiar to Phoenix readers for many years. A Boston artist made other designs from sketches by Ida Shaw Martin, president.

Four kinds of membership

The March 1920 issue also explained that since Hermes was credited with ensuring the success of any enterprise, the names of those members who had paid $50 for a life membership would appear on the "Hermes Roll." On the "Phoenix Roll" would be listed all who paid $25 for a life subscription to the magazine.

Thus Alpha Sigma Alpha had four kinds of alumnae membership: Annual Roll, Phoenix Roll, Hermes Roll and Honor Roll. Those on the Annual Roll paid $3 a year, while those on the Phoenix Roll paid but $1 since they had already invested in a life subscription.

Names on the Honor Roll were to be carried for all time; those on the Hermes Roll were to be listed only for life. All sums received for Honor, Hermes or Phoenix enrollment were invested in government bonds and considered inviolate, only the interest being available for sorority use. Thus was established Alpha Sigma Alpha's endowment fund.

Official inspector

It was announced in March 1920 that Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, ritualist and dean of women at Alva, Okla., had been authorized as an official inspector. It was believed later that Miss Shockley's inspection trip had materially aided Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Another item of interest during this year was the publication of the "Symbolism of Alpha Sigma Alpha," this being made possible by the fact that type used in printing the various sections in previous editions of The Phoenix had been kept standing.

During Miss Shockley's inspection visits, the ritual of the Mother-Patroness Degree was introduced to the chapters. The girls were reminded that for members initiated by this degree, there could be a pin: a gold crown bearing a whole pearl in each of its four points. It is interesting that this pin had been designed before the degree had been suggested, and that the 1918 convention had decided that this very attractive piece of jewelry should be used for such purpose.

1920 to 1921

Hair apparent

The May 1920 Phoenix was a directory of the "sustaining" membership, defined by ruling of the 1918 convention as those having paid dues within the past two years.

It also carried full-page cuts of active chapters, these being the pages of individual members borrowed from college annuals. These pictures are especially interesting for their glimpse at the hair styles of that period. Certainly there was no lack of hair among the Alpha Sigma Alphas of 1920.

1921 to 1922

20th anniversary convention

The Phoenix of October 1921 was an invitation to national convention Nov. 23-27:

O ye girls of Alpha Sigma, hearken to the call
That from far-off Missouri comes to each and all
Alpha Sigma Alpha wants you; jump right on the train,
Come from the East, come from the West, come singing this refrain:

Chorus

It's a long way to Kansas City; it's a long way to go;
It's a long way to Convention of the sweetest girls I know;
Goodbye books and study, farewell work and care;
It's a long way to Convention, but my heart's right there.

Come from windy Oklahoma, come from Ohio,
Come from hilly Pennsylvania with its ice and snow,
Come from Boston, come from Kansas, come from every state;
And, if there is no other way, just ship yourself by freight.

You'll meet a jolly bunch of Alpha Sigmas here;
For they're all your loyal sisters from both far and near;
There'll be many hours of pleasure, there'll be jollity;
And if you don't believe it, why just come along and see.

That this convention, commemorating the 20th anniversary of the founding of the sorority, more than fulfilled the claims of pre-convention publicity is evidenced by the enthusiastic account of it. The headquarters was the Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City, Mo.

Members spent Wednesday greeting arrivals and making acquaintances. The Wednesday evening meeting was a general get-together of visitors and Kansas City alumnae members. The evening passed all too quickly with the singing of Alpha Sigma Alpha songs and rivalry waxed keen between chapters as each tried to win the coveted title of "Our Singing Chapter."

Thursday morning was given over to the advisers. The afternoon was made a happy one by the tea given by the Kansas City Association at Nanking's Chinese Tea Room. A hostess presided at each table of four and thus added to the hospitality and enchantment of the place. Chinese cakes, nuts and confections were served with the tea, and dainty nosegays of marguerites were given each guest. At six o'clock the anniversary dinner was served in a large private dining room on the first floor of the Muehlebach.

Decorations, menu and toasts were suggestive of the symbolism of Alpha Sigma Alpha. After the enjoyable feast came the model initiation. The lovely room placed at the service of the committee had been made an ideal setting for an ideal service. In the soft radiance of the shaded candles, the beautiful undergraduate degree was given to representatives of four chapters.

And in the world ...

1921

Knee-length skirts become fashionable.

Members spent Friday and Saturday revising the constitution, reports of committees, consideration of petitions and other business for which each delegate had been so well-prepared as to enable the work to be carried on in a surprisingly expeditious manner.

Stunt night

Friday evening was given to chapter stunts. Beta Beta made the very attractive programs. Eta Eta opened the evening with "Living Songs." Original Alpha Sigma Alpha words and clever dancing added to the attractiveness of this stunt. Zeta Zeta Follies, with a chorus in brilliant red and white costumes singing original Alpha Sigma Alpha songs while doing real follies steps, made a great hit and was called back for an encore.

Epsilon Epsilon worked out the story of Narcissus and Echo in a most finished and artistic bit of interpretive dancing, beautiful in every detail. Alpha Beta represented Alpha Sigma Alpha by presenting in tableaux four of the sorority's legends.

Gamma Gamma put on a jolly little play, and Alpha Alpha and Delta Delta sang a song of the Ohio chapters to the tune of "Beautiful Ohio." Saturday night was given over to a theatre party where all enjoyed the popular play "The Bat."



Wilma Wilson Sharp, ZZ, served as registrar from 1922 to 1930, when she was elected president.

Theta Theta installed

Theta Theta Chapter had been established at Boston University Nov. 12, 1921, and was hence the baby chapter of the convention. Installation ceremonies for Theta Theta had taken place at the home of Ida Shaw Martin, president. Assisting her was Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, vice president.

In December came the announcement that petitions had been accepted from the Grade Club of Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, and Tau Epsilon of Temple University, Philadelphia.

Iota Iota installed

On the weekend of Jan. 13, 1922, 23 members of the Grade Club of Drake University were installed as Iota Iota Chapter. This group became the first educational sorority to enter Drake, although it was the eighth national, there being six academic sororities and one national fraternity.

Miss Catherine Strouse, faculty adviser of Epsilon Epsilon; Miss Bess Carter and Miss Lola Brandenburg, advisers of Zeta Zeta and Alpha Beta; Miss Wilma Wilson, ZZ, registrar-elect; and Miss Edna McCarty, BB, supervisor of chapter activities; took various parts in the services of initiation and installation.

Phoenix issues for 1921-1922 were published in October, December, February and June, although it seems the original plan had been to publish the final issue in April.

Kappa Kappa installed

On March 17, 1922, Kappa Kappa Chapter was installed at Temple University. This chapter became the second Association of Education Sororities group in the Teachers College at

Temple, Delta Sigma Epsilon having already established a chapter there.

1922 to 1923

Lambda Lambda installed

Again it was possible to issue an Alpha Sigma Alpha Directory, this time in November 1922. In it were the names of the 17 students at The Ohio State University who were pledged to Alpha Sigma Alpha on Nov. 18, and who were to become charter members of Lambda Lambda Chapter.

Lambda Lambda, the result of continued zeal and effort on the part of a handful of alumnae from Alpha Alpha and Delta Delta, was installed Dec. 9, 1922. Alumnae and advisers of these two groups conducted the installation ceremonies.

1923 to 1924

Mu Mu installed

Little more than a year later, Mu Mu Chapter came into existence at Michigan State Normal College in Ypsilanti. Twenty-eight girls were initiated as charter members Jan. 19, 1924. Installing officer was Miss Grace G. Fultz, ΔΔ, treasurer.

Otherwise, there seems to have been little to disrupt the current of chapter and national sorority life. The game Mah Jong came into favor, and the appearance of a new bobbed hair style was still sufficient cause for comment in chapter newsletters.

1924 to 1925

Zeta Zeta wins new scholarship cup

In the fall of 1924, the National Scholarship Cup came into existence. It was planned that each year the cup should have engraved upon it the name of the chapter ranking highest in scholarship, and that chapter should have the privilege of keeping the cup in its possession for one year. Zeta Zeta Chapter was the first winner. Ruling of later years provided a new award to be made at each convention, this award to become the permanent property of the winning chapter.

Nu Nu installed

May 13, 1925, brought another chapter to the increasingly long Alpha Sigma Alpha roll. Omega Delta Epsilon of Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry, West Philadelphia, became Nu Nu Chapter. Miss Ida A. Jewett, AB, former vice president, Miss Rosamond Root, AB, and the girls of Kappa Kappa Chapter were in charge of services. Alpha Sigma Alpha was the first AES sorority to enter this campus.

1925 to 1926

Xi Xi installed at UCLA

March 1926 was a memorable month, for it witnessed announcement of the installation of Xi Xi Chapter at the University of California at Los Angeles on Jan. 24; pledging of Omi-

National council 1922-1926

President
Ida Shaw Martin, Delta Delta Delta sorority

Vice president
Minnie M. Shockley, ΓΓ

Secretary
Adda Anderson, EE

Treasurer
Grace G. Fultz, ΔΔ

Registrar
Wilma Wilson, ZZ

Historian
Agnes Sandine Brunson Toms, BB

Ritualist
Ruth Duffey, AA

Phoenix editor
Ida A. Jewett, AB (1922); Gertrude D. Halbritter, ΘΘ (1923-1926)

National council 1926-1930

President
Ida Shaw Martin, Delta Delta Delta sorority

Vice president
Minnie M. Shockley, ΓΓ

Secretary
(called undergraduate secretary 1928-1930)
Adda Anderson, EE (1926-1927);
Carol D. Pierce, ΓΓ (1927-1928);
Leona Wilcox, II (1928-1930)

Treasurer
Grace G. Fultz, ΔΔ

Chaplain
Mary A. Wagner, KK (1926-1928)

Registrar
Wilma Wilson Sharp, ZZ

Alumnae officer
(called graduate secretary 1928-1930)
Katherine B. Nevius Hendrix, HH

Phoenix editor
Gertrude D. Halbritter, ΘΘ

cron Omicron Chapter at State Teachers College, Kent, Ohio; and the dates and place of the coming national convention — Aug. 26-27, Hotel Sherman, Chicago.

Xi Xi Chapter again was the result of effort and loyalty of girls already Alpha Sigma Alphas. Leading the enterprise was Julia Lancaster, ΘΘ, who, prior to obtaining her degree at Boston University, spent a semester at U.C.L.A. and, on her initiative, colonized a chapter.

Alumnae of Alpha Alpha, Beta Beta, Alpha Beta and Epsilon Epsilon who were in the Los Angeles area were likewise helpful, and formed the installing officer group. Again, Alpha Sigma Alpha became the first education group on a campus, although National Panhellenic Congress groups had already entered.

Omicron Omicron installed

Omicron Omicron was installed as the fourth Ohio chapter on the weekend of April 9-10, 1926. The nearby adviser and alumnae of Alpha Alpha, and Mary Wagner, KK, assisted Miss Grace G. Fultz, ΔΔ, treasurer, in the services. At Kent, too, Alpha Sigma Alpha was first education group to enter.

Pi Pi produces Evelyn Bell, Elizabeth Bird Small

Pi Pi Chapter, Buffalo State Normal College in New York, was the baby chapter at the August convention, for its installation took place June 5, with Dr. Rosamond Root, AB, in charge. This group had been Theta Chapter of the Clionian Society, an organization prominent in New York State normal schools.

At the convention that year, the young chapter was represented most ably by its tall, slender blonde president, Evelyn G. Bell, later to be a member of the national council and, for five years, national president.

The beloved adviser of the chapter was also present at that convention. Elizabeth Bird Small, from the inception of Pi Pi, became a vital part of Alpha Sigma Alpha as friend, counselor, adored older sister and unselfish servant of the membership. For more on Evelyn Bell, see p. 314. For more on Elizabeth Small, see p. 332.

1926 to 1927

Chicago hosts 1926 convention

The Hotel Sherman was filled with Alpha Sigma Alpha activities Aug. 24-Aug. 27. The traditional roll call of chapters and hanging of the shields at the opening session apparently had its inception at this conclave. In the absence of Ida Shaw Martin, president, Miss Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, vice president, presided throughout the convention.

At the recognition service on Thursday, members welcomed advisers and delegates from Iota Iota, Kappa Kappa, Lambda Lambda, Mu Mu, Nu Nu, Xi Xi, Omicron Omicron and Pi Pi chapters. Eight chapters had been received since the 1922 convention.

"As you rise to your zenith and become part of the older constellation, may you shine so faithfully and so brightly that no one will be able to distinguish you from the brilliancy of the older stars," Miss Shockley told the new chapters.

A memorial service was held on Friday morning, conducted by Wilma Wilson Sharp, ZZ, registrar. The familiar ritual of this service was not written until years later by Mrs. Sharp, yet those who have heard her conduct such memorials at later conventions can visualize the beauty and inspiration of the occasion.

The formal banquet was held in the Bal Tabarin Room of the Sherman. Long tables were placed to form a rectangle. The soft lights from the candles seemed but a reflection of the dimmed ceiling lights half hidden in the massive draping. The pearls in our huge pin supplemented these.

In the center of the rectangle stood a mound of greenery dotted with white-fringed asters, the sorority's autumn flower, and bearing in the center the crimson letters Alpha Sigma Alpha. When each member had found her place by the cards attached to her lovely little aster corsage, everybody sang "Grace Before Meat."



The 1926 convention was held at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago.

After the toast program, Miss Christine Little, ΘΘ, scholarship adviser, presented the National Scholarship Cup to Mu Mu Chapter, which had the highest scholastic average that year. Honorable mention was given to Eta Eta and Zeta Zeta chapters.

Kappa Kappa received the silk banner awarded to the chapter having the most members present and having come the farthest. Its total mileage was 15,336. Beta Beta had 13,000 miles, Eta Eta had 11,360 and Gamma Gamma, 10,999. Convention favors were green-gold bar pins bearing the coat-of-arms.

The very thrilling climax of the 1926 convention was "going on the air." Sorority songs were broadcast from the banquet room through Station WLS. The time was 10:45 p.m., and instead of emptying the lobby, members filled it with eager listeners.

The next day convention attendees received a telegram from Dorothy Haley's family, who reported that the broadcast came through splendidly. In addition to group songs there were solos by Beulah Farrand, ΓΓ, and Ruth Jeremy, EE. Miss Catherine Edith Strouse, EE, led the group singing.

Initiation was held on Thursday evening with Miss Shockley at the high altar and other national officers holding positions of honor.

During convention the delegates enacted much legislation of importance to the sorority. However, one of the most significant phases of growth as noted by report and legislation was, perhaps, the information revealed in the statement of the national treasurer.

On May 26, 1922, the total funds of Alpha Sigma Alpha had amounted to $13,362.65. Four years later, on May 24, 1926, they had more than tripled, totaling $41,379.80. In four years, the Endowment Fund had increased from $9,302.25 to $27,255.93, again tripling.

Rho Rho, Sigma Sigma added to roll

The school year of 1926-1927 was memorable largely because of the installation of Rho Rho and Sigma Sigma chapters. These became Alpha Sigma Alpha chapters on May 14 and May 25, 1927, respectively.

And in the world ...

April 7, 1927

The first successful demonstration of television takes place in New York City. Televisions would not be available for sale to the public until after World War II.

Rho Rho was chartered at Marshall College, Huntington, W.Va., and Sigma Sigma at Western State College, Gunnison, Colo., a town positioned a mile and a half above sea level. While charter members of both groups might have been "on top of the world" at that time, Sigma Sigma initiates could claim to be literally so.

1927 to 1928

Five more chapters; Alpha Gamma re-established

The following year the sorority added five chapters. There also was much rejoicing when on March 17, 1928, Alpha Gamma Chapter was re-established at State Teachers College in Indiana, Pa. With the changing of the curriculum from two to four years, interest in sororities was revived among the students, and with faculty permission, four locals were organized.

These were all permitted to become national together, there being simultaneous initiations, banquets and a union reception in which Alpha Sigma Tau, Delta Sigma Epsilon and Sigma Sigma Sigma joined with Alpha Sigma Alpha in celebration. Alpha Gamma alumnae, Nu Nu, Pi Pi and Kappa Kappa girls were present for the Alpha Sigma Alpha installation. Unfortunately, an influenza epidemic prevented Pittsburgh alumnae from attending.

On the same day, the fiercest snowstorm of the year met the installing officers at Hays, Kan., but in spite of the elements, Gamma Sigma became Tau Tau Chapter at Fort Hays State Teachers College.

"Granville in spring," famous among the friends of Denison University, was a pleasing contrast in weather for those who traveled by bus and auto to install the third chapter of the year, Upsilon Upsilon. On May 5, Sigma Eta Sigma became a part of Alpha Sigma Alpha. Two members of the prospective chapter at Indianapolis journeyed also to Granville and were initiated with the Upsilon Upsilon girls. Thus, on June 1, when Phi Delta Psi of the Teachers College of Indianapolis became Chi Chi Chapter — and the first Indiana chapter — Helen Selvage and Mary Turner were able to assist.

Meantime, in Maryville, Mo., Wilma Wilson Sharp, ZZ, registrar, installed the Lambda Phi Society as Phi Phi Chapter at Northwest Missouri State Teachers College on May 11.

Five chapters in one year — five paraphernalia trunks — five installations. No wonder the national chaplain was unable to keep abreast of the demand for pledge ribbons, the crimson and white "bows" prevalent in 1928.

How proudly pledges of those chapters adjusted the tiny gold safety pins attached to anchor the "bow" and hoped each day that the hour for the Phoenix Degree and the silver pledge pin would arrive ere the ribbon had completely raveled away. In reality, the "bow" was made of a piece of crimson and a piece of white satin ribbon, caught together in the middle by a folded scrap of crimson to give the semblance of a bow.

1928 to 1929

Council meets in Boston

The July 1928 Phoenix was largely a directory of members by chapter. The membership report in that issue showed a total initiation of 2,573; the financial report showed a total

balance in the treasury July 1, 1928, as $53,798.22.

Phoenix editor Gertrude D. Halbritter, ΘΘ, wrote in that same issue that national council met at the home of Ida Shaw Martin Aug. 8-15. Among other things, the council changed the title of national alumnae officer to graduate secretary and created the title of undergraduate secretary. The women also changed chapter secretary to chapter recording secretary and chapter alumnae officer to chapter corresponding secretary.

"Another interesting decision regarding life membership was made when the council decided to try to reduce the list of annual members by offering for this year only a life membership at $25 to any annual member who has paid $30 already in annual dues," wrote Miss Halbritter. "Those who have not paid $30 must make up the difference to $30, in addition to paying the $25."

There also seemed to be some misunderstanding as to the use of the sorority's coat-of-arms on novelties, so the council proclaimed that, "The coat-of-arms, carrying a symbol of Christ, proclaims Alpha Sigma Alpha to be a Christian fellowship. Its use, therefore, should be in harmony with this ideal."

Finally, the council formally decided that the 1930 convention would be in Estes Park, Colo., from Aug. 11 to 16. After drawing up a tentative program, Minnie Shockley, ΓΓ, vice president, was named convention chairman. [The convention actually was held June 30-July 3, 1930, at the New Ocean House in Swampscott, Mass., and Hotel Statler, Boston.]

Vocational guidance

The January 1929 Phoenix was a vocational issue. It featured 42 pages of "many interesting vocational experiences" of the sorority's alumnae to point out to the college girls the amazing number of vocations open to them.

"Far too many students still leave college with an indifferent attitude toward the occupation for which they have been trained," reads the editorial. "They drift into teaching, but finding the work a bore, they drift into other occupations, often wasting many valuable years experimenting, when a little wise information and counsel during college days might have resulted in a far happier and contended life for the individual girl."

Vocations discussed ranged from supervision of instruction and personnel work to teaching and occupational therapy.

1929 to 1930

Optimistic, prosperous

For nearly two years, dances, house parties, pledges, weddings and all the social appurtenances of the college campus of the late '20s occupied the college membership.

At the same time, alumnae busied themselves with the interesting developments and events of that optimistic, pre-depression period when most people were prosperous in greater degree than before and no one believed it could ever be otherwise.

Alpha Sigma Alpha was also prospering, and the more thoughtful of her members were taking precautions that she should so continue. In various sections of the country, whenever

And in the world ...

June 30, 1928

George Eastman exhibits the first color motion picture.

And in the world ...

Oct. 29, 1929

Black Tuesday. The New York Stock Exchange crashes, signaling the start of the Great Depression.

Alpha Sigma Alpha leaders could gather, efforts were made to educate the membership in the ideals of the sorority and to make them aware that those ideals must be maintained at any cost.

Psi Psi installed

Another paraphernalia trunk was prepared for an installation, and another chapter was placed on the roll on May 31, 1930, when Sigma Alpha of State Teachers College, Natchitoches, La., became Psi Psi Chapter. It was the first time in many years that Alpha Sigma Alpha had installed in the South (Nu Chapter at Shorter College, Rome, Ga., having been chartered Nov. 24, 1910).