

THIRTY YEARS OF PHI ALPHA THETA
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN HISTORY
1921 - 1951

by

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of
Phi Alpha Theta

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INTRODUCTION

"I don't give a damn what happened; what I want to know is how it happened - never could find out - stopped writing history" (Quoted by Cushing Strout "Historical Thought in America", *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, 1952, 243).

Other excerpts from Strout's article are good. Sigfried Giedion declared *"the historian must be intimately a part of his own period to know what questions concerning the past are significant to it"*. It is the "unique" task of the historian to *"uncover for his own age the vital relationship with the past.... Apart from this approach History remains a wilderness of blank happenings...."* (Ibid., 247). James Harvey Robinson held: *"The time has come when the present should turn on the past and explain it in the interest of advance...."* (Ibid., 248). Carl Becker declared: *"It wasn't the 'march of civilization' that chased the Indian, nor did the poor fellow die of deficient 'cultural capacity'. The poor fellow died of bullets fired from the rifles in the hands of Daniel Boone and men of his ilk; men who fired the bullets not on behalf of the social process, but on their own behalf...."* (Ibid., 250-251). Strout himself declared that events are not merely *"unlightened blunders"*: *"...The historical process is, after all, no linear course like a turnpike.... Time can be spacialized to make calendars or study mechanics, but the historical past is only brought into being by our demand to see ourselves as having been somewhere. And history is important to us because we do not know where we are going if we do not know where we have been. The historical past is always then a specific human past..."* *"...The historical past is not left behind us like an outgrown pelt, but it is kept alive as heritage and knowledge in the present. Men alone have a history, not because things happened to them, but because, through the creation of instruments, institutions, works of art and general outlooks, they transform themselves by their creations. In this adventure lie the challenge and the glory of history"* (Ibid., 256-257).

These excerpts may serve, then, as a foreword to this history. I mean to give a record of the origin and development of Phi Alpha Theta. It will be a personal, critical history. I am under no obligation to the National Organization of the Fraternity. I have not asked permission to publish it; nor have I asked for a single sou. I have borne all the expenses. I have not served Phi Alpha Theta for the past thirty years for money. I might now be holding down a ten thousand dollar a year job had I done so. There are thousands of our members who are willing to serve the Phi Alpha Theta Idea, not for the money but for the satisfaction of having served the cause. Hence my unalterable opposition to the trend toward an ever-increasing expensive administration. Phi Alpha Theta should not be a flesh pot for any person; but an honor society in the cause of History.

The preparation of this history has been difficult. It has been hard to get source materials outside the official depository. Mr. C. Stanton Belfour gave me a complete set of the *News-Letters and The Star and Serpent*, a copy of *A Decade of Phi Alpha Theta*, and other important source materials. Professor Alice K. Schuster, and her sister Miss Ruth W. Schuster gave me copies of the *Minutes and Reports* of several meetings of the Convention.

Miss Margaretta M. Martin gave me important materials on our incorporation proceedings. Miss Mary M. Hood, Miss Mary Viola Phillips, Mr. Andrew Petor, and Mr. John W. Huston also gave me useful materials. Requests to other former national officers brought a reply of no materials or no reply at all. *The Historian* has useful materials; but this journal has, on the whole, been singularly incomplete in source materials. And much of what it contains is distinctly biased. I am deeply appreciative of the aid I have received and extend to each and every one my deep felt appreciation.

I am deeply apprehensive of the danger that may come to Phi Alpha Theta from what I shall call *Hoffmanism*. I have long been critical, and in later years openly vocal in my denunciation of the trend toward centralization in our administration of the affairs of the Fraternity. It has made our government too expensive for a departmental honor society. Hence there will be much, far too much unfortunately, of a personal nature. I repeat this is purposely a personal, critical history; and written in the first person. Any account which deliberately omits unpleasant and important facts is not a history; for history is concerned with causes as well as results. I have tried to make the factual materials accurate. As for interpretations, opinions, and conclusions, they are my own; and I alone am responsible for them. I consider Hoffmanism, dealt with in detail in the section on "*The Age of Hoffman*", a malignant growth which will have to be dealt with if Phi Alpha Theta is really to function properly. The idea of making out of our Fraternity, a departmental honor society in the Social Sciences, a means of enriching a national officer, requiring almost a third of our income, is criminal. This is all the more patent in view of the large degree of administrative talent lying dormant in our large and intelligent membership, awaiting an opportunity to use it in the service of the Fraternity. That the use of that reservoir of ability would be of great value, is obvious to any one at all familiar with the true state of affairs in Phi Alpha Theta. And I have no doubt whatever but that there would be a great improvement from a very strict limitation on continuity in any of the seven national elective executive officers. A limitation on continuity is long, long overdue. While I am greatly concerned over the situation in the administration of our Fraternity government, I have not the least concern about the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. That Idea has proved its soundness and usefulness; and I have no doubt but that "*The Best is yet to be!*"

Pasadena, California
December, 1952

N.A.N.C.

PART ONE. THE FOUNDING OF PHI ALPHA THETA, MARCH 14, 1921

"Every successful organization has been the result of a minimum number of factors, without which a fatal defect has invariably appeared. These factors might be listed as: first, conception of an ideal; second, the crystallization of the ideal into a definite form; thirdly, the inspiring of those, who at first faintly grasp the vision of the founder, toward a widening goal with the infusion of missionary zeal.

"All of these Dr. Cleven has carried out almost alone. His the vision, his the action, his the inspiration. Such men too often stand alone and only faintly understood and appreciated. Too often their fellow-workers contemplate this afterward, when it is too late. I feel that we should consider ourselves fortunate to have the opportunity to realize this fully now and to have the privilege of expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Cleven, now, in person, without dissimulation, and in humility.

"To you, Dr. Cleven, we say, 'We have caught your vision imperfectly, but we are striving to be messengers of the deeper meaning of history, and we gratefully proclaim that all this would never have been but for you'".
(Professor Mintier in letter at Twentieth Anniversary in Pittsburgh in 1941)

I met David Y. Thomas of the University of Arkansas late in 1917 when I was teaching in the San Diego High School and Junior College. I left this institution in the late summer of 1918. Late in the autumn of that year I took a position in the Bureau of Research and Statistics in the War Trade Board. I was appointed Assistant Professor of History and Political Science in the spring of 1919, through Professor Thomas, Head of that Department. I began work in September. Mrs. Cleven and I found Fayetteville very satisfactory. The people of the city were friendly; and the students particularly so. We soon fell under the spell of the Ozarks, for the region is quite unique, as is the State of Arkansas itself. Lying on the border between the North and the South, with lively contacts with the Southwest, the country is unusually important. The students were an able, elite group, from homes of culture and refinement. They were unusually kind and considerate of us, taking us into their social life in a most charming manner. Mrs. Cleven was frequently invited to chaperon social activities in sororities and fraternities. In this way my views on academic fraternal organizations changed. I had been up to that time very critical of academic fraternities; but it was not until I came to Pittsburgh in 1921 that I became a frat man, joining within a few years Delta Sigma Phi, Delta Sigma Pi, Square and Compass, the Scabbard and Blade, and Pi Gamma Mu. But it was the students at Arkansas that brought me into academic fraternity life.

I was soon hard at work socializing education, in which I had been so much interested in my teaching in country schools and in high schools. The renewal of my interest in diffusing information through socialized avenues was due to the kindly cooperation of my students in Arkansas. I thus turned seriously to an honor society in History. The fact that my wife and I became members of secular fraternities - I became a Master Mason and then we both became members of the Order of the Eastern Star - early in 1920. I became deeply interested in these two organizations. The atmosphere, then, at Arkansas, both in and outside of the University, made me more keenly active in socializing education. I searched more diligently than ever for an honor society in History. But I found neither a

local nor a national organization. This was surprising since this was the age of national honor societies. I turned inwardly upon myself, to my own idea of an honor society in History. Out of this inner purpose of my own self came the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. I studied with zest the history of fraternities, social, professional, honorary, in order to give the new society its proper form.

I had kept the Idea all to myself, and it was not until I found no honor society in History, that I took the Idea up with others. I turned to the Head of the Department with the Idea. Thomas was something more than a teacher, with humane and fine personal qualities, a natural born leader and moulder of character. He heartily approved of the whole Idea; and I went at the real task before me. I sounded out some of my better majors in History and found them responsive. I was now face to face with the problem of whipping the Idea into concrete form. There was no real difficulty in determining what the honor society in History should be. I decided that Phi Alpha Theta should be a secret Fraternity to which women as well as men should be invited. It was to have its symbolism and ritual. But what were these to be? The more I pondered the whole Idea the more convinced I became that the Fraternity should take in the entire History of Mankind. On the wall of my classroom was a large painting of a scene in Ancient Assyria. The most conspicuous object in it was the six-pointed Star of Divinity. I chose this star to form the fundamentals of our symbolism. The different points would serve as stations in the ceremony of initiation; and the core of our ritualism.

In dividing World History, I followed the traditional five period scheme, adding a sixth so as to complete the station plan of the Assyrian Sign of Divinity. I named the stations: The Spirit of the Primitive, the Ancient, the Medieval, the Modern, the Contemporary and the Spirit of the Future. In and through it all there had to be a guiding force. What was more appropriate than the Spirit of Eternity: a symbol of the element of Time, especially upon the endlessness of Time, and hence upon Eternity as an all-important, an ever-present, infinite duration? I believe that the whole underlying thought of our symbolism has been wellnigh destroyed in the Revised Ritual. The Assyrian Six-Pointed Star has made our symbolism a thing of real significance and rare beauty. I chose two colors, Madonna Blue and Madonna Red; also the serpent and the flower and the motto to emphasize eternal truths.

There was also much other preliminary work to be done. Since membership in Phi Alpha Theta was to be an evidence of excellence in the study of History, only *bona fide* majors in History should be admitted. This, of course, meant both men and women. But that was not all. Every member had to have a good moral reputation, a requirement of much more importance than mere academic competence. And in order not to lay too much emphasis upon academic competence, some evidence of extracurricular activity should also be required. Hence the three-fold requirement for membership in Phi Alpha Theta: character, scholarship, extracurricular activity. Since the Fraternity was a Greek letter organization, the chapters are given Greek letter names: Alpha, Alpha Alpha, Beta Alpha, Gamma Alpha, Delta Alpha, and so on. An even greater task was the preparation of a Ritual. The Ritual was to be an epitome of World History. About all that I did, in the beginning, was to lay out the whole in broad outline.

I was able early in March 1921 to assemble a group of my History majors who had the necessary qualifications. On March 14, 1921, a group assembled in my classroom in the Main Building of the University, and formally launched Phi Alpha

Theta on its course. It was a simple ceremony in which only the students and I took part. We organized Alpha Chapter along the traditional lines, adopting a simple democratic government. In addition to a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, we added a faculty adviser. Later we adopted a fundamental law. The formal organization of the Phi Alpha Theta Idea into a fraternity was of great satisfaction to me; and was enthusiastically engaged in by the students. The students seemed fully alive to the larger significance of what was being done. We continued to search diligently for a local honor society. Our immediate problem, however, was the formation of a Ritual.

Fortunately for me I had made the acquaintance of a distinguished scholar at the University, Professor Frederick H. H. Adler, Professor of English and Head of the Department of English. He had come to the University at the same time that I had, and we soon became personal friends. I discovered that he was just the man whom I needed to help me with the ritualistic work. He was not only an excellent scholar in English - he has since gained a fine reputation as a poet - but he was also, which was of even greater importance to me, an excellent student of History and Greek and Latin. These were just the qualifications needed in this work. And the further and even of more importance was his unqualified loyalty to the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. I could not have found a man of greater value to me, for he had the necessary qualities to whip the Ritual into shape. Professor Adler accepted unreservedly my idea of the fundamentals of the Ritual; as he had the whole idea of an honor society in History. He wrote the addresses for each of the seven stations. He expressed what I wanted and in beautiful, dignified, and vigorous English. This was no easy task. The Address of the Spirit of Eternity was particularly difficult. The Address had to deal with fundamental, elemental concepts. With immutability, with the endlessness of Time, with the creative, directive, all-pervading Force. With the inscrutable Universe, and with Man, not only in his relations with his fellowmen, but to the Infinite Creator. For History is in its deeper significance nothing more, nothing less than the record of Man in all his relationships. These concepts must be present in any form of a longer ritual. The Addresses of the other six Spirits were no less difficult to prepare. Then there was the explanation of the symbolism, the colors, the motto, and the flower. The Ritual which Professor Adler and I worked out was far from perfect. The Ritual has been, and will be, under constant attack, especially as long as we must give heed to the eternal hue and cry for brevity. But even as it came to be the Ritual is infinitely superior to the revised Ritual now in use. *The last revision has shown us how not to go about the revision. Only experts in everything connected with ritualism, including English, can do the job adequately.* Let us have real and genuine ritualism, or abandon the whole idea. On January 1, 1953, Phi Alpha Theta will cease to be a Fraternity, only a Society. Why not throw the Ritual overboard? Why make a farce of it?

I must make it crystal clear, at this point, that these two men, Professors Thomas and Adler, did nothing whatsoever in originating the Phi Alpha Theta Idea, or in giving that Idea concrete form. That was my, and my work alone. I, and I alone, am the Founder of Phi Alpha Theta. I have, it is true, stated both in speech and in writing that these two men were co-founders with me of the Fraternity. But this was done out of a sense of professional courtesy for the share they both had, in the early formative period, in giving the Idea concrete form. They were both members; Professor Thomas an active, and Professor Adler an honorary member. But I must emphasize again that neither one, alone

or collectively, had any part in originating the Phi Alpha Theta Idea or in giving it concrete form. That is my work, and my work alone. I write in this bold fashion because, of late, efforts have been made to make me just "one of the founders" (Consult the *Minutes and Reports* of the Chicago Convention). Fortunately I can cite unquestioned proof of my position. If the reader will take the trouble to consult the volumes of *Who's Who In America*, in the period between 1920 and 1951, the biographical sketch of each of these two men, he will find that Professor Thomas does not even mention Phi Alpha Theta much less lay a claim to being a co-founder. Professor Adler not only mentions the Fraternity but states that he is an honorary member. But he lays no claim to being a co-founder. They were both men of great sagacity as well as veracity. In making this matter perfectly clear I do not want to minimize in the least the services both men rendered in the early formative period of Phi Alpha Theta. I am everlastingly grateful to both for that assistance. But at the same time I am making it clear that I, and I alone, am the Founder of Phi Alpha Theta, the only national and incorporated honor society in History. And I make no apologies for so bluntly and frankly stating my own role in this matter. The Truth, even in Phi Alpha Theta, must prevail. Hence I am writing this history of the Fraternity in this critical, personal manner.

I was appointed Assistant Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh and left Arkansas to take up my duties at Pitt early in September 1921. Professor Thomas took over the work in Alpha Chapter; was active in the Fraternity for upwards of ten years. I lost no time in Pittsburgh to prepare for a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta there. This proved a congenial task. Pittsburgh is much larger than Arkansas, with many more thousands of students, both graduate and undergraduate. In addition there was a large body of alumni engaged in professional and business activities in Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania. I made members of these three groups acquainted with my plan and received enthusiastic support. The History majors in my own classes were particularly enthusiastic. Mr. Holgar Johnson, a senior, was most helpful. He was president of his social fraternity, the S A E, and an honor student as well as a leader in campus activities. I turned to the record of the academic grades of members of all three groups. And then for evidences of their character and interest in extracurricular activities. Forty-four men and women from the three groups accepted invitations to join Phi Alpha Theta. On March 14, 1922, the anniversary of the founding of the Fraternity, Beta Chapter was duly installed. Early in the afternoon a small group met in the S A E House to organize an initiation team. Later in the afternoon, forty-three met in the Old University Club, now a part of the Athletic Club of Pittsburgh, for the initiation. Miss Elizabeth Ledwidge was chosen by lot to go through the initiation ceremony. For many years we used just one person, then later two, to go through the initiation. We put on one of the most impressive, beautiful, and dignified initiations I have ever witnessed in Phi Alpha Theta. We were always able in Beta to put on an initiation of that character. Our Chapter Hall was always large; and we had plenty of talent to choose from. We early acquired the proper paraphernalia, including metal stands for the candles and pictorial materials, and a large beautiful banner. Soon we gave up the idea of having the initiates blindfolded. I always felt that such an arrangement was appropriate for it helped give the proper psychological effect. We did well, too, in the delivery of the addresses. I have found that far too many members of initiation teams do not properly deliver the addresses. Too many just mumble the words nonchalantly. I was much pleased with the compliment from a young lady in Xi Chapter upon my reading of the Address of the Spirit of the Contemporary. Evidently she knew something about reading! It is astounding how many of our members do not know how to read intelligently. Of course, good reading is an art; and one of the greatest.

After the initiation, the forty-four of us sat down to a real banquet in the Dining Room of the Club. A right joyful event, for all entered so whole-heartedly into the spirit of the whole thing. We all wore prominently the red rose of the Fraternity which seemed to create the proper festal spirit. Here was talent, grace, and beauty not surpassed anywhere in the Fraternity. And since it was also an anniversary occasion the whole took on additional importance. I gave a brief history of Phi Alpha Theta; and, thereby, set an example, which has been followed ever since in Beta. That is for an after dinner address. Beta soon began to invite distinguished historical scholars to deliver the Annual Founder's Day Address, most of whom had been initiated as national honorary members of the Fraternity, before the Banquet. Of course it was a source of expense for the chapter for we paid the traveling expenses and a modest honorarium. But it was eminently worthwhile! After the banquet we effected a chapter organization, choosing six officers: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, press representative, and a faculty adviser. Little later a fundamental law was adopted. The whole affair was most satisfactory to me personally, for it was an epoch in the life of Phi Alpha Theta. And a most auspicious one, as it proved, not only in Beta, but in the Fraternity as well. We were on the way to greater achievements; and at once set out to do missionary work for the cause. The whole field was still wide open, with Phi Alpha Theta as the pioneer honor society in History.

PART TWO. THE AGE OF BETA, 1922-1931

The establishment of Beta Chapter, the second chapter, really marks the beginning of the nationalization of Phi Alpha Theta. The members of the Chapter entered into the spirit of the whole unreservedly. In a few months we had a petition from a group in the University of Pennsylvania. I applied for and received the power from Alpha Chapter and Beta Chapter to accept the petition. And in May 1923 I installed Gamma Chapter. The group initiated consisted almost wholly of women, but it did include some members of the Department of History. Two of these men, Professors Cheyney and McKinley, gave us support. I found the group an able one and full of enthusiasm. Gamma is the fruit of personal missionary work. In fact it is that kind of work that has done the cause the greatest service throughout the thirty years of the existence of the Fraternity. The establishment of Gamma was the first in a really large and powerful State University; and was an event of very great importance, despite the fact that the Chapter soon became inactive and remained so for upwards of fifteen years. In the first place, Gamma had in its membership the first really great historian, the late celebrated Edward P. Cheyney, the great authority on British History. Professor McKinley also rendered Phi Alpha Theta important services. Let us have clearly in mind, at the outset, that it is essential to success of any chapter to have loyal and enthusiastic members in the teaching staffs. In fact, unless there is such support, unless there is at least one member of the Department who will take the time and do the work of a Faculty Adviser, the chapter will either remain unimportant or become wholly inactive. And it need also to be emphasized that the more powerful that individual is in the Department the greater are its chances for success, not only of the chapter but of the whole Fraternity. And the Head of the Department who recognizes the importance of Phi Alpha Theta and gives it his loyal support will do not only his own Department but the cause of History a great service. The same is also true of every member of the Department, for

in giving the Fraternity support he is giving support to his own position as well as to the cause of History. I am happy to say it was not long before the greatest and most influential historical scholars readily accepted national honorary membership in the Fraternity. Beta took the lead in this matter; but it was not long before other chapters attracted to themselves men and women of outstanding ability. This, then, has been over the years, one of our most important assets, both in enhancing the reputation of the Fraternity, and in furthering its growth. Important also is the fact that Gamma's members were women for women are a very important part of our membership. One of the major defects, and it is not by any means accidental, of the management of the affairs of Phi Alpha Theta during the last twenty years has been the manner by which women have been kept off the National Council. This has been a direct result of the deliberate effort to put the non-competitive principle into two of our most important national elective executive officers: the secretary-treasurer and the historian. There will be very much more of this from me before I finish this History, But let us have the whole idea in mind from the very beginning of our nationalistic endeavors.

The admission of Gamma Chapter made us of Beta all the more determined to bring about a national organization of Phi Alpha Theta. We had not been able, despite a very careful investigation of honor societies, to find such a society in History. Alpha and Gamma both gave us hearty support. We formally set about to have the Fraternity nationalized. Beta, accordingly, invited Alpha and Gamma chapters to meet in Convention in Pittsburgh. And it offered to serve as host to such a gathering. The invitation was accepted; and Beta set about preparing for this national conclave.

THE FIRST CONVENTION was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 23-24, 1924. The first session was held in Alumni Hall of the University of Pittsburgh. Three chapters were represented. Mr. William Y. Hayward of Beta was chosen president of the Convention. There were also several members of Beta present, some of these were placed on committees. The members of the Convention were impressed with the task before them. It was nothing less than making Phi Alpha Theta the national honor society in History. A national government was established, founded on the principle of a diversified national authority; and a fundamental law was adopted. The government was purposely made democratic, based upon the idea that the members of the Fraternity are an elite group versed in political philosophy as well as History. A diversified national authority was thus the logical form for its government. The legislative power was vested in the National Convention, meeting biennially, and composed of one or more delegates but each chapter had only one vote. The executive power was vested in the National Council, composed of seven elective national executive officers, chosen by the Convention: permanent national honorary president, national president, national vice-president, national corresponding secretary, national recording secretary, national treasurer, and national historian. To each of these were given the rights, prerogatives, and duties traditionally pertaining to such officers. Rotation in office, except for the honorary president, was adopted as a democratic principle. A grave mistake was made in not providing some judicial body, such as a Senate or a Supreme Court. Had such a body been created with plenary powers we might have preserved more of our original features than we have. The Convention did me the signal honor of creating the office of honorary president; and electing me to that high office. I have held that position ever since. I have considered the office more as that of a Faculty Advisor to the Fraternity, than merely an honorary officer.

The fundamental law gave a large degree of self government to the chapters, although each chapter was obliged to recognize the national organization and to conform to the national fundamental law and the ordinances of the Convention. It also had to contribute to the revenues of the national organization. In the matter of election to membership, the chapter had full power. But it could add to but not diminish the minimum requirements for membership. And it was under obligation to require of each member that he be duly initiated in accordance with the ritualistic requirements. That is, no person would be held to be a member who had not been initiated in accordance with such requirements.

The Convention adopted the Ritual which Professor Adler and I had prepared but with the understanding that it should be shortened. It also ordered that Phi Alpha Theta should be incorporated. It adopted a pin with the symbols of the Fraternity; and L. G. Balfour Company was chosen and have remained the jewelers. It has done a fine job. We have come to have three pieces of jewelry: pin, key, and scholarship key. The pin with pearls and a ruby is particularly artistic and meaningful.

The Convention elected the following national officers: President: William Y. Hayward; Vice-President: Miriam Mueller; Corresponding Secretary: Prudence B. Trimble; Recording Secretary: Catherine Conrad; Treasurer: Elizabeth Ledwidge; and Historian: David Y. Thomas. I then installed the officers in a brief formal ceremony, a practice which was duly made a requirement by the fundamental law; and which has been continued to the present. The social features of the Convention were also important. There were luncheons and dinners and sightseeing tours. Modest at first, the social features of the Convention have taken on larger and larger importance with time until they become a most enjoyable feature of that body. The Convention adjourned to meet again in two years, or in special session if that should prove necessary. We were greatly pleased with our endeavors, convinced that we had done good constructive pioneering work. That is to say, we had really laid the foundation upon which Phi Alpha Theta has been operating ever since. There have been important changes, but the fundamentals have remained. That is the point to be emphasized, fully recognized, and duly appreciated. Phi Alpha Theta, the only honor society in History, had been nationalized, its national government had been established, and duly launched, ready for the task before it. And to the performance of that task we set to work with high hopes and genuine confidence in the soundness and usefulness of the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. The Second session had finished its labors; and the Convention adjourned.

PRESIDENT Hayward began his Administration on May 24, 1924. It proved, as initial administrations usually do, of great importance. The administrative system inaugurated in his Administration has been the pattern for all succeeding administrations. Gradually the measures adopted by the Convention were put into operation. The Fraternity was duly incorporated in Pennsylvania on October 13, 1925. Much attention was given to expansion; but only one new chapter was installed, that of Delta in the Florida State College for Women, now the Florida State University. It was in President Hayward's Administration that local honor societies in History began to be organized. Miss Annabelle Joyner, President of Delta Chapter, declared that in the spring of 1924 several faculty members and students organized "*an honorary historical society for the encouragement of scholarship, the promotion of social interest, and the furtherance of historical research.*" Professor Catherine Winters sought affiliation with an organization

she knew existed in the Louisiana State University, of which she was a graduate. Failing in this, the group agreed, April 13, 1924, to form an independent organization. It was hoped that this group would become a national society. This became Iota Pi Omicron, with "an emblem (Roll of Clio, the Rock of Polymnia, and the torch of friendship), and the purple and white gold pin had already been adopted." The Fraternity sought to expand in the academic year 1924-1925. Rob Roy MacGregor, a founder of Phi Kappa Gamma, at Southern Methodist, was contacted. Iota Pi Omicron having failed to induce that Fraternity to join it, Mr. MacGregor wanting affiliation rather than absorption, turned to Phi Alpha Theta. And on May 15, 1924, Iota Pi Omicron was installed by Corresponding Secretary Trimble as Delta Chapter (Consult Miss Prudence B. Trimble's *A Decade of Phi Alpha Theta*, 16-17).

Phi Kappa Gamma was organized six days later, or on April 19, 1924. Miss Edna Madge Skillern, Secretary-Treasurer of Eta Chapter, declared that Phi Kappa Gamma was founded by Mr. MacGregor, then a senior at Southern Methodist. He was assisted by another senior, Dewitt Harry, and Professor Joseph D. Doty, and J. F. Connor, an assistant in Political Science. Phi Kappa Gamma was meant to be the honorary society in History. Miss Skillern declared that *"it was believed by the founders that such a society, once established, would encourage more people to major in History, and by means of a beautiful ritual, would endeavor to bring the History Faculty and major students together, and foster a valuable esprit de corps. It was believed also that the fraternity would enhance the prestige of the History Department of Southern Methodist University and the Department would encourage its students to higher scholastic endeavors that might obtain membership in the coveted fraternity. There was no idea upon the part of any of those associated with the formation of the fraternity that it should have any social features similar to the general social fraternity, neither was there any idea of creating a professional fraternity; rather it was to be strictly honorary and was to hold its initiation and banquet in the spring some time before Commencement."* She went on to state that the eighth and ninth editions of *Saird's Manual* had been combed for a history fraternity but that none had been found. And since none had been found they decided to make Phi Kappa Gamma the national honorary fraternity in History. National Officers were elected with Mr. MacGregor as President and Chancellor. The University recognized the Fraternity on April 19, 1924. Miss Joyner also declares that a ritual was drawn up for the name "Phi Kappa Gamma" was "ritualistic" and that a key, the "cross circle consisting of a Maltese cross embossed upon a circle, bearing the letters Phi Kappa Gamma across its face, was likewise ritualistic." The Baltimore Rose was adopted as the flower of the Fraternity. She added that no effort was made to expand until the Fraternity had been fully organized. On June 4, 1927, thirty-six new members had been initiated. She also declared that during the academic year 1926-1927 Phi Alpha Theta sought to have Phi Kappa Gamma become a part of it. She concludes: *"After a thorough consideration on the part of the National Chapter of the Alpha Chapter of Phi Kappa Gamma, it was decided in the spring of 1927 to amalgamate with Phi Alpha Theta, the result being that on June 4, 1927, at Melrose Court, Dallas, Texas, Phi Kappa Gamma became Eta Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta National Historical Fraternity under the supervision of Miss Catherine Winters, who officiated as national installation officer"* (*Ibid.*, 18-20).

These two accounts of local honor societies with objectives and aims similar to those of Phi Alpha Theta gave me a great deal of personal satisfaction.

They prove that I was in the field several years earlier, in 1920-1921, to be exact. And that I knew nothing about them for several years after Phi Alpha Theta was launched. It is not accurate to state that Iota Pi Omicron and Phi Kappa Gamma merged with Phi Alpha Theta, for they both came in as chapters, and with the rights and privileges which chapters enjoy. I emphasize this because of my opposition to the merging of honor societies. Professor Roy Allen, Founder of Pi Gamma Mu, urged me to agree to have Phi Alpha Theta merge with Pi Gamma Mu. This I declined to do believing that every field, or branch of the Social Sciences should have an honor society of its own. I was not opposed to Pi Gamma Mu for I became a member early. I have followed the growth of this Fraternity with much interest. Since its foundation in 1924, three years later than Phi Alpha Theta, it has grown to have more than a hundred thousand members. I have never regretted preventing the merger for I believe we need both fraternities. Pi Gamma Mu can serve the Social Sciences, as Sigma Xi does the Physical Sciences.

The Administration of President Hayward saw the government of the Fraternity established on a firm basis. It worked smoothly, the diversified national authority was a distinct success, because every one of the seven national executive officers labored strictly and definitely in his or her own bailiwick. No one attempted to infringe upon the rights and privileges of the others. The government could be improved of course. No one questioned the soundness and usefulness of the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. The growth was slow, but so had been that of Phi Beta Kappa. The Admission of Delta was of great value for it has come to be a great force for good in the Deep South. We prepared for the Second Convention, Beta's invitation was accepted, and served as host.

THE SECOND CONVENTION was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 21-22, 1926. The first session was held in Alumni Hall of the University of Pittsburgh. As in the first meeting of the Convention so in the second, the number of delegates was small. Beta, Gamma, and Delta sent an official delegate each, while Alpha again appointed me its proxy. The session was called to order by President Hayward. The national officers made reports; and committees were appointed. There was a strong demand for a revision of the Ritual, primarily in the interest of brevity. But it was evident that the revision would require a great deal of study and labor, and I was instructed to bring a revised version to the next Convention. The jewelry and the seal for the Fraternity were adopted; and there was much satisfaction with the fine work that the L. G. Balfour Company had done on the jewelry. Much attention was given to new types of membership for the Fraternity, especially to the associate and life memberships. It was felt that honorary, associate, and life memberships would be useful in the expansion work. The fundamental law was accordingly amended to give the chapters the right to nominate to national honorary membership, such membership to be conferred either by the National Council or the Convention. The Convention also ordered that a publication be prepared and issued by the National Historian.

The last session was held on May 22nd with President Hayward in the chair. The principal business of this session was the election of the national officers. These were chosen: President: Trimble; Vice-President: Catherine Winters; Corresponding Secretary: Homer C. Bower; Recording Secretary: Ruth Clark; Treasurer: Elizabeth Ledwidge; and Historian: David Y. Thomas. These officers were duly installed; and the Convention adjourned. It will be duly noted

that Beta again had a monopoly of the national officers, or four of the seven. Alpha had two and Delta one of the national officers. It is also interesting to note that a woman was elected to the national presidency - the only woman ever to be elected to that high office. And why should not a woman be elevated to that office? Phi Alpha Theta is open to both men and women, why not give to each group the right and the opportunity to serve in the National Organization? As a matter of fact, however, it will be found that no woman has held a national elective executive office since the Philadelphia Convention, 1937. Nor has a woman ever been elevated to the Advisory Board, the Advisory Committee, as that body is now called. And even stranger than this is the fact that the number of women delegates to the Convention has been falling off with the passing of time. Two factors seem to be the cause of this singular situation: the merging of the offices of secretary and treasurer into that of secretary-treasurer and the abolition of national officers, the recording secretary and the second vice-president. But even more important has been the determination, in later years, of certain gentlemen to maintain themselves in office.

The social features of the Convention were interesting. There was a sight-seeing tour and luncheons and dinners. While there was a sentiment in favor of an academic session, nothing was done at this meeting of the Convention. That important feature did not come about until several years later.

PRESIDENT Trimble began her Administration on May 12, 1926 with high hopes. And very rightly so for the Convention had shown the Fraternity to be in good condition. The government, too, was working smoothly. Her efforts as Corresponding Secretary had proved useful in our expansion work. But expansion was to continue to be personal missionary work. The first new chapter to be admitted in her Administration, Epsilon, at the University of Illinois, was the result of a member of Beta Chapter, Mr. Glen W. Hawkins, then a graduate student at that institution. He induced a group of History Majors to organize and petition for a chapter. The petition was accepted and the chapter was installed in 1927. Another chapter, that of Ohio State University, was the work of another member of Beta, Mrs. Ruth Page Palomo. She was able to induce members of the Heroditus Club to petition for a chapter. This petition, too, was accepted; and on May 21, 1927, I installed Zeta Chapter. Professors Knight, Wittke, and Hockett of that chapter came to serve the Fraternity well over the years. Professor Wittke, Chairman of the Department of History, was one of those men who understood the importance of Phi Alpha Theta, and set about to work for it. The third chapter, Eta at Southern Methodist University, whose history I have already given, also was installed in her Administration. The fourth chapter, Theta at Denison University, was also the result of personal missionary work. Professor William T. Utter, of Zeta Chapter, assisted by Professor W. Gewehr of Beta, brought Theta Chapter into being. It was installed on May 10, 1928, just one day before the Third Convention began its labors. Thus by the end of President Trimble's Administration the Fraternity had nine chapters, but Gamma and Epsilon Chapters were already inactive. Beta again extended an invitation to the National Council to hold the Convention in Pittsburgh. The invitation was accepted; and Beta prepared to serve as host.

THE THIRD CONVENTION, then, began its sessions in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on May 11, 1928, for a two day meeting. The first session was held in Stephenson Hall of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society Building with President Trimble in the chair. Four of the national officers were present; and six chapters were represented either by a delegate or a proxy. There were reports from national officers; and committees appointed. I was again instructed to revise the Ritual; and Mr. John C. Herrick of Zeta was appointed chairman

of the committee to revise the fundamental law. The Convention again urged that efforts be made to establish chapters in the larger and more influential institutions. There was opposition from the beginning of the existence of Phi Alpha Theta to the smaller schools, especially to the normal schools, later the teachers colleges. It was felt that the teachers colleges tended to make a hodge podge of the Social Sciences. Even larger institutions, such as the University of Chicago, established departments of the Social Sciences. But it seemed to many of us that this scrambling of the Social Sciences was of questionable value, both to the individual social sciences and to education in general. Let the Social Sciences be given the attention that the Physical Sciences are but with the provision always that the separate fields be kept separate. In the last twenty years there has been a movement to have the separate fields in the Social Sciences take over much of the work of all those sciences. The leaders in Geography have been unusually active in that movement. They treat History under the guise of Human Geography. Then there is Economic Geography, Political Geography, and Geo-Politics. Why not Philosophical Geography, Psychological Geography, Sociological Geography, Literary Geography, Artistic Geography, Ecclesiastical Geography, and other divisions into which this all-inclusive subject of Geography could be divided? Great progress has unquestionably been made in the field of Geography; and that is all to the good. There can be no question about the inter-dependence of the fields of the Social Sciences; or that History can be enriched and made more understandable by a knowledge of the other Social Sciences. My observation has been that too many teachers of Geography undertake what they are unable to do, what is humanely impossible to do. The result is that materials are presented to or accepted from the students that are out of date, incomplete, misleading, or even inaccurate. What we have, far too often, then in teachers colleges, is an arrangement whereby History is dealt with as an auxiliary science. The practical result is that the student finds it difficult to earn enough credits in History to qualify him for membership in the Fraternity. And when we come to require, as we should have done years ago, advanced work, we stand to lose teachers colleges.

The Convention considered recommendations made by President Trimble; growing out of her experiences as Corresponding Secretary. She recommended that the design for life and honorary membership certificates be adopted, a calendar of chapter duties be prepared, the harmonizing of the ordinances and minutes of the Convention with the charter and the minutes of the National Council, and that of the charter and the fundamental law. After the adoption of resolutions of thanks to the national officers, the committees, and the officers of Beta, the following officers were elected and installed: President: Bower; First Vice-President: Rob Roy MacGregor; Second Vice-President: Trimble (the fundamental law had been amended to provide two vice-presidents); Corresponding Secretary: Laura M. Braun; Recording Secretary: Venila Lovina Shores; Treasurer: C. Stanton Belfour; and Historian: John C. Herrick. And the Convention adjourned.

The social features of the Convention were interesting. The luncheon by Miss Braun was a delightful affair, as was the theatre party. The Convention Banquet was held in the Faculty Club of the University of Pittsburgh, with Professor Alfred Proctor James (Oxon.) as toastmaster. Professor John W. Oliver, Professor and Head of the Department of History, University of

Pittsburgh, delivered the Founder's Day Address on: "The History of Technocracy," a very able and timely address. President Anne Bowes of Beta made a statement introducing the toastmaster, that caught the fancy of Betans: "The Apostles of History: Andrew, James, and John," with reference to me, Professor James and Professor Oliver.

PRESIDENT Bower began his Administration with high hopes on May 12, 1928. The Fraternity was in good shape and the outlook for the future was bright. There was our publication, although it was not issued until 1929, and called the *Annual News-Letter*. It was modest at first, but it was the beginning of the series which has been continued to the present time, although under different names. The *News-Letter* for 1929 was a modest one. President Bower had a brief greeting, declaring: "It is only through the growth of the individual that the true purpose of Phi Alpha Theta will be achieved." I quoted this from Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*: "But thus you see we maintain a trade, not for gold, silver, nor jewels; nor for silks; nor for spices; nor for any other commodity or matter; but only for God's Light (I say), of the growth of all parts of the world....., we have twelve that sail into foreign countries....., who bring to us books, and abstracts and patterns of experiments of all other parts. These we call the 'Merchants of Light!'" I followed this with my understanding of the value of travel, referring to my travels and study in foreign lands: three years in Western Europe and Northern Africa, my work for the Ph. D. degree at the University of Munich, Germany; the travels in the Americas; my representing the University of Pittsburgh at the Congress of History in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1922, witnessing the celebration there of the hundredth anniversary of political independence from Portugal, and presenting a paper on: "The Diplomatic Mission of General J. Watson Webb to Brazil, 1861-1869," published in the Proceedings of that Congress; and of my visit to the State of Sao Paulo, as guest of that State, and to the famous coffee port of Santos; my representing the University of Pittsburgh at the Commercial Congress in Mexico City in 1923; at the Bolivarian Congress in Panama in 1926, as the guest of the Republic of Panama; and also of my trip to Western Europe in charge of classes in the History of Europe from the University of Pittsburgh in the summer of 1925; and as a representative of the same university to the Congress of the Historical Sciences in Oslo, Norway, in 1928. I naturally urged the members of the Fraternity to nurture the "urge to travel," the *Wanderlust*, as the Germans call it, claiming that travel was richly rewarding.

Beta, Delta, Zeta, and Theta had interesting reports of their activities. Especially important was the encouragement given in each by suitable social gatherings with addresses by historical scholars: Dixon Ryan Fox in Beta, Mrs. Susan Bradford Eppes and James Alexander Robertson in Delta, and Knight and Wittke in Zeta.

Our expansion efforts only netted two new chapters in the administration of President Bower. Both were the results of personal missionary work. Professor Zimmerman of Epsilon, established Iota at Colorado State College on November 18, 1929. And Kappa was installed on November 23 of the same year at Muhlenberg College.

The Administration of President Bower was shortened by action of the National Council. Instead of holding the Convention in the Easter Recess the Council decided to hold it in the Thanksgiving Recess. The invitation from Zeta Chapter to hold the conclave in Columbus, Ohio, was accepted, with Zeta as the host chapter.

THE FOURTH CONVENTION, then, met in Columbus, Ohio, November 29-30, 1929. The first session was held in a classroom of Ohio State University with President Bower in the chair. Six national officers and representatives from six chapters were present. National officers presented reports; and committees appointed. Mr. Herrick reported for the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution, recommending the establishment of a scholarship fund. The report was adopted but with the proviso that only funds from life memberships should be used for that purpose. This was another effort at achieving the larger objectives of Phi Alpha Theta. It was to take, as we shall see, twenty-one years before such a fund was actually established. My Committee on the Ritual recommended no change in that document. But the Committee was ordered to continue its efforts and to report at the next Convention. The session adjourned, after which Zeta held an invitation, followed by the Convention Banquet. Professor Arthur C. Cole of Ohio State delivered the Address on: "The Beginnings of American Sport." It was a very able and well presented effort.

The second session was held on the morning of November 30th with President Bower in the chair. The roll was called, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Expansion took up most of the session. Members of the Fraternity who go to other colleges and universities, where there is no chapter, were urged to work for the establishment of chapters of Phi Alpha Theta there. It was urged, too, that all the members of the Fraternity engage actively in the expansion work. The final session was on the afternoon of the same day. The Convention adopted the plan, later known as the Belfour Plan, whereby each chapter was to send to the National Organization a certain sum of money for each new initiate, in place of the old plan whereby each chapter paid to that Organization a dollar a year for each member. The Belfour Plan is still in force, and has provided most of the revenue for the Fraternity. The purchase of Federal bonds and the sale of jewelry have provided additional revenue over the years.

The selection of national executive officers was of unusual importance. I took occasion to emphasize the need of giving greater attention to the geographical factor in the selection of such officers. It seemed to me to be imperative that the national officers should be more representative of the whole Fraternity. I reminded those of Beta that the time had come when they would have to give up the monopoly of the national officers. No formal action was taken, however; and the Convention selected the following: President: Belfour; First Vice-President: MacGregor; Second Vice-President: Bower; Corresponding Secretary: Myrl I. Eakin; Recording Secretary: Gertrude Heering; Treasurer: Gwendolyn Turner Beeler; and Historian: Herrick. These officers were installed; and the Convention adjourned. The social activities of the Convention included, besides the Banquet, a sightseeing tour and a luncheon to the national officers by Mrs. Palomo. The last was a very enjoyable affair and gave added proof of the interest the hostess had in Phi Alpha Theta.

PRESIDENT Belfour began his Administration on November 30th 1929 with a fine reputation for administrative ability. He had done an outstanding job as Treasurer. In addition he was known to have a very high regard for the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. The *Annual News-Letter* for 1930 was issued in April. President Belfour declared in his message to the members, in part: "*Next year, 1931, will witness a celebration of a decade of our fraternity. In nine years of its existence, Phi Alpha Theta has recorded much progress. There are now ten chapters, eight*

of which are active: Our local groups are entertaining history majors, celebrating 'scholarship days,' offering prizes to freshmen history students, et cetera. Each year we are honoring distinguished scholars with honorary membership. The time has arrived for the establishment of life memberships, the foundation of scholarships, and the preparation of addresses rich in scholarship and research. The Founders of Phi Alpha Theta may well feel proud of their efforts. We who are active in the organization are committed to promote the study of history and there is no better way to respond to this commitment than to place the fraternity in strong educational institutions. The cooperation of every member is enlisted in this undertaking" (Ibid., 2). Mr. Herrick, as Editor of the *News-Letter*, emphasized the importance of the fifth Convention which was to meet at Granville, Ohio, in November 1931.

The *Annual News-Letter* for 1930 contained much material besides that given above. I had an article based on Matthew Arnold's essay on "Sweetness and Light." I give these quotations from that essay:

"The spirit of perfection, then, is the pursuit of sweetness and light. He who works for sweetness and light, works to make reason and the will of God prevail. He who works for machinery, he who works for hatred, works for hatred, works only for confusion. Culture looks beyond machinery, culture hates hatred;... Again and again I have insisted how those are the happy moments of humanity, how those are the working epochs of a people's life, how those are the flowering times for literature and art and all the creative power of Genius, when there is a national glow of life and thought, when the whole of society is in the fullest measure permeated by thought, sensible to beauty, intelligent and alive. Only it must be real thought and real beauty; real sweetness and real light. Plenty of people will try to give to the masses, as they call them, an intellectual food prepared and adapted in the way they think proper for the condition of the masses.... Plenty of people will try to indoctrinate the masses with the set of ideas and judgments constituting the creed of their own confession or party.... I condemn neither way; but culture works differently. It does not try to teach down to the level of the inferior classes; it does not try to win them for this or that sect of its own, with ready-made judgments and watchwords. It seeks to do away with classes; to make the best that has been thought and known in the world current everywhere; to make all men live in an atmosphere of sweetness and light, where they may use ideas, as it uses them itself, freely, - nourished, and not bound by them.

"This is the social idea; and the men of culture are the true apostles of equality. The great men of culture are those who have had a passion for diffusing, for making prevail, for carrying from one end of society to another, the best knowledge, the best ideas of their times; who have labored to divest knowledge of all that was harsh, uncouth, difficult, abstract, professional, exclusive: to humanize it, to make it efficient outside the clique of the cultivated and the learned, yet still remaining the best knowledge and thought of the time, and a true source, therefore, of sweetness and light...." (2-4).

There were reports from Alpha, Beta, Delta, Zeta, Eta, Theta, Iota, and Kappa Chapters, each one in good condition. The March 1931 issue of the *Annual News-Letter* had interesting material. President Belfour emphasized in his "message" the fact that the next Convention would be held in Granville, Ohio, in November. He urged the chapters to observe the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Fraternity. And that there would be much

important business to come before that conclave, the most important being the revision of the fundamental law and the Ritual. The National Council had, in its meeting in Pittsburgh, December 26-27, 1930, planned other important business also, among these was the publication of an anniversary program which will record a decade of Phi Alpha Theta."

The March Issue had no message from me since I was on sabbatical leave for the year 1930-1931, traveling and studying in Latin America and Western Europe. I had been appointed Research Associate in History by the Carnegie Institution of Washington to make a study of the political organization of Bolivia. This appointment came through my good friend, the late Leo. S. Rowe, Director General of what was then the Pan American Union. I finished my translation of *Para-Perez's Simon Bolivar: An Introduction to His Political Philosophy* from Spanish; and sent it to the printer. It was published early in 1931. Mrs. Cleven and I left early in September for our trip to Latin America. We visited Mexico, the Pacific Republics of Central America, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Mrs. Cleven returned to the States, while I concluded my searches in Bolivia. I then went to Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil. I was also gathering source materials for a volume on *Maximilian of Mexico: A Study of National Imperialism* a work I had been invited to prepare by Professor Hayes. Then I went on to Italy, Austria, and England, where I continued my search for source materials on Maximilian. And returned to my duties at Pitt early in September 1931.

The time between my return and the Convention was a busy one. I was anxious to have a conference with Professor MacGregor. I knew he was a vocal critic of both the fundamental law and the Ritual; and that he would come to Granville to seek revision of both. I was therefore glad to receive an invitation to address the student body of the Illinois Woman's College where he was an officer of instruction. My visit to Jacksonville was most satisfactory. My conference with him assured me that he did not desire fundamental changes. He did feel that the Ritual should be shortened materially. I emphasized that the Ritual needed to be modernized rather than shortened. I came away feeling that he was a loyal believer in the Phi Alpha Theta Idea; and anxious to make the Fraternity a success. I had really expected that to be the case since he had borne such a large role in organizing Phi Kappa Gamma and in its conversion into Eta of Phi Alpha Theta.

The problem of expansion was given much attention; but only one new chapter was added. This was Lambda Chapter at State Teachers College, Pittsburg, Kansas. It was installed on May 16, 1930, by Professor Zimmerman of Iota. President Belfour made an official visit to Lambda, taking part in a round of activities, adding prestige both to the University of Pittsburgh of which he was an officer and to Phi Alpha Theta. With a visit from two such loyal and enthusiastic Phi Alpha Thetans, Lambda Chapter got off to a good start. Much will be heard from and about this chapter in the next ten years.

THE FIFTH CONVENTION met November 27-28, 1931, in Granville, one of the most charming cities in an intriguing region of Ohio. The sessions were held in the spacious hall of the Kappa Kappa House on the Denison campus. The first session came on the 27th with President Belfour in the chair, presiding in a manner worthy of a seasoned parliamentarian. But he was not the only one versed in that fine art, for many others displayed a familiarity with parliamentary

law which is to be expected from students of History. Mr. Herrick, for example, emerged as "*The John Marshall of Phi Alpha Theta.*" All the national officers except Mrs. Beeler were there; and nine chapters were represented by delegate or proxy. The report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution, presented by Mr. Herrick, brought on the fireworks. The report was considered point by point; and finally adopted. This document, called erroneously the "*new*" Constitution, made important changes. The office of second vice-president and that of recording secretary were abolished, and the president becoming vice-president on retiring, unless reelected, when a vice-president was elected. The abolition of the office of recording secretary was to have profound consequences, not because of the wording of the document but because of the interpretation placed upon it. The interpretation was the beginning of the transformation of the office of secretary into the highly centralized and expensive administrative system we have today.

The principle of a diversified national authority was, however, retained intact. There were the seven elective national executive officers, six of whom were elected every two years. The several national executive officers were given the powers, duties, rights, and prerogatives that pertain to such officers. In no place in this fundamental law, or in extant ordinances of the Convention, is there a single statement that can be construed regularly to make the secretary "*the executive officer*" of the Fraternity, which Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman have so assiduously labored over the years to make it. A careful study of Article III, page 9 of the By-Laws, will show that this officer, while given a great deal of chore work to do, as such officers usually are, was given neither legislative nor judicial power. The fundamental law specifically declares that the president is the *chief executive officer* and shall have "*general executive control of the Fraternity, preside at all the meetings of the National Convention and the National Council, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office.*" The fundamental law placed the supreme law making power in the Convention, or rather, retained it in that body. But it did not provide a judicial body - a most serious defect. The chapters were given the right to send delegates to the Convention, and might send as many as they chose, but each chapter was only allowed one vote. But this was not a new provision. The revised Constitution had a preamble and recognized the motto, colors, emblem, and flower of the Fraternity. *The changes, then, made by the Granville Convention, were primarily in the wording and not in fundamentals.*

My report for the Committee on Ritual also caused much discussion. Miss Trimble stoutly held to the fundamentals and Professor MacGregor sought to have the Ritual considerably shortened. The Committee finally recommending the elimination of unnecessary imagery and verbiage, with the result that the Ritual was reduced almost one-half. The recommendation was finally approved by the Convention. *I have always held to the point that merely shortening the Ritual is not solving our Ritual problem. The solution lies rather in the modernization of the document in the interest, not of brevity, but of accuracy and effectiveness.*

After the adoption of resolutions of thanks and appreciation to officers and committees for a most successful conclave, the Convention elected the following national officers: President: Herrick; Vice-President, by constitutional provision: Belfour; Secretary: Zimmerman; Treasurer: Donald B. Hoffman; Historian Arthur E. Whitenack; and Counselor: Utter. Two of the men chosen to high offices were practically unknown; and certainly unfamiliar and inexperienced in the

administration of the affairs of the Fraternity: Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman. Professor Zimmerman had done good work but had had no experience with the government of the Fraternity. Mr. Hoffman was definitely an unknown quantity, having been elected to membership in Phi Alpha Theta in Kappa Chapter on February 18th of the year the Convention met, and while a junior in college. That is, he had been a member of the Fraternity only for the period between February 18 and November 28, 1931. And this is the man who has been continued in a national executive office, and with ever-increasing enlarged powers, up to the present time. Quite a feat even in Phi Alpha Theta! The officers were installed; and the Convention adjourned. The post-Convention meeting of the National Council was held in the evening of the same day.

The social activities of the Granville Convention were interesting. The members of Theta Chapter had done a good job. The sightseeing tours in and about this beautiful city were unusually enjoyable. The Anniversary Convention Banquet was held in the Granville Inn with Mr. Belfour as toastmaster. Professor DeWeerd of Denison University delivered the address. I gave a brief review of the activities of Phi Alpha Theta in the decade that had come to an end. There were many fine compliments for Miss Trimble, the author of *A Decade of Phi Alpha Theta* a copy of which had been given to each member of the Convention. The booklet contained twenty-six pages, was nicely printed, and bound in blue paper covers. It was dedicated to the Founder, with a picture of him and a detailed biographical sketch. It closed with a quotation from Browning: "*The best is yet to be,*" - a most appropriate conclusion. The article by Mr. Belfour, published in *Banta's Greek Exchange* in July 1930 on "Historical Sketch" was excellent. He began with this stanza:

*"If after kirk ye bide a wee,
There's some would like to speak with ye;
If, after kirk ye rise and flee,
We'd all seem cold and strange to ye."*

And he added: "*So sang the Cumberland Presbyterians in their little brick churches on the banks of the Monongahela flowing through the Allegheny foothills of Western Pennsylvania. So, also, may the zealous adherents of the honorary fraternity sing. For their cause is 'after kirk' an assemblage of those with common interests, and with intimacy developing through contact, their interests and purposes. The honorary is distinctly extracurricular. It is frosting for the cake, but very delicious and almost necessary to tempt the palate. Without it, formal instruction is stark and lacking in formal recognition of merit, promotion of fellowship among kindred minds, and pleasant sociability."* And he concluded: "*And thus, after the history lecture students have found time to 'bide a wee'. Knowing one another intimately, they have served as hosts to visiting scholars on their campus. Wishing to interest others, they have encouraged underclassmen to write local history with appropriate remuneration. In the nine years of its existence O A Θ has recorded progress..."*

Then followed an account of the first four meetings of the Convention, a list of the national officers over the seven year period, a list of fifteen national honorary members, the chapter histories of Alpha, Beta, Delta, Zeta, Eta, Theta, Iota, Kappa, and Lambda, and a chapter roster. I have given interesting data

from several of these chapter histories, those of Delta and Eta being especially interesting and informative. It is also worthy of note that Alpha gave the credit for the existence of Phi Alpha Theta to Professor Thomas and me, in that order, thereby giving to him the greater honor, even though he was not even a co-founder of the Fraternity.

The Granville Convention grows in importance year by year. It was the end of an era and the beginning of another. It was the end of the so-called Beta Dynasty and the beginning of what I call *The Interregnum*, for it was truly a transitional period. I have no recollection of this Convention of any fear that Phi Alpha Theta was about to *fade out*, or even beginning to disintegrate. On the contrary there was a feeling of pride in what the Fraternity had accomplished and high hopes for its future. Even Professor Zimmerman declared: "Well! What do you think of the organization since attending the convention?" Without any doubt it is a growing organization -- it is a real fraternity" (*Phi Alpha Theta News-Letter*, 1932, 9.) No one felt that there was any real danger for the Fraternity from any quarter. There was no other national honor society in History. The coast was clear and the sailing fine. The Granville Convention was significant primarily because it marked the beginning of a greater scattering of the national officers than in any previous conclave. This was to have, as it turned out, a profound effect upon the government of the Fraternity.

PART THREE. THE INTERREGNUM, 1931 - 1941

"The Tenth Anniversary Convention of Phi Alpha Theta was over. There was confusion and doubt in the minds of many of the delegates and national officers when they left Granville, Ohio. So much had been done in such a short time, and there was uncertainty as to the wisdom of some of the legislation which had been passed. Hours had been spent on the complete revision of the constitution and the ritual, and it was not clear to most of the delegates just where the new organization would lead the fraternity. The minute details necessary for such revision had seemingly befuddled all those present. However, the leaders of the fraternity had seen the problem clearly and had visualized just how the new organization would function. The proof of the clarity of their vision can be seen in the history of the past ten years. The legislative machinery which they provided through the basic law of the fraternity has functioned smoothly" (*The Historian*, III, 2, 142)

"...The first ten years of our fraternal existence was based on a diversity of national authority, and at the end of that time, we had a total of 11 chapters, 3 of which were inactive, a 3 figure red balance in our treasury, a ritual taking 1 hour 30 minutes and a bulky constitution which crisscrossed itself in many corners.

"All this was changed at the important 10th Anniversary Convention at Denison University. National interest was centered primarily in the office of secretary. The ritual was 'whacked down' to nearly its present wordage, the constitution was revised properly to practically its present condition. Immediately the fraternity began to advance. Frankly without BETA and ZETA chapters during the first ten years the fraternity would have folded. The fact that those two chapters are still two of our best is clear indication over the years they too have felt the change was for the better" ("Report of the National Secretary-Treasurer to the National Convention, Appendix "D", 17. Minutes and Reports of the Washington Convention).

These two quotations from Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman, one ten years after the Granville Convention, the other seventeen years, are interesting, informative, illuminating. They help explain the policy of the two men in their administrative endeavors. They are a fitting introduction to this third section of the History. The reader will do well to consider the quotations in their real setting; and to note the difference in the viewpoint of the two men.

PRESIDENT Herrick began his Administration, November 28, 1931, under unusual circumstances. In the minds of some of the national officers, the Fraternity had, evidently, been emancipated from the rule of the Beta Dynasty. Hence there was a determination to interpret the legislation of the Granville Convention accordingly. There was evidently much, very much more to the Granville conclave than is recorded in its proceedings. I do not engage in backstage tactics, nor do I go about patting people on the back for any cause, or for any individual. Just how much of both was done at Granville I do not know. Judging by subsequent developments there must have been understandings not incorporated in the fundamental law or in the ordinances of that Convention. I have in mind the efforts of some national officers to make the principle of a diversified national authority inoperative in order to substitute for it a centralistic system. This system to be vested primarily in the secretariat with the powers, duties, rights, and prerogatives of *THE executive officer* of the Fraternity, in the practical government of Phi Alpha Theta. Important changes had been made in that government, but not in the fundamentals, as a careful study of the revised fundamental law of the Granville Convention will prove.

I must own that as I look back upon the Granville Convention that conditions given in the quotations from Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman and in other ways, must have had a very definite purpose. And that purpose was to excuse, not merely explain, the subsequent conduct of these two men in office. It has been the cause of their policies and acts for the past twenty years. If these two men did not enter upon their respective offices with the deliberate purpose of changing the very nature of the government of the Fraternity, it did not take them long to decide that such profoundly important changes could be brought about through clever maneuverings. While I have the greatest respect for the officer who makes his office the most important, in conformity with the spirit and form of law, I am equally ready to condemn unreservedly the officer who, by clever tactics and shady performances, seeks to make the office subserve his own personal interests. That is, the officer who, by irregularity not permitted either by law or traditional practices, seeks to obtain advantages, achieve objectives not provided for or even planned by the makers of the fundamental law or other regulations. It is true that life is full of instances of individuals who have been able to bring about changes in the law, or in regulations governing an officer, which they desire. And of individuals who, by plugging away at practices which will achieve the ends desired, even when efforts they have used have failed to get the desired laws or regulations. And then confronting the members of the organization which they serve with *un fait accompli*. If to this be added a partisan, or gullible, or ignorant electorate, such officers can, in that process, by resorting to irregularities, irregularities committed the more easily because of distorted, or warped concepts of government, and aided and abetted by an opportunistic, loose notion of formalism, such an officer can achieve just about anything he may desire.

Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman naively insist that by law every organiza-

tion is required to have an *executive liaison officer*. No one questions that fact. But the requirement must be taken in its context. While such a liaison officer is necessary for business reasons, it most certainly does not make that officer *the most important* or even the *executive officer* of the organization. There are seven national executive officers in the government of Phi Alpha Theta, each with its own prescribed duties and responsibilities, no less than its prerogatives and rights. Professor Zimmerman deliberately made himself at the outset as secretary just that kind of an officer, and so publicized himself. And Mr. Hoffman, on becoming secretary-treasurer, has assiduously continued the practice. And what has been their purpose? Has it not been to better enable them to play the larger role in the government of the Fraternity? The really serious situation with us in Phi Alpha Theta is that we have had members in the past, and far too many of them, who invite irregularities by condoning them, or just by slimy indifference.

Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman are not alone to blame, even in this earlier formative period. President Herrick declared in his message that there had been a "*shifting of functions from one officer to another*" and that "*the important offices of National Treasurer and National Secretary were being moved*" *The Phi Alpha Theta News-Letter*, 1932, 4). And in his message in 1933 he declared that the History of Phi Alpha Theta "*reveals tremendous changes . . . the entire administrative machinery has been overhauled and rebuilt*" (*Ibid.*, 1933, 9). This is right strange language from the man who had such a large role in revising the fundamental law at the Granville Convention. *And especially in the light of the real nature of that document.* Either President Herrick was indulging in loose language in interpreting the work of the Granville conclave, or he was exposing the program of the cabal in that gathering: *a determination to achieve ends denied by that Convention.* Emphasis is added to this by President Herrick's conduct as National President. In that position he allowed Secretary Zimmerman to infringe upon the rights, duties, and prerogatives of the president. For he left to the Secretary the bulk of the administrative work.

Two other men who have held the office of president are on record as placing the interpretation upon the office of secretary as did Mr. Herrick. In reporting the sixth Convention Mr. Belfour declared that Secretary Zimmerman's "*hand was on the throttle and his eye upon the rail*" and that the Convention gave "*an able administrative control vested in the secretary*" (*Ibid.*, March 1934, in "*Clionians In Champaign*" 32-34). In a recent letter to me Mr. Belfour emphasizes that while a secretary ought to have large powers he must be an administrative officer only. Mr. Weaver, reporting the seventh Convention, declared: "*The record of its officers was excellent and proved conclusively the efficiency of the present system of administrative control vested in the secretary*" ("*As I Saw It - the 1935 Convention,*" *The Star and Serpent* Spring 1936, 11). It is only fair to Mr. Weaver to say that he wrote this after the end of the administration of President Wittke, the man who had left so much of the work of the president to the secretary. What I mean to say is that Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman have, in the conduct of the office of secretary, and later secretary-treasurer, deliberately injected the personal motive to nullify the principle of a diversified national authority in order to serve their personal interests. I was to learn later that Secretary Zimmerman publicized himself as *the executive officer of the fraternity* in *Baird's Manual of American Fraternities*, edition of 1935. He declared in that authoritative work: "*Government is by national con-*

vention, meeting biennially, which elects a council of seven members, one of which, the national secretary, is the executive officer of the fraternity..." (45). As I see it, and time has only strengthened me in that view, the efforts of Professor Zimmerman, and later Mr. Hoffman, in this matter is part of a definite plan to make the office remunerative.

Historian Whitenack published two very good copies of the *News Letter* in the Administration of President Herrick. The one for 1932 bore the title:

The Phi Alpha Theta *News-Letter*. In addition to the message by President Herrick, I had an article on the international situation. I urged that we should have the courage of our convictions and to cling tenaciously to the canons of historical criticism. I felt the ills of the time were the results of the violation of immutable laws; and that we should emphasize that fact. Secretary Zimmerman reported that the scholarship key was ready for use; and that 178 members had been initiated up to February 19, 1932. Treasurer Hoffman reported receipts for the same period of \$1,348.45, expenditures of \$1,152.34, with a balance in the treasury of \$196.09.

The letters from the chapters were unusually interesting, those explaining the inactivity of chapters were especially so. On Gamma Professor Lingelback declared that the chapter had been "inactive for a considerable length of time" but that there were "one or two members of the faculty who were rather closely connected with the chapter when it was alive." On Epsilon Professor Larson wrote: "Epsilon chapter had never been particularly active at any time. Difficulties arose at the time of the organization, and a considerable number of graduate students refused to join.... Those who were originally interested in the organization left the University soon after, and the chapter became dormant and has remained so. Whether or not we can do anything to revive interest in it I cannot say at this time." This issue listed thirteen chapters and sixteen national honorary members.

The issue of 1933 of the *News Letter* took note of the fact that the Fraternity was twelve years old; and gave a brief account of the founding of the Fraternity. The list of national honorary members had grown to eighteen. I have already referred to the message from President Herrick. My message was brief, urging the restoration of the reign of law; and quoted Carlyle's famous line: "The eternal stars shine out as soon as it is dark enough." Secretary Zimmerman stated that the National Council had, at its meeting in December 1932 in Columbus, Ohio, ordered a booklet on the Fraternity should be issued; and that the name of Phi Alpha Theta be registered with the United States Patent Office. The latter had been done early in 1933. Treasurer Hoffman reported receipts between March 1932 and February 1933 at \$1,391.08, with initiation fees amounting to \$857, largest amount from Xi or \$340 and from Mu at \$110. And expenditures at \$1,299.13.

Then followed letters from department chairmen and professors of History. These were of unusual interest and value. I took space to remind my colleagues in the departments of History of the usefulness of Phi Alpha Theta in the development of subject matter as well as nurturing an interest in the students for History. Professor Shores for Delta was warm in her praise of the value of the Fraternity, declaring: "It is very difficult to even imagine what the History Department at Florida State College for Women would be without Delta Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta." She pointed out that Delta strove to encourage

freshmen in History "to put forth their best work in the field," to reward good work by election to membership in the Fraternity, and declared that this "intimate association of a small group of people having common interests is considered of especial value by the students." And added: "As a Department, we feel that such recognition of effort and scholarship could not well be discontinued...."

Professor Wittke of Zeta gave three ways in which Phi Alpha Theta made its influence felt in Ohio State University: 1) monthly meetings were held; 2) announcements made of students elected to Phi Alpha Theta on Scholarship Day; and 3) presentation of a prize on Scholarship Day "to the freshman student in the survey course in European History, and to the best freshman student in the survey course in American History." He added that that "stimulates scholarly competition in the freshman group, and serves to advertise Phi Alpha Theta early in the students' career." Professor Utter of Theta declared: "...Membership is a coveted and fitting reward for excellent work done in the history department." Also that two prizes were offered to "freshmen of unusual scholarship in the introductory courses."

Professor Dickerson of Iota declared that students were stimulated to "meet the scholastic requirements," had "aided by assisting in bringing to our campus prominent scholars" "and in securing for our library, groups of important source material that college funds had been insufficient to purchase." Professor Mueller of Kappa declared that "admission to Phi Alpha Theta is considered one of the greatest prizes a student can get;" and added: "Lower classmen especially are put on their mettle by their desire to qualify for membership, and upper classmen who have not qualified are frequently spurred on to extra efforts in their work." Professor Trout of Lambda declared that the "fraternity has had a very wholesome influence in toning up the scholastic standing of the students desiring to carry majors in our department."

Professor McBrien of Nu declared: "Phi Alpha Theta has brought to the better students majoring in history a group consciousness which they lacked prior to the installation of the chapter here. This has proved to be of a decided help in developing a better feeling and a closer relationship between the students and the members of the departmental faculty. As a result there seems to be a growth taking place in the interest which the students have in both independent and guided study. In addition the establishment of the chapter here has created a desire on the part of many of the non-members to meet the requirements set for admission to the organization. In other words a goal has been set up toward which the worthier ones seem to want to strive." And he very wisely concluded that: "If every chapter of Phi Alpha Theta does as well as the chapter here has done, it is indeed a most worthy fraternity. I heartily endorse the aims and character of Phi Alpha Theta."

Professor Hawkins of Mu declared that a chapter had been desired for some time by students majoring in history;" that the "qualifications for membership have been rigid -- at least fifty percent of all collegiate work shall be of grade A and not over ten percent shall be below grade B." And he added: "I believe that Phi Alpha Theta has a most rosy future on our campuses." And Professor Gilliland of Xi declared: "I would state that there is keen interest shown in the chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. . . . The standards of scholarship required for membership will call for harder work on the part of history majors. Furthermore, the installation of the chapter will greatly help to unify the alumni as well as the undergraduate students in history. We are well pleased that we have Phi Alpha Theta on the campus."

There were interesting letters from Alpha, Beta, Delta, Zeta, Eta, Theta, Iota, Kapa, Mu, Nu, and Xi Chapters. Much information was given in the new section on "News-Letter Briefs:" a picture of our three pieces of jewelry: pin, key, and scholarship key; about 230 members had been elected in the previous year; National Council had decided to create a scholarship fund "as soon as finances will permit" and that the railroad pool had been abolished but that the National Organization would "reimburse each chapter delegate, one-half his or her railroad or bus fare (not including meals enroute) incidental to attendance at the Convention;" Mr. Belfour explained the nature of the Association of College Honor Societies (the ACHS) and was instructed to study the question whether or not "Phi Alpha Theta should seek admission." The latter item proves that Mr. Belfour began preparing the ground for the admission of the Fraternity into the ACHS. A very important matter considering the large role that Phi Alpha Theta has played in the ACHS since its admission in 1945. Professor George P. Hammond had been busy the year previous in transforming Alpha Delta Iota into Xi Chapter, installed on May 20, 1932. He explained later in some detail that the Southern California History Department for years had "felt the need of any good means of bringing together the students of this department." Alpha Delta Iota was an effort to remedy that situation. He interpreted these three Greek letters as "Truth Through History." It had existed for about two years. When Mrs. Miriam Mueller Binder, a member of Gamma Chapter and a former national vice-president of Phi Alpha Theta, came to Southern California she suggested that Alpha Delta Iota become a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. Professor Hammond added: "Following her suggestion Alpha Delta Iota became Xi Chapter of this national group, since which time it has continued to serve as a nucleus for drawing together the History Department and the student body, both in a scholastic and a social way. It has become a most effective means of linking together the various groups represented in its membership, whether interested in History professionally or more particularly for intellectual enjoyment. Through it men and women who have attained high honors in the University and who have achieved distinction in many fields of activity since their college days have a mutual interest and a common meeting ground.

"We have been honored each year by the presence on our campus of many students from other institutions who are members of Phi Alpha Theta at their Alma Mater. This has formed a bond of friendship and interest which to us has been especially enjoyable. This is particularly true during the summer months when hundreds of students seek our institution for further study. This year (1934), for example, every state in the Union, with the exception of two, was represented on our campus. We find that these strangers feel a bond of friendship with our Department when they, as members of other chapters, meet our History Faculty and students and are invited to our Phi Alpha Theta meetings.

"It has been our custom for several years to hold a mid-summer banquet honoring the visiting members of our History Faculty. To these banquets we cordially invite all visiting Phi Alpha Theta members from other states, as well as all graduate students majoring in History, in addition to our honored guests. These banquets have met with the hearty approval of those attending and have made for Phi Alpha Theta many new friends. They have, somehow, made more significant the national aspect of our organization" ("The Phi Alpha Theta, *The Star and Serpent*," September 1934, 8-9).

President Herrick had considerable success in expansion work despite the economic depression in the country. Three new chapters were admitted, all installed in 1932. As the time for the Sixth Convention drew near the national officers were busy preparing for that event. A sentiment had been growing in the Fraternity for holding the Convention in the same city about the same time that the A H A had its Annual Meeting. This sentiment gained momentum with the years. The Sixth Convention was accordingly set to meet that sentiment. And since the A H A chose Urbana, Illinois, the National Council chose to hold the Convention in the nearby city of Champaign late in December 1933.

THE SIXTH CONVENTION was held in Champaign, Illinois, December 29-30, 1933. The first session was held in The Inman, the headquarters of the Fraternity, with President Herrick in the chair. All the national officers except Counselor Utter were present. Six chapters were represented by delegates. This meant that barely a majority of the chapters were represented, a poor showing after the famous Granville conclave. Several of the national officers gave interesting reports. As did the committees. The second session was held on the evening of the same day with President Herrick in the chair. The reports of the Membership Committee, the Auditing Committee, and the Special Committee on the Admission of Phi Alpha Theta into the ACHS were read and adopted. The Ritual again came in for some rough treatment from some of the chapters despite the good work done to it at the Granville Convention; but no action was taken.

The third session was held on the morning of December 30. Mr. Hoffman's report of a fifty cent fee to establish a railroad pool brought on considerable discussion. A motion to refer the whole question to the chapters was defeated; and the railroad pool was established but by a very small margin. The Committee on Expansion and Petitions, of which I was chairman, presented a report that caused a great deal of discussion. The discussion centered about the question as to the kind of institutions in which to establish chapters. And once the report was presented the whole expansion program came in for discussion. The feeling waxed warm between the group who favored the teachers colleges and those who opposed them. Professor Thomas, Miss Keele, and Mr. Hoffman warmly opposed the teachers colleges; while Professors McPherson, Zimmerman, and Hawkins defended them with even greater warmth. Professor Thomas was especially emphatic in his opposition to the teachers college, primarily on the ground that the requirements in the Social Sciences were not the equal of that of the larger institutions. He preferred a slower growth in expansion rather than establish chapters in teachers colleges, or smaller colleges and universities where the requirements were not of the best. The Pittsburgh group took a middle of the road course. Finally a motion to admit only one chapter in a state teachers college a year was carried, but by a close vote. The petitions from Omaha, Natchitoches, and Durant were referred to the National Council for final decision.

The last session was held in the afternoon of December 30. Mr. Hoffman presented the budget for the next biennium. He recommended an honorarium for the secretary of \$150 a year, which was adopted. He announced that a savings account deposit had been continued; and estimated that 225 initiatives would be admitted in the biennium 1933-1935, and predicted receipts somewhat less than \$2,000, with a balance of \$200. I must state here that to Mr. Hoffman goes the honor of having inaugurated the budget plan in Phi Alpha Theta, a plan which has been continued ever since. The Committee on

Constitution and By-Laws recommended triennial conventions and regular annual meetings of the National Council; but both were defeated. The vice-president was assigned duties in expansion work and in publicity. The Convention also ordered that the size of the key and the carat be reduced. The efforts to raise the requirements for membership failed. The Publications Committee's recommendation that the name of the publication be changed from *News-Letter* to *The Star and Serpent* was adopted. It was also to be made a more pretentious publication. After the adoption of resolutions in praise of work faithfully done by national officers and committees, the following national officers were elected and duly installed by me: President: Professor Wittke; Vice-President (by constitutional provision) Mr. Herrick; Secretary: Professor Zimmerman; Treasurer: Mr. Hoffman; Historian Professor McPherson; and Counselor: Professor Hammond. The Convention adjourned.

The social features of the Sixth Convention were interesting and unusual. The Complimentary Breakfast was particularly important. Present were Professors Fox, Cole, McGovern, Dickerson, and Hockett "*full professors and distinguished historians all*," as Mr. Belfour reported in his account of the Convention in *The Star and Serpent* ("*Clionians in Champaign*", VII, 32-34). And he added: "*The magnificent Dixon Ryan Fox who always is par excellence in diction, thought and appearance, graced the occasion with words of cheer, counsel and inspiration.*" After a meeting of the National Council, there was a tour of the University of Illinois campus, and in the evening came the Convention Banquet. Our guests were members of the inactive Epsilon Chapter. As presiding officer, I took due note of the retirement of Messrs. Belfour and Whitenack; and called upon Professor McPherson for remarks, to which she responded. Mr. Herrick recounted the evolution of Phi Alpha Theta. The formal address was delivered by Professor Lybyer of the University of Illinois, the celebrated authority on the History of the Turks, who dealt with the Lincoln cult. I read the message from Professor Wittke, the new National President, who was unable to attend either the banquet or the Convention. I quote the last two paragraphs because of their sage observations and advice:

"There has never been a time when the student of history has had a greater service to perform than now. Everywhere the ideals of democracy and the way of life which we have been following has been challenged. Democracy has emphasized faith in freedom, the integrity of the individual personality and the freedom of individual variation. These supreme educational and spiritual values are now being challenged everywhere including even our own country. It may well be argued that the greatest function which the scholar in the field of the Social Sciences can render today is to emerge from his scholarly seclusion and his dusty monographs and take a vigorous part in educating the public to an appreciation of the great values which are now being endangered. Toleration is a tender plant of slow growth, and freedom of speech and teaching are the only safeguards we have against the deadening blight of tradition uninigorated by the ideal of progress. A liberal education means an open mind, a willingness to respect the old and to experiment with the new and an abiding faith in the supreme values of free discussion, liberty and toleration, and a recognition that the noblest achievement of men has been to learn to live together in mutual respect and cooperative freedom.

"It seems to me that in defending these values which the historian cherishes perhaps better than all others we can render the greatest service not only to our fraternity but to the beloved community of scholarship and learning to which we belong. This is my greeting to you for the New Year and this is the chall-

enge which we must learn to meet with intelligence and courage." (*Ibid.*, 7).

The Champaign Convention, while it was in no sense a Granville conclave, or even comparable to the first Pittsburgh Convention, was a great success. Again there were moments when there was a real difference of opinion on important matters, and a warmth of expression, but there were no signs of disintegration anywhere. Nor was there, frankly stated, any evidence of that great renaissance of which Mr. Hoffman spoke so warmly later. But there were evidences of things to come. President Herrick continued his policy of deferring to the National Secretary throughout his term of office; and thus began the process which has gone on with accelerating speed of infringing upon the rights, privileges, and duties of the National President during the last eighteen years, by the National Secretary, and later by the National Secretary-Treasurer. And whether the selection of a distinguished and a very, very busy man as national president was a deliberate move on the part of the partisans of a powerful national secretary to enable him to play the game of gaining ever greater powers or not that is what really resulted from that move. But much more of this later. Notice must be taken here, however, of the deliberate move to infringe upon the national president's prerogatives. This was the inauguration of a new system whereby the national secretary and not the national president appointed the members of the standing committees. This was done under the guise of preventing the committees from being hand-picked. In theory the point was that the member chapters were to be so placed as not to serve for consecutive terms on the same committee. This was to place emphasis not upon the delegates but upon the chapter in such a selection. And this system has been followed over the years.

We also have the viewpoint of a young woman delegate of the Champaign Convention which we should note here, before leaving the Convention. This was written by Miss Merle Rathburn Keele of Delta Chapter. She wrote in *The Star and Serpent* for March 1934 in part: "*The delegates themselves were delightful. Just imagine meeting the people who had written the texts you had studied, and finding them to be actual people after all and not just exercises and review questions. Dr. Bolton, the author of 'Spain's Title to Georgia' and many others were in Champaign at the time. Why, it was just like meeting Ponce de Leon or De Soto in person. The discussion groups were especially enjoyable to me. Everyone expressed his or her opinions freely and each opinion carried as much weight as any other, no matter whether it was expressed by a lowly undergraduate or a lofty Ph. D. All in all, I had such a good time that I am determined to attend the next convention in Chattanooga in two years come what may. Whether I'm teaching the Eskimos in Borneo to ice skate or instructing Hottentots of Iceland the gentle art of head-hunting, I'll be seeing you....*" (*Ibid.*, 31).

PRESIDENT Wittke began his Administration on December 30, 1933, although he was not present at the Convention when elected. His Administration began inauspiciously. He had never attended a Convention of the Fraternity and was really unfamiliar with the workings of the government of Phi Alpha Theta. In the next place, he was much too busy to give the time and attention to the affairs of the organization in this critical transformation period. He was, of course, to a degree, the victim of circumstances. Whatever may have been the reasons, the plain fact is that he left the greater part of the administrative work to "THE executive officer of the fraternity" Secretary Zimmerman. An

opportunity of which the latter made the most. Secretary Zimmerman was merely following out the well laid plan begun in the previous administration.

I had occasion to get a better understanding of President Wittke's views of freedom expressed in his greetings to the Champaign Convention. He was an officer in the American Association of University Professors (the AAUP), of which I was also a member. I was soon to learn that there was a small active group in the AAUP who in its zeal for the interests of the profession did not always act realistically. With the result that there was an over amount of zeal, lack of judgment, and an utter lack of understanding of the real meaning and import of what they were doing. This is a common failing of far too many of our so-called liberals in academic work as well as in other activities. The real seriousness lay then, as it has later, in the very large influence such teachers had on their students in and outside of the classrooms. The University of Pittsburgh's officers of instruction had in those days, some men and women who were badly smitten by the virus of the so-called *new freedom*; and acted accordingly. One man aroused strenuous opposition from certain groups in the community. For some time the University Administration was tolerant toward him and gave him an opportunity to mend his ways, or leave the University. He did neither and was relieved of his position in the University. He appealed to the AAUP for aid in clearing him of the charges made against him by the University. Professor Wittke came to Pittsburgh to investigate the case. To the surprise of many he did not see fit to conduct an impartial investigation. The result was that the AAUP placed the University of Pittsburgh on the blacklist where it remained for many years. I objected to the partisan manner in which Professor Wittke had conducted the investigation; and, receiving no support from the head officers of the AAUP, terminated my membership in it. I had joined the AAUP believing that such an organization might, by the proper procedure, do a great deal to improve the relations between the teaching staff and the administration. But this was not to be achieved, as I understood it, by a mere prosecuting zeal toward the administration alone. Not infrequently, the members of the teaching staffs are fully as guilty as the administration.

Expansion in President Wittke's Administration was not very successful, considering that Phi Alpha Theta had become pretty well known by that time. Only three new chapters were installed, all in 1934; and were really the work of the previous administration and of the Champaign Convention. Considering the boast that the Fraternity had gotten a new lease on life at the Granville conclave, the results were quite ordinary, for Phi Alpha Theta was going on at about the usual pace. True, we had the depression to contend with and that was formidable enough.

Historian McPherson published some excellent numbers of *The Star and Serpent* in her four years in office. I have given much from the March 1934 issue. But there was much more that was good. President Wittke had a very good message. I quote these paragraphs:

"Phi Alpha Theta cannot justify its existence by its ritual, its insignia, the bonds of fellowship it may create, or the social opportunities it may provide its members. As a professional fraternity, based on high standards of scholarship and character, and devoted to an appreciation of the values of the study of history and the social sciences in civilization, it can merit a prosperous future only if each of its members and chapters become a vitalizing factor in

the educational process in our respective communities:

"This means, first of all, cultivating an appreciation of the value of scholarship and scholarly ideals. It means providing an open forum for the free and unhampered consideration of historical and social problems, old and new. It implies the attempt to inculcate an understanding of the historical process, a recognition of the eternal law of change and a willingness to respect the old and experiment with the new. It implies an honest effort to arouse interest in the field of social research, far more imperative than new discoveries in the natural sciences, in an honest and courageous attack on the problem of how mankind may learn to live together peacefully and understandingly.

"It is our duty as a fraternity to seek out those who give promise of leadership in our chosen field of study, in the hope that we may encourage them not only to make their contribution to the advancement of our particular discipline, but also in the advancement of civilization. Thus far in our history as a nation, we have steadfastly held to the view that freedom has an invigorating effect upon the national character. It is the glory of the American people that they have thought of their country not as a fixed pattern of traditions and conventions, but as a process of life, 'remaining ever unfinished.' The battle for freedom of investigation and discussion will be waged on the frontier of the social sciences hereafter, for the natural sciences have won their victory.

"Moreover the scholar in the field of the social sciences cannot escape his responsibility to educate the public to a knowledge of the facts his researches reveal. It is a part of our social function to furnish what Lord Bryce called 'the spiritual oxygen' necessary to keep the flame of liberty and the spiritual values of the democratic way of life from burning low and perhaps flickering out. The teaching and the study of history and the social sciences must be reinvigorated, if we are to be saved from the deadening blight of traditions uninvigorated by the ideal of progress, and if we are to have a new aristocracy of leadership, capable of forming generous hopes of the destiny of mankind" (Ibid., 8).

I had my page also and gave a brief sketch of the development of the Phi Alpha Theta Idea, declaring: *"I had come to look on a fraternity as an essential phase of the spirit of the age; and believed that if this spirit were made a part and parcel of our every day life mankind would have a safe guide. We, the followers of Clio, are fratres spiritually, searchers for Truth in History. The human side of scholarship needs to be nurtured, and thought made articulate. Out of this state of my own spiritual self came the idea of our Fraternity."* Of the work of Professor Adler in preparing the Ritual, giving me such fine and intelligent aid I wrote: *"His intelligent grasp of the sweep of world History, his keen appreciation of the beauty of literature and his brilliant imagination served us well. He was just the man to help whip the ritual into shape Suffice to say that I look back upon our labors with a sense of infinite satisfaction. It was creative work we were doing and we both enjoyed the novelty of it. I am inordinately proud of our product. Of course, you will understand that I am referring to the old, not the present ritual. The old ritual possessed, at least, some of the real essence of ritualism: lofty idealism, beautiful imagery, and literary charm. And until the essence of the old ritual is restored, something of the real life of Phi Alpha Theta will remain missing"* (Ibid., VIII, 1,9).

Secretary Zimmerman gave a rosy picture of the Fraternity, emphasizing the new feature: "*the first roll of the membership*;" and listed the institutions contacted for chapters. He lauded the work of the Eighth Convention. Treasurer Hoffman found the "*treasury is at its best in years*;" and that the Convention Fund Fee from each chapter would be put into effect, marking "*another forward movement*" in the history of Phi Alpha Theta. But even at that the total assets amounted only to \$279.41: the largest receipts coming from Beta, Xi, Iota, and Zeta. The Directory covered pages 13-22. It is a remarkable fact that this is the only list of the members which has been published these thirty years!!

The chapter letters were interesting. Alpha had joined the inactive group, as had Theta, making a total of four inactive chapters out of seventeen. In addition to the articles on the conclave, with which I have already dealt, there was one by Professor J. F. Willard on "*Occupational Pictures in Medieval Calendars*;" and one by Professor O. F. Grubbs on "*Our Undefended Boundary*." A new feature was the advertisement by L. G. Balfour Company, the "*Sole Official Jeweler to Phi Alpha Theta*."

The September 1934 issue of *The Star and Serpent* was given the additional title of *Supplement*; was larger in format; and was a pretentious undertaking. The editor asked that the magazine be read by each chapter at its first meeting. Not a bad idea! There were no letters from chapters; but there was the usual Council and Chapter sections. Professor Zimmerman gave some interesting data. There had been several chapters holding summer initiations. He announced that the National Council had decided that there would be no meeting that year; and that there would be no complimentary breakfast at the Annual Meeting of the A H A in Washington. Also that he was taking a quarter's leave of absence for study in Spain; and that Mr. Hoffman would be in charge of the duties of his office. Mr. Hoffman gave high praise to Phi Alpha Theta, at the request of the editor. He found that during the last few years many "*so-called honorary fraternities*" had increased in numbers; but he found that there were only a few good ones, but that most of them were "*merely weak additions to an already overcrowded field*." He stated that Phi Alpha Theta had fared unusually well during the period of depression "*when national fraternities, both social, professional and honorary, were entering a period of retrenchment*." This to him was proof of the sound policy of the administration of the Fraternity. Professor Hammond had, as I have already explained, an interesting article on the origin of Xi Chapter; and I had an article on "*Historical Source Materials in Hispanic America*."

The September 1935 issue of *The Star and Serpent* was also an interesting one. It was printed; and bound in red paper covers. There were pictures and advertisements on the back side of the cover page. There was a large announcement of the Seventh Convention to be held in Chattanooga, December 30, 31, 1935. On the inside page of the back cover was the Council Directory for 1934-1935, evidently a mistake for the Directory was for 1933-1935, not 1934-1936. There was an article by me on "*The Human Adventure in the Americas*," one by Professor Trout on "*A Bird's Eye View of Educational Progress in Kansas the Past Fifty Years*," one by Mr. Belfour on "*Peripatetic Seminars*," one by Mr. Kroos on "*The New Deal and the Courts*." The National Treasurer reported a checking account of \$1,244.91 up to July 20, 1935; and disbursements of \$925.69 for the same period, leaving a balance of \$319.22. The Convention Fund amounted to \$311.83; and a Savings Fund of \$394.48. The list of national honorary members had grown to twenty-four; and there was a list of Chapter Officers for 1935-1936. But there were no letters from the chapters in this issue. And there was nothing from President Wittke, not even on the forthcoming Convention meeting.

The National Council decided to hold the Convention in the South and chose the interesting city of Chattanooga, Tennessee, as the place in which to hold that conclave. This was a deviation from the practice of holding the gathering in the same city where the A H A was to hold its Annual Meeting, for that meeting was to be held in Washington, D. C. The decision was also unusual in that there was no chapter of the Fraternity in that city. The selection, however, was a popular one; and preparations were made for one of the best gatherings the Fraternity has ever had.

THE SEVENTH CONVENTION, therefore, met in Chattanooga from December 28 to the 31st, 1935. The headquarters of the Fraternity were in the Read House, where the sessions and social activities were held. The complimentary breakfast was given by the National Council on December 28th, and was an event of no mean importance. Messrs. Cole, W.W. Sweet, A.H. Sweet, Krey and Dickerson honored us by their presence. Conspicuous by his absence, not only from the breakfast but from all the sessions and events, was President Wittke. He was in attendance upon the AAUP, as Chairman of Committee A, the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. All the other national officers, however, were present. And thirteen chapters were represented by delegate or proxy.

The first session of the Convention was held on December 28th with Vice-President Herrick in the chair. He read a message from the President who wrote in part: "*The issue is of special importance to historians, for academic freedom is only a small part of the larger, broader issue of human freedom in its manifold aspects. The historian is not a moralist, but he has a right to be interested in the direction in which we are going.*" The membership of the several committees was completed; and several important matters were referred to them. There were reports from national officers; and suggestions presented by the chapters. The Convention went on record, in this session, as favoring initiations in the summer sessions.

The second session was held on the 29th with Vice-President Herrick in the chair. Committees presented reports. The Auditing Committee, a creature of the Convention, reported favorably and its findings approved. The Committee on the Constitution recommended slight changes in the qualifications for graduate membership; an addition to the associate membership; but that there be no change in the frequency of the meetings of the National Convention. The report was accepted. The Convention ordered that each chapter should admit to associate membership only one person a year. The Convention also adopted the plan of limiting the meetings of the National Council when important business before it could be handled by correspondence. The Convention Pool was ordered continued but with only a dollar fee. The plan of furnishing the chapters with reports every six months was ordered continued. The report of the Publications Committee caused considerable discussion. The matter of issuing two numbers of *The Star and Serpent* a year, or of changing the publication altogether was referred to the National Council for final action. As were also the questions of granting prizes and the *Phi Alpha Theta Publications in History*. The report of the Expansion Committee also caused much discussion. It was urged that members of Phi Alpha Theta in graduate schools and the younger men in departments of History be urged to work for establishment of chapters in their institutions. It was ordered that the reply to a letter from the National Association of Deans and Advisers of Men should emphasize the determination of Phi Alpha Theta

to continue as a purely History Fraternity. The report of the Committee on Resolutions was read and adopted.

The Committee on Nominations of National Officers, as in previous meetings of the Convention, presented only one slate. And as there were no nominations from the floor, the Secretary was ordered to declare the unanimous election of the following: President: Professor Hammond; Vice-President, by constitutional provision: Professor Wittke; Secretary: Professor Zimmerman; Treasurer: Mr. Hoffman; Historian: Professor McPherson; and Counselor: Professor McBrien. I installed the officers; and the Convention adjourned.

The social features of the Seventh Convention were unusually important. There were sightseeing tours even though the weather was cold with much snow not only on the mountains but in the valley as well. Chattanooga is located in a most picturesque region. To the south lies Lookout Mountain, whose summit, two thousand one hundred and twenty-six feet above the sea, commands a magnificent view of the surrounding country. To the east rises Missionary Ridge which is connected with Lookout Mountain by a fine network of driveways and electric lines. The city is thus located in one of the most beautiful sections of the South, lying as it does in the Tennessee River valley, on a sharp bend of the river. The city is, of course, rich in sites, having been one of the most strategic regions in the War Between the States. On Missionary Ridge are Federal Reservations and the National Park, on the battlefield of Chickamauga. The region is also rich in Indian lore, as the place names make plain. But our minds were on Chattanooga where one of the greatest struggles of the War took place, a battle in which Grant, Sherman, Rosecrans, Thomas, Hooker and Bragg played such large roles. So that in spite of the wintry weather the tours were richly rewarding.

In addition to the complimentary breakfast, which I have described, there was the Convention Banquet on the evening of December 30. I again had the honor of presiding as toastmaster; and presented Professor Culver H. Smith of the University of Chattanooga. He read a very fine paper on "Politics and the Press in the Jacksonian Period." The paper showed that Jackson fully appreciated the work of the editors of newspapers and rewarded many of them by appointments in the Federal Government. In the morning of the same day an initiation was held in which Mr. Leahy of Beta was inducted into active membership. For the ceremony Lambda's outstanding paraphernalia was used. Professor McPherson of Lambda has the honor of having done more to make the initiation ceremony more meaningful than any other member of Phi Alpha Theta. This further attests her genuine and abiding faith in the Phi Alpha Theta Idea. It was she who saw the possibility of making the ritualism of the Fraternity really dignified and impressive as well as beautiful.

I have a most pleasant recollection of the Chattanooga Convention. I remember especially the geniality of the late Professors Coy and Garver of Xi Chapter and Mrs. Mabel Holt of Nu. It was a most harmonious gathering and an excellent example of an intelligent cooperative spirit. It was interesting, too, because so many other historical bodies met in annual meetings in the city at much the same time. This was a cogent reason for Phi Alpha Theta holding its conclave in Chattanooga.

PRESIDENT Hammond began accordingly his Administration on December 30, 1935, auspiciously. The splendid spirit displayed at the Chattanooga Convention carried on over into the new administration. There was a conviction in the minds of those who attended that conclave that Phi Alpha Theta had about it permanent qualities which time had only strengthened; and that there was no good reason why the Fraternity would not continue on its course in an ever-accelerating pace. Then, too, the President had personally much to do with this feeling. He was universally recognized as a most able and loyal member of Phi Alpha Theta. I was personally exceptionally well pleased with his elevation to the office of President for I felt that he could, if he but had the will and the nerve - it would take plenty of both - to do so, do much to retrieve the powers and prerogatives of the presidency, which had unfortunately been so largely infringed upon during the two previous administrations.

Professor McPherson continued her excellent work as the editor of *The Star and Serpent*. The Spring Number 1936 was dedicated to the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of Phi Alpha Theta. I had an account of the Fraternity in the past fifteen years. There was a tribute to the Founder by Miss Eakin, past Corresponding Secretary. It was quite too laudatory, although a very fine tribute. I have already dealt with Mr. Weaver's report of the Chattanooga Convention. President Hammond dealt with the fifteenth anniversary in his usual able manner. He declared in part: "*In noting the work accomplished, we recognize that the fraternity has made a distinct place for itself in the field of historical scholarship. From an infant organization it has grown until now it represents in its membership colleges and universities extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It has a definite program in seeking to encourage and to reward historical activity; it has a definite contribution to make to our departments of history in stimulating a spirit of loyalty, friendship, enthusiasm, and unity of purpose. The highest ideals in scholarship and personality are its objectives. As we look back we can be only proud of the achievements of Phi Alpha Theta. We honor the men and women who had the vision to foresee the high place it might attain in American college life, and who have borne the heavy burden in the years of its early youth. To them we extend all honor and gratitude.*" (*Ibid.*, 12-13)

President Hammond also emphasized the importance of the next Convention which was to be held in Philadelphia in 1937. It was to be the place, fittingly enough, where the sesquicentennial anniversary of the framing of the Constitution was to be observed. He urged that a program be presented in Philadelphia in keeping with that historic event. And he concluded: "*... Let us of Phi Alpha Theta match our energies in historical activity with the best minds in the land. History has much to teach us in a world of changing ideals, when old concepts are being tested in the crucible of contest and revolution. But our opportunity is our responsibility.*"

Secretary Zimmerman and Treasurer Hoffman both made important reports. The former finding that expansion was "*going on in a fine way.*" The latter admitted that the treasury was "*at a very low ebb;*" but he did not view that situation with alarm since the Chattanooga Convention had been a great success and had produced "*boundless enthusiasm in all our chapters.*" He reported that the total receipts from August 1, 1935, to January 31, 1936, amounted to \$1,452.56, with a balance on hand on August 1, 1935, of \$319.22; while the expenditures for the same period amounted to \$1,417.55.

Beta, Delta, Zeta, Iota, Lambda, Mu, Nu, Xi, Omicron, Pi and Rho Chapters reported success and much activity. On the back page cover there was a fullpage advertisement by the Quivira Society of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Star and Serpent for 1936, Fall Number, was also of much interest, although the workmanship was hardly up to par, for our funds were very low. The list of chapters had grown to seventeen. A new feature was the list of chapter officers. I had an article on: "Excerpts From My Diary", Professor McBrien one on: "A Celebration That Is Different," dealing with the centennial of Texas and Kansas, one by Mr. Hoffman on the: "Battle of Stony Point," and one by Mr. Belfour on: "The Fifteenth Anniversary of the Founding of Phi Alpha Theta." The account of the installation of Sigma Chapter by Mr. Robert C. Brayer was right interesting. I give these excerpts from it: "*Amidst flickering candles which spread their soft white glow over the responsive audience, Sigma Chapter was formally installed at the University of New Mexico on the evening of May 23, 1936. It was a joyous occasion for all, especially for Dr. George P. Hammond, sponsor for Sigma chapter and National President of Phi Alpha Theta;*" and he added: "*Under the very able direction of President Sacks, plans for the initiation had been completely made, and as the initiates made their appearance, the beauty and the solemnity of the scene drew forth more than an occasional gasp of delight and expectancy. Long narrow candles cast their shadows over the faces of the participants and as each address was made the impressiveness of the ceremony grew, leaving none present without the feeling that a truly great event was taking place.*" He gave the names of those who made "*the journey of the pilgrims;*" and the program following the initiation. I know of no one who has so poetically and so intelligently described our initiation ceremony. To me it was, naturally, very, very satisfactory. Mr. Brayer had shown his complete understanding of what I had in mind an initiation should be! Mr. Brayer, like Professor Hammond, came from Xi Chapter, and could be expected to do good work for Phi Alpha Theta.

Secretary Zimmerman gave a report of the National Council Committee on the *Phi Alpha Theta Studies in History*. The National Council had also dealt with undergraduate prizes; and the publication of the *Studies*. No final action had, however, been taken since that was a matter for the Convention to determine. What a grandiose idea this whole program was and what a dismal failure we have made of it - so far!! The Treasurer reported that the number of initiates was falling off. The receipts amounted to \$990.98 plus \$324.25 and \$458.78; and expenditures at \$666.73.

The Fraternity continued to expand. The efforts of previous years were bearing fruit; but at that only one chapter was admitted in 1936, while there were three new chapters in 1937. Three of the four were in state universities: Sigma, Tau and Phi. The last in one of the largest and most influential universities in the country: Sigma at New Mexico, Tau at Kentucky, and Phi at Minnesota. Upsilon was at Waynesburg College.

The Star and Serpent, March 1937 Number, was also of much interest. The Editor had many good suggestions, urging subscriptions be sent by chapters to their active and alumni members, an alumni section, advertisements by colleges and universities where the Fraternity had chapters, and sponsoring essay contests by the chapters. President Hammond had no message in this

issue. I gave an account of Phi Alpha Theta, at the request of the Editor in "On the Usefulness of Phi Alpha Theta," maintaining that the Fraternity could only be useful "in proportion as it remains loyal to our highest standards," and that it could do its "part in the furtherance of education and human welfare" and that the members themselves could help their "Alma Mater reach its goal, and to reach its highest goal, and to realize its aims and highest objectives." Chapters could help bring to the institutions "men and women of recognized achievement in the field of human endeavor. The messages such master minds can bring are often of the greatest value, and worthy of every effort put forth to bring them to the institutions. It can lend its influence, more especially, in the matter of recognizing achievement and to make that achievement among ever larger circles... I am fondly hoping for the day, and may it come speedily, when we shall, as a Fraternity, be able to recognize achievement in the field of History through our Studies in History. I have the highest hopes for success in that field, and I trust that all will work toward the practical realization of such studies...." And that emphasis be laid upon the human angle, on human values through "personal freedom and individual initiative." And that we were getting unto the real path of human progress. In all this Phi Alpha Thetans could have a large part. I called attention to Mr. Belfour's account of Phi Alpha Theta in *Banta's Greek Exchange*, July, 1930, to which I have referred, as a fellowship in History and I added: "...He was very happy in thus phrasing the real nature of the organization. Our Fraternity should aim to continue to be just that, and nothing less. We are not to be mere worshippers of the *status quo*, however happy that state may be; but we must continue to be a real fellowship of real scholars. Now a real fellowship consists of growing organisms, organisms ever striving onward and upward, nearer and nearer to eternal truth and justice" (*Ibid.*, 4-5). Secretary Zimmerman listed the institutions which he had contacted in the expansion program, many of which were to have a chapter on their campus later. He declared, however, that the number of initiates was falling off; and that the National Council was very anxious to "publish the first volume of The Phi Alpha Theta Studies in History", and emphasized the importance of the Eighth National Convention to be held in Philadelphia in 1937. Treasurer Hoffman called attention to the financial problem in connection with the publication of *The Studies in History*, declaring that it was "an undertaking which we must do properly or not at all." He reported the total checking account as of February 15, 1937, as \$748.70, with disbursements in that same period of \$666.18, leaving a balance of \$82.50. And that the savings account was in the amount of \$677.35.

There was also a review of the research, publications, and travel by the members of Phi Alpha Theta; a detailed description of *The Phi Alpha Theta Studies in History*, recommended by the Committee of the National Council; a list of the national honorary members, twenty-seven in all; news letters from Beta, Delta, Zeta, Iota, Lambda, Mu, Nu, Xi, Omicron, Pi, Rho, and Sigma Chapters; Alumni News; *Campus News*; chapter officers; and a roster of the national officers for 1935-1937.

The Star and Serpent, 1937, October issue, contained greetings from President Hammond, emphasizing the unusual importance of the Philadelphia Convention because of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States, and of Phi Alpha Theta taking a part in that event. He emphasized, too, the importance of anniversaries in the South West and plans for their observance. I have always felt that our chapters make a mistake in not doing more with these important events in the history of our

nation. Not a little has been done; but much more could be done. I gave an account of the installation of Tau and Upsilon Chapters. There was also an account of the installation of Phi Chapter. Professor Zimmerman had some notes on the Philadelphia Convention. On the inside front page was the slogan for that Convention "ON TO THE CONVENTION. OUR GOAL: Every Council member present, every chapter represented, a definite program, publication of Studies, every chapter an essay, and true to our purpose." And due notice was taken of the death of Professor Henry Mueller. Miss Daisy Parker had an interesting article on "A Student's Viewpoint." She wrote in part: "The national Convention held in Chattanooga meant to me a vitalizing of Phi Alpha Theta into vigorous and charming personalities who were fellow colleagues of mine in the pursuit of a nearer perfect view of the past...." And: "It seems to me that if we are to abolish national conventions we must realize that Phi Alpha Theta is to become merely a distinction to be attained and fairly properly forgotten by an individual. If we keep the practice of our national convention, however, we may continue to strive to have Phi Alpha Theta mean not merely an honor but an opportunity to share in efforts to make the study of history richer for all our members." There was also a brief report from Tau Chapter by Miss Mary White. Mr. Hoffman reported a total checking account of \$1,310.07, \$1,228.15 of which had been collected between February 15 and July 31, 1937. Disbursements amounted to \$795.37; and a saving account of \$938.31, of which \$262.50 had been deposited in that period. And this was the last, the very last issue of *The Star and Serpent*. And I was personally sorry to see its end for it had served Phi Alpha Theta very well.

The Administration of President Hammond was drawing to a close. While he had been an able officer he was able to arrest but not to retrieve the prestige of the national presidency. Secretary Zimmerman had no intention of permitting that, or in any way retarding the centralization of our administrative system and placing more and more power in the hands of the secretary. That had been his one goal and he stuck to it with the greatest tenacity. Of course, President Hammond was heavily handicapped by the failure of his two immediate predecessors, Messrs. Herrick and Wittke. Nor had there been that aliveness, that renaissance of which Mr. Hoffman so warmly prated in his *apologia* in the *Minutes and Reports* of the Washington Convention supposed to have been given the Fraternity by the Granville Convention. Phi Alpha Theta had gained ground in a normal, natural manner, for which we were all thankful. On the other hand, the malignant malady of centralization was going on with accelerated pace throughout President Hammond's Administration.

THE EIGHTH CONVENTION met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 28-31, 1937. The sesquicentennial anniversary program was centered about the Constitution of the United States, including its background, its interpretation, and its influence. This was to be the theme for the three main sessions of the A H A Meeting. There was also a discussion of the role and functions of the Supreme Court of the United States; as well as sessions on the background of the idea of representative government, of the concept of property in the Constitution, of the political thinking behind the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. This was a program to enlist the warm support of the members of the Fraternity. In addition there were many other historical bodies which held their meetings in Philadelphia at the same time. Two banquets of much importance to the members of the Convention were held: one on Thursday evening the 29th of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association; and that of the A H A itself on the evening of the 30th. The Address of President

Guy Stanton Ford, one of our national honorary members, on "Some Suggestions to American Historians" was of much interest to the members of the Convention. I give a few quotations in the conclusion to this work.

Two things of importance stand out in the work of the Convention. Two of the delegates made an attack upon what they termed the "spiritualism" of the Ritual. Neither Secretary Zimmerman nor I let them get away with such a crude interpretation. No action was taken by the Convention, however; but it was to be as it proved a prelude to the deluge of the next Convention on this head. The other was the legislation establishing our new publication, *The Historian*. It was also in this conclave that Secretary Zimmerman, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, came to me for advice. The Committee had trouble in selecting a president. I suggested that a man who had shown enough interest to attend meetings of the Convention at his own expense deserved some reward. I had reference, particularly, to Mr. William Cartter Weaver, who had attended the Chattanooga Convention and was present at the Philadelphia Convention. I asked Chairman Zimmerman: *Why not Mr. Weaver for president?* And Mr. Weaver was nominated and elected to that high office. The other officers were: Vice-President: Kathryn Abbey; Secretary: Zimmerman; Treasurer: Hoffman; Historian: Hammond; and Counselor: Harold C. Deutsch. Secretary Zimmerman installed the officers, and me, although I did not understand why I was so honored. The Convention then adjourned, although the Complimentary Breakfast was given on December 31st. In addition there had been sightseeing tours of rare interest in the City of Brotherly Love. All in all, it was one of the most important of our conclaves. And one worthy of emulation. The Fraternity had done a share of its duty in this anniversary period of our nation. One, too, which should have been given a fitting report in *The Historian*.

PRESIDENT Weaver began his Administration on December 30, 1937, fairly auspiciously. While the world situation was growing more serious, the Nazi and Fascisti moving head on for a showdown, the internal conditions in our own country were becoming normal. And yet the expansion in President Weaver's Administration netted only three new chapters: two in 1938 and one in 1939. The meagerness of the information about the new chapters, one of which, Chi, was on the campus of one of the most powerful and influential universities in the country, is due to the fact that neither the first number of *The Historian* nor the article by Professor Zimmerman on the second decade of the Fraternity in the Spring Number 1941 of the journal are there any details on the installation of either of the three. By the end of this Administration Phi Alpha Theta had twenty-four chapters, but four of these were inactive: Alpha, Gamma, Epsilon and Theta, the meetings of the Convention in Philadelphia, Chattanooga, Champaign and Granville to the contrary.

The most significant event in the Administration of President Weaver was the appearance of *The Historian* to take the place of *The Star and Serpent*. Our journal has become the most important contribution which Phi Alpha Theta has thus far made to the academic world in the service of History. It has appeared twice a year, except the first year, in the thirteen and a half years of its existence. Historian Hammond had "The Editor's Page" which he continued throughout the nine year period. He declared in the first issue that he felt that the journal should be a medium for the publication of articles *by the members of the fraternity*, urging especially the younger members to make the journal their medium for articles. He also had a "Here and There" section

which proved so successful. The abolition of this section by his successors was not a wise move. Our journal is not merely another journal of History. It is the official organ of Phi Alpha Theta and is under obligation to subserve its interests.

The World's Fair in New York was of much interest to President Weaver as a means of publicizing Phi Alpha Theta. He was able to arrange a Phi Alpha Day at the Fair. The activities of that occasion will be dealt with in a formal report to the Lexington Convention. President Weaver was also much interested in academic sessions of the Convention. I took advantage of that interest to urge him to take up early in his Administration the preparation of a paper to be read by him at the Convention Banquet. I further urged him to prepare such an address from source materials. I own that I did this because he was a graduate student of mine. I wanted him to demonstrate what he could do with source materials. That is, primary sources. He chose to prepare an address on a blood relative of his, by the name of David Cartter Kellog; and prepared a very good paper. He read this paper at the Lexington Convention and thus set the pattern which has been followed by every president since that gathering. And it should be emphasized that we have had some very good Presidential Addresses. It seemed proper that this should be a permanent feature. The President has two years in which to prepare such an address; and after the adoption of the practice of electing a Vice-President who is automatically to be elevated to the national presidency, he has four years in which to prepare such a document.

Another effort of President Weaver, and one to which I gave my support, did not prove successful. This was the effort to regain some of the rights and prerogatives of the president. As soon as the announcement came from Secretary Zimmerman of the standing committees, I suggested to President Weaver that the Secretary had acted irregularly, since the selection of the members of those committees belonged to him; and to make such changes in the work done by the Secretary as he thought necessary. After all he was the Chief Executive of the Fraternity with "*general executive control*" and to "*preside at all meetings of the National Convention and National Council, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to this office*" (By-Laws, Art. I). The practice begun by Professor Zimmerman of appointing members of these standing committees was definitely irregular since it was without authorization of the Convention. And was, as I see it, a deliberate part of a well laid plan to enhance the importance of his own office at the expense of the National President. Professor Zimmerman had not even consulted President Weaver in these appointments before he sent the list to President Weaver. I was informed by President Weaver of what had been done; and I at once told him to disregard the appointments thus made by the National Secretary, and to make his own appointments. I told him it was his right and prerogative to make such appointments. And President Weaver, as was his constitutional power, made his own appointments; but while President Weaver had his way, the new secretary-treasurer Mr. Donald B. Hoffman continued the process which he has continued to do up to the present time. It was, of course, easy enough to do so with Professor Zimmerman as National President. And subsequent national presidents have tamely submitted to him in this practice, as has the National Convention.

THE NINTH CONVENTION was held in Lexington, Kentucky, December 26-28, 1939. Headquarters were in the Phoenix Hotel. Tau Chapter was

host to the members. The Pre-Convention meeting of the National Council came in the afternoon of the same day at 4 p.m., with President Weaver in the chair. Vice-President Abbey alone, of the national officers, was absent. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian were read and discussed. Professor Hammond reported that since his expenses were paid by another organization he asked that his expenses as a national officer be transferred to the Publication Fund, which was granted. He also made the very wise suggestion that the Business Manager of *The Historian* send annual bills for subscription instead of a notice. Professor Thomas D. Clark of the University of Kentucky was elected a national honorary member. It was decided to hold an initiation on the evening of December 27th after the banquet. All delegates to the Convention were to be the guests of the National Organization, as were President and Mrs. McVey of the University of Kentucky, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Murphy, and all the members of the History Faculty and their wives. The session then adjourned. Tau Chapter tendered the members of the Convention a lovely reception on the evening of the same day in the Thoroughbred Room of the Hotel Phoenix. Egg-nog was served rather lavishly; and I have often referred to the Lexington Convention as the "*Egg-nog Convention*" primarily because of some of the strange transactions of that conclave.

The first session of the Convention was held on the morning of December 27th with President Weaver in the chair. Prayer was offered by Professor Zimmerman. The roll-call revealed the presence of delegates from sixteen chapters. The National Officers presented reports. President Weaver took due note of the success of *The Historian*. He told of his efforts to establish chapters of Phi Alpha Theta in Canadian Universities; and that he had been informed that secret fraternities are forbidden in those institutions. He also reported that he had been able to get a Phi Alpha Theta Day at the New York World's Fair. He announced that a plan to present a formal presidential address, and that he had prepared such an address which he planned to deliver at the Convention Banquet. He also reported that he had addressed various historical groups in Western Pennsylvania; and that he had installed Psi Chapter and, aided by members from Beta, Omega Chapter.

Secretary Zimmerman reported at length on his activities, stating that a total of 528 members had been initiated: 235 in 1938 and 293 in 1939, in 19 chapters; and that Professors Perkins, Ford, Rippy, Washbourne, Shotwell, Huth and Hicks had been initiated as national honorary members. Beta had initiated Professors Perkins, Rippy and Shotwell; and had also initiated the largest number of new members, followed by Phi, Iota, Zeta, and Xi, in that order. He naturally praised Professor Hammond for the success of *The Historian*, reported that 13 new chapters had been admitted in the last four years, and listed the large number of institutions he had contacted for new chapters and reported the prospects were good. He recommended an increase in the honorarium for the secretary, more members to take part in the Tenth Convention since it was an anniversary one, and an honorium for the treasurer. He concluded his report with a formal resignation as National Secretary. This was a singularly strange action since all he did was to announce, and that at the eleventh hour, that he was not a candidate for reelection to that office. It is interesting as it affords an insight into his concept of political philosophy. And of even greater importance is the fact that he gave concrete evidence of his motives in assuming the title of *THE executive officer of the fraternity* and of his efforts to make that office a permanent one, even *non-competitive*. He explained his views in detail, declaring that the office of national secre-

tary was the "most important in the Fraternity," adding "(1) Permanence. The position should be given to some one who can worthily hold it for ten years and one who has a fixed residence. (2) Interest in the fraternity. A willingness to give of time without financial reward. (3) Known ability to handle details effectively. Under no circumstances should personal ambition or chapter loyalty be used as a criteria." And of even greater importance is this statement: *The Nominating Committee and this Convention need to understand clearly that what this fraternity is to be depends on the person chosen as National Secretary.* The second sentence in (2) and the whole of (3) has, as I see it, and as I shall explain, proved just so much chaff!!

Treasurer Hoffman reported receipts of \$5,796.24; disbursements of \$4,690.69; the savings account of \$515.22 after \$900.00 had been transferred to the checking account, or a total of \$1,415.22. He also gave a detailed report of his activities as business manager of *The Historian*. One thousand copies had been printed of the first and seven hundred and fifty of the second issue. He gave no reason for taking full charge of the distribution of these copies from Allentown, Pennsylvania, rather than from Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they were printed. I have never been able to understand why the journal has not been sent from the latter place; and in recent years I have become increasingly critical of the failure to do so. It is not that the distribution cannot be made from Albuquerque, for I have been officially informed that that could be done. The idea of sending the journal in bulk to Allentown and reshipped from there takes on, it seems to me, something of the absurd. He stated that only one hundred and sixty-four subscriptions had been received for *The Historian*, and that I had contributed twenty-five dollars to the fund. Over the eleven year period the greatest weakness in his role as business manager has been the meagre success in his efforts to secure subscriptions for the journal, and is only matched by the meagre success of his efforts to get advertisements for the magazine. All of which points to the fact that the work of the business manager of *The Historian* should be entrusted to a national officer with that as his sole business. And until that is done there is not likely to be any real gain in either activity.

Doctor Quattrocchi reported on *Phi Alpha Theta Day* at the New York World's Fair, when the Fraternity had celebrated the one hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of Washington. The National President was given credit for the idea and for the preparation of the events. June 17, 1939, was Phi Alpha Theta Day at the Fair. The general theme of the program was "Some Phases of the Establishment of the Federal Government under the New Constitution with Special Emphasis upon the Role of Pennsylvania in that Process." The papers were presented in the afternoon in the Pennsylvania Building. I presided and the first paper was presented by Doctor Quattrocchi on "James Wilson and the Establishment of the Federal Government;" President Weaver presented a paper on "Pennsylvania in the First Session of the First Congress," and Miss Riese had prepared a paper on "Washington in Pennsylvania in 1789," but was unable to be present. All in all a very fine celebration of the anniversary.

Beta, Phi, and Nu Chapters presented resolutions to the Convention. Those by Beta dealt with matters of administration; those by Phi called for the Convention to meet at a time and place which did not coincide with the sessions of the A H A Annual Meeting and changes in the fundamental law of the Fraternity; and Nu asked for a reduction in the initiation fee.

The second session was held on the afternoon of the same day with President Weaver presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The auditing Committee made its report which was duly adopted, the delegates from Tau and Kappa, with the National President as chairman, formed the committee. The Publication Committee also reported and the report accepted. After which the second session adjourned to attend a tea given at the spacious home of President and Mrs. McVey. This affair was most delightful for President and Mrs. McVey were ideal hosts. I personally enjoyed the tea all the more because I had known President McVey as a teacher in the University of Minnesota, as an undergraduate. The Convention Banquet was held in the evening of the same day in the Thoroughbred Room of Phoenix Hotel. Professor Clark acted as toastmaster. Professors Knapp and Dupre of the University of Kentucky made short addresses. Two formal papers were delivered. One by Professor Crampton on "The Significance of the Gold Rushes for American History" and the other by President Weaver on "David Kellogg Cartter of Ohio." The latter was the Presidential Address and set the example for future presidents of the Fraternity.

The third session was held on the morning of December 28th with President Weaver in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read because "*they constituted reports of committees and were already approved by the convention.*" The Nominating Committee made its report, and as usual, presented but one slate. And since there were no nominations from the floor, the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot for the nominees: National President: Professor Zimmerman; National Vice-President (by constitutional provision) Mr. Weaver; National Secretary: Mr. Hoffman; National Treasurer: Mr. Hoffman; National Historian: Professor Hammond; and National Counselor: Professor Carter. Professor Crampton was appointed to report the Convention in *The Historian*. The Committee on Constitution recommended that the office of secretary be merged with that of treasurer to form the office of secretary-treasurer. It also recommended the increase in the number of counselors so as to conform with the terms of our charter. It also recommended the increase in the classes of membership to five: active, associate, sustaining, life, and honorary. Other changes in the fundamental law were recommended so as to conform with the changes caused by merging the offices of secretary and treasurer. These recommendations were duly adopted. The fee of the sustaining membership was to be \$100 and that of life membership \$25. The Convention ordered that the amended fundamental law should be presented to the chapters for approval or disapproval as they should decide. The action merging the two officers should be given proper emphasis. It was but another step in the process of centralization. The Granville Convention had abolished the office of recording secretary. This was the first legal act in the process of centralization.

The centralization process was further emphasized, as I have pointed out before, by Professor Zimmerman assuming the title and role of "*THE executive officer of the fraternity.*" Hence the action of merging the offices of secretary and treasurer was the second legal act in the process. And all for a definite purpose. That purpose being to gather more and more power in the hands of one officer in order to enable that officer to come before a Convention asking for and receiving adequate monetary remuneration for his services. There will be much more of this before we come to the end of our tale.

The Budget Committee, a part of the Committee on Constitution, presented a budget for one year only. Why this was done was not explained; nor was there any provision for the budget for the second year of the biennium. Budgets are naturally, unless otherwise provided, adopted for the whole period between the meetings of the law-making body. With us that is two years. I have come to be severely critical of this act of the Lexington Convention, for to me, it is clearly an irregularity, and hence, unconstitutional. Was this act, too, but a part of the plan to further the interests of one individual? To achieve an objective without due process of law? The income for the year was estimated at \$2,650. Disbursements called for an honorarium for the secretary-treasurer of \$250, \$700 for *The Historian*, with a reserve fund of \$240. The report of the Expansion Committee was in considerable detail, calling for an annual prize in an essay contest to be conducted by *The Historian*, the cooperation of chapters for joint programs, the use of opportunities for chapters to take part in historical exhibitions, a monthly meeting by each chapter, and the chapters taking an active part in expansion. The report was accepted and approved.

The Report of the Committee on Ritual started the fireworks by recommending no changes in the Ritual, Miss Groben of Phi, a member of the Committee, presented a minority report: *"The minority view of this committee is that any ritual ought to be retained only as long as it is meaningful and desirable in the eyes of the group using it. Otherwise the enforced use tends to detract from its vital significance and constructive purposes of the group. The minority of this committee therefore offers the following resolution: Resolved: that the Ninth Biennial Convention of Phi Alpha Theta take immediate action in the direction of rendering the use of the initiation ritual optional with each individual chapter."*

Miss Groben did the unusual thing in that she insisted on signing the majority as well as the minority report. I believe one should sign one or the other in such cases. But she had her way. There was much discussion. This was a distinctly revolutionary measure and was so considered. Mr. Reisner made an excellent defense of a ritualistic ceremonial initiation. The vote on the minority report was by roll call. Harker, Deutsch, Groben, Southard, Cole, Zimmerman, Baker Manicini, Crampton, Botts and Osborne voted for, and Cleven, Quattrocchi, Earnest, Reisner, Holt and Allison against the minority report. Mr. Hoffman declined to vote in the interest of neutrality. This act of the Convention was definitely unconstitutional. The Convention should have amended the Constitution in accordance with the terms of that document, which requires a three-fourths vote. Article VI, Section 4 required that: *"No person shall be considered a member of this Fraternity until he shall have been initiated in accordance with the ritual prescribed by the National Convention."* Professor Deutsch charged in the course of the debate that I had tried to make it appear that the members of Phi Chapter who had not been initiated according to our Ritual were not really members. It was none of my doings. The gentleman was acting ignorant of the above provision of our fundamental law. The adoption of this Resolution was a significant act for it really converted Phi Alpha Theta into just a mere society, not a Fraternity; and thereby nullified the obligation of secrecy. It was not, however, until January 1, 1953, by act of the Chicago Convention that Phi Alpha Theta became *legally* a Society. The Convention also directed that the National Council should *"implement the minority report of the Ritual Committee."* Professor Duffy protested the manner of appointing committees, but did not press the matter. The report of the Committee

on Resolutions was adopted. The Nominating Committee presented, as usual, only one slate for the national officers; and since there were no nominations from the floor, the following were elected: President: Zimmerman; Vice-President: Weaver; Secretary: Hoffman; Treasurer: Hoffman (to become Secretary-Treasurer with the ratification of the amendment to the fundamental law); Historian: Hammond; and Counselors: John D. Carter and E. F. Willis. After these officers were installed, the Convention adjourned. Then followed a sightseeing tour of the city and environs. Not the least interesting part of the drive was the trip through the "blue grass region" and the horse-raising farms, with a visit to Man O'War, one of the greatest of the racing world.

The Egg Nog Convention, as I call the Lexington conclave, was of profound significance. It was, in the first place, an open revolt not only against the Ritual but against me personally. Professor Zimmerman blandly informed me later that the "children" had grown up and wanted to control the government of the Fraternity. The creation of the office of secretary-treasurer and the act allowing a chapter to decide whether it would use the Ritual or not have been the means of accelerating the process of transforming the government of the Fraternity; and making Phi Alpha Theta into a Society. Important, too, was the post-Convention meeting of the National Council on December 28th. Messrs. Hammond and Carter had gone on to the A H A Meeting in Washington; and Mr. Weaver was much too sleepy to fully realize what was being done in that meeting. President Zimmerman was instructed to "*work over the present initiatory services and develop a short form, optional in use, which would last for about five minutes and more nearly conform to the ideas expressed by some of the chapters during the Convention.*"

The Council also made preparations for the twentieth anniversary to end in the Tenth Convention. Alpha, Gamma, Epsilon, Theta and Omicron chapters were to be reactivated; and efforts were to be made to make the academic sessions of the Convention comprehensive. Professor Laura White, University of Wyoming, was to be invited to read a paper on early student life. And there were to be papers dealing with student and fraternity life in the United States, these to be published in Volume IV, Autumn Number of *The Historian*, and dedicated to the Founder of Phi Alpha Theta.

PRESIDENT Zimmerman began his Administration December 28, 1939, rather inauspiciously. Too much feeling had been aroused in the recent Convention to expect either harmony or cooperation. The difference over the nature and use of the Ritual were deep-seated. In the ten year period following this conclave there was a certain deterioration in the government of the Fraternity. As I was soon to learn several chapters had taken advantage of the legislation enacted in Lexington to go a great deal further than just to dispense with the Ritual. Several actually mutilated the Ritual, and even to make a new home-made Ritual of their own.

Expansion continued rather slowly in President Zimmerman's Administration only one chapter in 1940 and three in 1941. There were no new chapters in large institutions. I installed one of these chapters and found that neither President Zimmerman nor Secretary-Treasurer Hoffman had fully enforced the Resolution of the Lexington Convention on the use of the Ritual. Before

installing the chapter I inquired of them if the chapter had taken any action about the use of the Ritual in the initiation in connection with the installation. I was blandly informed that the chapter had not been given and would not be given that right. And that I was to use the Ritual. I did not oppose this irregularity at the time, although I did protest the procedure later. What is an irregularity, more or less, in Phi Alpha Theta, anyway?!!

The Spring Number of *The Historian* 1941 contained, besides the history of Phi Alpha Theta, to which I have already referred, Mr. Weaver's Presidential Address. I had urged upon him to have his Address published because I hoped that it would set a pattern for future presidents. There was a roster of thirty-seven national honorary members; and good materials in the *News Notes*. Beta, Xi, Sigma, Kappa, Gamma and Alpha Beta Chapters had celebrated the thirtieth anniversary. Iota, President Zimmerman's own chapter, had not celebrated the anniversary. The celebration in Beta was particularly interesting to us. The members were most gracious to Mrs. Cleven and me, not only in the complimentary things said about us, but in the lovely presents given us. The large scrap-book, prepared by Mr. Weaver, with greetings from national and chapter officers, was particularly interesting. The loveliest of all was the gold watch in the true symbolism of Phi Alpha Theta given to me. More than a hundred attended the Banquet in the College Club, the scene of so many of Beta's gatherings. With Mr. Ernesto Galarza of the Pan American Union as guest speaker, it was also a fitting conclusion to a year's study of Inter-American Relations.

As the Twentieth Anniversary Convention drew near, the internal situation came to a head for the people of the United States. On December 7, 1941, while I attended a lecture by Senator Nye, in the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it was dramatically announced that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor!! This meant war for us. On the next day the United States declared war on Japan; and on December 11th against Germany and Italy. I felt that this required of us in Phi Alpha Theta that we get back of the government and give all our attention to the winning of the war. Hence, I at once set about to have the Milwaukee Convention postponed. I took the matter up with the other members of the National Council and with the several chapter officers. I felt then, and time has only strengthened me in that view, that there was no good reason why Phi Alpha Theta should spend its patrimony on an assembled Convention. There was no problem before the Fraternity which could not have been taken care of by correspondence. But the National Council proceeded to hold the conclave. I declined to attend the Convention and to serve on any of its committees. This was my first open break with the National Organization; and the beginning of my caustic criticism of national officers, particularly Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman.

THE TENTH CONVENTION, then, met in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, December 26-29, 1941, with headquarters in the Ambassador Hotel. The United States was deeply involved in World War II, as related above. The ultimate outcome was never in doubt, but there was much concern over the way the war was to be won. The problem with us in Phi Alpha Theta was how to govern the Fraternity without an assembled Convention. Alpha Beta, the host chapter, gave a lovely reception on the evening of December 26th in the East Room of the Ambassador Hotel.

The first session was held on the morning of December 27th with President Zimmerman in the chair. Prayer was offered by Mr. Weaver. There were only four national officers present: Messrs. Zimmerman, Weaver, Hoffman, and

Hammond. Twenty chapters were represented, leaving eight unrepresented. The membership of the committees was completed. Reports by national officers were important. President Zimmerman divided his long report into two parts. In the second part he made nine recommendations: 1) officers elected to serve until their successors were elected in the post-war Convention; 2) no meeting of the Convention during the war; 3) Convention to meet in December following end of war; 4) National Council to have legislative powers during war; 5) Historian to keep members informed through news items and articles in *The Historian*; and the Secretary-Treasurer by bulletins from his office; 6) Decrease in initiation and convention dues; 7) National Organization to pay railroad (coach) fare only in proportion to the amount of funds available in its treasury; 8) any balance in the treasury to be allocated to the travel fund in No. 7; and 9) Committee on Constitution to recommend changes in the fundamental law to cover these matters.

Secretary-Treasurer Hoffman expressed concern over the effect of the war upon the Fraternity, fearing that there would be at least a 25% decrease in initiates, hence in income. He urged an arrangement for managing the business of the Fraternity during the war without a meeting of the Convention, at least for three or four years, but with a meeting of the Executive Committee at the end of each biennium. He recommended reducing the initiation fee from \$6 to \$4.50, the Fraternity to invest in Federal Government bonds: a \$100 bond immediately, thereafter a \$50 bond for every \$500 of the total receipts, the members to solicit subscriptions for *The Historian*, and that forthcoming meetings of the Convention should have academic sessions. Also that *The Historian* should be issued three or four times a year. The receipts for the year 1940 amounted to \$2,516.14 and for 1941 to \$2,960; disbursements for the biennium: \$1,041.64, with \$1,954.48 in the Savings Account. He gave a table showing the number of initiates per year for each chapter since the founding of the Fraternity: Beta with 488; Iota, 338; Zeta, 320; Xi, 237; Lambda, 184; Phi, 171; Delta, 132; Sigma, 129; Nu, 110; Pi, 105; and Kappa, 104. All the other chapters had admitted less than one hundred members each. My letter to the Convention explaining my absence was read to that body by Vice-President Weaver.

Alpha, Beta, Phi and Chi Chapters presented resolutions. Resolution No. 3 from Alpha demanded that the Convention inquire into my motives, "*both declared and undeclared*," for my attempt, as the Chapter conceived it, to alienate from the President of the Fraternity the support of the individual members. Alpha also wanted a Directory of the Fraternity published, reduction in the initiation fee, and improvement in the wording of the fundamental law. Beta urged appointment of a committee to study means for publishing the *Phi Alpha Theta Studies in History*, listing Phi Alpha Theta in the World Almanac, creation of an advisory board composed of not more than five former national officers, preparation for the proper observance of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Founding of Phi Alpha Theta, and urging chapters to hold joint meetings. Phi urged amending the fundamental law to limit the National President to one term of office and prohibiting that officer from holding any elective office in the Fraternity for six years, the National Vice-President to succeed to the presidency as in the A H A, that a chapter paying \$200 or more a year into the Fraternity treasury be entitled to two delegates but to have only one vote, or that a chapter admitting twenty-five or more members a year should be entitled to a dollar refund for each member, that every member should be required to join the A H A, and that an annual prize of \$100 be offered by the Fraternity

for the best essay in History. Chi proposed "certain changes in the present method of operation of the Fraternity." This particular resolution was referred to the Committee on the Constitution, Budget and Finance. The other resolutions were submitted to the proper committees for discussion and action.

The second session was held in the afternoon of December 27th with President Zimmerman in the chair. Mr. John Polinsky read a paper prepared by Professor George Harmon on: "The Attitude of the Northern Clergy in the Civil War." The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. The Expansion Committee presented its report, recommending enlarging the complimentary breakfasts. This caused much discussion but was adopted. The Publications Committee made its report, recommending that *The Historian* be published throughout the war period if that were possible, that the footnotes come at the bottom of the page where they come, and not at the end of the chapter or article. This was something I had been recommending for some time. In fact, I went further, urging that the numbering of the footnotes begin anew on each page, rather than a continuous notation throughout a chapter or article. The Committee also recommended the publication of the *Phi Alpha Theta Studies in History*, but that the papers be not published until the war came to an end. The report was adopted.

The third session of the Convention was held in the evening of December 28th, President Zimmerman presiding. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. The Chapter Activities Committee presented its report, recommending that the Advisory Board be made up of past national officers and elected by the National Council, and that it be wholly an advisory body with the right to meet with the Convention but without voting power. It also recommended regional meetings, offering a prize of \$100 for the best essay in History, and the publication of a directory of the Fraternity. The recommendations were adopted but with the proviso that the members of the Advisory Board receive no salary in any form. The Committee on Constitution recommended changes made necessary by the war. The recommendation was duly adopted. Also that the Convention was not to meet until after the end of the war; the vice-president to be automatically elected president, the retiring president to be ineligible for election to any national office for two years after the end of his administration, the vice-president to be added to the Executive Committee, the initiation fee to be reduced from \$6 to \$4.50, the Executive Committee to meet every two years during the war, and that war bonds be purchased as evidence of the patriotism of the members of the Fraternity: one immediately for \$100 and one thereafter for every \$1000 received from initiation fees. The report was adopted.

The report of the Budget Committee again provided a budget for only one year. While the National Council was given emergency powers no strings were attached to its legislative powers. Mr. Hoffman estimated the receipts for 1942 at \$2,340, and disbursements at the same amount. It called for an honorarium for the Secretary-Treasurer of \$250 a year and \$235 for his office. The report was duly adopted. The Committee on Nominations, recommending appointment of a committee of five to prepare for the 25th Anniversary by the incoming president. This part of the report was adopted. As the Nominating Committee presented but one slate and no other nominations made from the floor these officers were elected unanimously: President: Deutsch; Vice-President: J. Linus Glanville; Secretary-Treasurer: Hoffman; Historian: Hammond; and Counselors: Robert Fortenbaugh and Francis J. Bowman. And six to serve on the Editorial Board of *The Historian*.

The Committee on Ritual and Resolutions recommended that formal greetings be sent to the Founder, expressing appreciation for his "many years of unselfish service and devotion" and expressing regret for "his inability to attend" the Convention. Thanks were also given the other national officers. The report was adopted. After which a paper was read by Professor Hammond, prepared by Professor O.J. Clinard, on "Denmark's Minority Problem." The Convention then adjourned.

The social features of the Milwaukee Convention were interesting. There was the Convention Banquet on December 27th in the East Room of the Ambassador Hotel. Dean R. R. Hamilton, S. J., was toastmaster. Professor Walter Woodfill read a paper, prepared by Mr. W. B. Campbell, on "The Franco-Prussian War and British Military Reform." President Zimmerman read his Address on "The Fusion of Culture in South America," thereby following the example set by President Weaver. There was an historical tour conducted by the host chapter. And a telegram of good wishes was sent to the Founder by the Secretary-Treasurer on behalf of the members of the Convention.

PART FOUR - THE AGE OF HOFFMAN, 1941-?

"Dear President Crampton:

"The Committee is especially desirous of having this report mimeographed and placed in the hands of the delegates to the Chicago Convention. Our Constitution is of such importance that the Committee feels that its work must be open to the close inspection of all delegates to the Convention. We want to see no 'shell game' procedure resorted to in a matter so important as the revision of the basic law of Phi Alpha Theta" (Report of the Interim Constitution Committee to the Chicago Convention, 1950. The Committee consisted of Professor Russell Caldwell, Chairman, Mr. Donald B. Hoffman, Secretary and Professors Donald Tilton, A. C. McDanel and Eugene Keith Chamberlain. This Committee has been continued for another biennium to complete the revision of the Constitution. Consult *Phi Alpha Theta National Council Bulletin No 346 and Chapter Bulletin No. 288* on the latter subject; and the *Minutes and Reports* of the Chicago Convention for the letter).

Naturally this excerpt from the letter to President Crampton is of very great interest to me, personally. I need not enlarge upon it, for it tells its own story. The reader can draw his own conclusions.

"To me, Phi Alpha Theta is far more than a one-man show. It was never meant to be, although some have never gotten over the idea that it is no longer a one-man show, but a mighty big cooperative venture. This office is merely the central control board, the nerve center, the executive center of the fraternity. We cannot make the fraternity a success without the support and cooperation of each chapter. By the same token without a strong centralized place of continuity the chapters cannot certainly advance Phi Alpha Theta in any respect. The first ten years of our fraternal existence was based upon a diversity of national authority, and at the end of that time we had a total of 11 chapters, 3 of which were inactive, a 3 figure red bal-

ance in our treasury, a ritual taking one hour and thirty minutes and a bulky constitution which crisscrossed at many corners.

"All this was changed at the important 10th Anniversary Convention at Denison University. National interest was centered primarily in the office of secretary. The Ritual was 'whacked down' to near its present wordage, the constitution was revised to practically its present condition. Immediately the fraternity began to advance. Frankly without BETA and ZETA chapters during the first ten years the fraternity would have folded. The fact that these two chapters are still two of our best is clear indication that over the years they too have felt the change was for the better" (Minutes and Reports of the Twelfth National Convention, 1948, Appendix "D", p. 17. This is part of Mr. Hoffman's *apologia*, as I call it.)

"I should think it my duty, if required, to go to the utmost part of the land ... to quench the flame of persecutions upon information set on foot by the government to deprive a people of the right of remonstrating, and complaining, too, of the arbitrary attempts of men in power ... It is the cause of liberty ... the liberty both of exposing and opposing arbitrary power by speaking and writing truth" (From speech of Andrew Hamilton before the New York Supreme Court, August 4, 1735, in the trial of publisher John Peter Zenger).

Any citizen or newspaper has the right to criticize the public acts of officials. Without that right, we would have a dictatorial form of government and the discussion of important public issues would be only such as might be permitted by those holding authority" (Opinion of Judge Bernard Cocks in the trial of "five newspaper men" on April 18, 1952. *The Christian Science Monitor*, April 24, 1952. The two quotations above are given in the editorial of this paper on "Welcome Reassurance").

"The Truth is that the Spirit of Man abhors a spiritual vacuum; and, if a human being, or a human society, has the tragic misfortune to lose a sublime inspiration by which it has been once possessed, then sooner or later it will seize upon any other spiritual food that it can find - however coarse and unsatisfying this new fodder may be - rather than remain without any spiritual sustenance at all. In the light of this truth the recent spiritual awakening of our Western Society can be told - and the glorification of War can be explained" (A. J. Toynbee "War and Civilization" in review of Mussolini's "Doctrine of Fascism" in the *Enciclopedia Italiana*, October 8, 1950, 2. This quotation shows the fallacy of those of our members who want a "godless" ritual. History must present the Truth, and cannot do so without dealing with Religion).

"In the course of his development he (man) has been constrained from time to time to abandon his most cherished myths. Thus he has abandoned animism; his Ptolemaic astronomy that assured his position in the center of the universe; his faith in a hereafter that endowed him with eternal life; his belief in the supreme and infinite worth of his person that assured him a position of isolated dignity in an otherwise meaningless and impersonal world; and even perhaps his faith in God whose attributes, under the impact of man's rationalistic scrutiny, became more abstract until He vanished in the metaphysical concept of the Whole. The shedding of these inestimable illusions may be merely stages in his disintegrating stature before he himself

vanishes from the scene - lost in the icy fixture of his final state in a posthistoric age" (R. Scheidenberg's "Post Historic Man And Complete Pessimism", *New York Times Book Review*, October 8, 1950, 2).

These excerpts may be taken as evidence of a certain deterioration in man's concept of fundamental principles. That from Mr. Hoffman's *apologia* is quite to the point and a good index of his concept of government. The excerpts from Toynbee and Schiedenberg emphasize Man's proneness to get from under restraints and to try the New.

PRESIDENT Deutsch began his Administration on December 28, 1941. He held office longer than any other president of Phi Alpha Theta, or for five years and one day. The United States declared war on Japan, December 8, 1941; and on Germany and Italy, December 11, 1941. Germany surrendered unconditionally, May 7, 1945, at 2:41 a.m., Japan surrendered September 1, 1945, at 8:08 p.m. Eastern War Time; September 2, 1945, 9:08 a.m. Tokyo Time. But Phi Alpha Theta did not have a Convention until late in December 1946; or more than one year and seven months after Germany surrendered, and one year and three months after Japan surrendered. But even then it met before President Truman proclaimed hostilities at an end on December 31, 1946, at noon. I give these interesting facts to emphasize that the National Council was unusually slow in calling the 25th Anniversary Convention, exhibiting a strange unwillingness to surrender its war powers. President Deutsch's Administration was, accordingly, an abnormal one, from several very important angles. It was unusual in that he permitted, for whatever reasons he may want to give for it, the continued encroachment upon the presidential office by the ambitious National Secretary-Treasurer, as "*THE executive officer.*" Early in this Administration Mr. Hoffman committed another irregularity. Instead of having the five members of the Advisory Board elected by the National Council he sought to have President Deutsch appoint them. I learned of this *shell-game* in time, with the result that this neat little trick was nipped in the bud. Mr. Hoffman also continued to hog the expansion activities. Mr. Weaver, engaged in war work, had occasion in the South to do some missionary work for the cause, but instead of being encouraged, Mr. Hoffman actually discouraged him. And in the whole five-year period there was no meeting of the National Council, and only one of the Executive Committee, and that was arranged in such a short time that Vice-President Glanville was unable to attend. Mr. Hoffman was also further infringing upon the prerogatives of the President. This had to do with the appointment of an installing officer for new chapters. The fundamental law requires that the President shall install new chapters, or appoint an installing officer. I did not understand why Mr. Hoffman installed so many new chapters. He wrote me boldly declaring the President was under obligation to appoint only the person he, Mr. Hoffman, recommended. This was irregularity with a vengeance; and one I heartily condemned. The President may, or may not ask for recommendations, as he sees fit, but he is most certainly under no obligation to do so, or to accept the recommendation. So that the Administration of President Deutsch was, like that of Messrs. Herrick, Wittke, Hammond, and Zimmerman, a period when the President had these and other infringements made upon his office. And of course he continued to make a farce of the provision in our fundamental law requiring the President to countersign all voucher checks by having that officer sign these checks *en blanc*. This is a very dangerous and roundly condemned practice by reputable banking institutions.

Phi Alpha Theta was admitted to membership in the Association of College Honor Societies in 1945 (the ACHS). This was the result of the pioneering work done by Mr. C. Stanton Belfour, begun, as I have explained, early in the history of the Fraternity. But it is Mr. Hoffman who has stood to gain by this admission. And he has made the most of his opportunity. I was soon to learn that he had resorted to an irregularity to secure a firm and permanent, as he thought, hold on the membership in the ACHS Council. *That is, he proceeded on the assumption, in selecting our official representative on that Council, that the right to that office inhered in his office as the executive officer of the Fraternity - and this despite the fact that this monstrosity had not yet been given constitutional status. That office was not given such status until 1946, as we shall see.* He explained to me that the ACHS required a member fraternity to select only an executive officer for that position. This was a deliberate untruth, as a careful study of the fundamental law of the ACHS will prove. President Lawrence R. Guild, President of the ACHS, to whom I referred the matter, of course upheld me in that interpretation. Besides the ACHS Council had, at that time, only ten out of twenty-three of its members with executive status, such as Mr. Hoffman had in mind. Just another irregularity committed for a personal purpose: *the better to entrench himself in the government of Phi Alpha Theta.*

Expansion continued normally in President Deutsch's Administration until the last year: 2 in 1942; 1 in 1943; 1 in 1944; 3 in 1945 and 6 in 1946. In all just a normal, natural growth. The number of initiates by years in this five-year period: 1942: 369; 1943: 211; 1944: 231; 1945: 280; and in 1946: 550. Total by chapters: Phi: 147; Zeta: 99; Iota: 94; Alpha: 89; Beta: 74; Chi: 70; Sigma: 66; Xi: 59; and Alpha Beta: 43. The Fraternity had also fared financially rather well in this war period. Total receipts: \$15,516.15, plus a balance of \$882.59, or a total of \$16,418.74. *The Historian* cost the Fraternity \$4,099.24; Convention: \$1,668.39; office of Secretary-Treasurer: \$1,607.19; and honorarium for Mr. Hoffman: \$1,200.00. Or almost \$3,000.00 for Mr. Hoffman and his office: a rather large amount. On the other hand, the one meeting of the Executive Committee cost the Fraternity only \$24.25!!

The war period had also had a number of important regional meetings. Those in the Anniversary Year were particularly so: 1 in Alpha, 1 in Beta, and 1 in Omega. Alpha got off to a late start, retarding also the other two. Alpha held its almost a month late, or on April 12-13, 1946. At the Alpha meeting the Fraternity presented the University of Arkansas with a plaque in commemoration of the Founding of Phi Alpha Theta, March 14, 1921, at that Institution by me. Professor Isaac Joslin Cox was initiated into national honorary membership, and delivered the Address. Chapters represented at the Alpha Meeting: Tau, Pi, and Alpha Nu. Beta held its meeting on April 26-27 with Zeta, Kappa, Upsilon, Psi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Kappa and Alpha Xi Chapters represented. I had the honor of delivering the Founder's Day Address at the formal banquet on: *Some Observations On An Age of Political Alliances*, dealing with the period between 1814 and 1827. Omega held its meeting in the fall which was attended by representatives from Kappa, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta and Beta. This gathering was addressed by Elsie Singmaster Lowmeyer on the activities of Thaddeus Stevens in the region of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

President Deutsch lost no time in appointing the members of the General Committee for the Anniversary Convention, placing on it: Professor Hammond, Chairman, Miss Winters, Miss McPherson, Professors Zimmerman, Deutsch, Glanville and Cleven, and Messrs. Belfour and Hoffman. Very good work was done by Secretary-Treasurer Hoffman, who did the major part of the work preparing for that Convention. He did very effective work in publicizing the event, especially by the slickers he had prepared and distributed. As for the Committee itself, very little was done. I began as soon as the Committee was appointed to urge the preparation of a series of historical essays to be published for the event. Nothing came of it. Particularly regrettable was the failure of Historian Hammond to make use of the journal for the Anniversary. There was absolutely nothing, aside from a brief note from chapters, on the Anniversary as such, not even in the "Editor's Page." And most unfortunate, too, was the failure of Business Manager of *The Historian* Hoffman to get the Fall Number of the journal out before the Convention met.

The year 1946 was eventful for Mrs. Cleven and me. We left Pittsburgh for Hoffman, Minnesota; then on to Los Angeles, California; then on to St. Petersburg, Florida, to teach in the Military Academy. In November of the same year I was rushed to Johns Hopkins Hospital for a major operation, by plane. Then back to the Academy; and then to New York for the Anniversary Convention.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH or ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION was held in New York, New York, December 26-29, 1946. The headquarters were in the Hotel New Yorker where the sessions were held. The Fraternity was in a happy mood for the Fraternity was in good condition. The war was at an end and the country was getting back into normalcy. The enrollment in colleges and universities was reaching an all-time high. The financial assistance given the GI's by the Federal Government enabled a large number of enthusiastic young men and women to enter academic life. Hence there had been a great boost in our expansion work and in admission of new members. Our financial situation was good; Phi Alpha Theta had weathered the war period unusually well. Outwardly, therefore, the Fraternity appeared to be in good condition. But there were those of us concerned about the trend toward centralization in our administrative system. I personally feared that unless checked it would bring on a disintegration of the whole Fraternity itself.

The pre-Convention meeting of the National Council was held on the afternoon of December 26th, with President Deutsch in the chair. All the seven national officers were present. This perfect attendance was really remarkable, coming, as we did, from such distant parts of the country: Messrs. Hammond and Bowman from northern and southern California; Messrs. Glanville from Southeastern Texas and Deutsch from Minnesota; Messrs. Hoffman and Fortenbaugh from Pennsylvania; and I from western Florida. Mr. Hoffman gave a lengthy report of the administrative activities during the five-year war period. I urged the need of amending the fundamental law to give the secretary-treasurer, as the "executive officer of the fraternity" constitutional status. The Council voted to make such a recommendation. The members of the Advisory Board were invited to attend the session of the Council. Only two such members were actually present for the Convention, but only Professor Zimmerman, the Chairman of the Board, attended this session. In the evening of the same day Alpha Theta, the host chapter, gave a reception in Parlors F and B in the Hotel New Yorker.

The first session of the Convention came on the morning of December 27th with President Deutsch in the chair. Prayer was offered by Professor Zimmerman. All the national officers were present; and thirty-two chapters were represented by official delegates, leaving eight chapters unrepresented. The membership of the several committees was completed; and reports were made by national officers. The session adjourned at 12:15 p.m. The second session came on the afternoon of the same day, with Vice-President Glanville in the chair. Miss Jordan was present as delegate from Alpha Chapter. Chapter resolutions were called for; but the only chapter to present resolutions was Alpha. It wanted chapters in large state universities and the larger institutions only, a committee appointed by the Convention to investigate why the Resolutions of the Regional Convention at Fayetteville, Arkansas, were not published in *The Historian*, a longer time for chapters to act on petitions for new chapters, a chapter to have been a member of the Fraternity for at least six months before sending a delegate to the Convention, the secretary to send information from the petitioning group thirty days before deadline for voting on the petition, the Nominating Committee to send to each chapter six weeks before the meeting of the Convention a list of the nominees for each national office, with at least two names for each office, the initiation fee to be reduced to \$4.50, regional conventions to be held in the year when no National Convention meets, to have always at least two undergraduates on the National Council, and that the Fraternity should not engage "in any discriminatory practices based upon race or color," and chapters to be organized in "outstanding Negro Colleges." These resolutions were referred to committees for consideration and report back to the Convention.

The third session met on the morning of December 28th with President Deutsch in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read. The report of the Auditing Committee was read and adopted. This was not a committee of the Convention, as it should have been. Hence its appointment was distinctly irregular. Its members had been selected from chapters near to Allentown, Pennsylvania, or in that city, so as to examine the books and records of the secretary-treasurer in his "headquarters" in Allentown. It was thus a committee of convenience, rather than an independent body as required by the fundamental law. And this has become the practice up to this time. The Finance and Budget Committee made its report. It recommended two measures: make an arrangement for continuing the subsidy for *The Historian* because of the mounting cost of that publication; and some plan for "scholarship funds, grants for research and the like." Also that the initiation fee be raised to \$7.50, but that this should include a two years' subscription to *The Historian*. And of course that Mr. Hoffman's salary, still called an honorarium, should be upped from \$250 a year to \$500. Again the budget was for only one year, with no provision for raising the funds for the second year of the biennium. Just another example of getting around a requirement without the benefit of the fundamental law or of the action of the Convention. Again the Convention tamely acquiesced in the irregularity.

Historian Hammond gave his report, which dealt very naturally with his work as Editor of *The Historian*. He stressed the difficulties of publishing during the war period. He urged the need of the support of every chapter for news items, in a subscription drive, and manuscript materials for publication. He gave in his résumé of articles these figures per chapter: Xi Chapter: 21 articles; Chi: 11, Zeta: 8; Beta: 7; Eta, Kappa, Sigma and Phi: 5; Alpha Alpha and Alpha Iota: 4; Tau and Psi 3; National Honorary Members: 2; and

Alpha, Epsilon, Lambda, Mu, Nu, Upsilon, Omega, and Alpha Theta:
 1. He also urged expanding the number of issues, arranging for academic sessions for the Convention, appointment of a News Editor for *The Historian*, drives by chapters for subscriptions and articles for the journal, the use of the University of Chicago format in *The Historian*. The report was accepted. Counselor Bowman made a partial report for the Expansion Committee, urging the members present at the Convention to provide the Committee with the names of possible contacts for chapters and also that the faculty members send the names of their graduate classmates to help in the expansion work.

I made the report of the Committee on Ritual and Resolutions. That for the Ritual Committee was long and in detail. The questionnaire I had sent to the several chapters on the manner in which the Resolution of the Ninth Convention on the use of the Ritual in the initiation had been interpreted brought replies from twenty chapters. One chapter wrote: "*We feel there is a distinct value in the traditions that develop from the continued use of the same ritual.*" Where the Ritual was not used the practice was for the president of the chapter to explain the symbolism of the Fraternity. The Committee reported that the Ritual should not be changed; but that a special committee be appointed to continue the investigations and to report at the next Convention. The report was accepted. There was much in the report to which Mr. Hoffman objected; and in the *Minutes and Reports* of the Convention he resorted to mutilation of the report to suit his purpose in order not to give the report as I gave it. He held that only that part of the report of a committee containing the formal recommendations was *the report*. In this he was in error. The usual procedure is to give the whole document as presented, unless the Convention orders otherwise. If any changes are made in the report by the Convention, those are also given in the proceedings; but the original report is given so that the two can be compared. The reason is that not only the members of the Convention but the electorate as well should have both in full. I learned from the questionnaire as returned to me two important things. One was the freedom with which the chapters had interpreted the Resolution. The other was the liberty the chapters had taken in the interpretation, feeling at liberty to mutilate the Ritual to suit their own whims and caprices, in making it what they wanted the Ritual to be. Iota Chapter even went so far as to have the ritual of their own make. Xi Chapter boasted of courting expulsion for the manner in which they had interpreted the Resolution. It put on the initiation before non-members and in an open meeting, both of which were not allowed in our *secret Fraternity*. I learned what I feared was the case: *that the Resolution of the Lexington Convention actually broke down the whole idea of secrecy, making Phi Alpha Theta merely a Society.*

The fourth session was held on the afternoon of December 28th with President Deutsch in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read, hence not approved. Counselor Bowman reported for the Expansion

Committee, recommending that chapters be organized in *larger and strategically located institutions*, that members of active chapters take an active part in expansion, and that the *Blue Book* be reissued. The report was tabled for further consideration. Counselor Fortenbaugh reported for the Chapter Activities Committee, calling attention to the map which Mr. Weaver

had prepared showing the location of the chapters, and to the large felt banner used by Beta, which Mr. Weaver had also brought with him to the Convention. In reporting this Mr. Hoffman declared: "This banner, blue background, had the insignia of the fraternity in gold with gold letters B E T A across the bottom of the banner. It was a very outstanding banner." Vice-President Glanville presented the report of the Committee on Constitution, recommending that the officer created by Professor Zimmerman and further developed by Mr. Hoffman, known as the executive officer of the Fraternity, be given constitutional status, in the words "and this officer shall be the executive officer of the fraternity." The fundamental law was then so amended by action of the Convention. The Committee also recommended that the initiation fee be increased to \$7.50. This was adopted. The other recommendations by the Committee were postponed until later. On the matter of giving the chapters the right to nominate to national officers, presented by Alpha Chapter, the Committee recommended that the chapters be given such right; and that each chapter should present at least two nominees for all the national officers except the secretary-treasurer and historian, declaring "the offices of National Secretary-Treasurer and National Historian were, by their very nature, self-perpetuating." This is strange reasoning for every executive officer is, by its very nature, self-perpetuating. The warmth with which Mr. Hoffman defended his office only adds further importance and weight to my contention that he was deliberately seeking to carve for himself a permanent office with an ever-increasing monetary remuneration. We shall also find, as the narrative continues, that the two men, Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman, will become even bolder in their efforts for they will maintain that the office of secretary-treasurer is not even competitive. The recommendation was obediently adopted by the Convention. It is interesting to note that Professor Hammond, the retiring Historian, took no part in the discussion; and further that the newly elected Historian Pomeroy, only served for one term, giving way to Historian White, who still holds the office. In each case there were improvements, at least, in the management of *The Historian*, showing the value of new blood in the personnel of the national organization. I have not the least doubt but that very great improvement in the work of the office of secretary-treasurer would have resulted from a change in that office. New blood there is very badly needed; and that without loss of time!

President Deutsch gave the report of the Nominating Committee. As usual only one slate was presented. These officers were unanimously elected: President, by constitutional provision, automatically elevating the vice-president: Glanville; Vice-President: C. Gregory Crampton; Secretary-Treasurer: Hoffman; Historian: Earl S. Pomeroy; and Counselors: Dorsey D. Jones and Oscar G. Darlington. Messrs. Hammond, John LaMonte, and George Anderson were elected to the Editorial Board of *The Historian*.

President Deutsch continued the report of the Nominating Committee, recommending that the members of the Editorial Board be elected every two years for a six year term, no action be taken on resolution from Alpha for an undergraduate member on the National Council, and that the chapters be given the right to nominate for all the national officers except the secretary-treasurer and historian, as I have given it above. These recommendations were duly adopted.

Historian Hammond gave the report of the special committee to consider the second resolution from Alpha Chapter. The committee had decided that no action be taken. The report was accepted. The fourth session then adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The final session of the Convention met on December 29th with President Deutsch in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read, nor were those of this last session read at the conclusion of the session and before adjournment, as they should have been. Historian Hammond presented the report of the Publications Committee, expressing regret that *"it proved impossible to publish a special scholarly work on the founding of Phi Alpha Theta, as planned in 1941,"* blaming the war for the failure, suggesting that *The Historian* be continued in its present form *"until the number of articles presented and the condition of the treasury permit further expansion,"* suggesting the streamlining and compression of the business discussions of the Convention to permit of academic sessions, open to the public, and the appointment of the Editor of *The Historian* the chairman of such sessions, the appointment of a News Editor responsible for gathering materials for the news section and writing them up for the journal and proofreading the same, the Editor of *The Historian* to be consulted in the selection of new members of the Board of Editors, suggesting that each chapter collect news regarding its members, especially the alumni and thus help get subscriptions to *The Historian*, the University of Chicago manual on style be adopted for use in fraternity scholarly publications, and finally, that special mention be made of the articles presented to *The Historian* by members of chapters. He stressed the importance of more active chapter support for *The Historian*. I have not been able to understand why the Business Manager of our journal should not be charged with the subscription and the publicizing of *The Historian*. What is he there for? Giving the work of addressing the journal to the subscribers to the University of New Mexico Press, the publishers, would give him time to attend to the circulation and advertising of it and in it. The report was adopted in full by the Convention.

Counselor Fortenbaugh then presented the final report of the Chapter Activities Committee, observing: *"Since the health and vitality of the fraternity is measured by the all-year activity and enthusiasm of the chapter units, it is necessary that the chapters and their officers be inspired and instructed in the ways and means of conserving and enlarging their activity and enthusiasm."* In order to achieve that end, the Committee recommended that regional meetings be held, at least one in every region in the year when the Convention does not meet; that the National Council group the chapters so as to best achieve the ends desired; chapter bulletins be prepared with specific suggestions for chapter activities, with cooperation of the chapters themselves; chapters to report to the Secretary-Treasurer the activities of the school year; and that *"the possibility of the publication of a national directory of members to be studied by the National Council."* The report was adopted. Miss Jordan was called upon to explain Alpha's resolution on racial discrimination. The discussion brought Professor Zimmerman to the floor to oppose the establishment of chapters of Phi Alpha Theta in Negro Colleges, basing his position on his experiences with Negro students in Colorado State. I took no part in the discussion even though I felt that the solution of this whole problem lay in the establishment of chapters in Negro academic institutions. This has been the solution of many of the social, professional, and other fraternities. I then made a lengthy report for the Committee on Resolutions, twenty-two in all, dealing with the commendable action presenting Professor Hammond with a Life-Membership in the

A H A, praising the "illuminating and scholarly address of Professor Ford" at the Convention Luncheon, praising also the "excellent extemporaneous remarks" of Professor Shotwell at the Anniversary Breakfast, commending regional gatherings as a means of making the Fraternity a real live organization in every institution in which it has a chapter, urging establishment of chapters in larger institutions of higher education for every such institution would have its endeavors enhanced by a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta on its campus, commending emphasis upon search work in History and for prizes in historical study for one of the main purposes of Phi Alpha Theta is to encourage scholarship among those interested in History. The report was duly adopted. I installed the national officers, at the invitation of President Deutsch; and the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The academic sessions of the Convention were on a high plane. The Convention Banquet was held on the evening of December 27th in the East Room of the Hotel New Yorker with Professor Zimmerman as toastmaster. As a result of the efforts of a fraternity brother of mine in the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity, a picture was taken of the gathering. I felt that it would be a nice souvenir of the Anniversary Banquet. A few minutes before the Banquet began I was called aside and asked to present Professor Hammond with a Life Membership in the A H A. While I felt that the manner in which the hundred dollars had been illegally appropriated, I did not object, and presented the gift to an officer who had done an excellent job. What I objected to was the action of the rump membership of the National Council. The action was taken at a luncheon meeting, but I was not informed of the meeting even though I was in the dining room. The Council had no right to appropriate money, for its emergency powers ceased the moment the Convention began. The money should have been appropriated by the Convention and in due and proper form. There were several present at the Banquet who were not members of the conclave. There were several members of Beta Chapter, including its president, Professor Demis Barnes. Professor J. Salwyn Schapiro, a national honorary member, came in for the formal program. President Deutsch delivered the Presidential Address on the subject: *Strange Interlude: The Soviet-Nazi Liaison of 1939-1941*. A great deal of the material had been gathered while the author was engaged in war work for the Federal Government in Germany. It was a scholarly address and well delivered.

The second academic session was in connection with the Anniversary Luncheon held on December 28th in Parlors F and G of the Hotel New Yorker, with President Deutsch in the chair. The guest speaker was Professor Guy Stanton Ford, "National Honorary Member of Phi Alpha Theta, past President of the American Historical Association, and the present Executive Secretary of that body," to quote Mr. Hoffman. Professor Ford spoke extemporaneously on "*The Historian as a Teacher*," and did a masterly job. Again we had acted amateurishly for no provision had been made to take down the address, a most serious omission. Several other national honorary members attended the Luncheon. The third academic session came at the Anniversary Breakfast, held in the East Room of the Hotel New Yorker on December 29th, with Professor Hammond presiding. A large number of national honorary members attended. I started the speech making by calling on Professor Shotwell for remarks. He spoke of his experience in writing the history of World War I under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation. The discussion which followed was participated in by Professors Perkins, A. H. Sweet, Buck, Washbourne, Gewehr and others. It was an outstanding event.

The post-Convention meeting of the National Council came on the afternoon of the 29th of December; and was the most insipid affair of the entire history of the Council up to that time. In the first place, the members were kept waiting about half an hour before Mr. Hoffman made his appearance. And when the meeting got under way with President Glanville in the chair, there was nothing of any importance to come before the meeting. I did install Professor Darlington who had been unable to attend the last session of the Convention because of a severe storm. About the most important thing about this gathering, was the reaction of President Glanville when Mr. Hoffman poked under President Glanville's nose the book of blank voucher checks for him to sign! I could not hear what was said by either of the two men; but the expression of surprise and chagrin on the face of President Glanville, spoke volumes for us in the know. Mr. Hoffman had nothing to lay before the meeting. He was too deeply entrenched in the role of "running" the government of the Fraternity to need any advice from this body. Mr. Weaver attended the meeting, but Professor Zimmerman did not. Mr. Hoffman called attention to the reception for the A H A to which the members of the Fraternity were invited. That was all; and the Council adjourned.

PRESIDENT Glanville began, accordingly, his Administration on December 28th, 1946. He was the first vice-president to be automatically elevated to the national presidency; and was thus experienced in the way of governing the Fraternity. He had been a delegate from his chapter to the Tenth Convention; and had served as vice-president during the war period. He thus had the record of having held the office of vice-president longer than any other member of Phi Alpha Theta. Externally, Phi Alpha Theta was in good condition. The outlook for a brilliant expansion program was very good. The most ominous phase of the whole history of the Fraternity was the boost given the process of centralization of the administrative system in its government. More power had been given Mr. Hoffman by placing his office outside the pale of democratic nomination, and into the realm of the *noncompetitive* in addition to giving constitutional status to the office of *executive officer of the Fraternity*. These were fundamentally important victories for the young man. He was also given a boost in salary - and was really on his way to achieve the financial objectives towards which he was so assiduously laboring. The larger objectives of Phi Alpha Theta could be laid aside for this benefit *financially*, for one man. President Glanville acted upon my suggestion by appointing the members of the special committee for the revision of the Ritual early. He named Vice-President Crampton chairman of the Committee in order, as he explained to me, to give him added opportunities for practical administrative experience. It was a wise move; but unfortunately the new chairman was much too busy to give the job the attention it needed.

The expansion program made good progress. By the time of the untimely death of President Glanville on November 18, 1947, ten new chapters had been admitted - the largest number to be admitted in one year up to that time. Two of the chapters were on the campus of very important institutions: Beta Alpha at Texas and Beta Beta at Stanford. Historian Pomeroy did good work on *The Historian*, adding the subtitle *A Journal of History*. But he abolished the "Editor's Page" which had served such a good purpose under Editor Hammond. It was an unwise act for it deprived the Editor of a means of communicating with the members. The Spring Number 1947 of *The Historian* gave the names of the members of the Advisory Board: Hammond, Chairman,

Bowman, Deutsch, Fortenbaugh and Zimmerman. A brief account was given of the Annual Meeting of the Council of the ACHS in February. Mr. Hoffman was our official representative to that gathering. In this he was acting rather highhandedly. He had failed to bring up the whole question of representation on that body either in the National Council or in the Convention. The Convention should have done, what the Washington Convention did, two years later, as we shall see: give the office of official representative on the ACHS Council constitutional status and elective. This number of the journal also had a report of the New York Convention; but it was incomplete and even inaccurate in parts. The Fall Number of *The Historian*, 1947, had no News Section, such as we had had since the beginning of the publication of the journal. The resulting jumbling of chapter news was a disservice to the members. It was merely aping the A H R; and denuded the whole of a certain personal touch, and the feeling that the chapters have a definite independent entity.

The death of President Glanville, November 18, 1947, proved to be of tremendous importance to the Fraternity. It gave Mr. Hoffman an opportunity of which he made the most. Without consulting the members of the National Council as to the procedure, he took upon himself the role of Acting President, acting on the assumption that the National Council would fill the vacancy by selecting a new president. This was contrary to the amended fundamental law which called for the automatic elevation of the Vice-President to the presidency. He called for nominations for the new president. The Council elected Professor Zimmerman President. The proper procedure was to have elevated Vice-President Crampton to the presidency and to have elected a new vice-president (*Vide* Art. III, Sec. 2, paragraph two of the Constitution; and Art. II of the By-Laws, Edition 1942). The fact that the Milwaukee Convention failed to amend Art. III, concerning the power of the National Council to fill vacancies in its own membership, in no way affected the act of that Convention. Mr. Hoffman is by no means alone to blame in this whole irregular procedure, even though he must bear the larger share of the blame. Vice-President Crampton was fully as much to blame, since he failed to exert his rights to the presidency. Messrs. Pomeroy, Darlington, and Jones, members of the Council are also to blame. I of course was vocal in my opposition to the whole proceedings. Mr. Hoffman came very near being guilty of a *shell game*. The whole smacks too much of personalism and opportunism to be treated lightly.

There were two regional meetings in the brief Administration of Acting President Hoffman. That at Lehigh University, attended by Alpha Alpha, Gamma, Kappa, Alpha Eta, Alpha Theta, Alpha Upsilon, and Alpha Chi Chapters, December 7th, heard an address by Professor William Aikin on: "Middle and Near East in History." That at Kent University, December 14th, attended by Beta Zeta, Psi, Alpha Beta, and Alpha Kappa Chapters, with a paper by Historian Pomeroy on: "The Responsibilities of Historians Today." The Autumn Number 1947 of *The Historian* had a new feature, the section on book reviews.

PRESIDENT Zimmerman began his second Administration early in 1948 inauspiciously. He issued no message to the members on assuming the duties of his office - an inexcusable mistake. The late President had

served the Fraternity well and deserved a special tribute from his successor, the message to have been printed in *The Historian*. Mr. Hoffman continued his efforts with expansion, the total number installed was twenty-two. A splendid record indeed! As the Washington Convention drew near, I issued a Circular to the chapters, October 30, 1948, urging reforms in the government of the Fraternity. President Zimmerman issued a statement to the chapters branding my charges a *bunch of lies*. Any fool can make such a statement. Partisanship, slimy indifference, and love of appeasement are but stumbling blocks in such a situation. Vice-President Crampton was much more intelligent in his reaction to the Circular, even to the extent of writing me that he could go along with me in most of my charges. Counselor Darlington wrote me that the letter was cogently written and plainly showed the need of reforms. Historian Pomeroy was much interested in my criticism of Mr. Hoffman's jaunt to Puerto Rico to install Beta Delta Chapter, declaring that he understood that Mr. Hoffman would pay the fare and other expenses of the trip and that if he did not do so he should not go to Puerto Rico! Counselor Jones wrote me that he was interested in Phi Alpha Theta but not in personalities. Just how one can be interested in an organization and not concerned about the conduct of an officer of that organization he did not deign to explain. The Circular had the effect I expected. Members were aroused not so much in favor of reforms as against me for the manner in which I was conducting the campaign. This, then, was the atmosphere in which the Washington Convention met; and which had such a large part in determining the transactions of that conclave.

THE TWELFTH CONVENTION met on December 26-29, 1948. The A H A held its Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. at that time. Our headquarters were in the Wardman Park Hotel. The pre-Convention Meeting was held in the afternoon of December 26th with President Zimmerman in the chair. All the national officers, except Counselor Jones, were present. Professor Fortenbaugh was appointed by President Zimmerman, on his own responsibility, to substitute for Counselor Jones. By what provision of our fundamental law he had such authority he did not explain. It was just one more of those irregularities for which our national officers have had lately such a mania. The only proper constitutional procedure was to have gone on with the business without the missing member. This proved to be the stormiest meeting in the history of the Council. I asked Mr. Hoffman to explain how he had used the large amount of money for his attendance upon the meeting of the ACHS Council in February of that year. Professor Crampton moved a vote of confidence in Mr. Hoffman, and no explanation was given. The Council thus set a fundamentally important example of excusing a national officer from explaining the uses to which he puts the funds of the Fraternity. Later when I asked for the nature of the relation between the Fraternity and the publishers of *The Historian* a like action took place. In both instances Messrs. Crampton, Pomeroy and Darlington were in error, as Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman knew, but acquiesced in the proceedings. We did get two important pieces of information, however. One that Mr. Hoffman's jaunt to Puerto Rico cost the Fraternity seventy-five dollars; and that the cost of installing the Alpha Phi Chapter by Professor Zimmerman cost us one hundred dollars. In both cases the installation could have been done by a national officer, or other competent member

near by. The other was that there is no contractual relations between Mr. Hoffman and the University of New Mexico Press. There was a reception in the evening given by the host chapter.

The first session of the Convention was held on the morning of the 27th with President Zimmerman in the chair. Prayer was offered by Professor Fortenbaugh. The Convention honored the memory of the late President Glanville by a minute of silence. Professor Tibor Kerekes of Beta Pi Chapter gave the address of welcome; and concluded by inviting the members of the Convention to a luncheon at the Georgetown University. Out of a total of seventy-three members, sixty-three were represented either by a delegate or a proxy. Mr. Hoffman had the proxy for three chapters. Professor Arthur P. Watts, who played such a large role in the Convention, which was his introduction to the government of our conclave, was not even a member of the Convention. He must have been an alternate, on occasion, for he did vote on important motions. Resolutions were presented by several chapters. Beta urged that a public stenographer be employed to record the entire proceedings of the Convention proceedings, including speeches to be printed in *The Historian* or in the *Minutes and Reports* of the Convention; only national officers, present or past, nearest to the chapter to be installed, to be appointed installing officers; repeal the Resolution of the Ninth Convention on use of the Ritual; make use of the Ritual in initiation ceremony mandatory; restore the old News Section in *The Historian*; place names of founders on the plaque at the University of Arkansas; present nominees for national officers to chapters at least two months before the Convention meets, and this to include all the elective national executive officers. Epsilon wanted the Ritual modernized. Xi wanted a meeting of the Convention on the Pacific Coast at the time of the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the A H A; proper appreciation to be given for the splendid expansion work of the last biennium; remove the office of Honorary President from membership in the National Council so as to make all seven national executive officers elective and to strengthen the prestige of that office. Alpha Iota wanted regional meetings to be held at the time the Pacific Coast Branch of the A H A holds its Annual Meeting; all chapters to be urged to elect to membership in Phi Alpha Theta both men and women, separately if necessary; the National Council to give a brief biographical sketch for every nominee to national office; chapters to be established in large and strategically important colleges and universities rather than "too many new chapters at Slippery Rock Normals;" chapters to be installed by nearest qualified member; and that the vice-president should succeed when there is a vacancy in the national presidency "as the constitution provides." Alpha Chi urged that the Editor of *The Historian* should be appointed rather than elected, the policy of the journal to be stated in the masthead of the publication, and the appointment of a committee to revise the Constitution. Beta Alpha wanted *The Historian* made into a quarterly as soon as possible. Beta Beta wanted the Ritual modernized, submitted to the chapters for ratification, and when approved by 3/4 of the chapters to be made mandatory in the initiation ceremony. These resolutions were referred to the proper committees. Mr. Philip Mitterling read a paper on: "The Case of the 'Water Witch:' A Chapter in United States-Paraguayan Relations, 1850-1852."

The second session was held on December 28th with President Zimmerman in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read. The

Auditing Committee, a non-Convention body, made its report, which was obligingly adopted. Mr. Hoffman presented the report for the Finance and Budget Committee. The Committee declined to recommend the use of the services of a public stenographer and to place the names of the Founders on the plaque presented to the University of Arkansas on the occasion of the Anniversary Convention, both on the grounds of expense. The Committee estimated the receipts for the first year of the biennium at \$9,750.00. The disbursements called for \$135 for the official representative on the ACHS council, \$100 for the President, \$1,200 for Mr. Hoffman, and \$750 for the expenses of his office. The report was adopted. The Convention ordered the compilation and the publication of the Ordinances of the Convention since the beginning; but referred to the National Council the whole question of publication for final action. And that is as far as we have gotten in this very important matter. Thus we have a perfectly inexcusable situation. The ordinances adopted by the several meetings of the National Convention neither compiled nor published; which is also true of the minutes of the several meetings of the National Council. Truly, we do most unusual and strange things in Phi Alpha Theta, administratedly considered; and the blame for all this must lie squarely at the feet of Mr. Hoffman. But what can the poor man do with all the work he has taken unto himself, besides drawing a salary and having himself elected to office? It is not well to let the electorate know too much!! "Spend and spend, elect and elect" might well be our motto. What cannot a slimy indifference and irrational partisanship do - even in a departmental honor society!!!

The third session was held on December 29th with President Zimmerman in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. The Convention appropriated \$100 for a Life-Membership for National Historian Pomeroy in the A H A - a most worthy reward. Counselor Darlington made the report of the Chapter Activities Committee. It recommended twelve regional meetings a year when the Convention did not meet, increasing the number of counselors to twelve so as to have a counselor for each region, establishment of an information bureau at the Headquarters of the Fraternity, and the encouragement of the study of History by stimulating scholarly writings through prizes, publication of booklets, reading of papers in chapter, regional and national meetings. It also recommended the exhibition of published writings by members of the Fraternity in each biennium, compilation and distribution of a check list of writings by members of the Fraternity, listing scholarly works and projects upon which members are engaged, sponsoring historical tours, round table and panel discussions, book drives for libraries and the adoption of a Fraternity Song. This comprehensive report was stoutly opposed by Mr. Hoffman in matters he felt belonged to his office. He saw in the regional setup a definite loss of a great deal of power for himself in his efforts to further entrench himself in the government of the Fraternity. The regional plan was accordingly defeated. The other recommendations were adopted. Professor William Itter then read a paper on: "Conscription in the United States Before 1861." Professor Fortenbaugh made the report of the Committee on Expansion. It recommended a liberal expansion in larger institutions, but that a petitioning group to have been in existence at least one semester before petitioning, regional conferences to evaluate institutions and departments of History under consideration for membership, appointment of a committee of five to consider creating separate graduate and undergraduate units of membership, and that national officers visit chapters. This report was adopted.

The fourth session was held on December 29th with President Zimmerman in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. Historian Pomeroy made a report of *The Historian*, announcing that he would not be a candidate for reelection. His report was largely negative, although he did recommend a list of research and doctoral dissertations be published in *The Historian*, the journal to be made a quarterly when materials presented and the funds warranted it, and a more complete identification of authors of articles in *The Historian*. The report was adopted. Professor Gilbert L. Lyons read a paper on: "Hamilton's Plans for Acquiring the Louisiana Purchase."

Vice-President Crampton gave the report of the Committee on Constitution investigating the charges in the Circular of October 30th. The Committee opposed the unscrambling of the multiple office of secretary-treasurer and the separation of the office of business manager of the journal of that office, approved the manner of filling the vacancy caused by the death of Glanville, holding that the intent of the provision automatically elevating the vice-president to the presidency was to give that officer two full years of apprenticeship. The Committee also denied that any national officer had "assumed any non-delegated powers," held that the Fraternity was an association and not a government, held that the fundamental law should be changed gradually, and that the office of official representative on the ACHS Council should be given constitutional status and that officer to be elective by the National Council. It also recommended that a special committee be appointed to revise the fundamental law and another to revise the Ritual, the removal of the Honorary President from the National Council in order to make all the seven national executive officers elective and to give greater prestige to that office, and that the wording in the fundamental law "*this officer shall be the executive officer of the fraternity*" be changed to read "*this officer shall be the executive secretary of the fraternity*." All efforts to have these recommendations submitted to the chapters were defeated. In the discussion Messrs. Hoffman, Zimmerman and Fortenbaugh declared that my critical attitude affected the administration of the affairs of the Fraternity and that I should be removed from the National Council. I took no part in the discussion because of the "*gentleman's agreement*" made in the pre-Convention Meeting of the National Council that the charges I had made in the Circular of October 30th should not be discussed on the floor of the Convention. I believed that Messrs. Zimmerman, Hoffman and Fortenbaugh were men of their word. Messrs. Crampton, Pomeroy, Darlington and I, did keep that agreement. The report was adopted section by section, the provision removing me from the National Council having a vote of thirty-five in favor and ten against it. Two irregularities were committed in handling the charges against me: the Committee did not call to its session either me or Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman, thus acting in true Star Chamber fashion; and the ruling by Mr. Hoffman that no delegate or proxy would be permitted to abstain from voting, if any one did so his vote would be considered in the affirmative. Mr. Hoffman had no right to make such a decision. It was not even the prerogative of President Zimmerman unless he had been ordered to so rule, or by action of the Convention itself. It was just a plain old-fashioned whitewash.

The final session was held on December 29th with President Zimmerman in the chair. The minutes, and they were very important, of the previous session were not read, nor were those of the final session. President Zimmerman called Professor Crampton to the chair after which he presented

the report of the Nominating Committee. He prefaced his report with the statement that the Committee had acted on the theory that the offices of secretary-treasurer and historian were non-competitive, hence only one nomination had been presented for those two offices. The report was accepted; and the ballot taken. The ballots were handed to the Tellers of which Professor Fortenbaugh was chairman. I had appointed, with the permission of the Committee on Ritual and Resolutions, two subchairmen; Professor Watts for the Ritual Committee and Mr. Cornish for the Committee on Resolutions. Professor Watts made the report for the Committee on Ritual which recommended that the Ritual be revised, "a special, entirely new interim committee of five" be appointed, composed of a chairman and four members "so chosen as to represent each of the following areas: the East, the mid-West, the South and the West," to be given the materials already in possession of the older Committee and materials from the chapters on the subject, the interim committee to have a year in which to prepare a revised Ritual "both a standard and an abbreviated form", either one of which might be used by the chapters, the full-length Ritual to be submitted to the chapters which were to have ninety days in which to approve or disapprove it. When approved by 3/4 of the chapters "it shall become the official standard version of the fraternity initiation Ritual." The report was accepted. Mr. Cornish then presented the report of the Committee on Resolutions, which was adopted. Professor Caldwell then read a paper on: "The Influence of Daniel Webster on the United States Supreme Court under John Marshall." And Professor Floyd D. Nichols read one on: "The Labor Policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1910-1932." The Convention authorized an increase of a thousand dollars to the bond of the secretary-treasurer, raising it from \$5000 to \$6000. The Tellers reported the election of the following: President: Crampton (by constitutional provision); Vice-President: Watts; Executive Secretary-Treasurer: Hoffman; Historian: Gerald T. White; Counselors: Metterling, Cornish, and Nasatir. And on the Editorial Board: Miss Woodward and Messrs. Kocker, Pomeroy and Hostetter. The Convention officially designated Allentown, Pennsylvania, as the "Headquarters of the Fraternity;" and directed that the committee on the revision of the fundamental law provide a provision to safeguard the interests of the Fraternity in case of a vacancy in the office of secretary-treasurer. At President Zimmerman's request, I installed the officers; and the Convention adjourned.

The Luncheon given by Georgetown University on December 27th was an enjoyable affair. Professor Charles C. Tansill, the famous author, served as toastmaster. I am told, for I was not at the Luncheon, the toastmaster took me to task for the manner in which I was campaigning for reforms in the Fraternity. That was of course his privilege, as it was his privilege to act the ignoramus in a situation such as faces us in Phi Alpha Theta. After all, he appears to have a habit of skimming over the top merely. I understand much better now the rather severe criticism of his two last books. With me he was therefore merely again indulging in a *witch-hunting* pastime. Professor Richard W. Van Alstyne has this to say, in parts, in his review of *Back Door to War*: "...in no important sense does the book rest on the confidential files of the Department of State...." And "...*Back Door to War* is, in its own peculiar way, a striking monument to pedantic scholarship, but is built on a very tiny mound of historical understanding" (*Pacific Historical Review*, November 1952, 420). Professor Richard J. Purcell spoke

briefly on: "History and Its Job Today," and Professor Barbee read a paper on "Old Georgetown." The Convention Banquet came in the evening of the same day, with Vice-President Crampton as toastmaster. President Zimmerman delivered the Presidential Address on: "The Historic Battle for a Literate America," based on information he had gained while in Spanish South America in the service of the Federal Government. The Convention Luncheon came on December 28th with President Zimmerman in the chair. Mr. William G. Johnstone, Director of the Educational Exchange of the United States Government, spoke interestingly on: "the organization setup throughout the world to disseminate favorable publicity information concerning the United States and its cultural activities as well as its business, political, social and economic phases." The Convention Breakfast came on December 29th with Counselor Darlington as toastmaster. Professor Hammond was the main speaker, dealing with past phases of the history of Phi Alpha Theta. In the afternoon of the same day there was a sightseeing tour of Washington and its environs.

The Washington Convention was of great importance to the Fraternity; and to me personally. It was not only that the sentiment was against me, or the punishment meted out to me, that matters. But because it was the last gathering of its kind in which I was to have an active part. I soon found that I was completely *shelved*. My name was struck off the list of national officers receiving official communications from the national officers - Even *The Historian* was deliberately held up for months at a time, although I had paid my dues regularly in Beta which included the subscription to the journal. There were, on the other hand, compensations for me personally. Many of my charges were admitted and even approved; and several important reforms made out of those I had advocated. The Washington Convention, like the Chicago Convention two years later, approved irregularities committed by certain national officers. The monstrosity, known as *the executive officer* of the Fraternity, was abolished, making the secretary-treasurer the *executive secretary-treasurer*. Mr. Hoffman was rebuked for his theory that his right to represent Phi Alpha Theta on the Council of the ACHS inhered in the office he held. While the act removing me from the National Council, a punitive measure, for which I am indebted to the members of Xi Chapter, although under the guise of enhancing the prestige of the office, had its compensations for it did make all the seven officers elective. But instead of enhancing the position of Honorary President it has had just the opposite effect, really making a farce of it. And the Washington Convention went to the length of nullifying the provision whereby the vice-president automatically is elected to fill the vacancy in the national presidency. There were also the measures providing for the revision of both the Ritual and the fundamental law. But above all, it alerted the members, such as cared, and there were many of them, to the way in which the government of the Fraternity was being centralized and made constantly more and more expensive; and postponing the achievement of the larger objectives and purposes of Phi Alpha Theta. I felt repaid for the humiliations and insults that have been heaped upon me. I had demonstrated the duty, as well as the privilege of criticizing when necessary. There may be justifiable doubts as to the methods I have used, but absolutely none about the need for reforms.

PRESIDENT Crampton thus began his Administration, an eventful one, inauspiciously on December 29, 1948. Early in the Administration I had an

evidence of the irregularity which Mr. Hoffman has been committing for many years, that of making a farce out of the provision requiring that the president shall countersign all voucher checks. The check for the remainder of my expenses to the Convention was drawn on January 7, 1949, and was signed, not by President Crampton, as it should have been, but by Professor Zimmerman, who had been out of office for some nine days. I protested both to Mr. Hoffman and the National Bank of Allentown for this glaring irregularity. I also made mention of this fact in my letter to the ACHS Council, in which letter I emphasized the dangers, no less than the irregularities in the development of the centralization of our administrative system. Secretary-Treasurer Bishop of the ACHS replied that such internal matters had to be handled by the member fraternity itself. He did, however, *make the sage observation that those engaged in honor society work were desirous of keeping the overhead expenses of administration as low as possible in order to have funds for achieving the larger objectives of an honor society.*

I received my copy of the *Minutes and Reports of the Twelfth Convention of Phi Alpha Theta* on February 9, 1949. Mr. Hoffman's report was in great detail, giving much space to his *apologia* as I call it, for it was in defense of himself and his administration. If the expenses were paid by the Fraternity, as his were in this matter, I, too, could go into much greater detail than I did in the Circular of 1948. He made much of the growth of Phi Alpha Theta which was quite proper. Gamma and Epsilon had both been reactivated; and of the thirty-two chapters installed during the biennium eleven had been installed by him, including that in Puerto Rico. The total cost of the installation was \$875.87, or \$27.37 a chapter. He declared: *"I am personally very proud of our expansion work. It represents a major portion of the work of this office not only for the current year or two but for quite a few years before that. Chapters such as came in during the past biennium were in the making for a long time before that in many cases..."* He gave an account of the two annual meetings of the ACHS Council. While he declared that Phi Alpha Theta was one of the best of the member fraternities of the ACHS he gave no explanation of how or for what ends he had been striving as our representative. I believe that this is a major mistake for our representative on that body *should have one main task, that of carrying out the wishes of the Fraternity.* He has never requested an expression of the wishes of the organization. He does not know what they are, and seems to care less. I happen to know that he has committed Phi Alpha Theta to policies and acts that are of vital importance to the whole membership of Phi Alpha Theta. And of such importance that we should require of our representative not only that important problems before the ACHS Council should be referred to a Convention before any action on them is taken but a strict accounting of his policies and acts in that body. That is, the Convention should decide the role he should play, not he. We have been unduly remiss in this whole matter, as we have in many others. We are getting into the habit of letting him "run" the affairs of the Fraternity, and that pretty much as he pleases.

I was soon to learn that President Crampton also had been struck by the virus of irregularity. The Washington Convention directed him to appoint two interim committees on the revision of the fundamental law and the Ritual. In the case of the latter he was to give due regard to the geographical factor, *all four regions of the country to be represented on the committee.* And what does he do? He appointed the chairman only, Vice-President Watts, a very proper appointment, *and left the appointment of the remaining four to Professor*

Watts. This would have been less censurable had the chairman chosen the other four members on a geographical basis as required. But this Chairman Watts did not do, as we shall see. As the biennium wore on I continued my campaign for reforms in the government of the Fraternity. But it was not until late in 1950 that I decided and did prepare the first volume of *The Phi Alpha Theta Observer*, as I called the publication. This issue contained nine articles reviewing the development of the Fraternity up to that time, laying particular emphasis upon irregularities committed in that process and urging fundamental reforms.

The accelerated expansion program went on apace in President Crampton's Administration even though it was retarded by the monopoly of it by Mr. Hoffman. Nine chapters were installed in 1949 and fourteen in 1950, a total of twenty-three. I have not the slightest doubt but that excellent total would have been even larger had Mr. Hoffman enlisted, and accepted the efforts of those willing to assist in that constructive work. There were four issues of *The Historian* in this Administration. The Spring Number 1949 carried the President Address of Professor Zimmerman and an account of the Washington Convention by Professor Pomeroy. The report failed to mention the amendment of the fundamental law giving constitutional status to the official representative on the ACHS Council and elective by the National Council. A very important omission because of the two-fold significance of the legislation: the repudiation of the theory held by Mr. Hoffman of his inherent right to represent the Fraternity by reason of being its executive secretary-treasurer; and giving to the National Council the power to select whomsoever it pleased to that office. The account of the installation of new chapters brought the welcome news that attention had been given to the geographical factor in the selection of installing officers. Editor White did not do the members of Phi Alpha Theta justice since he accepted book reviews and articles from non-members of the Fraternity for publication. *The Historian* should, as the official organ of the Fraternity, subserve the interests of Phi Alpha Theta and in that way the interests of History.

THE THIRTEENTH CONVENTION was held in Chicago, Illinois, December 26-29, 1950. It is the last meeting of the Convention which I attended, but in an unofficial capacity. It was a novel experience. I did not attend the Convention Banquet, the Convention Luncheon, or the Convention Breakfast. I knew that I would not be welcome and did not want further humiliations and insults. I attended several of the business sessions and the academic sessions, but made only a brief announcement that the publication I had prepared would be deposited on the outside of the entrance to the Convention for those who might want a copy. This was *The Phi Alpha Theta Observer* to which I have already referred. I left ninety-nine copies of it and when I returned, about an hour later, I found that seventy-eight copies had been picked up. I traveled to Chicago and back by plane and at my own expense. I also paid my own expenses while in Chicago.

There was a reception to the members on the evening of December 26th. The first session came on the morning of the 27th with President Crampton in the chair. Professor Zimmerman, official delegate of Iota Chapter, offered prayer. All the national officers except Counselor Nasatir were present. Professor Nasatir was in France on a Fulbright Fellowship doing search work. Seventy chapters were represented by delegates, while Mr. Hoffman

served as proxy for seven chapters, giving him eight votes in the Convention. That is, twenty-five chapters were not represented by a delegate. This is a poor showing. The time is long past when the use of a proxy should have been prohibited. Certainly the number of proxies to any one member, even to Mr. Hoffman, should be limited.

The national officers presented reports. President Crampton urged that the officers should be selected with great care; and that academic sessions of the Convention be given greater attention. Vice-President Watts reported on the work of the Interim Committee on the Revision of the Ritual and on the use of the Revised Ritual during the course of the Convention. Historian White gave a lengthy report about *The Historian*, emphasizing the progress made and lamenting that the journal was not as well known as he felt it should be. But who is to blame? Why does the Business Manager do more to publicize *The Historian*? Is it because he is too busy? or because he is not in academic work? Why not put some new blood into the management of the journal? These are my, not Historian White's questions, of course.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Hoffman took more than an hour to make his lengthy report, and was received, as it should have been, in stony silence. Too many phases of administrative work to be covered by one man. Why do we continue this inane system of denying of shutting out the large dormant talent in Phi Alpha Theta in this whole matter? After a brief recess, Counselor Cornish presented a motion that the name "*Phi Alpha Theta*" be "*restricted to publications officially approved by the Fraternity barring the use of Phi Alpha Theta by any active chapter.*" The motion was seconded but tabled for further consideration.

Three interim committees presented reports. Professor Bowman gave the report of the Interim Constitutional Committee in place of its Chairman Professor Russell Caldwell who was unable to attend the Convention. I shall deal with this report later. Vice-President Watts gave the report of the Interim Ritual Committee to which was referred the task of revising the Ritual. His report was referred to the Committee on Ritual and Resolutions. Professor Zimmerman gave the report of the Scholarship Committee, recommending that the scholarship program begin in the fall of 1952, but with only one scholarship in the amount of \$225, to be paid in nine equal installments; and a like scholarship in the same amount and paid in nine equal installments in the fall of 1953; that a fellowship in the amount of \$450 be granted in the fall of 1954, to be paid in nine equal installments, but to be awarded only to a member with a Master's Degree working for a Ph.D. Degree in History. These recommendations were adopted, the program to be put into operation as described. The chair then completed the committee assignments.

Several chapters presented resolutions. Beta recommended that the "*speeches and papers presented at the various meetings and special events of the Convention*" be printed in *The Historian*. Phi wanted the initiation fee reduced from \$7.50 to \$5. Chi that Phi Alpha Theta "*record itself as opposed to extraneous loyalty oaths as qualifications in the academic profession, and that it expresses itself as favoring scholarship as the prime requisite for the teaching profession.*" Alpha Beta urged that more papers by undergraduates be printed in *The Historian*. Alpha Nu wanted the subscription to *The Historian*, after the first two years, changed from two to one dollar. Beta Gamma urged that greater emphasis in History work be laid upon world-mindedness through two semesters of United States History (called erroneously by the formulators of the resolution as *American History*, since there are

twenty-one other American Nations having American History), two semesters in World History, with greater emphasis upon "*the Orient, Latin America and modern trends*," and that less emphasis be laid upon nationalism. Here we have a bit of propaganda for the U.N., even the UNESCO, looking toward a World State! Beta Delta invited the Fraternity to hold its next Convention in Puerto Rico with the cooperation of the two chapters there and the University of Puerto Rico and the Insular Government. Beta Epsilon recommended that the number of credits required for membership in Phi Alpha Theta of undergraduates be raised to include at least three credits in advanced courses in History of junior-senior grade. Beta Omicron wanted the "*basis for membership to be entirely scholarship and that there be no discrimination in the selection of qualified students as members.*" Could it be that one of the two men who religiously sucked the stem of a pipe in the sessions of the Convention was from Beta Omicron? Could be since *scholarship alone* was to be the sole qualification for membership in Phi Alpha Theta! *Why give any attention to the proprieties?!!* Beta Pi urged closer collaboration between Phi Alpha Theta and the A H A, by at least a session or a luncheon meeting. These resolutions were referred to the proper committees.

The first academic session was held on the afternoon of the 27th, with Historian White presiding. Four papers were read: one by Professor D. H. Thomas on: "A History of the Diplomatic Archives of Belgium;" another by Mr. James H. Haas on: "Disillusionment in the Nineteenth Century: A Study in Cultural Revolt;" one by Mr. S. Lyman Tyler on: "The Yuhta Indians Before 1680;" and a fourth by Professor Colin R. Lovell on: "Antecedents of British Labor Government Policies." The Banquet came on the same day, Mr. Hoffman presiding. President Crampton read the Presidential Address on: "The Myth of El Dorado." After the Banquet, Vice-President Watts, assisted by the national officers, exemplified "*the newly proposed and revised ritual*" in a formal initiation with Professor Shepperson as the candidate. Mr. Hoffman declared that "*the ritual was well received by the delegates.*" This was an event of the Convention that I regret I did not attend. I was told next morning by a delegate that the Ritual was a great improvement over the version originally sent to the chapters. I should hope so, for that version was crude, even insipid, and far inferior to the old Ritual.

The second session of the Convention came on December 28th with Vice-President Watts in the chair. The minutes of the previous session were not read, but the roll was called. Committee reports were continued. Professor Bowman continued the report of the Interim Committee on Constitution, recommending that Phi Alpha Theta be called a Society in the place of a Fraternity, the change to go into effect on January 1, 1953; the Convention to be dealt with in Article VIII instead of Article II; Article III to be amended by deleting the last thirteen words, and given the title: "National Officers," and becoming Article II; Article IV to be changed to Article III, on the National Council, and to read: "National Council and Allied Committees;" Article IV to be given a new section on: "National Journal and Editorial Board," providing for "*a national history journal*," to be called *The Historian*, with an Editorial Board of seven members and the Chief Editor, the members of the Board of seven members and the Chief Editor, the members of the Board to be nominated and elected at a business meeting of the Convention, the Convention to have the power to review the policies of the Editorial Board and the Chief Editor whenever it should consider such action necessary;

and Article VI to be amended to include a sustaining membership, as a help in expansion work.

The Interim Committee on Constitution proposed some particularly important and significant amendments to the By-Laws in view of my campaign for reforms. It recommended that Article II on: "Duties of the Vice-President" be changed to read: "*The Vice-President in the absence, disability, or death of the President shall become acting president, assuming the functions, duties and prerogatives of said office, such temporary services as acting president shall not disqualify said president for the next term....*" But why was not Section 5, Article III of the Constitution also amended, limiting the power of the National Council to fill vacancies in its membership to conform to the above change in the By-Laws? We have no assurance that Mr. Hoffman will not do, in the event of a vacancy in the presidency, exactly what he did in the Glanville Case? Nor do we have any assurance that an obedient Convention will not do, as did the Washington Convention, childishly approve of an act as in the Glanville Case! Significant, too, was the proposed amendment of Article IV of the By-Laws on: "Duties of the Historian," giving that officer "*access to the files of the Secretary-Treasurer at such times as he may deem necessary.*" And even more significant was the proposed amendment of Article XII on: "Membership" to read: "An undergraduate student shall have completed at least twelve hours in history - of which at least one course of junior-senior level be included in the twelve hours needed to qualify for membership...." This last recommendation was rejected by the Convention and ordered sent back to the Committee for further study. All the other recommendations were approved by the Convention. I considered these changes a personal victory for me, and a justification of my campaign against irregularities of national officers in the performance of duty and the need of putting an end to such shell-game tactics. There have been too many of our national officers, over the past twenty years, with a disregard for regularity, with a proneness for irregularity. This Committee did not, however, propose a change in the motto, asking for more time. One wonders what kind of a motto the Committee will bring forth anyway? What is the matter with the old motto: *Vox populi, vox dei*, "The Voice of the People is the Voice of God"?

The Auditing Committee, again not a committee of the Convention, as our fundamental law requires, nor had the books of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer been examined at the Convention, made its report. This was duly adopted. Counselor Cornish reported for the Chapter Activities Committee, recommending that every effort be made to induce the Wilson Company to include *The Historian* in its *Index*, setting aside a suitable amount of funds for secretarial work in the office of the Editor of *The Historian*, and urging members of the Fraternity to contribute articles to the journal. The report was duly adopted.

Vice-President Watts gave the report of the Committee on Ritual and Resolutions. He explained that the Ritual had been carefully revised. He gave a good example of muddled-headiness in the handling of the whole Ritual revision problem. His statement that the Washington Convention appointed the Interim Committee on the Revision of the Ritual - his own words were: "*appointed by the Washington Convention*" - is a bare-faced lie, as a reference to the *Minutes and Reports* of that Convention will prove.

What that conclave did, and in so doing approved the essence of Professor Watt's own language in his report as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Ritual, was to order the incoming President to appoint that committee. Not only that. The Washington Convention ordered the President to select the four members of the committee, in addition to the chairman, from the four areas into which it divided the country: The East, the South, the Midwest, and the West. I have already described the irregular manner in which this order of the Convention was carried out: President Crampton appointing *Vice-President Watts chairman and leaving to Chairman Watts to appoint the other four members of the committee.* And whom did Chairman Watts appoint on that Committee? We were never informed of his work in that respect. *All we know is that Professor Brundage sent out, in the name of the Ritual Committee, the proposed revised Ritual, over his own signature and without the names of the other members of the committee, if such there were.* This in spite of the fact that he used only about a fourth of the page for his message to the chapters. I know because I had a copy of that whole procedure. And what did the Chicago Convention do about the whole matter? Meekly acquiesced in the whole proceedings. *For grown-ups we do the strangest, the darndest puerile things!!!*

Professor Zimmerman concluded the report of the Scholarship Committee, recommending that two prizes be given each fall to undergraduate and graduate students for the best paper on an historical subject: the first to be awarded in 1952. The recommendation was adopted. Counselor Hoffman presented the report of the Expansion Committee, recommending: 1) that strenuous efforts be made to expand into the New England area among the institutions of the Ivy League, including all the state universities; 2) that efforts be made to get new chapters in areas where there is only one chapter; and 3) that there be no lowering of the qualifications for membership in the Fraternity. The report was adopted. The business session adjourned. Then came the academic session. The topic for the panel discussion or symposium was: "Opportunities in the Field of History." Dean Oscar Winter of the University of Indiana discussed: "Writing on the Subject of History and Its Rewards;" Professor W. Torrentine Jackson of the University of Chicago on: "Teaching and Research;" Historian White on: "Place of the Historian in the Government of Today;" and Professor Francis J. Bowman of the University of Southern California on: "Ninth International Congress of Historical Sciences." This was followed by a general discussion. I did not attend this session but a short time; and I fear I lost some very good things.

I went over to the Stevens Hotel to the A H A Headquarters to meet some old friends. I met quite by accident, for there had been no previous arrangement, Professor Duffy of Pi Chapter. He had come, he explained, to discuss certain matters in the administration of the affairs of Phi Alpha Theta. He said that he had not paid any attention to *The Phi Alpha Theta Observer*, aside from picking up a copy, until he learned about the furor the publication was causing among the members of the Convention. He then read very carefully every one of the nine articles. He said that I had been vitrolitic in my criticisms; but added quickly that the situation in the management of the affairs of the Fraternity since the Granville Convention demanded severe treatment. He was particularly critical of the past maneuverings of Mr. Hoffman believing that he had been guilty of chicanery in achieving his objectives. I was particularly pleased to have him use the word "*chicanery*." Up to that time

I had not used that word; but upon analysis I felt he was fortunate in the use of it. Mr. Hoffman has really resorted to chicanery and that deliberately to achieve a definite purpose.

Professor Duffy was particularly critical of Mr. Hoffman's handling of the financial affairs of the Fraternity. He was especially concerned with the manner in which the finances was handled in the Budget and Finance Committee at the Chicago Convention. Professor Duffy was a member of that Committee as was Professor Zimmerman. Professor Duffy held that Mr. Hoffman should have provided every member of the Convention with a mimeographed copy of his report, and that in plenty of time to allow of a very careful study of it. After all, he held the budget calling for some fifteen thousand dollars for one year or thirty thousand for the biennium is too large a sum of money to be handled in a hurried fashion and without a careful study. He heartily agreed with me, he said, that there should be a drastic reduction in the overhead expenses of the Fraternity. He opposed as stoutly as I did the large increase in the salary of Mr. Hoffman, believing, as I do, that we should use our funds, not in salaries, but in the achievement of the larger objectives of the Fraternity.

Professor Duffy felt, as I do, too, that Mr. Hoffman has been in office much too long. He should have had the good sense to have retired from office years ago. There were others in the Fraternity who deserved an opportunity to serve it in such an official manner. "New blood" is badly needed in the many offices Mr. Hoffman is holding down; and must be injected in the government of the Fraternity if it is to get from out the rut into which it has been placed. I was particularly interested in the way Professor Duffy was studying the role of Professor Zimmerman in the Committee. As well he might be, for it is this Elder Statesman who is responsible for the ever-enlarged role that Mr. Hoffman is playing in the management of the Fraternity. Professor Zimmerman began back in the Lexington Convention, a member of the rebel crew that took full charge of that conclave and continued his efforts in the Milwaukee, the New York and the Washington meetings of the Convention, as he did so religiously in the Chicago conclave, to give Mr. Hoffman such a large place in the government of the Fraternity. He was true to form, for it was he who had, as we have seen, begun the creation of the office of executive secretary-treasurer; and who has been nurturing that objective ever since. Professor Duffy believed, as I do, that the number of consecutive terms a national elective officer should be allowed to have should be limited to two, at most three terms of two years each. This should be particularly true of a departmental honor society where democracy should govern and not an inane principle of perpetuity such as Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman have so assiduously nurtured during the last twenty years. Professor Duffy also explained that the real reason why Pi Chapter had not openly urged reforms in the government of the Fraternity was the opposition of a powerful member of the Chapter to any kind of dissension either in the Chapter or in the Fraternity. He said that he would try in the Committee, and in the Convention, to work for the curtailment of overhead expenses, and most certainly in the salary of Mr. Hoffman. Poor fellow, he got nowhere with his endeavors. He did not realize the large hold Mr. Hoffman has on his large group of partisan supporters in the Fraternity.

I have not treated this conference with Professor Duffy, which was not

of my own choosing, confidentially. The conference was, indeed, most satisfactory to me. He is but one of many, and the number is by no means small, who see the need of fundamental reforms in the government of Phi Alpha Theta. Too many shrink from making an issue of the situation and to do something to bring about reforms. The lamentable thing about it all is that these members are making things worse by a slimy indifference. Some day they will come to realize that this malignant growth which I call *Hoffmanism* will prove disastrous to Phi Alpha Theta. After twenty years of wondering in the wilderness of opportunism and personalism, we in Phi Alpha Theta, too, need a change!!

The final session of the Convention came on December 29th with President Crampton in the chair. Counselor Cornish saw to it that the minutes of the previous session were not read; and that those of this session were also not read. Vice-President Watts made the report of the Ritual and Resolutions Committee. The most important part of this report, as noted earlier, was the Resolution from Chi Chapter against loyalty oaths and for intellectual competence as the major requirement for teaching. The Committee declined to recommend the adoption of the Resolution. The report was adopted. No sooner had this been done when Mr. Aronstein of Chi Chapter presented the resolution from the floor of the Convention. It was duly seconded, and a warm discussion ensued. I took particular pains to watch carefully the whole proceeding; but I took no part in the discussion since I was not a member of the conclave. The degree of feeling displayed by both sides was genuine; and far deeper than was evident on the surface. There was a good display of the vagaries of unseasoned youth, some members of the Convention seemed the victims of Communist zeal, for they displayed a crusading spirit of the members of Communism. The calm dispassionate report of the proceedings by Mr. Hoffman in the *Minutes and Reports* of the Convention in no way accurately describes the debate. Mr. Hoffman finally stepped into the irrational controversy by observing that the resolution was really a dual one; and moving the adoption of that part of it dealing with loyalty oaths. This motion was seconded and carried. Mr. Hoffman must thus take the larger blame for the adoption of such a controversial measure, for with his large following the victory was easy. Not a single one of the national officers lifted a finger either for or against the measure; not even Professor Watts who had refused to recommend the adoption of the dual resolution. The adoption of this Resolution by the Chicago Convention really places Phi Alpha Theta in the group of organizations which are justly considered as security risks if not outright subversive. Aside the merits or demerits of loyalty oaths, this was a matter in which Phi Alpha Theta should pursue a strictly neutral policy.

After a short recess, the Convention resumed its deliberations. Professor Zimmerman presented the report of the Budget and Finance Committee, just why was not explained. The budget was again just for one year, but with the unconstitutional provision that "*at the end of 1951 the National Council will review the condition of the Fraternity and at that time will adjust and adopt a new budget for the year 1952.*" Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman had finally achieved their main objective, *that of giving to the National Council the power to appropriate money.* That is, in peace times. This is a definite irregularity. There was no national emergency even though the international, as

well as the national situation was extremely critical. This, then, gave these two gentlemen the power they wanted, for the Langhursts and the Cornishes could be counted upon to support them at every turn. Through an irregularity the right of the Convention to audit the books of the executive secretary-treasurer had been taken from it. Through an irregularity the countersigning of the voucher checks by the president was done *en blanc*, as required by the provisions of the constitution. The budget called for receipts of \$14,250 for the year 1951, and expenditures in the same amount, including the salary of Mr. Hoffman for 1951 of \$2,500. Would it be raised to \$6,000.00 for the year 1952? The report was meekly adopted.

President Crampton presented the report of the Nominating Committee. The nominees were: Philip G. Hoffman and Worcester for Vice-President; Hoffman for Executive Secretary-Treasurer; White for Historian; Bauer, Cecil, Chamberlain, Duffy, Ragatz and Thomas for Counselors; and Case, Bowman, Friedel, Gipson, McCrane, for Editorial Board. Vice-President Watts would of course become President. Tellers were appointed and the votes cast. The Committee on Constitution then completed its report, recommending the name of the Advisory Board be changed to Advisory Committee, with constitutional status for that body; and that the Scholarship Committee be also given constitutional status. The report was adopted. The motto of the Fraternity, as I have explained, was to be given more study.

Provisions were then adopted for a possible national emergency: no meeting of the Convention until six months after such an emergency, or *following improvement of the international situation*, but meetings of the National Council and the National Executive Committee if necessary were to be held, otherwise "*the national council will conduct the business of the Fraternity.*" These measures were then adopted. Dr. Langhurst addressed the Convention on the "so-called charges in the 'Phi Alpha Theta Observer'; after which a vote of confidence in Mr. Hoffman was given by a chorus of approval and a unanimous vote." The Tellers made their report: President: Watts; Vice-President: Philip G. Hoffman; Secretary-Treasurer: Hoffman; Historian: White; Counselors: Bauer, Ragatz, and Thomas; and Editorial Board: Case, Bowman, and McCrane. President Crampton installed the new officers; and the Convention adjourned. The post-Convention meeting of the National Council was held at noon of the same day. I was informed by President Watts, whom I met shortly after the meeting, at the Headquarters of the A H A in the Stevens Hotel, *that the Council had decided to bury the Resolution Against Loyalty Oaths in the minutes of the Convention!* While I admitted that that was one way of solving the problem I still insisted that the act was distinctly irregular. The Council has no right to annul an act of the Convention. The members of the Council should have sensed the irrationality of the act adopting that Resolution and to have used their influence to prevent its adoption on the floor of the Convention. Having failed to do so, they must face the music.

The Convention Luncheon was held on December 28th with Counselor Cornish as toastmaster. Professor Dexter Perkins, a national honorary member of Phi Alpha Theta, who neglects to state that fact in his biographical sketch in *Who's Who in America*, spoke informally on: "The

Teaching of History." The Convention Breakfast came on December 29th with Vice-President Watts presiding. The speaker was Professor Conyers Read, past president of the A H A and a national honorary member of the Fraternity, narrating some of his experiences in search work in History. A number of other national honorary members were also present. Later in the day there was a sightseeing tour of the city.

For me the Chicago Convention, like the Washington Convention, had its compensations. Both struck at the very heart of criticisms and efforts at reforms in the government of Phi Alpha Theta. There was in both, of course, an irrational response to my criticisms coupled with a degree of partisanship which one would expect. And in both there was an utter misunderstanding of my real purpose. The Chicago Convention repudiated important irregularities in regard to the true nature and powers and prerogatives of the vice-president, and that officer restored to his original status. And a very laudable effort was made to raise the qualifications for undergraduate membership in the Fraternity. Even though it failed of adoption another effort can be made in the next Convention for the whole subject was referred back to the committee for further study. Then too, there were efforts made to achieve the larger objectives, such as the appropriation of a few pennies for prizes, scholarships, and fellowships over a period of years. This coming at the end of thirty years of the existence of Phi Alpha Theta was most certainly some achievement! And there were no efforts to curtail overhead operation expenses; or to achieve the other larger objectives. Such as the publication of a Directory of Phi Alpha Theta, a traveling fellowship or two, and the compilation of the Ordinances of the Fraternity. But there was ordered the preparation and publication of an *official* history of Phi Alpha Theta. All in all, we are making progress. Let us hope that fundamental changes in the government of the Fraternity, such as throwing wholly overboard the inane principle of *perpetuity*, not merely *continuity* in the two supposedly *non-competitive* offices: executive secretary-treasurer and historian.

PRESIDENT Watts began his Administration on December 29, 1950, under definitely disadvantageous circumstances. His mediocre endeavors in the revision of the Ritual was against him; and his role in the Convention had not enhanced his reputation. His most commendable work in the Convention was open opposition to the resolution presented Chi Chapter. He was the only national officer who realized the need of dealing with those controversial, opposing such an irrational piece of legislation, irrational because the whole question of loyalty oaths is one on which Phi Alpha Theta should maintain the strictest neutrality. Nor is Historian White's effort to ignore the act in *The Historian* any wiser. I lost no time in publicizing the Resolution, informing President Sproul of the University of California, the Board of Trustees of that institution, the California State Senate Committee on Un-American Activities, and the F B I, urging that a long-delayed and much-needed investigation into the activities of all honor societies as regards their patriotic duty in this critical hour. While I have no proof of subversive activities in any one of them, or by any of its members, I have reason to believe that there are in their membership those who are giving, at least through infantile ignorance, *aid and comfort* to our enemies within. We in Phi Alpha Theta need to look into this serious matter with greater care and intelligence than we are likely to give it. These *elite* in our academic world are whining far too much about

"*academic freedom*" for their own and for our country's good. Let them come forth and labor to save the country rather than blindly grope about for ideological illusory freedoms. We have a right to know where every individual stands in order to preserve *our way of life!*

My account of the Watts' Administration is, after all, a very brief one. My story ends chronologically at least on March 14, 1951; or only two and a half months after President Watts took office. While a good beginning had been made in expansion, not a single new chapter was installed in that brief period. The National Council elected on the Advisory Committee - the new name for the Advisory Board - : Crampton, Chairman, by constitutional provision, and Cornish, Hammond, Deutsch, Zimmerman. This is getting just a little monotonous: *Hammond, Deutsch, Zimmerman*. Why?!! Have we no other talent in Phi Alpha Theta, a group of *elites*? And Mr. Hoffman evolved a new scheme during the past biennium whereby he further entrenched himself in the government of the Fraternity: *he made himself the secretary* of important committees. He is secretary of the Interim Committee on the Revision of the Constitution; and now secretary of the Scholarship Committee. This last Committee having for its Chairman, Zimmerman; with Hammond as the third member. Again inanely monotonous!! Again, have we no other talent in Phi Alpha Theta? Is there anyone in his right mind which doubts for a moment that the administration of the affairs of Phi Alpha Theta would not have been vastly improved by using our vast reservoir of latent administrative ability?!!

In February of 1951, Mr. Hoffman again represented Phi Alpha Theta on the A C H S Council. I had alerted that Council to the further need of reforms in the government of the Fraternity, emphasizing the mania for spending our funds on overhead expenses. I also emphasized the irrational action of the last Convention in adopting the Resolution Against Loyalty Oaths; and the failure to put our efforts into the achievement of the larger objectives of the Fraternity. The Spring Number of *The Historian*, while it was not delivered to the members in this last lap of my story, came later, and needs comments. The report of the Chicago Convention, as was to be expected, was *biased and incomplete*. Not a word on the Resolution Against Loyalty Oaths, the giving to the vice-president his proper role in the government of the Fraternity, the inexcusable increase in Mr. Hoffman's salary, or the failure to compile and publish the Ordinances of the Fraternity. Nor about the honorarium for the Historian himself. An excellent example, by the way, of what we may expect of the official history of Phi Alpha Theta which he is to write. Offsetting this was the Presidential Address; and the most commendable new feature - a biographical sketch of the new officers, a feature which Professor Hammond should have adopted with the issuance of the first number of the journal. And it certainly must be continued.

Shortly after my return from the Chicago Convention I received a registered letter from Attorney Stanley V. Printz of Allentown, Pennsylvania, declaring that he "*was authorized to give*" me "*notice on behalf of the Phi Alpha Theta Fraternity*" about the use of the name "*Phi Alpha Theta*." The notice was to this effect: "*You are hereby notified to immediately cease and desist from any and all further unauthorized use of the name 'Phi Alpha Theta,' or anything that is deceptively similar to it. You will*

also put out no further publications of any kind in the name of this Fraternity, or upon the claim of authorization. Under no circumstances will you solicit or communicate with the several chapters of this Fraternity for any purpose whatsoever," and if I did so the Fraternity would be obliged to proceed against me "in the proper courts of California." I replied in kind, reminding him that attorneys-at-law do not issue injunctions, that only the proper courts could do that and that only after a fair and open trial by a competent court. I emphasized that I should welcome such a trial since the whole matter at issue needed an airing very badly. And that until such action by a court I would continue to issue publications whenever I should decide that it was necessary. And that I should most certainly continue to communicate with the chapters whenever I pleased, until estopped from doing so by a competent court. I have heard nothing more from him or the Fraternity on the matter.

As for the publication in question, *The Phi Alpha Theta Observer* was strictly a family affair. I sent only about four numbers of it through the mails; solicited no funds, offered none of it for sale, and made no move to subsidize it in any way. Technically, I was legally in error in the use of the name without authorization, for the name Phi Alpha Theta is duly protected having been legally incorporated and its name and symbols registered in the United States Patent Office. I reminded Attorney Printz that I was primarily responsible for both the incorporation and the registration. In the future, I shall probably use the title suggested by an attorney through a friend of mine: *The Cleven Commentator*. So far I have not issued any publication of proportions. Instead I am publishing this history, a copy of which will be sent to the Librarian of every College and University where there is a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta. Later I may issue volumes of *The Cleven Commentator*, at least when I decide such action necessary. I am in this business of campaigning for reform until such changes in the management of the affairs of Phi Alpha Theta are made, personal humiliation and insult notwithstanding. I am dedicated to an *Idea* not in making that *Idea* a flesh pot for anybody, certainly not for the payment of thousands of dollars in salary of an officer managing the affairs of a departmental honor society, and by one not even in academic work. When the members of Phi Alpha Theta shall have awakened to the larger meaning of the transformation in the government of the Fraternity and shall throw aside their slimy indifference, I shall be properly vindicated.

On the other hand, I am happy to record, as I am putting the finishing touches on this history, in the closing days of this biennium, that outwardly at least, Phi Alpha Theta continues to make progress. And why should it not do so? The Phi Alpha Theta Idea has been proved sound.

I have been severely censured for failing to praise Mr. Hoffman for what he has done for the Fraternity. I have not been chary in my praise of his services. An officer is expected to perform the duties of his office, and that strictly in accordance with law and practice. I have also been severely critical of his mania for irregularity. Mr. Hoffman has been a paid servant of Phi Alpha Theta ever since 1935. Every subsequent Convention has increased his salary; the Fraternity having paid him thousands of dollars, and furnished him salaried clerical help in addition. No one

but a stark idiot would expect a man to do all the chore work which he has taken upon himself without some kind of a salary. *My point is, of course, and I have made that point painfully clear in these pages, that there was never any really good reason why all that labor should have been centered in one office. The government of Phi Alpha Theta was founded on the principle of a diversified administrative system. This system was under attack by Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman ever since they became national officers; and for one main purpose: to develop a financial remunerative office in the secretariat. And that by and through irregularities. Why the inane system of three national counselors with practically nothing to do?!! We need to break up the multiple office which Mr. Hoffman has deliberately created for himself into its component parts: corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and treasurer; and to give to each of the three counselors the office of business manager of The Historian, the office of official representative on the A C H S Council, and secretaries of committees. And give to such of these several officers the paid clerical help absolutely needed. Phi Alpha Theta is, after all, a departmental honor society in the Social Sciences, not a big business. And with other obligations than that of merely providing a fat salary for its officers. Of course Messrs. Zimmerman and Hoffman are by no means alone to blame. The appeasers, the lovers of partisanship, and those with an attitude of slimy indifference are all to blame.*

I am pleased to note, in putting on the finishing touches on this History, that Phi Alpha Theta is enjoying a much deserved honor. The Spring 1952 Number of *The Historian* announced that our next Convention would be held in Puerto Rico. Since no official notices come to me any more, I wrote Dr. Enrique Lugo Silva of the University of Puerto Rico, Secretary-Treasurer of Beta Delta Chapter there, for particulars. He promptly wrote: "*The University of Puerto Rico has made all the necessary arrangements to cover the cost of air transport for the delegates to the 1952 National Convention from Miami, Florida, to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and return. Therefore, our 1952 conclave will meet in Puerto Rico from December 27th through December 31st. The meetings will be held in Condado Hotel and the University. We hope that you will be able to be with us at that time. Our Chapter, the Beta-Delta, is in charge of all the local arrangements, but other arrangements will be decided by the National Council.*" The other day I wrote an identical letter to Governor Luis Muñoz Marin, Chancellor Jaime Benitez of the University of Puerto Rico, and to Señora Feliza Rincon de Gautier, City Manager of San Juan, expressing my personal appreciation of what they had done to enable us to hold the Convention in the Island. I declared it was the most munificent gesture that had come to Phi Alpha Theta in the thirty-one and a half years of its existence. I expressed the hope that this would be a stimulant for the achievement of our larger objectives. As I conclude this History, therefore, the Convention is already in session. But the Founder is not among those present. He was not invited. Instead of doing the proper thing by him, since it is the Fraternity which he founded they are honoring, inviting him as the guest of honor, these good friends of the Fraternity in Puerto Rico, chose, wittingly or unwittingly, to become partisans in our family squabble, privy to something about which they do not know the real facts. This is strange conduct in a people descendants of the great Spanish people so justly famous for their generous hospitality!! One must conclude that the honor paid to Phi Alpha was more of a publicity stunt than

a tribute to our Fraternity. A mere bit of self advertising!! But in spite of the utter neglect of the Founder, I still state that the whole was a munificent gesture, the most generous that has come to Phi Alpha Theta since its founding; and one deserving of high praise. Some times even the best of peoples are slaves of cowardice!! "*Hasta luego, señoras y señores*". Next time let us hope that you will be true to yourselves and your rich heritage.

CONCLUSION

"... I intend to be my own historian...." "My concern tonight is with the historian's approach to the writing of American history...." (Guy Stanton Ford, "Some Suggestions to American Historians," Presidential Address to the A H A in 1937, A H R, January 1938, 43, 253-259).

"... a society without a history cannot understand what it is doing" (*Ibid.*, Quoted by Ford from Sir Gilbert Murray).

"... Historical scholarship without freedom to speak the truth about our national history would become here, as it has in many lands, a mute testimonial of the decay of all scholarship and all liberty" (*Ibid.*, 269).

This is the end of my story. I have told the family history of Phi Alpha Theta as I have known it. I regret that so much space has had to be given to the unpleasant. But for that I am only partially to blame.

If you want a more pleasing tale, turn to the official history of the Fraternity. Sugar-coating, white-washing, partisanship, and appeasement is not real history. History is a record of events and personalities as they were, not what we want them to be!! I have spoken out boldly as was my duty as well as a right. I honestly believe that Phi Alpha Theta has been directed into channels which will ultimately defeat the very purposes for which it was founded, and for the achievement of which it has a right to continue to exist. And what is even more to the point, we have helped intensify the opposition to all academic honor societies. We have given Phi Alpha Theta into the keeping of far too few individuals. Look at the record!! Professor Zimmerman served as secretary 1931-1939; president 1939-1941; chairman of the Advisory Board 1942-1947; member of that Board 1947 and 1949 to the present; and chairman of the Scholarship Committee, which position he boldly urged would be a permanent one, 1951 to the present. Mr. Hoffman served continuously as a national officer from 1931 to the present (treasurer 1931-1939; secretary-treasurer 1939-1948; and executive secretary-treasurer 1948 to the present); business manager of *The Historian* 1937 to the present; official representative of Phi Alpha Theta on the A C H S Council 1945 to the present; secretary of the I C R C 1949 to the present; and secretary of the S C 1951 to the present. Professor Hammond served as counselor 1933-1935; president 1935-1937; historian and editor of *The Historian* 1937-1946; chairman of the Advisory Board 1947-1949; member of that Board 1949 to the present; and member of the S C 1951 to the present. Professor Deutsch served as counselor 1939-1941; president 1941-1946; and member of the Advisory Board 1947 to the present. Only one other man has served even longer: the author of this history: Honorary President 1924 to the present, and member of the National Council in that capacity 1924-1948. But then he is the Founder, yes, the sole Founder of Phi Alpha Theta!!