

THE TROJAN SIG—1926-27

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EDITORIAL

Continuing along the lines of our predecessors in Alpha Upsilon, we of the active chapter will again strive to present the history of our chapter for the past year. The effort of this issue of *The Trojan Sig* will be to enumerate in a lasting manner the accomplishments of our brothers in Sigma Chi, and especially to make public our appreciation of the deeds of those Seniors of Alpha Upsilon who will shortly leave our circle.

Much has been accomplished during the last scholastic year, but the deeds of the past must serve as an inspiration to future attainments by the men of Alpha Upsilon. There are also many permanent benefits which have been received by the chapter group during the current year, benefits it is difficult indeed to worthily portray in the pages of this booklet. The spirit of friendliness and cooperation which inspires and spurs the wearers of the White Cross to their highest conquests is one which each man of Alpha Upsilon feels, but cannot express.

ALUMNI

The outstanding achievement in the annals of the Alpha Upsilon Chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity is the new SIGMA CHI HOUSE. It is the fruit of brains that were trained at the University of Southern California, energy inspired by love for Sigma Chi, and persistence known as "Trojan Fight."

For historic purposes it is well that the story of how it was done be preserved. For many years Harry Lee Martin was the Custodian of the House Fund. In 1920, a corporation was formed by the following Sigma Chis: Harry Lee Martin, President; Clarence B. Hersey, Vice-President; A. P. Thomson, Secretary; Robert A. Honner, Treasurer; George H. Prindle, Jr., Director; Paul B. Fletcher, Director, and John Paul Beale, Consul, Alpha Upsilon Chapter, 1920, Ex Officio Director. In May, 1924, Ralph J. Bell succeeded Robert A. Honner as Treasurer, the latter becoming Director, and in 1925 Donald B. Ayres succeeded A. P. Thomson as Secretary, the latter becoming Director. In December, 1924, Brother Bell, with the approval of the Directors, located and negotiated the purchase of the building site. Brother Craig Nason, who was Consul during 1925, conceived the idea of asking the fathers, mothers, other relatives and friends of Sigma Chi men active at that time to underwrite a substantial sum of bonds. Brother Martin agreed it was a good idea, and under his direction about \$15,000.00 worth of the bonds were subscribed at a meeting that soon followed in December, 1926. In the meantime, Brother Arthur C. Munson had been given the contract as architect and by May, 1926, following a series of meetings with the officers and directors of Sigma Chi House, he completed the plans, which were duly accepted. Also during the spring of 1926, Brother Harry Lee Martin had completed the financing necessary to erect and furnish the new SIGMA CHI HOUSE. No other man in Los Angeles could have accomplished what Brother Martin did when he secured the first loan of \$70,000.00 and sold over one-half of the \$60,000.00 issue of Sigma Chi House Bonds. With the financing completed, the general building contract was given to J. S. Metzger & Son and the

steam shovels commenced their excavating on August 30, 1926. Brother Frank Kranz soon had several truck loads of lumber on the job, and Brother Hugh Fillmore delivered many thousands of Stonetile, both brothers furnishing these materials at operating cost. The new home was completed March 19, 1927, the date the Chapter Hearthstone was laid.

OUR NEW CHAPTER HOME

At last the life-long dream of Alpha Upsilon's men, whether they be knights of the business world, or guardians of the cross in the sacred domain of the active chapter, has come to be a reality. Today we are residents of our own Sig home, a home as grand and splendid as any that ever afforded shelter to an American fraternity group. A home that is an eternal monument on the campus of our university, and a continuous source of pride and inspiration to the men who tread its halls. A home that is a glorious tribute to Sigma Chi and Sigma Chi ideals.

Built of the finest in concrete and tile, sturdy as the rocks upon which its foundation rests, it raises its massive walls as an emblem of Sigma Chi courage and integrity. Costing upward of \$135,000.00, and representing the result of individual and collective efforts, the Alpha Upsilon chapter house today stands as a tribute to the alumni and actives of Sigma Chi, who have unceasingly labored that their dream might one day be accomplished.

The house is constructed of stone tile, joined together with wood and steel, and finished on the exterior with a coating of monolith. Spacious windows welcome the California sunbeams—windows that are crossed and recrossed in front with bars of sturdy wrought iron. The tile roof slopes on every side, contrasting the beauty of its cardinal color with the blended brown of the building's sides. A front door, huge in size, but majestic and sincere under the curve of its entry, affords the main entrance to the edifice. On the walls of the exterior entrance are indelibly engraved the emblems of Sigma Chi, and two Trojan heads, gazing in the direction of the campus. On entering the portals of the abode is a cloister stretching its glistening tile floor to the very gateway of the chapel. On high the ceiling is arched like a cathedral in Europe, or a mission in California, lending the air of friendliness, or spirituality. On the right is a library, comfortable and conducive to study; on the left is the great hall, broad and long, a gathering place for life-long friends, a dancing room where enchanted couples will find ecstasy to the melody of the saxophone, a resting place for hearts worn with the toil of life, or for lazy conversations before the flame-licked fireplace, on the mantle of which is carved forever the letters of Our fraternity. Still further to the left is the dining room, with its great beamed ceiling, and colorful decorations. There are separate quarters for the servants behind the kitchen; there is a billiard room, a card room, a trophy room—everything that is needed in a fraternity home. Again there is the chapel with its indirect lighting, its soundproof character, its seven folding doors, each symbolically painted; its permanent altar, and its circle of easy chairs; also the challenging vestibule with its shaded lights of blue and gold. On the second floor are the bedrooms. One for every two brothers, with separate closets, individual study tables, and built-in dressers. The sleeping porch with its rows of neatly covered beds; the bathroom, tiled throughout, lined with showers. Everything is there, from the smallest chair to the tiled stairway, from basement to chimney; everything that architect could design or contractor build for the convenience of the men of Alpha Upsilon. So it is that to the alumni of Sigma Chi, to Harry Lee Martin, and Percy Thomson, and Arthur Munson, and all the rest who helped to raise this building of ours, we extend our sincerest gratitude and utmost appreciation of the efforts made in our behalf.

THE ACTIVE CHAPTER, 1927



From Left to Right: Top Row—Tappaan, Burton, Kendall, Felton, Badgro, Corlett, Failor, Trapp, LeFever, Stock, Moses, von KleinSmid, Harkness, Hibbs, Norton, Roodhouse, McCabe, Nettelman, Kranz, Ramser, McClung, Selby, Anthony.

From Left to Right: Bottom Row—Williams, McCaslin, Holstein, Lloyd, Cowan, W. McCune, McQuarrie, Elmquist, Miller, Elliott, Kaer, Cravath, Behrendt, Coffman, Noble, Nason, J. McCune, Bierlich, Nibley, Houseman, Edgerton, Orbesen, Hubbard, Simpson, Kuning, Marvin.

HARRY LEE MARTIN "EXEMPLAR MEDAL"



As a precedent cherished and handed down from the past, the chapter each year voices its selection of the man who possesses to the fullest extent the spirit of Sigma Chi during the year. As a crowning glory the "Exemplar," of the spirit of Chi, is presented with the Harry Lee Martin "Exemplar" Medal, the gift of this most noted member of the chapter's alumni. Perhaps to the presentation of this medal can be attributed a great portion of the unexcelled spirit of Alpha Upsilon.

The man chosen this year is Al Behrendt, and to him goes the Medal, as possessor of the finest spirit of Sigma Chi. Because of his qualities of leadership, of straightforwardness, of never faltering from the principles taught by Sigma Chi, Al Behrendt has rightfully merited the honor bestowed upon him by the active chapter. His proven friendship for every member of the group, his personality, his honesty and courage, have so implanted themselves in the hearts of his brothers of Sigma Chi that he has rightfully been called the most popular man in the chapter.

Alpha Upsilon is proud of the seven men to whom the "Exemplar" Medal has been presented—Ralph Bell, '21; Carlyle Scott, '22; Robert L. Reynolds, '23; Gordon T. Campbell, '24; Chester F. Dolley, '25; Craig Nason, '26, and R. Allen Behrendt, '27.

THE NEW INITIATES

The thirteen pledges who received their buttons in September, underwent their Goat Week and final initiation early in March. Charles Borah of Arizona, the first to be given the Cross, is running the 100 and 220 for his Alma Mater at the present time, and is doing so in such record-breaking time that he has yet to be closely pushed in competition. His home is in Tucson, and he is attending classes at the College of Dentistry. Jack Corlett, of Sierra Madre, Cal., was formerly a pledge at the University of Illinois, and is a high man in scholarship and interested in all phases of campus activities. Cassel Burton, who hails from Pasadena Military Academy, was active in high school in basketball and track. His position is center, and Brother Burton's race is the half-mile. John Lehnert was formerly of Hollywood High. His principal branches of athletics are football and basketball, and while at the university he won his limit of numerals as tackle on the Freshman football squad and captain of the Freshman basketball team. Donald Moses, from Los Angeles High, was considered the finest all-around athlete in that institution. While there he held the position of captain of the football team. At the university he is an outstanding man in football. Frank Anthony, of Venice High, won his numeral in football. He likewise is interested in basketball. George von KleinSmid is showing his ability in the high jump. Bela Kendall has the honor of being the greatest swimmer at the university. He won the interfraternity swimming meet for the chapter unassisted, taking first place in every event. He also holds the Pacific Coast record in the 220-yard free style. Francis Norton, from Santa Ana, has football for his major sport. "Bud" Breer, the class Valentino, is showing a great deal of class in basketball. "Wes" Houseman is interested in boxing, winning the bantam title in the all-university tournament. Fred Felton takes part in debating and is on the rifle team. Harvey Harkness has made his reputation in gymnastics.