



Harry Lee Martin, Alpha Upsilon (Southern California) 1896, is one of the outstanding figures in the business and financial circles of Los Angeles, and withal finds unlimited time for promoting the welfare of Sigma Chi and particularly Alpha Upsilon Chapter.

Brother Martin was born in Waco, Texas, on January 24, 1875, the son of William Purnell Martin and Mildred Emily Walker, and is proud of the fact that six of his great-great-grandfathers served in the Revolutionary Army.

He came to Los Angeles with his parents in December, 1886, and in 1890 entered the preparatory school of the University of Southern California. In 1896 he graduated from Southern California with the degree of A.B. "cum laude" and was valedictorian of his class. While in college Brother Martin was active in athletics, being



HARRY LEE MARTIN, Southern California 1896, well known standby of Alpha Upsilon Chapter.

catcher and shortstop on the baseball team, halfback on the football team, and was a captain of both teams and also a member of and manager of the track team. After graduation he was in the

employ of his uncle, Isaac T. Martin, in the furniture business until 1899, when he engaged in business for himself with Lewis R. Garrett, another Sig, as owners of the Union Iron Works, an insolvent concern. Martin says his cash capital was 15 cents, but in a year they sold out with \$1,200 profit, and that company is now one of the substantial industries of Los Angeles.

In 1901 Brother Martin persuaded Daisie Elizabeth Cook to don the White Cross and assume his name, and their home is ever open to Sigma Chis. They have three daughters, Virginia Lee, now Mrs. Walker Havens of Piedmont, Calif.; Winifred Louise, wife of Edwin C. Horrell, well known as "Babe," the All-American center of the California team of 1924, and Betty Lou, still at home.

Advancing steadily from his initial success in the Union Iron Works, Brother Martin has achieved an enviable position among the business men of Los Angeles.

He is president of the District Bond Company, of the Syndicate Company, of the Argentea Mining Company and of the Centinela Land Company; is also a vice-president and director of the Union Rock Company, the largest single enterprise of its kind in the world; vice-president and director of the Thieme Hosiery Company; secretary and general manager of the Inglewood Water Company; a director of the Standard Mortgage Company, the Mortgage Guarantee Company, Bond Investment Company, the Lake Arrowhead Company, and the Los Angeles Morris Plan Company.

On February 7, 1927, he was elected senior vice-president and executive officer of the Pacific Mortgage Guarantee Company, a corporation owned by three of the principal banking corporations of Los Angeles, the First National, the Merchants National and the California. This corporation has an initial capital of \$1,000,000 and within a year will have total resources of over \$20,000,000, and will become one of the largest institutions of the southwest. He is a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner and a member of the California and Jonathan Clubs of Los Angeles.

Notwithstanding his varied and responsible business interests, Brother Martin never fails in his devotion to his first love, the White Cross of Sigma Chi. In his own words, "In college the most interesting thing there was my associates in the Sigma Chi Fra-

ternity. Since graduation, I find the most interesting aftermath was and is the Sigma Chi associations. I find in the Fraternity very many fine men and I am grateful to the Fraternity for it gives me the opportunity to get acquainted with young men."

This devotion he has expressed in the most practical and invaluable manner, for since the organization of Sigma Chi House, a corporation formed in 1920 to build a chapter house for Alpha Upsilon, he has been the president, and during the past year has formulated and carried to success the plan whereby Alpha Upsilon is now housed in one of the most beautiful and convenient chapter homes in the country, and costing, with furnishings, in excess of \$110,000, of which cost Brother Martin is the largest individual contributor. He has been president of the Los Angeles Alumni Chapter and is a Life Loyal Sig.

Throughout his success on the material side of life, Brother Martin has never lost faith in the high aims and ideals of the Fraternity, as is well illustrated by his endowment of the exemplar medal given each year to the member of Alpha Upsilon who is voted by the chapter as best exemplifying "the Sigma Chi spirit." Again, at the last alumni dinner, he led in raising a fund to provide a permanent cup upon which is engraved each year the name of the member of Alpha Upsilon maintaining the highest scholarship during the college year, and a smaller cup of similar design that becomes the property of such member.

Well may we call Harry Lee Martin a significant Sig and award him an honorable place in Our Hall of Fame.

Flowing Language

"How is your son getting on at college?"

"He must be doing pretty well in languages. I have just paid for three courses—\$10 for Latin, \$10 for Greek and \$100 for Scotch."

A Suggestion

Up to the time of going to press, jazz orchestras have overlooked the steam riveter.—*The Theta News*.