

# The Beaver Sig

ALPHA THETA OF SIGMA CHI

Volume 3

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Number 1

## A Message to Members of Class of '46

### Timely Hints on Fraternity Rushing

WHEN you members of the class of '46 read this you will probably be in the midst of "rush week." This is undoubtedly the only such week you will ever experience, so make the most of it. Keep your eyes and ears open and your pocketbook closed. The party is on us fraternities, and we'll break our necks to see that you're entertained. Do not for a minute, however, lose sight of the significance of "rush week." It means a lot to the fraternities and it means a lot to you. Naturally each fraternity wants to get the best men, and, of course, you want to join the fraternity in which you will be the happiest for the next four years—the fraternity that will mean the most to you in regard to fellowship and inspiration.

### See More Than One

As far as you are concerned, the point is not merely to join a fraternity, but to join the right fraternity, so make sure that you have seen all of them that you want to see. Any good fraternity will be glad to arrange a date for you with another fraternity you might wish to visit. Do not let yourself be rushed into anything, for if a fraternity wants you they will wait for you no matter what they say.

### Judge the House

In judging a fraternity there are several things to be considered, the most important of which is whether you like the fellows or not. Make sure that you meet every man in the house—any fraternity has a few good boys, but when you join a fraternity you are going to have to live with all of its members. Then there are other considerations such as national standing and local standing. A strong national fraternity does not necessarily have a strong chapter at Tech. National standing is very important, however. Ask any Sigma Chi and he will enumerate the advantages of belonging to

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GREAT COURT VIEW OF ENTRANCE TO TECH

## Frosh Camp Site Changed

### Shortage of Equipment Basic Reason

DUE to the fact that the army must use all of its equipment for military purposes, the Technology Christian Association was unable to borrow tents and cots from that source for freshman camp this year. For this reason the camp will be held on the Institute's campus.

The program being planned by chairman Sid Atlas is a fine one, promising two days of activity and fun with a wonderful introduction to Tech traditions, upperclassmen, and faculty members. All freshmen should benefit by these contacts. The tentative dates for the camp have been set for September 26th and 27th. These will be announced officially to the freshmen by mail.

In cooperation with the Technology Christian Association the Interfraternity Conference has requested that fraternity rushing be suspended during the afternoon of those two days for freshmen wishing to attend camp. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the group.

## No "Hell Week" System Works Well

### Period of Silence Substituted for "Hell Week"

AGAIN last year paddles and all vestiges of the old fashioned "Hell Week" were omitted in pledge training and the cooperation received was proof of the merit of the system. Probation week was substituted for "Hell Week."

Immediately on their return from mid-year vacations before the beginning of the new term, pledges were informed of their obligations in connection with probation week. No paddles were in evidence. Silence was maintained among the pledges at all times, except when they were in the room set aside for their occupancy during the silence period. The attitude of the chapter was serious and suggested nothing of the horse play connected with former "Hell Weeks." The pledges were re-

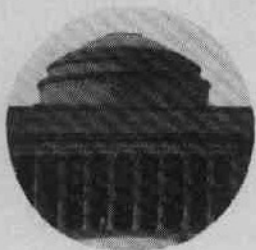
quired to pass an examination covering their pledge studies of the previous term. They were also required to write a paper on some serious thought provoking subject appropriate to their completion of pledging and initiation.

When initiation took place it was evident that probation week had proven a success. The attitude of the pledge class was respectful and serious, and the new brothers grasped the significance and beauty of the ritualistic ceremonies in a most beneficial manner.

## Fraternity Men Lead in Scholarship

FRATERNITY men for the 12th consecutive year, lead the non-fraternity men in scholarship. This was the finding of a survey covering institutions of higher learning which has recently been released by the National Interfraternity Conference.

This fact was established in a survey conducted by Dr. Alan E. Duerr, of the Manufacturers Trust Company of New York, covering 60 national fraternities in 180 colleges having 2,389 chapters and 75,000 undergraduate members.



ALPHA THETA CHAPTER  
OF SIGMA CHI

at the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY

William B. Scott, '44 Editor

## To The First War Class

A NEW school year is about to begin. The first War Class will soon enter the Institute. It will find a serious minded Student Body determined to prepare itself for active participation in the problems of war or peace, fully aware of the need for intense activity and steady application. Never before has there been a greater demand for the creativeness and the resourcefulness of the engineer than in present emergency.

Tech is a fountain of scientific information and a source of new ideas. Defense research and war preparations are absorbing the entire resources of the Institute. We should be proud of the prominent part our school is playing in so vital a program. Those of us who came to Tech a year or more ago with some misgivings, have found that our decision to pursue technical courses to be sound and wise. Our new comrades in the class of '46 will likewise find that time will prove how wise they were in their decisions to trust their training to M. I. T.

This is said to be an Engineer's War. That statement is true. It will also be an Engineer's Peace. Most certainly it will be the Engineer's problem to devise means of ending the present conflict and to rebuild a new world.

Nobody knows what lies ahead of us after graduation—War or Peace. We do know that there are now more problems requiring solution than at any other time in history. We know that it is essential for us to develop creative minds if we are to play our parts well in the coming years. We know that the better we are prepared,

## Sigma Chi House Gains Added Luster

### Improvements Are Plentiful

IN order to keep the chapter house in top shape physically at all times, 532 Beacon Street is in the process of undergoing its annual summer facelifting under the direction of Anderson and Beckwith, Architects.

In the music-room several new chairs are being added and the old grand piano is being replaced with a new model of smaller size. To still further the musical enjoyment of the brothers, the Radio-Victrola will get a complete going over and a fresh coat of varnish.

### Air Precautions Heeded

In the game room the ping pong table is being repaired and the floor is being refinished. Also in order that the house can comply with regulations during air raid blackouts, the game room is being equipped with black out curtains. Thus, as far as the axis is concerned all is dark, but learning and the evening's homework can go on unhindered.

To brighten up the kitchen and to help the cook prepare even more delightful meals, a new sink has been installed and all of the pantry shelves, chests, and doors have been painted.

Though minor in cost the addition of new hinges and an adjustor to the trap door in the ceiling of the dorm can well be called a major improvement, for any of us can recall an uneasy moment on the roof struggling with a fifty pound hatch in an eighty mile an hour gale with the rain coming down in a fashion peculiar to Boston which well reminds one of being held upside down in a rain barrel.

### Organ Removed

Since the organ has long since become more of a liability than an asset, it is being removed and a phone room will be put in its place. Facilities such as these should increase the number of Wellesley calls three fold.

All in all nearly \$1400 is being spent, and the results will be a pleasant surprise for the brothers who have been out of the house all summer.

the greater our value to the country and to the coming generation. The future is a great adventure, particularly for the Engineer.

It is a pleasure to welcome the first war class to a great Institution and to wish you success in your chosen Field.

## Sigs Busy in Institute Activities

### Four Men On the Institute Committee

ONCE again we find Alpha Theta tops in activities. At present, we have four men on the Institute Committee, the student governing body of the school. Frank Briber '43 is treasurer of the committee and budget chairman, while Bud Meissner '43 is general manager of Technique, John Gardner '43 is Chairman of the Student Faculty Committee, and Bob Plachta '44 is a representative of the class of '44. This gives Sigma Chi twice as many Institute Committee members as any other house on the campus.

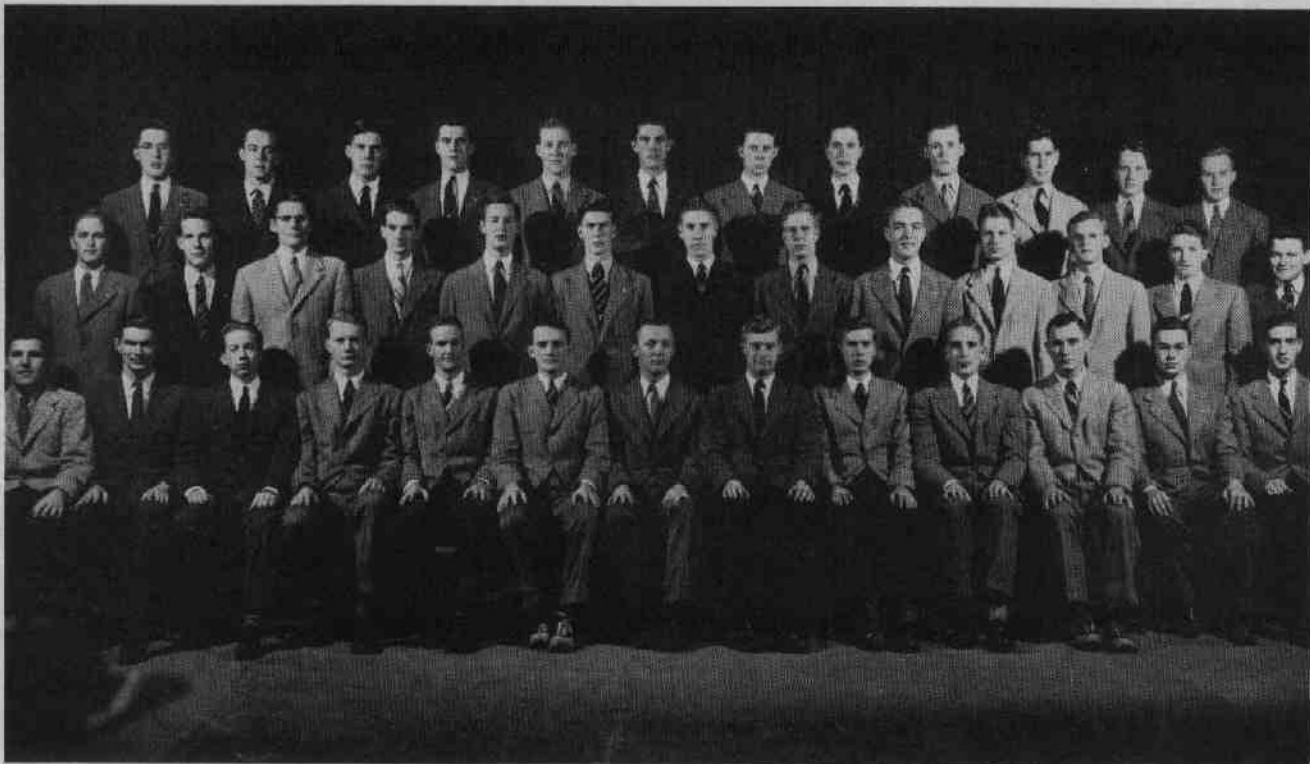
### Technique Big Attraction

Technique, however, holds the interest of the Sigs. With Brother Meissner in the directing chair, we have also Howard McJunkin '43 as Editor-in-chief. On the Junior Board of the yearbook are Bill Scott '44, organizations editor; Bill Schlegel '44, advertising manager; Bill Clark '44, associate editor; Dixon Ward '44, circulation manager; and Steve Knight '44, processing editor. Milo Wilson '45, Ted Davis '45, and J. D. Stout '45 are on the Sophomore Board. Helping publish the Tech Engineering News are Jim McKelvey '44 and Tom Bell '45 assistant advertising managers and Maxcy Daggett '44 assistant treasurer. Brother Gardner is President of the Beaver Key Society, which organizes intermural athletics competitions; and Courtney Reeves '44 has a junior position in the treasury department of the Athletic Association.

As for athletics, we have Bill Clark on the varsity wrestling team, and Russ Foust, who has set several records, on the freshmen swimming team. Tom Bell and Ted Davis rowed on the frosh crews, and George Dundon was on the freshmen rifle team. Bill Schlegel and Bob Plachta are on the varsity golf team.

In honorary societies, we have Brothers Briber and Gardner members of Alpha Chi Sigma, chemical fraternity; and in Beaver Key we have Brothers Briber, McJunkin, Scott, Gardner, and Reeves. Brother Bell is a member of the Quadrangle Club, sophomore honorary.





*Top Row:* Milo Wilson, Maxcy Daggett, Howard McJunkin, Ted Davis, Wallace Manson, J. D. Stout, Bill Horton, Ben Parran, Jim McKelvey, Bob Domin, Jack Gardner, Bill Scott.

*Middle Row:* Frank Kennett, Bill Ritchie, Tom Bell, Steve Knight, Whitney Newton, Russ Foust, Bob Breck, Frank Briber, Gordon Shingleton, Bob Plachta, Wallace Dunlop, Courtney Reeves, Carl Bonham.

*First Row:* Dixon Ward, Ralph Garrett, Bud Meissner, Bradford Darling, Pete Sibley, Halsey Jones, Bransen Smith, Jacques Shaw, Jack Finger, Gordon Neumann, Lindsay Fletcher, George Dundon, Bill Schlegel.

## Sigs Enjoy Hospitality of Hotel Fensgate

### Arki-Yavensonne is Grand

For all the brothers who have been away from the Institute for quite some time it might be well to preface this writing with a statement that the chapter house is now situated next door to the Hotel Fensgate and that this swanky hotel is managed by one Arki-Yavensonne—gentleman and knower of people and handler of men supreme. As is his custom, he again asked the entire chapter over for a steak dinner late in December, which would have made even the most well fed Mid-Westerner sit up and take notice. And to further liven up the afternoon he invited several of his visitors and friends who were currently playing in stage productions in Boston to join us. Among them were Lyle Talbot, Eric Von Stroheim, and Allen Deinhardt, plus several of the better looking young ladies of the chorus in "Separate Rooms," Deinhardt's current success.

## Chapter Elections

As per custom the chapter elections were held on May 11, 1942, and after the smoke cleared away, the annotator found in his minutes a list of really fine officers. To head this group the chapter picked Allen Kirkpatrick for the second successive semester. Allen's election was a unanimous one, and well should have been in view of his record for expert leadership and untiring service to the chapter and the fraternity.

The complete officers list follows:

*Consul*—Allen Kirkpatrick, '43  
*Pro-consul*—Howard McJunkin, '43  
*Annotator*—Whitney Newton, '43  
*Tribune*—Maxcy Daggett, '44  
*Associate Editor*—William Scott, '44  
*Historian*—James McKelvey, '44  
*Magister*—Howard Bollinger, '43  
*Kuston*—Rowland Vance, '45  
*Steward*—William Schlegel, '44  
*House Manager*—Maxcy Daggett, '44  
*Social Chairman*—Robert Plachta, '44  
*I.F.C. Representative*—J. D. Stout, '45  
*Pledge Trainor*—Robert Meissner, '43  
*Athletic Chair.*—Theodore Davis, '45  
*Rushing Chairman*—Robert Breck, '44

## A Message to Members of Class of '46

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a strong national fraternity. Couldn't help putting in just one plug, but now let's get impartial again. Local standing of a fraternity can be measured for the most part how it stacks up scholastically, in activities, socially, and athletically. Many fraternities rank high in one or two of these things, but the thing to look for is a fraternity which stands high in all four.

### Many Advantages

There is more to be gained from a fraternity than you might think, for a good fraternity is more than just a place to live for four years—it has principles and ideals by which its members profit in development of character and personality. For this reason, among others, choosing a fraternity is a big step in anyone's life, so take your time and avoid snap decisions.

This bit of advice is given to you members of the class of '46 in all sincerity with the hopes that it might help you in your task of choosing a fraternity. Hope you profit by it.

## Social Season In Review

### Variety of Parties Scheduled

ALTHOUGH the gas supply has been cut down considerably, Mr. Henderson has not issued any ration books for the local college gals, and from all latest reports, this coming year will be tops socially for the party boys of Sigma Chi.

The annual Tea Dance during Rush Week will start off the season with a bang, featuring probably the popular music of Don Gabon and his Boys and starring many of the most beautiful lovelies at Wellesley. This should prove to be a solid affair, and many of the incoming freshmen will have a chance to start off on the right foot with the choice feminine talent.

### Informal Parties Popular

Many of the fellows have expressed their desire for more informal parties in the old Sigma Chi House, and your Social Chairman has been working day and night to feature some imaginative ideas. On big week-ends we plan to inaugurate the now extinct house party system, and steps have been taken toward working on this in co-operation with the three adjoining houses.

Our Fall Formal has been set up tentatively as one of the openers of the coming social season, and it should go off with a bang to start the year off right.

### Santa to Return Christmas

The big school dances such as Field Day, Junior Prom, and Interfraternity Conference all appear to be coming off in the Fall; the Sigs will temporarily stop activities just before Christmas vacation with their annual Christmas Party, featuring Sonny Dunlop as "Euripedes Q. Claus."



SIGS ENJOY CHATTING BETWEEN COURSES



DIXIE WARDS PLAYS THE BOOGIE BEAT

After exams the boys will throw some other informals, and eventually will burst forth with a repeat performance of last year's solid Sigma Chi Spring Frolic.

The whole season stacks up pretty well, and should bring oodles of trade to the laughingly popular "Green Horror" and "Red Menace," alternate means of reaching that port in any storm, Wellesley College for Women.

## Seniors Find Time for Intermural Competition

Sizing up the situation of senior extra curricular fun for this summer, Sigma Chi John Gardner, President of the Beaver Key Society, called a meeting of said organization and scheduled a baseball and tennis tourney among the fraternity, dormitory, and commuting groups. Due to the depleted numbers in each group on the summer campus, the residential groups were paired to form teams instead of having individual teams.

The Sigs and Kappa Sigs were cast together, and in a hard fought baseball battle they opened the season by knocking over the Student House to the tune of 19-3. The glory of this victory was somewhat dampened by defeat in the seventh inning of the game with the Theta Chi-ATO outfit. This game came to a close at nine p. m. at which time an infielder had as good a chance at catching a grounder as a Commando has of getting directions from a German sentry. In any case the game was real fun and in spite of this defeat we have high hopes for a place in the upper league bracket at the end of the summer.