

# Merry Christmas



The Cornell Chapter  
Wishes You Happiness and Good Cheer

Alpha Delta Phi 1938

## THE ALPHA DELT

Published five times during the school year by Cornell University chapter of Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity for the benefit of its alumni members and friends.

W. Archer Speers '40

Editor

News contributions and communications to the editor are solicited at all times. Direct correspondence to the editor, Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, 777 Stewart Ave., Ithaca, N. Y.

### Faculty Members Attend Chapter Carol Sing

Suggestions by undergraduates to alter the usual style of Christmas parties resulted in a delightful Carol Sing at the house Sunday night preceding Christmas to which each member of the chapter invited a faculty member and wife.

Singing took place around the piano after 8:00; open fires and decorations added to the atmosphere of the gathering that left an impression upon those attending. It is hoped that such pre-holiday sings may become a tradition at the AD house.

### Musical Clubs Present Holiday Shows in East

Alumni in five eastern cities will have the opportunity of hearing the Cornell Musical clubs present the annual holiday concerts, the show this year called "Shifting Scenes" and is said to resemble the New York hit "Our Town."

Itinerary includes performances in Albany, December 26; Philadelphia, at the Bellevue-Stratford, December 27; Harrisburg, December 28; Hotel duPont, Wilmington, Del., December 29; and in Baltimore, December 30. As usual the performances will contain several of Cornell's most familiar songs.

Three Alpha Deltas are members of the Glee Club—William Robinson '40, Julian Smith '41, pianist, and Jonathan Bullard '42. Bullard plans to make the trip.

### Formal Pledging Held

The annual formal pledge ceremony was held at the house December 1 when each freshman was individually welcomed by the chapter to pledgeship in the Alpha Delta Phi.

### The Chapter Expresses Words of Thanks

Undergraduates gratefully acknowledge some thoughtful gifts made to the chapter recently, six of which concern alumni. Five men sent donations for expenses connected with Homecoming weekend: namely, W. Guthrie Packard '11, Woos Hooker '21, R. R. Machlett '22, T. H. Booth '25, Paul Rice '25.

Mrs. W. F. Peterson, Baltimore, wife of W. F. Peterson '11, presented the chapter with a splendid chair for the game room. Bob Reynolds '40 gave two lamps which are also placed in the game room.

### Alpha Delt Fire of '29

Following is the first instalment of an essay on the 1929 Alpha Delt fire written by John Eells Kelly '31 and read in chapter meeting as his Senior Essay. The paper was recently pulled from the archives.—Ed.

It was a brisk, winter's evening of February 11, 1929. The chapter was snugly esconed in the brick mansion that had been its home for some 26 years. Dinner was over and the time had come to climb the stairs to the card table or to the library.

An attitude of depression prevailed among the undergraduates for Junior Week had just ended, and the next day would bring the tedium of a new semester. Relaxation was in order and was best found inside on a cold, wintry night such as this.

#### The Alarm is Sounded

But hear, what was that call? From the opening of the second floor in the front of the house came the voice of Charley McGavern '31 calling "Fire, Fire"! Everyone looked up in astonishment. Was it possible? How could a fire start in this brick house, and who could have started it?

A rush of feet headed toward the second floor from where the crack of flames consuming dry wood in the attic could be heard. Quickly the trapdoor to the space above was opened, revealing a roaring mass of flames billowing around the opening.

Thoughts occurred to several that there was a fire which must be at-

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## Alumni Celebrate Greatest Reunion In Hill's History

### Over 400 Served at House Saturday; Big Red Takes Dartmouth

With 30,000 people attending the game between the Big Red and the Dartmouth Indians (a glorious victory for Cornell), the largest crowd ever to invade Ithaca celebrated the 1938 Fall Homecoming Reunion on November 12, a gathering that brought alumni to the campus in unprecedented numbers.

A combination of perfect weather, a game between two top-notch teams, and buoyed-up Cornell spirit proved a treat for old and young grads who hadn't seen "steam" let off around the campus in many a grid campaign. And you can bet there was celebrating aplenty Saturday night—but we might just let your imagination go to work on that without attempts at description.

### House Has Jubilant Throng

Alumni and friends began arriving at the house Friday night; and by Saturday noon there was standing room only. Many an alumni back was cuffed by former classmates as reunion after reunion took place; many a toast was raised; and many a song was sung. The kitchen reports a total of 411 meals served on Saturday.

The genuine joy in the eyes of men when they came upon those they hadn't seen in years made undergraduates realize they may miss college life more than they imagined when they have been graduated and are enveloped in the life's work.

### Many Names Not Recorded

Our only regret concerning the Reunion is that we don't have a complete record of the men attending. Not all signed the guest book, so, many names are missing from the list below. To you omitted our sincere regrets.

M. A. Bradley '35, Ted Booth '25, Woos Hooker '21, Allen Mulford '15, Ben Patterson '14, W. G. Distler '12, Alden Sherry '15, W. J. Crawford '07, L. B. Colt '22, Russell Chase '22, S. B. Balcom '20, R. N. Lyon '29, Ans Wilcox '21, R. S. Hallas '31, N. W. Cheney '35, J. W. Cobb '35, M. V. Bailliere '36, R. G. Miller '38, Jos. Smith '38, Larry Whitney '38.

## Chapter Captures Interfraternity X-Country Trophy

**Turkey is Added Prize;  
Larry Wheeler '40  
Makes Honoraries**

The chapter jumped into the sports-light recently when its cross country team ran away with the interfraternity trophy against some strong competition, a trophy to add to the slowly-growing collection. Members of the team were all freshmen which bids fair for future triumphs in the hill and dale grind.

In addition to the cup, members of the team were presented individual medals; and added to that was a turkey as the feature prize. The bird was cooked and sent to those five undergraduates from the house who were confined to the University Infirmary for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Wheeler Elected to Honoraries**

More recognition has come to Larry Wheeler '40 for his work on the track team in the low hurdles event, the latest in the form of elections to two honoraries — Aleph Samach and Beth L'Amed. Larry is from Sterling, Ill., is enrolled in Arts and Sciences.

Two members of the sophomore class are working hard on competitions—Bill Robinson for track, Norm Rohn for basketball. Joe Campbell of the freshman class is trying for the yearling basketball team.

### Heads Chemical Company

*John Eells Kelley '31*, whose essay on the Alpha Delt fire is begun in this issue, is president of the Boro Chemical Co., 160 State street, Binghamton, N. Y., lives at 44 Chesnut street in that city.

Jack came to Cornell from Williams, was a member of the track team in the weight events. He married Helen A. Davies in 1935, is a member of the Binghamton Tennis and Ski clubs. As an undergraduate he had a suspicion he was distantly related to Alpha Delt founder Samuel Eells; since leaving college he has definitely established the authenticity of the relationship, although he admits it is a very distant one. Thanks to him for an excellent letter and for permission to use his fire essay in the Alpha Delt.

## "Seven More Days 'Till William"

On November 2 members of the chapter were mildly inquisitive about a sign on the bulletin which read, simply, "Seven more days 'till WILLIAM." Curiosity became more intense, however, as the number of days 'till WILLIAM were designated proportionately smaller and smaller.

Questions and threats were heaped upon Larry Wheeler '40 since he alone seem undisturbed. Later he admitted knowledge of the answer to the question, "Who is WILLIAM," but still no information was forth-

a white face; and his tail is prehensile.

When outside his cage he roams about one of the upstairs rooms. As yet he has not been on the ceiling, but nothing will surprise us. First two weeks of William's occupancy drew a nightly gallery; recently mob curiosity has dwindled, the little man content with a few constant friends.

He shows most interest in his food—bananas, apples, eggs—and in the other monkey he has discovered in all the mirrors he has chanced upon. His roommates, annoyed at being awakened with the coming of early morning light by strident calls from the cage, now drape a blanket over the cage at night.

### Finger Hangs in Hoop

William apparently had no contact with people before coming to the house for he was quite wild. Handling him is still a ticklish procedure, the wearing of leather gloves a necessity (he bites when so intruded upon). Not long ago a collar was buckled around his neck; frantic tug-gings have been given up, and now, as he sits on the highest shelf, his finger gently hung in the ample hoop beneath his chin, he recalls the manner of women who fidget with their necklace. Or, when this motion of William's is accompanied with a despairing little shriek, we would think nothing of it if he were to say, "My God! My pearls! They're gone!"

We've decided it is a good thing to have a monkey for a pet. Unlike dogs and things, they often comment upon or completely disagree with plans of action which we may have under way. This, we think, is good for the ego—and the patience.



coming. A puzzling clue was offered when Larry built a wire cage about the size of a desk.

More thoughtful people inquired. "How are you going to de-smell him? It is going to be a skunk, isn't it?" Those more affected by the suspense said, "If I get hold of him I'll wring his neck," or, "Whatever it is keep it out of my room."

WILLIAM arrived on the appointed day, November 9. He was one of the New World, prehensile tailed monkeys, coming from Mexico in a box marked "Cinnamon Ring-tail." About nine months old, the animal is quite cinnamon, except for

### Roger B. Williams, Jr. '01 Dies in Ithaca Hospital

*Roger Butler Williams, Jr. '01*, died in the Ithaca Memorial Hospital December 5, 1938, following a cerebral hemorrhage. Funeral services were held at the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca on December 8.

Brother Williams was a senior partner in the railroad financing firm of R. B. Williams & Co., of Wall street, New York City. At one time

### Care for Statistics?

Twenty-two men occupy the rooms of the Alpha Delta Phi this year; 37 are regular partakers of the bounties of the diningroom; total Alpha Delt on campus (including pledges) numbers 38.

he was president of the Central New York and Southern Railroad which ran to Auburn, N. Y.

## Alpha Delt Fire of '29

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tended to immediately or serious trouble might result. A harmless switchbox in the vicinity of the trap-door showed signs of being the miscreant responsible for the blaze; but action was necessary now, and all must cooperate to extinguish the growing inferno.

A hand-pumped fire extinguisher was discovered after some searching and was applied to the flames. Applied is hardly the correct word for how could one pump a liquid up the side of the wall while standing on a ladder when the pump leaked, smarting chemicals down into the eyes of the pumper?

### Cheers Greet Waterhose

Considerable good spirits were still felt, nevertheless, by the younger boys that such an exciting event should turn up. Amid much cheering, the imposing waterhose was dragged from its holder on the second floor, the first act of motion it had experienced in many a year. Everyone present felt sure that now the fire would be shown who was master at 777 Stewart avenue.

A stream of water from the hose nearly two inches in diameter would make short work of this growing menace. Much advice was handed out as to directing the stream—in fact, advice was the one thing that came fluently during the fire. When several boys were ready with a firm stance in the closet beneath the trap-door, directions were given to open the water valve. The valve was turned—but not so much as a drop of water appeared.

(To be Continued)

## Re-Building Cleveland Indians

Alva Bradley '07, president of the Cleveland ball club of the American League, recently expressed the hope of the team to strengthen itself the David Harum way—that the Indians are determined to make some drastic changes during the winter season.

## Monkey Information Wanted

Larry Wheeler '40 and Archer Speers '40 will be pleased to receive any information about the keeping, training and feeding of small monkeys. They will look forward to hearing from alumni who may know something about these animals.

## News About Alpha Delt Alumni

### Practices in Virginia

Joe W. Houck '29, who received his medical and master's degrees at the University of Virginia after leaving Cornell, is a surgeon at the Clinch Valley Clinic Hospital, Richlands, Va., which is his mailing address.

Joe is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, Alpha Omicron Alpha. He married Kitty Kemp (Randolph-Macon) in 1935, has two children, Joseph Kemp 2½; Peter W. two months.

### Towanda Columnist Lauds Prominence of E. P. Young

Your editor's eye was recently referred to a column in the Towanda, Pa., newspaper titled "Behind the Scoreboard" written shortly after the Dartmouth weekend and devoting its entire page length to one Edwin P. Young '94, mentioned in the last ALPHA DELT.

Seems the columnist sort of shadowed "E. P.", as brother Young is often called, during most of the weekend and marveled at the record and esteem in which the Towanda district attorney is held by his many friends among Cornellians.

A former baseball captain and football end, E. P. was greeted at every turn; was hailed at the game constantly, was interrupted at meals in Drill Hall and Willard Straight by friends and admirers.

The article also mentions E. P.'s brother "Tar" Young '99 of Ithaca, who gained All-American recognition by Walter Camp as a Cornell quarterback. Tar's experience during the reunion was similar to his brother's, spending many hours greeting old friends and teammates.

### W. G. Pietsch '96 Dies

Chapter just learned with regret the death of Walter Gray Pietsch '96, which took place December 14. President of the Gale & Pietsch advertising agency, Chicago, he was the father of W. Randolph '24 and Richard F. '26. He had been ill nine months, was 63 years old.

### Queeny's Co. Shows Profit

The Monsanto Chemical Co., of which E. M. Queeny '19 is president, showed a profit for the September quarter of the year of nearly three-quarters million dollars; domestic sales showed a 21 per cent increase over the preceding quarter. He reports that sales in heavy chemicals are steadily increasing. Brother Queeny was recently elected a director of the National Association of Manufacturers, an association of the country's most prominent industrialists.

### Has Addition to Family

We are a few months late in getting around with the news, but Bob Birken '25 became the father of another daughter five months ago, his second child. The new girl's name is Ann, has a sister Susan, three years. Mrs. Birken is the former Priscilla Lowe (Northwestern '27, Kappa Kappa Gamma). In sales work with the Cleveland Crane & Engineering Co., Bob is located in Old Greenwich, Conn., living at 64 Tomac avenue.

### Special Insurance Agent

Samuel S. Rockwell '37, son of Theodore G. Rockwell '09, is a special agent for the Hartford Insurance Co., Chicago. Sam attended Cornell for two years, was a member of the Widow board and Sigma Delta Chi. He married Jean M. Lucas two years ago, lives at 503 Chestnut street, Winnetka, Ill.

### Treasurer of Republican Comm.

Charles B. Goodspeed '08, 2430 Lake River avenue, Chicago, treasurer of the Republican National Committee, recently attended a conference in Washington called by National Committee chairman Hamilton to discuss fund-raising problems.

### Living in Forest Hills

Reinald Werrenrath Jr. '36, who is associated with the National Broadcasting Co. in New York City, informs the chapter his correct home address is 6 Burns street, Forest Hills, New York City.