



the PLUME

of Tau Epsilon Phi

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CONVENTION '77

WITH more than 150 undergraduate and 50 alumni delegates in attendance, TEP's 67th Anniversary Convention, and the fourth held jointly with Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, was deemed one of the best in all aspects, in history. The alumni in attendance, some of whom have been attending conventions for more than 50 years, were in full agreement that for congeniality of the delegates, interest and enthusiasm in business sessions and panel discussions, as well as good fellowship, no convention in their respective memories could surpass this one. As one alumnus put it — "we have come full cycle!"

The Convention held in the Cherry Hill Hyatt House, just outside Philadelphia, was jointly sponsored by host chapters Epsilon Eta at Drexel and Sigma Epsilon at Rutgers-Camden together with their respective alumni associations. The hospitality of these chapters' undergraduates and alumni had much to do with the success of the Convention. The Convention was chaired by Brother Michael Persons, of Sigma Epsilon chapter.

The Convention opened on Sunday evening, August 21st with a sumptuous cocktail party dinner dance hosted by Epsilon Eta and Sigma Epsilon, and was followed by the opening session of the Grand Chapter later that evening. At this opening session, the Grand Chapter officers who would conduct the business meetings of the Convention were elected: Grand Chancellor George Mamo, Sigma Epsilon; Grand Vice Chancellor Alan Goldsmith, Phi Beta; Grand Scribe Michael Sager, Mu; Grand Warden Stanley Hebda, Rho Delta Rho; Grand Chaplain Dan Campbell, Sigma Epsilon; and Gerald Denmark, Phi Lambda, Parliamentarian.

The following three days plus were filled with interesting and informative business sessions, and panel discussions on all phases of fraternity activity in the SCHOOL OF FRATERNALISM on the serious side. While on the fun side, there was a barbecue on Monday night followed by parties throughout the

hotel. On Tuesday evening, following the Undergraduate Awards Banquet, the local DPhiE chapters sponsored a dance in the Hotel to which all TEPs were invited. There was still some free time for sightseeing in Philadelphia, as well as two softball games in which the Southern chapters bested the Yankees.

The formal portion of the Convention was concluded with the Honors and Installation Banquet at which time the new Grand Council was installed and alumni awards presented. Dr. Edward Blaustein, the President of Rutgers University, was guest speaker of the evening. The Toastmaster was Brother Arthur Joblin, Dean of Students at Drexel University, who is an alumnus of Epsilon Eta chapter.

The Convention came to a close on Thursday with the farewell luncheon, after which the delegates and guests scattered to go back to their respective campuses. A great time was had by all!

Gordon Elected Consul Goffman, Weisberg, Versacci Named Vice Consuls

AFTER serving TEP for more than 45 years, Brother S. Earl Gordon of Tau Delta Chapter at Ohio State was unanimously elected Consul (Int'l President) at the Convention, and sworn in to lead the Fraternity for the next two years. Brother Gordon, a prominent realtor of West Hartford, Conn. had been awarded the Lilienfeld Distinguished Alumnus Service Award in 1968 in recognition of his extraordinary service to the Fraternity in Western New England.

The Grand Council Officers, members, and Trustees elected at the Convention are as follows:

OFFICERS

Consul: S. Earl Gordon-Tau Delta-30 Hamlin Dr., West Hartford, Ct. 06117

Vice Consul: Dr. Irving Goffman-Omicron-Dept. of Economics, Univ. of Fla., Gainesville, Fla. 32603

Vice Consul: Sy Weisberg-Tau Lambda-363 Jones Road, Englewood, N.J. 07631

Vice Consul: Al Versacci-Epsilon Mu-56 Hutchinson Blvd., Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

(cont. on page 4 & 5)

Rho Delta Rho Chapter Of Merit Again

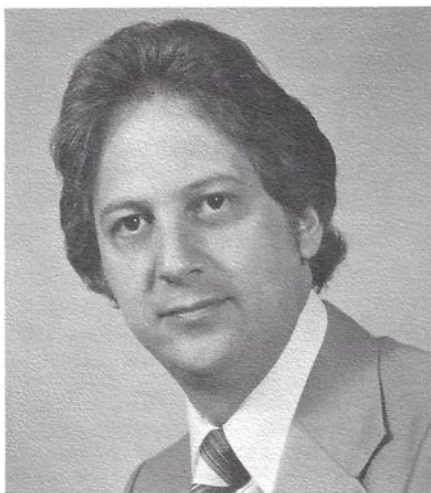
FOR the second time in a row, the Rho Delta Rho chapter at the Illinois Institute of Technology has been accorded the extreme honor of being named recipient of the IRVING GOLEMBE CHAPTER OF MERIT TROPHY signifying the best all-around chapter of the Fraternity for the past two years. Rho Delta Rho had previously achieved this distinction in 1975. A close second in

(cont. on page 3)



Bro. S. Earl Gordon
Tau Delta (Ohio State)
International President

Alumni Notes



*Brother John I. Smeyne
Tau Beta (Maryland)*

Bro. John I. Smeyne, Tau Beta (Maryland) Member-at-large on the Grand Council has been named Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for Stylecraft of Baltimore, a Division of L. Gordon & Son, Inc. Stylecraft is recognized as one of the leading manufacturers of desk accessories.

Bro. Ainslee R. Ferdie, Tau Xi (Miami) former chancellor of his chapter has been reelected Chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. Brother Ferdie served as National Commander in 1973-74. At the J.W.V. Convention, Bro. Ferdie was also elected to the Executive Board of the National Shrine of the Jewish War Dead, and became the recipient of the Mack Frankel Award.

Bro. Roger G. Fein, Tau Upsilon (UCLA) was recently elected to a one year term as Secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association.

Bro. Jonathan Greenberg, Alpha (Columbia) has received both M.D. and J.D. degrees from Columbia as the first student to be graduated from its combined medical-law program. He will serve his internship at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Bro. Allen B. Spector, Tau Beta (Maryland) has been appointed Judge of the Baltimore District Court. Previously, Brother Spector served as City Councilman of Baltimore for six years.

Bro. Warren A. Kaplan, Epsilon Theta (Queens) has received his Ph.D. degree in Biology from B.U. and has been appointed a Research Fellow at Harvard University Center for Earth and Planetary Physics.

Bro. Robert S. Schiffman, Epsilon Xi (Clark) has been elected President of the Tenney Engineering Co.

TEPROGRESS

BIRTHS:

To Bro. & Mrs. Jim Flaherty, Tau Psi a future TEP, Jeff Ryan.

To Bro. & Mrs. Dennis LaRusso, Buc a future TEP sweetheart, Jaime.

To Bro. & Mrs. Al Versacci, Epsilon Mu a future TEP sweetheart.

MARRIAGES:

Bro. Paul Saltzman, Tau Beta to Terry Rones

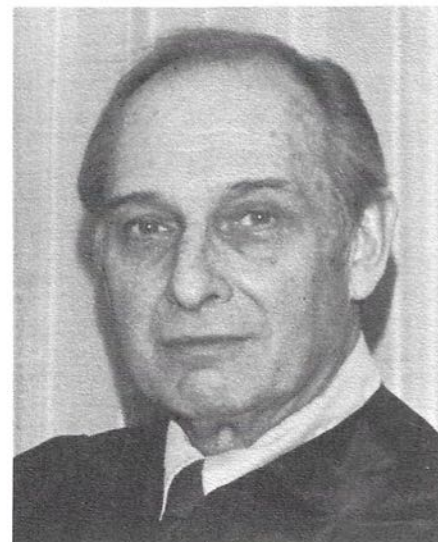
Bro. Jeff Van Grack, Tau Beta to Nancy Edelson

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Bro. Hyman Halpern, Iota (Yale)
Bro. (Dr.) Leo Satloff, Mu (Emory)
Bro. Charles Baron, Gamma (N.Y.U.)
Bro. Bernard Brotsker, Zeta Cam (Temple)
Bro. David Kaplan, Nu (Georgia)

Shulman Appointed to Georgia Court of Appeals

Brother Arnold Shulman, Nu (Georgia) a prominent Atlanta attorney and law professor, was recently appointed as a Judge on the Georgia Court of Appeals, the State's highest appellate court by Governor George Busbee of Georgia.



*Brother Arnold Shulman
Nu (Georgia)*

Blume, Weil Pass On

Brother Monroe H. Weil, Alpha (Columbia) a member of the first pledge class of the Fraternity in 1911, who eventually became the first International President of the Fraternity when it became "national" passed away after a long illness in his New York home.

Brother Robert L. "Bobby" Blume, one of the original 10 Founders of Tau Epsilon Phi passed away in his home in Ansonia, Conn. at the age of 83. Brother Blume was the epitome of the corner store druggist, maintaining his business for more than 60 years in his home town.

Rho Delta Chapter of Merit Again *(cont. from page 1)*

this competition was the Sigma Epsilon chapter at Rutgers University (Camden) and was the recipient of the

Runner-up trophy. The other awards made at the convention for activities during the past two years were:

DRIESEN CHAPTER EFFICIENCY TROPHY

(all around chapter efficiency)

Co-recipients:

Epsilon Nu Chapter at the Rochester Institute of Technology

Epsilon Phi Chapter at Pennsylvania State University

Runners-up:

Epsilon Eta Chapter at Drexel University

Epsilon Lambda Chapter at the City College of New York

FEIN GRAND CHAPLAIN TROPHY

(outstanding community and charitable service)

Co-recipients:

Phi Eta Chapter at the Johns Hopkins University

Nu Chapter at the University of Georgia

LEBENTHAL CHAPTER PROGRESS TROPHY

(most improved chapter)

Co-recipients:

Epsilon Kappa Chapter at the Tulane University

Epsilon Tau Chapter at the Bradley University

Runner-up:

Epsilon Rho Chapter at the Brooklyn College

ALUMNI CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS TROPHY

(all-around excellence of chapter publications)

Co-recipients:

Tau Gamma Chapter at the University of Southern California

Sigma Epsilon Chapter at the Rutgers (Camden) University

LEFRAK CAMPUS ACHIEVEMENT TROPHY

(outstanding achievement in extra-curricular activities)

Co-recipients:

Epsilon Pi Chapter at Marietta College

Tau Beta Chapter at the University of Maryland

Runner-up:

Phi Delta Upsilon Chapter at the Ricker College

KLEINBERGER SCHOLARSHIP TROPHY

(outstanding chapter scholastic achievement)

Tau Omega Chapter at the University of Rhode Island

Runner-up:

Mu Chapter at the Emory University



Bro. Michael Falck (l) former Chancellor of Nu Chapter (Georgia) presents his chapter's special citation to Executive Secretary Sid Suntag in appreciation of his many years of service to the fraternity at the Awards Banquet.



The individual and chapter award winners pose after Awards Banquet.



Bro. John Green (l) being presented with the Lilienfeld Award by outgoing Vice Consul Bro. Stanley Schachter



The Dais at the Awards Banquet.

Tanenbaum Chosen Undergraduate of the Year

BROTHER Myron Tanenbaum of Epsilon Kappa chapter, a graduating senior from Tulane University, was named Undergraduate of the Year for 1977 and recipient of the I. Schwartz Scholarship in recognition of his extraordinary achievements during his undergraduate career. In addition to achieving the almost perfect scholastic average of 3.9 out of a possible 4, in the difficult Tulane pre-med course, his private research activities resulted in his delivering an important paper on Electron Microscopy before two medical societies while still an under-

graduate. Despite his heavy scholastic and research programs, Brother Tanenbaum was involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, and was unanimously elected Chancellor of Epsilon Kappa. Not surprisingly, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa Honorary Societies, among others, and was admitted to all 6 Medical Schools he applied to.

Other scholarship awards, based on scholarship attainment, extra-curricular activities, and fraternity service, were as follows:

MANES LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Douglas R. Warren, Phi Eta (Johns Hopkins)

FROST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Kenneth Landau, Epsilon Mu (Lehman)

LEFRAK SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

J. Edward Beach, Epsilon Nu (R.I.T.)

FORD SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Stephen P. Hanchuruck, Phi Delta Ups. (Ricker)

GOVERNOR MANDEL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Michael L. Nieder, Phi Eta (Johns Hopkins)

SCHNEIDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Stefan Pugh, Delta Upsilon (Duke)

CONSTANGY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Michael A. Sager, Mu (Emory)

GARBER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Michael J. Falck, Nu (Georgia)

WOLF SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

David S. Edelman, Tau Alpha (Florida)

OCHS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Thomas J. DiValerio, Sigma Epsilon (Rutgers-Camden)

SCHLOSBERG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Louis J. Picciano, Epsilon Eta (Drexel)

COHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Lawrence Goodstein, Epsilon Rho (Brooklyn)

EVANS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

William H. Frankel, Epsilon Kappa (Tulane)

SUNTAG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Jeffrey D. Feldman, Tau Alpha (Florida)

HEIMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Dennis J. Rogers, Tau Omega (Rhode Island)

SHAMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Charles G. Wolf, Epsilon Nu (R.I.T.)

LENER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Jeffrey R. Lefkowitz, Delta (Cornell)

Elisburg Appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor

Brother Donald Elisburg, Rho Delta Rho, former Chancellor of his chapter at Illinois Tech has been appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor by President Carter. Brother Elisburg will be in charge of the Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration and will be responsible for enforcing federal labor laws including minimum wage, overtime, equal pay, and child labor standards. Brother Elisburg had previously served as General Counsel and Staff Director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.



Brother Donald Elisburg
Rho Delta Rho (I.I.T.)

Brother Philip J. Levin Memorialized

John Green and Herbert Abrams
Receive Alumni Honors

A special memorial Tribute was made to Brother Philip J. Levin of Tau (Dickinson) chapter at the Honors and Awards Banquet of the Convention. Bro. Levin was honored posthumously in recognition of the outstanding range of his service during his lifetime in civic, charitable, and business activities — above all to the welfare of Rutgers University on whose Board of Trustees he served for many years. His son Adam accepted the beautiful scroll on behalf of the Levin family. Brother John P. Green of Rho Delta Rho chapter at Illinois Tech was awarded the Michael C. C. Lilienfeld Distinguished Alumnus Service Award in gratitude for his devoted and dedicated administration of the chapters in the Midwest for the past five years as Regional Governor. Through his untiring efforts, Brother Green succeeded in reviving Psi chapter at Illinois, and strengthening all of the chapters in his Region. Brother Herbert Abrams of Nu Chapter at Georgia became the first recipient of the Lowell Roseman Alumnus Award at the Banquet. The Lowell Roseman Award was established by the Rho Delta Rho Alumni Association in honor of Brother Roseman, a past president of the Association, and currently Vice President of the TEP Scholarship and Student Aid Fund. The Award, which will be given biennially, is designed to honor an alumnus who has given unselfish service to his chapter as Advisor. Brother Abrams is richly deserving of this distinction as he has served Nu chapter at Georgia as Advisor for more than 10 years with outstanding success.

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Sidney S. Suntag,
Managing Editor

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~~Stanley Silverman~~

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Michael Wolf-Mu-

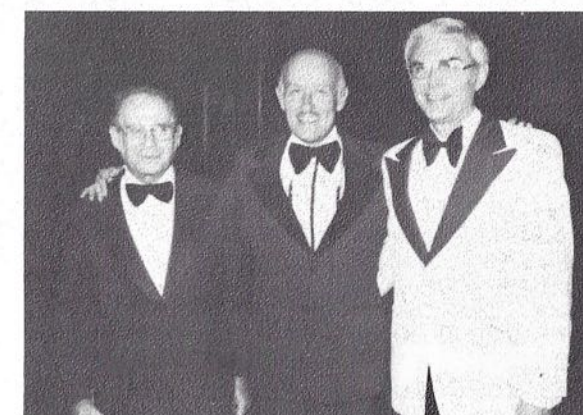
~~George Mamo-Sigma Epsilon-6200 Westchester Pk. #717, College Pk., Md. 20740~~



International President S. Earl Gordon takes the
mike after being installed.



The new Grand Council poses following the Installation Banquet.



Executive Secretary Sidney S. Suntag (c) poses with
International President-elect S. Earl Gordon (l) and
outgoing President Harris Jacobs (r) at the Installa-
tion Banquet.

Chapter News

Sigma — Syracuse

APPARENTLY the late Harry Truman is alive and kicking — kicking TEP to be exact. When brothers, boarders, and Draidle (a Jewish boarder with a lot of hair) came back to the house after a long summer vacation, they found it was hit by the atom bomb. But thanks to a united effort by the brotherhood — snap, snap — and considerable contributions by candle tycoon, Steve Chaiken, the house once again looks like the city dog pound.

Brother rush is on the upswing as there are two pledges. One, the younger brother of house bursar, Dave Gurney, was reported to have said last year that he wouldn't join TEP for a million dollars. But after his brother became bursar, he suddenly changed his mind.

The other pledge is also the younger brother of TEP alumnus Danny Glazier. Apparently young Steve was coerced into pledging by his older brother who threatened to stop his supply of chazari.

Little Sister Rush was a big success this year. Over 150 girls of all ways, shapes and forms entered the portals of TEP during the three day orgy. It culminated in a wild party Friday night that lasted over 40 minutes. All brothers in good standing were treated to some good laying.

Once again homecoming was a big success. One alumnus from the class '26 attended. A buffet was planned at the house for after the game, but it had to be moved to Hutchins Psychiatric Center. When the old fart kept insisting that Jim Thorpe was playing right tackle, the Medical Crisis Unit rushed him to the center for shock treatment at halftime.

In a marvelous display of political know-how and wiliness, Neil Shalom defeated an unpaid social brother for the vice-presidency. Boss Neil, as he is now known, said he has aspirations of becoming house manager one day.

— Barry Lamberman
(cont. on page 6)

Epsilon Omega — Polytechnic Institute of New York

WELL, it's been a long time since the Epsilon Omega Chapter has written to the Plume; our last article was written over four years ago. During the past four years, times have certainly changed for us. Our active brotherhood, once numbering 50, is now at 15; and our House, once well-kept, is now being upgraded after marked deterioration. However, there are still a number of projects to be completed before we can call our House really beautiful.

The recent improvements on our House, which include painting and disposal of old furniture and other junk, symbolize our fighting attitudes when it comes to rectifying our problems. Last winter, we came very close to losing our House; it was without heat, and there was still an unpaid fuel bill. However, the efforts of Chancellor Tom McGregor enabled us to pay the bill and Bursar Jim Haggerty has helped to bring financial stability to the Chapter.

Our short-term prospects are good, and our long-term stability looks all right if we get a good rush this year. We feel that our active brotherhood has to number 25 or 30 in order to insure financial stability until our mortgage is completed in 1980.

Our delegates to the Convention reported that they had a great time meeting brothers from other chapters, and our invitation to visit us is still open. We fully intend to visit other chapters, so don't be surprised to hear from us in this regard.

Overall, two words summarize our outlook: restrained optimism. We are now on the way to building ourselves up again to the level we once attained. With a young, spirited brotherhood leading the way, we know that one day we will become one of the best chapters in the entire Northeast — again.

Tau Omega — Kingston, R.I.

AMIDST a new beginning and a start at rebuilding what was once an inactive chapter, Tau Omega at URI has risen like the Phoenix. We have created a new generation of TEP's against overwhelming odds and offer something different compared to that of the established traditional fraternities on campus. At the same time we have built up a good reputation with the fraternities

and sororities as well as the University Administration.

Since the chapter's reactivation two years ago, improvements to the House have been foremost. Through the ingenuity of the brotherhood, the cost of landscaping and refurbishing has been kept to a minimum. It would be a vast understatement to say that we have best utilized our resources.

The University has taken quite a liking to this new chapter of Tau Epsilon Phi. They are impressed with our appearance from the outside as well as within. Our Alumni Association, although still very young, provides a strong nucleus for us to base on. The Tau Omega chapter at URI is reborn and will never die again. We are here to stay!!

Chancellor Gets Unique Facial At Epsilon Kappa — Tulane University

ON August 27, 1977, a party was given, open invitation, in grand old New Orleans. It lasted for Ten Days. And at least Ten Nights . . . No brothers, you don't have to panic — Mardi Gras doesn't roll around until February 7th. (That's a whole 'nother party). Actually, this was just our opening night of rush. As has been true for the last three years we have had twenty or more pledges, this year ranking fourth among fourteen fraternities on campus. This influx of new members has led to many achievements in recent years. After a lapse of ten years, we have won a football game in each of the last two seasons, and the caliber of athletic competition has ascended in other sports as well. In fact, we expect to be very competitive in both I.F.C. basketball and softball this season.

An increase in the number of members has meant a corresponding rise in fraternity revenue as well. This has allowed us to undertake major renovations of our house, including the addition of a third floor. Next year may very well find the TEP house growing again, with the addition of an entirely new and enlarged dining room and kitchen facilities.

It could be noted that additions are springing up all over New Orleans this busy fall; our chancellor's jurisprudential face provided with more than an ample example. At a recent brotherhood meeting, one of our pledges distinguished himself through an assault of non-malicious intent. Midway through an intense and heated debate, a messenger from the local Rent-a-Pie delivered to our Chancellor — C.O.D. — a dripping crust of whipped cream

squarely into his grizzled chin (chiseled grin?). The debate, remarkably enough, resumed almost immediately, with three of the highest elected officials wiping the fluffy white stuff off their clothes and from their eyes.

We have made great strides in the last few years, and we have no reason to believe the trend will not continue. While maintaining one of the highest grade point averages of the fraternities on campus, we have not forgotten how to have fun; but then, that's why TEPS are TOPS and always will be.

THE END!!

Tau Gamma — U.S.C.

ANOTHER strepitous salutation from the TEPS here at the Tau Gamma bagnio for wayward French-oriented deltiologists.

Congratulations, TEPS, for a cracker-jack convention. The Tau Gamma delegation, including (Chocolate) Chip "Melts in Your Mouth" Melvin, Ken "If I Can" Menager, and Rich "Looney" Landers, found it most educational: for example, we learned the significance of the G. C. award, how to drink till 6:00 a.m. and then get up at eight, that Nu chapter alums are even stingier than Tau Gamma alums, and why Alka-Seltzer sells so well at conventions (a mayonnaise rose by any other name . . .). Most importantly, however, we discovered that other TEPS than the West Coast *Row Godicus Porschi* indeed exist, a subject on which we had our doubts, and made some rollicking friendships. (A special thanks to C.C.N.Y. — we appreciate knowing that you'll always have a place for us in Harlem.) Moreover, speaking of close contacts, who says that prayers aren't answered in Temple: you may now address those Temple girls as the seraphic Little Sisters of the Tau Gamma TEPS.

Now, about the site of the next convention: considering that our house has been waiting fifty-one years for the opportunity, and considering that not once has national held its convention here, we of Tau Gamma have decided, in the interests of justice, surf, bronzed blonds, and Coors beer, that the 1979 convention should be hosted in California. Thus, on behalf of national and with the aid of our Sidney S. Sun-tag signature stamp, we have taken the liberty of reserving facilities at the Beverly Wilshire Bunnies Club. As for the dress code: bring your best suit (for bathing, that is), cut-offs, and your favorite pair of Jap-Flaps. And for God's sake, bring your sunglasses — you won't be allowed to cross the state line without them.

REPORT

"By acclamation, the Delegates to the recently concluded Cherry Hill Convention directed that Executive Secretary Sid Suntag's report to the convention be published in the PLUME for all TEPs to read in light of the fact that Brother Suntag is scheduled to retire before the next convention is held. This report to the Fraternity is therefore his last as Executive Secretary after more than 31 years service. Brother Suntag was honored recently by his associates in the Fraternity World, when he was elected President of the Fraternity Executives Association - the professional organization of all Fraternity Executives."

ALTHOUGH it is customary for the executive secretary only to render his report on the state of the fraternity for the two years since the last convention, I hope that you will forgive my going somewhat far afield this time in giving an account of the ups and downs of TEP and the fraternity system for almost two generations. I ask your indulgence, because as some of you may know, this convention is the last one I will conduct as executive head of the fraternity, as I will reach the age of mandatory retirement before the next convention in 1979 rolls around. Therefore, please forgive me if I indulge in a bit of nostalgia and reminiscing in rendering this report, as TEP has indeed been a labor of love to me, even beyond the 31 years that I have served as professional executive of the fraternity. With the exception of the six years I served in the U.S. Army, all of my adult life has been intimately involved with Tau Epsilon Phi — first, as an active member and chancellor of my undergraduate chapter, then as an alumnus, becoming a member of the Grand Council and serving continuously, until I entered the army.

During the span of years of activity in the fraternity, I have seen many ups and downs in the fraternity system. During the period of downs, fraternity critics gleefully predicted the end of the system. To the chagrin of these detractors however, the system has always rebounded, and come back stronger than ever, just when it seemed that fraternities were on their last legs. I recall only too well, the serious effect that the Depression years of the Thirties had on TEP, when chapters folded left and right for lack of funds. Those chapters that remained open, did so only by sheer tenacity. The disaster of the Depression years was followed closely by the advent of World War II when most

fraternity chapters had to close their doors when male students practically disappeared from campuses throughout the land.

Just 31 years ago this very week, I resigned my commission in the U.S. Army to take over as Executive Secretary of TEP, and I found an organization that practically did not exist. With a few exceptions, all chapters had closed because of the war, and the fraternity treasury was practically non-existent. In the ensuing five years, all war dormant chapters were reactivated, and a modest expansion program was instituted. Once again, however, with the advent of the Korean War or "Police Action", the Greek System suffered severe reverses. But with the end of the war in 1953, an unparalleled period of growth began for all fraternities that lasted for 15 years. This period became known as the Golden Age of the Fraternity World. As an example, TEP almost doubled its size during this period.

As can be surmised from my previous remarks, war and economic disruption are the principal enemies of the Greek System, just as they are to all mankind. The intensification of our involvement in the Vietnam War in the late sixties saw an abrupt halt to fraternity growth and prosperity, and the rise of the war protest movement, leading to violence and turmoil on almost all campuses, resulting in sharply declining membership in almost all chapters. By 1971, countless chapters had closed their doors, and four of our closest national competitors had disintegrated and gone out of business. It certainly looked like our critics might well be right this time in sounding the death knell of the fraternity system. Yet the resilience of the Greek System is truly remarkable, as no sooner did our involvement in the war end, and calm returned to the campuses, when recovery began. For a two year period, TEP reactivated six of the chapters that had closed in the late sixties and early seventies, and of equal significance, initiations increased substantially. We certainly seemed to be well on our way to full recovery, when the economic recession and unparalleled inflation struck three years ago. This development, which is still very much with us, has caused problems for chapters and the national fraternity. The inflation has been particularly damaging because chapters rarely increase their house bills and dues to meet inflation caused rises in costs of operation, until after deficits are experienced. As a re-

sult, some chapters have been in precarious financial condition requiring bailing out. The recession, which is now hopefully nearing its end, meant smaller pledge classes for a significant number of chapters, and forced chapter members to drop out of school leaving large gaps in some chapter memberships. Needless to say, the general fraternity's operations were affected adversely as well.

It is disappointing that the recovery following the end of the Vietnam War has not continued as expected. Nevertheless, I am happy to report that TEP is still in a very strong position despite these setbacks, and as history has taught us, we can expect another Fraternity Golden Age to begin once the economic picture brightens. We cannot be complacent, however, and expect it to happen, unless all of us work hard together to make it a reality.

God willing, this is not my farewell to the fraternity. Even after I retire, I expect to continue serving TEP in one capacity or another as I did before becoming executive secretary. TEP has meant much more to me than just an employer-employee relationship, and as I said before, it has been a labor of love, and will continue to be that after I leave office.

During the next 18 months, my energies will be devoted to a great degree towards training my designated replacement. Many of you have already met Les Maddern who has worked closely with me for the past five years, and has made many chapter visitation trips for the fraternity during that time. Although he has not been formally appointed Assistant Executive Secretary, he has been acting in that capacity for the past seven months. It is anticipated that formal appointment will take place early in the next administration so that the transition, when it comes, can be accomplished smoothly. I believe him to be eminently qualified to handle the job, and am confident that he will give TEP devoted service.

And so, in closing, I want to say that the most rewarding aspect of my many years of service has been in getting to know, and work with, the many thousands of TEPs from all over the continent. I want to particularly thank the national presidents under whom I served, the many Grand Council officers with whom I worked, and the countless chapter officers who served during my 31 years incumbency. Without their voluntary help, I could not have conducted the duties of my office. They have truly served for the love of service. God bless you all.

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