

Installation of Alpha Rho Chapter

THERE are many aspirations in life that do not materialize. It is fine to weave dreams but it is finer to have the dreams become realities. When, as a freshman student at Ohio Wesleyan University, I was privileged to become a member of Kappa Gamma Delta, next to the oldest sorority in school and numbering among its members girls whose families were all closely connected with the educational and religious history of the state, I rightfully thought the best there was was mine! but that was because I did not know what Delta Zeta had in store for me. A year or so later when I went to Miami University to take work in a department that Ohio Wesleyan at that time did not have, and became a Delta Zeta as well, I realized how much richer are the opportunities a national such as ours gives to a girl as compared with the best of locals. Right then and there I determined that if the time ever came when Ohio Wesleyan should open its doors to national women's fraternities I would do all I could to have Kappa Gamma Delta become a chapter in our sisterhood of Delta Zeta. Time and seasons bring many things to pass.

"If winter comes then spring is not far behind."

It was last spring that a wire from our Extension Chairman announced the installation of Alpha Rho chapter the week-end of May 23-25 and asking me to go. Delaware in spring time would be inducement enough but added to this the installation of our new chapter was all convincing. I was as excited in anticipation as I had been when on my journey there as a freshman. The old Hocking Valley from Columbus never did move so slowly and make so many stops, but when we came into Delaware and there were so many girls down to meet their mothers, I knew I was again fortunate as this particular week-end was Monnett Day, Ohio Wesleyan's May Day, founded by one of our best beloved members of Kappa Gamma Delta, now Mrs. McAllister of New York.

Truly I felt like Rip Van Winkle when I drove up to beautiful new Austin Hall; for while we all will love every rickety board in roomy old Monnett, I was dumb with admiration over the new girls' dormitory, Austin Hall. The setting is truly perfect for this

delightful Colonial building and it acted as though it really belonged there after all. The interior is as attractive as the exterior and this is where I became acquainted with my double sisters. What an enthusiastic, happy, attractive group of girls I found them to be! Several of them were on the Monnett Day program that afternoon. It was a pleasure, too, to meet and be with so many of their mothers who had come to be present for the day of days dear to Monnett girls' hearts. The program itself was so elaborate and beautiful that I blushed to recall how ours was composed of mere kindergarten stunts compared with the finished grace and charm of this. Our Grace Mason joined me before the afternoon was over, then came "those two good looking Alpha girls" and soon Theta and Columbia alumnae came trooping in. Our girls at Delaware had previously told me how much they liked the girls from Theta and it was not long before Theta was telling me how much they liked their new sister chapter. After a jolly buffet supper we were soon in a very different frame of mind for our beautiful pledge service was held that evening. Next morning initiation started quite early with Theta in charge. After it was over we had to rush to the reception at one of the fraternity houses. The faculty, old and new, turned out and representatives from all the fraternities. I thus had an opportunity to see what delightful hostesses Alpha Rho could be.

As it was so near the season of roses and the white rose of Kappa Gamma Delta was blended into our own beautiful rose of Delta Zeta it seemed fitting that our toast program at the banquet that evening should be "The Rose Garden" and I think it worked out quite happily and appropriately. I wish I could give you a little sketch of each one of our new sisters, from their capable, retiring and new presidents on down to their adorable pledges, but you all must know every one of them and they you, for we now have the best there is added to the best there was.

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