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Epsilon Chapter

of

Beta Theta Pi

100 Years At Centre

1848 - 1948

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A HISTORY
by
William Ellis Feldhaus

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Acknowledgements . . .

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"One Hundred Years At Centre"

by

William Ellis Feldhaus

Beta Theta Pi, first Greek letter fraternity founded west of the Allegheny Mountains, was only nine years old in 1848 when the members of the mother chapter, Alpha of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, transferred from Miami to Centre. The chapter which they established in their new Alma Mater was one of those whose founders and whose traditions ran back without a break to Old Miami.

Though the Centre College Chapter is only one of several Beta chapters founded directly by members of Alpha Chapter, the story of its founding is unique. Epsilon's birth was a direct result of the so-called "Snow Rebellion" which took place at Miami during the winter of 1848. After an unusually heavy snow, forty-six members of the student body undertook to have some fun. To that end they rolled great quantities of oversize snow balls into the entrance of the main building in such a way as to barricade the doors. This prank, "Barring the master out", infuriated the faculty considerably. When the inevitable investigation began, the guilty students freely admitted their share in the affair. They refused, however, to acknowledge regret for the alleged misdeed or to promise that they would refrain from such actions in the future. Thereupon the faculty threatened to expel to offenders.

In the end the pranksters were reinstated, and an appearance of harmony reigned once again on the Miami campus. Meanwhile, however, three of the most stubborn of the "Snow Rebels" stamped the slush of Oxford from their feet and made tracks for Centre College where they managed to gain admission. These men, Edmund Harris Munger of Centreville, Ohio, Robert Vance Moore of Hamilton County, Ohio, and James Warnock of Princeton, Indiana, were all members of Beta Theta Pi. Munger and Moore were

seniors; Warnock was a junior. The semester in which they transferred from Miami to Centre was not yet over when, on May 27, 1848, they founded the Centre College Chapter of their fraternity. The new chapter was originally designated by the Greek-letter name of Lambda, but at a Beta Convention held in Cincinnati August 16, 1854, it was assigned the name of Epsilon which it has retained ever since on the roll of the fraternity.

Once the chapter was established, it proceeded to initiate Aaron Parker Forman, a junior whose home was in Ralls County, Missouri. Another Beta, David L. McGill, who had been initiated at Miami, joined the Centre chapter soon after its founding. The action of the migrating Miami Betas makes Epsilon the oldest college fraternity chapter now active in Kentucky. It is also the only undergraduate chapter of Beta Theta Pi in the state.

Epsilon Chapter, since it was the first Greek letter organization to be established on the Centre campus, had to pioneer as the history of the college unfolded. The entire fraternity system was new to the American college world. Epsilon, the fourteenth chapter of Beta Theta Pi to be organized, had no precedents to follow other than the precepts which the mother chapter had laid down, namely that only leading men should be invited into membership, that the unanimous vote of the active members should be required for such an invitation, and that devotion to the cultivation of the intellect and love of the brotherhood should be the principal objectives of the fraternity.

In the year 1848 the newly established Beta chapter found Centre College of Kentucky a relatively stable institution of higher learning, dedicated to moral and cultural advancement. Centre College had been chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky in 1819 and Jeremiah Chamberlain, D. D., became its first president in 1823. The college was a Presbyterian project from the start and control of the institution was soon vested in the Synod of Kentucky. The first decade of its tivity saw little promise for the new college, and for a time complete dissolution of the institution appeared certain. However, under the able leadership of Dr. John C. Young who became president of Centre in 1830 at the age of twenty-seven, the college made tremendous forward advances and the foundations necessary for an accredited college with a high national standing were laid. Under the guiding hand of Dr. Young the college became vital and aggressive and developed a spirit unexcelled by any other college in the West. As Dr. Young's term as president progressed Centre prospered and her future promised success and glory. During his administration, which ended only with his death in 1857, the

college built up an endowment fund of one hundred thousand dollars, an unusually large figure for that period.

The enrollment at Centre College in 1848 totaled one hundred forty men of college rank. Approximately thirty preparatory students were also in residence. This made Centre one of the largest western colleges. The faculty included President Young, who took a major part in the work of instruction, and three other professors, not to speak of two instructors in the preparatory department. The physical plant consisted of one building, "Old Centre", where classes were conducted. The tuition for the regular academic year was thirty dollars. The courses of study were limited to the fields of ancient languages, mathematics, the natural sciences, and philosophy. The entire college curriculum was built around the classical tradition of ancient Greece and Rome. All members of a class took the same courses. Electives were unknown.

Danville, a market town for a settled agricultural community, situated in the beautiful Bluegrass Region, afforded Centre students healthful surroundings conducive to study and also provided suitable opportunities for recreation, in 1848 just as it does today. Since there were then no dormitories, the students lived with the townspeople or with the country gentry one or two miles distant from the college. Living with local families, students could enjoy happy home life with their morals and manners secured properly,



Epsilon's first chapter house—1911



Epsilon's home from 1924 until 1937

as the contemporary catalogs of the college were at pains to point out. Students usually paid one or two dollars each week for washing, board, lodging, fuel and lights. In Danville the mid-century student found a bustling town. He was no doubt impressed by the sight of the town's beautiful homes, among them the house where Ephraim McDowell had made surgical history a generation earlier. Every student was required to attend church each Sunday, and the majority of the student body worshipped in the "Old First" Presbyterian Church, where Dr. Young served as pastor, until the establishment of the Second Church, primarily for the student constituency, in 1853.

College life as a member of Epsilon in those early days, 1848 to 1862 was a happy and rich experience. Fraternity business was carried on at regular weekly meetings held usually in one or another of the members' rooms in town. Unfortunately, the records of the chapter's proceedings during those early years have not survived. Knowledge concerning the exact location of meeting places and what transpired is decidedly sketchy. It may be assumed that the meetings often ended with a trip to a downtown tavern or inn for food and drink. Judging from the lore of the general fraternity, fraternal gatherings of those early years were occasions characterized by superlative wit with Beta love and friendship entwining all as one. One can readily imagine a warm spring night with the faint strains of a Beta song issuing from the den of the "jolly Greeks",

much to the irritation of a sleepy neighbor, for Beta was early a "singing fraternity".

It should be noted that these early sons of Beta Theta Pi selected outstanding campus leaders with similar tastes and ambitions, whose individual careers in post-college years fulfilled the promise of their undergraduate days.

John Marshall Harlan of the class of 1850, after serving as a colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War and as Attorney-General of Kentucky, 1863 to 1867, ended his career with thirty-one years of distinguished service, 1880 to 1911, as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Two members of the class of 1855 became governors of their states. John Young Brown of Kentucky, 1891 to 1895, and Thomas Theodore Crittenden of Missouri, 1861 to 1865. Both had earlier served in the national House of Representatives. William C. Young, '59, number seventy-four on the roll of Epsilon Chapter, a son of President John C. Young, became an outstanding Presbyterian clergyman. In 1892 his leadership was recognized by his election as moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. He rounded out his career by serving as president of Centre College from 1898 until his death in 1898.

The early members of the chapter won places of importance for themselves in the lives of their communities. Munger studied law



Epsilon moved into this pretentious home in 1838

and settled at Xenia, Ohio, where he became Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Moore, who studied for the ministry, died in 1853. McDill became a minister in the United Presbyterian Church, and rounded out a long record of service as Professor in the Xenia Theological Seminary.

While faculty-fraternity relations on many campuses were often embittered and many colleges outlawed fraternities completely, this was not the case at Centre. From the outset, and throughout its history, Epsilon of Beta Theta Pi was accepted by the faculty and operated free of stringent regulations. Perhaps this healthy situation was made possible because of the affiliation of several faculty members with the chapter during Epsilon's early years.

The seventh place on the chapter roll was held by William McKendree Scott, Jefferson, '41, Professor of Ancient Languages at Centre, 1847 to 1854. As a divinity student at Princeton Dr. Scott had helped found the short-lived Beta chapter there in 1843. President John C. Young became number thirteen on the roll of Epsilon Chapter, and Ormond Beatty, Professor at Centre from 1836 to 1860, and President of the college, 1868 to 1888, was member number twelve. Both remained loyal and interested members of the fraternity.

As it became evident that Centre was friendly to the college fraternity, the first Greek letter rival of Beta appeared on the campus. This was Phi Delta Theta which was established at Miami in 1848, and which founded her Kentucky Alpha Chapter in 1850. Spurred on by the competition of the newcomers, Beta at Centre was strengthened rather than weakened by the appearance of a worthy rival organization.

From the chapter founding until the dark days of 1862 Epsilon maintained a vigorous existence on the Centre Campus. In 1852, four years after its establishment, Epsilon could boast the unusually large figure for those days of twenty-three members. In 1857 the chapter included twenty-two students. The Civil War, however, reduced the active chapter roll to four men in 1862 but the total membership was one hundred and five. These figures show that the chapter was exceptionally strong between 1848 and 1862. During these years, Epsilon took an active part in Beta expansion. On October 20, 1854 members of the Centre Chapter established Mu Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee. Mu chapter enjoyed great success at Cumberland for nearly half a century. Unpredictable fluctuations of attendance at the university made it impossible in the end for Mu to remain active, and she surrendered her charter in 1899 with a total membership of two hundred ninety-five. In 1863, Alfred Ryors, Hugh Wilson McKee, and John Gunnel Talbot of Epsilon, with the aid of

other Betas, organized the Omega Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at The United States Military Academy. Unfortunately, the strict discipline of the academy made the operation of a secret fraternity impracticable, and Omega soon became inactive with a total membership of nine.

Meanwhile, several more rival fraternities entered the Centre campus, but their careers there were short and their influence on Beta was negligible. Phi Gamma Delta existed at Centre for one year, 1856, and Phi Kappa Sigma was active from 1860 to 1862. Another fraternity, Alpha Chi Phi, was established at Centre in 1868, and soon established a number of chapters in southern colleges.

The year 1862 is a memorable one. The Civil War was raging into its second year. Lee had seized the initiative during the summer, and in September his men in Grey were crossing the Potomac in an attempt to carry the war into the North. In the same month Braxton Bragg's Confederate Army pushed northward into the Bluegrass in a vain effort to draw Kentucky into the Confederacy. Epsilon undergraduates and alumni had already heeded the call to arms. Eleven joined the Union forces, and twenty-five served in the Confederate Army. With many of its undergraduates and alumni in the armed forces, Epsilon itself became a war casualty, and in 1862 ceased to function. Her soldier sons served with distinction, and the tally shows that Epsilon supplied four colonels, two



Epsilon's home for three years

majors, eleven captains, two lieutenants, nine enlisted men, three surgeons, and three chaplains to the contending armies. John Alexander Buckner served as adjutant general to General John C. Breckinridge, C. S. A., and Robert H. Webb served as Chief of Staff to General Stevenson, C. S. A.

Although the war hindered Epsilon and Centre the damage was not irreparable. As a result of the conflict the chapter was inactive for nine years, 1862 to 1871. This was the only period of inactivity in the chapter's history. In the fall of 1871 Epsilon Chapter was reestablished through the efforts of President Ormond Beatty and James Curry Randolph, Beta members of the faculty, and William Week Eastman and William Kerr Archibald of the Hanover College chapter. They initiated Andrew M. J. Cochran, Edward L. Warren, John B. Worrall, and John Watson Yerkes, all members of the class of 1873. Once more the Beta Diamond gleamed brightly on the Centre campus.

The revived chapter followed the practice of fraternity chapters generally at that period by holding its meetings and social functions in a permanent chapter hall. One such hall, maintained for many years, was located on the second floor of a building at 312 Main Street. The Phi Deltis rented a hall adjacent to the Betas' domain, and this situation led to many rival encounters between the



In 1942 this was the Epsilon chapter house



Epsilon rented a hall on the 2nd floor of this building from '43 to '48

two contending fraternities. With the acquisition of the Main Street hall, annual social events became the rule. During the leisure hours of each day the Betas would congregate in the hall, and from the second story windows joke with the young girls and other passersby who were riding or walking in the street below.

Following its reactivation in 1871, Epsilon of Beta Theta Pi steadily progressed, and within a few years equalled its pre-war record. The National Fraternity began publishing the fraternity magazine in 1872, which aided greatly in bringing the various chapters closer together, stabilizing local fraternity policy, and keeping the national fraternity and the individual chapters in close contact with one another. Epsilon adhered closely to the tradition of Beta Theta Pi and chose only the best men for membership.

Notable Betas of the second period in the chapter's history, 1871 to 1898, included John Watson Yerkes, whose part in the revival of the chapter has already been mentioned. From 1900 until 1907 he served as United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue. His classmate, Hon. Andrew M. J. Cochran, was United States District Judge in Eastern Kentucky. Incidentally he was the first of a long line of Cochran kinfolk on the roll of Epsilon Chapter. Another distinguished Beta of this period was Andrew Fleming West, long-time Professor of Classics and Dean of the Graduate School at Princeton University.



During the late 1870's one of Epsilon's truly novel legends began to evolve. There is some truth in the story, but as it has passed orally from brother to brother the facts have no doubt been exaggerated somewhat. The story goes that late in the summer of 1878 Danville was stricken by the dreaded yellow fever. Little was known about the disease, how to prevent or cure it, and efforts to combat it were fruitless. By the end of August the fever was widespread and many people were dying each day. In fact, according to the story, the mortality rate was so great that the dead were placed in a warehouse until they could be buried. Funerals were impracticable because of the supposed contagiousness of the disease, and relatives and friends of the deceased were forbidden entrance to the warehouse where they lay. It was extremely difficult to find anyone willing to aid in the burial of the dead. A few of the townspeople volunteered and fearlessly performed the grueling task. Among them was John Young Craft of Holy Springs, Mississippi, a member of Epsilon Chapter, who aided in the general interment until the plague died down. Ironically young Craft was stricken suddenly by the disease and died on September 7, 1878. While his body was awaiting burial in the warehouse, Craft's Beta Brothers entered therein late at night, removed the body, and gave the remains of their friend Christian burial in the Danville Cemetery. A stone marker with the Beta Shield inscribed on its face was erected by the chapter. It has been said that it is one of two such markers in existence. The action of these Betas gives the full measure of meaning to Whittier's famous lines, "That life is ever lord of Death and Love can never lose its own".

In 1879 Epsilon's chapter roll included fifteen active members. In this year Epsilon again aided in the expansion of Beta Theta Pi by its part in the establishment of a chapter at the University of Mississippi. On June fourth John Watson Yerkes, Centre '73 and other members of Epsilon installed the new Beta Beta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at "Ole Miss". Yerkes and his associates initiated a group of students who had formerly been members of a southern fraternity known as Alpha Chi Phi. This fraternity whose origination at Centre has already been mentioned was gravely weakened by the Civil War during which many of its members gave up their lives. The parent chapter at Centre was revived for a time, but ultimately joined Epsilon of Beta Theta Pi. They advised the Mississippi chapter to apply for a charter of Beta Theta Pi, which it did. As a result, members of Epsilon traveled to Mississippi and instituted the Beta Beta Chapter.

The Beta dragon, now universally used on the Beta magazine cover, song book, and fraternity papers in general, was the creation of the Epsilon Chapter in 1881. The idea of this fabled monster

guarding the altar of Beta Theta Pi was suggested to a Cleveland artist, G. G. Finn, and was elaborated by him. The Epsilon dragon was the result. As a work of art it was a fine one. The dragon idea was deeply impressed upon the fraternity, and the Washington and Jefferson, Brown, and Iowa chapters quickly took it over. The song book of 1884 used the Centre dragon holding a Beta badge, and this device was displayed on the magazine cover of 1886. The official coat of arms of the fraternity adopted in 1897, displayed the dragon as the crest in his true form, seated, calmly defiant, defending his own.

The original Centre dragon cut is still used in the arms of the chapter. It is displayed in the upper left hand corner of the shield. The motto of the chapter is to be found on a gold scroll below the shield and signifies "Manliness".

Meanwhile new rivals had become established on the Centre campus. Sigma Chi established her Zeta Zeta Chapter in 1876. In 1883 the Kappa Alpha Order founded a chapter which remained active for fifty years before becoming inactive.

The Golden Anniversary of Epsilon was celebrated in June of 1898 with a dinner-dance at the Gilcher Hotel. Judge Munger, one of the founders of Epsilon, delivered the principal address and recalled events of his undergraduate days fifty years earlier. The Hon. John Watson Yerkes spoke on "The Greek World", and R. S. Dulin, '98 read a poem, "Epsilon in Song", written by Lucien V. Rule, '93. Rev. William E. Bryce, '86, spoke on the general topic, "Beta Theta Pi". Following the banquet and speaking there was a dance presented by the active chapter. It lasted until the small hours of the morning. Among the Betas present who still survive were Chenault Huguey, '99, W. Scott Gore, '99, C. C. Nicholson, '01, George Bohon, '00, Harry Briggs, '85, W. V. Richardson, '98, and R. S. Dulin, '98. So ended fifty glorious years of Beta at Centre.

As a result of the bitterness which characterized the Civil War and Reconstruction periods in Kentucky and elsewhere, the Presbyterian Synod of Kentucky experienced a schism in 1866. One branch retained its allegiance to the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Southern Church. The Southern Synod of Kentucky in 1873 opened at Richmond a new institution, Central University, whose liberal arts college was from 1873 until 1901 a rival of Centre. In 1901 the two institutions were merged at Danville, with a significant resultant gain in the number of men enrolled on the campus of Old Centre.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon's Kentucky Kappa Chapter and Iowa

Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon founded at Central University, in 1883 and 1885 respectively, came to the campus at Danville in 1901 with the merger of the two colleges. The Phi Deltas of Centre and Central joined to form a single chapter. The establishment of Phi Kappa Tau in 1914 completed the fraternity picture. Seven national fraternities were now located on the Centre campus. Perhaps no other college of relative size in the country has won the recognition of so many outstanding national fraternities. This situation has engendered a significant competitive spirit, which in turn has kept the chapters vital, effective and growing. As a result every Centre fraternity has striven for campus eminence in all worthy fields of endeavor, scholarship, campus leadership, athletics, and publications. Beta Theta Pi has vied successfully for primacy in this rivalry throughout its long history at Centre.

By the turn of the century modern fraternity life as Betas know it today was beginning to develop. A study of the minutes of Epsilon from 1904 to 1908 will substantiate this. Freshman discipline began, and the idea of pledgeship or trial period developed rapidly. Prior to initiation, neophytes were required to stage public demonstrations, such as playing football in Main Street using a head of cabbage as a pigskin. "Hell Week" subsequently grew more severe as the years passed until about 1930, when the present tendency to decrease sharply the rigors of this period began. Epsilon began using the standard initiation ritual in 1905 and continued using the Beta Knobs ceremony and the service at John Young Craft's grave which originated in the 1870's. The Round Table came into general use at chapter meetings in 1906. Weekly meetings were held on Saturday evening and after the business was finished, talks on unity and song fests continued until late hours. The chapter began printing a news letter for alumni. An increased interest in scholarship of the members became apparent, and the minutes of 1908 tell of general discussions along this line. Inter-fraternity sports probably began in 1908 when the Betas clashed with the Phi Deltas in football.

During the first decade of the twentieth century the annual fraternity dance program was established, and Betas prided themselves upon leadership in all social activities. The custom of sending Beta girls flowers and candy on holidays originated about 1904, and hayrides out to Mrs. Cecil's in the college wagon were in vogue. It appears that each fraternity tried to outdo the others in providing the "smartest" and "brightest" in the way of social events and entertainment. The main objectives in every case were to impress the young lady friends of the chapter members.

In the fall of 1911 Epsilon chapter entered a new phase of

Mann School for Boys. George Howard Bruce was truly a great Beta, and his fine fraternity spirit will continue to guide Epsilon in years to come.

The period 1917 to 1925 is one of the brightest in Epsilon's entire history. The chapter house was located at 364 Maple Avenue, and the membership fluctuated between seventeen and thirty-three actives. During this period the chapter was above average in scholarship, excelled in campus leadership, and in athletics. Epsilon Betas, sparked by "Bo" McMillin, '22, dominated the varsity football team during the four year period 1918 to 1921 when Centre lost only to Harvard and Georgia Tech. The chapter had fine scholars such as Marshall Brown, '21. Omicron Delta Kappa was established on the Centre campus in 1920 through the efforts of President Ganfield and Norris Armstrong, '22, who became a charter member. Epsilon Chapter has been represented in this honorary fraternity every year since its founding. Fraternity dances during this period were attended by notables from all over the state because the chapter had many spectacular individuals who had achieved national prominence in the field of athletics.

her history with the acquisition of a chapter house, the result of an agitation started at least six years earlier. By 1911 members of Epsilon realized that rushing techniques were changing, and that freshmen generally liked the idea of living in a chapter house. The problem was finally solved when T.B. Tate's father consented to rent the chapter the house at 541 West Main Street which is today the Sigma Chi House. Under this arrangement Betas now enjoyed the advantages of a closer fellowship, and membership in Beta Theta Pi took on an added meaning.

During the early years of the century an outstanding alumnus of Epsilon Chapter took an increasingly important part in the work of the national fraternity. George Howard Bruce, Centre '90, first assumed the duties of a national officer as chief of old District IX which included the chapters at Centre, Cincinnati, Miami, Ohio, State, and Wittenberg. At the general convention held in 1917 he was elected to the high office of General Secretary and served in this capacity until his retirement from office in 1926. When he left office, Brother Bruce had proved himself an executive of high order. While serving as General Secretary he had charge of the ceremonies of the institution of Alpha Rho Chapter at Washington and Lee in November of 1917. He was appointed Keeper of the Rolls in 1928 and was chairman of a committee which revised the Code and By-Laws in 1929. In private life he was a teacher at Horace

Meanwhile, the chapter moved in 1920 into "Hillcrest", owned

by the college. However, Epsilon's stay here was short and in 1924 the group established itself in Colonel Richardson's home on Fifth Street, which was maintained as a Beta house until 1937.

Fraternity life in the 1930's as a member of Epsilon was much the same as it is today. The active chapter-alumni relations improved greatly as a result of constructive work on the part of the chapter towards this end. One such project was the "Epsilon Bark", a chapter publication, which kept the alumni posted on active Epsilon activities. This close relationship made it easier for the chapter to function satisfactorily. Intramural competition between the various fraternities began on a large scale, and Epsilon fielded formidable teams in baseball, basketball, and football year after year. Epsilon joined the Inter-fraternity Council in 1931 and has retained membership in that body ever since. The Beta Mothers' Club was formed in 1932 and functioned for many years, aiding the chapter immeasurably at teas, receptions, parties, and in the interior decoration of the fraternity house. During these years Epsilon continued its singing tradition, and journeyed to K. C. W. many times to serenade the young ladies. The membership of the active chapter averaged about twenty-five, and the chapter was well represented in all campus activities. Pledge training took its final form in the late thirties when pledges were required to maintain definite schedules with the necessary time for study, fraternity obligations, and recreation. The pledge was also required to study and



The recently purchased Beta house at 517 West Main

learn the history of Beta Theta Pi and know a considerable number of Beta songs.

In 1936 the chapter moved into the Farris home on East Main Street. This was a pretentious home with a columned porch, large ball room, and many rooms. However, the size of chapter and the cost of maintenance made its retention impracticable and the chapter moved into what is now the house at 525 West Main Street where it remained for three years. In 1942 the Betas moved again, this time to 118 Fifth which was maintained as Beta headquarters until the decimation of the chapter during the Second World War made it impossible for the reduced group to maintain a house in 1943. The chapter then rented a hall at 309 Main, which it retained until 1948.

In 1946 under the leadership of Norris Armstrong, '22, a housing drive was begun, and within a year the generous contributions of beneficent Beta Alumni made the acquisition of a permanent chapter house a definite possibility. However, it was not practical to buy a house until the spring of 1949, at which time Epsilon Chapter, in conjunction with Centre College, purchased the new chapter home at 517 Main Street.

First and last, 685 men have signed the roll of Epsilon Chapter. From this relatively small number of initiates come many prominent men of whom Epsilon is justly proud. Outstanding among Centre Betas of recent years in public service is Senator John Sherman Cooper, '22. Epsilon is well represented in the business world. Clem Dixon Johnston, '16, is today president of the Chamber of Commerce of America. Robert D. Mathias, '20, is now president of the Chicago National Bank, Chicago, Illinois. Many Centre Betas have been lawyers. Joseph D. Harkins, '04, is president of the Kentucky Bar Association. Alvin "Bo" McMillin coaches the Detroit Lions. Other prominent coaches in Epsilon's membership are William "Matty" Bell, '20, of Southern Methodist University, Edgar Allen Diddle, '19 of Western Kentucky State College, and Carl "Swede" Anderson, '24 of Centre.

A new edifice is admired for its beauty and its expression of progress. An old building is loved for its tradition and memories of days gone by. The architect can conceive and construct a masterpiece of stone and masonry, but he cannot endow it with the heritage of the past. Time alone can do this. In the new home of Epsilon Chapter, there is living today a century of Beta Tradition. Though college and fraternity life have changed in many ways since Beta Theta Pi came to Centre a hundred years ago, life as a member of Epsilon still involves the same basic responsibilities and obliga-

tions, the same desire to achieve success as in the days of old. Certain precedents, a certain common heritage, and a certain reverence for Beta ideals have been instilled into the hearts and minds of a large and influential group of alumni. Centre Betas of any period have many things in common. They all share the same hopes and desires for the future of the chapter. Epsilon, as each class graduates, is constantly changing in personnel. However, she is able to meet changing conditions and situations in a manner which brings success.

The objectives and activities of Epsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi have been and will continue to be in complete accord with the aims and purposes of Centre College. The chapter recognizes that the primary loyalties and responsibilities of its members are to Centre College. Epsilon in the past has promoted conduct consistent with good morals and good taste and will do so in the future. The chapter also strives to create an atmosphere which will stimulate intellectual progress and superior intellectual achievement in the membership. In the opinion of the active chapter, Epsilon has operated in the past and will continue to operate in the future in such a way as to be a credit to Beta Theta Pi and to the college fraternity system in general.

Centennial Committees of Epsilon

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Central

Ross Kreamer, Chairman; Cowood Ledford, Joe Martin, James Frutchey, William E. Feldhaus

Reception and Housing

George A. Joplin and Lewis Dunn, Co-Chairmen; Andy Blane, Morris Greene, James Dougherty, Geo. Edmiston

Program

Ernie Hart, Chairman; Giles Robinson

Banquet

Melvin Veatch, Chairman; John Murphy, Arlie Caudill, Alva Cushman

Entertainment

Ken Joplin and Neil Pugh, Co-Chairmen; Mrs. Lewis Dunn, Mrs. Pete Jarvis

Publicity

Posey Thomasson, Chairman; Pete Jarvis, James Pollitte, Everett McGuire, James Bergman, Ollie Chesher

Decorations

Morton Downs, Chairman; Bill Ray, Ken Joplin, Neil Pugh, J. A. Gregory

Finance

Everett Davis and David Shipp, Co-Chairmen

Publications

Harry Padgett and Robert Kelley, Co-Chairmen