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History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon Honorary Society for Earth Scientists, the Second Twenty-Five Years, 1941-1965

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Sigma Gamma Epsilon

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The History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon
The Second Twenty-Five Years, 1941–1965



Editor: D. C. Steinker

S G E

THE COMPASS of SIGMA GAMMA EPSILON

An Honorary Scientific Society Magazine
Devoted to the Earth Sciences

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HISTORY OF SIGMA GAMMA EPSILON HONORARY SOCIETY FOR EARTH SCIENTISTS, THE SECOND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, 1941-1965

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THIRTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Thirteenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held in the Hotel Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio, April 9-11, 1942. Ohio State University's Sigma Chapter was host. Grand President R. L. Kidd was unable to attend the convention because of urgent work pertaining to concentration and recovery of manganese in the Chamberlain, South Dakota, manganese deposits. Grand Vice-President R. L. Webb was also unable to attend. One chapter had been installed since the previous convention, Alpha Mu, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, April 3, 1942.

The convention was called to order by Grand Vice-President W. A. Staab at 10:00 AM Thursday, April 9, 1942. In his convention report, C. B. Carpenter mentioned that all "active" chapters except Iota had sent a delegate to the convention. Unfortunately, there is not a list of delegates printed in *The Compass*. The lists of committee members indicate that the unrepresented inactive chapters were Epsilon, Omega, Alpha Kappa, and Iota. on page 257 (Vol. 22, no. 4) is a list of numbers of chapter letters sent to the Grand Editor, by chapter. In the preceding biennium Alpha Kappa had sent one chapter letter, neither Epsilon nor Omega had sent any, so those chapters could be termed "inactive," depending on criteria used. It seems a pity that Epsilon Chapter had fallen by the wayside since Dr. Tarr's death. Professor Carpenter recommended that the three chapters listed as inactive be dropped from the list of chapters and that their charters be revoked, unless they became active again within the year. Carpenter went on to say that although the previous convention had called for the inclusion of advertising in *The Compass*, upon investigation it had been determined

to be impractical because revenues from advertising were based on numbers of subscribers, and the cost of publishing advertising would about equal returns because of the limited number of subscribers. He went on to say that the question of the Tarr Scholarship had not been decided because it might not be a good time to establish such a scholarship (Carpenter, 1942). Carpenter wrote in November 1942 (p. 17):

The Fraternity at the moment occupies a strong position financially. What the next few years have in store for Sigma Gamma Epsilon and for other similar organizations is something nobody can answer. The Fraternity was organized at a time when the world was beginning to be seriously troubled. At the moment, the situation is again equally as serious if not actually worse. The first storm was weathered in fair shape and it is hoped that the coming storm may be survived with equal success. Unquestionably many of our members will shortly be in the military service of the United States. Just how many will be in military service, and where they will be in such service remains to be seen. Every member of the Fraternity will do his part for the defense of his country when the time arises.

The Committee on Finance recommended that chapters not paying dues should be considered inactive. They further recommended that Phi and Alpha Kappa chapters be dropped from the list of chapters because of inactivity. The recommendations of the committee were approved. The status of Epsilon and Omega was not addressed in the minutes.

The Committee on Chapter Affairs and Activities recommended that a substitute be made for the Swap Page, which was

deemed a failure in *The Compass*. It seems that this should have been a matter for the Publications Committee. They further recommended that chapter cash balances be invested in war bonds, "offense, not defense" (Vol. 22, no. 4, p. 245), and that each chapter should set aside money to commemorate members who would give their lives in the war. A Committee on Ritual was appointed to give a report at the next convention, 1944, at the earliest. The Committee on Resolutions recommended that because of the war, some chapters might have to abrogate activities, store records, and that reorganization, subject to approval of the Grand Council, should be effected through faculty membership once the war was over. The recommendation carried.

Officers elected for 1942-1944 were:

Grand President

William A. Staab, West Virginia University

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

W. A. Mueller, Ohio State

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

R. C. Moore, University of Kansas

Grand Vice-President, Western Province

W. D. Wilkinson, Oregon State

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

C. B. Carpenter, Colorado School of Mines

Grand Historian

F. M. Bullard, University of Texas

Grand Editor

E. F. Schramm, University of Nebraska

The convention banquet was held the evening of April 9 at the Hotel Fort Hayes. A field trip to the Shawnee Pottery Company of Zanesville, Ohio, was taken Friday, April 10. Afterward the group visited Flint Ridge and Black Hand Gorge on the way to Newark, Ohio, to examine evidence of Indian Mound Builders. Saturday, April 11 was spent visiting the campus of Ohio State University. A dance held on Saturday evening closed the convention.

In most issues of *The Compass*, there was an exhortation from the Grand Editor to chapter editors and authors of articles to check spelling, grammar, construction, to be on time, etc., so this quip in the editorials (Vol. 23, no. 1, p. 60) is not only funny, but also somewhat poignant. "The Census Bureau reports that there are 10,100,000

people in the United States who can not read or write. Editors have known this for a long time."

The chapter letters in this issue are filled with reports of who was off to war; the chapters were being decimated. Most of the universities had accelerated programs so the young men could graduate in less than the normal four years. At Pennsylvania State College, it took two and two-thirds years to complete a program that formerly required four years. Most schools deleted vacations and many were having Saturday classes. Field trips were being curtailed because of tire and gasoline rationing; and because of wartime restrictions on travel, it was becoming difficult to obtain speakers. W. Petersen of Alpha Eta wrote: "This will constitute my last letter as corresponding secretary of Alpha Eta Chapter. I hope sooner, but at least by the end of summer, I shall be in the Navy Air Force if they will have me, or the Army Air Force as an alternative, or the draft if I am not careful" (p. 77). Alpha Delta wrote that plans for even a small pledge class had vanished when their only two eligible majors had announced that they, too, would be in the service soon (A. T. Cross).

In Volume 23, number 2, *The Compass*, Psi, University of Idaho, noted: "Mr. Clark B. Carpenter, the Grand Secretary, informs us that several of the large schools such as UCLA and Michigan have closed their chapters for the duration of the war. We expect to remain on active status at least the remainder of this year although our membership will probably be cut during the semester." (W. E. Crandall, p. 156).

Volume 23, number 3, *The Compass*, contained an editor's note that because of the scarcity of chapter letters, he had decided to run some group pictures of chapters. There were only six chapter letters in the issue. Alpha Iota mentioned that J. Robert Berg, '38, was working for the DuPont Company in Terre Haute, Indiana (R. F. Peterson).

The chapter letters in the May 1943 issue (*The Compass*, Vol. 23, no. 4, p. 306) carried the message from Delta that Lieutenant Jack Rathbone and Elton Fee were prisoners of war. Fee was on a Pacific island and Rathbone was in a German prison camp (W. Frankforter). Alpha Eta

said: "It is very doubtful if the Alpha Eta Chapter will continue next semester. Summer registration will determine that; however, it looks to me as if we will have to close shop for the duration" {J. M. Sullivan, p. 311}.

Editor Schramm wrote on page 304: "Our attention has been called to a notice printed on the departmental blackboard which reads as follows:

Sigma Gamma Epsilon Meeting of
Delta Chapter September, 27, 1945,
or duration, plus six months,
Thursday 7:30 P. M.

This is Important
Be There

"Geology of Japan and Germany,"
or "Mopped-up Terrains," will be dis-
cussed by veterans of World War II;
formerly 1942 and '43 members of
Delta chapter.

Roll will be called.

Bring the kiddies.

Refreshments (hic, hic).

And the last editorial said simply, "This may be the last issue of *The Compass* for the duration" (p. 304). It was.

November 1946 is the date on the first post-war issue of *The Compass*. According to a letter dated November 11, 1946, from Grand Editor Schramm and found in the Alpha Chapter files, the plan had been to publish the first post-war issue in May 1946, but because copy for the issue had failed to reach the Grand Editor until the latter part of July, and because of a paper shortage and "labor situation" at the printing plant, the issue had been delayed. The chapter letters in the issue are filled with reports of the work of reactivation of the chapters. Most of the chapters had been inactive during the war. Alpha Iota was one of the few reporting that they had carried on as usual, but the means they employed were unusual. "A part of the credit goes also to the women majors in the department. During the year 1943-1944, three fulfilled all the requirements for S. G. E. except the most important one. Therefore, they organized the Women's Auxiliary of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. At present there are two members of this organization. We of Alpha Iota hope that other chapters will do the same if there are fully qualified women who might be eligible for member-

ship, if the constitution were so changed" {R. L. Spitznas, p. 70}. Officers of Alpha Iota for 1946 were: Roger Spitznas, President; Delores Wright, Treasurer; Katherine Staack, Secretary. Alpha Iota was starting a scholarship fund with money presented to the chapter by an alumnus. The scholarship was to be titled the Franklin Anderson Scholarship, a memorial to their only member to be killed in action {R. L. Spitznas}. Kappa Chapter gave a list of their new initiates, one of which was Robert L. Folk {W. L. Frankhouser}. Rho mentioned that their charter member, Ralph E. Esarey, '22, was their new chapter advisor. Rho's member William I. Sheedy, '41, had been killed in action in the Okinawa landing. Alpha Beta had lost three, Junior L. Birdsong, W. T. Lilly, and R. R. Schmid, all killed in airplane crashes during the war, and Mark Orr was missing in action {C. W. Jones}. Alpha Theta lost two, F. W. Seiler and J. Sarles, both killed in action. They also mentioned that Dr. F. A. Wade, senior scientist of the Third Byrd Expedition, had renewed his acquaintance with snow and ice with a tour of duty in Greenland, investigating the ice cap for possible military use {B. Wilson and F. Humberger}. Gamma wrote that a field trip to the Miami, Oklahoma, region had been cancelled because of labor unrest {N. F. Williams}.

The March 1947 issue of *The Compass* carries an editorial titled "Our G.I.'s" that says in part:

Your Editor owes our student G. I.'s an apology for unexpressed but deep seated "thought malignment." When the "G. I. Bill of Rights" was passed by Congress it was this writer's fervid opinion that our colleges and universities would be filled with a group of "play boys" or "College Joes" who thought the world owed them a living and that they were going to have it, with a hilarious good time thrown in, for good measure.

You can imagine your Editor's surprise and self abnegation when he learned that our G. I.'s are extremely hard working conscientious students and are making both outstanding and brilliant records in their various chosen fields of endeavor.

In the Geology Department at the University of Nebraska the G. I. men are making an enviable record, far superior to that made previous to the war, and so far as we can learn this seems to be the case, as chronicled on about every campus in the United States. (Schramm, 1947, p. 194).

Editor Schramm goes on to say that he thought the best financial investment our country had ever made was giving ex-servicemen an education.

The May 1947 issue of *The Compass* contains an editorial article titled "Where Your Money Goes." The biggest expenses of the society were railroad and pullman fares of all chapter delegates attending national conventions. Prof. Schramm said that after years of experience, the national officers had found that was the only way they could be assured of having delegate representation at the national conventions. The next largest expense was publishing *The Compass*. Some money was spent on office supplies, stamps, shingles, biennial publication of the constitution and rituals, and expenses incurred in the induction and installation of new chapters. Schramm noted that the Grand Secretary-Treasurer and Grand Editor had once been voted small salaries, but so far as he knew, neither officer had ever accepted the honorarium, although the Grand Secretary-Treasurer on occasion employed some stenographic assistance.

FOURTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Five members of the Grand Council of Sigma Gamma Epsilon met in Chicago, Illinois, in March 1945, to discuss action needed to reactivate chapters made dormant by the war, and to make plans to begin once again to publish *The Compass*. No further meetings of the Grand Council were held before the Fourteenth National Convention in the Mark Twain Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, October 23-25, 1947 (Staab, 1947). It was the second time a national convention was held in a city with no chapter (the first being the Second National Convention in Kansas City). St. Louis was selected primarily for financial reasons. The national officers reasoned the

society could save several hundred dollars in railroad fares by holding the convention in a centrally located city. Also, the Grand Council considered this first post-war convention to be an "emergency" and felt it would be an imposition to ask a chapter to host a meeting on "such short notice" (Schramm, 1947).

The meeting was called to order by Grand President W. A. Staab on October 24, 1947. All of the national officers were present, and 27 of 28 active chapters were represented. Chi Chapter's delegate, Arthur J. McFarlan, had been killed in an auto accident the week prior, so Chi was unrepresented. Three new chapters had been installed since the last national convention: Alpha Nu, Kansas State College; Alpha Xi, University of Chicago; and Alpha Rho, Michigan State College.

Once again, as in years and presidents past, Grand President Staab discussed whether the national conventions should be held triennially instead of biennially, but recommended no changes be made at the present. Grand Secretary-Treasurer C. B. Carpenter recommended that the society eliminate four defunct chapters from the rolls. Prof. Carpenter explained that Nu (University of Minnesota) and Alpha Gamma (University of California, Los Angeles) showed no interest in reactivating since the war. Tau Chapter (George Washington University) had been a small but active and aggressive chapter before the war, but since that time the Department of Geology at GWU had ceased to exist, so there seemed no good reason to hope for reactivation of Tau. He continued, noting that the acceptance of Alpha Kappa's petition had been a mistake, saying: "The installing officials felt cold winds blowing on their respective necks at the installation. All omens were bad." And "It is true that faculty attitude toward any group undergoes change, but initially we should have the confidence and encouragement of the faculty" (Carpenter, 1947, p. 17). These statements make the author wonder what the faculty at Johns Hopkins had against ΣΓΕ? Carpenter also mentioned that although Alpha Delta Chapter (University of Cincinnati) had remained inactive since the war, there was reason to believe they would again become an active chapter.

Professor Carpenter called for action of the convention on the proposed Alpha Epsilon Chapter. The Ammonite Club of the University of Washington had petitioned for a charter in 1932. The petition was accepted in spring of 1932, but installation had never been conducted because the original petitioners had all left school by then. The matter had again been raised in November 1946 by then president of the Ammonite Club, Keith F. Oles. Carpenter recommended that a member of the Grand Council travel to Seattle to meet with the Ammonite Club to discuss the issue with them.

Carpenter further said that it was time to decide what the society would do about a W. A. Tarr Memorial Scholarship or Scholarships. The issue had been postponed because of the war and worry about the war's effect on the society's finances, but a fund totaling \$1,451.54 had been set up for the purpose of financing Tarr Scholarships so there was no reason for further delay. He discussed the possibility of creating a "job exchange" for the fraternity. This is a subject that had come up time and again at conventions, but always was determined to be too expensive and difficult to maintain. He also mentioned the need to publish a new directory of the membership of the fraternity, the last having been published in November 1937 (Carpenter, 1947).

No action was mentioned for the Constitution Committee [so perhaps after 32 years of changes the membership thought it was perfect, but your author doubts it]. The committee on the Tarr Scholarship brought this resolution before the convention: "Be it resolved that the Tarr Scholarship Award be redesignated the 'W. A. Tarr Honors Award' to be awarded on the basis of outstanding scholarship, leadership and personality, to any student of the Earth Sciences at each chapter" (Carpenter, 1947, p. 5). This was adopted with one dissenting vote. A further motion, that a committee of the Grand Council be appointed by the Grand President to administer the award, was adopted. It was hoped that the first awards could be made in the spring of 1948.

The Committee on Nominations recommended that the current Grand Council be re-elected, and the motion carried unanimously, even though Prof. Schramm had

made it very clear in his address that he had no desire to continue in his role of Grand Editor, saying "...I think it is time you elected another man to take my place as Editor of *The Compass*. I am sincere in this matter. Whoever you elect, be sure that he has a sense of humor, or he will not be able to stand the strain. He must also be a human gad-fly with no poison in his bite" (Schramm, p. 30). Perhaps there was no one else around with a sense of humor; at any rate he was elected Grand Editor for another two years.

Friday afternoon the convention toured the Anheuser-Busch brewery. On Friday evening, a banquet was held at the Mark Twain Hotel. There was no speaker, but entertainment was provided by a barber-shop quartet.

Chapter reports given at the convention tell of the war-time activities, or for the most part, the reactivation after the war. Even the few chapters that were able to stay active during the war were at extremely low ebb. Delta listed the seven members who died serving their country during the war: R. Brower, G. Johnson, R. Tomes, C. Bartz, R. Holland, T. Minthorn, and N. Bartz {W. V. Wade}. These same men were present when the lightly worded invitation to a talk on "Mopped up Terrains" was left on the blackboard at Nebraska. They ended up "sleeping in the coral and basaltic sands of some of our Pacific islands" (Schramm, 1947, p. 27 {Vol. 25, no. 1}).

Volume 25, number 2 issue (January 1948) of *The Compass* is a University of Kansas issue. On page 42 is a list of the founding members of ΣΓΕ, and their addresses:

Glen [sic] Allen, e* 1915,
4015 University Bldg., Dallas, TX

Hugh R. Brown, e*
Carbon, Alberta, Canada (Dec. '34)

Clark B. Carpenter, e* Prof. of
Metallurgy, Colorado School of
Mines, Golden, Colorado,
Present Grand Sec.-Treas. of ΣΓΕ

Harry Crum, e* 1917,
Columbian Carbon Co.,
45 E. Forty Second St.,
New York, N. Y.

Sherwin Kelly, e* 1917,
former Ass't. Mgr. Schlumberger
Electrical Prospecting Co. Now
partner in Geophysical Methods,
Inc., New York, N. Y.

Roy Reynolds,
1316 Fort Worth Nat'l. Bank Bldg.,
Fort Worth, Texas.

George Sammons,
Imperial Oil Co.,
Toronto, Canada. (1925)

W. H. Twenhofel, Chairman Div. Geol.
and Geogr., Nat. Research Council.
Member of Faculty, Univ.
Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

*e denotes engineering student

An "Alpha Alumni Register" notes that Carey Croneis '23 was President of Beloit College, Hollis Hedberg '25 was Head of Geology Department, New York Production Division, Gulf Oil Corporation, and Wallace E. Pratt '08 (Alpha Chapter Honorary Member) was Vice-President (Ret.) of Standard Oil Co.

In the chapter letters of the March 1948 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 25, no. 3), Alpha Eta, University of Colorado, mentions that "the lady geology majors" of Colorado had formed a geological honorary for women called Sigma Sigma Sigma. The organization was combining forces with Alpha Eta to sponsor lectures and programs for the department {W. C. Peters, p. 194}. Apparently these women did not know about Chi Upsilon.

The March 1948 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 25, no. 4) carries an article titled "Never a Dull Moment in Mineralogy" by P. D. Krynine, Chief, Division of Mineralogy, Pennsylvania State College, that mentions: "The problem of limestone is being vigorously attacked in a rather novel and unconventional way by Mr. R. L. Folk" (p. 234). The same issue carries a notice that C. B. Carpenter, R. C. Moore, and F. M. Bullard had been appointed to be the Tarr Awards Committee.

Some well-known University of Kansas grads appeared for the first time in the Alpha chapter letters. In the November 1948 issue, Daniel F. Merriam (National President, ΣΓΕ 1990-95) and Ellis Yochelson were on the initiates list, John

Wayne Harbaugh (National Vice-President, ΣΓΕ 1990-1995), Richard L. Shields (Independent Oil Producer, Russell, Kansas), and William W. Hambleton (Director Emeritus, Kansas Geological Survey) were on the active members list. Robert D. Cowdery (1995 President-elect AAPG) appears on the active members list of Alpha Nu (Kansas State College). Alpha Nu also mentioned that because of the "tremendous increase of geology majors" (p. 109), they had found it necessary to alternate their weekly seminars for majors. The freshmen and sophomores one week and juniors and seniors the next. Their department had also added two courses to its curriculum.

The January 1949 issue of *The Compass* contained no chapter letters. Judging from the frequent comments by Grand Editor Schramm, Grand Secretary-Treasurer Carpenter, and other national officers, the Editor may have tired of reminding chapters to submit their letters, so none of them did and there were no letters to print, but there is no explanation for their absence. This is the first issue of *The Compass* that carried no chapter letters or business. The issue did carry "An Abstract of Higher Education for American Democracy," a report of the President's Commission on Higher Education, briefed by J. G. Saylor, University of Nebraska. The abstract mentioned that the largest enrollment in institutions of higher education before WWII was 1,494,000 in 1940; enrollment in 1947 was 2,354,000, of whom about 1,000,000 were veterans. The Commission called for the establishment of community colleges and a national program of scholarships and fellowships, along with the removal of barriers to higher education. The Commission stated (p. 193) that the principal barriers to equal educational opportunity were: "lack of opportunities for a good high school education for all youth; economic inability; discrimination in higher education because of an individual's race, creed, color, sex, national origin or ancestry; and a narrow, restricted curriculum."

The March 1949 issue (Vol. 26, no.3, *The Compass*) carried a notice, page 255, headed "For Chapter Editors Only," the text, printed upside down, says:

Out of 1,000 or more active members in Sigma Gamma Epsilon, 999

will turn *The Compass* upside down to read this, and the other one will be blind. Those of you who have read it please remind the chapter editors to submit their letters on time.

In May 1949 (chapter letters, *The Compass*, Vol. 26, no.4), Iota reported 72 active members, the most in their chapter history. Robert H. Dott (Jr., most likely) appears on their new member list, and Louis Dellwig (now Professor Emeritus, The University of Kansas) is on the active list {R. Peterson}. Lambda mentioned that they had a very cold, bad winter, perhaps the worst in the "... history of this continent" (p. 401). They also mentioned their War Memorial Loan Fund, financed by selling their blood to the Bonifields Blood Bank at The Colorado General Hospital in Denver. They had built up a "pool" [no pun intended, I'm sure] of several thousand dollars and had made one loan {R. J. Vaughan}. Alpha Eta reported their "Geology Wives" class, held to inform wives and sweethearts of what to expect as the wife of a geologist, had been a success. Approximately 30 wives and prospective wives had been attending {D. Harding}. Alpha Iota wrote that Dr. Fryxell had obtained a nearly complete skeleton of a pteranodon from the chalk beds of western Kansas for their geology museum {F. Nave}.

FIFTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Fifteenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held at the Argonaut Hotel, Denver, Colorado, October 20-22, 1949; Grand President Staab presided. Of the Grand Council, W. A. Staab, W. A. Mueller, R. C. Moore, C. B. Carpenter, F. M. Bullard, and E. F. Schramm were present. Thirty-two of 35 active chapters were represented by delegates. Seven new chapters had been installed since the previous convention: Alpha Sigma, Brigham Young University; Alpha Upsilon, Mississippi State College; Alpha Tau, Emory University; Alpha Phi, Purdue University; Alpha Chi, University of Alabama; Alpha Psi, University of Arkansas; and Alpha Omega, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanic Arts College.

Grand Vice-President Mueller men-

tioned that the "Chronological History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon" had been distributed at the convention, and noted chapters were listed that he never knew existed, such as Epsilon at the University of Missouri and Eta at Missouri School of Mines. He wondered what could be done to activate those chapters. Mueller said further that it was "a thorn" in his side that Nu at Minnesota was inactive, and "... a school like Minnesota should be brought into the fold" (Mueller, 1949, p. 64).

Grand Secretary-Treasurer Clark B. Carpenter (1949, p.77) addressed the issue of Epsilon Chapter saying that it was a "considerable disappointment" that the chapter was inactive. It seems there was a matter of jealousy that "was permitted to become a stumbling block" and the chapter had ceased to function, but they still had their charter and there was hope it would eventually revive.

Carpenter explained the demise of Eta Chapter at the Missouri School of Mines by saying there were so many organizations there in 1925 that there weren't enough students to go around. No mention was made of the Eta member who had been convicted of robbery and given the whole chapter a bad name in the eyes of the Grand Council. Eta's charter was revoked in 1925.

Professor Carpenter mentioned that with the advent of WWII, some chapters, for instance Virginia Polytechnic Institute, in March or April, 1942, had lost their entire junior and senior classes at once, all leaving to join the military. At UCLA within 30 days of the declaration of war there wasn't an active member of Alpha Gamma Chapter left on campus. Many of the other chapters had the same situation, and further, some of the men never returned and "in many instances the members of the fraternity who did return were so distraught as a result of the experiences that they had had in the army, that the idea of reviving the chapter did not occur to them at all. Eventually, however, we have regained most of them, but we have not regained Minnesota" (p. 73). Carpenter also said that Alpha Xi Chapter had been installed at the University of Chicago but had never held an initiation, and had surrendered their charter to the Grand Secretary (Carpenter, 1949).

Prof. Carpenter noted that the financial condition of the fraternity was the best it had ever been. During the biennium, they had added 25 shares of AT&T stock to their portfolio. All income from investments and from royalties from the sale of insignia went to the Tarr fund, which was at \$2,256.67 (Carpenter, 1949).

Grand Editor Schramm repeated his statements of the previous convention that he did not want to be re-elected, saying: "I haven't changed my mind in the least. ...I want you to elect another editor at this time." Schramm said that he thought Grand Historian Bullard would make a good editor, even though he knew Bullard would plead he was too busy. At which time Bullard spoke up and said, "Consider it said." Editor Schramm then replied, "I can disprove that. A man who can take a leave of absence for one year from a great institution like the University of Texas and spend that year at Vassar trying to tell the young ladies how this old world was formed, he isn't too busy to be Editor of *The Compass*, so I am going to ask you to elect him as Editor of *The Compass*" (Schramm, 1949, p. 87).

There were committees formed for Constitution, *The Compass*, Convention (site of next convention), Chapter Activities and Affairs, Resolutions, and Nominations but none of their reports were printed in *The Compass*. There was a stenographer, apparently for the first time, keeping a verbatim account of the proceedings; at least this convention is the first that has a verbatim account printed in *The Compass*. (Perhaps the records still exist somewhere. If so, the author hopes to find them.) They probably made no changes in the constitution, so didn't feel it was necessary to print the committee report.

The report of the Tarr Award Committee (p. 88) was:

The W. A. Tarr Award committee announces the following rules governing the granting of the W. A. Tarr Award.

1. Any student in the Earth Sciences is eligible to receive the Award whether a member of the Sigma Gamma Epsilon Fraternity or not, at the school in which the active chapter of the Fraternity is located.

Note: Section 4, Article 2, of our Constitution limits membership in the Fraternity to "male persons". Initially, at least, women will not be eligible to receive the award.

2. The recipient of the Award must have majored as an undergraduate in some phase of the Earth Sciences - Geology, Metallurgy, Mining, Petroleum Engineering, Ceramics, Geophysics, et cetera.

3. Scholarship is the essential basis of the award, but personality, leadership, ability to get along with people are worthy of consideration.

4. Completion of one or more courses such as field work subsequent to the date of formal graduation may not cause an individual to be ineligible.

5. The Award should preferably be granted to a graduating senior. Note: It is not contemplated that the Award will be made more than once to the same individual; further, since the Fraternity is primarily an undergraduate Fraternity, it is not contemplated at this time to consider graduate students for the Award.

6. The selection of the student to receive the Award shall be made by a committee consisting of members of the Active Chapter and three Faculty members, two of whom shall be members of the Fraternity.

The faculty Advisor, in conjunction with the chapters, shall set up the method of selecting the Award Committee.

7. Initially the Award will consist of a suitably engraved certificate, signed by the Grand President of the Fraternity and by the Faculty Advisor of the respective chapter. The certificate shall bear the inscription

The W. A. Tarr Award, presented to....., date. Chapter, School.

8. Ordinarily the selection of the recipient of the Award should be made prior to March 15th, but under the present circumstance selection by the 20th of April will be satisfactory.

The W. A. Tarr Award Committee

Grand officers elected for the next biennium were:

Grand President.

Clark B. Carpenter, Golden, Colorado

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

Ralph Esarey, Indiana University

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

Joseph R. Chelikowsky, Kansas State College

Grand Vice-President, Western Province

Bronson Stringham, University of Utah

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

Edward V. O'Rourke, Ohio State University

Grand Editor

Fred M. Bullard, The University of Texas

Grand Historian

Paul D. Proctor, Brigham Young University

The pre-convention announcement, printed in the same issue of *The Compass*, mentions that Friday, October 21st, was set aside for field trips to the Climax Molybdenum mine at Climax, the Arkansas Valley Plant of Asarco at Leadville, and a modern gold dredging operation at Fairplay. Trips were also planned to quarries in pegmatite dikes near Canon City, The Coors Porcelain Plant at Golden, and the Coors Brewery, but there are no reports or photographs of these trips. Chapter letters in Volume 27, number 1, November 1949, issue of *The Compass* mention the field trips. Delta noted: "The trips to the Royal Gorge, Canon City pegmatite area, and Boulder were most interesting to say nothing of our visit to the Coors ceramics plant and brewery in Golden" {R. Becker, p. 117}, so we do know that the field trips occurred.

Alpha Lambda, same issue, mentioned that it had held initiation November 19, 1949, in selected remote chambers of the Carlsbad Caverns. Mr. Libbey, an associate member of Alpha Lambda and director of the Carlsbad park area, had treated all the members to a tour of the lower caverns. A planned trip to the International Potash Company mine had to be cancelled: "The Carlsbad potash mines are acknowledged to be the safest, most modern, have the highest wage standard, and offer as much security as any industry in the world. It is amazing to say that the trip to the potash

mine was cancelled because of a labor strike" {Bruce I. Dedman, p. 135}. Alpha Nu noted that their alumnus, Robert Cowdery, was working as a geologist for the City Service Oil Company {R. H. Burton}.

In the January 1950 (Vol. 27, no. 2) issue of *The Compass*, Lambda's chapter letter mentions that of 12 seniors from their campus listed in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*, nine had been members of ΣΓΕ. Iota's chapter letter in the March 1950 issue mentions that Robert Dott [Jr.], a geology student, was to speak on "Recent Investigations of Tertiary Coal in Wyoming" {E. C. Stoeber, Jr.} Alpha Theta wrote that Dr. F. Alton Wade had been granted a two-year leave of absence to work in Japan as an Operations Analyst for the United States Air Force {R. Storch}.

The Compass for January 1951 (Vol. 28, no. 1) carries the news in Iota's chapter letter that Robert H. Dott, Jr., was named Vice-President of their chapter {M. Weiss}. Lambda dominated the Colorado School of Mines' entrants into *Who's Who* again, 12 out of 15 being members of Lambda {James R. Daniels}.

Chapter letters in the March 1951 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 28, no. 1) raise the specter of war again. Delta's letter notes: "Right now quite a few of the brothers are 'sweating it out.' Some are reservists, some members of the local National Guard" {H. Dennis, p.260}. Omega wrote: "Thus far we have lost one member to the armed forces" {J. Edwards, p. 262}. Beta Beta's J. P. Minord reported that they had lost one man to the Air Force and others seemed likely to follow. Alpha Zeta mentioned that their alumnus, Ralph Paulus, had a frightening experience the term before. He had fallen "down a one hundred foot mine shaft, breaking his arm and cracking a rib, and losing his interest in mining operations for a while." He'd gone to work for the Superior Oil Company, so he probably wouldn't have to worry about mines anymore {E. R. Goodman, p. 262}.

The May 1951 issue of *The Compass* carried a biography of F. Alton Wade of Miami University, saying that since March 1950, Dr. Wade had been in Korea as Expert Civilian Advisor to the 5th Air Corps. Dr. Wade had been awarded the Special Congressional Medal for services rendered in Antarctica and Greenland (Butler, 1951).

The same issue carries a notice concerning types of membership in $\Sigma\Gamma E$, saying there seemed to be considerable confusion among the chapters regarding the classes of membership, which were the following. 1) Active members, initiated as undergraduates or graduate students. Undergraduates retain active status until graduation. Graduate students retain active status for one year, or at their option, for any consecutive time during graduate school. 2) Associate membership, reserved for faculty in the grade of instructor or above, or professional men in the field of the earth sciences. 3) Honorary membership, for men who are pre-eminent in the field of earth sciences and of high scientific attainment.

Iota mentioned that Robert H. Dott, Sr., Director of the Oklahoma Geological Survey (Figure 12), had spoken there on "Functions of the State Geological Survey" (M. Weiss). Rho told of their 25th anniversary celebration. Dr. W. H. Twenhofel, founder of $\Sigma\Gamma E$ was the principal speaker. Grand Historian Paul Proctor and Grand Vice-President Ralph Esarey had also been present (I. D. Taylor).

Volume 29, number 1, *The Compass* (November, 1951) announced that Eta Chapter at the Missouri School of Mines had reactivated after 26 years. In the same issue, Grand Editor Fred M. Bullard advised that he had accepted a Fulbright Scholarship to study volcanoes in southern Italy and adjacent islands for a year, so that issue was his last as Editor.

Theta Chapter's letter for the same issue was written by Paul C. Franks, who became recording secretary of Alpha Chapter at the University of Kansas a year or two later. Unfortunately, the sense of humor so readily apparent in Dr. Franks' Alpha minutes do not shine through in the Theta letter. Upsilon mentioned that their W. A. Staab Award (named for the former Grand President and given for the highest academic achievement) had gone to John Wray (S. Dickinson).

SIXTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Sixteenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon convened December 6, 1951, at Phillip's Willow Room, Hot

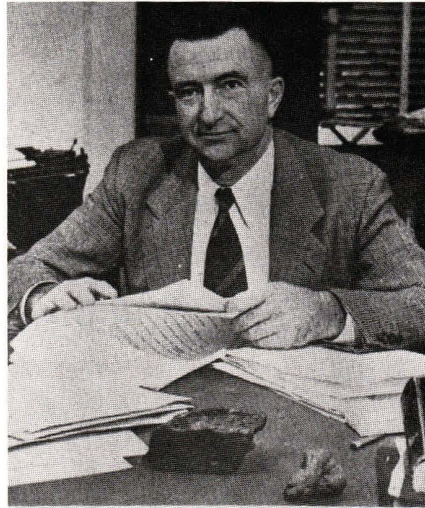


Figure 12. Robert H. Dott, Sr. Photo copied from Volume 28, number 3, page 234 of *The Compass*.

Springs, Arkansas, with Grand President Clark B. Carpenter presiding. Alpha Psi Chapter hosted the event. All of the grand officers were present and 37 of 45 active chapters were represented by delegates. Nine new chapters had been installed since the preceding convention: Beta Alpha, University of Washington; Beta Beta, Upsala College; Beta Gamma, Utah State Agricultural College; Beta Delta, Montana State University; Beta Epsilon, Centenary College; Beta Zeta, University of North Dakota; Beta Eta, Tulane University; Beta Theta, University of Massachusetts; Beta Iota, University of Houston; and Eta was rechartered and reactivated.

President Carpenter suggested a constitution change regarding financial aid to delegates, to allow for air travel as well as rail, and to provide a lump sum of \$25.00 to each delegate in addition to the travel fare. Carpenter again (as had all the national officers over the years) reminded the delegates that $\Sigma\Gamma E$ was an organization for all earth scientists and should not be restricted to students of geology. In particular he mentioned his own field of metallurgy. Professor Carpenter suggested that it might be time to further divide the provinces so that the Grand Vice-

Presidents would not have so much territory to cover (Carpenter, 1952).

Grand Secretary-Treasurer E. V. O'Rourke gave a lengthy report, saying: "The work of the Grand Secretary-Treasurer requires a good deal of time. In fact, I am sure I spend more time taking care of Fraternity affairs than I do teaching and in preparation for teaching. So I would like to have you select a man who is young and peppy and energetic to take over this work, one who can do most of the typing at home at nights while his wife is taking care of the children" (p. 200). O'Rourke went on to say that they needed to amend the constitution to allow for salaries for the Grand Secretary-Treasurer (\$900.00 per year) and Grand Editor (\$400.00 per year). He said they were then receiving \$500.00 and \$200.00 per year, respectively, and that most of it went for clerical work. O'Rourke went on: "I don't believe you realize the great amount of work that your present President [C. B. Carpenter] did during the twenty-five years or so he was Grand Secretary-Treasurer, and I am pretty sure he did it without any compensation, and, of course, if it is possible to get somebody that is public spirited enough to do it in the future without pay, that is all right, but I don't believe it is fair to the individual" (p. 202). O'Rourke continued that they should raise the price of subscriptions to *The Compass*, because the \$1.00 per year subscription didn't cover the cost of printing and mailing the magazine. O'Rourke mentioned that the National Council (on behalf of the organization) had assumed the expenses of the banquet, the lunch on the field trip, buses for the field trip, and the preparation of the guide books. He noted that there had been inquiries about ΣΓΕ from Baylor and Wichita University (author's alma mater) in the Central region, and several in the Eastern Province (O'Rourke, 1952).

Grand Editor Bullard remarked that the reason the subscription price was set at \$1.00 was because they had to have part of the national dues designated as subscription or the post office would not accept *The Compass* as second-class mail. It was stated in the constitution that of the \$3.00 national dues, \$1.00 was for a subscription to *The Compass*, but maybe it was time to

change that to reflect the actual cost of *The Compass*, so that libraries and individual subscribers would not get the magazine for less than it cost to publish. Bullard concluded by reading the "Editor Leaving" article from the November 1951 issue, which he assured the delegates would be waiting for them upon their return home (Bullard, 1952).

Grand Historian P. D. Proctor told of a survey he had done on records that had been available to him. He cautioned the group to remember he had used only data available to him (1952). Your author assumes he meant active members, initiated since he took office.

Agriculture	1 person
Ceramic Engineers.....	18
Civil Engineering	23
Geologists.....	1,333
Geological Engineering.....	52
Geography.....	9
Geophysicists	13
Metallurgical Engineers	143
Metallurgists	15
Mining Engineers.....	81
Petroleum Engineers	121
Chemical Engineers	24
Mathematician	1
Business Administration	1

Friday, December 7, 1951, was spent on field trips in and around Hot Springs. Photographs of the events are printed in *The Compass*, Volume 29, number 2, page 225. Alpha Psi Chapter and Dr. Payne at the University of Arkansas compiled guide-books and maps for the field trips. The aid of State Geologist N. F. Williams in guiding field trips was acknowledged. An informal dinner was held Friday evening; the speaker was H. D. Miser of the USGS.

Grand Officers elected for the next biennium were:

- Grand President
Clark B. Carpenter, Colorado School of Mines
- Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province
E. V. O'Rourke, Ohio State University
- Grand Vice-President, Central Province
J. Norman Payne, University of Arkansas
- Grand Vice-President, Western Province
Bronson Stringham, University of Utah

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

William R. Higgs, Missouri School of Mines

Grand Editor

Paul Dean Proctor, Indiana University

Grand Historian

Ralph E. Esarey, Indiana University

In Volume 29, number 2, *The Compass*, Gamma's chapter letter mentions that they had initiated Hubert C. Skinner (National President, SGE, 1965-1970, 1975-1978). Gamma had also accepted Dr. C. E. Decker's resignation as their chapter advisor, since he was retiring, and had elected him Honorary Lifetime Sponsor of their group {C. W. Smith}. Alpha Theta mentioned that Dr. Wade had recently returned to Miami's faculty from Korea. Dr. Wade had spoken at their initiation banquet, showing color slides of Japan and Korea {G. Garman}. The March issue (Vol. 29, no. 3) carried the news from Alpha Delta Chapter that Gerald M. Friedman (National President, ΣΓΕ 1982-1986), instructor in mineralogy, had been initiated as an associate member.

In the May 1952 issue (Vol. 29, no. 4) chapter letters, Alpha Delta noted that their newest faculty member, Dr. G. M. Friedman, had received his Ph.D. recently from Columbia University {R. H. Bruns}. Alpha Chapter wrote that pledge week had begun the week of March 3, under the direction of Dan Merriam, who arranged a tug-of-war to take place between classes in the snow in front of Lindley Hall [Geology Building] {D. Asquith}. Beta Eta mentioned that they were looking forward to an illustrated lecture by Dr. Carey Croneis, who was coming to campus under auspices of the New Orleans Academy of Science {R. E. McLaughlin}. The issue also carried the news that Paul C. Franks had received Theta's W. A. Tarr award.

A few changes to the constitution instituted at the Sixteenth National Convention were listed on page 354. No big surprises there. They deleted the "Addenda" at the end of the Constitution pertaining to life subscriptions because so few had taken advantage of it, and those who did changed their addresses so often the Grand Editor could not keep up with them. The notice further stated that those who already had life subscriptions would continue to receive

The Compass as long as they kept the editor informed of their whereabouts.

The November 1952 issue (Vol. 30, no. 1) of *The Compass* carried a notice that the Grand Council of Sigma Gamma Epsilon would be presenting Special Writing Awards to the writers of the best scientific papers published by active members of the Fraternity in *The Compass* during the school year. Theta's chapter letter in the same issue noted that Paul C. Franks expected to begin work at the University of Kansas in the fall {R. A. Bailey}. There was an editor's note that said the letter had arrived too late for inclusion in the May issue. Rho wrote that they were saddened by the death of one of their members, Carlyle Hill, who had died of a brain tumor, and that another member, Evart Christensen, was recovering from polio.

Grand President C. B. Carpenter included an editorial in the January 1953 issue (Vol. 30, no. 2), rebutting some "outside" criticism of ΣΓΕ. Apparently the requirements for admittance had come in for some complaining or criticism. Carpenter (p. 10) said:

"The constitution sets the minimum requirements. If individual chapters wish to raise the requirements, as some have done, the added hurdle must be cleared before a man may be pledged for membership. I do believe that any chapter which raises the requirements should be careful in their application of them. We are not out to compete with Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, or Phi Beta Kappa. What we want is an organization of good men, carefully selected for scholarship, ability to get along with others, honesty, initiative and who give promise of success in their fields of endeavor."

In the same issue Alpha Chapter announced that Dan Merriam was their new president for 1952-1953 {M. Ball}. Alpha Alpha (University of North Carolina) wrote that their professor, Dr. Walter Wheeler, had been stricken with polio two weeks before the beginning of the fall term {J. Watkins}. Alpha Iota mentioned that one of their principal long-range projects was to continue to raise funds for the

Franklin Anderson Memorial Scholarship {P. Mueller}.

Volume 30, number 3 (March 1953) carried more information about the Special Scientific Writing Award offered by the Grand Council. Values of the award would range from \$25.00 to \$50.00 and would be presented at the end of each school year. The Grand Council would serve as judges.

On page 185 of the same issue is a notice of a proposal brought by Alpha Delta requesting Honorary Membership for Dr. John L. Rich. Dr. Rich was a professor at the University of Cincinnati who gained wide recognition for his work, which, according to the proposal, included pioneering work on the shoestring sands of Kansas, and credit for finding numerous oil fields in the area. *The Bibliography of Kansas Geology* shows 19 publications under his name.

Gamma, in the chapter letters, noted that Hubert Skinner was named chapter vice-president {J. Miller}. Iota wrote that Professor Emeritus William Herbert Hobbs had died on New Year's Day, saying: "At the age of 88 he maintained his vitality and varied interests to the last.... He will be remembered as one of the greatest geologists and explorers of our time" {H. C. Crandell, Jr.}. Alpha Alpha reported that they had abolished all hazing of pledges, and were happy to say the results were "...most satisfactory, producing more fellowship and harmony between pledges and actives. We believe that we have added some measure of dignity and maturity to our chapter." They also mentioned that Dr. Walter Wheeler was on the road to full recovery from his polio attack {J. S. Watkins}. For some time, Alpha Theta Chapter had been raising funds by selling 2 1/4" X 1" bronze replicas of the trilobite *Phacops rana* for \$1.25 each. They had taken a cast from their advisor's prized specimen. In this issue they wrote: "The finances of the chapter which appeared so dismal in September are in fine shape now largely through the efforts of Secretary-Treasurer George Garman. Special recognition is given Treasurer Garman who with bullwhip in hand, collected the Chapter dues and pushed the sale of bronze trilobites. When last seen he was pursuing our more tight-fisted members" {B. Warner}.

The May 1953 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 30, no. 4) carried a notice to the chapters that for \$26.50 they could purchase a 10" X 16" plaque upon which to inscribe the Tarr Award recipients from their chapter. It was suggested they hang the plaque in the hall of the principal building on campus or in a Hall of Fame section where the majority of the student body could easily see it. Another notice, same issue, notes that Alpha Zeta Chapter had "fallen by the wayside" {p. 254}. The reason given was decreased enrollment. It was hoped that the chapter would reactivate in the not-too-distant future. The same page carried a notice that Grand President Clark B. Carpenter had been ill. He was born May 21, 1888, so he would have been about 65 years old then.

Zeta Chapter reported that Dr. Fred Bullard, who had just returned from an extended stay in Italy, had shown slides of Italian geology at their initiation banquet. Lambda wrote that the annual basketball game between the "Sig Gam" and Theta Tau honoraries had resulted in a moral victory for Lambda. Although they lost the game, Theta Taus had on their team 8 out of 10 of the varsity basketball team, so even though Lambda lost the game 43-52, they were proud of their showing. This annual basketball game had been going on for many years, and there was a great deal of rivalry between the two fraternities.

The Volume 31, number 1 issue of *The Compass* (November 1953) included for the first time a field trip itinerary planned for the upcoming convention. The field trip would take place in the Wasatch Mountains near Salt Lake City, Utah. The article contained photographs of sights to be seen on the trip. An editorial (p. 56) mentions that the issue would be Grand Editor Proctor's "swan song," because he had taken a special research position with the U. S. Steel Corporation that would involve considerable travel. Proctor said: "May I add my own personal thanks to my good wife Martha for the real aid she has given in helping to meet the various printing and mailing deadlines." There was a notice by H. C. Skinner on page 59 reporting that Charles Elijah Decker had been presented with a plaque for his long service to Sigma Gamma Epsilon and Gamma Chapter. He

had served as a national officer for 14 years, as Secretary-Treasurer and as Grand President. Alpha Psi, in the chapter letters, reported that Professor Norman J. Payne had resigned from the University of Arkansas faculty. He had served as chapter advisor and was Grand Vice-President of the Central Province. Payne had gone to work for Standard Oil of Ohio in Houston, Texas.

SEVENTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Seventeenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held at the Hotel Newhouse, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 29-31, 1953, with Grand President C. B. Carpenter presiding. Mu, Alpha Sigma, and Beta Gamma Chapters acted as hosts. Forty-six of 47 chapters were represented by delegates. Grand Vice-President E. V. O'Rourke was unable to attend because of illness. Three new chapters had been installed since the previous convention: Beta Kappa, University of Virginia; Beta Lambda, University of Tulsa; and Beta Mu, University of New Mexico. An editor's note on page 97 (Vol. 31, no. 2) of *The Compass* reported that he had abstracted and edited 323 pages of verbatim minutes to save publication space. [Author's note: I hope to eventually find these and other records of the organization.] President Carpenter opened the meeting on Thursday, October 29, 1953, with a general statement of the well-being of the Fraternity. Professor Esarey, Grand Historian, presided over the reading of the biennial reports from the chapters. The chapter reports were mostly a rehashing of items that had already appeared in the chapter letters published in *The Compass*, but Theta Chapter {D. Squires}, Cornell University, proposed that women be allowed to join the society, saying: "Cornell has always had a few female geology majors and the number is increasing. Theta feels that other Chapters may be laboring under the same situation. It also feels that this organization of Sigma Gamma Epsilon is primarily an honorary earth science society and secondarily and not necessarily, a fraternity" (p. 104). Considering the time and space devoted to

the subject of whether to call ΣΓΕ an Honorary Society, a Professional Society, an Honorary Professional Society, or a Professional Honorary Society in other issues of *The Compass*, the author is sure that this subject alone must have prompted considerable discussion. Judging on verbatim records of the 1965 Convention, the subject of women being allowed to join no doubt prompted a great deal of heated discussion as well. Omega Chapter {P. Hallock} mentioned that no hazing was permitted in the initiation of new members. Alpha Phi {K. Antony} noted that far from being a chapter heavy with geologists, they were composed entirely of metallurgical engineers.

Grand President Carpenter mentioned that ex-President Staab and ex-President Henderson had been appointed to draw up rules and regulations for proposed scholarships. The rules were:

1. There were to be three scholarships of \$300.00 each,
2. The applicant must be in his senior year, and the scholarship must apply towards a master's degree in the Earth Sciences.
3. The applicant must have been an active member of ΣΓΕ for at least 3 semesters prior to making the application.
4. Scholarships were limited to one year for each recipient, and no scholarship could be awarded to any applicant from the same school for two successive years.
5. The applicant had to outline a program of study, supply his personal history and all scholastic data with the application for the scholarship.
6. The application had to be approved by the faculty advisor for the fraternity, and the academic advisor for the student.
7. The application had to be approved by the active chapter and carry the signature of at least three active members.
8. Each active chapter could recommend no more than three candidates, and the faculty members or the faculty advisor to the chapter had to screen the applicants and select one.

9. The applications were to be sent to each respective Regional Vice-President, and he was to select three candidates from the applications submitted to him.

10. The three candidates for each Province were to be sent to a committee on scholarships appointed by the Grand Council, and they were to award one scholarship for each Province.

11. The selection was to be made by April 15th each year.

12. The scholarship committee was to select an alternate for each province.

President Carpenter also mentioned that a directory of the society had not been published since before the war. He suggested that an issue of *The Compass* be devoted to a directory (Carpenter, 1954). The need for a new directory had apparently now been under discussion or consideration for seven years (see 14th National Convention). Grand Secretary-Treasurer William R. Higgs reported that as of January 1, 1952, the fraternity had \$35,000.00 of negotiable stocks and bonds, and also \$5,000.00 in the bank. Convention expenses had come to \$9,926.00, making it necessary to borrow \$7,000.00 for convention expenses, leaving a cash balance of \$2,424.00 [Author's note: These figures do not add up, but they are reported accurately here, see Vol. 31, no. 2, p. 121, *The Compass*]. The \$7,000.00 had come from using 100 shares of National Biscuit stock, 25 shares of AT&T, and 50 shares of Standard Oil of California as collateral.

Grand Historian Ralph E. Esarey reported a good secretary had helped to get the records in good shape, although it could not be determined whether the records were complete.

Grand Editor Paul Dean Proctor noted that *The Compass* was listed in the *Engineering Card File* and the national *Bibliography of North American Geology*. He stated that employers wrote to him asking for copies of certain individual's papers, and that subscriptions outside the fraternity were on the increase. He said: "The editors have attempted to keep the quality of papers high so that national recognition can result" (p. 124).

New Grand Officers elected for the next biennium were:

Grand President

Fred M. Bullard, University of Texas
Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province
William H. Shideler, Miami University

Grand Vice-President, Central Province
Edward A. Frederickson, University of
Oklahoma

Grand Vice-President, Western Province
Bronson Stringham, University of Utah

Grand Secretary-Treasurer
William R. Higgs, Missouri School of
Mines

Grand Editor
Harold J. Bissell, Brigham Young
University

Grand Historian
Ralph E. Esarey, Indiana University

An acknowledgement appears on page 131 thanking President Carpenter for all his years of service to the society. He had been a member of the Grand Council of Sigma Gamma Epsilon since 1924. In the same issue, page 135, the "Swap Page" was revived, now called the "Exchange Page." Several chapters listed fossils and mineral specimens they had to swap with other chapters.

Daniel F. Merriam's first published paper (Merriam, 1991) was contained in Volume 31, number 3 (March 1954, p. 155-171) of *The Compass*. It was titled "Tertiary geology of the Piceance Basin northwestern Colorado," and was condensed from his Master's thesis at The University of Kansas. The same issue carried a petition from Delta Chapter to make G. E. Condra an Honorary Member of the organization. In chapter letters, Gamma wrote that it had recently lost one of its best friends with the death of Mrs. Gertrude Monlux Decker, wife of C. E. Decker {W. J. Monk}. Alpha Iota noted the tragic death of Dr. F. M. Fryxell's eldest son, John Birger Fryxell. He had been a member of the Udden Geology Club at Augustana, but was doing graduate work in political science at the University of Illinois.

Hubert C. Skinner's first published paper (Skinner, 1966) appeared in the next issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 31, no. 4, May, 1954, p. 311-314), titled "Vertebrate fossil collecting in Wyoming and Montana." The paper describes a collecting trip sponsored

by the Museum of the University of Oklahoma.

The Grand Council Scientific Writing Awards for 1953–1954 are given on page 327 of the same issue. Writing award A went to George Chilingar for his paper "Use of Ca/Mg ratio in limestones as a geologic tool"; award B went to John V. Byrne for "The effect of marine organisms on the pH of sea water"; and award C went to Harry W. Kugler, Jr., for "The structure and stratigraphy of the Alfordsville area, Daviess County, Indiana."

In the chapter letters of that issue, Gamma wrote that they had been working with Mr. Frank Gouin, Chairman of the AAPG Committee on Boy Scout Literature, to encourage interest among the scouts for the new Merit Badge in Geology (B. Ballard). Beta Lambda, University of Tulsa, mentioned that Grand President Bullard was to speak to them in April on the subject of vulcanology.

The chapter letters in Volume 32, number 1 (November 1954) tell us that Eta was glad that Grand Secretary Higgs had returned to teaching after a year's leave to finish his Ph.D. (D. H. Bailey). Alpha Alpha noted that Dr. Wheeler had spoken to them on "General reconnaissance of the geology of North America." Dr. Wheeler had illustrated the talk with color slides he had taken on a tour of the middle west and western states, so it seems he had recovered from his bout with polio. Alpha Delta noted that member Barry C. Bishop, immediately after graduation, was to go on a four-man glacial research team headed by Dr. T. M. Griffiths, University of Denver. They would be working under the auspices of the Snow Ice Permafrost Research Establishment and directed by the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Bishop had made a name for himself in 1951 when at age 19 he had been the youngest member of the expedition that made the first successful ascent of the western face of Mt. McKinley (K. E. Caster). Beta Eta, Tulane University, reported that Hubert C. Skinner had joined their faculty as an assistant professor of geology (J. C. McCampbell).

"Mister Geologist of Nebraska," G. E. Condra, was honored in the January 1955 issue of *The Compass* with an editorial (p. 157) and photos showing his acceptance of

his Honorary Membership in Sigma Gamma Epsilon. In chapter letters in the same issue (Vol. 32, no. 2), Alpha mentions a project to obtain fusulinids from 15 zones in the Shawnee Group of the Virgilian Series to package and send to universities that requested them. This work was done under the direction of R. C. Moore. This task was quite an undertaking for the group and required several years to complete (R. Terry). Delta's letter chiefly concerned Dr. Condra, saying: "This kind of public service has also resulted in great good to the University, and it has been no secret that many times Dr. Condra has almost single-handedly 'saved' the University's legislative appropriation" (A. L. Lugin, p. 163). Rho mentioned they were starting a file of questions asked by faculty during master's and doctor's oral examinations. As soon as the candidate had finished his orals, he immediately sat down and wrote as many questions as he could remember and placed them in the file for future candidates to study (L. R. Rooney). Uranium was a subject mentioned by many of the chapters during the early fifties. Psi's Howard Braden, '54, had 24 uranium claims on the Colorado Plateau by January 1955. W. B. Schipper, also Psi member, spent the summer of 1954 working with Dr. A. L. Anderson of Cornell, mapping the Salmon, Idaho, quadrangle. Each evening, they were met by dozens of prospectors, carrying tons of rocks, mostly radioactive. Schipper said he had been forced to master the geology, mining, and metallurgy of thorium and uranium to protect himself (W. B. Schipper). Alpha Nu, Kansas State, wrote that Mr. Daniel F. Merriam, of the Kansas Geological Survey, had addressed them on the "Jurassic of Kansas" (R. L. Vincent).

A Grand Council meeting was reported in the March 1955 issue *The Compass*, Vol. 32, no. 3). The Council met in St. Louis at the Jefferson Hotel on January 29, 1955. All Grand Council members, except W. H. Shideler, were present. The inactive chapters, Epsilon (U. of Missouri), Nu (U. of Minnesota), Omicron (U. of California), Pi (Mackay School of Mines), Tau (George Washington U.), Alpha Kappa (Johns Hopkins), and Alpha Xi (U. of Chicago) were discussed. They decided that time was not right to try to reactivate any of them.

They decided to send to each delegate to the upcoming convention a copy of the House Rules as drawn up by the House Rules Committee appointed at the 1953 convention. Delegates would also be notified of the committees on which they would serve and it was hoped that the committees would meet the evening before the convention was to begin. Council members decided that to increase interest in the "Chapter Letters" section of the magazine, the letters would be re-edited and set up as news items instead of printed in their entirety as written. The W. A. Tarr scholarships had received no applicants. Since the money set aside for them had not been used, there was a possibility of using the funds to set up a series of official lecture tours similar to the distinguished lecture tours sponsored by the AAPG. The investments in stocks had earned a total of 38 percent during the 12 months of 1954. Approval was given to sell the holdings in Continental Oil and Standard Oil of Indiana to pay off indebtedness incurred by the financing of the 1953 convention. The possibility of creating a job opportunity committee was discussed and dismissed once again as unfeasible. The Grand Council unanimously decided that the word "fraternity" should be removed from the name of the organization, to be replaced by the word "society." This was because the word fraternity had general reference to social groups, and the word society to those of an honorary nature. Another recommendation to be placed before the 1955 convention pertained to the office of Grand Secretary-Treasurer. It was thought, because the work of the office had assumed such dimensions, that the position should be an appointed one rather than elective.

The May 1955 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 32, no. 4) contains an article commending Gamma Chapter for their work with the Boy Scouts. Dr. Chalmer L. Cooper, Chairman, AGS, Boy Scout Committee, had written to the Grand Secretary-Treasurer to commend Gamma Chapter. The Grand Editor encouraged other chapters to emulate Gamma's work. In the chapter letters in that issue, Gamma reported that Dr. Carey Croneis of the Rice Institute was to be the speaker at their spring banquet. Alpha was trying to estab-

lish a permanent fund from which the interest would be drawn to finance an annual award to an outstanding student. [Author's note: so far as I can learn, this never came into being.] Rho noted that Professor Ralph Esarey was on sabbatical leave and intended to visit Venezuela.

In the November 1955 (Vol. 33, no. 1, *The Compass*) chapter news, Eta noted they had lost their chapter advisor, Grand Secretary-Treasurer W. R. Higgs, who had left The Missouri School of Mines for Louisiana Tech. Alpha Delta mentioned that Honorary Member John L. Rich was retiring.

EIGHTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Eighteenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 3-5, 1955. Beta Eta Chapter acted as host. All of the Grand Officers were present, and 42 of 47 active chapters were represented by delegates. One chapter, Beta Nu, Southwestern Institute, had been installed since the previous convention. President Bullard called the meeting to order on Thursday, November 3, 1955, by introducing Dr. R. A. Steinmayer, head of the Department of Geology at Tulane University and advisor to Beta Eta Chapter. Dr. Steinmayer extended greetings to the convention. Chapter reports were read (see Vol. 33, no. 2, p. 127, *The Compass*). Alpha Chapter's T. E. Ryther mentioned their fusulinid project directed by R. C. Moore, and announced that the fusulinid sets were packaged and ready for distribution to interested chapters. Psi's J. M. Whiting told of a new type of field trip initiated at Idaho; all of the students and instructors from all the geology classes had boarded a train and traveled over 100 miles to Orofino, Idaho. Approximately 400 students had taken the field trip at one time. Enroute the train had stopped several times so the students could disembark and study the geology. Members of ΣΓΕ and the Associated Miners (local geology club) had sold hot dogs, coffee, and candy bars in the train's dining car. Alpha Beta's delegate, D. E. Fritz, mentioned that each of their pledges was required to wear a coprolite

around his neck and be ready to give the identification of it when requested by any member, and that could prove rather amusing. Alpha Mu's B. L. Feldbaum told of the large dinosaur their department had built as a float for the homecoming parade. It had won first prize, and the department was seriously considering having it cast in cement for mounting on the front lawn of the Mineral Industries Building. Beta Lambda's J. A. Hawkinson said that pledging at Tulsa was given much serious thought and planning. During pledge week a man had to wear field clothes and carry a pick with him. He also carried a sheet that contained the names of all members and associates and upon which he obtained their signatures, and thus became acquainted with the members of the group.

In his report, Grand President Bullard mentioned the first interim meeting of the Grand Council, which had been held in St. Louis the year before, saying: "It would appear that the affairs of the fraternity justify a consideration more than once every two years..." (p. 142). He noted that expansion of the fraternity was a major problem facing the Grand Council. He said that there was no doubt that chapters could be placed in a number of new schools, but it was felt that all schools should be carefully investigated to ascertain whether there was a place for ΣΓΕ, and whether standards would be maintained, before granting them a chapter (1956).

Grand Vice-President of the Central Province E. A. Frederickson said that since the scholarship program had been in effect, only two scholarships had been granted, and that perhaps members of the fraternity did not realize that they were eligible for them. He also urged the chapters, in the name of continuity, to pledge more juniors (1956).

Grand Vice-President of the Western Province Bronson Stringham said that growth of the fraternity was outstanding. "And, even though females are not permitted to join this organization (although one day they may be voted in) Sigma Gamma Epsilon will continue to enjoy steady and progressive growth" (Stringham, 1956, p. 145).

Grand Secretary-Treasurer William R. Higgs noted that during the years 1953-1955, 1,654 new members had been

initiated. He asked, "What is being done for the new members?" and answered himself in the words of former Grand President Carpenter, "I tell you, we have got to do three things for these boys; we have to give them a magazine; we've got to give them a good convention, and we've got to give them money." Higgs said that seemed to be exactly what ΣΓΕ was doing for its members (1956, p. 145).

Grand Editor Bissell said: "And, now that this honorary organization will be known as 'Society' rather than 'Fraternity,' our magazine will show this change on the front cover (No. 1, Volume 33-November, 1955-indicates this change)" (1956, p. 147). Bissell said that more requests than ever before were arriving for certain issues of the magazine, and he thought this was an indication of an overall increase in quality. He said that contributors should remember that having their papers listed in national bibliographies as well as cited in widely circulated periodicals would lend stature not only to *The Compass*, but to the individual as well.

Friday, November 4 was devoted to field trips arranged and financed by the following companies:

Freeport Sulphur Company

Grand Ecaille: Marshland Drilling
Operations Gulf Refining Company
Bayou Couba: Marshland Drilling
Operations

Humble Oil and Refining Company

Jefferson Island: Oil and Salt
Production

Shell Oil Company

East Bay Field, South Pass:
Marshland Drilling Operations
The Texas Company Lafitte Field:
Marshland Drilling Operations

Several photographs of the field trips are published in this issue (Vol. 33, no. 2).

There was an informal dinner held on Friday evening; Mr. John Chase columnist, author, and cartoonist, was the speaker.

Grand Officers elected for the next biennium were:

Grand President

Fred M. Bullard, University of Texas

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

Ralph E. Esarey, Indiana University

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

Edward A. Frederickson, University of
Oklahoma

Grand Vice-President, Western Province
Vincent C. Kelley, University of New
Mexico

Grand Editor
Harold J. Bissell, Brigham Young
University

Grand Historian
Charles A. Hickcox, Centenary College

In the Chapter News Items in the same issue, Alpha Nu, Kansas State, reported their first geology summer field camp in June 1955, at Beulah, Colorado. Alpha Nu also mentioned that Dr. J. R. Chelikowsky (former Grand Vice-President ΣΓΕ) had been made permanent head of their geology department. Alpha Nu had recently had a seminar on "Handling of radio active [sic] minerals" and the country's interest in uranium and other radioactive minerals is evident from the prevalence of articles on the subject printed in *The Compass* and the frequent mention of the minerals made in the chapter news items.

The March 1956 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 33, no. 3) contains a chapter letter from Rho that is so delightful it is included here:

The elevator has been completed and Owen Hall still stands. The elevator is so slow however, that one wonders if he is really going up or if the building is settling. Several new buildings have gone up on campus, causing domino-like repercussions even so far down the housing scale as the geology department. Geologists, in their several varieties (paleontologists, etc.) are disseminated about the campus, occupying tidbits of available space - hollow trees and the like. With the space made available by the construction of a new life science building, the geologists and equipment housed in the lean-to's directly in the path of the imminent new wing of the Union Building, are forced to move to questionably better quarters - Wylie Hall, already famed as a haven of refuge during the Indian Wars.

What to do with the library of several thousand feet of drill core recently and brilliantly moved into the path of the bloating Union Building

remains a question. A plan is on foot to plant them back in the ground. Although such an underground library would have distinct advantages (protection from bomb attack, natural rock T & P [temperature and pressure?], conservation of space), there are several disadvantages. A committee has been appointed. Part of the newly acquired space is the former Kinsey Institute of Sex Research, a fitting habitat for many earthy colloquia of the Indiana Survey.

Alpha Iota reported that proceeds from a lecture by Lawrence Roys on "Machupiccu, Peru—the last Inca stronghold" had been added to their Franklin Johnson Memorial Scholarship fund. Beta Lambda wrote that they had participated in a crow hunt during vacation:

Armed with rifles, revolvers and shotguns, members safaried to the Arkansas River bottoms in a vain search for crows. After failing to bring down a single crow, members then traveled to a local dump where they found an ample supply of tin cans and pop bottles for target practice. Before proceeding home a short stop was made at a nearby tavern, at which a good time was enjoyed by all.

Beta Lambda had also attended a talk at the Tulsa Geological Society given by Dr. Harold R. Wanless on "Problems in Pennsylvanian Rocks."

The May 1956 issue of *The Compass* congratulated the W. A. Tarr Award winners for 1956. Paul P. Enos won Alpha's award that year; Sam Boggs, Jr. won Chi's; and Richard B. Laudon won Beta Lambda's. The Grand Council Scientific Writing Awards were given on the same page, Award A went to Donald G. Harris for "Meramec and Lower Chester strata of northeastern Oklahoma, southwestern Missouri, and northwestern Arkansas"; Award B went to J. L. Lookingbill for "Geology of the Gallina Uplift, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico"; and Award C went to Bert L. Renzetti for "Geology of the Scranton Mine area, Tooele County, Utah."

Chapter news items in the same issue mention that Omega's Paul F. Patchick had recently returned from Korea where he assisted the United Nations Reconstruction

Agency in the study of economic mineral deposits. Omega Chapter had created a display of rare mineral samples from various countries around the world, including a portion of a collection assembled by Patchick. On display was a 13-pound sheelite [sic] crystal, considered to be the largest and finest of its kind in the world. Alpha Psi mentioned they had initiated Tom Freeman of Hot Springs. Beta Mu wrote that they had sponsored two programs open to the public: Dr. C. V. Theis of the USGS spoke on "Problems of Ground Disposal of Atomic Waste," and John Wood of Chapman and Wood Mining Engineers Company spoke on "Uranium Exploration and Evaluation."

Volume 34, number 1 (November 1956), *The Compass*, contains a note in the chapter news items that Beta Epsilon, Centenary College, had sent an initiation team to Louisiana Polytechnic Institute to install a new chapter there. Grand Historian Hickcox and Grand Secretary-Treasurer Higgs had presided. In January 1957 (Vol. 34, no. 2, *The Compass*) Chapter News Items, Delta noted that a banquet had been held in December honoring two "Sig Gam" members, Dr. A. L. Lugn, their chapter advisor, and Dr. Maxim Elias. Both men were retiring.

In the March 1957 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 34, no. 3) Chapter News Items note that Jim Underwood had been elected president of Zeta Chapter. Alpha Beta, Texas Technological College, wrote that Dr. F. Alton Wade, head of their department, spoke to chapter members, pledges, and guests on "The Geology of the Antarctic Continent." Alpha Rho reported that in addition to requiring each pledge to do the usual 10 hours of work for a member of the staff, it had also required him to carry the Sigma Gamma Epsilon key and a geologic pick for the last three days before initiation.

Chapter News Items in Volume 34, number 4, page 342 (May 1957, *The Compass*) report that one of Alpha's "very" active members, Gail Brooks, had gone to New Zealand on a Fulbright Scholarship. Beta Zeta's Alan M. Cvancara had received a Fulbright grant a year earlier for graduate study in Australia. He wrote a letter to tell the chapter his impressions of study in Australia, saying: "In Australia, greater

emphasis is made, and more time is generally spent, in the high schools; also, entrance into universities is much more selective. ...Most students going on into universities are subsidized by scholarships with but very few who 'work their way through college' by taking odd jobs on campus or elsewhere" (p. 347). Alpha Eta wrote that Dr. Zena Hunter had recently returned to the University of Colorado from Mandalay University in Burma where she had established a geology department. Dr. Hunter had spoken to them on her experiences in Burma and about the difficulties encountered by geologists in that country. Beta Kappa mentioned that their member Walter Boyd had left college so that he could participate in the Geophysical Year activities as a member of the U. S. Naval Expedition to Antarctica.

The Grand Council of Sigma Gamma Epsilon held their annual meeting in the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas, on January 31, 1957 (Higgs, 1957, p. 66). Grand President F. M. Bullard, Grand Secretary-Treasurer W. R. Higgs, Grand Editor H. J. Bissell, Grand Historian C. A. Hickcox, and Grand Vice-Presidents E. A. Frederickson and V. C. Kelley were present; Vice-President R. Esarey was unable to attend.

April 1958 was the date set for the next convention; Beta Chapter, Pittsburgh, was to be host. The second item on the agenda was regarding the inclusion of women into the society. The 1955 convention had requested that the Grand Council study the matter and report its findings to the next convention. Replies to letters written to chapters by President Bullard and Vice-President Kelley regarding prospective women members were read, and the comments were equally divided for and against admitting women into the society.

Alpha Chapter minutes reveal the proposal of accepting women into the organization was discussed. A motion was made that women should be allowed full membership in the "fraternity." "The motion was seconded but not passed by a vote of 8 for and 9 against. It was moved that we allow women some recognition but not full membership or voting power, the motion was seconded and passed" (Alpha Chapter minutes, December 8, 1956).

The Grand Council decided to propose an amendment to the constitution to be considered by the delegates and voted upon at the next convention. The proposed amendment read:

Art. II, Sec. 4a "Affiliate Membership: Affiliate members shall be scholastically qualified women students in the Earth Sciences. They may have all the privileges of active membership with regard to Chapter activities except that they may not have voting powers, hold office, serve as convention delegates, nor participate in any manner in the initiation ceremony. Each Chapter shall pay \$5.00 for each Affiliate Member"

(Higgs, 1957, p. 67).

Another issue delegated to the Grand Council had been to decide what constitutes an average passing grade, so that Article II, section 5 could be clarified. The Grand Council decided to recommend the addition of the following to the section: "The intent is to require a general average of C; and an average of B in all courses classified as Earth Sciences" (Higgs, 1957, p. 67). The fourth item on the agenda was whether to promote lecture tours as indicated in Article XI, section 9a of the constitution or abandon the idea. Nothing concrete had been accomplished to date and the cost of such tours would require substantial financial contribution by both the Grand Council and the chapters concerned, so they decided that that section of the constitution should be repealed. The Council members agreed that each of them might make separate short trips to visit several of the chapters, especially those that seemed to be off the beaten track of visiting lecturers and also isolated from major industrial activities generally classified as being of earth science nature. The Council further recommended that the Grand President, being ineligible for re-election, should serve as advisor to the Nominating Committee; and that Article IX, section 2 be written to read: "Amendments of the Constitution and By-Laws may be made in a General Convention and must receive a 2/3 vote of the delegates and a Majority of the Grand Council to pass. Such amendments shall become effective when 4/5 of the Active Chapters and a majority of the Grand

Council have approved the amendment" (Higgs, 1957, p. 68).

The Grand Council Special Scientific Writing Award Winners (for papers published in *The Compass*) for 1956-1957 were Virgil W. Carmichael, Award A, for "The relationship of the 'soils' of the Palouse to the Columbia River basalt"; Dale M. Holyoak, Award B, for "Stratigraphy of the Shinarump conglomerate and associated Chinle formation"; Donald M. Ingebrigtsen, Award C for "Palynology and its application to the Pliocene Series in the Los Angeles Basin."

In the same issue, Delta's chapter news item reported that the chapter's exhibit at the AAPG convention was awarded first prize among student exhibits. The exhibit, "Top of the Precambrian," was a three-dimensional structure map based on the surface of the Precambrian basement rocks in Nebraska. It was produced by layers of glass in intervals with the contours of each interval outlined with solder and painted with a fluorescent paint. The Geological Society of America had requested the use of the exhibit for its convention in November.

The January 1958 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 35, no. 2, p. 139) contains a memorial for Dr. William Henry Twenhofel, father of the society. Dr. Twenhofel died January 4, 1957, a few months before his 82nd birthday. In the same issue Beta Iota reported that Grand President Bullard had visited the Rice Institute where Dr. Carey Croneis was head of the department. Dr. Croneis had established the Rice geology department within the previous four years. A group of Rice students were planning to organize a chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. In Volume 35, number 3 (*The Compass*) Chapter News Items, Alpha Rho reported that their pledges had been required to work 10 hours for the department, in addition to putting on pre-initiation skits about the department faculty. Beta Zeta reported that they had the pleasure of installing a new chapter, Beta Rho, at Michigan College of Mining and Technology January 3, 1958. They described the installation thusly (p. 223):

Tables at the various stations were covered with white cloth and decorated with strips of crepe paper in the fraternity colors of blue and gold and lighted with candles. The ceremony

was very impressive. The Grand Master wore a white hooded gown and each member of the installing team wore a black hooded gown with appropriate symbol of office or ribbons of the fraternity colors.

Beta Iota's chapter news item in the May 1958 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 35, no. 4) reported that they had installed the new Beta Sigma Chapter at Rice Institute, March 23rd. Grand President Bullard had presented the charter for Beta Sigma to Dr. Carey Croneis, the chapter advisor, a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon for 35 years.

NINETEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Nineteenth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held at the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, April 17-19, 1958. All of the Grand Officers were present except Grand Vice-President E. A. Frederickson, who was unable to attend the convention because of illness. Of the 52 active chapters, 37 sent delegates to the convention. Five new chapters had been installed since the previous convention: Beta Xi, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute; Beta Omicron, University of Redlands; Beta Pi, Cornell College of Iowa; Beta Rho, Michigan College of Mining and Technology; and Beta Sigma, Rice University (Bissell, 1958).

The suggested amendment to Article II, section 4a, regarding admission of women to the society as affiliate members (printed in the November 1957 issue of *The Compass*), was read before the convention by the Committee on Constitution. The committee strongly recommended that the delegates reject the proposed amendment and that it be dropped from consideration. Each delegate was given at least one opportunity to present his chapter's views on the subject before a vote was taken. Eighteen delegates voted in favor of admitting women students of the earth sciences as affiliate members, 17 voted against admitting them. The proposal was defeated because a two-thirds majority was required to amend the constitution. The suggested proposal regarding clarification of grade requirements was deferred to the next convention "after much discussion, proposals

of alternate motions, and general disagreement among the delegates..."(Bissell, 1958, p. 59).

The Committee on Chapter Affairs and Activities recommended the following. 1) That any part of the pre-initiation ceremony should reflect the honorary nature of the society. 2) That "...being an honorary society, we should consider academic ability as being our primary guide in selection of new members. Where personality deficiency is adjudged against a candidate, the voting members must keep clearly in mind the virtues outlined in our ritual" (p. 60). 3) That any chapter that had no qualified recipient for the Tarr Award was exempt from awarding one. 4) Grand Vice-Presidents should have the right to appoint assistant Grand Vice-Presidents as they saw fit. All of these four proposals were voted upon and passed.

The Committee on *The Compass* recommended 1) that a pamphlet should be sent to every chapter every two years giving guidelines for format and submission of articles for *The Compass*, 2) that the Grand Editor should investigate whether a change in quality of paper used in the magazine would save enough money to make it possible to use fold-outs and "similar illustrative material" in the publication, 3) that the color of the cover of *The Compass* should be changed each school year, so that each volume would be in a different color. All three proposals carried with little opposition.

The Committee on Initiation Ritual recommended 1) that the ritual be modified to clarify certain passages, 2) that an initiation form should be proposed which was comparable to those used by other well-known honor societies, and the initiation should not involve gowns, blindfolds, or other devices. The proposals carried. The Grand Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to make necessary changes in the ritual as agreed upon by the delegates, and have the ritual reprinted and circulated to the chapters (Bissell, 1958).

Friday, April 18th was devoted to the following field trips: 1) U. S. Steel research laboratory, approximately 40 miles to the east of Pittsburgh, 2) north of the city to examine Pennsylvanian age strata and the glacial foreland, 3) Gulf Research Laboratory in Pittsburgh. Grand Officers elected

for the next biennium were (see Vol. 35, no. 4, p. 291):

Grand President

Ralph E. Esarey, Indiana University
Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province
Kenneth E. Caster, University of
Cincinnati

Grand Vice-President, Central Province
E. A. Frederickson, University of
Oklahoma

Grand Vice-President, Western Province
Vincent C. Kelley, University of New
Mexico

Grand Historian

Charles A. Hickcox, Centenary College

Grand Editor

Harold J. Bissell, Brigham Young
University

The November 1958 (Vol. 36, no. 1) issue of *The Compass* carried notice of the Central Province Scholarship, which went to R. Neal Hassinger, a member of Gamma Chapter. Dr. E. A. Frederickson made the presentation.

The Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Dallas, Texas, March 14, 1959. Grand President R. E. Esarey, Grand Secretary-Treasurer W. R. Higgs, and Grand Vice-Presidents K. E. Caster, E. A. Frederickson, and V. C. Kelley were present. Grand Editor H. J. Bissell and Grand Historian C. A. Hickcox were unable to attend (Higgs, 1959).

President Esarey presented three recommendations for consideration by the Council. 1) That certain changes in the ritual be made as recommended by the ritual committee appointed at the Pittsburgh convention. The report was discussed and President Esarey said he would edit the report and resubmit it to the Council members at a later date. 2) That a Manual of Activities be created that would list activities the chapters could sponsor annually. 3) That the Grand Secretary-Treasurer add a comment to the annual financial report explaining more fully the coverage and use of the funds of the Society. President Esarey presented the problem of what to do about a member whose grades fell below the minimum for election to the Society. Discussion revealed that only a few such cases had occurred, and the chapters had dealt efficiently with them. The Council

thought the matter should be left to the discretion of the chapters involved (Higgs, 1959).

The Compass was the next item on the agenda. Higgs reported: "The general opinion of the Council members is that *The Compass* has tried to appear scientific but it is not. The magazine should appeal, not only to the under-graduates, but to the graduate students also." Suggestions were to have members submit term papers, book reviews, notices for summer employment, and scholarships and fellowships. Another suggestion was to have members write up any field trips they sponsored, including generalized road logs, and to request that geologists and other earth scientists contribute short articles easily and quickly read (Higgs, 1959).

The Volume 36, number 3 (March 1959) issue of *The Compass* includes an editorial regarding some criticism of the magazine. Dr. Bissell wrote (p. 227):

Possibly some members, and faculty members of certain universities, harbor the misapprehension that the desk of the Editor is piled high with manuscripts submitted for publication in *The Compass*. It may be that these self-same persons visualize that the Editor selects articles only of personal interest for publication. Others, not cognizant of the limited budget under which the Editor and Associate Editor must operate, voice dissatisfaction over quality of illustrations, size of magazine, format, and lack of large illustrations such as tip-ins, fold-outs, and maps in pockets. May I, as present Editor, clarify a few points: 1) our Society cannot afford a magazine the quality of which in terms of paper, size, illustrations, etc. compares favorably with the *Bulletin of the Geological Society of America*, *Journal of Paleontology*, etc.; 2) I do not have a backlog of manuscripts, and seldom have had more than two manuscripts in my files available for a future issue of *The Compass*. Evidence of lack of interest in our magazine is shown by recent letters circularized to all chapters by our Grand President Professor Esarey pleading for manuscripts to be submitted to the Editor.

The same issue contains a memorial to Dr. Charles E. Decker, Professor Emeritus of Paleontology at the University of Oklahoma and honorary lifetime sponsor of the Gamma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. Dr. Decker, a recognized authority on graptolites, had served as ΣΓΕ's Grand Secretary-Treasurer for six years and as Grand President for eight years. Dr. Decker died in the garden of his home August 23, 1958, at the age of 90 years, with the "last rose of summer" clutched in his fingers (personal communication, H. C. Skinner, 1996). His avocation was hybridizing the iris. Dr. Decker's first wife, Gertrude Monlux Decker, preceded him in death. He was survived by his second wife, Ethelyn Wolfard Decker, whom he married on September 30, 1955 (Huffman, 1958).

In the chapter news items Delta noted that it was considering a change in its pledging methods, saying: "The tentative program will place less emphasis upon 'hazing' and promote constructive activity and learning among the pledges." For many years during pledge week, Delta had required their pledges to supply active members with cigarettes, gum, and candy, having them handy in their pockets at all times.

The November 1959 issue of *The Compass* contains an article titled "Notes on the history and activities of Iota Chapter," by C. B. Slawson and W. R. Farrand. Iota Chapter had its beginnings in the fall of 1919, when a group of seniors and graduate students under the leadership of Robert Dott would meet once a week and take turns giving papers on their research or some aspect of geology that interested them. Late in the winter of 1919-1920, Dott suggested the group should apply to Sigma Gamma Epsilon for a charter. The next fall, the group began meeting again, and the leader from then on in applying for a charter was Laurence M. Gould (the same Laurence Gould who would go on the Byrd expedition), a veteran of WWI, and somewhat older than the other undergraduates. Robert Dott was by this time in South America working for the Standard Oil Company. Iota Chapter was installed March 21, 1921 (Slawson and Farrand, 1959).

In Chapter News Items in the January

1960 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 37, no. 2) Gamma reports that their member, Charles Gilbert, had been presented with the Byron Award for "creative thinking." Alpha Sigma mentioned that during their annual "Lampoon Party" a comedy-sketch take-off of "This is Your Life" had been presented of the Grand Editor, Dr. H. J. Bissell.

TWENTIETH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Twentieth National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was at the Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas, April 7-9, 1960. Beta Iota Chapter was host. At least 48 of the 56 chapters were represented by delegates. Four new chapters had been installed since the previous convention: Beta Tau, University of Arizona; Beta Upsilon, Bowling Green State University; Beta Phi, Southern State College; Beta Chi, Arizona State University. Synopses of the chapter reports are given starting on page 324 of volume 37, number 4 of *The Compass*; Grand Officer reports and Committee reports are not given. A note on page 324 says: "The more complete minutes will be presented in a later issue of the COMPASS," but they never were. Rho Chapter in its report (p. 325) said: "In [the] basement of the new Geology Building is a drill hole which extends to Devonian strata; it is thus possibly the only drill hole which goes from the Basement *down* to the Paleozoic."

The Alpha Chapter file for 1960 contains a letter from Beta Iota regarding the convention. Two field trip options, both on April 8th, were available to the delegates to the convention. The first field trip would be to the Humble Oil Company Research Division and the second field trip would be to the Hockley Dome Salt Mine. Beta Iota was requesting advance notice of the delegate's choice of field trip. The field trips were to be concluded by noon and the delegates returned to the Rice Hotel for lunch. At 2:00 PM, the convention, as a group, visited the San Jacinto Monument and the battleship Texas. A \$1.00 field trip fee was being assessed to help defray expenses. The banquet was to be held the evening of April 8, 1960. The speaker was C. A. Warner, who would discuss the history of the petroleum industry in Texas. The Alpha Chapter file

for 1960 also contains a letter from Grand Secretary-Treasurer W. R. Higgs explaining the society's policy on travel expenses, saying first class railroad and pullman or airplane fare would be sent to the official delegate. It also said: "It is urged that delegates located within overnight travel by train from Houston, use that method of transportation. When airplane is used, travel by coach fare is recommended." And "The banquet, field trip, hotel, and meal expenses are to be paid for by the delegates." ΣΓΕ always had financial difficulties when student enrollment was down.

New Grand Officers for the next biennium were:

Grand President

E. A. Frederickson, University of Oklahoma

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

Kenneth E. Caster, University of Cincinnati

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

Hubert Skinner, Tulane University

Grand Vice-President, Western Province

Vincent C. Kelley, University of New Mexico

Grand Historian

Roy H. Reinhart, Miami University

Grand Editor

Thomas Clements, University of Southern California

In the November 1960 issue (Vol. 38, no. 1) of *The Compass*, Zeta reported the death of their chapter president, Millard Kelley, killed in an automobile accident while on a geology field trip. They said an obituary would appear in the next issue of *The Compass*; however, it apparently was never submitted. Sigma's faculty advisor, R. L. Bates, sent this message (p. 59):

Sigma Chapter has a rather small membership this Fall, and also is having officer trouble. The President, elected last Spring has been called into the service, and the Vice President, who has been serving in his place, left for Antarctica shortly before this went to press. In addition to this temporary problem is the fact that the Chapter includes men from geology, mining engineering, petroleum engineering, ceramic engineering, and mineralogy, which is a separate department at Ohio State. This leads

to problems in physical communication, as well as to a certain diversity of interests, which make Chapter affairs more complicated than they would be if all members were students in a single department.

Alpha Tau mentioned they had formed a committee to look into the possibility of organizing a local geological society for professional geologists in the Atlanta area.

On "The Editor's Page" in the January 1961 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 38, no. 2), Grand Editor Clements wrote that he had a feeling that all was not well with some of the chapters of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. He said the feeling came from the apparent apathy of the chapters in sending their chapter letters, and from personal knowledge of what was happening to earth science enrollments across the country. Clements suggested that because of the slump in the oil industry, students should look into other ways to use their geology degrees, such as in teaching. He said with the rapidly increasing population of the country, there would be a need for more teachers. He also mentioned the new field of engineering geology as a place to look for employment, saying it not only included the older, recognized geology of dam sites and similar large construction jobs, but geology of homesites in areas where landslides, mudflows, and other geological hazards were present (Clements, 1961).

In the Chapter News Items of the same issue, Alpha Tau noted the chapter was down to five active members as a result of graduation and decreasing enrollment. They were to initiate one new member in February. Alpha Tau reported that the first organizational meeting of the Georgia Geological Society had been held January 21, 1961.

In the Spring 1961 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 38, no. 3), Editor Clements included the following (p. 175):

IOTA Chapter, in the Spring letter to THE COMPASS, raises an old question: why should not girls majoring in geology be eligible for membership in the honorary scientific society devoted to the earth sciences? The statement reads: "A few members of the Chapter have informally mentioned the rather ridiculous position

of SGE's not being [sic?] to admit to our honorary a girl majoring in geology who makes Phi Beta Kappa. Should this general subject be mentioned at the next national convention?" It is the opinion of the Editor that the subject should very definitely be on the agenda of the next biennial national convention.

Alpha Delta Chapter announced it was again selling bronze trilobite paperweights. These were replicas of *Flexicalymene meeki*, measured 3 and 3/4 inches by 2 and 1/2 inches, and weighed approximately one pound. They sold for \$3.00 for pure bronze, and \$3.50 for nickel-plated bronze. Alpha Chi reported that graduation in 1960 had cut their membership to three active members. D. H. White had been elected president, by being the holder of the short straw. Beta Zeta wrote that they had initiated one man during the spring semester. Guest speaker at their initiation banquet had been Dr. Alexander M. Ospovot, who spoke on Abraham Gottlob Werner. Ospovot had written his doctoral dissertation on Werner at the University of Oklahoma and had over 6,000 photocopies of notes and letters written by Werner, the originals being in the Bergakademie Library in East Germany.

TWENTY-FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION

Notice of the Twenty-first National Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was printed in the Fall 1961 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 39, no. 1). The convention was April 26-28, 1962, at the Student Center at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. Transportation costs of the official delegate would be paid at the rate of 4 cents per mile round trip by the Grand Council, plus an added \$25.00 for general expenses. The banquet, field trip, hotel, and meal expenses were to be paid for by the delegates.

In the same issue, page 39, a notice is given regarding publication of *The Compass*. The number of issues had been cut for 1960-1961 from four to three on the advice of the Grand Secretary-Treasurer. Editor Clements wrote that the principal reason was a lack of material. The number for

1961-1962 was also being cut from four to three, "the present one being number one of Volume 39, and late as it is, it is called the Fall Number." The editor wrote:

Actually, the organization cannot afford to put out only three numbers per year. In so doing it loses its privilege of lower postal rates, as well as its exemption from state and city sales taxes. However, without the full support of the membership, it cannot turn out even three numbers. This is a problem for the members of Sigma Gamma [sic] Epsilon, not the editors.

A more complete explanation of events is given by Grand President E. A. Frederickson in a letter to all chapters, dated January 19, 1963:

This letter has been motivated by the letter concerning *The Compass* which was sent to all chapters by Alpha Eta Chapter at the University of Colorado.

I do not dispute the right of any chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon to request an accounting, or to circulate information or requests for action to other chapters. This is the democratic principle of freedom of action. However, I do question the wisdom and loyalty to Sigma Gamma Epsilon of the officers of a chapter, who, without attempting to contact the Province Grand Vice-President, or the Grand President, for complete information, would circulate a letter capable of creating dissension within our Society.

I believe all chapters are entitled to an explanation of the events leading up to both the change in editors and the lack of publication of the Vol. 39 issues of *The Compass*. This explanation was given at the National Convention in the spring of 1962, but apparently the issue was not settled at that time.

At the spring convention of 1960, the previous editor, Dr. Harold Bissell, resigned because of the pressure of his research and academic duties. The delegates elected Dr. Thomas Clements of the University of Southern California. For the acad-

emic year 1960-1961 Dr. Clements was able to obtain sufficient manuscript material to publish the necessary four issues, although in several cases these were long delayed in circulation.

In the spring of 1961, with permission of the Grand Council, I took the initiative of requesting Dr. Clements to cut the number of yearly issues to two. This was because of the depleted nature of our treasury, due to the previous convention, the continuing higher cost of publication of *The Compass* and the continually decreasing membership which paralleled the decreasing enrollment in geology departments throughout the country. We compromised by deciding to publish three issues of Vol. 39 for 1961-62.

When the first issue failed to appear on schedule, Mr. Higgs and I both wrote Dr. Clements. Ultimately, I reached Dr. Clements by phone and was assured that the long-delayed edition of *The Compass* was forthcoming. As you will recall, that fall issue was received about one month prior to our spring convention in 1962. Dr. Clements informed me at that time that the delay was caused by lack of manuscript material from the membership.

Now, a word about delivery of *The Compass*. The general policy concerning distribution of *The Compass* has been one to every member, provided the chapter secretary has sent a current list to the Grand Editor. Otherwise, the editor sends ten copies to each chapter. Why Alpha Eta chapter received only seven of the ten of that particular issue, only the postal service and the chapter secretary can answer. On the first day of the 1962 convention, I received a special delivery letter from Dr. Clements submitting his resignation. Mr. Higgs and I immediately took up the matter with the delegates composing *The Compass* committee, and it was decided to attempt to persuade Dr. Bissell to resume the vacated editorship. Over the phone, Dr. Bissell

agreed to accept the position on a temporary basis, despite the pressure of his other affairs. You have already received the first issue of *The Compass*, Vol. 40, No. 1, under his editorship. The editor's page explains our new procedure making the province Grand Vice-Presidents responsible for gathering manuscript material for the various issues. Dr. Bissell informs us that the January issue is in press and the next two issues will be published on schedule.

On October 4, 1962, Dr. Clements, in a letter to Prof. Higgs, requested that inasmuch as the two long-delayed issues of Vol. 39 had been budgeted, he would like permission to get out the winter and spring, 1961-62 issues. This permission was granted, but, to date the issues have not appeared. On January 13, I discussed the situation with Dr. Clements. He informed me that the issues would be taken to the printer on January 15 and would be distributed to the membership by the middle of February.

This is the situation to date concerning *The Compass*. I would now like to take this opportunity to educate the concerned members of Alpha Eta Chapter as to the relation of the amount contributed by them to the cost of *The Compass*. The previous two *Compasses* (May and November 1961) cost an average of \$862.50 each (this is the \$1,724.99 item referred to in their letter).

In the spring of 1960 our society had a total membership of 583, and in the spring of 1961 we had about 500. As you can readily see, with this membership, one issue of *The Compass* uses up nearly all of the money contributed toward *The Compass* from dues of members and initiates. This is the reason for my request to Dr. Clements in the spring of 1961 to reduce the number of issues.

During the past three years, the Grand Council has been forced to sell certain of the bonds and securities from the treasury to support the Convention and *The Compass*. This is

the purpose for which the money was set aside—to support various activities of the Society, and to tide it over during periods of depressed membership. There is, however, a limit to this deficit financing.

It now appears that our membership is increasing. Chapters once dormant are now becoming active and the Grand Council hopes that the worst is over.

We are not out of the woods from a financial standpoint, yet. I, therefore, must condemn the unilateral action of Alpha Eta Chapter in withholding dues owed to the Society, and in their circulation of the letter attempting to condone their action, which could create dissension within our Society concerning a matter which the Grand Council has attempted to settle for the benefit of all.

The November 1962 issue (Vol. 40, no. 1) of *The Compass* gives the Grand Officers elected at the Twenty-first National Convention:

Grand President

E. A. Frederickson, University of Oklahoma

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

K. E. Caster, University of Cincinnati

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

H. C. Skinner, Tulane University

Grand Vice-President, Western Province

B. Stringham, University of Utah

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

W. R. Higgs, Louisiana Tech

Grand Historian

R. H. Reinhart, Miami University

Grand Editor

H. J. Bissell, Brigham Young University

Hubert C. Skinner, in his Vice-Presidential greetings in Volume 40, number 2, wrote that with the then intense competition for qualified students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, the chapters might want to consider sponsoring an issue of *The Compass* to help attract students to their departments. He wrote: "When you sponsor a number of *The Compass*, you are advertising your institution — not only to the other fifty-six chapters — but to many institutions and read-

ers which are not connected with Sigma Gamma Epsilon."

In the Volume 40, number 3 (March 1963) issue of *The Compass*, Omega Chapter reported that their member, John R. Duncan, had received the 1962-1963 Sigma Gamma Epsilon Scholarship of \$500.00. Because of financial constraints, Sigma Gamma Epsilon was no longer giving three \$300.00 scholarships each year, but instead was giving one annual \$500.00 scholarship.

An editorial by Robert L. Bates in the January 1964 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 41, no. 2) was reprinted with permission from the Journal of Geological Education. It begins:

For the past five or six years, ever since the roof fell in on geological employment in the oil business, geologists have been engaged in an agonizing reappraisal of their science, whither it is drifting, and how best to adapt it to changing times. One gains the impression of a whole science in front of a mirror, finding to its horror that the face of Dr. Jekyll has suddenly turned into that of Mr. Hyde.

And ends:

We submit that geology is in a state of pronounced change, that employment opportunities are going to be radically different from what they have been, and that geology departments must move with the times. We urgently bespeak support for all efforts along this last line, particularly for the current GEO-Study.

A memorial to William Anderson Staab is printed in the March 1964 issue of *The Compass* (Vol. 41, no. 3). Staab served $\Sigma\Gamma E$ as Grand Vice-President from 1938 to 1942 and as Grand President from 1942 to 1949. He was born December 4, 1887, in Northampton, Massachusetts, and died January 30, 1963, at Hyannis, Massachusetts. Professor Staab received the BSEM degree from Lehigh University in 1910. He was employed as an engineer for several years before returning to academic work at West Virginia University in 1926. He taught there until 1945. From 1945 until his retirement in 1951, W. A. Staab worked as a research consultant for the Calcium Chloride Institute (Fridley, 1964).

Beta Delta reported in the chapter news items of Volume 42, number 1 (November 1964) that member Robert W. Frey had been awarded the 1964-1965 Sigma Gamma Epsilon Scholarship of \$500.00. Beta Tau reported that Dr. Laurence M. Gould, President of AAAS and Professor of Geology at the University of Arizona, had spoken to them on the geology of Antarctica; and that Wallace Pratt, former chief geologist of Standard Oil Company, gave a lecture on the development of the petroleum industry.

TWENTY-SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Golden Anniversary Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon was held in the Society's birthplace, Lawrence, Kansas, March 30 through April 1, 1965. Business meetings were held at the Student Union of The University of Kansas. Hotel accommodations were at the Eldridge Hotel in downtown Lawrence. Alpha Chapter was host. Of 57 chapters, eight were inactive. Two chapters had been installed since the previous convention: Beta Psi at The University of Florida at Gainesville and Beta Omega at Arlington State College. Grand President E. A. Frederickson, Grand Vice-

President H. Skinner, Grand Secretary-Treasurer Higgs, and Grand Historian Roy Reinhart were present. Grand Vice-President Caster was unable to attend, Grand Editor Bissell had sent a letter of resignation, and Grand Vice-President Kelley was in the hospital recovering from a heart attack. There were 26 delegates present (Duncan, 1965).

Mr. Ed Buchwald, Alpha's delegate, welcomed the convention to The University of Kansas, birthplace of Sigma Gamma Epsilon. He said that Alpha Chapter had become keenly aware of the shortcomings of the Society while preparing for the convention, and that because of a lack of centralized information concerning planning and execution of a convention, much time had been wasted. In particular, he regretted that Alpha had been unable to contact the founding members of the society until a few weeks before the convention. Two charter members of $\Sigma\Gamma E$ planned to attend: Glenn Allen (Figure 13) and Clark B. Carpenter (who, at the last minute, was unable to come). Mr. Buchwald thought that Sherwin F. Kelly and Walter Rohrer would have tried to attend if they had had more notice (Buchwald, 1965a, p. 2).

In the chapter reports, Xi's delegate, Ted Ross, mentioned that Xi was in its third



Figure 13. Grand President E. A. Frederickson (left) presenting a plaque to Glenn L. Allen at the Fiftieth Anniversary Convention of Sigma Gamma Epsilon.

year. Apparently, Xi had become inactive for a time and three years previously had reactivated. The chapter reports tell of money-raising activities, service and intellectual projects, and social activities.

Grand President Frederickson reported the difficulties the Society had experienced in publishing *The Compass* on time and the fact that two issues were not published at all. He told of the editor's abrupt resignation at the 1962 convention and that it had been necessary to prevail on Dr. Bissell to step back in as editor. Dr. Bissell had agreed to edit *The Compass* only until the 1965 convention, so they would have to find a new editor. President Frederickson mentioned that the finances of the Society, because of low numbers of dues-paying student members, were in poor condition. He said that the Grand Council had not met since 1961, because the society could not afford an interim meeting. Dr. Frederickson noted that annual dues were \$3.00. The cost of one issue of *The Compass* per individual was 75 cents, so all the dues were going toward the publication of *The Compass*. The constitution stated that two dollars of the dues would go toward *The Compass*, and one dollar would go toward the convention. Dr. Frederickson suggested that the time had come to raise the dues, because the Council had been forced to "dig into some of the backlog of the treasury" (p. 103) to finance the last several conventions. Frederickson mentioned that the Society should be granting scholarships for each of the three provinces, but because of what he liked to call "these years of austerity" (Frederickson, 1965, p. 104), only one scholarship per year had been granted.

Grand Secretary-Treasurer Higgs reported that libraries in Canada at "McGill and the Queens" had subscriptions to *The Compass*, and that the Canadian Geological Survey Ottawa office had started a subscription, as well. He also mentioned that *The Compass* was abstracted by *GeoScience Abstracts*, and was indexed by the *Bibliography of North American Geology*. Higgs said there were references to *The Compass* in *Engineering News Service*, as well.

Higgs mentioned that the \$500 scholarships had gone to these members: 1962-1963 to John R. Duncan of Omega

Chapter, 1963-1964 to Dwight T. Maxwell of Xi Chapter and the 1964-1965 to Robert W. Frey of Beta Delta Chapter. Professor Higgs explained that the financial cushion that had seen the Society through the hard times was getting very thin. They had sold some bonds to pay off debt left over from the last convention. He thought it was time to raise dues and initiation fees.

A motion to change Article II, section 5 to clarify requirement for admission to the Society was proposed. Mr. Lewis Burkley (Beta Upsilon chapter) said (p. 148):

This motion may seem rather trite at first, but if you read the amendment, or this part of the constitution, without what we've added, without this provision, how do you determine a passing grade. A D is a passing grade at our university. Now it could be interpreted two ways. It may mean a passing grade of the university or the average needed for graduation. Now, if you assume a passing grade, let's say on a four point system, that would be a one point.

Mr. Ed Buchwald, delegate for Alpha Chapter explained (p. 149):

We run into this same problem and it turns out that if we interpret a passing grade at Kansas as being a D, which would allow you to pass on to the next course. A man can be initiated into S. G. E. when he does not meet the requirements to graduate from the University which leaves us a dubious honors [sic] society.

The clarification read (p. 147):

In conformity with the objects of the Society, the general average required for admission to Sigma Gamma Epsilon shall exceed the minimum passing grade required for the baccalaureate degree at the institution in which the chapter is located by one-third of the difference between such grade and 100 percent; and the average for courses in Earth Sciences required for admission to Sigma Gamma Epsilon shall exceed the minimum passing grade required for the baccalaureate degree at the institution by one-half of the difference between such grade and 100 per cent. The average shall be taken for the

two semesters of [the]complete school year immediately preceding the election of the candidate to active membership.

The proposal passed. A proposal was submitted to forbid more than one member from the same school to sit on the Grand Council. The proposal read: "Not more than one member from the resident faculty of any one school may be elected to the Grand Council at any one time." The motion passed. Mr. Ed Buchwald (Alpha delegate) called for a referendum vote on that constitutional amendment. Article IX, section 2 of the 1960 edition of the Constitution of Sigma Gamma Epsilon reads (p. 15):

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be made in a General Convention and must receive a three-fourths vote of the delegates and Grand Council to pass. Such amendments shall become effective at once, except that any chapter or member of the Grand Council may ask for a referendum vote on the amendments within 30 days provided that the objections to the amendment are submitted with the request for the referendum. Such a request for a referendum vote shall be made through the Grand Secretary-Treasurer.

It was determined by President Frederickson that the amendment could not go into effect immediately because the referendum had been called. He said (p. 198):

I am going to make a ruling. I'll take it in my own hands. I agree with Mr. Buchwald that if there is a proposal for a referendum vote, then the amendment must be held in obedience [sic] before being placed in effect until the results of that referendum vote are concluded. Mr. Higgs has been instructed to conduct a referendum vote of all the chapters. Since this is the case and it is necessary that this convention elect the Grand Officers then, I in the power invested in me as President of Sigma Gamma Epsilon declare that that particular amendment pertaining to the election of two Grand Officers from any one school will be deferred until the time as the referendum is completed and the

business of the convention will go on as scheduled without the inclusion of that amendment.

The reason behind the referendum call by Alpha is made apparent by the election of two men from The University of Kansas to serve on the Grand Council for the next biennium.

New National Officers were:

Grand President

Hubert C. Skinner, Tulane University

Grand Vice-President, Eastern Province

Roy H. Reinhart, Miami University

Grand Vice-President, Central Province

Louis F. Dellwig, The University of Kansas

Grand Vice-President, Western Province

S. W. Dana, University of Redlands

Grand Historian

Bronson Stringham, University of Utah

Grand Editor

John Mark Jewett, The University of Kansas

Grand Secretary-Treasurer

W. R. Higgs, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute

If the referendum passed, it was rescinded before the 1978 Constitution was published, because there is no restriction pertaining to numbers of Grand Officers coming from the same school. There is no mention of the referendum in the report of a mini convention held in December 1968, nor is there any mention of it in *The Compass* during the remainder of the 1960's. The referendum must have died a quiet death.

A proposal to raise dues to \$5.00 per year and initiation fees to \$15.00 passed, and then the delegates moved to the issue of allowing women to join the society. There was considerable discussion of the subject. Mr. Charles Singler (Delta Chapter) said

"...that we are an Honorary Professional Organization and I think that everyone will admit that women are recognized and there are many worthwhile contributions made by women. In this sense I feel that as a professional organization, we can't exclude women from this organization." He also said that he knew of an individual who had requested information on forming a chapter, but once they learned that women were excluded had decided not to form a chapter (1965, p. 165). Mr. Tom Pike (Beta Theta

Chapter) said (p. 166) that so far the question had come up in faculty member's discussions with other people and that the fact that $\Sigma\Gamma E$ excluded women had been a point against the Society and was not beneficial to the Society in any way. Mr. Ted Ross (Xi Chapter) said (p. 168): "I say personally and I'm speaking now for Xi Chapter, that we want to see S. G. E. grow but I hate to think that we went by way of the apron string and have to say that we expanded because we let women into it. Xi Chapter is under the feeling that we are a fraternity and we'd like to keep it that way. We like females (laughter)." [Author's note: It was Xi who called for a constitutional amendment allowing women to join $\Sigma\Gamma E$ in 1927. A progressive group, Xi.]

President Frederickson said (p. 167):

I would like to take this occasion to speak for the motion. I grant you that for fifty years we have had a tradition of excluding women. I don't know whether this was probably a good thing fifty years ago. I'm not so sure, now that with the emancipation of women that it's a good thing any longer.

Granted that the male refuge is getting smaller and smaller, the places that we can retreat for male companionship: the bowling alley is gone, the pool hall is gone, the smoking parlor is gone, the beer tavern is gone and practically the only place that we can seek refuge is out in a cave somewhere and they might even invade that. However, look at the positive side of this situation for a moment. Sigma Gamma Epsilon hopes to grow. We hope to gain new chapters on other campuses. One of the items that the administration at these campuses is going to examine is the constitution of Sigma Gamma Epsilon.

We call ourselves an honorary society and yet we do not honor women geologists by allowing them to belong. I fully believe that in some cases petitions have not originated from certain campuses just because of this exclusion. Women geologists, although few and relatively limited number, nevertheless frequently are just as capable

as men geologists and not only that but they are doggone good people to have in a chapter to serve in a secretary position or to see to it that the coffee is made and few items like that. They're really handy to have around and I think it's already been pointed out in discussions that if women are included, then there is less likelihood of a competing organization called a pick and hammer club or what not, springing up in the same department. I think that it's high time that Sigma Gamma Epsilon grew to the stature of a real honorary society and allowed women to become members.

Mr. Earl Boone (Chi Chapter) said (p. 171):

I think we have tossed this around a bit at the University of Texas and I know the feeling in my chapter including the faculty, although we do have a woman member of our faculty, but the rest of the members of the faculty are against letting women in, that's including the faculty and in the fraternity itself, and I would say that our constitution should be amended to word that we are a fraternity rather than a society but I don't think we should let women in. I think this would cause a lot of conflicts in our activities, field trips, parties, initiations, etc. that may not be foreseen.

Mr. Charles Singler (Delta Chapter) replied (p. 171):

There's our old ego showing—we like to be with men. I would like to point out that there's another professional society, rather honorary society, Sigma Xi which does allow women. They are quite a bit like we are but they do damn well with women. I don't think it's going to hamper us in any way.

Mr. Allen Bell (Omega Chapter) said (p. 172):

At present, at the University of Southern California, we have four women geology students and one undergraduate woman student. Before last year we had no graduate students of the woman variety. Activities were somewhat subdued, but after the women arrive, they have

intrigued [sic] activities considerably. They have instigated several functions, served coffee, had a Christmas party and in general have become accepted completely as fellow geologists, except that at our chapter we cannot allow them in. Our chapter has voted to allow them in because we have been associated with them for the past year and found that it's in no way a deficit to the chapter or to the department.

There were 12 "yea" votes, 14 "no" votes from the delegates. The Grand Historian voted "Yea," the Vice-President of the Central Province and the Grand Secretary-Treasurer abstained. President Frederickson (p. 177) said: "In another few years it ought to pass. I believe it was 21 to 20 last time." [Women were first admitted to the society in 1967. An amendment to allow their admittance was proposed at the interim Grand Council meeting in 1966 and subsequently submitted to the chapters for voting. The amendment passed (Skinner, 1969).]

Dr. Ed Buchwald (personal communication, 1994) recalled this about the issue of women being allowed to join $\Sigma\Gamma E$:

The issue of women in $\Sigma\Gamma E$ was important to many of us in Alpha Chapter. It was important to me because I was learning things about equal opportunity. My undergraduate education was at Union College, then a men's college. My graduate education at Syracuse University included no women on the faculty and none in the student body. When I came to KU I was fascinated to discover there were women in the student body, women in the Kansas Survey, and a woman, Ada Swineford, on the faculty. It somehow seemed self-evident that $\Sigma\Gamma E$ was not a "fraternity" but rather a professional society interest-

ed in furthering geological education. It made sense to have women in the organization. Alpha decided to sponsor a constitutional amendment to that effect and did so on the convention floor. Ted Ross, from Washington State University, who now teaches at Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin, led the opposition from the floor. He pointed out that in many places $\Sigma\Gamma E$ operated as a fraternal organization principally and as a professional organization only secondarily. His arguments carried the day in a very narrow margin. We at Alpha were sorely disappointed. Needless to say, I am delighted things are different now. Ted Ross, incidentally, has since told me that he looks back on those days with some embarrassment.

The second day of the three-day convention was devoted to field trips. The first field trip was led by Dr. J. Mark Jewett, of the Kansas Geological Survey, along the Kansas turnpike to the west of Lawrence. A field trip to the northeastern part of the state to examine Pleistocene geology and geomorphology was led by Dr. Wakefield Dort, who had recently been initiated into Alpha Chapter as an associate member. A banquet was held the evening of March 31, 1965, at the Eldridge Hotel (Figures 14 and 15).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mr. Lawrence H. Skelton of the Kansas Geological Survey for his helpful suggestions and his editorial prowess. Thanks also go to John Daniel for kindly photographing many documents and pages of *The Compass* for me. And I would like to thank Dr. Peter G. Sutterlin of The Wichita State University Geology Department for allowing me to use a large share of his office space while working on this project.



Figure 14. Fiftieth Anniversary of Sigma Gamma Epsilon Banquet held at the Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence, Kansas. Persons seated at table include Daniel Merriam and Ed Buchwald. Photo from Alpha Chapter files.



Figure 15. Fiftieth Anniversary of Sigma Gamma Epsilon Banquet held at the Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence, Kansas. Head table is in the background. Photo from Alpha Chapter files.

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APPENDIX 1

WILLIAM HENRY TWENHOFEL

William Henry Twenhofel was born April 16, 1875, in Covington, Kentucky, and died January 4, 1957, after a five-day coma in a hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. W. H. Twenhofel had a long and active life of teaching and research, although he did not begin his studies in geology until he was 32 years of age. On his Sigma Gamma Epsilon Chapter Record form, Twenhofel wrote "did not graduate" in the blank left for date of graduation from preparatory school. Apparently this did not prevent him from matriculating into college because Shrock (1957) said that Twenhofel taught for seven years, 1896-1902, in country schools, before completing work on a Bachelor of Arts degree, granted to him by National Normal University in Lebanon, Ohio, in 1904. From 1904 to 1907, he taught science and mathematics at the East Texas Normal College, leaving there to enter the senior class at Yale University. At Yale he was awarded a B.A. in 1908, an M.A. in 1910, and a Ph.D. in 1912, all in geology. Meanwhile, he had accepted a position as Assistant Professor of geology at The University of Kansas in 1910.

At The University of Kansas, Twenhofel was instrumental in the establishment of Sigma Gamma Epsilon honorary fraternity for earth sciences, becoming its founding father and first member (Twenhofel's membership form lists him as number 1). Although he left The University of Kansas in 1916, after rising to Associate Professor and State Geologist (1915-1916), he continued his association with $\Sigma\Gamma\epsilon$, serving as Grand President, and attending and speaking at National Conventions and at chapter banquets. Dr. Twenhofel spent most of his academic career at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he retired as professor emeritus in 1945 after 29 years of service. Upon retirement, he moved to Florida, where he studied sediments and was in the field performing consulting work just a short time before his death.

W. H. Twenhofel is probably best known for his work in sedimentology and paleontology, but his interests were wide and varied. Besides the well-known *Treatise on Sedimentation* (with many authors),

Principles of Sedimentation, Invertebrate Paleontology (with R. Shrock), and *Principles of Invertebrate Paleontology* (with R. Shrock), Twenhofel wrote on geomorphology, soils, botany, granite intrusives in Kansas, and other subjects.

According to Shrock (1957), Twenhofel was primarily a teacher, having a deep and abiding interest in his students, who called him "Twen" or "Twennie." Twenhofel encouraged this informality in his students because of his deep love for teaching and his continued interest in his students once they left school. Twenhofel often used interesting anecdotes or amusing stories to illustrate a point, and he constantly emphasized the importance of field observations in the training of a geologist (Shrock, 1957).

W. H. Twenhofel was preceded in death by three months by his childhood sweetheart and wife, Virgie May Stephens Twenhofel, whom he immortalized in 1914 by creating the generic name *Virgiana* for a new pentameroid brachiopod from the Niagaran of Anticosti Island.

Dr. Twenhofel was survived by two daughters, a son, and seven grandchildren.

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Figure 16. Dr. William Henry Twenhofel. Photograph copied from *The Compass*, Volume 4, number 3, page 1.

APPENDIX 2

WILLIAM ARTHUR TARR

William Arthur Tarr was born in New Cambria, Missouri, March 29, 1881, and died at his home in Columbia, Missouri, July 28, 1939. Tarr spent his childhood on a farm near Lyons, Kansas. He became interested in minerals by playing with the screenings from a sand containing agates, and from the dumps of salt mines at Lyons. When he was older, he worked in the mines part of the time. In 1893, the family moved to Oklahoma near Enid. After he finished two years of high school, Tarr took the college examinations and entered the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater. He had no opportunity to study geology in college, graduating in 1904 with a B.S. in engineering. He was unable to continue his education immediately because of a lack of money, so he taught in a rural school for two years. While teaching there, he married Coralynn Neuman, who taught in an adjoining district. Because they both wanted to continue their educations, they selected a coeducational school, the University of Arizona in Tucson. Tarr received his degree in mining engineering in 1908. He stayed on as an instructor in geology and mining at the University of Arizona during the next year, and then went on to the University of Chicago to begin work on a Doctor of Philosophy degree. Tarr was appointed instructor of geology at the University of Missouri in 1911. He finished his dissertation in 1916 and was awarded his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. In 1919, he was promoted to full professor at the University of Missouri, and remained there.

Dr. Tarr was deeply interested in the origin of minerals and ore deposits. He was a pioneer in the study of chert and was almost alone in advocating the origin of many chert deposits as direct precipitates on the ocean floor. He worked extensively on the Mississippi Valley Type ore deposits and his important paper "Origin of the southeastern Missouri lead deposits" resulted from his studies.

W. A. Tarr wrote two text books, *Introductory Economic Geology* in 1930 and *Introduction to Geology* (with E. B. Branson) in 1935. Dr. Tarr worked with W.

A. Twenhofel and others on the *Treatise on Sedimentation*, and according to Twenhofel (1940) was largely responsible for several topics in the treatise.

Dr. Tarr was noted as an excellent teacher, his greatest success being with beginning students, his class being "...the first to fill up at registration time..." (Branson, 1940, p. 242). And according to Branson, nearly all of Tarr's students remembered him as one of their best teachers.

Dr. Tarr was interested in fraternities and for many years served on the Pan Hellenic Council at the University of Missouri. He became National Editor of *The Compass of Sigma Gamma Epsilon* at its inception in 1920, and served in that capacity until his death. Under his direction, *The Compass* evolved from a four-page newsletter into one of the best fraternal journals of the time.

Dr. W. A. Tarr was survived by his wife, Coralynn Neuman Tarr, who was his partner in scientific research in the field and laboratory. They had no children.

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Figure 17. Dr. William Arthur Tarr. Photograph provided by Dr. W. Keller of The University of Missouri Geology Department.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

These instructions are a guide to the format and style for manuscripts submitted to *The Compass*. Most questions concerning format may be answered by examining the most recent issue of the journal.

MANUSCRIPT REQUIREMENTS

- Submit original and two copies (for review) to the National Editor.
- Type (with letter quality print) on 8½" by 11" white paper.
- Double space throughout.
- Use 1-inch margins.
- Number pages in upper right corner.
- Do not hyphenate words at the end of a line.
- Do not use footnotes.
- Underline for italics.
- Use the metric system.

ORGANIZATION

Headings

Types.—Three ranks of headings are used, as shown here. Topical headings are indented, underlined (italics), and followed by a period and two hyphens (dash).

Order of Text

TITLE, Author, and *Author's Affiliation and Address* (underlined) appear two inches from the top of the first page and are followed by an **ABSTRACT** of no more than 250 words. The body of the text includes such major headings as **INTRODUCTION**, **RESULTS**, **DISCUSSION**, and **SUMMARY** and such minor headings as Purpose, Materials and Methods, and Previous Work, as appropriate. **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** and **REFERENCES** follow the main text.

Citations

Citations in the text take the general form:

"... as Rodgers (1959) demonstrated. . ."
". . . is well documented (Dunbar and Rodgers, 1957)."
Page numbers are given for quotes (e.g., Rodgers, 1959, p. 688). In the REFER-

ENCES complete citations appear in alphabetical order. Typical examples are:

- DUNBAR, C. O., AND J. RODGERS.
1957. Principles of Stratigraphy. John Wiley & Sons, New York, 356 p.
RODGERS, J. 1959. The meaning of correlation. *American Journal of Science*, 257:684–691.

FIGURES

All illustrations, including maps, line drawings, and photographs, are termed Figures and must be numbered in the same sequence in which they are first cited in the text. Parts of a figure are designated by numbers (not letters). Citations for figures in the text are spelled out in full (e.g., Figure 2; Figure 2.1 and 2.2; Figures 2–4). Captions for figures are typed on sheets of paper separate from the text.

All figures must be submitted at actual publication size (2½" wide for single-column figures, 5½" wide for two-column figures, 5½" by 7½" for full-page figures) and mounted on 8½" by 11" backing (preferably white poster-board). Leave a minimum of 1" above each figure. For full-page or full-column figures, allow sufficient space for the figure caption to appear beneath the figure. Put the author's name and the figure number on the back of each figure.

TABLES

Tables supplement the text, not duplicate it. Each table is given on a separate sheet with the caption above the table. Do not use vertical lines. Tables are subject to the same size restrictions as figures.

APPENDIX

Appendices immediately follow the References. A long table or list of data that would interrupt the flow of the text should be presented in an appendix.

REVIEW

Manuscripts submitted for publication in *The Compass* will be subject to review. Final acceptance of a manuscript may be dependent upon satisfactory revision.

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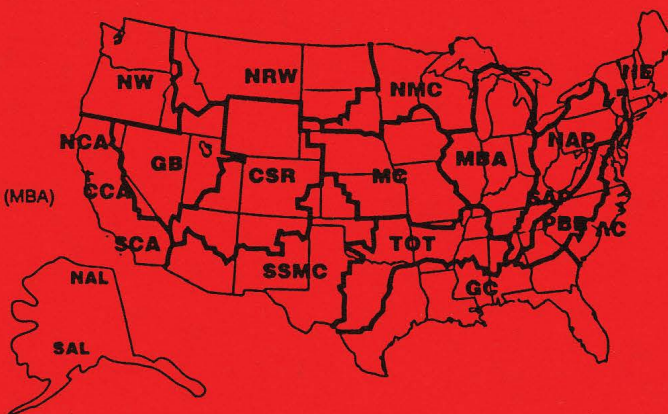
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**THE COMPASS
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- 73 PATRICIA L. DANIEL
History of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, Honorary Society for the Earth Sciences:
The second twenty-five years, 1941–1965

*(This issue was partially funded by Alpha Chapter and the Department of Geology,
University of Kansas.)*