

THE ALPHA DELT

Cornell University Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi

VOL. 2

ITHACA, N. Y., APRIL, 1936

NO. 4

Lyon '97 Describes Pioneering Career Of Albert Hahn '81

SAYS HAHN TOOK LONG CHANCE,
WON FAME AND WEALTH
FOR ENTERPRISE

EDITOR'S NOTE: One of the most interesting letters received by the chapter was a communication last month from Newell Lyon '97, retired Kansas City attorney. We are reprinting as much of it as space allows because it is absorbing reading and because it tells a real story of Cornell Alpha Delt achievement. We know you will find it interesting. Brother Lyon's address is 201 W. 53rd St., Kansas City, Mo.

* * *

As I saw these familiar faces reproduced in the ALPHA DELT and read the underscription my thoughts ran; "Gosh, I don't feel it, but I've sure been put in my place now, definitely and finally, as an Oldtimer. Well, remember dear brothers, sometime you will be 'even as me'."

"Photos Were Oppressive"

But I'm glad to see this interest in the oldtimers. You know the walls of the library in the old house were covered with some fifty or more yearly chapter group photos, and they had become rather oppressive, so that the active brothers could not be blamed for regarding them with more merriment than veneration as they commented on the outmoded beards and styles, and there was some reason for the comment that one of the blessings of the fire was that the photographic monstrosities had been burned up!

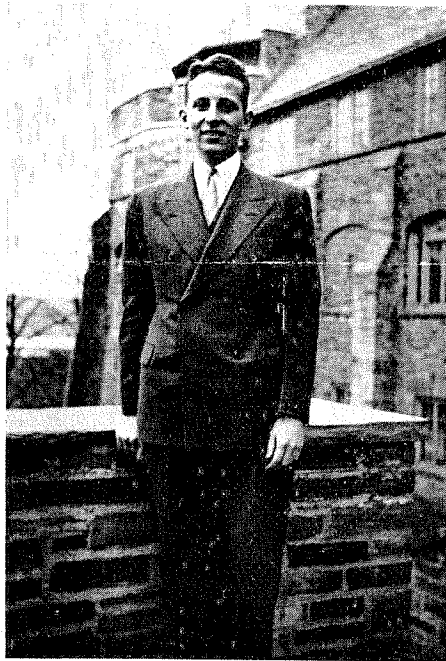
Seek Hidden Motive

So now I'm looking for the hidden motive in this present interest in the oldtimers. My guess is you have figured it out as a grand scheme to get the oldtimers to take pen in hand—witness in this instance how well you are succeeding! . . .

I noted with regret, also, the death of Brother Hahn. If you take a look at the record covering the graduate activity when the abandonment of the first chapter house at Buffalo and Spring Streets was under considera-

(Continued on page three)

Elected President



JACOB B. PERKINS II '37, Cleveland, was chosen president of the house in the annual spring elections this month.

Perkins '37 Elected New House President

Jacob Bishop Perkins II, '37, Cleveland, was named president of the Cornell chapter in the annual spring election of chapter officers a few weeks ago. He succeeds Reinald Werrenrath, Jr. '36, New York City, as head of the house.

John J. Conway, Jr. '37, Cohoes, N. Y. was elected vice president, and Merton F. Gerhauser '39, Chagrin Falls, O., was named recording secretary. John W. Rogers '38, Wheeling, W. Va. is the new corresponding secretary, and Frederick W. Shiek '37, Bethlehem, Pa., was chosen house manager.

Jack Conway, who replaced Barton R. Stevenson '37 as steward when the latter left school several months ago, will continue in office until June. Alexander G. Reed, Jr. '36, Dayton, O. will continue his work as house treasurer until the next election late in May.

Chapter Prepares To Welcome Guests Here on Cornell Day

SEEK ALUMNI RECOMMENDATION
OF RUSH PROSPECTS FOR
1936 SEASON

With approximately 700 sub-freshmen preparing to invade Ithaca the weekend of May 16, Cornell's third annual Cornell Day will soon have introduced to the campus a good share of next fall's freshman class.

Alpha Delta Phi's part in this program will be limited to entertaining ten men at the house, two of whom will be assigned to the chapter by the University and eight of whom will be men invited here as a result of alumni recommendations.

Plan Big Weekend

Although the deadline for names of prospects has been set at May 1st in order for the University to include them in their official list of guests, names of prospects received a few days after that date may be invited separately by the chapter. Address names to Gurden Miller at the house.

Alumni who have prospective candidates in mind, and who have not already sent in their recommendations, are urged to do so immediately in order that the boys may have the opportunity of seeing the University at its best, and when a special program has been planned for them.

Stage Many Events

Most of the Cornell Day guests will arrive at the fraternity houses Friday night, and will be entertained at dinner on their arrival. Saturday morning tours of the campus will be conducted, with each guest having an opportunity to visit the college or school in which he is interested.

Events later in the day include a crew race, a lacrosse game and other sports. Dinner at the houses Saturday night will be followed by a general party and rally in Bailey Hall. Alumni who can help make this weekend a success, as well as our summer rushing program, are sincerely urged to help in the recommendation of men who are of Alpha Delta Phi caliber.

THE ALPHA DELT

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

Joslyn A. Smith

Editor

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

House Welcomes Eight Initiates In Annual March Ritual

Eight men, six of them freshmen, were initiated into the Cornell chapter of Alpha Delta Phi in the traditional ceremonies held Saturday, March 7 at the chapter house in Ithaca. For the first time in several years all of the men inducted were off probation. Despite chapter efforts to encourage attendance at the banquet on Saturday night, the only guests were several local alumni members.

The new members are: Carl Oviatt Friend '38, Milwaukee; John Stark Riggs '38, Elmira; George Vail Bayly '39, Lima, O.; John Gordon Dixon '39, Glen Ridge, N. J.; Merton Farr Gerhauser '39, Chagrin Falls, O.; George Clark Johnson, Jr. '39, Cleveland; Warner LeVall Jones, Jr. '39, Louisville, Ky.; and William Guthrie Luke, Jr. '39, Pelham, N. Y.

Rev. Franklin Lambert, Phi Kappa '16, alumni adviser to the chapter, was the principal speaker at the banquet. Reinald Werrenrath, Jr., chapter president, spoke on behalf of the house and George Bayly responded for the new initiates.

* * *

Thanks For Your Letters!

A steadily increasing interest in The Alpha Delt was totally eclipsed by the response last month to the February issue . . . and to say that the chapter is rank understatement! As hoped, we received a deluge of letters concerning the 1895 picture.

Particularly good indentifications of the picture were furnished by Brothers Newell Lyon '97, Joseph A. McCarroll '95, Paul H. Deming '94, John P. Young '94, Edwin P. Young '94 and Charles Russell '91. We regret that a lack of space prevents our publishing more of the letters. We are including in this issue parts of the one received from Brother Lyon because of its unusual interest.

LETTERS

The 1895-ers Were "Youngsters"!

Editor:

Received copy of Feb. *Alpha Delt*, a few days ago, which I appreciate very much.

I am planning on attending the 50th Re-union of the Class of '86 and will be in Ithaca in June, if nothing happens to prevent, and will take great pleasure in being able to visit once more the Alpha Delta Phi Chapter House.

In this issue of the Alpha Delt I notice the picture of the Classes of '95-6-7 and 8, which you refer to as "old timers"; I have two or three Alpha Delt group pictures of the Classes of '83-4-5 and 6 which make your "old timers" appear as youngsters. Will gladly bring these photographs if the Chapter has no copies of these years.

Please note change of address, 3828 East 110th.—

DELON M. HINMAN '86

The chapter looks forward to Brother Hinman's visit this June, hopes there will be many of his old chapter friends here to help us welcome him. Judging from the response, we are anxious to print more old chapter pictures and will be glad to receive anything which will be of interest to alumni readers.—Ed.

Makes Cuts for Geographic

Editor:

The new "*Alpha Delt*" certainly is most interesting. This last issue particularly interested me with the article in reference to Brother George Shiras III and the National Geographic Society, because our company made all the engravings for his book as we also do for the National Geographic Magazine, as well as printing the color illustrations.

I am most sorry, as is my brother, George Beck '34, that we can not get up for initiation this year, but we both hope to get up later this spring.

BILL BECK '27

"World Incombustible"

Editor:

Alas! Such is Fame! "*Spurlos Versenkt.*"

Well here they are—God bless 'em.—(follows 1895 group identification list)

Don't know a thing about any of

'em now except Number 11 (Joe McCarroll) and I'll never squeal. Understand he's tried hard to set the world on fire—but the d—n thing's incombustible!

Always get a big "kick" out of the little paper and I'm raring for a chance to get back to the old hills.

JOSEPH A. MCCARROLL '95

Of course we don't know how large a blaze Brother McCarroll expected to make . . . but we do know that he is a well known architect with a private practice at 521 Palisade Ave., Teaneck, N. J.—Ed.

Here's Another News Item

Editor:

The latest "*Alpha Delt*" was most welcome and I was especially interested in the picture of the entrance hall of the house—

You will be interested in the fact that Charles H. Cornish '28 is now practicing medicine in Maplewood, N. J. and that he had a son, Charles H. Jr., born July 10, 1935. His address is 661 Prospect St., Maplewood, N. J.

COURTENAY BARBER, JR. '28

When more readers of The Alpha Delt send us news like this it will be a lot easier to make this of interest to alumni readers. We think we've made a good start with this issue. Brother Barber is with the Equitable Life Insurance Society in Chicago.—Ed.

"Kept Track for 60 Years"

Editor:

I appreciate the fact that the Cornell Chapter has kept track of me for sixty years. If you have a Who's Who in America at hand you can find my record during this time.

While my permanent address is always Mission Rooms, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, we have located here and the above will be my address until further notice. But frankly, I think it would be about as well if you dropped my name as very few are left who knew me.

FRANK D. GAMEWELL '80

The chapter, rather than disregard members of older classes, takes a particular pride in their continued interest. We sincerely doubt if any Cornell fraternity can claim a more active allegiance among its older classes. Brother Gamewell lives at 4709 Pine Street, 10-K, Philadelphia.—Ed.

Lyon '97 Describes Pioneering Career Of Albert Hahn '81

(Continued from page one)

tion, you will find that Brother Hahn served the chapter very faithfully in reaching the decision to purchase the present location and in the arduous work of selecting plans and building the chapter's first home on the present location, around thirty-five years ago. He was a generous contributor of time and money. It was my good fortune to "discover" Brother Hahn. That needs an explanation. . . .

Was Mining Engineer

Brother Hahn had graduated into a busy and absorbing life (as a mining engineer if my recollection serves me right), and spent six or eight years in distant and lonely places, and then had been for another six or eight years in another absorbing activity—how absorbing I am going to tell you—so that he had completely dropped out of sight and association with the men of his college days. I had volunteered to look up some of the inactive alumni and, after some difficulty, located Brother Hahn—

This is the story of Brother Hahn's rise to fortune as he told it to me once, and in it I believe you will find the basis for many a "bull session" as to whether or not, under the present day political and taxation philosophy prevailing at Washington, he would have had the incentive to risk the time, the money and the effort on the venture which he undertook.

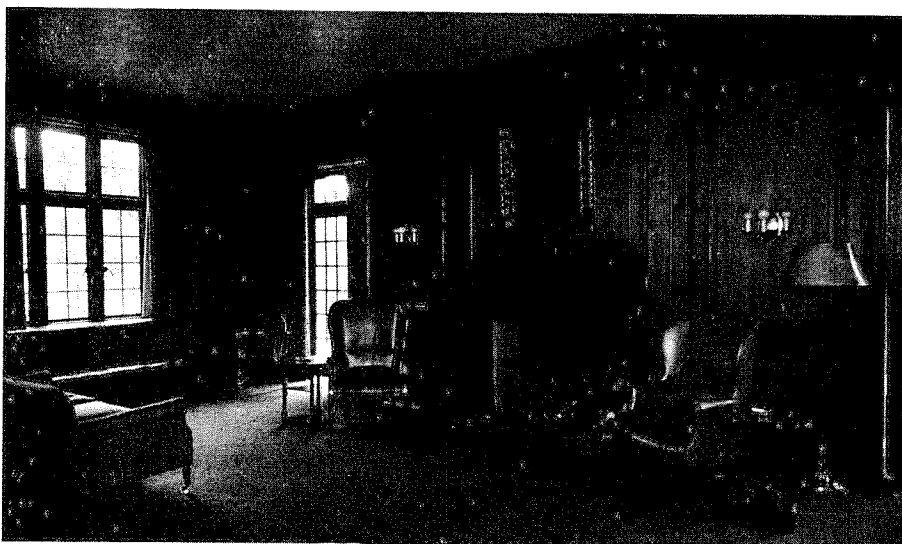
Used Own Capital

Some eight or ten years after graduation, either through inheritance or his activities (mining, I think) in the meantime, he possessed some twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars. He came into contact with a man who had an idea for making a better photographic film (the ones then in use were pretty crude by modern standards).

His own knowledge of chemistry told him there was much development work still to be done, and even if he were successful in making it as good as they figured *might* be accomplished, there would still be the hazardous marketing problems. In short it was a great big venture. Finally, a relative and himself agreed on this plan with the man with the idea, who had no money. Hahn and

(Continued on next page)

A New View of the Chapter Library



HERE'S THE SECOND in our series of pictures of the chapter house . . . a new and attractive view of the house library. Well stocked with books, and comfortable, it is one of the most popular rooms in the house.

Entertain Faculty

Alpha Delta Phi's biennial entertainment of Cornell faculty members is scheduled this year for Sunday, May 3. Approximately 250 professors and instructors are expected to attend the tea. Among those who will help the active chapter entertain are Mrs. Cornell, Mrs. Fuertes, Mrs. John Young and the Misses Virginia Cobb and Rita Carey, all of Ithaca. Local alumni are also expected to be present.

Six Earn Varsity "C's", Many Begin New Sports

Alpha Delta Phi has probably annexed more than its share of varsity "C's" this spring. . . . with more in prospect for next season. The six brothers sporting new sweaters are: Joslyn Smith, skiing; Bud Bailliere, boxing; Gurden Miller, swimming; Jack Cobb, wrestling; and Erbin Wattles and Bristow Adams, hockey.

The Mummy Club, sophomore honor society, recently elected four Alpha Deltas: Joslyn Smith, Larned Whitney, Harris Stanton and Gurden Miller.

John Riggs '38, whose election to the *Widow* business board was mentioned in the last issue, has since been made circulation manager of the humor publication.

Spring sports are drawing the attention of several. John W. Rogers '38 is number four oar on the varsity crew; Fred Shick is number seven with the 150 pounders, and Bill Luke is out for the frosh crew. Three men, Arthur Hoffman and Wilson Foster, sophomores, and George Bayly, freshman, are working out in spring football as this is written.

* * *

Charles M. Reppert, Jr. '34, located until recently in Pittsburgh, has a new address at 708 Santa Fe Bldg., Dallas, Texas. He is with the floor division of the Armstrong Cork Products company.

THREE ALUMNI DEATHS RECORDED RECENTLY

Continual work on the chapter's alumni files yields further information which may be news to some of the *Alpha Delt's* readers. Three Cornell Alpha Delt deaths have just been recorded.

Arthur Carroll Good '85, long-time resident of Brooklyn, N. Y., died August 1, 1933. Brother Good was born July 31, 1863 in Brantford, Ontario. He married in 1890 and had two sons, Carroll and Howard, both of whom survive him.

Nicholas Audinet Gilbert '75, formerly addressed in Paris, passed away in 1917. Jabez Milton Woodward '80, died August 24, 1932 following a heart attack, in Brockway, Pa. where he had been located for some time.

Lyon '97 Describes Pioneering Career Of Albert Hahn '81

(Continued from page three)

his relative would each put in ten thousand dollars, and the three would have equal interests.

The process was one that could not be copyrighted, and to disclose it would be fatal. Therefore the utmost secrecy in the development of the process and in the initial merchandising was imperative.

Furthermore, both because the chemical process required it, and to guard against competitors' spying, it was vital that at least one of the three be supervising the manufacturing operations every hour of the day and night continuously. It was realized that if the product proved as meritorious as it seemed to be competitors would make strenuous efforts to discover the process, very soon after it was placed on the market.

Operated in Bronx

So they rented a small but strongly built house in one of those forlorn sections of the Bronx and commenced operations. At the end of the first year, their money had been all spent and they had hardly made a start. Hahn and his cousin debated the wisdom of going on, but they still felt there was a chance to make good, and though it seemed at times as if they were throwing good money after bad, they each advanced another ten thousand dollars; that is, Brother Hahn parted with four-fifths of what had taken him nearly ten years to accumulate, on what was still very much of a venture.

Confident of Success

At the end of the second year, they had about half of what they had put up at the end of the first year, but their confidence of ultimate success had increased, and Hahn threw in his last five thousand. At the end of the third year they broke even; at the end of the fourth year they had recovered the money they had put in; at the end of the fifth year they had doubled the money they had put in, and at the end of the sixth year they sold out to the Eastman Kodak company for a very large sum, my recollection is he said it was one million dollars. The product was Velox.

While I am not sufficiently acquainted with the photographic industry to speak with accuracy, I think I am

News From Brothers Everywhere

Charles H. Fox, Jr. '32 wrote not long ago saying that Dick Seipt '32 was married last fall to Miss Virginia Barthell, also of the class of '32 and a member of Sigma Kappa at Cornell. According to our records, Dick is an engineer with the John Wood Manufacturing company, lives at 3620 Parseris Blvd., Flushing, Long Island. Brother Fox is in the cotton goods business with Woodward, Baldwin & Co., 43 Worth street, New York City.

* * *

J. Dickson Edson '20 is an egg buyer for the American Stores company in Philadelphia. He has two sons and two daughters, lives in near-by Wyncote at 412 Waverly Road.

* * *

John T. Johnson '09 is president of the Akron Pump and Supply company, with office at 915 Second National Bank Bldg., Akron, O. He is also a director of the Robinson Clay Products company, and is active in Akron club and civic circles. John Thomas III is now 18 years old and Stephen R. is 9.

correct in saying that Velox is responsible for one of the great progressive steps in the art, and without that step having been taken many of the things that established the motion picture industry would not have been accomplished.

So here is a question upon which a lively debate can be held. To-day, would two men like Brother Hahn and his cousin, who had spent ten years of arduous labor acquiring a little capital and had come to know the value of money, faced with the certainty that if successful a very large measure of their daring and risk would be taken from them by heavy taxation—would these two men be as likely to risk their little capital and years of their lives on a venture having only a gambling chance of success? And how many a meritorious invention or discovery, of as much possibility of benefit to the world, may languish because of the discouragement of initiative and venture which the prevailing political-economic-taxation legislation imposes?

I throw this apple of discord to you.

NEWELL LYON '97

Robert S. Hallas '31 wrote recently to approve our "Who's Who" idea, and to say that he's anxious to hear of his old classmates. His engagement to Miss Flora Wilbrink was announced shortly after the New Year. "No date has been set" but the wedding will probably take place in July. "Bob" is a production and process engineer for the National Carbon Co., Inc., lives in Lakewood, Ohio at 12039 Edgewater Drive.

* * *

Cornell Plans Memorial To Louis A. Fuertes '97

Dr. George M. Sutton, curator of birds with Cornell's zoology department, paid an informal visit to the chapter on March 23 and gave an interesting talk on a memorial room which is being planned in honor of the late Louis Aggassiz Fuertes '97, internationally famed ornithologist and student and painter of wild life.

The memorial room will be located in Fernow Hall, and will be devoted solely to Brother Fuertes' works. The room will contain his collection of mounted birds, a number of his bird paintings and an extensive ornithological library, the nucleus of which will be Brother Fuertes' own books.

Dr. Sutton especially sought the chapter's support for a public lecture given by Captain Knight, who brought his famous trained eagle to Ithaca. The lecture was part of the campaign under way to raise money for the memorial room.

Two of Brother Fuertes' best bird paintings, a great horned owl and a group of canvasback ducks, hang in the chapter house.

BEG YOUR PARDON

The editor wishes to extend apologies to Dr. Robert Tuttle Morris '80, whose name appeared "Norris" throughout the story describing his new book, "Fifty Years a Surgeon" in the last *Alpha Delta*. This typographical error was called to our attention by a large number of readers, was recognized by the chapter after the issue was off the press. Incidentally, the book has been put into Braille for the blind. The first foreign translation is Polish and it will probably appear next in German.