

ALPHA LISTINGS
 Alumni of
CHI PSI FRATERNITY
LAMBDA
BROWN UNIVERSITY, 1860

CLASS OF 1861

Alfred Delevan Thomas**
 b. 08/11/1837, Darien, WI; AM Brown University; d. 08/08/1896.

CLASS OF 1863

Augustus Nelson Cunningham**
 b. 11/05/1841; d. 02/25/07.
James Elliott Hall**
 1863 AB Brown University, 1866 BD Theol. Inst. of CT.
John Jenckes Holmes**
 b. 01/28/1842, Smithfield, RI; 1863 AB Brown University.
Charles Frederick Ladd**
 b. 05/02/1841, Pawtucket, RI; 1863 AB Brown University; d. 05/14/1868.
Henry Traphagen**
 b. 09/01/1842; Brown Univ.; d. 10/11/18.
Richard Waterman**
 b. 01/20/1841, Providence, RI; 1863 AB Brown University, 1866 LLB Harvard University, 1899 AM Brown University; Brother R. Waterman; d. 01/06/00.

CLASS OF 1864

George Bartlett Barrows**
 b. 10/11/1840, Pawtucket, RI; 1864 AB Brown University; d. 01/18/04.
Henry Brigham Whitman**
 b. 06/10/1841, Westboro, MA; 1864 AB Brown University, 1866 LLB University of Albany; d. 03/09/1894.
Charles Erastus Willard**
 b. 07/12/1845, Odgensburg, NY; AB Brown University, AM Brown University; d. 01/24/1898.

CLASS OF 1865

Edward Hume Bucknam**
 b. 03/28/1843, Eastport, MA; 1865 AB Brown University, 1891 AM Brown University; d. 10/02/13.

Charles Fabyan Easton**
 b. 01/12/1843, Providence, RI; 1865 AB Brown University, 1868 AM Brown University; d. 04/21/22.
Jared Warner Finney**
 b. 03/15/1841, Detroit, MI; 1865 AB Brown University, 1866 LLB Albany Law School; d. 03/22/29.

Daniel Wanton Lyman**
 b. 01/24/1844, Providence, RI; d. 12/19/1886.
Herbert Livingston Perry**
 b. 04/04/1842, Gaston, MA; AB Brown University, AM Brown University; d. 03/27/1892.

John Anson Price**
 b. 01/12/1842, Irvington, NJ; 1890 AM Brown University; d. 08/02/1892.
Frederick W. Sparrell**
 d. 1875.

Rufus Waterman**
 b. 10/29/1844, Providence, RI; Brother R. Waterman; d. 08/19/04.

CLASS OF 1866

Jefferson Borden**
 b. 06/01/1844, Fall River, MA; 1866 PhB Brown University; d. 08/20/18.
Ellery Metcalf Brayton**
 Brown University, 1866 LLB Harvard University; d. 1906.

Arnold Buffum Chace**
 b. 11/10/1845, Valley Falls, RI; 1866 AB Brown University, 1869 AM Brown University, 1892 ScD Brown University; Brother S.O. Chace, Brother E.G. Chace; d. 02/28/32.

Samuel Oliver Chace**
 b. 10/19/1843, Valley Falls, RI; AM Brown University; Brother A.B. Chace, Brother E.G. Chace; d. 03/20/1867.

Alexander Duncan Chapin**
 b. 12/03/1845, Providence, RI; 1866 AB Brown University, AM; d. 12/03/17.

Lorin Morris Cook**
 b. 09/17/1845, Milford, MA; 1866 AB Brown University; d. 03/12/28.

Edward Knight Glezen**
 b. 05/09/1844, Providence, RI; AM Brown University, 1872 LLB Harvard University; d. 03/07/04.

Frederick Arnold Vinton**
 b. 02/16/1842, Providence, RI; 1875 MD University of VT; d. 08/03/29.

CLASS OF 1867

Edward Osgood Brown**
 b. 08/05/1847, Salem, MA; 1867 AB Brown University, 1869 Harvard Law School; Father E.E. Brown, R.O. Brown; d. 12/08/23.

Walter Hutchins Cady**
 b. 1845; d. 12/12/1870.

William Edward Cushing**
 d. 1881.

Henry VanAmburgh Joslin**
 b. 04/24/1846, Exeter, RI; 1867 AB Brown University; d. 01/19/18.

William Greenleaf Eliot Pope**

CLASS OF 1868

William Hyde Appleton**
 b. 06/10/1842, Portland, ME; 1864 AB Harvard University, 1867 AM Harvard University, 1869 LLB Harvard University.

Richard Smith Howland**
 b. 07/12/1847, New Bedford, MA; 1868 AB Brown University, AM Brown Univ.; Brother M.M. Howland; d. 07/19/30.

William Ensign Lincoln**
 b. 09/27/1847, Providence, RI; 1868 AB Brown University, 1871 AM Brown University; Brother A. Lincoln.

Nathaniel Greene Stanton**
 MD Harvard University; d. 07/02/21.
Timothy Leeds Waters**
 Brown Univ.; d. 1908.

CLASS OF 1869

Charles Henry Hodges**
 b. 04/30/1846, Foxboro, MA; Brown Univ.

Clinton Mauran**
 b. 1848; d. 03/17/1886.

Alfred Augustus Reed**
 d. 05/01/1895.

Osgood Harris Shepard**
 b. 10/26/1848, Albany, NY; 1869 AB Brown University, 1871 LLB Albany Law School; d. 08/23/16.

CLASS OF 1870

Charles Henry Bowker**
 b. 10/22/1848, West Upton, MA; d. 09/16/29.

Edward Gould Chace**
 b. 03/17/1849, Valley Falls, RI; Brother A.B. Chace, Brother S.O. Chace; d. 04/23/1871.

Arthur Lincoln**
 b. 06/05/1849, Providence, RI; 1870 AB Brown University, 1873 AM Brown University; Brother W.E. Lincoln; d. 01/17/17.

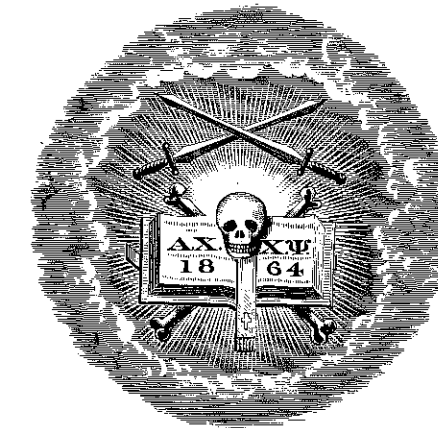
Robert Brown Metcalf**
Robert Wing Steere**
 b. 11/22/1847, Providence, RI; d. 10/17/1880.

CLASS OF 1871

Matthew Morris Howland**
 b. 12/14/1850, New Bedford, MA; 1871 AB Brown University, 1874 AM Brown University; Brother R.S. Howland; d. 08/01/27.

ALPHA CHI, established on 11 November 1864, at Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, by William Belcher, Henry Chase Bradbury, Herbert S. Morley, Henry Varick Pelton and Frank Dana Sargent. Gamma, Henry Beers, Φ'66; and Zeta, Joel Sanford Potter, Φ'66.

ALPHA CHI of the Chi Psi Fraternity was founded on 11 November 1864 through the efforts of William Belcher, Henry Bradbury, Henry C. Pelton, F.D. Sargent and Henry S. Morley. In the beginning, the difficulties to be met in starting a new fraternity at Amherst appeared insurmountable, chief of which were the procuring of a charter from the Fraternity, the permission of the faculty (then deemed necessary) and the obtaining of a suitable hall. The last of these was most easily overcome, for with the erection of a new bank building in Amherst the men secured the refusal of the upper story of the said building. To secure the permission of the faculty appeared somewhat more doubtful, since nearly all the faculty were members of rival societies and moreover, looked with general disfavor upon fraternities. The request, however, was granted without much delay, to the surprise of all.



Then it was that the first difficulty loomed in the horizon. The following correspondence shows the trend of events:

To William J. Maynard, E 65:
 "Amherst, 7 July 1864.
 "Having received a notice from Mr. Peck

of Hamilton college that all communications must be addressed to you, and thinking that you might wish a statement of our circumstances, I take this opportunity of writing.

"It was some time before we could obtain the consent of faculty and get our other arrangements made, so that we should feel justified in applying for a charter, which accounts for your not hearing from us sooner.

"But now the way is clear and all we wait for is authority from you. In addition to the names annexed to the accompanying petition there are three or four others of our own class whom we hope to get. Our term closes next Thursday, and I suppose it will be impossible to get a charter before that, though if it is any way possible we should like it. If we cannot obtain it during the coming vacation in order that we may commence electing as soon as the next class enters.

"If there is any risk about your letter



The Lodge of Alpha Chi at Amherst College from 1923 until 1981, now owned by Amherst and today a dormitory named the Mayo-Smith House.

reaching us this term please direct to and oblige

"H. C. Bradbury,
"Hudson, New York."

*Petition to Members of
the Chi Psi Fraternity:*

"Gentlemen:

"We the undersigned desiring to found a chapter of Chi Psi, do hereby request that a charter may be given us, granting authority to established one in Amherst College.

"Henry Varick Pelton,
"Hebert S. Morley,
"Henry C. Bradbury,
"F. Stedman Sargent,

"Alonzo Smith Kimball,
"William Belcher."

To William J. Maynard, E'65:

"Amherst, 27 September 1864.

"I write you to tell you how affairs are getting along at Amherst.

"I could not get those who petitioned you to think of the idea of trying to electioneer freshmen, telling them simply that we were going to have a new chapter of a new society in Amherst. They prefer waiting until your society will give us a grant of a chapter so I hope you will try to hurry up matters so as you can give us a definite answer. We are now in a very painful predicament. We have

to stand still with our hands in our pockets and see our rival societies pick out just who they want out of the class of '68.

"Their choice I am now very sure will be quite sweeping, for when we first came back one of your want-to-be Chi Psis was walking with an Alpha Delta Phi and was told there was going to be a new society and asked him if he knew anything about it. The next day my chum, an Alpha Delta Phi man, told me just the truth about our affairs, where the hall was going to be in it. We cannot tell how it leaked out, but have our suspicions. Now, report makes our society a very formidable thing, our numbers they double, and some of

Amherst College

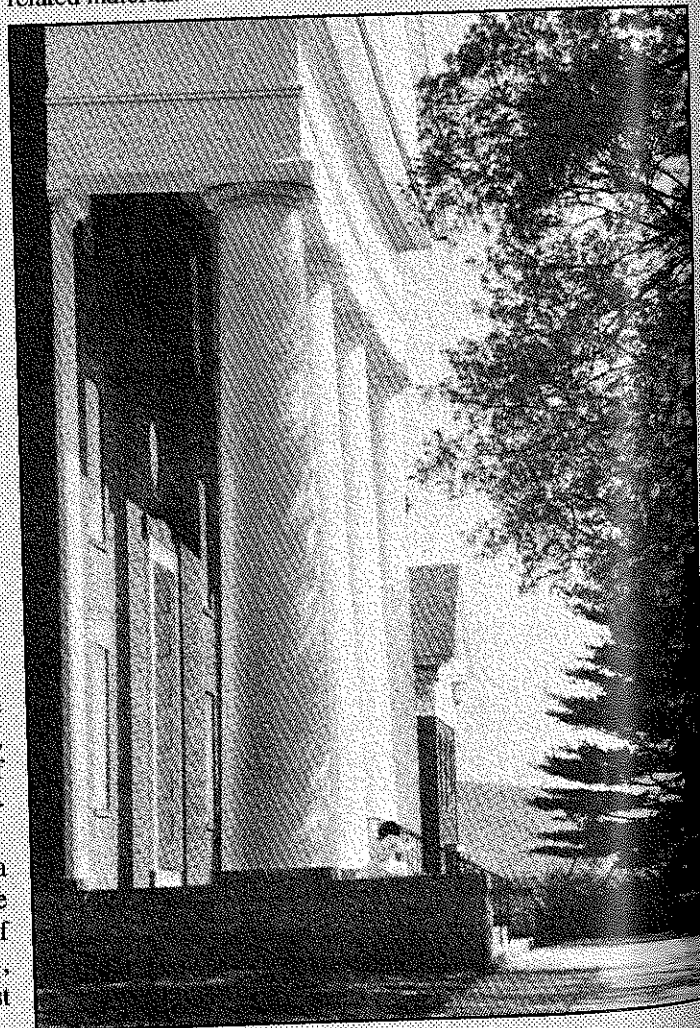
FOUNDED IN 1821 to "educate indigent youths of piety and intellect." Amherst College has grown continuously in stature and influence. Today, many consider it the nation's premier liberal arts college, a judgment which several national polls and rankings have ratified. Its 1578 undergraduates come from most of the fifty states and abroad, 45% from non-public schools, and 75% from the top tenth of their high school class. Since the early sixties, Amherst has been among the most selective undergraduate institutions in America, admitting only 14-21% of its applicants each year. Women were first admitted in 1975.

The faculty of 161 is committed to the teaching of undergraduates. History, English, Biology and Political Science are particularly strong; the departments of Geology, Physical Education, and American Studies were the first in the nation. Despite the small size of the College, Amherst alumni have traditionally attained prominence in law, public service, the ministry, business and medicine. The College has produced one U.S. president (Calvin Coolidge), a chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court and several associate justices, several speakers of the U.S. House of Representatives, ambassadors, and judges. It is one of the top five producers of American business chief executives; 80% of its alumni pursue graduate study. Alumni support of the College has traditionally been strong; in recent years some 63% have contributed to the College's annual fund.

The College occupies a 950 acre campus in a small town setting amidst an amphitheater of hills. It has ample laboratory and classroom space, and extensive athletic facilities. The College is a member of Five Colleges, Inc., a consortium with Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges, and the University of Massachusetts which permits cross-registration and other cooperative programs.

Amherst fields teams in 29 intercollegiate sports. It is a member of the New England Small College Athletic Conference and, with Williams and Wesleyan, of "The Little Three," one of the oldest athletic rivalries in the country. On 10 November 1984, the 100th Amherst-Williams game was played, with Amherst the victor.

The College is a privately supported institution. Through the terms of the will of Henry Clay Folger '95, the College Trustees own and administer the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., a major collection of Renaissance manuscripts and related material.



those fellows whom other societies have long been trying to get are going into ours.

"I have wanted our boys to electioneer now, for we cannot do ourselves any hurt, and the college has found out all about our matters, but they don't want to. Will you give us your advice on the subject? We will probably each one of us have to pay out a good deal of money this year for our hall, there are so few of us, and go through other tribulations, but I think this will help to bind us together more, and make us value our society, just as our revolutionary struggle drove the states to each other, and made them glory in hard won independence.

"Yours truly,
"H. C. Bradbury."

The end came in an unexpected manner. On 11 November 1864, the class was exercising in the gymnasium when three Chi Psis from Williams walked into the gymnasium and inquired for Bradbury. Finding him they were entertained by the Amherst men with their best hospitality and, after the matter had been talked over thoroughly with them, it was decided to initiate the Amherst men twelve o'clock on that night.

The ceremony was performed in Belcher's room in old East College. After the beginning of the next term the men "swung out" with their badges and Alpha Chi was at last fairly established.

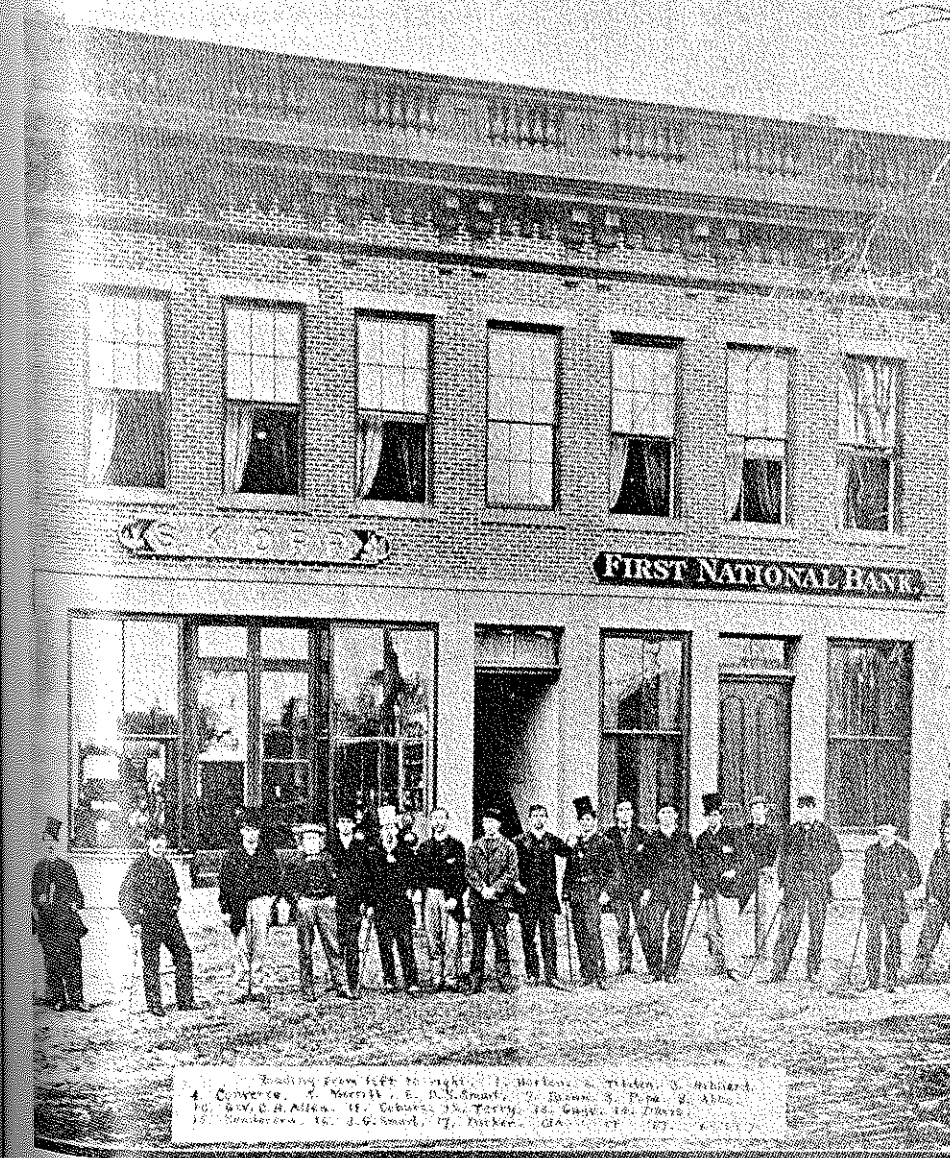
In January, 1865, the very thing happened which was needed to build up the new

Alpha and give it strength at the start. This was the accession of four men from the Middlebury class of 1867: Brothers Hibbard, Tilden, Merrill and Smart. This year and the next the Alpha was in a flourishing condition and was increasing greatly in strength and position among the older fraternities of the college. During the next three years the Alpha fell both in morale and in reputation. In the words of the historian, "the history for the third year is short and inglorious; there were no meeting of the society but enough men could be found almost every evening in the billiard room to hold a meeting."

A decided change in the policy of the Alpha was noted in 1869 when efforts were made to get men of character and influence; men willing to work for the Fraternity. It was also in this year that a fraternal dispute with Theta arose over the ownership of some of the furniture in possession of Chi. The dispute was not settled for years and gave rise to no little hard feeling and argument between the two Alphas.

Under the influence of the '71 delegation the Alpha was built up rapidly and took a high stand in literary work and scholarship. A circumstance which did much to unite the men and get them interested in the affairs of the Alpha was the holding of the Fraternity convention in Amherst on 27 and 28 June 1872. Seven Alphas were represented at the convention by delegates.

On the evening of 8 July 1874, the annual reunion of the Alpha was held at which all the undergraduates and many of the alumni were present. The next college year was marked by good and persistent work which gave a steady advance in strength, and Chi Psi was firmly established in its position as one of the leading fraternities at Amherst. During the following years Alpha Chi took a prominent part in the re-establishing of Alpha Alpha. Upon the receipt of a petition for charter from Wesleyan and while the matter was under consideration by the Fraternity, a committee of two, composed of A.L. Smith, '76, and William Peet, '78, was sent to Wesleyan in order that they might personally investigate the prospects and probable character of the proposed Alpha. This committee returned on 27 April 1876, with so favorable a report that the application was encouraged, with the result that the Alpha soon received an authorization to proceed with the re-establishment of Alpha Al-



Alpha Chi's classes of 1867-70 and their Lodge. The upper floor was designed for the Alpha when this business block was built in Amherst. (Picture from Frank E. Whitman, X'85.)

pha. As it seemed best to perform the ceremony of initiating the members of the new Alpha in the Lodge at Amherst, Brothers Wharff and Perry of Wesleyan were initiated at Amherst on 23 May 1876, and were empowered to reorganize and perpetuate Alpha Alpha of Chi Psi.

The college years of 1877-1878 saw a great advance in the social spirit within the Alpha and in the character of the meetings. The former was caused by the fact that for the first time nearly all the Fraternity boarded together and thus came into daily contact with one another.

Practically three years from this marked the development of interest in the fund for a Lodge. Although the rooms over the National Bank were good, the need of a house was felt, especially at commencement time during the rushing season. In 1881 the first of the three parcels was purchased for \$4,000. It was known as the "Delano place," and had been formerly the site of horse sheds for the village church on the opposite side of Northampton Road, which has become College Hall. On 17 November 1882, the Alpha Chi Corporation of Chi Psi was incorporated as an educational corporation under the laws of Massachusetts, to hold title to and administer the real estate. Ground was broken for the Lodge in the autumn of 1883. Robert S. Stephenson, X'80, was the architect. This house was the first at Amherst to be

specially designed and built to house a chapter of any fraternity. It served for nearly forty years. By the spring of '84 the building had been so far completed that many of the commencement activities of the returning Chi Psi alumni were conducted on the porch of the new Lodge.

The year 1884-85 was a marked one in the history of the Alpha and might well be considered the beginning of the second period in its history. Returning in the fall the men were disappointed to find that the Lodge was but partly finished, although by vigorous work it was put in condition for the fall campaign. With the increased advantages afforded by the house and under the leadership of the strong '85 delegation, a year of prosperity and activity was enjoyed by the Alpha. The Lodge was opened with the initiation of the '88 delegation, a housewarming and alumni reunion on the night of 17 October 1884.

At the beginning of the winter term in 1885, Henry A. Frink, Φ'70, came to Amherst as professor of rhetoric and public speaking. He remained until his death in 1898 and proved a source of unmeasured help and inspiration to the Alpha. The Alpha table at Robison's which had been continued for many years was discontinued this year as it seemed that with the change from the old bank building to the Lodge it might tend to make the Alpha too exclusive. About this



The Lodge of Alpha Chi from 1884-1922.

time the "Vincent lot" on South Prospect Street, lying directly behind the Lodge and originally a part of the Delano property, was added to the place, and a tennis court was laid out on it.

The Alpha commenced the twenty-third year of its history in the usual prosperous manner and but for two unfortunate circumstances that year would have passed it close as among the most satisfactory in the history of the Alpha. The year was marred by the expulsion of two members, both of the '89 delegation. The following year was again one of prosperity, but marked by a discussion concerning the social society Theta Nu Epsilon. Permission had been given to members of '86, '88, and '89 to join that society but to no other delegations. Members of other delegations joined the society, however, until over one-third of the Alpha were members of the society. After long debate it was decided that no Chi Psi should be allowed to join any secret society except Phi Beta Kappa. Soon afterwards the faculty compelled all men to resign from the society, thus saving the Alpha from what might have been a serious break in its unity.

During the last week in February of 1889, the twenty-fifth anniversary of Alpha Chi was celebrated. The celebration consisted of a large evening reception to the friends and alumni, and a banquet to the latter. Many distinguished alumni were present and a large delegation from Theta. The next year the membership in the Alpha dropped very low and consequently the expenses upon each man were heavy. The financial difficulties were finally surmounted, however, through the generosity of the New York alumni, in connection with Brother Whitridge presented the Alpha with his interest in the so-called Burt house adjoining the Lodge at the rear. This house later became known as Whitridge Hall and was used by the sophomore delegations until the fall of 1913 when it was torn down. This third acquisition completed Chi's ownership of the west half of the block, and save for a small adjustment of boundary later with Psi U, gave the Alpha the lot it would occupy until 1981.

During the 1880s, a normal delegation in Alpha Chi was considered to be about six. The Alpha was traditionally conservative during this period. All other fraternities at Amherst took larger delegations. During the

'90s Chi's delegations tended to become somewhat larger, but rarely equalled in numbers the delegations in the other fraternities.

During the following decade the Alpha was not as prosperous as it should have been. In spite of freshmen delegations averaging about eight members each, its membership became small, yet never so small that the influence of its individual members was not felt in the college. The Alpha spirit seems to have been at low ebb at this period and consequently Chi suffered a lowering of its reputation among the faculty and townspeople. However a change was soon to come. The 1908 delegation of eleven men was strong in quality, and the 1904 initiations marked not only the fortieth anniversary of the Alpha and the twentieth anniversary of the Lodge, but also the beginning of a restoration of Alpha Chi to her former place as one of the leading factors in Amherst fraternity life. As a result of this revival the Lodge itself was refinished during the summer of 1905. At this time the custom was begun of marking the fireplaces in the studies with brass plates bearing the names of previous occupants.

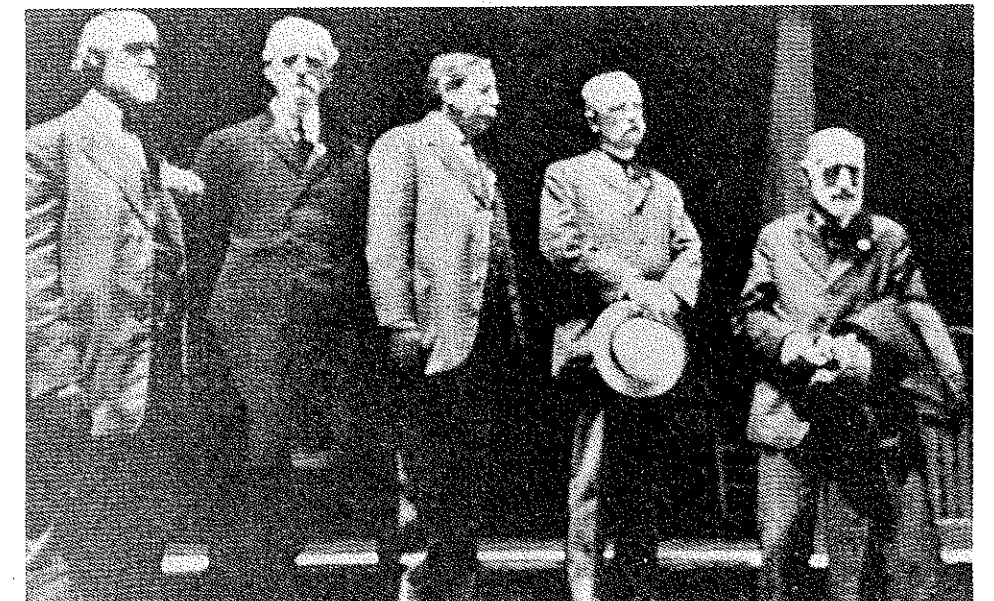
In 1906 Whitridge Hall was renovated. This same year Psi Upsilon came into possession of the Davis property adjoining its old house facing the Common. The entire block thus became about equally divided between Psi Upsilon and Chi Psi. With fifteen men in the Lodge and six in Whitridge, the entire Alpha of thirty-one, except the freshmen, was now housed on our own place.

The years following were years of work and success, speaking generally. Freshman delegations were fairly uniform, the Alpha was well represented in campus activities and scholarship was on the whole creditable. In 1913 Whitridge Hall was torn down, having fallen quite behind the current standards of student accommodation. The 1914 Chi Psi Convention was held under the auspices of Chi in celebration of the Alpha's fiftieth anniversary, with headquarters at the Hotel Kimball, Springfield. The 1916 rushing season was disastrous, with only four freshmen being secured. Yet Chi's scholarship was never so good. For the year ending 1917 June, the Alpha received the award of the recently instituted Treadwell interfraternity cup for scholarship (the first Amherst took larger delegations. During the

of the thirteen fraternities at Amherst in scholarship during the previous college year, and this success in scholarship was repeated the following year. Following the successes of those two years, however, scholarship fell off and varied from indifferent to bad, the Alpha even occupying last and next to the last places at different periods.

Disintegration of fraternity life everywhere followed the entry of the United States into the First World War in April 1917. In September 1917 only twelve members of Chi returned to college; eight were pledged for the 1921 delegation; eleven lived in the Lodge. Only six Brothers were back in September 1918 to begin the year; seven men were pledged, and a hurried initiation was held on 28 September in order to anticipate the expected entry of the Student Army Training Corps into the student body.

The third period of Alpha Chi may be said to date from the new Lodge. For many years the old Lodge of 1884 had been too small. It had also become outmoded by newer standards of student life and was a handicap in rushing. Beginning with 1912, within a period of eight years, six fraternities had built new, modern houses comporting with the dignity of the college and the New England character of the village. Chi had long talked of a better and more appropriate Lodge but had never taken the financial steps necessary to prepare for the inevitable expense.



The Founders of Alpha Chi — This photograph was taken in front of the 1884-1922 Lodge when the founders of Alpha Chi attended the 50th anniversary of their graduation at Amherst. Left to right: Herbert Morley, Frank Sargent, William Belcher, Henry Pelton, and Henry Bradbury, all X'66. That the entire group was alive and on hand in Amherst for that event in 1916 received wide comment.

In 1917, following a drive to pay off the mortgage on the old house, a new building fund was begun, but did not get far. The War brought further delay and a dismaying increase in building costs.

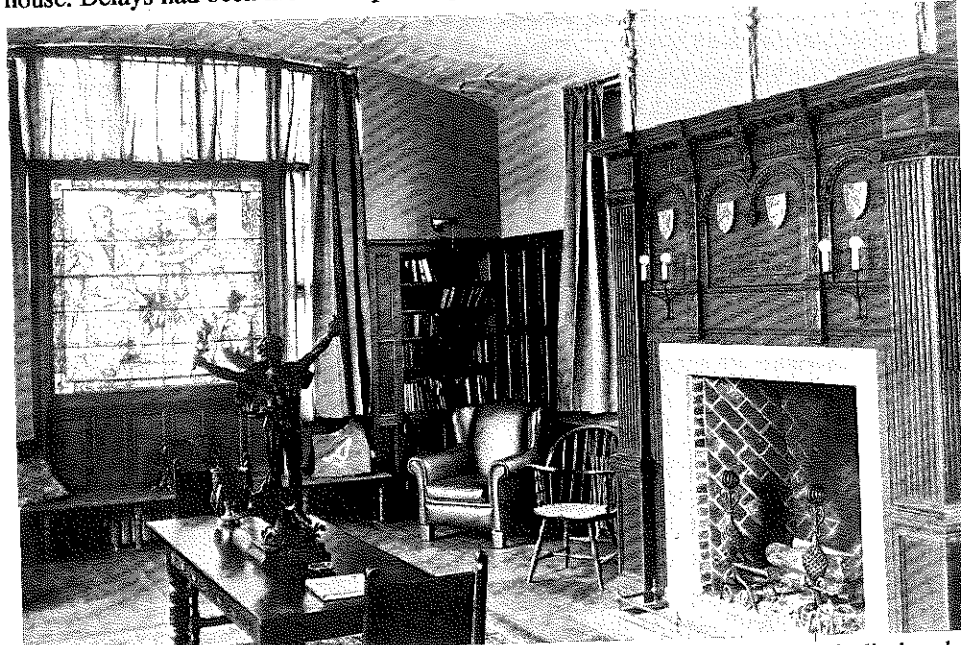
In 1919, the War being over, the matter was again taken up with determination. Under the leadership of Frank E. Whitman '85, the project began to take shape. Brother Stephenson, the architect of the old Lodge, was brought in and in collaboration with his partner, H. Herbert Wheeler, he sketched some plans. The idea of enlarging the old Lodge was definitely renounced. The Stephenson and Wheeler plans were developed. Brother Stephenson, because of ill health, retired leaving Mr. Wheeler as architect. His plans are embodied in the house as finally built.

Originally it was planned to begin the demolition of the old Lodge in April 1920 and have the new Lodge ready in time for the Amherst College Centennial in June 1921, but this was impossible. Demolition of the old Lodge began 19 June 1922. The new Lodge stood upon the site of the old, enlarged.

During the college year that the Alpha property was in the hands of the builder, Alpha Chi occupied the "Chi Psi Annex" an old house moved from the enlarged Chi Phi place, when its own new house was built, to a neighboring site. The year opened with only five seniors, eight Juniors and four

sophomores back. Despite small numbers and the handicap of temporary quarters, rushing was successful and the Alpha pledged a fine freshman delegation of fourteen, including the president of the class. No doubt the impressive skeleton on Northampton Road, taking shape as a house, had its effect. For the college year 1922-23, the Alpha received the Thayer Trophy, awarded by Chi Psi each year to the best Alpha that year.

In September of 1923, Alpha Chi returned to take up her abode in an unfinished house. Delays had been most exasperating.



A view of the Library in the new Lodge in 1924 with the Thayer Trophy prominently displayed.



A view of the Great Hall at the Lodge on Northampton Road, taken in the 1920s.

The contract called for completion in April 1923. In fact, substantial completion was not accomplished until the beginning of 1924. But studies and bedrooms were ready for occupancy, and the great hall, though unfinished was just possible for use in rushing.

On the afternoon of 3 November 1923, following the Amherst-Wesleyan football game, won by Brother McBride for Amherst in the last minute of play, the college and its friends flocked to the new house for inspection and tea. That evening about ninety Chi Psis, alumni and undergraduates from

many Alphas, sat down to the first banquet in the Great Hall to celebrate the formal dedication of the new Lodge. The presentation was by Frank E. Whitman, '85; the memorial mantel in the then unfinished library was dedicated by Albert S. Bard '88 to the memory of the four Alpha Chi Brothers who had died in the War, Frank Janvier McFarland '12, Merrill Stanton Gaunt '14, Robert Clinton Hanford '14, and Daniel Stevenson Smart '14; addresses of acceptance were made by Henry V. Pelton, '66 (one of the three surviving founders), for the founders; Robert S. Fletcher, '97, for the corporation; Talcott Parsons, '24, for the Alpha; and President John W. Anderson, E'90, for the Fraternity. A fuller history of this important occasion for Chi, with descriptions of the building, can be found in the February 1924 issue of *The Purple and Gold*.

The Lodge cost approximately \$100,000. The original furniture cost about \$5,000 more. To finance the house a \$40,000 mortgage was necessary. The landscaping of the place was completed in the spring of 1926.

The first five years following completion of the new Lodge were of a somewhat mixed character for Chi. A temporary return to scholarly entertainment was indulged in when, on 8 December 1923 Admiral Sims, U.S.N., addressed a group of about 200 in the Great Hall of the Lodge. President Olds and a large body from the faculty and students were present. The average scholarship was for the most part medium or poor. The general atmosphere was somewhat individualistic and lacking in team play. There had been much laxity. Later, however, a healthier condition began asserting itself. In 1927 the Alpha numbered thirty-four. No freshmen roomed in the Lodge.

From 1927 there was a generally steady increase in the numerical size, and in the prestige of Alpha Chi. The winter of 1929 found the Alpha well represented in sports and on publications. The poor average in scholarship was rising. A good delegation of ten men was pledged in the fall of 1929. Both freshmen and sophomores were active in campus affairs. In September of 1930 the kitchen was opened, and the Great Hall became a dining room. The practice of eating in the Lodge proved a great success. Meeting in a body for meals twenty times a week imbued the Brothers with a common sense of the

fraternal bond almost as strong as that which the weekly goals accomplished.

The extra-curricular activity of the Brothers at this time was unusually great. Almost every member of the Fraternity was a participant in some varsity sport, or an officer in some organization. Throughout the school year 1931-32 this interest in extra-curriculars continued; but unfortunately scholarship remained mediocre. In the spring of 1933, however, the Alpha's scholastic average began to rise.

With the fall of 1934 Alpha Chi entered upon a run of extremely successful years, to which there is fortunately no termination in sight. The Lodge boasted three representatives on the student governing body, two members of Scarab, the senior honorary society, and the president of the interfraternity council. During the rushing seasons of 1934 and 1935 Alpha Chi pledged fine delegations. Scholarship improved slightly, but the Fraternity, as usual, was outstanding for its athletic and campus activities.

In 1935, a well-rounded group of freshmen was pledged, but the next year a centenary delegation of nineteen was pledged from the class of 1941. This was the largest freshman delegation that ever entered the Lodge. The fraternity scholastic averages announced by the college in September 1938, showed Chi in fifth place, a most encouraging improvement. Cooperative and sustained effort in the winter and spring of 1939 won for the Brothers the impressive interfraternity trophy of trophies, a large bowl awarded annually to the fraternity which proves the highest point winter in all intramural competition. The late thirties also saw the inauguration of a newsletter, *The Alpha Chi Chronicle*, which has appeared periodically ever since.

The Chi Psi Centennial in 1941 saw Alpha Chi at the height of its prosperity. A Chi man, Charles E. Merrill '08, was #7, and Albert S. Bard '88 received the Fraternity's first Distinguished Service Award, as well as the National Interfraternity Conference Gold Medal. Some forty-three Chi men attended the Centennial Exercises at Union. Among them was Alester G. Furman '39, who with his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather represented four generations of Chi Psi affiliation. Richmond Mayo-Smith '09 was chairman of the Amherst College Board of Trustees. On campus, Chi Psis dominated

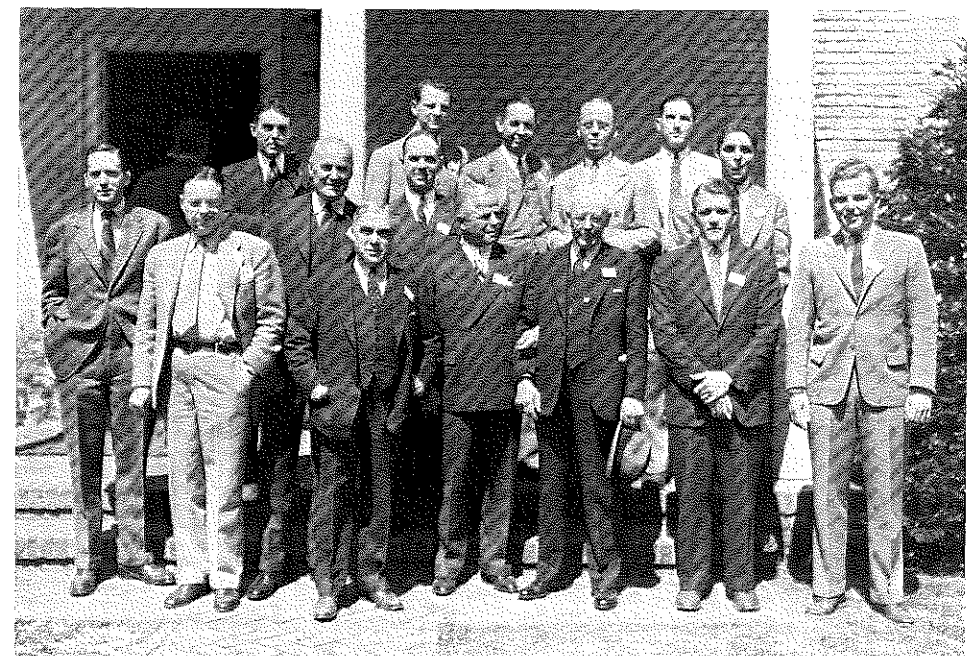
the playing fields, and Richard Wilbur '42, future Pulitzer Prize winner and U. S. Poet Laureate, was named Editor-in-Chief of the *Amherst Student*.

The intervention of World War II soon after the centennial celebration brought an end to this golden age, forcing the suspension of most phases of fraternity life at Amherst. The Lodge was rented to the college for use as a civilian dormitory. Stansfield Turner '45, later a Rhodes Scholar, an admiral and Director of the CIA, organized and distributed a wartime Alpha Chi newsletter for the classes of '43-'46 which did much to perpetuate fraternal feeling among these men, most of whom had enlisted for military service. By 1945, some 182 Chi men were in the service. Seven did not return from battle: Charles B. Ames '16, Lunsford D. Fricks Jr. '30, Jacob W. Bond '37, Robert H. Dietze '39, John P. Adams '40, Howell S. Murray '41, and Gordon V. Potter '44. Through the efforts of Worthington Mayo-Smith '49, a memorial tablet containing their names was installed about the Great Hall fireplace.

The postwar re-activation of fraternities was difficult on all campuses, but at Amherst it was particularly problematic. As they would at later critical junctures in the college's history, fraternity critics saw the return to normalcy following the war as an appropriate occasion to abolish fraternities. "Like athletics, fraternities are under scrutiny these days," wrote one. "Why not take the oppor-

tunity afforded by the war to abolish them, and so strike a real blow for campus democracy?"

An alumni committee formed to investigate the matter ultimately recommended that fraternities be re-opened, albeit on a conditional basis. Fraternity dining rooms were closed, and all students were required to take their meals in Valentine Hall, the new central dining hall constructed to accommodate troops stationed at the college during the war. Intended to mitigate cliquishness among fraternity members, and also to assure the financial viability of the new dining facility, this measure struck at an important feature of fraternity life. Pledging was deferred, depriving first semester freshmen of the positive influence of upperclassmen Brothers, and "100% rushing" was imposed, whereby every rushee was guaranteed a bid from at least one house. More historically, the college trustees also required that all Amherst fraternities repeal any discriminatory clauses in their laws which denied membership on the basis of race or religion. This requirement triggered a national movement to eliminate fraternity discrimination, and many institutions followed Amherst's lead in making this demand. Happily Chi Psi had no such discriminatory clauses, the sole requisite for membership being that the rushee be a gentleman. However, the non-discrimination requirement led to the disaffiliation of several Amherst fraternities from their na-



Brothers of Alpha Chi attending the Centennial Convention at Union in 1941.

tional organizations, and it created a precedent of college interference with fraternity autonomy.

Albert S. Bard '88, who as past president of the National Interfraternity Conference urged all national fraternities to eliminate such discrimination voluntarily, opposed not the object, but the means of this last measure. In the July, 1950, Amherst Alumni News, he wrote:

"While this action against discrimination was creditable to the trustees as an expression of liberal thought and feeling, it overlooked a deeper principle of student self-government. Now the principle of student self-government includes the possibility of student errors plus the opportunity for correction by the students themselves, either spontaneously or under suggestion and encouragement from the college—but a free final decision by the students themselves in matters pertaining primarily to the students.

"In the opinion of the writer, (who deplores racial discrimination) college fraternities have the right to be autonomous with respect to their own membership. They should be free to create restrictions upon their own membership free from domination by the college. Such restrictions may be wise or unwise; but the fraternity, as an instrument of student self-government, has the legal right to blunder, subject to the hope that it may reconsider and retrieve the blunder. The principle of student self-government is back of and deeper than the principle of personal liberalism or fraternity liberalism, and is

paramount thereto. It is more important that the student be faced with the obligation to decide in a matter relating to student affairs, and be free to make his own decision, than that he be correct. This is a part of his education as an American."

Brother Bard's faith in the process of democracy, and in the fraternity as a laboratory for that process, has been wholeheartedly embraced and vigorously defended by subsequent Alpha Chi leaders. Whenever external forces have threatened to interfere with fraternity autonomy at Amherst, Chi Psis have led its defense.

Alpha Chi generally prospered during the fifties, even as some at Amherst continued to question the propriety of self-selective fraternities in a newly egalitarian era. The Alpha reached new levels of achievement and prestige under the leadership of Robert A.A. Ward '57, later Dean of Students at the college. While #1, Ward drafted a comprehensive defense of fraternity titled "Amherst Fraternities: a Positive Stand," which conclusively rebutted anti-fraternity prejudice. (See The Amherst Student, 30, October, 1956.) The 1958 election of Stanley J. Birge '08 as twelfth president of Chi Psi provided the Fraternity with its third Chi # 7. The decade also saw continuing efforts to make the Lodge more conducive to study. A new typing room was constructed as a memorial to George S. Moses '57 and Benjamin G. Symon '57, who were killed in an automobile accident while graduate students in theology in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The postwar expansion of the University of Massachusetts reduced the tax base of the town of Amherst, which led to an increasing punitive tax burden on Amherst fraternities, out of proportion to other town real estate. This had a crippling effect on the solvency of several chapters. Concurrently, the difficulties which Williams College faced in abolishing its fraternities illustrated the formidable obstacle to unilateral abolition which private house ownership posed. The Amherst trustees apparently recognized that college ownership of fraternity property would facilitate future regulation or abolition of fraternities. In 1961, they devised a proposal to "improve" the financial position of the houses through college subsidies, conditioned upon the house corporations surrendering the title of their properties to the college. In a letter to other house corporation presidents, Art English '35 recognized the ramifications of this proposal:

"This plan, unless complied with, makes it virtually impossible for most, if not all, of the fraternities to remain financially solvent. The authoritative overtones of this proposal are not in the best traditions of Amherst. The gift on the platter appears to disguise the hand in the pocket and the noose about the neck...Once a fraternity has passed title to the college it means another relatively free and independent, self-governing body of students becomes absolutely subject to the whim and will of the trustees and administration...The best trustees counter-argument to this thought is that there is no

difference anyhow, inasmuch as the trustees can rule out fraternities any time that they choose to do so. This kind of veiled-threat argument, I find revolting."

As other Amherst fraternities succumbed to the trustees' proposal, it became apparent that any house remaining independent could never compete with college-subsidized houses, since the actives' dues would need to be so much higher than those of the college-subsidized chapters. Consequently, at a special meeting on 15 June, 1963, the Alpha Chi Corporation voted to deed the 19 Northampton Road property to the Trustees of Amherst College, in consideration of \$1. The Frink Memorial Window, certain furnishings, and "paraphernalia of a nature personal to the Fraternity" were excepted from the conveyance.

On 13 November 1964, Alpha Chi gathered to observe its centennial. Stanley J. Birge was presented the Alpha's First Alumni Recognition Award, and William E. LeClere, BA'57 declared the Alpha among "the most distinguished chapters of any fraternity anywhere." Nineteen freshmen initiates comprised the hundredth Chi delegation.

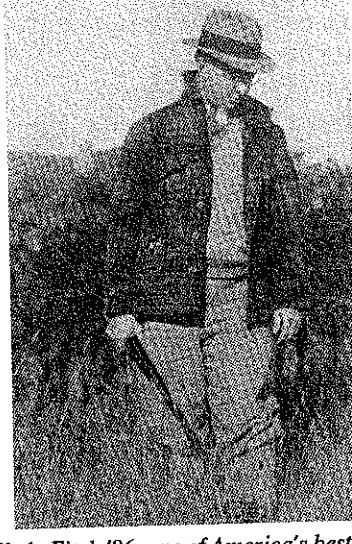
The euphoria of this occasion did not last, as the Alpha entered the lowest period of its history. The next twenty years were characterized by disputes over national affiliation, a waning of fraternal sentiment, and college interference with fraternity operations coupled with college neglect of its newly acquired fraternity property. As the years passed, only a small percentage of the

members of the local Alpha went through the national initiation ceremonies. The continuing interest of alumni such as Stanley J. Birge '08, Robert Potter '40, and Robert A.A. Ward '57 preserved the Alpha from near-dormancy in 1969. (The Alpha declared itself dormant as part of the National Fraternity that spring, before reversing the decision at the last meeting of the school year. A petition at the 1969 National Convention near Chicago to declare Alpha Chi dormant received a majority of votes cast but failed to receive the necessary four-fifths after a speech from Stanley Birge persuaded delegates to give the group another chance.) Potter's efforts were acknowledged by receipt of the national Distinguished Service Award in 1975. In 1972, T. Lee Pomeroy II '71 became national executive director (#23); during his tenure he helped to bring the Alpha back into full communion with the Fraternity.

The year 1977 saw a revival in Chi's fortunes. During the 1976-77 school year, Alpha Visitor Rik Shiiki, HA'76, spent considerable time and energy visiting the campus and reviving interest in the national organization. National President Oliver Rowe, Σ'25, got involved and asked each man for a commitment to Chi Psi. A delegation from a number of Alphas was present as two dozen Brothers were received into the bonds in Spring ceremonies led by W. S. Hattendorf Jr., AD'69. Alpha Chi was es-

entially refounded as a full-fledged entity of Chi Psi in the Spring of 1977. Over the next three years it had more than its share of scholarship recipients, Educational Trust programs and Regional Representatives to the Executive Council. Such national enthusiasm and involvement was to be short-lived, however. It was to be cut short by a new source of controversy: the admission of women to Amherst.

Amherst had resisted co-education until 1976, relying on its symbiotic relationship with Smith and Mount Holyoke Colleges to provide a feminine perspective. Made largely at the insistence of President John William Ward, without significant undergraduate or alumni support, the decision to admit women was haphazardly implemented. Instead of creating new institutions and facilities to accommodate women, the administration moved quickly to efface every last vestige of Amherst's male heritage. Although most of Amherst's fraternity chapters soon voted to admit women, the continuing presence of all-male fraternities did not conform to the administration's orthodox vision. Notwithstanding the desire of several national sororities to open Amherst chapters, the all-male houses were condemned as discriminatory, and students and alumni who disputed this characterization were dismissed as disruptive, anachronistic, or maladjusted. In 1980, President Julian Gibbs concluded that



Just a few of Alpha Chi's well-known alumni have included (left to right) Clyde Fitch '86, one of America's best and most prolific playwrights; Clarence Birdseye '10, the "inventor" of frozen foods; and Charles Merrill '08, founder of the brokerage firm bearing his name and numerous other enterprises and publications.



Robert A. Potter, X'40, President of the Alpha Chi Corporation, left, and John P. Howe III X'65, the #1, right, present Stanley J. Birge X'08 the first Distinguished Service Award of Alpha Chi, on the occasion of the Centennial of the Alpha at Amherst in 1964.

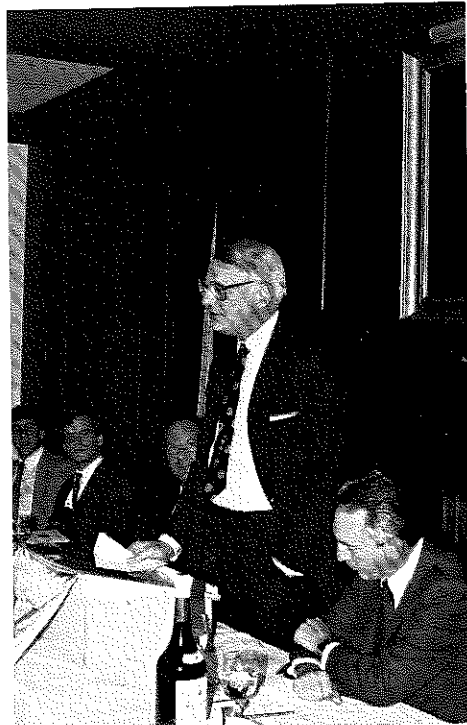


John P. Howe III, X'65, and Robert A. Potter, X'40, do the honors at the 100th Birthday Party in 1964, with about 100 alumni and actives present over the William-Amherst weekend.

ALPHA CHI, reestablished on 16 November 1985, in Amherst, Massachusetts, by Owen Patrick John King, Charles Vincent O'Boyle Jr., Thomas Kevin Jones, Mark Filios Rounds, Charles Henry Bartlett III, Thomas Anthony Dunne, Francis Rivers Lelong Jr., Frederick A Masoudi, Dwight MacVicar Poler, George Andrew Sarosi Jr., Stephen Christopher Carter, Andrew Oliver Clancy, William James Connolly, Matthew Jacob Handelman, John Newell Linn, James Scott Pofcher, Arnold Augur Spencer, John Wood Sweet, and August Maria Vlak. Gamma, W.S. Hattendorf Jr., AΔ'69, Σ'82, H'83.

it was "wrong" for women to be denied fraternity membership. While a few active Chi Brothers supported the admission of women to the Alpha, all firmly believed that the issue should be decided by the undergraduates and alumni of the Fraternity, free from college coercion. On 1 March, the college trustees denied them such self-determination, passing a resolution prohibiting sex discrimination by organizations which controlled access to "College property." After much emotional debate and failed negotiation with the college, Alpha Chi voted to dissolve rather than compromise the ideals of Chi Psi. The 139th Convention in Athens, Georgia, accepted Alpha Chi's petition for dormancy on 16 August 1980. A local co-ed social organization, Delta Chi Psi, was created to occupy the former Lodge.

That the co-education controversy had been primarily a pretext to weaken fraternities further soon became apparent. Without national affiliation or alumni support, the system of local fraternities continued to deteriorate, and despite full co-education, sexual harassment, destruction of property, and other anti-intellectual behavior proliferated. The trustees seized upon the occasion of Gibbs' sudden death in February, 1983, to appoint an ad-hoc committee, without student representation, to report on "the quality of residential life... in particular... on the character of the fraternity system." After systematically undermining the fraternities for thirty-five years, the trustees now concluded that the fraternities had become "primarily social clubs with little of the sense of shared responsibility, self-governance, or financial self-sufficiency known to alumni of earlier years." Notwithstanding the college's role in effecting this situation, the trustees voted to



Robert C. Preble Jr., X'44, Chairman of the Chi Psi Educational Trust, addresses undergraduates and alumni attending Alpha Chi's Initiation and Rechartering Banquet. The activities were hosted by Alpha Eta at the Lodge at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. Seated on the left are Charles V. O'Boyle Jr., X'86, one of the refounders and guiding lights of Alpha Chi, and Bill Hattendorf, AΔ'69, who presided at the ceremonies. Seated at right is Robert Gardner, KΔ'61, Chairman of the Executive Council.

prohibit fraternity activity on campus as of 30 June 1984. The former Lodge was substantially remodeled for use as a dormitory, and renamed Mayo-Smith House, after Richmond Mayo-Smith '09.

In the meantime, prior to the trustee decision, two undergraduate members of Delta Chi Psi, Owen King '86 and Chuck

O'Boyle '86 had become dissatisfied with the limited, purely social nature of the organization. Left behind at 19 Northampton Road at the time of Alpha Chi's dormancy were several Chi Psi catalogs and a bound set of *The Purple and Gold*. Through these, the pair became familiar with Alpha Chi's glorious past and with the service of its alumni to Amherst and the Fraternity. King and several of their Delta Chi Psi classmates had "crashed" the final banquet of the 142nd Convention at the Plaza Hotel in New York, where they received a warm welcome. Rumors pointed to further college regulation of the co-ed local fraternities. Why not revive Alpha Chi off-campus, as a full-fledged fraternity operating free from college interference?

On 29 September 1983, the Chi Psi Central Office received a letter of inquiry: "We are writing on behalf of a group of Amherst students who hope to re-activate the Alpha Chi of Chi Psi... We are a group of Delta Chi Psi members who believe that the Amherst administration has pushed fraternities too far: in emasculating the system; in restricting house autonomy; in robbing each house of its traditional rites and identity, and in threatening their very existence. We affirm the inalienable right of college students to organize and administer social organizations free from administrative interference and regulation. We are anxious to revive Alpha Chi in its former image, and we look to the national organization for assistance and support."

The Central Office was quick to respond, but wary of making any commitment until the status of fraternities at Amherst was settled. The settlement came in February with the trustee decision to ban on-campus

fraternity activity. Through the support of Robert C. Preble, Jr. '44, Chairman of the Chi Psi Educational Trust, arrangements were made for the Amherst group to petition the 143rd Convention for colony status. A paragraph from their petition reflects what the petitioners believed was the significance of their undertaking:

"For the National Organization, we offer a chance to return to the Founders' conception of Fraternity, to prove that Chi Psi as the Founders knew it has relevance today, even when denied, at least at the start, trappings which the first Brothers could never have anticipated; a residential Lodge and college support... We realize that Chi Psi would never extend to a college that is hostile to fraternities, but we expect that it is committed to maintain and re-activate its historic Alphas, just as we are committed to preserving a historically prominent tradition of Amherst College for our successors."

At the convention in Ann Arbor, King and O'Boyle found a staunch supporter in former Executive Council Chairman Fred W. Phister E'50. To thunderous applause on 10 August 1984, the 143rd Convention voted unanimously to establish a colony at Amherst. Thirty-two Amherst men were pledged to Chi Psi on 10 October 1984, in a ceremony under the direction of Visitor William Wrightsman HΔ'84. A post-victory reception after the Amherst-Williams game brought the Chi Psi colonists into contact with some thirty-five Chi alumni. Two weeks later, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ran a sympathetic front page article about the persistence of Amherst's "banned" fraternities; Chi Psi figured prominently in the coverage. Imitation was another form of flattery conferred on the colony. While both Psi Upsilon and Alpha Delta Phi continued off-campus as co-ed groups, the revival of Chi Psi as a men's fraternity inspired the reorganization of all male chapters of Delta Kappa Epsilon and Theta

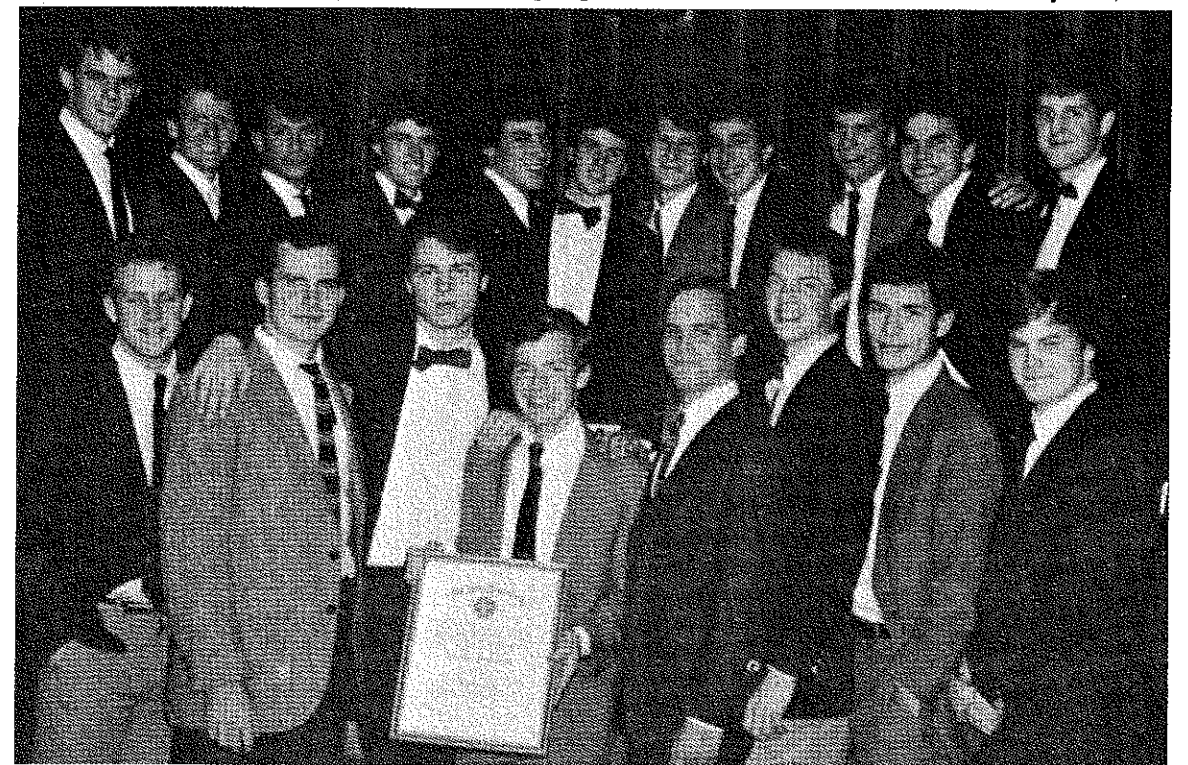
Delta Chi, which had been both dormant at Amherst for many years.

Alpha Chi was re-chartered by unanimous vote of the 144th Convention at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. On 15 November 1985, nineteen Amherst pledges traveled to Alpha Eta for initiation and the re-installation of Alpha Chi. Wilbur S. Hattendorf Jr., AΔ'69, conducted the initiation ceremonies, a memorable feast of lobster and steamship round of beef cemented a friendship between the Amherst and Bowdoin Alphas that has remained close. The Alpha Chi Corporation was revived, with Hugh M. Reeves '40 as president and Robert C. Preble, Jr. '44 as treasurer. The investment of assets of the corporation has been preserved through the loyalty of Barry Zinns '71 and Winthrop Smith, Jr. '71. Financial support from the corporation, made possible through these investments and the annual fund raising efforts of Brother Reeves, were essential to the re-founded Alpha's survival, enabling it to rent a succession of off-campus "Lodges" ranging from a storefront to a five bedroom house. In 1987, Chi Psi once again became a residential fraternity at Amherst. In 1988, the Alpha awarded Brother Reeves its second Alumni Recognition Award.

Several charismatic undergraduate leaders enabled the Alpha to prosper under

still trying conditions of official college antagonism. Arnold A. Spencer '88, M. Blake Hargrove '89, and Lee Abramson '90 did much to establish the Alpha as an on-going self-perpetuating enterprise, and they also favored the national Fraternity with their zeal and dedication. The initiative of John Canoni '90 led to the creation of the Alpha Chi Educational Foundation, which provides a tax deductible vehicle for alumni to support the educational function of the Alpha. The concentration of young Chi alumni in New York City also proved helpful; frequent campus visits and financial support made their relative proximity to Amherst keenly appreciated.

As Chi Psi celebrates its sesquicentennial, Alpha Chi anticipates a new era of prosperity. Free from college interference and the accumulated baggage of its earlier decline, the Alpha has recovered the purely fraternal elements which Chi Psi sponsors, and which more and more undergraduate men at Amherst wish to experience. Defiant though we must be, against college policies prejudicial to our ideals of brotherhood, we none-the-less relish our affiliation with Amherst and anticipate the day when our Fraternity is once again a welcome part of a truly diverse, tolerant, and progressive institution. —Charles V. O'Boyle Jr., X'86



New Initiates and Refounders of Alpha Chi proudly display their charter.