

Architect Richard Powers' drawing of the former Harley F. Clarke mansion captures the beauty of the prize-winning structure that will soon be converted into our Memorial Grand Chapter House.

Sigma Chi's Memorial Grand Chapter House

Fraternity Purchases Magnificent Suburban Mansion

SIGMA CHI has purchased a magnificent General Headquarters Building. Under the guidance of Grand Consul John Neal Campbell and able committee headed by Executive Committee member Carl P. Clare, the elaborate Harley F. Clarke mansion on the lake shore in Evanston, Illinois, was purchased for \$150,000 on May 31.

This superb property will answer the Fraternity's needs for a permanent headquarters and provide adequate space for a museum and library in addition to office quarters. The prize-winning residence is on a 300-by-500 lot and fronts on Sheridan Road. The lot includes 300 feet of riparian rights.

The deal was consummated after the perm-

anent headquarters committee investigated a score of possibilities for a site. The committee visited Oxford, Ohio, to consider the advantages of locating at Miami University, locale of the founding of Sigma Chi in 1855; but Brother Clare's group reported to the Grand Council in October 1949 that investigation revealed that the suburban Chicago location more nearly met the needs of the Fraternity. (His report was reproduced in the December 1949 issue of *The Sigma Chi Bulletin*.)

The committee's study resulted in the proposal to purchase the Clarke estate. Prior to the completion of the deal, it was necessary for the Evanston City Council to allow a zoning variance. The variance was approved on May 29.

Typical of the attitude taken by many townsmen of Evanston, *The Evanston Review* wrote the following editorial entitled "An Ideal Solution" shortly before the council made its final ruling.

"What is to be the future of the elaborate Harley Clarke mansion on Sheridan Road is a matter for the city council to decide. The zoning board of appeals was scheduled to make its final ruling Tuesday night. Its decision, of course, has the status of a recommendation to the council.

"The proposal to convert this residence to use as a national headquarters for Sigma Chi Fraternity is an ideal solution. The building is fitted for this purpose and this use would not be an annoyance to the neighborhood. Besides, because of its location between a public park and the large Deering grounds, there are no adjacent neighbors. (The property is but a few hundred feet north of the northern extremity of the Northwestern University campus.)

"By permitting its sale to the Fraternity as a headquarters building, its reasonable and orderly use is assured for a long time in the future."

The spacious two-and-a-half-story English type house is constructed of full-size Lannon stone with a tile roof. It contains 16 rooms plus billiard room and ballroom. At present there are five master bedrooms and five baths included. These rooms will be converted into offices. There are seven wood-burning fireplaces in the house.

A three-car garage is on the grounds and two full three-room apartments and a greenhouse are adjacent to this Lannon stone building.

The ballroom includes sound motion picture equipment with two projectors and screen. The removable stage equipment with curtain, footlights, and floodlights can be adapted to Fraternity uses and the space will be splendidly suited for a museum and for such meetings as Grand Council sessions.

The grounds are landscaped with blooming shrubs, trees, and wildflowers.

Designed by Richard Powers, one of the nation's foremost architects, the large house was built in 1927. It was the first suburban Chicago residence to win an Art Commission Award.

In 1938 the staff of Northwestern University's construction department placed a reproductive valuation of \$523,755 on the land and house. The lot alone was appraised at \$170,000. Current prices would doubtless increase that figure considerably for any such magnificent structure. The Northwestern staff commented that the building was of extraordinarily fine construction.

A current check has been made by a reliable real estate firm which substantiates the 1938

This presentation gave Grand Chapter visitors a better appreciation of the superb site of Sigma Chi's Memorial Grand Chapter House.

Our Memorial Grand Chapter House

2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Ill.



The Entrance



Every Sigma Chi will have an opportunity to participate in the development of Sigma Chi's First General Headquarters Building.



A side view of Entrance



The Conservatory



The Library



The Memorial Grand Chapter House was of interest to everybody at the Grand Chapter in June.

report and indicates that no major repairs seem likely in the foreseeable future.

It is the Fraternity's intent to make this property into a functional headquarters as well as something of a Memorial Grand Chapter House. Offices that are currently rented at 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, will, of course, be moved to the new address. Sigma Chi has maintained its offices in the Pure Oil Building at the edge of Chicago's Loop since May 1, 1932. At present the Fraternity occupies 3,000 square feet of 30th-floor space in the building's tower. The current lease for this space expires on April 1, 1951.

It is the Fraternity's plan to develop the beautiful new property into a real show-place for Sigma Chi. It is intended that the Grand Chapter House will be the fulcrum of Sigma Chi activity and a source of great pride to every brother.

For the first time, adequate space will be available for the Fraternity's extensive library of books by Sig authors. There will likewise be room for the historical collection that has been gathered over past years by such diligent historians as the late Joseph Cookman Nate. The Daniel William Cooper gun collection (valued at \$5,000) will be shown as well as the scores of priceless mementos that have heretofore been kept in storage.

Temporary financing has been arranged and a program for complete financing of the headquarters is being developed by a committee appointed by the Grand Consul since the Grand Chapter. The necessary legislative action has already been taken to insure the immediate adoption of a sound financing program.

Brother Clare's report as chairman of the Grand Chapter committee on the memorial headquarters building includes the bases from which a financing program will be developed. The report recommended that a program call-

ing for use of present funds plus a new fund to be raised by a general drive in the Fraternity be adopted.

Past Grand Annotator Clare stated that "it was the unanimous opinion of the members of the committee that a properly conducted campaign would be successful."

The committee also made five suggestions for consideration in conducting a fund-raising campaign:

1. Many members are not familiar with our headquarters building situation; consequently, a properly conducted publicity campaign should be arranged.

2. The campaign should be designed to appeal to the largest number of members possible.

3. It is necessary that this campaign be started as soon as possible while we are acutely aware of the importance of this memorial house.

4. The campaign should be designed to contact the individual from as close to the local group as practicable.

5. A careful study of the use of quotas and methods of keeping the members constantly in touch with the progress of the drive should be made.

THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI will continue to keep the membership informed of progress in developing the headquarters program. Although occupancy is not anticipated until late this year, the house purchase opens new horizons to the Fraternity almost immediately. This stately structure will be a concrete testimonial to the stature of the Fraternity and a living memorial to every Sig.

You can take an important part in making this move an overwhelming success for Sigma Chi. Watch the Magazine for news about the Memorial Grand Chapter House.

The entrance to 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston—Sigma Chi's new home.

The conservatory at our new headquarters site will add beauty to the property.





Left: William T. Cameron, Illinois '29, assistant vice president in the banking department of the Northern Trust Company in Chicago, is the director of the Memorial Headquarters Fund. An able man for the important post, he set up a full-scale plan to raise \$200,000—and he is counting on every Sig to take part as a contributor to the fund.



Right: Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29, has been in charge of renovating the former Clarke mansion now occupied by Sigma Chi's Memorial Headquarters. Brother Rapp is a partner in the Chicago architectural firm of Rapp and Rapp along with Dan H. Brush Jr., Illinois '06.

\$200,000 Goal

Headquarters Fund Campaign Opens

“SIGMA CHI needs to raise \$200,000; and every member of the Fraternity has an opportunity to help Sigma Chi own outright the finest of all fraternity headquarters,” declared William T. Cameron, Illinois '29, director of the Memorial Headquarters Fund.

Brother Cameron, who has originated a program to call on every living Sig for some contribution to this important fund, announced the campaign kickoff on February 15. The initial step in the drive was the mailing of a handsome brochure to everyone on the Fraternity mailing list. This six-page, three-color brochure tells the story of the headquarters purchase and its wonderful adaptability to our needs. (If you have not received a copy, write Sigma Chi Fraternity, 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois, and one will be mailed to you immediately.)

Accompanying the brochure was a letter from Grand Consul John Neal Campbell. Here, in part, is what Brother Campbell had to say:

“You know the story of the purchase of these three acres on Lake Michigan's shore, near the

campus of Northwestern University in suburban Evanston, and the magnificent structure thereon. . . . We bought it with temporary financing, and now the loan must be repaid. We also need additional funds for furnishing and refurbishing.

“Two hundred thousand dollars isn't a large sum for Sigma Chi to raise. . . . If every member will do his part, or more, the goal will be reached quickly. Quotas have been allocated to each active chapter and its alumni, and to each alumni chapter. Your contribution will be promptly credited to both quotas. In addition, a permanent memorial record will be maintained at the headquarters, naming all donors without listing the amounts. Suitable recognition will be given to the chapters which meet their quotas. . . .

“I am certain that you will want to make a generous contribution to this worthy project today. . . . Let's make this campaign a smashing success.”

While the fund-raising program is just getting under way, everything is set for the move of the headquarters offices to 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston, from 35 East Wacker Drive,

Chicago. As this article is being written, the movers are beginning the first stages of the packing and the move itself will be completed on February 24. The May issue of the Magazine will tell the full story of Sigma Chi's establishment in a permanent home.

The man behind the scenes in preparing the former Harley L. Clarke estate for Sigma Chi occupancy is Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29, prominent Chicago architect and partner in the firm of Rapp and Rapp. Under his direction, the second-floor office space has been decorated and equipped for our use. His task as overseer of the refurbishing project has been virtually a full-time job, but he has handled the entire program quickly and efficiently while operating his own important business. His close association with the construction field has been of immeasurable aid to the Fraternity in rapidly consummating what might have been a long and tedious project.

To put the new headquarters in A-1 condition, 10 organizations were called upon for different phases of the work. The coordination of their efforts alone was a vital part in the over-all job. All rooms were completely redecorated, the woodwork enameled, and the walls stippled in a warm gray paint. The rooms were also fitted with new four-tube fluorescent light fixtures and carpeted in two-tone gray.

Minor changes were also made in the third-floor bedroom. Work still remains to be done in the first-floor space.

By the time this Magazine is in your hands, the headquarters offices will be operating normally in new and comfortable surroundings. You may be certain that every member of the staff is looking forward to your visit. Plan now to see the Memorial Headquarters soon.



Top: Architect Mason Rapp, Clarence Brinkworth and Mrs. Francis H. Lenygon, both of New York City, who will direct the interior decorating of the first floor of our Memorial Headquarters, Grand Consul John Neal Campbell, and Carl P. Clare, vice chairman of the Executive Committee and chairman of the Memorial Headquarters, confer on the plans for refurbishing the former Clarke estate.

Top center: Mr. Brinkworth outlines his ideas to the group, which also includes Howard Johnson, general contractor, and Executive Director Sam C. Bullock, third and fourth from left.

Bottom center: Mrs. Lenygon, who is nationally known for her direction of the decorating of the Governor's Palace at Williamsburg, Virginia, and for her work with her husband in England's Buckingham Palace, goes over the highlights of the lower floor decorating theme.

Bottom: The tour of the Memorial Headquarters completed, Mrs. Lenygon and her escorts pause for a moment on the beautiful circular staircase that centers Sigma Chi's new home.





Room 3008 at 35 East Wacker Drive became history when Editor Merrill E. "Boz" Prichard closed up shop at the familiar address for the last time on February 24. Thousands of loyal Sigs visited the Fraternity's General Headquarters at the Loop address during the many years Sigma Chi maintained offices in the Pure Oil Building; but even more are expected to view the beautiful Memorial Headquarters in Evanston.

Headquarters Move Completed Successfully

***"Business as Usual" at New Address
In Suburban Evanston, Illinois***

SIGMA CHI is now permanently located in its Memorial Headquarters at 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois. The last remaining furnishings have been removed from our familiar 35 East Wacker Drive to the Fraternity's suburban home; and Sigma Chi is definitely "open for business" at a new address.

The offices of the Executive Secretary and Editor are complete, but the Executive Director and Placement Director's quarters will be decorated in keeping with the motif of the downstairs rooms. Every department of our headquarters staff is functioning at full speed in comfortable surroundings and with adequate working space.

The move, which was completed in a single day, gave the Fraternity an opportunity to revise the mailing system, too. With this issue of *THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI*, all addressing will be done with Elliott Addressing Machines. The change from our former Addressograph system will allow the Fraternity offices to keep both geographical and chapter files. The new system

will allow the headquarters to be of increased service to active and alumni chapters alike.

With moving day long past, concentration is now on the campaign to raise funds for the Memorial Headquarters. Campaign Director William T. Cameron reports that contributions are coming in steadily; but thousands of Sigs have yet to be heard from. If you are one of those who has delayed sending a check for the Memorial Headquarters, please do it now. We are working toward a \$200,000 goal; and your contribution will mark another notch in fulfilling this important obligation. (Two letters have been mailed to you concerning the campaign, so you should have all of the material on this monumental project. In the event your letters have not been delivered, simply drop a note to Sigma Chi Fraternity, 2603 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois, and we'll send you all of the particulars promptly.)

As of April 30, \$18,000 in contributions and pledges had been received for the headquarters fund. The Bloomington, Illinois, Alumni Chap-

ter was the first alumni group to meet its quota. Delta Iota at Denver University, Alpha Eta at the University of Iowa, and Phi Phi at the University of Pennsylvania were the first active chapters to subscribe 100 per cent to the fund. Hopes are high that every undergraduate chapter will endorse the program by a 100 per cent contribution before the close of the current school year.

Brother Cameron and his campaign committee have laid stress on the point that all contributions are welcome. No gift is too small to be important in the success of the drive. As the campaign head points out: "Our aim is to get the unanimous support of the Fraternity. We count \$5 and \$10 contributions as vital to the fund—and certainly every interested Sig can spare that much to help put this project over.

"All of us can give a little—and it will go a long way toward marking our headquarters as a 'paid in full' proposition."

Alumni chapters have organized local committees to help in the raising of funds, and personal contact work will be under way soon in many cities. If you haven't made your contribution yet, please do it today without fail.

The decorating work on the first floor of the former Clarke residence will begin soon. Mrs. Francis H. Lenygon, who is internationally known for her interior decorating accomplishments, has outlined a truly distinctive scheme for our Memorial Headquarters. Execution of the general theme is in the hands of Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29, who is in charge of the architectural aspects of the headquarters building.

Plan now to visit your Fraternity headquarters at your first opportunity.


Top: Nothing left but memories of great years in Sigma Chi's history. Executive Director Sam C. Bullock's former office hardly looks like home as only one lonely chair remains behind.

Center: The moving crew did an efficient job of relocating Sigma Chi in a single day, for a 15-year accumulation of memorabilia and furnishings account for a sizable moving chore.

Bottom: Executive Secretary J. Russell Easton tells the movers where the equipment should be placed in our spacious Memorial Headquarters.






 Inside Sigma Chi's
 Memorial Headquarters

2603 Sheridan Road — Evanston

Fulcrum of Sig Activity

The General Fraternity has established its permanent offices at the Memorial Headquarters. These are the first pictures of the second-floor rooms since their conversion to offices. Top left: A corner of the records department. Top center: A large central office provides adequate space for the book-

keeper and the Executive Secretary's staff. Top right: The Executive Secretary's office. Center left: Another view of the central office. Center right: A new picture of the headquarters. Bottom: The publications department utilizes these three offices in the north wing of the house.



Sigma Chi's Memorial Headquarters as seen from the extensive front lawn. After the removal of many obstructing shrubs, the lawn was completely reseeded as work on the grounds neared completion in late

June. The English-style mansion is sturdily constructed of random-ashlar lannon stone with cut-stone trim, and has 300 feet of riparian rights on Lake Michigan—all natural sand Beach.

Visitors Acclaim "Ideal Fraternity Headquarters"



VISITING SIGS AND GUESTS at the scheduled October 2 dedication of Sigma Chi's Memorial Headquarters will see an imposing building perfectly adapted to the complex requirements of an international fraternity. An officer of another fraternity who recently visited Sigma Chi's new home stated: "This building and site are ideal for efficient handling of fraternity business."

The beautiful oak-panelled Millis Memorial Library (in memory of Fred Millis, Hanover '11) is the repository for the Fraternity's valuable collection of literary treasures, papers, and books by Sigma Chi poets and writers.

This statement from an interfraternity leader is typical of the expressions of our own membership as well. The hundreds of Sigs and their guests who have visited the building overwhelmingly acclaimed the mansion's excellence as a headquarters.

But the Fraternity has not always "had it so good." Within a few years after the founding of Sigma Chi, Alpha, the Mother Chapter at Miami University, went inactive when only one member showed up for the beginning of school. Government of the Fraternity was passed on to the Gamma Chapter, the next in order of seniority. The Ohio Wesleyan Chapter served as "temporary Alpha" for over 30 years.

In spite of the War Between the States, faculty hostilities, college closings, and many other harassments, the excellence of Gamma's management is attested to by the size and condition of the Fraternity in 1884, when executive authority was vested in a centralized form of government. While Gamma guided the destinies of the entire Fraternity, it was the prevailing policy for each chapter officer to take his records home with him at the conclusion of the school year, then return with them in the fall. Because of the inherent weaknesses in such a system many important documents disappeared for decades or, worse, vanished altogether.

Once centralized government was adopted, Fraternity records were kept in the office files of the volunteer officer whose task it was to safeguard them. Occasionally, they would become mixed with personal business records, causing confusion, or worse, loss. Sigma Chi's address during those years was Lock Box 173, Chicago.

As the Fraternity grew both in chapters and members, it became increasingly apparent that the job had become too large for volunteer workers alone. In accordance with this need, Fredrick C. Grabner, Beloit '11, was appointed in 1913 the first full-time Executive Secretary. A year later Sigma Chi headquarters were established at 208 South LaSalle Street—the first office to be devoted exclusively to Sigma Chi business.

Within a few years, Fraternity business outgrew the office. Twice during the next decade, operations on an ever-increasing scale necessitated removal to larger quarters. By 1935, Sigma Chi grew so large, its international operations so varied and complex, that a large suite was rented in the Pure Oil Building on Wacker Drive. Here the Frater-

nity was to remain for nearly two decades, until once again, operations became seriously handicapped by inadequate space.

Continued fulfilment of the many essential activities hinged on removal to much larger quarters. In 1948 Grand Consul Sam C. Bullock appointed a group to make a study of the Fraternity's housing needs. That group's recommendations, and the Seattle Grand Chapter's instructions, added up to but one thing: a permanent headquarters.

After many months of study and deliberation, it was decided to locate the new headquarters in the Chicago area. Oxford, as the site of the Fraternity's founding, was given serious consideration, but the Chicago area was preferred because of its excellent transportation and publication facilities. Inspection of a number of metropolitan Chicago buildings disclosed a near-perfect site bordering

The graceful curved stairway as viewed from the spacious lounge. Executed throughout in limed oak, the stairway is one of the beauty attractions of Memorial Headquarters, and leads to the Fraternity's general offices on the second floor. The door on the left is that of the Millis Memorial Library; the glazed center door leads through the vestibule to the front driveway.



Lake Michigan on Sheridan Road in Evanston. To reach back into American history for an analogy: the Mormons, on discovering Great Salt Lake Valley, cried "This is the Place!" Like those sturdy pioneers of the West, Sigma Chi had at last found a fitting home.

The Evanston property, formerly the mansion of onetime utility magnate Harley L. Clarke, had been assessed in 1938 at \$523,755, the land alone being valued at \$170,000. But the house was a drug on the real estate

What They're Saying . . .

VISITORS TO MEMORIAL HEADQUARTERS, Sigs and non-members alike, have been lavish in their praise of the Fraternity's new Evanston home. Selected at random from the guest register are the following comments . . .

Said Sigs: "Words fail me. Matchless! Very beautiful. Wow! Excellent addition. Very nice . . . proud to be a part of it. Ideal Headquarters. George! Very fine. A beautiful layout. Couldn't ask for a finer one. A fine item. Beautiful! It couldn't be more appropriate. Wish it belonged to me. Perfect! Hooray for our team!"

Non-member visitors said: "Wonderful headquarters. A privilege to visit this lovely place. Congratulations, beautiful headquarters for a grand fraternity. Your headquarters is beautiful. Home was never like this! I'm jealous . . . congratulations! Best wishes from Delta Kappa Epsilon to Sigma Chi on its new quarters. Wish it was ours. Splendid."

Other Sigs said: "Out of this world! Very beautiful house. Perfect headquarters. What a spot for painting! I'm carried away. We never had it so good. Incomparable! Great! Progress! A proper headquarters for the best of fraternities. The best!"

Leland F. Leland, publisher of *Fraternity Month*, stated: "Your building is one of great beauty and charm, and the way you have remodeled it is the acme of efficiency. You thought of everything, and I know Sigma Chi will profit greatly by having such a beautiful headquarters. What an inspiration it must be for all of the fraternity. My congratulations a thousand fold."

The December issue of *Fraternity Month* will feature a cover story, with four-color illustrations, on Sigma Chi's Memorial Headquarters. Mr. Leland was a mid-June visitor to Sigma Chi's Evanston home.

market; mansions were about the only type of property which had not joined the post-war price spiral. The Fraternity was able to purchase the house, outbuilding, and 300 by 500 lot with riparian rights for only \$150,000! Only minor changes had to be made in the house to adapt it for Fraternity use. On February 24, 1951, staff and equipment were moved into their new and permanent home.

Viewed from Sheridan Road (see picture on page 54), Memorial Headquarters presents a wide expanse of well-groomed lawn, stately old elm trees, and carefully trimmed shrubbery. A gravel drive parallels the northern edge of the property, then arcs gracefully in front of the house and on to the garages to the south.

Entering the house through a large vestibule, one comes into the beautiful stair-hall (see picture on page 55) with its graceful, limed-oak circular stairway. Straight through the hall lies the spacious lounge with its magnificent view of Lake Michigan. This is the office of the Assistant Executive Secretary and bookkeeper-receptionist. Lying just off the hall to the right is the oak-panelled Millis Memorial Library (see picture on page 54)—long-needed repository for the Fraternity's valuable collection of papers, literary gifts, and books authored by Sigma Chis.

To the right of the hall, in the south wing, is the focal point of Headquarters visitors—the spacious living room (see picture on next page), decorated by the prominent New York interior decorator, Mrs. Francis Lenygon. Draperies and several furniture pieces are executed in original-design Sigma Chi fabric.

Large oil portraits of the late Booth Tarkington, Purdue '93, noted Hoosier author, and Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, George Washington '13, our 34th Grand Consul, hang on the oak-panelled walls of the conference room (see picture) which lies just to the left of the center hall. In this room the various executive sessions and committee meetings are held as custom or need requires. As with the reception and living rooms, large bays overlook the rear lawn and garden, and the lake.

Lying beyond the north end of the building is a concrete parking lot—formerly a tennis court—which adjoins the property line.

The large foundation office at the head of the second-floor stairs serves as working quarters for Educational Director-Executive Secretary, Warren Ramshaw, and a sec-

retary. An adjoining office contains the records department where up-to-date data is kept on each individual member of the Fraternity. Nearly a full regulation sack of mail emanates each day from these two offices. Here also are kept address plates of every brother, double filed by both chapter and city. Undergraduate and alumni chapters frequently avail themselves of the low-cost mailing facilities of this department. Also found in the department are records of Life Member-

staff members, having been converted from a large cedar closet. A small third floor living room and a bathroom also serve staff members.

Answering one of the longest felt needs—an appropriate place to display the Fraternity's large number of paintings and its historical collection—is the museum on the third floor. This imposing room was formerly used as a ballroom.

Hundreds of Sigs, from 110 chapters, who



ships, initiation reports, alumni data, and literally dozens of other invaluable records.

Across the hall from the records department is the office of Merrill E. "Boz" Prichard, Editor of *THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI* and Business Manager of the Fraternity, always a hub of activity.

Nearby is the office of the Assistant Director of the Workshop, busy the year around, but completely swamped as Workshop time approaches. Other second-floor offices include those of the editorial staff of Sigma Chi's publications and other office personnel. The offices contain many oil paintings of prominent Sigs, and cartoons by Milton Caniff, Ohio State '30, and the late John T. McCutcheon, Purdue '89.

Additional space is available for mailing, multilithing, and folding equipment, and the basement contains a humidity-controlled book, paper, and record storage room. There is a bunk room on the third floor for resident

Left: Oil paintings of Booth Tarkington, Purdue '93, and Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, George Washington '13, grace the oak-paneled walls of the conference room. Here are held executive sessions and committee meetings. Right: The spacious living room is but one of many decorated by Mrs. Francis Lenygon, world-famed interior decorator, who directed the furnishing of our first floor. The original-design Sigma Chi fabric is used throughout the building as drapery material and, in the living room, on two love seats.

visited the Fraternity's new home have gone away feeling more than a little proud that their Fraternity at last has a Headquarters befitting its stature. Visitors from 25 fraternities, 15 sororities, and three honoraries have been much impressed. Forty-two states, three Canadian provinces, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, England, Germany, Denmark, Venezuela, and Iran are counted in the guest register.

There is little question that for Sigma Chi Fraternity, "This is the place!"

—JACK PEARSON



A Home at Last!

Sigma Chi Dedicates Memorial Headquarters In Special Ceremony at Evanston Property

By MERRILL E. PRICHARD

THREE HUNDRED SIGMA CHIS and friends of the Fraternity joined in the dedication of our Memorial Headquarters on Friday afternoon, October 2. All hailed the Lake Shore site and spacious building as the perfect show place and office for a great international fraternity.

Grand Consul Stanley N. Barnes accepted the symbolic key of ownership from Past Grand Consul John Neal Campbell, chairman of the Board of Managers of the Headquarters, to climax a brief ceremony consecrating the property in the name of loyal brothers in Sigma Chi. The program was conducted at the front door of the Headquarters, as the weatherman provided a warm, sunny fall day for the occasion.

Our historian will record this memorable day as the inauguration of a new era in the Fraternity. October 2 will be remembered as the date of ownership of our own "home."

The formal program was opened with an invocation by Grand Tribune Robert D. Workman. Prior to presenting the key to Judge Barnes, Brother Campbell traced the history of the Headquarters' purchase from visualization to fulfillment.

Brother Barnes accepted the property on behalf of the General Fraternity—and then cut the blue and gold ribbons on the front door to officially open our Memorial Headquarters. A three-hour reception followed. All guests were provided with tours of the entire property. Members of Omega Chapter at Northwestern acted as guides.

In addition to the dedication of the building

Cover photo by Ray Whitman, *The Evanston Review*



Past Grand Consul John Neal Campbell traced the history of the Memorial Headquarters purchase in his talk at the formal dedication of Sigma Chi's permanent "home." More than 100 were present at the outset of the program and nearly 300 visited the Headquarters during the afternoon of October 2.

Grand Consul Stanley N. Barnes cuts the gold and blue ribbon to officially open the Memorial Headquarters. John Neal Campbell, acting as assistant, appears to be reflecting on the long, hard row Sigma Chi traveled on the way to a permanent headquarters property.

proper, The Fred Millis Memorial Library was formally established. A handsome cast bronze plaque (a gift of Past Grand Consul L. G. Balfour) signalizes the room as a lasting memorial to a beloved Sigma Chi. The plaque reads as follows:

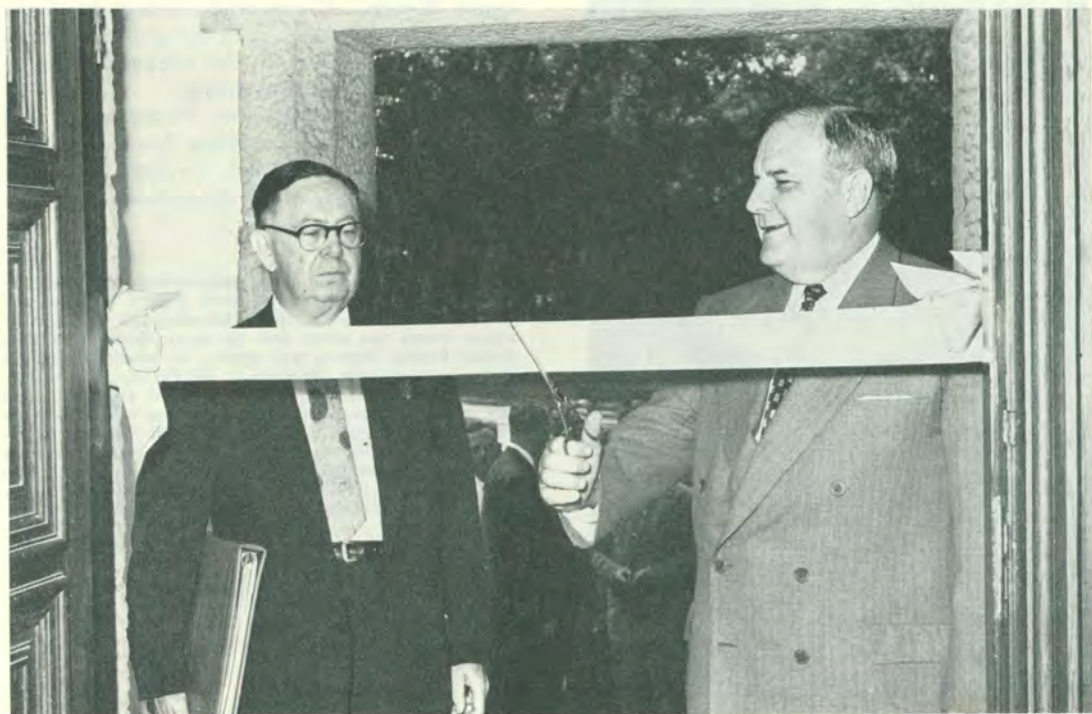
THE FRED MILLIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

This room is dedicated and furnished as a gift of Mrs. Fred Millis to the memory of her husband, Chi 1911, Order of Constantine and Significant Sig, who was one of the great workers in the development of the Sigma Chi Foundation, a creative genius in the field of advertising, philanthropist, lover of education, good citizen, and throughout his life a loyal Sigma Chi.

Much of the story of the momentous day is told in the accompanying pictures. The remarks of Brothers Campbell and Barnes appear on pages 10-14 of this issue. But, there is more to the story of Sigma Chi's house dedication.

Besides Sigma Chi alumni and undergraduates from 59 chapters, a large number of visitors from other National Interfraternity Conference and National Panhellenic Conference groups were present, including several national officers. Kappa Alpha Theta sorority had the largest delegation present, with eight members. Pi Beta Phi, Alpha Chi Omega, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity each had five in attendance.

Others represented at the dedication were Theta Upsilon, Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu, Sigma Kappa, Alpha Delta Pi, and Alpha Phi sororities and Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Nu, Alpha Delta Phi, Phi Gamma Delta, and Phi





Kappa Psi fraternities. Phi Delta Phi law fraternity also was represented.

The dedication coincided with the annual meeting of our Grand Council. From this legislative body, all nine Grand Trustees, five Past Grand Consuls (Daniel Laurence, L. G. Balfour, Hamilton Douglas, Charles F. Hough, and Brother Campbell), 23 Grand Praetors (only Richard F. Downes was absent), Grand Historian Bolon B. Turner, Grand Quaestor Sheldon A. Weaver, Grand Tribune Workman, Grand Consul Barnes, members of the various standing committees, and all five members of the Fraternity's Executive Committee were on hand.

Those in attendance saw the Headquarters in A-1 condition. From the ground-floor Daniel William Cooper Room to the third floor museum, every room shone for the occasion. Much of the credit for the last-minute preparation is due Mrs. Francis H. Lenygon and Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29. Mrs. Lenygon, who designed the unique Sigma Chi curtains that hang in the first-floor rooms and supervised the decoration and furnishing of these rooms, came to Evanston from her New York home nearly two weeks in advance of the dedication.

Brother Rapp, who directed the decoration and furnishing of the second and third floors, was likewise available to the Headquarters staff in the final days prior to the opening ceremony, much as he has been since the property was purchased on August 25, 1950.

Briefly, here is what visitors saw on October 2.

Viewed across the spacious front lawn, Memorial Headquarters presents a facade of quiet dignity. A graceful curved driveway leads the eye through parklike grounds (three and one-half acres) to the attractive lannon stone building of Tudor design.

A beautiful oak-paneled entrance hall and curved stairway are visible from the front doorway. Straight ahead, through large reception windows, lies a magnificent view of

TOP: First through the door. Immediately following the dedication, the guests were given guided tours of the Headquarters building. Here the very first D-Day visitors crowd the front door to begin tours. **CENTER:** Grand Consul Barnes was among the early signers on the guest register October 2. **BOTTOM:** Samuel B. Harding, Wisconsin '90, seated, retired engineer, won the Dedication day championship as the longest wearer of the badge present. Looking on as Life Member Harding signed the register were Grand Consul Barnes and Brother Campbell. Harding has been a member for 66 years. He is 85. His son, Jonathan B., Beloit and Northwestern '50, is Chapter Adviser at Northwestern.

Lake Michigan. Adjoining the stair hall is the Millis Memorial Library, repository of the Fraternity's literary treasures. To either side of the center hall are the impressive conference room and main lounge.

The second floor is truly the "nerve center" of Sigma Chi. Here are the executive, editorial, and Sigma Chi Foundation offices. Fascinating displays of Fraternity lore and oil paintings of Past Grand Consuls and the seven Founders are located in the third floor museum.

The Cooper Room features a valuable antique and gun collection which belonged to Founder Daniel William Cooper. The desk and book shelf from his college study room and furnishings from Cooper's family home are also on display.

A tour of the property readily establishes that the Memorial Headquarters is a modern general office—functional in every sense—and an adequate, attractive shrine and show place for the Fraternity. Dedication day guests unanimously echoed that sentiment.

Open house guests were served coffee and lemon ice punch during the afternoon. Mrs. Stanley N. Barnes, Mrs. John Neal Campbell, Mrs. Robert L. Brookman (wife of the Grand Praetor of the Illinois-Wisconsin Province), Mrs. Joseph J. Connell (wife of the President of the Chicago Alumni Chapter), Mrs. Robert H. Irvine (wife of the secretary of the Executive Committee), Mrs. Sheldon A. Weaver, and Mrs. Merrill E. Prichard, wife of the Executive Director, acted as hostesses.

Scores of Sigs and friends of the Fraternity sent greetings from as far as Honolulu and Oxford, England. The Honolulu Alumni Chapter and Sigmas group sent flowers to

Omega Chapter actives served as guides for Dedication day tours under the direction of Assistant Executive Secretary Henry Durham and his predecessor in office, P. William Smart. Seated: Quaestor John E. Worthen and Brother Smart. Standing: Pro Consul John S. Keating, Edward P. Fillion, Charles S. Shoemaker, David R. Sanderson, Brother Durham, Hal W. Pulfer, John D. McShane, Associate Editor James S. Ackerman, and Tribune Thomas H. Detrick.





The Grand Praetors enjoyed the comforts of the Memorial Headquarters lounge. ABOVE: Mrs. J. O. Wheeler, Brother Wheeler, James J. Overlock, Floyd R. Baker, G. E. Robertson, George D. Manson, Mrs. Malcolm M. Christian, and Brother Christian. BELOW RIGHT: Mrs. Paul Kaufman, Brother Kaufman, Dr. Thomas J. Luck, Mrs. Erwin LeClerg, Brother LeClerg, Alfred W. Gross, Mrs. Elton O. Feeney, and Brother Feeney.



The warm sunshine on the outside brought a lot of guests to the punch bowl on the inside. Mrs. John Neal Campbell poured for Mrs. Robert H. Irvine and A. King McCord, Beloit '24, a member of the Executive Committee.

help brighten the Headquarters. Dr. Edward L. Lloyd, Pittsburgh '27, managing director of A. C. Nielsen Company in England, was one of several Sigs who sent checks as dedication-day gifts to the Headquarters Fund. The Chicago Sigmas helped out by presenting a check for \$150 to underwrite the purchase of an antique lamp for the main lounge (a gift idea we would encourage for other Sigma and Sigma Chi groups who desire to contribute to the Memorial Headquarters Fund).

In addition to the officers mentioned above and guests, here are the names of the Sigs who signed the register on October 2—many of whom were accompanied by their wives: Henry S. Stout, Denison '15; Past Grand Praetor Glenn E. Baird, Illinois '30; Robert L. Anderson, DePauw, '38; Constantine Sig

Many of the items on display in the main lounge and museum at the Headquarters brought back fond memories to Sig visitors. Grand Trustee R. Kirk Moyer found a Gettysburg College Centennial Plate showing the Old Dorm where he roomed as an undergraduate.

Frank S. Proudfit, Nebraska '10; John W. Schraffenberger, Northwestern '38; Richard W. Dinsmore, Penn State '43; Joseph J. Connell, Wisconsin and Kansas '13; Constantine Sig Evan B. Walker, Butler '30; John M. Mitchell, Northwestern '28; Past Grand Praetor Donald B. Ward Jr., Northwestern '42; and Lt. Robert Hatch, Utah State '52, former editorial assistant on THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI.

Veit Gentry, Chicago '11; Charles A. Terhune Jr., Idaho '29; William D. Parsons Jr., Oklahoma '43; Wallace G. Agnew, Northwestern '23; Benjamin H. Keach, Butler '11;





TOP: Grand Praetor and Mrs. Adrian Hatch and Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Robinson (Utah State '11) enjoyed the open house. The Hatch family combined the dedication and Grand Council meeting with a reunion with their Sigma Chi son, Robert, who is now stationed at Camp Scott, Illinois, as an Air Force lieutenant. TOP CENTER: John Neal Campbell accepts a cup of punch from Mrs. Joseph J. Connell, wife of the Chicago Alumni Chapter President. Looking on are Malcolm Sewell, General Secretary of Sigma Nu, and John Marshall Roberts, national treasurer of Sigma Nu. BOTTOM CENTER: Bankers cannot be denied. Executives Harry A. Hunsberger, Penn '26, vice president of the State Bank and Trust Company of Evanston, and Sheldon A. Weaver, our Grand Quaestor and executive vice president of the Northern Trust Company of Chicago, discussed fiscal problems even while their wives admired the Headquarters furnishings. BOTTOM: Coffee was a popular item, too. Mrs. H. Kirke Becker, widow of the late Chairman of Sigma Chi's Executive Committee, and Mrs. Jeannette Becker Lenygon, sister of Brother Becker, were served by Mrs. Barnes.



Henry H. Thomas, Lafayette '16; Harry B. Herb, Illinois '12; James L. Young, USC '48, former Sigma Chi field secretary; D. E. Robinson, Utah State '11; John M. Kumler, Illinois Wesleyan '20; Leland H. Carlson, Beloit '31; Jonathan B. Harding, Beloit and Northwestern '50, Chapter Adviser at Northwestern; Richard W. Sharp, Kansas '13; Joseph S. Lafferty, Missouri '32; and Earl A. Denton, Chicago '29.



Clare G. Sharkey Jr., Purdue and West Virginia '33; Constantine Sig Fredrick L. Grabner, Beloit '11, Sigma Chi's first full-time Executive Secretary; George K. Ergang, Hanover '37; Henry B. Puff, Bucknell '44; Kenneth E. Edmunds, Utah '51; Bruce Martin and Frank B. Wells, undergraduate members of Alpha Epsilon Chapter at Nebraska; Samuel B. Harding, Wisconsin '90; Robert M. Collett, Denison '14; James V. Claypool, DePauw '21; A. Merle Bonthius, Iowa State '50; Past Grand Praetor Roy B. McKnight, Washington and Lee and North Carolina '14; Joel R. Hill, Iowa '21; Robert M. Coyner, Butler '48, former field secretary; Frank M. Wallace, Illinois '20; and Duncan D. Burford, LSU, '53.



It is interesting to note that 59 chapters had representatives at the dedication. Twenty-two Provinces were accounted for, with Indiana's six groups all registered. The Ohio and Illinois-Wisconsin Provinces also had six chapters enrolled. Utah and Utah State Sigs gave that Province perfect attendance, too.

Just as all Sigs and guests were welcome for our dedication, they are welcome—and encouraged—to visit Memorial Headquarters now. During the winter months, the door is open to all from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Plan to see your Fraternity's permanent "home" soon.



TOP: October 2 was a big day for Mrs. Jeannette B. Lenygon and Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29. For them, it meant the successful completion of a two-year decorating and furnishing assignment. The unanimous acclaim of D-Day guests was a solid endorsement of their inspired work.

BOTTOM: October 2 wasn't all business for the Barnes and Campbells. Sigma Chi's No. 1 couple, right, and their predecessors did have an opportunity to discuss the day's events and compare notes on the life of a Grand Consul. From the smiles, it would appear that they were satisfied with all that transpired.



The Story of Our Headquarters

By PAST GRAND CONSUL JOHN NEAL CAMPBELL

Chairman, Board of Managers

MY DEAR WIFE tells me that I am long-winded, and I should cultivate brevity. I realize the temptation to one who has had some small part in a successful enterprise to glorify the achievement and perhaps to take credit for the work of others. I shall try to withstand this temptation.

We stand today at the culmination of a dream of the brothers of Sigma Chi. Unlike many dreams, the fulfillment hereof exceeds many fold the most grandiose dreams of those who began dreaming decades ago. In 1930, a loyal brother, James Meckley Potts, Columbia '14, left the Fraternity \$5,000 to start a fund for a permanent general headquarters. Doubtless others dreamed before him. The Grand Trustees invested and reinvested this fund, and the income therefrom, until it amounted to \$7,500 when this property was purchased. His bequest is now invested in this, the Memorial Headquarters, and Brother Potts is of right the first investor in this permanent home for Sigma Chi, the first to do anything to make the dream tangible.

Many other brothers dreamt, in the interval from his death to the present time, your speaker among them. Unfortunately these dreams were directed toward a hope that some wealthy brother would take on the whole burden of providing an international headquarters. We all will now agree that that was the wrong way to get a headquarters, experience has taught us that, because the dream in that form was never realized. During this period many plans were made, looking to the Fraternity ultimately being located in its own home. I need not here elaborate upon the basic Anglo-Saxon love of home. English literature is full of it, and the most tender expressions of our spoken language are found in its songs, giving musical testimony not only to the fact that an Englishman's home is his castle, but

that he holds towards it his sweetest thoughts and dearest affection. No other language has produced songs such as "Home, Sweet Home," "My Old Kentucky Home," as well known examples. However, other languages and peoples have a somewhat similar feeling, although expressed without the overtones of sentiment which the word "home" connotes. I call to mind the French *pied a terre* or *chez moi* and the German *zu hause*, the Italian *casa* and even the Armenian "Come on 'a my house!" The Asiatic is said to have his great attachment for the soil—the good earth, but the English speaking people are attached to their homes, be it as humble as "Poague's Entry" or as glorious as "Tara's Hall."

During this period of waiting the Fraternity acquired and preserved priceless mementos of its Founding and its Founders, and of its distinguished and well known members . . . notably the gifts by the Cooper family, of the furniture, silverware, and gun collection of Founder Cooper. In addition to the debt we owe him, as a founding father, we also owe a great debt of gratitude to the widow of his son, Mrs. James G. Cooper, who made these gifts when a permanent headquarters was a distant hope and not a present possibility.

The Fraternity acquired portraits of the Founders and of important members of the Fraternity, and many other meritorious works of art, of interest, and of historical value, ranging from George Ade's plug hat to the baseball shoes of Billy Werber. We are rich in early Fraternity jewelry and mementos of McCutcheon, Tarkington, Brand Whitlock, and other stalwarts of past years.

At the beginning of the movement to acquire this Headquarters building we had need of additional space; some of these mementos were in a private home, others were in dead storage. Only a few could be exhibited in the Headquarters in the Pure Oil Building. In addition, we were badly in need of office space. A committee, composed of Carl P. Clare, Robert M. Collett, Howard B. Hare, Sherman Senne, and Richard E. Vernor was appointed to make a survey to recommend a

(Editor's Note: Brother Campbell delivered the following address prior to presenting the Headquarters property to Grand Consul Barnes on behalf of the Board of Managers.)



For posterity—Grand Consul Barnes and Brother Campbell repeated the Headquarters key presentation inside after the official ceremony. The giant badge replica in the background was made of natural woods by H. L. Kier, Denison '16, and his son, Thomas M. Kier, Denison '53. The White Cross hangs in the entry hall.

solution of the headquarters problem. This Committee considered all available locations, including Oxford, Ohio, where the Fraternity was founded, and where there was a strong pull to locate, because the other two members of the Miami Triad had established national headquarters at Oxford. Finally, weighing all considerations of expense, availability, location, use, and capacity to raise the money, Brother Clare's committee recommended the acquisition of this property, which most of you have had described many times. As you know it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harley L. Clarke. The land, approximately 300 feet on Sheridan Road and the Lake, and 500 feet deep, was acquired prior to 1927. The Clarkes built the house and garage in that year. The architect was Richard Powers, who was then outstanding in his field. The house was awarded an Art Commission plaque when it was built. The property is said to represent an initial investment on the part of the

Clarkes in excess of \$800,000. In 1938 Northwestern University caused the property to be appraised, and it was given a depreciated reproduction value of about \$525,000.

Even after agreeing with the Clarkes on the price, two major problems still confronted us. One was to obtain the consent of the City of Evanston to the use of the property for our purposes, instead of for a single family residence, for which it was zoned, and the other was to raise the money to pay for it, and to make the necessary alterations and repairs, and for furnishing it. The zoning matter was long and tedious. The customary opposition to change developed among the neighbors, and among members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the members of the City Council.

After many hearings we overcame these objections and I am quite sure that all of those who originally objected are now quite happy that Sigma Chi prevailed. We have been a good and attractive neighbor.

The question of how to get the money was not too easy. Many of you will recall the closing minutes of the Grand Council meeting of 1949. I had been elected Grand Consul. Necessary authority had been voted to make the

purchase, and we were down to the point of hurried adjournment, and affectionate fraternal farewells. I came away from the meeting with these words ringing in my ears, spoken by several of my predecessors in office as Grand Consul and by other high officers of the Grand Council: "Go right ahead and buy it, John. We will pay for it." The next few months, when the zoning change had been authorized, and it was necessary to come up with the hard cash to establish the escrow, I learned that "we will pay for it" was a euphemism, and many of these grey hairs came to me in worrying how "we" were going to pay for it. By that time the "we" had become editorial. As you know we found ways to finance it temporarily. We have had many generous gifts from members of this body. The old stalwart, Grand Trustee Thurlow E. Coon, immediately sent a check for \$1,000, and many brothers who were little known to the Fraternity except at the chapter level gave generously on the first solicitation. I would be less than completely frank if I did not say that some of the brothers, who have been faithful workers in other matters, and who have been honored by the Fraternity, are still dragging their heels on the matter of direct contributions to the ownership of this our home.

From that point on we have many debts of gratitude, only a few of which can be mentioned, because of my limited time. Mason G. Rapp, Illinois '29, stepped into the breach, and gave over-generously of his time and skill as an architect, in the changes and repairs which are evident to many of you. He alone did over the office space on the second floor, and the rented apartment. The building seemed sub-

stantial when we bought it, but it's amazing how many things can be overlooked in purchasing a structure, and I believe Brother Rapp has corrected, or planned the correction of, all of the defects, making substantial changes to accommodate its usefulness to the streamlined operation which the Executive Committee and staff have about completed.

Two of our devoted brothers, whose hearts were wrapped up in Sigma Chi, and in this project, did not survive to see its culmination. Fred Millis, who did so much to bring the Sigma Chi Foundation to a firm financial position, both by his own gifts and the solicitation of funds from others, was at the crucial period dying of an incurable disease. Had Fred lived I am sure that most of our financial worries would have been solved, for with his genius for raising money for worthy causes, and he recognized this to be a worthy cause, he would have found a quick and satisfactory solution. His devoted wife has carried on where Fred had to leave off, and we have transferred to her the love and affection which we bore him. She has generously endowed the library as a memorial to Fred Millis, and you will find in the library a portrait of Fred which she has given, and just outside the door a plaque which honors both him and her. This Fraternity can never pay its debt to the Millis', except by improvement of scholarship and in making better men of its initiates.

H. Kirke Becker, Cornell '11, evidenced his

Past Grand Consul Campbell reviewed the history of the Headquarters purchase in his presentation address on October 2. Many of the members of the Grand Council were counted among those present for the ceremonies.



love of his Fraternity in the manner which would have been expected from a great and loyal soul, loyal to his family, to his college, and to Sigma Chi, by serving the Fraternity in many capacities both humble and of high position. Tragically his life ended at the beginning of this project. His only sister, Mrs. Frances H. Lenygon, distinguished decorator of the city of New York, at almost the inception of this project volunteered to do the interior decorating hereof, as a memorial to her brother, and a tribute to his memory. Nothing could have been more appropriate and her offer was gratefully accepted. Today you have had, or will have, the opportunity of inspecting her work. She rebuilt the great hall, designed the drapery material, and diligently sought for all of the furniture of the main floor. She contributed her artistic skill, and the experience gained over a lifetime of decorating as a partner of her distinguished husband. The beauty of the interior of this building is a perpetual memorial to Brother Becker and the devotion of his sister, Mrs. Lenygon.

Now, worthy Grand Consul, it is my privilege and pleasure to present to you this golden key to the General Headquarters of the Fraternity. It is symbolic in nature and testifies that we have arrived at one of the milestones in the history of the Fraternity, that we have achieved a home, a headquarters, which worthily reflects the importance of Sigma Chi in the fraternity world, which adequately houses our staff, our records, and our priceless possessions, and which stands perpetually as a memorial to the brothers who have departed us to join the Chapter Eternal and by reason of whose lives The White Cross has gained new luster.

TOP: Scores of Sigs and Sigmas admired the special Sigma Chi curtains that adorn the main floor of the Memorial Headquarters. Among those who were impressed by the beautiful fabric were Mrs. John M. Kumler, Mrs. Victor E. Garwood, Mrs. Mason G. Rapp, and Mrs. Guy L. Wagoner. **TOP CENTER:** Mrs. Jesse Millis, left, and Mrs. Jeannette B. Lenygon had an opportunity to visit during the open house October 2. The former furnished the Fred Millis Memorial Library as a tribute to her late husband. Mrs. Lenygon supervised the decoration and furnishing of the room. The curtains in the background are her creation. **BOTTOM CENTER:** Mrs. Earl A. Denton and Mrs. Leonard Bohasseck presented a check for \$150 to Executive Director Merrill E. Prichard on behalf of the Chicago chapter of Sigmas. The gift was made to pay for the antique lamp in the background. Mrs. Bohasseck is the current president of the Chicago Sigmas. Mrs. Denton is a past president. Their husbands are both past presidents of the Chicago Alumni Chapter. **BOTTOM:** The Grand Consul's gavel, as wielded by our 37th chief executive, Stanley N. Barnes, duly impressed Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. John Neal Campbell, and Mrs. Merrill E. Prichard.

