

The Theta Data

BETA THETA PI AT OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CENTENNIAL YEAR

SPRING, 1953



Famous Betas Honor Theta's 100th Birthday

by Michael Schwartz

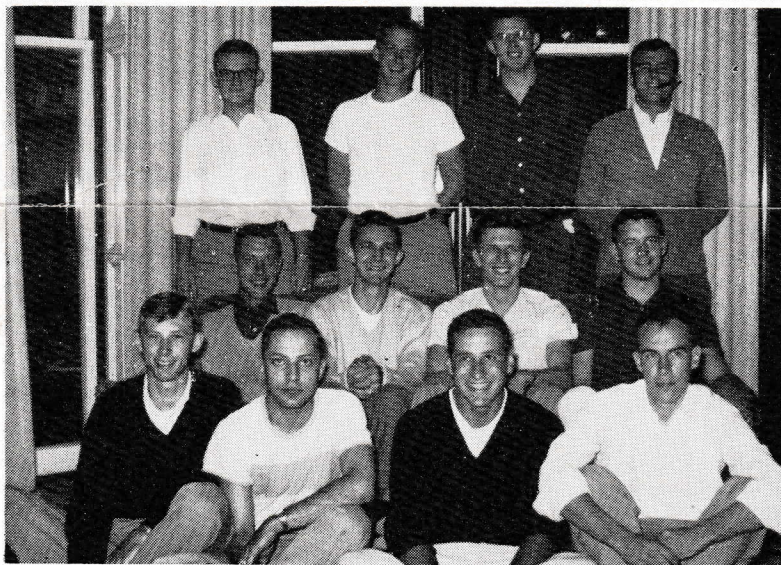
Between 250 and 300 alumni ranging between the classes of 1895 and last year's graduating class of 1952 attended the Theta centennial celebration of April 25th and 26th.

The week-end started on Saturday morning with registration and a buffet lunch at noon. Saturday afternoon the alumni circulated around the house meeting members of the undergraduate chapter, running into old friends, and meeting other alumni.

In the evening, at the Memorial Union building, the 100th year banquet was held. Those who could make the celebration heard Arthur S. Flemming, Ohio Wesleyan's President and Chairman of the Office of Defense Mobilization, greet the Betas and praise fraternities contributions on this campus.

There were three after dinner speakers including Wheeler J. Wellday, Theta '14, Bishop Lewis O. Hartman, Theta '99, and our National President, A. J. Gustin Priest, who spoke about several of the great Betas from Theta chapter. Winchell Craig, Theta '15, was toastmaster at the banquet.

On Sunday morning a Centennial Convocation was held in Grey Chapel. At this time, the alumni and members of the undergraduate chapter of Ohio Wesleyan presented their gift to the college which was
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The 100th Class which is graduating this year includes: Front row from left to right; Neff, Eitzel, Jagger, V. Smith. Second row; Eiken, Davenport, McClintock and Burke. Third row; Chaney, Metzel, Lilly, and Schanely. Missing; Day, Mowry and Dove.

by Bill Metzel

On June 8, 1953, Theta chapter will graduate their centennial class of 14 outstanding seniors, all men who have been with the chapter for four years and contributed heavily to its success.

The men are: Ted Chaney, London; Baker Smith, Washington, D. C.; Dick Davenport, Hamilton; Ed Lilly, London; Dick Day, Delaware; Dick Eiken, Louisville, Ky.; Don Jagger, New York City; Bill Metzel, East Lansing, Mich.; Bob Neff, Dayton; Dave Dove, Shelbyville, Ill.; Dick McClintock, Lancaster; Harry Mowery, Delaware; Russ Schanely, Quakertown, Pa.; and Dick Eitzel, Washington, D. C. Also graduating is social member Dan Burke of Delaware, who has been with us for two years.

Next year will find Chaney, Smith, Davenport, Day, Eiken, Jagger, Metzel, Neff, and McClintock on active duty with the Air Force after receiving their commissions in June. All of these men have received temporary assignments and

will report to duty sometime this summer. Lilly and Mowery will be going on to graduate school, the former in medicine and the latter in the ministry. Schanely will be running his family's jewelry store in Quakertown, and Eitzel plans to sell insurance in his home town of Washington. Dove will begin a two year tour with the United States Marine Corps beginning in July. He will report to Quantico, Va.

Simpson Heads Officer Slate

by Chuck Glander

On April 13, the following officers were elected to lead Theta Chapter as it begins its 101st year on the Ohio Wesleyan campus. They are: President, Dee Simpson; Vice President, Morgan Schrader; Secretary, Bob Cotner; Recorder, Buz Christensen; and Treasurer, Jim Meredith.

Theta Alumni. Do you know of any freshmen who are coming to school at Ohio Wesleyan whom you believe might make good Beta boys. If you have some boys in mind, please drop us a line about them so we can look for them upon our return to school.

The name and address to write to is: Mr. Dick Devos, 54 West Lincoln, Delaware, Ohio. Thank you very much.

The Theta Data

Published three times a year by the undergraduate members of Theta chapter of Beta Theta Pi for their alumni.

Michael E. Schwartz . . . Editor

Charles Glander . . .
Associate Editor

News and picture contributions are solicited at all times. Address all communications to the Editor, Beta Theta Pi, 54 West Lincoln Avenue, Delaware, Ohio.

We Down Sigs For Football Trophy

by Bob Marten

This year, as in previous years, Beta Theta Pi proved to be a powerhouse in football by avenging a setback suffered last year at the hands of the Sigma Chis.

In this year's championship play-off, the Betas, led by Bill Metzel and Pete Kaufman, defeated the Sigs 7-6 and thus walked off with the college championship football trophy.

However, the reverse held true in basketball. Although playing their best game of the season, the Betas were defeated by the Sigs in the championship playoff and had to be content with the runner-up slot.

Due to a general lull in interest caused possibly by the approach of spring or laxness in initiative, Beta Theta Pi lost out in many of the individual sports such as handball, ping-pong, and badminton. The result left Beta Theta Pi in 4th place for the All-Year trophy.

Contrasted with this rather gloomy outlook is the much brighter picture of spring softball. Here, although the height of the season has just been reached, the Betas stand a very good chance of moving into the league playoffs with the possibility of then moving on to the championship game and another trophy.

Late News — Dave Boyle is now school singles champion after last week's match.

Well-Planned Social Program Tops In '53

by Rupe Doan

The social season this year for Beta Theta Pi gathered momentum as it went along, and will end with a Quo Vadis Party. During the fall intra-mural football season, the chapter house was open for informal suppers for the brothers and their dates following the games played by our championship team.

A moonlight hayride with our rendezvous being brother Reaney's farm where we enjoyed a wiener roast and a general good time, was the next social spotlight of Theta.

The climax of our winter fun was the winter formal, having Christmas spirit as the theme. The winter formal met with great success and the beautiful decorations and excellent entertainment were talked about at the dorms for weeks.

The Miami triad dance, an annual affair, was held at Willis Auditorium with entertainment provided for by quartettes from the three triad members.

To start the spring season off in rare form, we had a steakroast at Brother Reaney's quarry which promises to be an annual event. The steaks were delicious, cooked to perfection by Brothers Neff and Linderer.

The Spring Formal was again very successful. The weather prevented an outside dance floor, but the altered plans were perfect. The theme was Formale Continentale with decorations of European taste featuring a German beer garden and a candle-lit French cafe.

The sister-sweetheart party is the coming event and promises to be a fine affair. Entertainment and music will welcome our feminine affiliations and Mama Linn's refreshments will be tops.

The climax of our social season will be the previously mentioned Quo Vadis Party with decorations following the scenery of the movie, toga costumes, and a burlesque of the movie.

This is the social report of the year. We have expectations of next year being as equally successful.

Junior Bob Cotner awarded lone Armco Steel scholarship and plans summer work in its research lab.

Famous Betas Take Part In Centennial

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several exhibit and wall cases to display the collection of manuscripts by Robert Browning that were given to the university by Dr. Frank Gunsaulus, a graduate of Theta Chapter, upon his death.

The presentation was made by Wells K. Stanley, Theta '95, and the gift was accepted by J. J. Somerville, Dean of Men at Ohio Wesleyan and a Delta chapter member of Beta Theta Pi.

The message was given by our General Secretary Seth R. Brooks, and also presiding were Bishop Hartman and Reverend James Kestle Theta '24. The music was under the direction of Bill Hazlett, Theta '32.

Lunch and a serenade followed the convocation. The serenade was given by the undergraduate members.

The chapter would like to express their appreciation for all those who attended and they regret that we could not get to meet everybody. It is our hope and wish that those who could not attend this celebration will come to the chapter house any time they wish. We are always glad to have any of the alumni come to visit us. We hope you who did attend had as much fun as we did.

16 Neophytes Now Say 'Always A Beta'

by Bob Cotner

Theta staged one of the most effective initiations in many years on February 21st. Sixteen men passed the Loving Cup around for the first time. All the parts of the ritual were memorized, and it was done very well.

The highlight of the weekend was the speech at the banquet afterwards by Brother Cornelius G. Scheid of Cleveland. "Corny" went back into Theta's illustrious past and then gave some very good advice to the new initiates and the older actives as well.

Theta put the white badge on David Todd, from Florida, at the start of the second semester. Dave is a transfer from the University of Pennsylvania.

ACTIVITIES

Theta's men are again well represented in activities on the Wesleyan campus. Nolan Smith, a junior, was elected to membership in both Omicron Delta Kappa, senior men's honorary, and Phi Beta Kappa. Initiated into Phi Society, an underclass honorary, was John Funderburg.

Bob Cotner has been elected next year's president of the Arnold Air Society, an honorary for advanced AFROTC men. Pete Kaufman has been elected secretary-treasurer of the same organization. Bill Metzel served as Public Information Officer this year for the Arnold Air Society.

Ron Pettegrew has been elected to membership in the Air Command Squadron, an honorary for basic AFROTC men. Theta Chapter had several men in this organization this year.

For their outstanding participation in the ROTC program, John Funderburg and Dick Brown each received medals at the Monnett Day ROTC review.

On the Transcript this year were Bill Metzel, Mike Schwartz and Nolan Smith. Mike is co-sports editor for the paper next year and was recently elected to Pi Delta Epsilon Journalism honorary. Nolan has been chosen as a member of the Transcript's editorial board for next year "... because of his knowledge of national and international affairs."

On the other college publications, Dick Eiken served as associate editor of *Le Bijou* and Bill Metzel served as circulation manager of the *Sulphur Spray*.

Pete Kaufman is next year's chairman of the Safety Committee of Student Government. There are approximately 10 Betas on the various committees of Student Government.

Dick Davenport served as chairman of the commencement committee of the senior class this year in addition to being president of Delta Phi Delta, national art honorary.

Dick Eiken served as vice president of the Interfraternity Council, and both Davenport and Eiken were counselors at this year's freshman camp.

Varsity debaters from Theta this year were Nolan Smith, Dee Simp-

5 Theta Men In Spring Athletics: Boyle Is Standout On Courts

by Jack Mathews

With the coming of warm Spring weather, Track, Baseball, and Tennis are the three major sports occupying the time of those aversed in the field of athletics.

The Betas are well represented in each of these three. Paul Kisseberth, a junior, and Jerry McNabb, a freshman, are on the varsity baseball team. Kisseberth, with two years of first string experience behind him, is one of the bright spots in the Battling Bishop's infield. Paul, who has played sterling ball at the keystone position for the last two seasons, is now the number one catcher for the Wesleyan nine. Coach Michaels made this rather surprising change in order to get more power into the lineup.

The other Beta, Jerry McNabb, is only a freshman, but shows great

promise in developing into a future star hurler.

Theta is proud of the excellent showing by Doug Boyle on the tennis team. Doug is only a sophomore, but has developed into a one man threat to opposing teams. Of his fourteen matches to date in the singles category, he has emerged with victory thirteen times. This is quite a record for a man who has had but one previous year of experience in college tennis.

The Betas are represented in track by Dan Rich, a sophomore, and Sam Pardoe, a freshman. Rich is third man in the pole vault, and has shown signs of becoming one of the mainstays for coach Gauthier. Sam Pardoe specializes in the broad jump and the 100 yard dash. His best time to date is 10.3, which is a fine time for a freshman.

You Wouldn't Know Old Basement Room

by Jim Meredith

After planning for many years to remodel the basement room, the plans finally became a reality when major improvements on it were started between semesters of this year. Nearly fifteen men stayed over to start on the work.

In order to waterproof the walls the old paint and plaster was removed and twelve coats of water proofing were rubbed into them by hand. Also the old paint on the floor was removed so that the floor could be laid. Upon completion of the former, furring was put up and pine panelling was nailed to it. The old ceiling was ripped off and replaced by acoustical tile. All the pipes were covered and the safety valves were moved to an adjacent room.

Of course, all of this was not done

son and Jim Meredith. Jim was recently taken into Pi Sigma Alpha, national political science honorary and Dee was elected president of I.F.C. for next year.

Theta has surely done its part in campus activities and may be counted upon to take the lead on Wesleyan's campus again next year.

between semesters. After the second semester started, many brothers worked long hours and late into the nights and early mornings on the weekends to complete it. By initiation (February 21) the floor was laid and the room was all done except staining the panelling. Leather covered cushions were put in around the north wall and the doors were also covered in like manner.

Finally, just the night before our Centennial Celebration, the project was completed. Many favorable comments were received by the Chapter from the alumni. Indeed, we undergraduates are proud of it and all equally as glad that "old hole" is now the nicest room in the house.

Future plans call for a trophy case and tables so we can hold parties in the room.

Harry Mowry, undergraduate, '53, was our building advisor and helped us out by donating all the tools and doing the technical work. Mr. Cozier, Ken Cozier's ('56) dad, donated all the ceiling material and the panelling. The lights were installed by a professional, but outside of that, we did all the work.

A new committee under the leadership of Paul Nobis, has been established for the purpose of continuing our work in the basement.

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\$2 Fund Levy Pledged Toward New House

by Dan Rich

The establishment of a long-range house building fund was unanimously approved in a recent chapter meeting. Each member of the chapter is assessed two dollars monthly which is set aside exclusively for the eventual construction of a new chapter house.

The assessments actually commenced with the April house bills of this year and with the 72 members in the chapter at present an approximate \$144 is netted monthly. The money will be deposited in a savings account in the Delaware County Bank.

It is fervently hoped that the proceeds of this fund plus alumni and perhaps other contributions will constitute sufficient means for the ultimate construction of a new and more adequate residence for Theta chapter on what is to be the new fraternity row.

Sophs Dick Brown and John Funderberg were recently honored for outstanding service in the ROTC program at the Monnett Review.

You Wouldn't Know Old Basement Room

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The ping pong room has been repainted and Paul informs us that the hall way is to have a face lifting sometime next fall.

While all of this work was being done, other men were busy painting the walls and ceilings in the first, second, and third floors. The parlors were painted deep brown and the hallways are sky blue. All the ceilings are white. Someone lost their head in choosing the color for the kitchen and it is painted something between a red and a peach color. It's not too bad after you get used to it.

The house company put in new maroon colored carpeting on the stairway and the second floor hallways.

All in all, the house is in excellent shape and we are proud of the work we have done. All you alumni will never recognize the house. Most of their comments are, "It never looked like this when we were here." The cooperation of the chapter was tremendous.

Chapter Ranks Higher In Scholarship

by Bob Cotter

The scholastic standing of the chapter showed another increase when the report came out last month. Theta stands in fifth place now; fourth among the members of N. I. C.

This is a continuation of the trend started two years ago when Theta ranked a lowly thirteenth. The improvement has been from thirteenth to ninth, then to sixth, and now to fifth place. Hopes are high to attain a ranking among the top three this semester.

Alumni. If at any time your address changes, please notify the chapter so we will know where to send future publications.

Next year we intend to publish three Theta Datas and the plans are to complete the Theta History 1915 through the present, which we are working on.

The Theta Data
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