

Gamma Eta Observes Golden Jubilee

By THOMAS K. POTTER, JR., *George Washington, '53*

AUTOMOBILES and the Twentieth Century were new then, and the United States was enjoying "long pants" prestige as an adolescent world power. Washington, D. C., still had muddy streets and the North Pole awaited the arrival of Admiral Peary. The Panama Canal was only an "engineer's dream." It was the beginning of a new era that was creeping upon Americans who were unmindful of the future shaping up before them.

These were some of the thoughts recalled from a world of a half-century ago by six Gamma Eta charter members when they joined more than 200 other Delts from 82 different chapters at a recent Golden Jubilee celebration in the National Press Club, Washington, D. C. The occasion was Gamma Eta's 50th Anniversary. Using the Golden Anniversary as a special theme for the annual Founders Day festivities, the National Capital Delt Alumni Chapter, Gamma Eta Chapter at George Washington University, and Maryland University's Delta Sigma Chapter combined efforts in making



The newest and the oldest initiates of Gamma Eta Chapter observe the 50th anniversary of Delta Tau Delta's representation on the George Washington University campus. Seated are the following charter members: WILL C. THOM, JAMES G. SHIBLEY, C. W. FAIRBANK, A. BRUCE BIELASKI, WILLIAM W. BURRELL, and WILLIAM A. HEINE. New initiates are DAMON CORDOM, HOWARD METCALF, and LYNN WATWOOD.

this a memorable day for Delta Tau Delta in the Washington area.

Following initiation ceremonies which got the Golden Jubilee Celebration under way early that afternoon, former National President A. Bruce Bielaski, himself a Gamma Eta Delt and the chapter's second president, placed the five decades since the 1903 chapter installation in its proper perspective. Fraternity-wise when he gave his banquet address, "Fifty Years of Gamma Eta—Its Future."

"I don't know what the future may hold for Gamma Eta," Bielaski said, "and neither does anyone else. But, if she continues like she started, she'll go a long way."

What Brother Bielaski referred to was a gauge that 50 years cannot corrode, but a gauge that is not readily applicable until the passage of time and accumulation of experience ready the subject for measurement. By this gauge—*Who's Who in America*—a chapter's comparative worth can be measured over the time-span of a half-century. Trophies may become tarnished and broken, campus honors may mould in dusty old yearbooks, and successful social seasons may fade into pleasant memories, but a man's accomplishments for his fellow man will live in the reputation he forges from the years.

Since that day in 1903 when 22

young men became Delts at the old Columbian College in the Nation's Capital, 442 men have followed their footsteps and joined the ranks of Delta Tau Delta at the school which later changed its name to George Washington University. Nearly five per cent of these initiates have attained the distinction of *Who's Who in America*.

Twenty-one men, representing professions ranging from Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist to first chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and from Secretary General to the Far Eastern Commission to Provost Marshal of the General Department of the Army, have brought distinction to themselves in the fields of law, teaching, diplomacy, medicine, banking, veterinary science, government, journalism, and the armed services.

It was a Gamma Eta Delt who as Congressman from Ohio's fourth district authored the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. It was a Gamma Eta Delt who pioneered motion picture photography of surgical operative techniques. Gamma Eta Delts have served as an assistant surgeon general of the Navy, as a judge on the Supreme Court of South Dakota, as an editor of one of the Nation's outstanding metropolitan dailies—*The Washington Star*—as a vice-president of the Investment Bankers Association of America, as a Dean of the School of Veterinary Science,



Speaker BRUCE BIELASKI recalls humorous moments in the early days of the chapter. A charter member of Gamma Eta, he was national President from 1919 to 1925. In background is R. ROY DUNN, Purdue, '25.

University of California, and as a president of the Federal Bar Association.

Although Gamma Eta's sons have gone forth to find their places in the world, Gamma Eta is still searching for hers. Fifty years have passed since her foundation and the chapter is still looking for a permanent location in the environment of a "trolley car campus"—a university situated in the downtown area of "the crossroads of the world."

In 1903, Gamma Eta Chapter was housed only a few doors from its present location which is two blocks from the University Yard. And, today, Gamma Eta is situated in a University-owned building which will soon give way to the construction of a new law school. This is a problem which faces many of the other fraternities on this campus located only three blocks from the White House. It is a problem compounded by the high cost of real estate in a downtown area.

This is the challenge of the Golden Jubilee Year. And Gamma Etans, young and old, are out to lick this problem which has plagued them since the chapter's 1947 reactivation after a wartime hibernation. To meet this challenge, members of the Gamma Eta Supervisory Committee, a policy group composed of chapter alumni; officers of the National Capital Delt Alumni Association; and the vice-president of the Southern Division have drawn up tentative plans for the Frank S. Hemmick National Memorial Fund. As outlined by Mr. Robert van Sickler, Sr., president of NCDAA, the purpose of the fund will be to situate permanently this chapter which has contributed so much to Delta Tau Delta during the past 50 years, and, also, to provide here in the National Capital a home for the many traveling Delts who visit the present Gamma Eta Shelter on an average of four and five every week.

One of the most illustrious names in the annals of Delta Tau Delta, the late Frank S. Hemmick, a Gamma Eta charter member, culminated a life-long interest in Delta Tau Delta when he served as an early editor of THE RAINBOW. He later became a member of the Distinguished Service Chapter. In his later years, Brother Hemmick concentrated his interest in Delta Tau Delta at his own chapter. A regular attendant at all Delt functions in the Washington area, Brother Hemmick was instrumental in the reactivation of Gamma

Eta Chapter during early postwar years. As the virtual "godfather of Gamma Eta," Hemmick made one of his last contributions to Delta Tau Delta when, shortly after his death, Gamma Eta received his 50-year collection of Delt memoirs.

Endorsing the proposed memorial fund which carries the name of his pledge brother, former President Bielaski indicated his interest when he recently expressed a desire to serve on the project committee.

This, then, is the Golden Jubilee goal. The anniversary festivities set for the annual Rainbow Ball and Spring Initiation will observe only the past. Remembering that a progressive future comes only through hard work in the present, Gamma Eta sets forth on the long road toward her Centennial Celebration confident that she will gain her goal and confident that she will send more of her sons out to acclaim themselves and Delta Tau Delta.

Public Service and Science Combined in Distinguished Career



DR. ARTHUR GRAHAM GLASGOW

DR. ARTHUR GRAHAM GLASGOW, Stevens, '85, is an engineer of outstanding international experience, who has recorded significant service both to the advancement of science and to his country.

Holder of several patents in gas technology and author of numerous

technical papers, he is a Gold Medalist of the Franklin Institute and the American Gas Association. Two years ago Stevens Institute presented him its Alumni Award Medallion.

In 1892 he established the firm of Humphreys and Glasgow in London, England, to introduce in Europe and the East methods of gas manufacture then unknown in these countries. A few years later, another Delt, Dr. Alexander C. Humphreys, Stevens, '81, became active senior partner and established the office of the firm in New York City.

When Dr. Humphreys became president of Stevens Institute, the partnership was dissolved and Humphreys and Glasgow, Ltd., was formed. Today the corporation extends to such far-away places as New Zealand, New South Wales, and India.

Dr. Glasgow retired as chairman of the board January 1, 1952, and as a director on May 30, 1952, the 87th anniversary of his birthday. He has also served as board chairman of Building Supplies Corporation of Norfolk, Virginia.

Devoted to his Alma Mater, the famous engineer was president of the Stevens Alumni Association in 1906-07. He served on Stevens' board of trustees for a number of years and was vice-chairman for part of the time. In 1929 he was elected a permanent member of the board.

Dr. Glasgow has been awarded honorary degrees by Stevens (1928), Washington and Lee (1930), and Wabash (1950). He is a life member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, Institute of Mechanical Engineers, and Institute of Civil Engineers.

He has served his country well. In 1917-18 he was vice-chairman of the Red Cross Mission to Rumania. Later he served in the munitions department and as Fixed Nitrogen Administrator under the Secretary of War. He established the U. S. Fixed-Nitrogen Laboratory, which is now administered by the Department of Agriculture.

His portrait with that of his sister, Ellen Glasgow, the famous Virginia authoress, is hung in the permanent gallery of the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia.

