

decided upon by them. The interest received from the money, together with returns from advertising are to be used in publishing the magazine, which appears four times during each school year.

ROSTERS

The roster, more properly called catalog, of members was first published by the Fraternity in 1894; the second was issued in 1906 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Fraternity. Since then editions have been published every five years, these appearing in 1910, 1915, 1920, and 1925, the last of which contained slightly more than seven thousand names and addresses and covered every State of the union and numerous foreign countries.

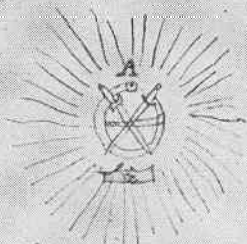
SONGS

Since the collection of songs began a number of years ago many excellent songs have been written by the members of the Fraternity. Among them "It Is To Thee, Dear Old Theta Chi," written by F.W. Kurtz, Delta, '13, and C.C. Finch, Delta, '14, the accepted anthem of the Fraternity, has been pronounced by critics as one of the ten best fraternity songs yet written.

Printed pamphlets, containing the songs, were distributed as early as 1918. For the first time, however, a bound volume of the songs collected, was published by the Grand Chapter and distributed at the 70th National Convention, September 1926. A second volume containing fifty-five Theta Chi songs and a college song for each institution, in which there is a Theta Chi Chapter, was published and distributed at the 71st National Convention, September, 1927.

THE MANUAL AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

At the 70th Convention, 1926, a manual edited under the direction of Walter R. Faries, Kappa, '12; George V. Catuna, Delta, '13; George Starr Lasher, Alpha Gamma, '11, and Francis M. VanNatter, Rho, '16,



The Alpha above to signify the
"Alpha Chapter" and the hands
joined below to signify friend-
ship — which with the different
significations of the badge would
be quite enough

F. N. F.

A Crest suggested by Freeman in 1860

The drawing was made in pencil and enclosed in a letter written by Freeman to Alpha Chapter October 18, 1860. Copy of letter is shown elsewhere in this volume.—F. N. F. are Freeman's initials

was distributed. This was in the form of a book, size 5" x 7", and contained 148 pages dealing with such matters as chapter organization, affiliation, the newly adopted finance system, Rattle regulations and other matters that the Grand Chapter desired these bulletins thereby acquainting one another with the activities of their respective chapters.

A periodical called the "Confidential Bulletin" was begun by the Grand Chapter in 1925. This is sent to each active and alumni chapter a dozen or more times a year and contains information of a nature deemed too confidential for open publication in *The Rattle*.

THE BADGE, CREST, PLEDGE BUTTON, FLOWER AND FLAG

While the development of the badge and crest of the Fraternity hardly constitutes the type of material suitable for a history of this kind there are, however, a few points worthy of note at this time. By way of design the badge displays a gold rattlesnake, with a ruby-set eye. The rattlesnake is fashioned to form a Theta; with the s words crossed diagonally over the Theta to form a Chi. The original size of the badge, like those of most fraternities, was extremely large and bulky. Again following the precedent established by fraternities in general the badge, of later years, has been materially reduced in size. At the convention held in 1909 a resolution was passed permitting the badge to be reduced sufficiently to be mounted on a diamond background. This gave rise to the present so-called diamond shaped badge which at the option of the members may be worn instead of the official badge. For a few years this style of badge met with a great deal of favor, indeed to such an extent that it looked as though it would be made the official design for the badge of the fraternity. The enthusiasm soon ceased, however, and in 1926 orders for badges ran largely to the official badge.

The first crest of the Fraternity, a forerunner of the one now in use, was adopted in 1861, and continued in use until about 1864. Since then three distinct changes have been instituted. Each change, however, constituting a supplement rather than the adoption of an