

PA

MASTER INSTITUTE

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the Cult of Light. He has been fighting all his life against ignorance
and misunderstanding, striving every moment to create great art, forging
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in 1929.

Bertha Anderson Osborne

DELPHIC ORACLE

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
Of the
COUNCIL OF PAST PRESIDENTS
Editorial Office.....4027 Clifton

Declaration of Principles
PERSONAL IMPROVEMENT
HIGHER EDUCATION
SOCIAL PROGRESS

MOTTO:

"Not what we have—
But what we share."

EDITOR

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BUSINESS MANAGER
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MRS. CHRIS MONTAG Ridge Gamma
MRS. EDWARD KUCK Sigma
MRS. CLAUDE SHAFER Theta

INTERDEPENDENCE

At this time, we hear much about race and nationalism. We know that these terms are cherished by educated persons and are taught diligently in our schools. However, there are exceptional people who have come to realize that some of our sanctified convictions and emotions are not truly worthy of us. We perceive that race and nationalism are the direct outgrowth of tribal instincts, arrogance and self-preservation. When we realize that all men are really Men, that there is only one race—the Human Race—we will have come a long way on the road to Peace.

In this great age of mechanical invention, the world has been brought together by railroads, steamships, airplanes, telegraphs and radio to such an extent that intercommunication and interdependence have been accomplished in an unprecedented manner. If every one could understand this interdependence and realize the cooperative nature of men as individuals; if we took into consideration the incalculable debt which each generation owes to all preceding generations; it would help to chasten our national conceits.

Those of us who are aware of our debt to the past and conscious of the great possibilities of the future, will not be swept off our feet by a wave of national emotion. We will realize that the average life-time, compared with the life-span of civilized activity, is but a few seconds. We will be strengthened by the hope that, through education and enlightenment, the world will gradually emerge free of its injustices and malpractices, and better able to cope with recurring changes to the path of progress.

VIZETELLY

English speaking peoples have sustained a real loss in the passing of Dr. Frank H. Vizetelly, lexicographer, and foremost authority on English. Delphians, especially, feel that his death is for them untimely because he responded graciously at all times to their inquiries concerning matters of speech and showed a kindly interest in their great organization. Through Delphian the writer was privileged to have an interesting and stimulating correspondence with Dr. Vizetelly and discovered that his brilliant scholarship was matched by a sparkling humor.

Dr. Vizetelly's books on English should be in every library and Delphian chapters will find them invaluable for use by their chapter critics.

HELEN MANSFIELD COLLISON.

MASTER INSTITUTE

When we were studying German and Slavic Expressionism, I became especially interested in the topic, "The Most Glorious of the Expressionists"—the Russian artists. It was then that I learned of the greatest of them—Nicholas Roerich. In pursuing my study of this artist and his work I became informed of a building known as The Master Institute. This building is located in New York and houses one thousand and six paintings by Prof. Roerich. On a recent trip to New York, I was most anxious to view this collection and get a broader knowledge of Roerich's art since our own study was confined only to a few of his pictures.

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THEATRE

Certainly, we cannot complain of the theatre season that has been offered Cincinnatians this year. Many good things have gone and many are yet to come. Cornelia Otis Skinner will play Shaw's "Candida." The Lunts are coming in April presenting three plays. There is a possibility that Catharine Cornell will appear in "No Time for Comedy." A return of Sinclair Lewis's, "Angela is Twenty-two," with Phillip Merivale in the leading role.

It is gratifying to learn that our mayor has assured the manager of the Cox that he will lend hearty support to any subscription program to assure Cincinnatians of future seasons of plays comparable to the present season. This is encouraging to all Delphians who are theatre-minded and a splendid indication of an awakening civic interest in the drama as a vital part of our every day life.

RADIO

"Great Plays" Sunday at 1 o'clock over WCKY.

A program of interest to Delphians who are studying the drama, old and modern. This is a series of plays dating from the ancient Sunrise Plays, showing the development of drama up to the modern theatre, and presenting such artists as Jane Cowl and Walter Hampden. Burns Mantle is the commentator.

BOOKS

"A Guide and Interpretation of the Bible," by H. E. Fosdick. A liberal approach to the interpretation of the Bible showing the historical development of man and his religious beliefs. Full of new ideas and convincing evidence. To the student of the Bible, this book should have great appeal.

"My Son, My Son," a strong novel depicting the over indulgence of a son by a well meaning but shortsighted father. A good study in psychology. Written by Howard Spring.

"The Yearling," a story of Florida scrub landscape and the native people, by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.

"The Mortal Storm," a story of family life in Germany under the Nazi regime, written by Phyllis Bottome who is English by birth but a cosmopolite by choice. She has lived in Germany many years. Her familiarity with Germany and her love for its people makes her particularly able to tell this story of a family divided by race and nationalism.

DELPHIC ORACLE

MASTER INSTITUTE

(Continued from Page 3)

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BERTHA ANDERSON OSBORNE.

MUSIC

The University of Cincinnati is again offering a series of lectures on Music Appreciation.

Feb. 23—"Music and the Sixteenth Century."

Mar. 9—Richard Wagner's "Rheingold."

Mar. 23—"Siegfried, the Hero."

Apr. 6—"The Twilight of the Gods."

These lectures are at 4 p. m. in the Law's Memorial Auditorium at the Teachers' College and are free to all friends of the University and lovers of music.

FLASH!

"Just signed up with a newly organized Delphian Chapter in Greenwich. We shall take the new course 'Orientation to Modern Times.' It had to come."

FLORENCE M. CROWE.
* * *

Mrs. Crowe was the first editor of the Delphic Oracle in Cincinnati. She is now living in Cos Cob, Greenwich, Conn.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Athena Chapter has maintained its organization and continued its activities as a discussion group. The monthly meetings of the first year were spent in a study of the history of Cincinnati. The topics for the current year include current events, book reviews and the history of music.

On January 5 a memorable afternoon was spent at the home of Mrs. Frederick Otto. We were addressed by Mr. Sherwood Kains, director of the University Glee Club and the Oratoria Society and president of the Bach Society of Cincinnati. Mr. Kains is an authority on the subject of Johann Sebastian Bach, and his ability as a speaker readily conveys his enthusiasm for his subject. A short outline of the life of the composer was followed by the exposition of his music, illustrated by the electrical reproduction of records. Following the talk, Mrs. Otto was the gracious hostess of a social hour spent around the tea table.

DOROTHY MARTIN.

The "Quest Club," made up of former members of Aurora Chapter, is pursuing a course of study based upon the great rivers of the world. A typical program is the following:

"Hudson Valley:—Discoveries, Conventions, Legends and Facts."

Books studied and reviewed, "Hudson River Landing," by Wilstach and "Rome Haul," by Edmonds.

This group reports that this program has proved "informative, stimulating and fascinating."

"Clifton Study Club," made up of former member of the Clifton Beta Chapter, are making an exhaustive study of the countries of Europe. A recent program on Poland included discussions entitled "Wayfarers in Poland," "Mislocated Poland," and a book review, "The Brothers Ashkenazi," by I. J. Singer. Starting with eighteen members this group now has a membership of thirty-five. The meetings are exceptionally well attended and the members report a great deal of enthusiasm.

MRS. WILLIAM REILLY.

"A young man's wife is his mistress, a middle-aged man's wife is his companion, an old man's wife is his nurse."—Francis Bacon.

ROUND TABLE

The Round Table Discussion Group was organized in 1935 by Mrs. Robert Meyer. Its membership is comprised of the Delphians who served on the 1934 convention committee on round table discussion. This group holds semi-annual meetings.

Mrs. J. W. Tait, Mrs. J. L. Payne, and Mrs. Hal Ricketts entertained the group January 19, 1939, at the Netherland Plaza Hotel. Each member was presented with a pomander ball, such as was used by the ladies of Queen Elizabeth's day. The program for this meeting was a discussion of current events. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Ireland in Dayton.

FATHER OF FASCISM

To Thomas Carlyle must go the glory, or odium, of being in some measure responsible for the authoritarian idea of government known as Fascism.

In Carlyle's book, "On Heroes, Hero-Worship and Heroics in History," one will find the complete creed of Fascism: "Find in any country the ablest man that exists there; raise him to the supreme place and loyally reverence him; you have a perfect government for that country; no ballot box, parliamentary influence, voting, constitution building, or other machinery whatsoever can improve it a which. It is the perfect state; an ideal country."

The perfect man, according to Carlyle, can be identified by certain qualities; namely, "extreme reverence for the divinity which permeates the universe, extreme sincerity, a man of action, and a man who is always right."

Theoretically, no doubt, the idea of Fascism, as set forth by Carlyle, is excellent. Practically, it leads to conditions infinitely worse than anarchy and chaos, for it leads to tyranny and dictatorship.

The World War revived Thomas Carlyle's prestige. Is this an indication of progress or retrogression? If Carlyle were living today he would, no doubt, condemn Hitler and Mussolini as quacks and sham priests.

We in the United States of America, may still express our opinion openly; and we may choose our governmental leaders by ballot. Let us stand firm in our demands for continued freedom and democracy.

VERA K. ROGERS.

DELPHIC ORACLE

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NO. 2.

STATE PRESIDENT'S GREETING

Dear Cincinnati Delphians:

"A task without a vision is drudgery,
A vision without a task, is a dream,
While a task linked to a vision
Will move the world."

The power of our Federation will be felt when we all become conscious of the objectives we are trying to reach and of the policies our organization has chosen to help us attain these objectives—Higher Education, Personal Improvement, Social Progress—to attain these and fail in the using, the task becomes either drudgery or a dream.

But with a determination to become all that one was created capable of becoming, and then using that ability in translating our ideas into definite action, we will contribute to making the work of The Ohio Delphian Federation effective.

New horizons are opening before us, widening our vision, deepening our understanding, making us realize more fully our responsibilities. We are confident that Cincinnati Delphians will not only gain strength from touching the hand of the Federation, but will GIVE strength as well. Your November Federation will be your idea of "Delphian Vision," linked to the task of its application.

Affectionately,
(Mrs. L. P.) BESS S. POBST.

SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT

Dear Cincinnati Delphians:

I am delighted to have this opportunity of sending greetings to each Cincinnati Delphian.

The Oracle is a wonderful medium by which the Cincinnati Chapters can carry out the Delphian motto, "Not what we have but what we share." Middletown Delphians finish this motto with "For in ceasing to share, we cease to have." How true it is. It makes no difference what we have or what we know, if we do not share it with someone it will be of no benefit to us or to anyone else—it is just good logic to make the most of what we have and what we are sharing. It is in this spirit of sharing that the Middletown Chapter is looking forward to the South-West District meeting to be held in Middletown this May.

These District meetings are really opportunities that one should not pass by, for they are a source of inspiration. They are opportunities to share our ideas—to further our chapter training and to express our creative ability.

Sincerely yours,
(Pres.) JEANE WRIGHT.

STATE CONVENTION

The Ohio Delphian Convention, held at Dayton in November, is now a memory. In my opinion, two programs stand out vividly. One, the discussion program led by Mrs. Harold Eicher, covered the broad subject, "What is Important?" The discussion considered what is important in social progress, higher education, cultural achievement, and woman's place in contemporary society. These discussions aroused enthusiastic discussion and were stimulating and inspiring. The other, a playlet, "Princess Delphian and Her Seven Little Treasure Seekers," was written by Mrs. George Arnold. This play was beautifully staged, well cast, and contained lines full of meaning. Walt Disney would have applauded with us.

Gracious hospitality and splendid programs contributed to a well-planned convention. Thanks, Dayton Delphians, for the memory and the inspiration!

NANNIE B. PAYNE.

"Basic moral standards never change. Our interpretations of these standards change."

"A goal of life—knowledge, insight, peace of mind, joy of efficient service."

LEADERSHIP

"In these days of national and racial fears and hatreds, the world needs leadership of thought and purpose. Woman's part in this leadership is clearly before her. It is so simple a part it is apt to be overlooked—and yet so important. She will, if possible, identify herself with the great forward movements of the day in which she will cooperate with others to defeat those forces striking at the foundation of civilization. Potentially a leader, in one way or another, in such groups each will develop and use those qualities of leadership individually her's. Let no woman feel she does not possess such qualities or that the responsibility belongs to others. Honesty, integrity, sincerity, understanding, kindness, courage are just as much a part of leadership as the ability to direct the mechanical affairs of an organization. The world needs YOU, YOUR IDEALISM, YOUR LEADERSHIP. In the days and years ahead God may require just the kind of leadership you possess in battling the forces of fear and selfishness that threaten to strangle civilization. Make Delphian a training school leading to the greater work."

CLARION

"Our great expectations have been fulfilled. The Clarion has arrived and we are much impressed. Building upon the foundations laid so carefully last year, our new staff has created a vital organ for Delphian. Let us bend our efforts to keep it so.

We particularly like the glossy paper and the high heading, en rapport with mi-lady's winter bonnet. We like the varied subject matter indicative of the active interests of Delphians. We would like a corner for profiles or personalities, too.

All orchids for the Delphian Clarion! Congratulations to Ina Cavally and her staff! You have sent the voice of Delphian ringing through Ohio."

ETHEL TERRELL.

Mrs. Frederick Cavally has resigned as editor of the Oracle to accept the post of editor of the Delphian state publication.

My friend Mrs. Payne - write this.

Inside is the article

DELPHIC ORACLE

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

RIDGE GAMMA—On December 7, 1938, this chapter together with their Iota Delphian friends had the very great pleasure of hearing Rev. Wilfred O. Cross lecture on the development of the drama.

An Article, "The Bill Boards Must Go," appeared in last December's "Readers Digest," page 128. This article was written by Mrs. W. L. Lawton about her splendid work as chairman of the National Roadside Council. All Delphians would do well to read this article to see what they can do to prevent the beautiful scenery from being hid by ugly bill boards.

EDITH MONTAG.

CLIFTON ALPHA—The Clifton Alpha Delphian Chapter held its Christmas party at the Clifton Party House. Mrs. William B. Ramsey gave a talk on Czechoslovakia. She is well fitted by her background and her command of the Czech language to talk on this country. Mrs. Ramsey's parents are Czechs and she herself has spent several years in Czechoslovakia. She illustrated her talk with her collection of beautiful and unusual prints depicting scenes in the life of the native people. Mrs. Ramsey is a charter member and has given her talk before a number of clubs in this city.

VERA VAN METER.

EUREKA CHAPTER—On January 17, the new charter for Eureka Chapter was signed at the home of Mrs. W. Huether. A program of music was presented by Mrs. C. J. Rohr and Mrs. C. J. Bruder. Short talks on the origin of the Oracle of Delphi and the history of the Delphian Society were given by Mrs. E. R. Spain and Miss Ida Knutson. The charter was signed by Mrs. L. M. Wicks, president, and twenty-seven members.

RAMONA KAISER.

AURORA CHAPTER—Aurora Chapter members are enjoying the study of Elizabethan literature and are appreciating that this period sets the high-water mark for the world's poetry. Under Elizabeth, England took its place as the foremost literary nation in the world.

The "Blessed Event," predicted in Aurora Chapter, occurred October 7, 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Brandt are the parents of a wee son, Hugh, Jr.

MRS. E. W. CROWE.

THETA CHAPTER—On November 22, we were joined by Iota and Clifton Alpha chapters for a lecture, "The Modern Theatre," by Miss Virginia Worthington at the Art Museum.

When the play, "The Women," appeared at the Cox we went to see it. We admit that it was hard for us to visualize women who had nothing better to do than spend their time gossiping and making trouble for others.

On January 3, we were invited to the home of Mrs. George Crowther for luncheon. Mr. Edgar Vinacke of the Student Speakers Bureau of the University gave a very enlightening talk on "Ibsen, the Artist."

—If you should meet any of us Thetas on the street, smiling like the cat that swallowed the canary, you will know it is because our own Bess Pobst was elected president of the Ohio Delphian Federation at the November convention.

MRS. C. F. MOSHER.

IOTA CHAPTER—Studying the modern drama has greatly increased our interest in the theatre. Consequently the plays that have been presented in Cincinnati have been seen and discussed critically at subsequent meetings.

Semi-monthly meetings of this chapter are held at the homes of members. A picnic meeting was held in Kennedy Heights Park in October.

Our group greatly enjoyed seeing the movies of the respective trips of Mrs. Niehoff and Mrs. Knauff.

ALICE T. HENDRICKS.

RHO CHAPTER—On November 10, Rho Chapter met at the lovely home on Parkridge Place of its retiring president, Mrs. George Lawton, for luncheon. The election of officers was held. Mrs. Phillip Lowe was elected president.

At Christmas this chapter had a luncheon party at the quaint and hospitable Party House on Montgomery Road. This was preceded by the regular meeting in the morning at the Community Church.

On January 18 the members of Rho were the guests of Mrs. Walter Eberle at her charming home on Avery Lane for luncheon, preceded by a discussion of the Quarterly.

ELSIE FUNCK.

FEBRUARY FABRIC

"The February born will find,
Sincerety and peace of mind,
Freedom from passion and from care,
If they the amethyst will wear."

Little superstitions are deeply imbedded in our consciousness. Although we laugh about it, how many of us still hope to catch and retain some measure of this illusive promise?

"Oh the long and dreary winter,
Oh the famine and the fever."

February is often termed the "Famine month." Just as at four o'clock in the morning life is supposed to be at its lowest ebb, such a place in the cycle of months, does February hold.

After the harvest, all nature draws its life stream within itself for rest and preservation; the fallen leaves imbed seed and root deep in the nourishing bosom of Old Mother Earth; and the north winds drive before them the dancing snowflakes, covering all beneath in a warm white blanket.

For those who have not stored for sustenance over this sleeping period Mother Earth gives not a thought—her interest being only in the preservation of that which follows "The Law of Life." Alas, for those who have not learned it!

The Old Romans celebrated the Festival Februs in the honor of Luperus, the God of Fertility. These old pagans had a most profound respect for all things pertaining to nature.

Again, if astrology is a form of superstition—"He who is born in February has the 'Universal Mind'." Well let's see:—there is Washington, Lincoln, Edison, Darwin, Longfellow, Greeley, Susan B. Anthony,—and maybe, you and I.

INA CAVALLY.

POETIC LICENSE

It is reported that when Elizabeth Barrett Browning asked her husband, Robert, just what he meant by a certain poem, he replied to this effect, "When those lines were written Robert Browning and God knew what they were about, now alas, only God knows what they're about."