

# O- Omicron

## The Columbia University Chapter

### February 27, 1921

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#### **Omicron Celebrates Its 35th Anniversary**

On February 27, 1956, Omicron Chapter will have reached its thirty-fifth year of service to the noble clan of Kappa Alpha Psi. Thirty-five years ago ten young men, all students attending Columbia University, became intimate friends. From that friendship arose a greater desire to form some sort of group that would embody the ideas and aims of these students and would unite them into a closer bond. Among those aspiring young men were three Kappas: C. Udell Turpin who had come from the University of Illinois, and "Gas Boy" Ridgely and C. Jackson who hailed from the environs of Lincoln University. These three men knew and felt that essentially the aims and ideas of their fellow students- fellowship, scholarship and brotherly love were in accord with those tenets of Kappa Alpha Psi.

#### **First Officers**

On the twenty-seventh of February in 1921, A. W. Tucker, C. F. Foushee, W. L. Davis, Deaver P. Young, W. J. Levy, H. Hayden and E. M. Wood, were initiated into the sacred realm of Kappa Alpha Psi. These neophytes along with Turpin, Ridgely and Jackson then became the charter members of Omicron Chapter. The first officers of the new chapter were C. U. Turpin, Polemarch; A. W. Tucker, Vice-Polemarch; E. M. Wood, Exchequer; Deaver P. Young, Keeper of Records; W. J. Levy, Strategus.

Today Omicron Chapter stands as a monument to the re-affirmation of faith and ideas that our charter members subscribed to in those early days of the chapter's beginning. The fundamental purpose of Achievement in Omicron Chapter throughout the years has become analogous to the names of James Egert Allen, William Chisholm, Jimmie Lunceford, Aaron Douglas, John Perry, Ernest L. Dimitry, Arthur A. Schomburg, Allen Morton, James Jones, Paul Crawford, Albert Oliver, and many other stalwart brothers whose names at one time or another have been listed on the membership scroll of the chapter. Omicron during its thirty-five years of service to the fraternity has been host to the Grand Conclave twice, once in 1925, and again in 1935. The chapter has had listed among its rank during those years four Grand Chapter officers and no fewer than ten officers of the Northeastern Province, The incumbent Senior Grand Vice-Polemarch, Grand Strategus, and Northeast Provincial Polemarch are or, were members of Omicron Chapter. Members of Omicron founded the New York and Brooklyn Alumni Chapters, and, several of these same brothers were quite instrumental in helping Delta Mu and Asbury Park- Neptune Alumni, the "baby" chapters of the fraternity, receive their charters from the Grand Chapter.

#### **Nothing Desired**

In the social arena, Omicron has left nothing to be desired. In 1930, the chapter founded the Kappa Karnival. Last year, the New York Alumni presented the 25th Kappa Karnival to be held in New York. Omicron also became the first chapter of any fraternity to sponsor the annual Kappa Moonlight Boat Ride, a tradition which has continued now for eight years.

At present there are twenty-eight active brothers in Omicron. Located in New York

Alumni and Brooklyn Alumni are twenty-five Omicron men who have given twenty years or more

of service to their fraternity. The brothers of Omicron are proud of their accomplishments. Among the schools represented in the makeup of Omicron are Harvard, Columbia, CCNY, Yale, Hunter, Brooklyn, and Queens Colleges, St. Francis, Pace and Pratt Colleges, LIU and NYU. In recent years Omicron has distinguished itself throughout the City with its GUIDE RIGHT program for junior high school students, its charitable Kiddie Karnival, the Black and White Coronation formal in May, its spring recitals, and last year, its first fashion show. Two years have seen the first and the second Kappa Queen of Omicron Chapter chosen. The honor has gone to Miss Theresa Patterson and Miss Marie Johnston respectively.

### **A Long Time**

Thirty-five years is a long time, and to celebrate this auspicious occasion of its founding, the brothers of Omicron are giving their first Anniversary Banquet to commemorate those years of achievement and to honor their charter members, who though few in number, are eternally their guides in Phi Nu Phi. The banquet will take place on February 25, 1956 at the Hotel Theresa Skyline Room with over a hundred brothers in attendance. Once again the old and new members of Omicron Chapter will be able to unite in the fraternal bond of brotherhood and fellowship.