



THE ARCHI

OF ALPHA RHO CHI



Official National Publication of the Fraternity

Volume VIII

DECEMBER 15, 1926

Number 3

BALANCE OF TAYLOR LETTER TO D. P. ELY

Wherein He Relates Methods of Practice in China.

In the last issue of *The Archi* we published part of a letter from Walter A. Taylor, Dem. '21, to our W. G. A., Bro. D. P. Ely. Brother Taylor is in China as a missionary architect for the Episcopal Church.

Here is what he writes of "Architecture as she is practiced" in China:

"I am very fortunate in being associated with Mr. Bergamini, one of the pioneers among mission architects, who has been in China twelve years. He is a Columbia man with wide experience in New York offices, and he has a rapidly growing reputation as the best designer among the foreign architects in China. He has done work all over Northern and Central China.

Do Own Contracting

"You may be interested in the working of our office, which is located here on the Boone College campus at Wuchang. Because capable and reliable contractors are so scarce, we are obliged to violate one of the cardinal canons and go into the contracting business. For any work that is within working distance of Wuchang, we contract for labor only, and buy our own materials. It is only in this way that we can control quality of materials and workmanship.

"In addition to Mr. B. and myself we have the following staff of Chinese: 3 draftsmen, a bookkeeper, a compradore or head purchasing man, two transport men or coolie bosses (corresponding to truck drivers), an office and blueprint boy, miscellaneous outside coolies and as many superintendents or watchmen as we have outside jobs running. Of these, only two, the compradore and bookkeeper speak English, so I have plenty of opportunity to exercise my Chinese vocabulary.

"During Mr. B's furlough of 14 months, I conducted the designing end and had the help of another foreigner as superintendent and paymaster. Mr. B now undertakes all of the conferences, designing and drafting room work, while I do the engineering design, estimating, contracts, supervision, uying and paying.

Nothing Monotonous

"Believe me there is nothing monotonous about this job. We have to do

(Continued on Page Four)

From The Editor's Mail Box

Wherein We Recount Things and Thoughts
Which Come To Our Attention.

Remember the old daily paper, how it comes out and says as how this will be the last issue of the day so that the staff can get home for Christmas dinner? Well this the December issue of *The Archi* is to go to press early with the hopes that it will catch all the brethren and their cistern in time for Ye Editor to say "Merry Christmas" before they leave school for the holidays.

Speaking of holidays it reminds us that that Paeonios has set the date for the Twelfth convention, so that those able to attend will see the K. S. A. C. crew in school after the holidays. The dates are January 7-8, 1927, for the bennyfit of those who didn't subscribe in time to get the November issue of "the little newspaper." Just how the dates will work out remains to be seen. We have certain Dean's of Men in mind.

But be that as it may, turn to the Paeonios chapter notes for the final shot fired by the Kansas correspondent. To phwat he sez we add, don't forget your tux. "Hank" Wickers, Paeonios '24, was at the convention at Minneapolis and is coaching the actives in their efforts.

Our Valiant Duke

Speaking of Minneapolis. The last time a W. G. E. was elected, Bro. T. J. Strong, Anth. '17, was re-elected to that job at that gathering. His term expires with the Manhattan meet, whether he will submit or be re-elected Newsy Nat

is not in a position to know at this writing. However, we have had rather close contacts with "Duke" in both business and fraternal matters for three years and more; we have seen his work and his records, and if ever a man deserved a gold medal it is T. J., and to our humble notion he should be rewarded by re-election.

Brother Strong was first installed following the establishment of the present record system by a special finance committee which reported, we believe, at the Seventh convention. It has been his job to follow their recommendations and guide the Fraternity thru its "growing pains." Now that the Fraternity is progressing and the path is smoother we personally feel that he should carry on to completion the work he has established if he cares to do so and his wife permits. Last we knew she was hoping this would be his last year, but we hope the convention will decide another way.

These days we are watching the daily papers with considerable concern over the situation in China. Just what the conditions are no one really knows, but the prayers of the Fraternity should be with Bro. Walter Taylor, Dem. '21, and his bride of this summer, in their missionary architectural work in China.

And so as we think of Christian service and Christ, we think again of Christmas, and to you all, Brothers and Sisters, thru Alpha Rho Chi, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and an exceedingly prosperous and Happy New Year.

THE CHAPTERS

ANTHEMIOS—ILLINOIS

Paul E. Wicklund, Contributor

On the week-end that the Gophers dazzled the Wolverines Burt Thorud and "Benny" Benson journeyed to Detroit to visit Fred Rohn, who has been confined to a plaster cast for some time as a result of a cracked hip bone.

They say he's the same "Horse" Rohn. One outstanding thing about him is that he's still keeping up his work as Detroit

representative of the Int'l Fireproofing Co., although flat on his back with only the use of his arms.

A drawing board has been improvised over his head which swings down within reach, and on this he sketches and engineers his projects.

Our travelers found Leo M. Bauer, '14, plenty busy in his practice of architecture and serving as president of the Lini Club. He intimated that he was going to come through big for the Anthemios building fund.

Walter Giles (Pete) Bishop, '19, dropped in with his newly acquired helpmate to see Fred while Burt and Benny were still there.

Vol. VIII
No. 3

THE ARCHI

OF ALPHA RHO CHI

December
1926

600 Chamber of Commerce Bldg.,
St. Paul, Minn.

Published Monthly During the College Year By The Minnesota Alumni Chapter of
THE ALPHA RHO CHI ARCHITECTURAL FRATERNITY

Entered as second-class mail matter October 23, 1923, at the post office at St. Paul, Minnesota, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Life subscriptions ten dollars. Annual subscriptions two dollars per year in advance.

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IKTINOS—MICHIGAN

Harper P. Fowley, Correspondent

Brother Leon Snyder has temporarily dropped out of the U. of Mich. and is attending school in Battle Creek.

We just received a letter from "Lucy" Kiefer and "Ing" Elder. They are now in Rome, having spent some time in Parish:

Dear Tousley:

This is a somewhat late request that my *Archi* be sent to me, c/o The American Express Co., Rome, Italy, until next March, at which time 3 and 5 Place Vendome, Paris, France, will do nobly.

As you know I am here on the Booth Fellowship and will be here until next August if present plans do well. Since I have been here I have done plenty of rubbernecking and a bit of sketching and have found this country a darn interesting place to be. It is certainly a lot nicer than anyone would or could ever imagine. One can't go around a corner without seeing something new and different, and I have gotten to the stage now where I speculate on what sort of a thing the next corner will hold forth. This holds true whether the place be Paris or some tiny town.

I have been traveling with Livingston

Elder from Michigan, who just arrived a couple of weeks ago, and before that I met Russell Krob, an A P X from Ohio State, who is here on the McKim fellowship from Columbia. With Krob I took a short trip into Normandy, a trip which, despite almost continuous rain, was exceedingly interesting. Elder and I are now indirectly on our way to Rome, where we expect to spend the greater part of the winter. Before we get home we will have visited Corcaconnne, Albi, Toulouse, Marseilles, Nice and any other places which seem to strike the right spot.

In order to be all set for a big day tomorrow I must soon do some "stut-eye" and thanking you in advance for *The Archi* I am,

Fraternally,

Leroy E. Kiefer, Ikt. '25.

DEMETRIOS—OHIO STATE

W. S. Gould, Correspondent

Graduation this quarter will rob us of one senior member, Robert Ayers. Bob's graduation is unique in that he is the first graduate of the department to construct a model as a thesis. His subject was "A Sarcophagus of an Indian Chieftain."

Two of the boys have attained noteworthy honors. George Merkle has been pledged to Tau Beta Pi. George also received the prize offered by Tau Sigma Delta, in water-color competition. Richard King was initiated by Scabbard and Blade, honorary military fraternity.

A card from Tampa, Florida informs us that B. F. ("Duke") Renick, '23, is the proud "daddy" of a 14-pound girl and adds "Marianne has a good voice." "Duke" reports that he is paving city streets.

We were all greatly honored and surprised the early part of the month when Clarence Dale Badgeley, Demetrios '23, paid us a visit at the house. Dale was the 1926 winner of the Rome Prize and has spent the fall traveling and studying in Europe before choosing his problem for the year.

At present enjoying a short vacation with his folks and will return to the American Academy January 1, to begin work on the "Restoration of the Main Temple at Ostia." He also brought word back that George Frazer, Mnesicles '19, has just completed his "Restoration of Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli."

MNESICLES—MINNESOTA

Glynn Shifflett, Correspondent

Bro. Milo Richardson, Hettinger, N. D., paid the chapter a few days' visit. We're expecting Milo back in school shortly.

Mnesicles is going strong in bowling again this year. This is the sixth successive year we have bowled in the final. Dec. 6th we bowl the $\Delta\Sigma\Delta$ for the silver-plated cup to decorate our mantel.

Mnesicles finished second place in the professional division of volley ball this

fall, having been defeated only by the Psi Omegas.

Robert Potter has graduated and is now enjoying the quiet life at his home in Fargo.

Mnesicles calendar reads:

Jan. 8—Winter Formal (Dudley Bayliss in charge); Jan. 15, Initiation (Sidney Stolte in charge).

Dec. 6th, Mnesicles selected Bruce R. Church, '28, as convention delegate while electing a new slate of officers headed by Kenneth Backstrom, '27, W. A. His fellow officers are Sidney Stolte, '27, W. A. A.; Louis Santo, '28, W. E.; Dudley Bayliss, '29, W. S.; Glynne Shifflett, '29, W. C.; Clarence Olsen, '29, W. Supt., and Chester Carjola '28, House Manager.

KALLIKRATES—VIRGINIA

Ralph Little, Correspondent

At our last meeting Tom Parker, the chapter W. A. this year, was elected delegate to the National Convention at Manhattan, Kansas.

Committees on the Beaux-Arts Ball have been appointed and are already functioning. The date for this year's ball is March 25th. We are going to get the best orchestra in the east if we can, and intend letting nothing stand in the way of making the affair a big success.

PAEONIOS—K. S. A. C.

"Cap" Souders, Jr., Correspondent

Paeonios takes this last chance to again say that we are striving to make this convention the biggest in the history of the fraternity and that we cordially invite our brothers to attend and assist in its success.

"Soupy" Soupene, '27, is the nucleus around which our chapter builds its hopes for a knockout convention, with the guidance of H. E. Wichers, '24. Call him Soupy, fellows, and remember he doesn't smoke.

Bob Osborne is winning himself a permanent position on the Varsity Basketball team by his fine showing in practice. We wonder how he will keep his position as "First Fiddler" and star forward at the same time.

One of the old standbys has double-crossed himself and put out his pin—again. "Hank" cless is his handle, and the lady friend is Miss Alberta Woodward, Chi Omega.

ANDRONICUS—U. S. C.

Carl W. Denny, Correspondent

After a most enjoyable vacation of Thanksgiving, the brothers have returned to school with the anticipation of seeing Southern California's Trojan Eleven triumph over the wonder team of the East, Notre Dame, on Dec. 4th. (Editor's note—they didn't.)

On this date, we of Andronicus chapter are looking to winning the Annual

Homecoming parade with our beautiful and symbolic float, the "Return of Helen of Troy." Last year we were awarded the grand prize for our conception of the "Return of Pharaoh." A more complete description of the float will be in the next issue.

December 15th, school adjourns to January 3rd for the Christmas vacation, at which time Brother George Loren Patrick, Andronicus delegate to the convention, will spend his time seeing the sights back at Manhattan.

DINOCRATES—TEXAS

J. Roy White, Correspondent

The football season closed in the proverbial blaze of glory for T. U. on Turkey Day. The Texas Aggies were defeated by the score of 1 to 5. A number of our alumni were with, San Antonio exes leading by a heavy majority. For the first time at homecoming we were able to entertain these home-comers of ours in our own abode, which was filled to capacity. Ask Steward Law.

O yes—our initiation of November 8 and 9 musn't be forgotten. Fred Nagle and Jim Hammond, both Austin boys, came through unscathed. We expect to hold another run-in before Christmas.

The Cactus, T. U. year-book, is printing pictures of sorority and fraternity houses this year, and "Brother Buck" (being Jim Buchanan) is making us a hotsky pencil sketch of our mansion-in-disguise. We certainly hope they accept it, Buck.

The results of the recent Beaux Art competitions were quite pleasing. In both Class A and B Projects only six men failed to receive mentions. Even our dear W. A. blossomed forth with a first, though he blushes to admit it. And little pledge Paul's Esquisse-mention—thanx to the tender love and guidance of one "Pansy."

It is rumored that Gutzon Borglum, the original sculptor of Stone Mountain Memorial, will locate his studio in Austin in the near future. He has been in San Antonio for some time, working on the Trail Drivers' Monument. More good news for us architecturally inclined fellows.

POLYKLITOS—CARNEGIE

Thure Leivo, Correspondent

After an extended Thanksgiving vacation because of Carnegie Tech's victory over Notre Dame, apparently it will take at least until Christmas before the student body calms down to normalcy.

Before Thanksgiving, on Nov. 23, the Polyklitos Chapter held a smoker at the Delta Mu house, at which the following men were pledged: Batch, Basset, Graham and Seibert, interior decorators; and Bissell, McGrath, O'Neal, and Schmidt of the Department of Architecture. These men will no doubt prove

themselves invaluable to the Alpha Rho Chi.

Forsythe, '26, and Boldry, '26, have recently returned from their trip abroad. We hope to learn a great deal from them about French and Italian wines. We wonder how Mr. Love is getting along with his teaching at Peoria, Ill. We would like to hear from Stephens also, as well as from some of the other alumni.

THERON—OKLAHOMA

Hugh W. Brown, Jr., Correspondent

On Wednesday, November 24th, we held our Initiation Dinner. Following it that evening Andrew Balfour, Dwight E. Stevens, Paul Harris, and LeRoy Bossard were initiated into the Theron Chapter of Alpha Rho Chi Fraternity.

Bro. Balfour is an associate member; he was en route from Stillwater to the "Windy City" of Chicago. He is looking for better opportunities, which I am certain he will find.

Bro. Stevens is an Alumni; he is en route to Cincinnati, where he wishes to study art part of the time and work in an office the remaining time. Brother Harirs is an Alumnus, working in an Architect's office in Chickasha, Okla. Bro. LeRoy Bossard is an active.

Harold Redding has honored some young lady by the passing of the cigars. The winning of Miss Vaska Roe was the cause of this act. Miss Roe is a Phi Mu at Oklahoma University. Harold has been chosen as our delegate to the National Convention at Manhattan. Maybe he'll pass the cigars again?

Merry Christmas to all APX men; "see you at the convention."

CHICAGO ALUMNI

Paul E. Wicklund, Correspondent

C. F. Baker, Paeonios Hon., has left Holabird & Roche's and is now chief draftsman in our office or rather that of H. V. von Holst.

Milo Janes, Anth. Ex '23, is now superintendent for Holmes & Flynn in charge of construction on a group of college buildings in Northfield, Minn.

Marshall Weymouth, Anth. Ex '29, has left school and promises to be among us for some time.

Hermann Frenzel, Mnes. '26, stopped and visited us briefly on his way back to the Sainty City.

MINNESOTA ALUMNI

The Court Jester, Correspondent

Well, the alumni held their meeting at the new Mnesicles house, Friday evening, Nov. 19th, and they tell me it was great. Perhaps I would be prejudiced if I said it myself. The presentation of the key of the house and photographs to the actives went off O. K. The key is now hanging over the living room fireplace.

Professors F. M. Mann and Leon Arnal, Hon. brothers, Building Chair-

man Arnold Raugland, '20, talked, and Gordon Clark, '18, showed some dandy movies. His granite benches are here and stand either side of the entrance. Ray Corwin, Ex '23, presented his pastel of the house. The banquet, Armin Kleinschmidt, '22, presiding, was held in the dining room in the basement.

The meeting was good and snappy. George F. Poulsen, '17, and "Ruggs" were tied in votes for president. We tossed up and George won. Good enuf, for Ruggs is up to his neck in various activities and didn't want the job, neither did George, but he's it and everybody is satisfied. Larry Bakken, '22, was re-elected vice president for the third time. Your corerpondent is secretary, and Albert J. Moorman, '18, is new treasurer.

George Freeberg, retiring treasurer, has left for Rockville to work with "Granite" Clark, Sidney Strong, Ex '20, Atwater, was down; also Papenthien, '21, Ed Adams, '21, Ed Buenger, '19, Paul Damberg, '22, and Stan Cedarstrand, Ex '27. In all there were about twenty alumni at the house both Friday and Saturday evenings. Paul Wicklund, '25, Hank Gerlach, '22, "Army" from Mankato, Dewey Gerlach, '26, Walt Schneider Ex '28, Frank Mattson Ex '29, James Gingery, Ex '28, Carl Johnson, "Sammie" Burton, Ray Corwin and others I forget now were also there at one time or another. It was a great house warming and homecoming.

We are getting our annual report done up and bound and are going to present it to the active chapter.

By the way the Homecoming dance was the finest I believe I ever watched. Bro. and Mrs. S. Chatwood Burton chaperoned.

It was a shame we lost the game, because if one team ever pushed another around the place it was us against Michigan. Next year we are going to clean 'em all, you watch.

TAYLOR'S LETTER

(Continued from Page One)

everything from surveying to acoustics, with reinforced concrete and F. S. details of carved ornament, estimates and window details, with a nice assortment of tombstones, bronze tablets, septic tanks, stage scenery for college plays, period furniture and mechanical devices to lend variety.

"We use strange combinations of materials. Lots of Oregon pine from the Dollar Company's yard at Hankow, Japanese ash and oak, Philippine redwood and lao-an, and much of the Chinese fir which comes in long poles; British and American paints sold in Hankow; British, American, German and Japanese hardware sold in Hankow or Shanghai and special pieces of brass and iron made to order locally; reinforcing steel from Belgium or America, or local made in smooth round shapes only of uncertain strength; Belgian made glass is installed by local glaziers.

"The native varnish, which is applied

WHO MISSES—

—the list of lost men, new addresses, etc.?

Space forbids us publishnig the list of men's addresses wanted (it's 'still the same as last month), the new pledges and initiates, but we'll have them all in the January Post-Convention issue.

like glue, is about the toughest varnish in the world, and of course most of the world's supply of wood oil, the base of varnishes, is produced in Central China, and is used in the natural state here. There are several brands of cement made in China, all fairly good and uniform quality. American and British prepared roofings are sold in Hankow, but we use tile roofs almost entirely, cheap native round gray tile, native made French style flat tile, or for more monumental buildings, the old style Chinese temple glazed tile in brown, green or yellow.

Costs In Comparison

"Costs are rather startling in comparison to America. Local currency is about two for one of American gold dollars, and the following figures are all in local currency. I built recently an average sized residence for foreigners, without heating or plumbing for \$5,700 about 14 cents per cu. ft. Our school buildings usually cost 12 to 15 cents, and the best residence work 20 cents.

"A very good school building was built in Changsha last year for 31 cents, with heating, plumbing, terrazzo and the best hardware. (Divide these figures by two for comparison with U. S. dollars and cents.) Labor is usually only 20 to 25 per cent of the total cost, and this of course makes a difference in all kinds of details, to save material rather than labor. Most trades get about 70 cents a day. The highest paid man in our office gets \$35 per month, and the office boys gets ten a month.

"You may be wondering why is a mission architect? What has that got to do with converting the heathen, etc.? The following are some of the jobs put thru our office since I came here: a church, parish hall and residence in one compound, the church and parish hall in Chinese temple style, but with brick, reinforced concrete and wood-steel trusses and plenty of precast ornamental concrete; converting large duplex residence into a college dormitory; four new residences for faculty at Boone; brick and reinforced concrete dining hall and assembly for boys boarding school; kitchen and laundry additions to girls school; third story added to girls school building; rebuilt part of Boone theological school; two-story church and parish hall at a small port up river in the temple style construction, similar to the first mentioned; practice school with class rooms, dining hall and dormitory for 120

boys at the normal college; residence at Anking and numerous small jobs of alterations, additions, heating plants, etc.

Three Years Work Ahead

"We now have on the boards in various stages of development, the following projects already under way or to go thru during the next three years: four different residences; a chapel and gym building for the girls school; college chapel for Boone to seat 700; two school and college science buildings, a boys primary school building; assembly hall for normal college; settlement house for social workers; maternity ward addition to hospital; residences for Chinese doctors at hospital; power plant for hospital; two different groups of college buildings in Nanking; class room building for Kuling American school (for foreign children); steam heating plant for the same institution; swimming pool and showers for Boone gym; new church for one of the native parishes in Wu-chang, etc.

"They find new jobs for us faster than we can turn over the old ones. A great life. And while you fellows are standing around looking wise and looking for jobs or else going to Florida, we are praying for time enough to do all of ours decently. I have written this with the idea that what I have to relate is of interest to many of the fraters, and you will probably pass it around or perhaps put some of it in *The Archi*.

"We we are way off here, news from and about everybody is valuable and interesting. I hear from Dassett (Mnesicles Ex '17) in Paris occasionally, and was pleased to see Badgeley's (Demetrios '23) fourth mention in the *American Architect*, the convention picture in *Pencil Points*, to hear of Milt Osborne's marriage, and to see in the Columbia catalogue that he's on the faculty there, and to learn that Fraser (Mnesicles '19) got the Rome prize, and that Doc Oman (Demetrios '20) is a prof at Ohio State.

"I enjoy Chubb's (Demetrios '04) covers on the monthly. Sorry I didn't see or hear anything of Hammond (Hammett Mnesicles '19, we believe he means?) when he was around this side of the world. If my attractive description of my job yets in *The Archi*, there will be a sudden rush of APX to the mission fields. There are lots worse places to be. Why not come to a nice peaceful place like China, instead of Paris, where you get mobbed?"

Brother Taylor has recently been elected to full membership in the Association of Chinese and American Engineers, and he is also a member of the Hankow Chamber of Commerce. Walt is an Ohio Tau Beta Pi man. The latter part of September the Chinese ordered foreign ships out of the Hankow port, and Cantonese troops had cut off Wu-chang, where Boone college is located. However the last word Walter's folks had was that he was supervising some work at Kuling and was out of the zone of immediate danger. *The Archi* has no later news.