We, the present members of Eta chapter of DKE, proudly welcome you home on this very memorable occasion—the Eta Chapter Centennial, the first fraternity centennial in the State of Virginia.

We are both proud and humble when we consider what this means; proud of our heritage and humble for the trust placed upon us. It means that many worthy men have worn the diamond pin of DKE as representatives of Eta chapter since 1852, the year our chapter was founded. All of you remember your days here, your contributions to Eta, and, most important, its contributions to you. Through the years, it has been a source of pride, for men to say, “I was a Deke at Virginia.”

This is not a celebration for any one class—but for all classes as a group—a band of brothers of DKE over a hundred years of fraternal unity, which has kept strong and vibrant the friendship of the Dekes.

All of us should take great pride in this event; read this booklet, and keep it in remembrance of what it stands for. We have tried to fit as much interesting information into its few pages as possible. Unfortunately, we could not have such a booklet for each of those hundred glorious years to bring to mind more vividly the warm, personal friendships and experiences, which each of you felt here. We especially want each of you to feel as much a part of this house this weekend as you did when you matriculated here.

Since our beginning, it has been our endeavor to raise the prestige of Delta Kappa Epsilon. It is on top now, but only because over a period of one hundred years, each of you here now, and many others, contributed as much as you could to our chapter.

Try to meet and know the present members; see for yourselves the growth of that precocious infant that was conceived here one hundred years ago. We welcome any and all suggestions forthcoming from this scrutiny. Continue to contribute to the home of your college days. The past may grow dim as memories fade, but the future is bright and we build for that.

May you of the past, we of the present, and those of the future always cherish the beloved institution of DKE here at Virginia. May we never forget what it once meant to wear the diamond pin.

Let us now enjoy ourselves as brothers of Delta Kappa Epsilon for the past, present, and future. Eta Chapter very proudly opens its door for its Centennial celebration.

—R. C. B.
Program
Of Events

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1952
4:00-6:00 P. M.—
Cocktails at House
6:30-7:30 P. M.—
Buffet Dinner at House
8:00—
Informal Party

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1952
11:00 A. M.—
Brunch and Business Meeting at House
12:00—
Lunch at House

1:00-6:00—
1) University of Maryland Lacrosse Game
2) Annual Blue-Orange Final Football Game
3) Tennis Match with Cornell
4) Golf privileges will be arranged at the Farmington Course for all those who desire them.

8:00 P. M.—
Banquet at Monticello Hotel for all Dekes and a Dinner at the House for wives and dates.

Saturday night—
A Party at the House with “combo” dancing, etc.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1952
12:30-1:30—
Milk Punch
Current Outlook

The Deke House today is still carrying on its high precedents of the past, and will continue to do so in the future. The old saying, “Everyone pushes and nobody rides,” still is the maxim that guides us and the medium for which we strive. Of our thirty active members, we have participants in all branches of athletics here at the University, as well as men on the Student Council, in the honor societies, publications, and other facets of University life. Staige Blackford recently received one of the highest honors ever to be bestowed upon an Eta Deke when he was awarded a Rhodes scholarship.

In intramural athletics, we are going for our seventh High Point Trophy in as many years, and, with the interest and determination shown this year, it will be difficult for anyone to take the high point plaque from the House wall.

Athletically, we have been well represented in each season. Joe Mehalick, Al Minter, Bill Stallings, Bobby Cabell, Ralph Williams, Lou Showalter, Rufe Barkley, and Pete Potter held down positions on the football team. As basketball, boxing, and wrestling swung into season, we were again well represented by John Middleton, John Garland, and Charlie Gamble on the basketball team; Captain Joe Wood, Jack Clarkson, and Lou Showalter on the wrestling squad; and Captain Pete Potter and Joe Mehalick on the boxing team. Although Pete is only a sophomore, his fine work in the ring caused him to be chosen to captain this year’s boxing team—the first time this honor has ever fallen to a second-year man. Davant Latham sparked the Winter track team in the hurdle events and should continue to excel when the team goes outdoors this Spring.

And, as Spring comes upon us, we can again look to Dekes on the baseball, tennis, and lacrosse rosters. On the diamond, catcher Don Strain is expected to be the regular receiver; while John Garland should give Coach Tebell help in the outfield. Bobby Cabell will hold down a spot on the tennis team. In lacrosse, we can show Captain Gordon Jones, Dick Godine, and Tom Compton, who will hold starting posts, backed by Dick Carrington, Granville Swope, Ralph Williams, and Buddy Pollard. This Deke contingent will aid in providing you with plenty of entertainment when the Cavaliers play host to Maryland this Saturday afternoon.

In other phases of University activity, the Deke House continues to excel. Our scholastic average is respectable, and we can show Dean’s List students and recipients of Intermediate Honors. In the publications picture, Staige Blackford is Editor-in-Chief of the Cavalier Daily, and is assisted on the paper by Sports Editor Widdy Tazewell, Mac Jenkins, Charlie Gamble, and Jim Shoemaker. Doug Mackall and Dick Godine are Associate Editors of Corks and Curls, Gordon Jones is the Sports Editor, and Mac Jenkins is handling the fraternity coverage. Don Strain and Davant Latham represent us on the Student Council, and Gil Hooper on the Inter-Fraternity Council.

The men of Carr’s Hill are still strong in the societies here at the University. Staige Blackford
is President of the Raven Society, Norris Broyles heads the German Club, Dick Godine is President of the V-Club, and Mac Jenkins is Vice-President of Skull and Keys. Also, we have seventeen men in the V-Club, with more to come each sports season. We have six representatives in the Student Union, seven in TILKA and Imp, six in Eli Banana, and three in Zeus.

Financially, the Deke House is slowly getting on its feet in both house finances and alumni contributions. The figures below are for the past school year.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>HOUSE FINANCES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Income for year—September 1951 to February 1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money paid out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash on hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable:</td>
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<tr>
<td>(A) House (active)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni outstanding</td>
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</tbody>
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### Eta: 1852 - 1952

The history of a hundred years at Eta is the story of countless men bound together in an association made for close and abiding friendships and a harmony of purpose. It is the history of the efforts of these men to promote the interests of the chapter and the University and to become an element of strength in the fraternity at large. The development of Eta into such a pillar of strength we intend to give in brief account here.

The charter of the Eta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity was granted by the Parent Chapter of Yale College on November 26, 1852, to the following gentlemen, viz: Messrs.

- Wm. T. Abrahams, of Livingston, Ala.
- Wm. D. Lee, of Marion, Ala.
- Wm. W. Leake, of Camden, Ark.
- T. L. Rogers, of Aberdeen, Miss.
- T. B. Goldsby, of Selma, Ala.
- Jos. A. Sykes, of Aberdeen, Miss.

The first meeting of the chapter thus organized was held on the 26th of November, 1852, and immediate election of officers at this meeting resulted in the selection of Timothy L. Rogers as the first president of the Eta Chapter. At this time, there was no other secret society in the University or in the state; and Eta Chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon joined its sister chapters Psi of Alabama and Beta of North Carolina and the Epsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at Centre College to form the quadrumvirate of the oldest Greek-letter fraternities in the entire South.

A hall for the use of the Chapter was secured early in the year 1853 in the old Monticello Hotel for the six remaining months of the year. Here, in its first home, the early meetings of Eta were held on Saturday nights. It was in April of this same year that a committee was appointed “to notify the faculty and other Societies (namely, the Jefferson and Washington Societies) of the establishment of the Eta Chapter of DKE Fraternity”.

The following year neophytes were first introduced to the University in the personage of Branch Epes and Robert Redwood. By the end of the year membership of the local chapter of DKE had reached a total of twenty-one. Its place in the University and the national fraternity was now being assured, and in 1884 Eta first took an actual part in the affairs of the national organization by attending the national convention at Washington, D.C.

The nature of the fraternities of this day, it must be understood, was for the most part to judge their members largely by their “intellectual pursuits outside of the college requirements” and to thoroughly groom and drill its members so as to equip them for “prominence in the literary societies, especially as debaters.” The position and prestige of a fraternity in this ante-bellum era was determined by the ability of that fraternity to elect its members officers of the Jefferson and Washington Literary Societies. By as early as 1855 there is evidence of DKE becoming an active participant in the “log-rolling” which is now so characteristic of University politics.

In April, 1861, it was moved that “in consideration of the excited and distracted state of the
country, causing many of our members to be absent from the University, we do now adjourn ‘sine die’, subject to the call of the ‘Pater’ when in his opinion circumstances will justify a resumption of meetings and business."

The resumption of studies at the University in 1865 and the return to relative normalcy in student life led to the reorganization of the Eta Chapter in 1866 by the Messrs. H. R. Gorden, K. Nelson, and J. M. Garnett. From the minutes taken on that March 1, 1856, we quote: "Suffice it is to say that Eta is reorganized on a firm basis, and may she ever sustain in the future her brilliant past reputation."

The activities of the local chapter of DKE continued with this resumption in very much the same manner as had been carried on before. Considerable emphasis remained on literary achievement and the development of manhood it carried with it. Greater emphasis, however, was now placed on the position fraternities have in playing a major role in the degree of success, both material and spiritual, of the college. Thus, Eta soon took its position of leadership and participation throughout every phase of life at the University.

The fraternity house movement, which had begun nationally before the war, was now incorporated at the University, and in the late 'Eighties a small cottage was opened on Carr's Hill. Here the growth of Eta continued uninterrupted until 1894, when residence was temporarily moved to a house on 14th Street. A return to its rightful spot on Carr's Hill was made possible in 1913 when the building of the present house was made possible by the alumni of Eta.

From 1886 until the time of the First World War, Eta, in general, experienced a period of prosperity. Especially was this true in the latter part of this period when the local chapter moved forward with great strides. Throughout, there remained in the fraternity a very high sense of devotion to the University as evidenced by the writing of "The Good Old Song" by E. A. Craighill (1892).

With the outbreak of the First World War, a total of sixty-seven Etas entered in the armed forces of the nation. At home there were vast changes in the life, sentiment, and ideals of the members who remained at college; but the history of the fraternity and the individual members during the war well maintained the proud record of the past. Among the men who went to the battlefields of France was Wm. E. Word, who there, by his services, became the recipient of the first Distinguished Service Cross ever to be awarded.

If we are to consider the half century immediately preceding the First World War as a prosperous era for Eta, we must deem her life following the war a "boom period" of activity and contribution. Her sons once more captured the spirit exemplified throughout her past, and in the tradition of their forerunners sought to serve the University, the Fraternity, and the individual to the utmost. The story of these times is the record, even more so than before, of the countless score of Eta Dekes cited for performance in athletics, academic, literary, and extra-curricular activities. The importance placed upon having at least one member active in every phase, no matter how small, of University life, and upon having that member furthering and protecting the ideals and interests of the house, became almost the sole purpose of the house. The motto then, as now, was "No one rides, but everyone pushes the bandwagon."

The position the goal of intramural supremacy has enjoyed in the second portion of Eta's history is indeed an interesting one. It was felt that the benefits to be gained from striving at a single goal which permits the active participation of each and every member of the house, even if this goal's real importance might be exaggerated, were of such value to both the individual and the fraternity as to merit the attention it was now receiving. The success of the local chapter in obtaining its aim, as frequently and as brilliantly as it has, is but characteristic of all Deke efforts here at Virginia.

The past decade, interrupted as it has been by another terrible world crisis, found once more the sons of Eta unstintingly answering the call of their country. Those of our number who made the supreme sacrifice were John W. Acree, Braxton Bryant, III, James M. McGuire, A. Haskell Rhett, and William G. Suhling, III. The memory of these men and the services of others renders Eta justly proud. Eta emerged, however, as always, on the same strong footing as in her past, firm in purpose, steadfast in ideals, and bright with the promise of future achievements.

Throughout this brief history is the marked absence of any mention as to the names of chapter members who have distinguished themselves both here at the University and in later life. It was determined that the list of names would necessarily be so long and the possibility of some oversight on our part so great, any mention as to names would be in error.
Though it remains quite impossible to describe the many intangible benefits which each and every Eta Deke has derived from and given to the University, the records of her sons are ample proof of what the chapter's members have contributed to Virginia and of what this institution has meant to them. For those of us who attempt to define the significance of Delta Kappa Epsilon in the University of the past and in that of the future, the best summarization of the meaning of Eta might well be expressed in these words:

"Delta Kappa Epsilon is justly proud of its position at the University, its numerous achievements in all phases of University life, and its many distinguished alumni, but the foremost objective of every member is to make of himself a useful and effectual citizen in later life, thus perpetuating the ideals of the fraternity and reflecting credit upon himself and the University of Virginia."

Brother David Carr speaking at the Centennial Banquet - March 29, 1952