

Colby College Library

# The Colby Echo

Volume XIV

Waterville, Maine, March 15, 1911

Number 19



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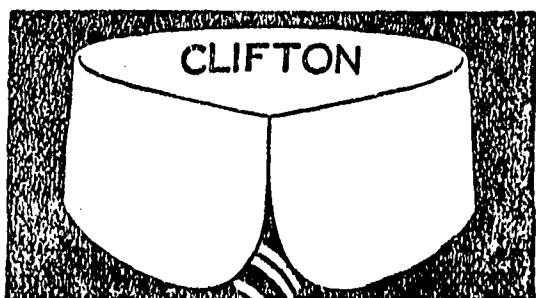
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# THE COLBY ECHO.

Volume XIV, No. 19.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, MARCH 15, 1911.

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## FIRE IN NORTH COLLEGE.

**Delta Upsilon Fraternity Burned Out—Members Were at Banquet in Augusta—Firemen Make Plucky Fight—Brick Fire Wall Saves North Division—Sneak Thieves Busy—Loss \$15,500—Generous Aid Rendered by Alumni and Citizens.**

For the second time in the history of the college, Chaplin Hall was, last Saturday night, partially destroyed by fire. The flames were confined to the Delta Upsilon fraternity house in the southern part of the building, where they originated. The loss to the students was upwards of \$3500, partly covered by a blanket policy of \$1000; the loss on the building was about \$12,000, and the insurance was under adjustment when THE ECHO went to press. The cause of the fire is a mystery. Every member of the chapter was at Augusta in attendance upon the joint banquet with the Bowdoin chapter at the Augusta House.

Such, in brief, is the statement of fact of an experience which will never be forgotten by the present generation of Colby men, and will be remembered most of all by those who suffered the unexpected misfortune. Next to the suddenness of the calamity itself they will remember the generosity of the Waterville citizens and others who rendered speedy aid. As early as Monday noon the sum of five hundred dollars had been placed on deposit in a local bank to the credit of the Delta Upsilon

men, and this amount represented not only the large gifts of the well-to-do, but also small amounts from humble givers. In the midst of crushing misfortune and irreparable loss there was indeed much to be thankful for.

The members of the fraternity had gone to Augusta on the 5.45 P. M. train to attend the banquet at the Augusta House. The other side of the building which is occupied by the non-fraternity men, was practically deserted, many of the men being at the basketball game at Coburn and others scattered in different places.

It was about 8 o'clock when some men near the upper College avenue railroad crossing noticed smoke rising from the building. Not being certain that a fire was in progress, they hesitated about sending in an alarm, and made a quick investigation. One man remained at box 48 at the corner of College avenue and Ash street, while others went to the college. When it was seen for a certainty that the building was on fire, the alarm was rung in about 8.15.

Hose 4 was the first company to respond to the box, and proceeded to lay hose from the hydrant opposite the railroad station. Hose 1 was close behind and laid a second line from the same place. The hose was laid across the college yard and made ready, for the firemen realized at once that more than an ordinary blaze had started.

Chief Berry ordered Hose 1 to lay another line of hose. To do this it was necessary to start from the Ash street hydrant, a long distance away. More hose had to be secured from the Hose 4 house on Ticonic street.

The first water was poured into the street side of the building, where flames could be

plainly seen in the third story. Another stream was taken to the piazza roof and an attempt was made to mount the fire escape and enter the third story, but owing to the intense heat and thick smoke this was found impossible at first. Much fire could be seen in the hallway, but it was soon apparent that the fire had spread through the rooms on both sides and had burned through the floor and walls into the second story. The attic was a roaring furnace.

It became possible for firemen to take one line into the third story from the fire escape, and the fight was made to extinguish the fires in the lower rooms and corridors. This was accomplished fairly well, and the flames were driven upward. The hose was taken up the stairway and into the attic, where the men played water until sections of the roof began to fall, when they withdrew outside again.

It was quickly realized that there was not enough hose in use to do the work required. Chief Berry therefore, turned in a second alarm from box 48, after first warning Hose 3, on Water street, not to respond.

The second alarm brought out Hose 2, including a deluge set. This was placed in the front of the building and was soon pouring a big stream into the upper floor.

Roofing began to fall to the ground and the coping at the edge of the roof was burning off, threatening to fall. Later, that on the southern part fell, narrowly missing a crew of firemen working on the porch roof. Falling timbers made the men careful and several times burning wood came to the ground with a crash.

The fire wall that separated the two sections of the dormitory proved to be the salvation of the northern part. Chief Berry ordered one stream to play constantly on the separating wall, to keep it as cool as possible. When it was seen that the floors and roof were falling in, all efforts to save any of the southern section of the building were given up. The fire nearest the center

of the dormitory was the object of the attack and all streams were playing on the heap of ruins.

A very careful watch was kept on the fire wall. A line of hose was sent into the top floor from the north end where the door between the two compartments is located. This proved a wise move for the fire had attacked the door and a hole in the wall had been eaten through. No fire was allowed to get into the north section and the open door made a good place from which to throw water.

It was about 11 o'clock when it was considered safe to withdraw hose, but one line was left on all night. The firemen had a big task in caring for their hose. Reserve supplies were heavily drawn upon and next day practically all the hose in the department was in the carts, or in the towers to dry, except some that could not be hung because of lack of room.

Saturday night was comparatively warm and the fire caused no physical inconvenience to those called to work at it. The moon was bright enough to allow the men to find their way about easily. The flames at times made the scene spectacular, and an immense crowd was attracted by the reflection and the double alarm.

The pressure of the water was excellent, despite the rumors to the contrary. A couple of lines of hose were hampered by leaky joints, but these were replaced by new hose and the streams thrown were good, considering that three at least came through nearly 1000 feet of hose with no engine pressure.

The trains were not bothered much. The Bangor and Skowhegan trains, just after 8 o'clock were brought to a standstill on the upper crossing. The water was then shut off, the hose disconnected and the trains allowed to pass, and the hose connected again. The Pullman train bound west was delayed only a short time.

One of the fortunate Delta Upsilon men was Ray W. Hogan, '12, whose room was

right in the middle of the conflagration, but who saved practically everything, except several articles of clothing which were probably stolen. Mr. Hogan's room was cased in like a bank vault, and his furniture and even his books and papers were but slightly damaged.

Not so fortunate was Ray C. Carter, '11. He had fixed up his room at a large expense and it was one of the best rooms on the campus. He had a number of expensive theological works, besides a large library on general subjects, in addition to text books. He loses a hundred dollar typewriter, in addition to over \$100 in money. But greater than all else is his loss of a card catalogue of all the members of the Colby chapter of the fraternity, since it was instituted in 1852. He has been at work on this for the past three years, and he has conducted a voluminous correspondence in gathering the necessary data. When the card index was discovered in the debris of his room only thirty cards were decipherable. The rest were so badly charred that they fell to pieces the instant they were touched.

Sneak thieves got busy very early after the alarm was rung in and Ira Mikelsky, who rooms in the northern end of North college, had three suits of clothes stolen. One town boy was caught in the act of stuffing a pair of shoes into his pockets, but no complaint was made against him.

A. L. MacGhee lost a camera, and many other losses, mostly of clothing have been reported.

As intimated at the beginning, the fire was not the first that has taken place in North college. There have been a number of small ones in years past that have been extinguished with slight damage, but greater than the fire Saturday night was that which occurred early Saturday morning, December 6th, 1902, when the whole inside of both divisions of the building was burned out. It was a bitterly cold night, and the water from the streams froze al-

most as soon as it touched the building. Several of the students had narrow escapes, as the fire broke out at 3 P. M. One man was thought to have burned to death, but later appeared among the spectators, he having been one of the first to make his escape.

A fact which made the situation all the more uncomfortable was that a large number of men were sick with the mumps, and the hasty exit in the bitter cold at 3 A. M., after sleeping in a steam-heated room nearly the whole night, was extremely dangerous to the health of the occupants of the building, but none of the men suffered any serious effects from their experience.

Just as is at present believed to be the case, the walls were examined and pronounced sound, and the work of rebuilding the interior was begun the following spring. The building was ready for occupancy a few weeks after the opening of college in the fall of 1903. When the dormitories on the campus were given up to the fraternities, the southern end of the building was remodelled for the use of the Delta Upsilon fraternity, and a piazza built on the southern end. Only slight changes were made to the north division.

Chaplin Hall, or North College, as the students have come to call it, to distinguish it from South College, was built in 1822, and the original walls are standing today, in spite of their two trials by fire. The building was completed in time for the first commencement of the college, and it was named in honor of President Chaplin, who became the head of the college in that year.

#### The Work of Relief.

No sooner were the facts of the fire known about town than immediate offers of assistance were made from all sides. All Saturday evening and Sunday President Arthur J. Roberts was constantly being called to the telephone by citizens and friends of the college, who volunteered to

(Continued on Page 150.)



# THE COLBY ECHO

Published Wednesdays During the College Year by the  
Students of  
COLBY COLLEGE

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The past week has taught many lessons—none more evident, perhaps, than the fortitude under adverse circumstance which has been displayed by the members of the Colby Chapter of Delta Upsilon. Parallel with this, another bright highlight in a dismal picture, is the ready assistance rendered by other fraternity men and by those who had no 'scutcheon, as well as by the citizens of Waterville and other friends of Colby.

"What Is Phi Beta Kappa?" asks the Daily Princetonian, the college daily of Princeton University, and answers the query in the following language:

"It is a misnomer to refer to Phi Beta Kappa as a society in Princeton, for it never exists during the college course except for one short day at commencement, and then during one short meeting for organization and the distribution of keys. All that is

known here of Phi Beta Kappa is the bare knowledge gleaned on the last day of the college year that a certain few seniors have been granted the privilege of wearing the key. Membership in Phi Beta Kappa in Princeton at present is impossible for the undergraduates and for graduate members means only the right to wear the sign of an honor won.

"The usefulness such a society should exercise here and does wield in many other universities, is lost entirely under its present organization. As an incentive to work, it is of little importance because it carries with it no practical advantages in itself. As a means to increase general activity, it is useless, because its butterfly existence lasts but a day. And as an honor, it receives far less attention and respect than its high requirements make it deserve, because it is revealed to the general body of undergraduates only on the one occasion.

"Why not elect men at the beginning of the junior year who have been high honor men in freshman and sophomore years, thereby affording an opportunity for permanent organization? Phi Kappa Beta would then be a society in fact as well as in name. It could meet once a month for discussion. It could arrange lectures to be delivered before it by men of prominence outside. It could also have its social side in the development of close fellowship among men of similar tastes, the great basis for congeniality. With a permanently existing organization, the advantages of this honorable society could easily and properly be set forth to underclassmen and particularly to the incoming class."

## FACULTY TEA

A Faculty tea will be held in Chemical Hall from three to five, Wednesday afternoon. The entire student body is invited.

With the dismissal of one hundred non-paying students Tufts has demonstrated that it is on a strictly cash basis.



**FIRE AT NORTH COLLEGE.**

(Continued from Page 148.)

open their homes to the boys and offered to furnish clothing, supplies and money.

At 11 o'clock Sunday forenoon a meeting of the Delta Upsilon fraternity, together with the local alumni, was held in the Zeta Psi house. President Roberts, on behalf of the college, receipted the semester bills of the unfortunate men. Professor J. William Black's recitation room was tendered to the fraternity as a meeting place. It was announced that a room would be fitted up in the northern end of the North college for the use of the fraternity and a telephone installed, and this has since been done.

Goldwin Goldsmith of New York, president of the national executive council of the Delta Upsilon fraternity, was at the banquet at Augusta, and had intended to pay a visit to the Colby men Saturday and Sunday. His visit was of a different nature than he had intended, but he proved himself the right man in the right place with his advice and other assistance.

A company of representative citizens of Waterville met in Dr. J. F. Hill's office at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon to inaugurate a popular subscription for the benefit of the young men who lost their personal effects. Hon. Warren C. Philbrook was chairman of the meeting. It was reported that practically every student had lost all he had except the clothes he was wearing at Augusta, and that the total loss was not far from \$3500.

The most urgent needs of these young men are for books and clothes, and it was estimated that at least a thousand dollars would be required to meet these immediate necessities.

Over \$500 was subscribed by the following gentlemen, present at the meeting: William T. Haines, R. W. Dunn, Julian D. Taylor, Frank Redington, Charles F. Johnson, W. J. Lanigan, W. H. Stobie, H. R. Dunham, J. F. Hill, L. G. Bunker, E. C.

Whittemore, W. C. Philbrook, Cyrus W. Davis, F. C. Thayer, D. B. Cragin, F. B. Philbrick, G. S. Stevenson, A. J. Roberts, J. C. Blaisdell and C. H. White. A committee consisting of Hon. Frank Redington, Dr. J. F. Hill, Rev. E. C. Whittemore, D.D., S. E. Whitcomb and H. R. Dunham, was appointed to make a canvass of the city for the purpose of securing the balance of the amount needed.

**JOINT BANQUET.**

Colby and Bowdoin Chapters of Delta Upsilon  
Enjoy Feast at Augusta House.

A joint banquet of the Bowdoin and Colby Chapters of Delta Upsilon was held at the Augusta House last Saturday evening.

The special guest of the occasion was Goldwin Goldsmith, Columbia, '96, the president of the executive council of the fraternity. Lawrence McFarland, Bowdoin, '11, acted as toastmaster.

The following speakers were called upon: "The Price of Power," Henry Bates Watson, Colby, '97; "What the Seventy-sixth National Convention Meant to Me," Harrison Morton Berry, Bowdoin, '11; "The End-U-ring Qualities of Fraternity Life," George Stanley Stevenson, Colby, ex-'02, Harvard, '03; "Dodging Responsibility," James Corey Richardson, Colby, '11; "Wild Students I Have Met," Alfred Wilhelm Wandtke, Bowdoin, '10; "The Influence of the Upperclassmen," William Alexander McCormick, Bowdoin, '12; "The Mud-Slingers," Ray Wood Hogan, Colby, '12; "Some Methods of Interesting the Alumni," Goldwin Goldsmith, Columbia, '96.

Ray Wood Hogan, Colby, '12, officiated as choragus. Music was furnished by the Delta Upsilon Orchestra.

The banquet committee consisted of Carl Dana Skillin, '12, Lawrence McFarland, '11, and James Augustus Norton, '11, of Bowdoin, and Ray Cecil Carter, '11, Guy Winfred Vail, '11, and Charles James Keppel, '12, of Colby.

## AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Plan of Organization Will Be Considered at a Meeting of the Students, March 18.

A meeting of the student body was held Saturday morning to listen to the report of the committee appointed at a previous meeting to draw up a plan of organization for a general auditing committee, which will have charge of the accounts of all students' organizations outside of the Athletic Association, and its affiliated organization, the Dramatic Club.

The report was presented and considered briefly, after which adjournment was taken to next Saturday, March 18, when final consideration will be given to the plan and any amendments that may have been proposed.

The report, a copy of which has been posted on the bulletin board, is as follows:

The committee elected from the student body at its meeting March 4, met with a committee from the faculty, March 9, and this joint committee herewith submits its report on the matter of an auditing committee for student organizations.

The committee submits the following plan of organization:

An auditing committee is hereby created for the purpose of auditing the accounts of such student organizations as are herein designated, and of exercising such other powers as are herein specified.

### MEMBERSHIP.

The committee shall consist of three members of the faculty, one for the Musical Clubs, one for the Oracle, one for the Echo and the Y. M. C. A. The auditor for each organization shall be appointed, subject to the approval of the faculty, by such organization in business session or by its executive committee or cabinet.

### DUTIES.

Each member of the committee shall be empowered to audit the accounts of the organization by and for which he is chosen.

Books shall be submitted to him for auditing at certain definite intervals to be determined by such organization.

He shall be the receiver of all bills, vouchers, receipts of any sort, and check stubs, and the repository of any surplus funds at the end of each season which are to be carried over to the next year, such funds to be kept by him and turned over to the new management as soon as it is regularly chosen.

He shall, once a year, render to the executive committee of the organization a summary of the accounts of the year.

In addition to the powers above specified, he shall have power of advisor with the privilege of consulting with the manager of the organization of which he is auditor in regard to working schedules and any other matter which he deems vital to the success of the work of the organization.

He shall also have such other powers as the organization may at any time confer upon him.

This plan of organization shall go into effect when adopted by a majority vote of the student body and of the faculty.

### AMENDMENTS.

Amendments to this plan as it shall be adopted may be submitted by either faculty or student body and shall be adopted upon a two-thirds vote of each body.

### CAMPUS CHAT.

George Perry, '14, has moved to North College.

Guy Higgins, '14, has recovered from his recent illness.

Aaron L. MacGhee, '13, visited in Augusta last Sunday.

Alban Fowler, '12, was the guest Sunday of Hallowell friends.

Richard A. Harlow, '12, entertained his father last Saturday.

Arthur A. Baird, '14, is entertaining his brother from Hartland.

At a meeting of the Freshman class last week the class pipe was selected.

Frank S. Carpenter, '14, entertained friends from Madison last Saturday.

Clifford Barrett, of Canaan, passed Thursday and Friday of last week with Thomas, '13.

Henry Crocker of Chester, Vt., was the guest of John C. Goldthwaite, '13, last Saturday.

Allen P. Soule, '70, of Hingham, Mass., was the guest of his son, Seymour Soule, '13, Sunday.

Room No. 5 in Chaplin Hall has been fitted up for a study room for the members of the Delta Upsilon fraternity.

Herbert Trafton, '86, and wife of Fort Fairfield, were the guests of Mrs. Annie Roberts at the Delta Kappa Epsilon house.

The Waterville Five were defeated by the Bates Freshmen last Saturday evening in the Coburn gymnasium, 30 to 16. Merrill, '14, and Boutin, '14, played on the local five. H. N. Welch, '13, was referee.

At a recent meeting of the College Band, William L. Hardy, '14, was elected leader to take the place of Royden K. Greely, '13, who has left college. Band rehearsals will be held three times a week from now on. New music was tried at the rehearsals last week.

The Glee Club will give a concert at Hebron Academy Wednesday evening, March 15. Thursday morning the members of the club will go to the Hebron Sanatorium, where a concert will be given. Friday afternoon they will go to Camden, where a concert will be given in the evening.

Colby and the University of Maine will hold an exhibition indoor track meet at Orono on the evening of Saturday, March 25. The list of events has been revised. Manager Wilford G. Chapman, Jr., of the Track Team has given out the list as follows: twenty-five yard dash; twenty-five yard high hurdles, shot put, running broad jump, high jump, relay races (four men), for 170 yards, 340 yards and three-quarters of a mile. It is undecided whether Maine will give an exhibition in the pole vault or not.

### DE FEMINIS.

HAZEL BOWKER COLE, Editor.

LAURA DAY, Manager.

Florence B. Cross, '12, visited relatives at Livermore Falls over Sunday.

Henrietta Gilkey, '14, spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Searsport.

Miss Birdena Hoyt of North Anson was the guest of Grace Vose, Saturday.

In the entertainment which the Senior girls gave Saturday evening for the benefit of the Y. W. C. A., different nations were represented by girls in costume. Alice Thomas was a Spanish girl; Frances Pollard, Japanese; Marjorie Scribner, Scotch; Hazel Cole, Indian; and the Three Maids of Lee were Laurel Wyman, Mattie Windell and Lois Peacock. In addition to these, Sadie Pennell played and Edith Washburn read.

### CARD OF THANKS.

We, the members of the Colby Chapter of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity, hereby extend to the President and members of the Faculty of Colby College our deepest appreciation of, and sincerest thanks for the kindness and assistance rendered to us in our recent misfortune.

RUSSELL H. LORD,  
GUY W. VAIL,  
WILLIS E. JONES.

### CARD OF THANKS.

We, the Colby Chapter of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity, hereby extend to the Fraternities and students of Colby College our sincerest thanks for the courtesy and entertainment extended to us in our recent misfortune.

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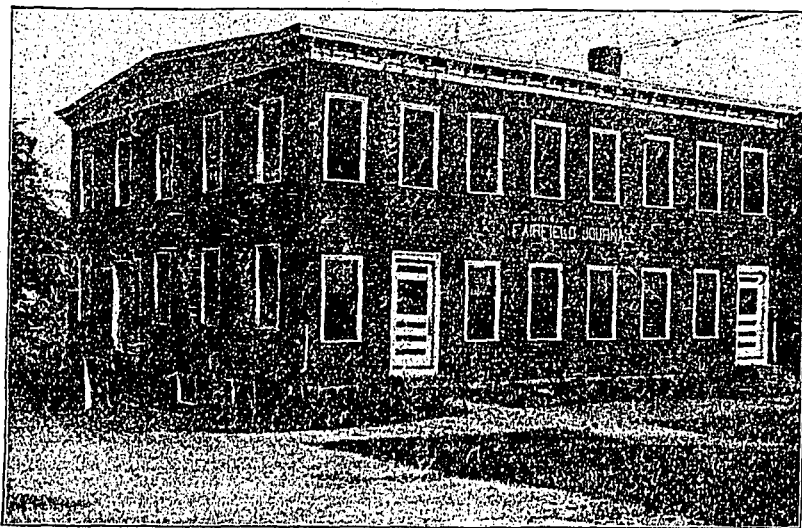
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