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EXHIBIT D.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

*To the Honorable, the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta,
Greeting:*

It is my pleasure for the fifth consecutive time to look upon the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta. When we met at Wooster, in 1878, we rejoiced in our strength. Then about thirty chapters were on our roll; to-day fifty-eight of the most reputable of American colleges are represented here in the persons of one or more each of their chosen students. A convention in New York has now, for the first time in the history of the order, become possible. The colors of the old New York Alpha at Cornell went down—but not in dishonor—before they were fairly unfurled, and it was seven years before another successful attempt was made to re-enter that Hellas of the College Greeks, the extreme East. Even after the Vermont Alpha was chartered in 1879, it was four years before we gave her a sister; but the Green Mountain Phi is lonely no more. From his perch over Lake Champlain he can almost see the flag flying again at New York Alpha, restored never, we trust, to droop again. Nor are Union, College of the City of New York, Colby, Columbia, Dartmouth and Williams strangers longer to the white and blue.

It is not characteristic of the bold and strong to boast. But the mariner who has outlived the roar and ruin of many tempests may well tell of the perils of the deep, and how, in the providence of God, he has survived them. We have in times passed gone through dark and stormy waters. Of fifteen chapters the civil war left us but five, and three of these were in Indiana. But it was not death; it was sleep. Since the awakening, the Fraternity's growth has been amazing and unparalleled. We are fairly entitled to look upon it with pride. Since the majority of the present council came into office more chapters have been established than during the entire history of the Fraternity prior to the war. Better than that, the eighteen new chapters are all thriving and each is located in an institution of commendable standing.

You are to-day the largest representative body of Phi Delta Thetas that ever assembled. You constitute the supreme authority of an order that has a right to call itself national. With each succeeding convention, the responsibilities entrusted to the delegates are enlarged. The delegates who attended the first convention in Cincinnati, more than thirty years ago, legislated for three chapters, and for an uncertain future; you must conserve the interests of fifty-eight chapters, with their wide round of obligations and material affairs; nor must you lose sight of the mighty future once believed in, now assured. It is a time that calls for broad-minded deliberation and eternal vigilance.

The constitution makes it my duty to give an account to the Convention of the work performed by the General Council. Much of it has become known to all of you. By authority vested in the General Council, charters have been granted since the last Convention to applicants in the following institutions: University of North Carolina, Central University, Williams College, Southwestern University, University of California, Cornell University and Miami University. Alumni chapters have been planted at New York City, Kansas City, San Francisco and Minneapolis. The active chapters of the Kappa Sigma Kappa Fraternity at Richmond College and at Randolph-Macon have been absorbed, and have become parts of the Virginia *A* and *I* of Phi Delta Theta. This successful piece of work has been accomplished by brothers J. Ed. Brown, George William Cone, President of Beta Province, and their co-laborers. By it the only weak spot in the order has been strengthened, and I would suggest that absorption and consolidation may afford the most practicable method of further extension in certain directions. A material advantage was reaped in Texas by gathering in a chapter of the disintegrated "Rainbows." It will be remembered that Kentucky Military Institute, after protracted efforts, failed to obtain a charter from the General Council, and later, on appeal, from the Nashville Convention. Events have ratified the Fraternity's refusal in this case. The Phi who was K. M. I.'s strongest supporter has, since the Nashville Convention, written me that the Fraternity had done best in denying the petitioners. Charters have been refused the following institutions: Washington University, St. Louis; William Jewell College, Missouri; Davidson College, North Carolina (second time); Coe University; Doane University, Iowa; Albion, Michigan; Iowa Agricultural College; Dennison (third time); South Carolina Military Institute, and perhaps others. The University of the Pacific, San José, Cal., is a petitioner before you, and papers containing much evidence will be duly presented. The General Council has been deterred from acting, largely because the California Alpha has not encouraged the enterprise. The case warrants a careful and impartial hearing. The Iowa State Agricultural College will appeal from the adverse decision of the General Council, and facts will be presented that deserve review. The chapter at Monmouth, Illinois *I*, is dead or in a trance, owing to adverse Fraternity laws, and the charter should be withdrawn. The Virginia *E*, at V. M. I., has long been in a dying condition, and it would be cruelty to longer withhold the stroke that would end so miserable an existence. The other chapters of the Fraternity are, I believe, in good order, with such variation of condition as might naturally be expected among so long a list.

I do not hesitate to say that if the Convention finds demoraliza-

tion or prostration or indifference to exist in any given chapter after proper and repeated efforts at reinvigoration have been made, there should be applied heroic remedies. An inquiry into the standing of the institutions in which some of the chapters of indifferent strength are located might be advisable.

The matter of further extension should engage your earnest attention. There should be no stagnation, but every step should be conservatively taken. It is a fundamental factor of our growth that the Phi Delta Theta is national in purpose. We make no pretensions to exclusiveness, but we are and ought to be select. We believe that true American manhood is indigenous to every State, and we recognize no patent right to nobility in any quarter. There is no aristocracy or monopoly of learning in this land or in any college, and this order of ours, by pinning its faith to the State institutions and to the best equipped of the denominational schools, whether found East or West, North or South, has staked its reputation on the nationality of American culture. We believe in all sections of this republic and in each other. A Phi in Boston is a Phi in Charleston.

But while the policy of the order is "broad gauge," it should not be without "ballast." The Normal School, the academy or the private school is not the place for Phi Delta Theta. The great work before the Fraternity is internal improvement. But there are perhaps fields yet available for extension. It is with some mortification that the present General Council has seen one effort after another to re-enter Michigan University fail utterly. I trust that you will see to it that some adequate steps are taken to recover and hold forever this important ground. It would be desirable also for you to place a chapter at Northwestern University, Evanston. In the East great possibilities lie before you—Amherst, Hamilton, Harvard, Tufts, Brown, Lehigh, Bowdoin and others. In this work of extension I commend you to the competent advice of the brethren of Alpha Province, merely suggesting that Amherst, Hamilton and Harvard seem to have proven futile ground for Grecian growth.

In my judgment the time has now come when Phi Delta Theta should take a stand against the spoils system in college politics. "Combinations" are defensible and sometimes necessary, but, speaking generally, victory that comes through numbers has nothing to do with merit. "If you are wise," Emerson says, "you will dread a prosperity which only covers you with gore. Persons and events may stand for a time between you and justice, but it is only a postponement." The life-work of a Fraternity is not only self-perpetuation; it is self-improvement and the betterment of society. It is time to turn our attention within and yet not close both eyes to the without. Friendly and brotherly criticism within the sacred privacy of the chapter retreat will return

more benefits than endless wrangling for the offices that may be within your grasp. Respectfully submitted,

HILTON ULTIMUS BROWN, P. G. C.

EXHIBIT E.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

To the Honorable, the National Convention of Phi Delta Theta, Greeting.

It is a pleasurable duty to record, as Secretary of the outgoing General Council, the harmonious and effective work of the two years now brought to a close. When we were entrusted at Nashville with the interests of the Fraternity, there seemed aspiration enough in an endeavor to hold the honors which were so well won, in our extensions, mainly in the East. We had then upon our roll a larger number of active chapters than had any of our rivals, and we felt that much of our effort must be directed toward preserving and strengthening the position of prominence to which our rapid growth had raised us, rather than in making new efforts at extension.

But the wave of extension once fairly started and recognized swept on, gathering added power in its progress. The unfurling of our colors by able supporters in six of the conservative and standard institutions of the East within one year, was a signal and a surety that from that date no college door at which we should knock would long resist our entrance. In this fact lay a danger. Followers flock beneath a victorious standard. The records of the General Council for the past two years amply prove that many have recognized in our order a Fraternity toward which, in their aspiring moments, they might look with longings for membership. And the same records show that a discriminating and dignified regard for the qualities which should be found in chapters of a National Fraternity, has vetoed numerous applications for charters. The fact that twelve applications for charters have been absolutely refused by the General Council since the meeting of the last Convention is abundant proof of the increasing strength of our position.

The advances which we have made in the same time have been radical and important. Four strong alumni chapters have been planted in large cities East and West. Seven active chapters, with upwards of sixty charter members, in select institutions, have been added to our roll. The character of many of our older chapters has been improved, notably in Virginia, by the absorption of the *K Σ K* chapters. Our position is firmer and our outlook brighter than ever before.

It may be well at this time to refer to a slightly different phase of our growth. One of the most profitable operations in certain