

TO THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE
CHAPTERS OF PHI ALPHA DELTA LAW FRATERNITY

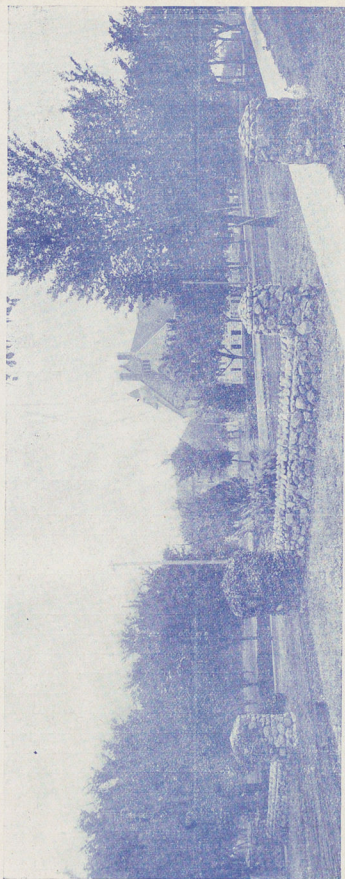
We, the undersigned, regular law students in the Law Department of Washburn College situated at Topeka, Kansas, hereby petition for permission to organize a Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity at the above institution, and to that end we respectfully ask to be initiated into your Fraternity, and that you grant us, when initiated, a charter as a subordinate chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

We severally agree to abide by the constitution and the rules of said Fraternity, if accepted as charter members of a subordinate chapter thereof.

Should a charter be granted in accordance with this petition, we desire the name of the chapter to be: ALFRED W. BENSON
CHAPTER OF PHI ALPHA DELTA LAW FRATERNITY.

Dated at Topeka, Kansas this 1st day of December, 1920.

NAME	YEAR IN SCHOOL
George M. Ashford.....	Senior
Ronald M. Wyman.....	Senior
Roscoe W. Graves.....	Senior
Blanton F. Messick.....	Senior
Frank J. Addie.....	Senior
Walter Reed Gage.....	Senior
Alden Branine.....	Senior
James B. Wood.....	Senior
Myrl Becker.....	Senior
Orla L. Aley.....	Junior
Irl H. Byler.....	Junior
John W. Wood.....	Junior
Maurice Strickenfinger.....	Junior
Homer A. Dodge.....	Junior
Ernest J. Malone.....	Junior
Floyd C. Dooley.....	Junior
Harold T. Stodard.....	Junior
Wm. S. Steinrauf.....	Junior
L. Erskine Wyman.....	Junior



WASHBURN CAMPUS

HISTORY OF WASHBURN COLLEGE

Washburn College was founded by the General Association of Congregational Ministers and Churches of Kansas, February 6, 1865. Its charter declares that its purpose is "the diffusion of knowledge, and the advancement of virtue and religion," and "the incorporation of an institution of learning, of high literary and religious character, which shall commemorate the triumph of liberty over slavery in our nation, and afford to all classes, without distinction of color, the advantages of a liberal education."

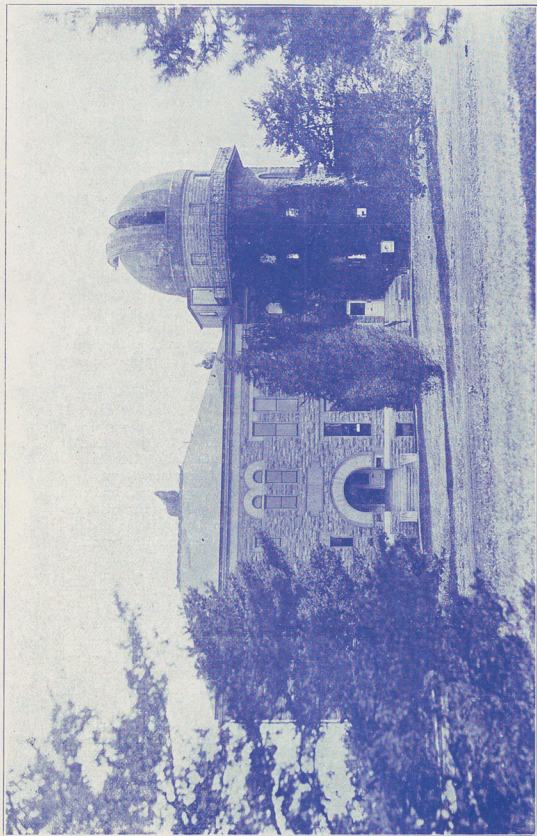
Called Lincoln College at the beginning, it received its present name in recognition of a gift of twenty-five thousand dollars from Ichabod Washburn, of Worcester, Mass., whose generosity gave the first assurance of success to the enterprise. Its work at the beginning was largely preparatory, but the college department was soon developed. Later, work in music and art was added.

In 1902 a School Law was organized. In the same year a merger was formed with the Kansas Medical College whereby it became the Medical School of Washburn College. This school was discontinued July 1, 1913. The Departments of Music and Art have been strengthened and enlarged into a School of Fine Arts.

The College is controlled by a Board of Trustees, twenty-four in number. These Trustees are divided into three groups and each group is elected for a term of three years, without regard to denominational affiliations. While Christian in character and influence, the College is thoroughly non-sectarian in all its work.

The buildings are thirteen in number: Rice Hall, first occupied in 1874; Hartford Cottage, in 1879; Whittin Hall, in 1882; Boswell Memorial and Holbrook Hall, in 1886; MacVicar Chapel, in 1889; the Observatory Building, the Heating Plant, and the President's Residence, in 1903; the Carnegie Library, in 1905; the Administration Building purchased in 1906; the Thomas Memorial Gymnasium, in 1908; and the Law Building, in 1913. The construction of a new dormitory for the young women at a cost of about one hundred thousand dollars has been authorized by the Board of Trustees.

The campus contains one hundred and sixty acres of land having fine natural drainage, and is beautifully shaded by forest trees.



THE LAW BUILDING

HISTORY OF THE LAW SCHOOL

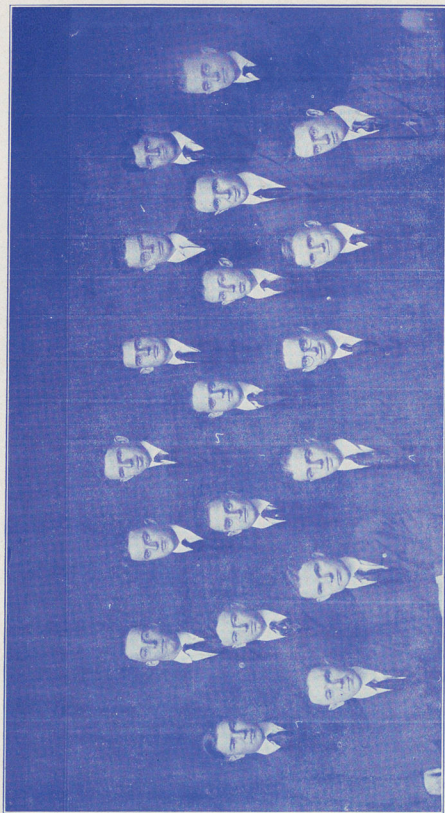
A law school at the state capitol had long been talked of and urged by many lawyers over the state and by many students in law offices, but credit for the actual founding of Washburn Law School belongs to President Norman Plass of Washburn College. With the assistance of several Topeka attorneys, he effected the organization in the spring of 1903. Immediately Colonel T. W. Harrison presented his entire library. This small beginning has been added to from time to time until at present the Law School has a good working library. A number of well known lawyers volunteered their services as instructors in addition to the full time instructors. These lawyers were willing to give time from their offices to do this and so it was decided to locate the school down town near the heart of the business district, which was done and where it remained until the fall of 1918, when it was moved to the college campus.

From the very beginning Washburn has been a member of the Association of American Law Schools, which has for its purpose the raising of standards of legal education. Entrance requirements are one year of college work in addition to a high school education. The case book method is combined with lectures, texts, and moot court work. Recitations are held only in the forenoon. There have never been any night classes in Washburn Law School.

One remarkable feature of the faculty is the number of men who have remained since the school started. Each one is a specialist in actual practice along some line and among their number are Justice Henry F. Mason, Judge George H. Whitcomb, Judge Lee Monroe and Judge Harry G. Larimer.

Washburn graduates are successfully filling positions on the District Bench and as members of some of the leading legal firms of the state. One of its graduates has reached the state supreme bench.

Washburn Law School is already one of the largest accredited schools in the West and judging the future by the past it is destined to become a leader in the law school world.



THE BENSON CLUB

THE BENSON CLUB

The Benson Club was organized in Washburn Law School, February 23, 1920, by seven men. These seven picked several others whom they deemed the best all-round men in the Law School, scholarship being a primary qualification, and these men have been working together to make Washburn a better school and to better equip themselves to enter the practice of law.

The size of the Benson Club has varied at different times. At present there are nineteen active members, some having graduated some gone to other schools, and some dropped from the club because they were found wanting. From first to last the Benson Club has had perhaps thirty members.

The formal organization of the club was not the beginning of concerted action on the part of its members, who have for two years been working together in an informal manner to promote the best interests of the school.

The purpose of the club is, quoting from the preamble of the constitution, "To promote legal scholarship, democracy, and good fellowship in Washburn Law School."

The Benson Club holds weekly meetings at the Law School which are devoted to legal discussions and addresses. At these weekly meetings have appeared such men as Justice Henry F. Mason, of the Kansas Supreme Court, E. E. Brookens, Attorney of the State Insurance Commission, R. E. McIntosh, Compiler of the Kansas Statutes and Assistant Supreme Court Reporter and Judge Freeman, State Law Librarian.

Late in the spring of 1920 the Benson Club applied to the Supreme Council of Phi Alpha Delta for a permit to petition but because the school year was so far gone the application was not passed upon until this fall when the council permitted the Benson Club to submit its petition.

As to the future the Benson Club has everything to gain and nothing to loose. It puts quality above quantity, business above pleasure, progress above quiescence, and law above everything.

Petitioners' Individual Data

RONALD M. WYMAN,

Kappa Sigma. Born in Hutchinson, Kansas 1896. Graduated from Hutchinson High School. One year in Kansas University. Senior law. First Officers Training Camp. Ft. Riley, Kansas. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant. First Lieutenant. Range Officer, Camp Funston. President Washburn Law School. President Washburn Republican Club. Student Council. Baseball team.

ROSCOE W. GRAVES, A. B.,

Pi Kappa Delta, Master Mason. Senior Law. Born in Emporia, Kansas, 1893. Son of late Justice Charles B. Graves, Kansas Supreme Court. Graduated from Washburn College 1917. Represented Washburn in Old Line Oratorical Contest, in Kansas Pentangular Debating League. Pi Kappa Delta Degree of Honor. President Student Volunteer Band. Vice President Y. M. C. A. President Washburn College Literary Society. Secretary Benson Club. President Benson Club. Clerk District Court Washburn Law School. Y. M. C. A. Secretary, Camp Funston 1917-1918. Sgt. 1st Class, Tenth Sanitary Train, Tenth Division, U. S. Army. Discharged from Field Artillery Central Officers Training School, Camp Taylor, December 1918.

BLANTON F. MESSICK,

Born in Jackson county, Kansas, 1898. Graduated from Topeka High School, 1918. Enlisted in S. A. T. C. at Washburn 1918. Senior Law.

ERNEST J. MALONE,

Born Rawlins County, Kansas, 1899. Graduate Hays College High School; two years college; enlisted in U. S. Air Service 1917; 17 months in France; one year in Catholic University, Washington, D. C.; Track team; American Legion; K. of C., 3rd degree. Junior Law.

MAURICE STRICKENFINGER,

Born Osage County, Kansas, 1893. Graduate from Scranton High School 1914. Over Sea Service 87th Division; Ass't. Claim Adjuster for Kansas in American Automobile Ins. Co. Junior Law.

ALDEN BRANINE,

Born Newton, Kansas, 1897. Graduate Newton High School, 1915; Phi Delta Theta; three years at Kansas University; one and one-half years at University of Chicago; U. S. N. R. F. Senior Law.

L. ERSKINE WYMAN,

Born Nickerson, Kansas, 1899. Graduate Hutchinson High School, 1917; Phi Delta Theta; Glee Club; Y. M. C. A.; S. A. T. C. Junior Law.

JAMES B. WOOD,

Born Meade County, Kansas, 1896. Graduate Topeka High School; First O. T. C.; Commissioned First Lieutenant of Field Artillery; Master Mason. Senior Law.

FLOYD C. DOOLEY,

Born Coffeyville, Kansas, 1895. Graduate Coffeyville High School, 1913; Royal Arch Mason; Vice President of A. E. F. Club. Argonne-Meuse with 139th Infantry. Junior Law.

HAROLD T. STODARD,

Born Burlingame, Kansas, 1900. Graduate Burlingame High School, 1918; S. A. T. C., Kansas University, 1918; 3 months Dougherty Business College, Topeka, Kansas. Junior Law.

MYRL BECKER,

Born Meriden, Kansas, 1900. Graduate Meriden High School; Gamma Sigma; Pi Kappa Delta; Intercollegiate Debate; Glee Club; Band, Manager Basket Ball Team, Y. M. C. A. Secretary Law School. Senior Law.

JOHN W WOOD,

Master Mason. Born Liberal, Kansas, 1894. Graduated Topeka High School, 1916. Junior Law. First Officers Training Camp, Fort Riley, Kansas. Commission 2nd Lieutenant. Oversea service 89th Division. Verdun-Meuse Campaign.

WILLIAM S. STEINRAUF,

Born Topeka, Kansas, 1896. Graduate Topeka High School, 1915; A. E. F. 1918-19; Member A. F. & A. M. Lodge Junior Law.

WALTER R. GAGE,

Born Minneapolis, Kansas 1896. Graduate Minneapolis High School; one year at Kansas University; Ex-president Benson Club; Football 1917-20; Track, 1920; Student Council Representative from Law School, 1920-21, Librarian of Law Library, 1919-21; Operating Department U. S. General Hospital, No. 32 during war; Member Scottish Rite, 32 degree Mason; Odd Fellow and Elk Lodges. Senior Law.

GEORGE M. ASHFORD,

Born Washington County, Kansas, 1890. Graduate Friends University Academy, Wichita, Kansas, 1911; Friends University, 1911-13; Principal Elbing, Kansas Schools, 1913-16; Pi Kappa Delta Forensic Fraternity; Gamma Sigma Literary Society. Senior Law and College of Fine Arts.

HOMER A. DODGE,

Born Hutchinson, Kansas, 1900. Graduate Larned High School Gamma Sigma Literary Society; Manager Baseball 1920; Secretary Benson Club; Basketball, 1919. Junior Law.

FRANK J. ADDIE,

Born Topeka, Kansas, 1886. Graduate Topeka High School; several years in Railway Train Service and is fitting himself for legal work in Working Men's Organizations. Senior Law.

ORLA L. ALEY,

Born Pottawatomie County, Kansas, 1886. Graduate Holton High School, 1903, Heavy Artillery with First Army in Verdun-Meuse Campaign. Junior Law.

IRL H. BYLER,

Born Cass County, Missouri 1895. Graduate Hesston Academy 1916; one year Goshen College, Goshen Indiana; Graduate Salt City Business College, Hutchinson, Kansas; Enlisted in U. S. Navy Reserve Force, May 1918; Served in Naval Aviation Service until discharged in February 1919; Treasurer Benson Club; Alpha Delta. Junior Law.

LETTERS

PHI ALPHA DELTA LAW FRATERNITY Office of Supreme Justice Cincinnati, Ohio

November 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

Greeting:—The Supreme Board has had under consideration for the past eight months the petition of the Benson Club at Washburn Law School. When it was presented early last spring, it was declined because of the proximity of the close of the school year. We desired more time to make a thorough investigation. The petition was renewed as soon as the school year re-opened. In the meantime, an extensive and exhaustive investigation of the petitioning group has been carried on, as a result of which we are convinced that the petition should be favorably acted upon by the fraternity. The reasons actuating us to indorse the petition are:

1. Washburn University Law School is a day law school, an institution of unquestioned standing and we believe, an excellent location for a chapter from a geographical standpoint.

2. We are advised that the institution can well maintain a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta and that the petitioners are of the leading type in the school and of PAD caliber.

An appointed committee of four resident PAD's in Topeka, Kansas, headed by Justice Henry F. Mason of the Supreme Court of Kansas, and two of whom are lecturers in the school, has upon careful investigation, given to the petitioning group their unanimous indorsement.

In view of the foregoing circumstances, the Supreme Board of your fraternity is of the opinion that the petition of the Benson Club should be granted, and takes pleasure in giving to the same its unanimous indorsement.

Fraternally,

THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE BOARD

By August A. Rendigs, Supreme Justice.

WASHBURN COLLEGE
Office of President
Topeka

December 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I wish to commend the application of the Benson Club of Washburn Law School for a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta. The members of the club are thoroughly responsible and fully backed by the college.

Respectfully,

P. P. WOMER,
President.

WASHBURN COLLEGE
School of Law
Topeka

November 29, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

The Benson Club which is petitioning you for a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta is a group of fine men. The average scholarship in this group is high and they have among their members the best students in our Law School. They are men of mature judgments and formed characters and I am sure that they would be a credit to the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity. In my opinion they are as fine a group as you will find in any chapter of law fraternities. As we have over one hundred students in our Law School and no law fraternity I think it would be not only a good thing for these men but also be a boon to the school if we could establish here a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta. Sincerely yours,

CHAS. E. CARPENTER,

Dean.

Ma Gruda Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta, University of Illinois.

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THE SUPREME COURT OF KANSAS
Topeka

November 30, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I take this means of recommending favorable action upon the petition of the members of the Benson Club of the Washburn Law School of this city for the location of a chapter in that college. I have been a member of the faculty of the Washburn Law School ever since its organization some eighteen years ago, serving however as a volunteer and not as a paid instructor. From my observation of the school during that time I feel confident of the permanence of the institution and of its being maintained at a character such as to afford a good field for the location of a Phi Alpha Delta chapter. In common with other schools of the kind Washburn suffered somewhat during the progress of the war but has recovered its ground and I think now stands as well in all respects as at any time during its career.

I also know either personally or by reputation all the members of the proposed new chapter. I am confident that a finer group of young men for the purpose could hardly be found in any school of moderate size.

I have no hesitation therefore in commending the petitioners to the favorable consideration of the members of the fraternity everywhere.

Fraternally,

HENRY F. MASON,

Associate Justice.

THE SUPREME COURT OF KANSAS

Topeka

December 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

It gives me great pleasure to recommend to you the granting of a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta to the Benson Club of the Washburn Law School of this city.

I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Club, and of meeting all of its members. They are a high class bunch of men, and, in my estimation, are worthy of becoming members of Phi Alpha Delta.

Sincerely,

G. DEAN McELHENNY

Asst. Clerk of Kansas Supreme Court

Green 1915.

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THE SUPREME COURT OF KANSAS

Topeka

December 3, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

In the matter of the application of the Benson Club for admission to your organization, permit me to say that I have been in reasonably close touch with the Washburn Law School since it was organized about eighteen years ago. It took creditable rank from the beginning and has made a steady advance in ideals, methods and spirits since it was instituted. Most of the graduates of the school have taken the State Bar Examination conducted in a department of our court, and their papers disclose careful and thorough training. These examinations are searching and rigid and it is worthy of note that only one Washburn student has failed to pass. I have had five young men from that school as law clerks in my office during the last fifteen years, and every one of them has made good not only with me but they have been successful as practitioners, after they left my office and went into the general practice. They were typical of the general character of the students which have been attending that school. Those in the school at the present time are a fine, wideawake, forward-looking young people and the Benson Club especially takes high rank and is composed of the best men in the school. I have no doubt that if given authority the Club will form a creditable and enduring chapter of the organization. The school is firmly established with every promise of permanence and growth. It is well conducted and the people of the state hold it in high esteem. I am proud to be even an honorary member of the P. A. D. and I make this recommendation of the Benson Club with firm belief that you will be proud of the Benson Club if it is received as a chapter of the organization.

Very respectfully,

W. A. JOHNSTON,

Chief Justice.

WASHBURN COLLEGE
School of Law
Topeka

December 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

Kindly permit me to say a few words in support of the petition of the Benson Club at Washburn College School of Law.

I have been a member of the Law Faculty of Washburn College School of Law during the last five years and am intimately acquainted with all of the members of the Benson Club. It gives me great pleasure to recommend most highly all of the members of the Club and to recommend the Club as well worthy of the complete confidence in every respect of the Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta.

Yours very sincerely,

THOS. W. HUGHES,
Professor of Law.

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WHEELER, BREWSTER & HUNT
Attorneys at Law
Topeka

December 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I understand that a petition is being prepared by members of a club composed of students of Washburn law school in this city, and now known as the Benson Club, asking for a charter of a chapter of the Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity at the Washburn Law School, to be known as the Alfred W. Benson Chapter.

This club is composed of students of the Washburn Law School. This law school is in my judgment one of the best law schools in the West. The graduates from this school have passed the bar examination given by the Supreme Court of this state with highest honors, and up to a short time ago no graduate of the law school had failed to pass the examination.

Members of the Supreme Court of the State of Kansas are on the faculty of this law school, and I believe that if a charter is granted for a chapter of your organization, such chapter will acquit itself with honor and will be a chapter that the other fraternities will be proud of.

I am not a member of the Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity, but am interested in the Washburn Law School and proud of its history and its success, and hope that the petition for a charter for this chapter may be granted.

Yours very truly,

S. M. BREWSTER.

STATE OF KANSAS
Office of the Governor
Topeka

December 6, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I am informed that the Benson Club, composed of members of the Washburn Law School, is petitioning for membership in your fraternity.

Washburn College is one of the leading educational institutions of Kansas and is growing in power and influence from year to year.

The Washburn Law School takes high rank among that class of schools in this section. Because of its location at the State Capital the faculty is stronger than usual and the school has the benefit of lectures from the strongest men in the legal profession in the State of Kansas. Probably no branch of teaching at Washburn is more thoroughly equipped to provide a high standard of education than the law department.

I hope that it will be found advisable to grant the petition of the Benson Club.

Very sincerely,

H. J. ALLEN,
Governor.

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UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Agriculture
Arthur Capper, Chairman

December 7, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I am informed that the Benson Club, composed of members of the Washburn Law School, Topeka, Kansas, is petitioning for membership in your fraternity. I write to commend both the club and the school to your favorable consideration.

For many years the Washburn School of Law has been recognized as one of the strongest and most efficient institutions of its kind in the middle West. I know personally the members of its faculty and lecture staff. They are among the leading members of the Kansas bar. And among the alumni of the school are hundreds of lawyers and jurists who hold high rank in the legal profession of the country.

I am sure you will find Washburn to be a school worthy of recognition by your fraternity, and I am equally confident that the men seeking membership with you will reflect credit upon your body.

Very respectfully,

ARTHUR CAPPER.

State of Kansas
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
Division of Claims
Topeka

December 8, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I take great pleasure in writing you in behalf of the Benson Club of Washburn Law School who are petitioning for a local chapter of Phi Alpha Delta. I have been in close touch with Washburn Law School since its organization, as an instructor for eight years and as a member of the Topeka Bar, and I can say with certainty that Washburn Law School can maintain a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta that will be a credit to the fraternity.

I have been a guest of the Benson Club and met all its members and will say that they are a fine, active and progressive bunch of fellows.

I am of the opinion that it would not be a mistake for Phi Alpha Delta to grant a charter to the Benson Club, which I strongly recommend.

Fraternally,

EDWIN E. BROOKENS,
Green Chapter, University of Kansas.

JAMES A. TROUTMAN
Attorney at Law
Topeka

November 24, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

The Benson Club is an organization of active young students in the Washburn Law School of this city.

They want to affiliate with your Fraternity, or establish a chapter here, in connection with the Law School.

I am writing to say to you that the Washburn Law School is an institution of accredited standing, and in all respects a high-grade institution. For some years, I have been a member of the State Board of Law Examiners of Kansas, and have some familiarity with the character and standing of the law schools of the country. Washburn is one of the best among the younger institutions, and I am sure there should be no hesitancy in granting the request of these young men, if permissible under the fixed rules of your Fraternity.

Yours very truly,

JAMES A. TROUTMAN.

GODDARD & MYERS
Attorneys and Counsellors
Topeka

November 26, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

I am asked to write you regarding the application of the Benson Club of Washburn College for a chapter of your fraternity. I take sincere pleasure in doing this, and wish to say to you, that I have been a trustee of Washburn College for the past ten years, which time I have been a resident of Topeka, and much of the time I have been the representative of the law school on the Board of Trustees, which has brought me in close contact with the law school.

The law school has had a remarkably fine record for scholarship throughout its entire existence. It has always been well attended and is very highly regarded by the entire Bar of this State. It is located at the capitol of the state, in close proximity to the Supreme Court, the State Law Library of 50,000 volumes, The Federal and other Courts. The city of Topeka is a very attractive residence city of more than 50,000 inhabitants. It will furnish a great many students for the law school and young men from all parts of the state like to reside in Topeka while taking their law studies.

I am personally acquainted with but few members of this club, but know in a general way that it is an organization of high standing, named after an ex-justice of our Supreme Court, who was a man of great legal attainment and unquestionably fine character, and whose work in the law school was always a stimulus towards a thorough understanding of legal principles and a high standard of legal ethics.

I believe the young men in this club will easily be able to maintain their organization in the proper manner; and if they are granted a chapter, the fraternity will never have occasion to regret its action in so doing.

Yours very truly,

A. A. GODDARD.

HARVEY, LEE & O'NEIL
Attorneys at Law
Topeka

December 6, 1920.

To The Chapters of Phi Alpha Delta:

This is to say that I have been well acquainted with the work of the Washburn Law School since it was organized, and know the personnel of the faculty and of the student-body quite well. It is a first class law school, well equipped, and with a good corps of instructors, and the students are a high class of young men.

I am sure that a chapter of your fraternity would be successful, if established at Washburn, and sincerely trust that this may be done.

Very truly yours,

A. M. HARVEY.



Entrance to Campus