

Jay's Digest

John Jay Chapter
Phi Alpha Delta

George Washington University

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JAY'S DIGEST

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No. 1

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ADDRESS BY BROTHER AITCHISON

Accompanying this number of Jay's Digest is a booklet containing the Address delivered by Brother Aitchison at the time he was made an honorary member of this Chapter. The Chapter wishes to thank Brother Aitchison for his kindness in having his Address printed as suggested by the Chapter.

REMARKS AT PHI ALPHA DELTA INITIATION

By HECTOR G. SPAULDING

September 25th, 1924.

MY BROTHERS:

I can now call you by that name. I have felt the support of the group of men composing this fraternity very distinctly in my teaching here before I went away last year to Harvard; and it seems to me eminently fitting that if I was to come into any of the legal fraternities in our school this should be the one. The relation which I was fortunate enough to sustain to your group was and is a source of encouragement in my efforts to give my best to our law school and to help in maintaining and advancing standards.

The last thing my wife said to me before I left was: "Have you got on a clean BVD?" She has evidently had impressed on her, as I have, that

"woe be unto him that maketh the outside of a vessel clean, but inside there is all manner of foulness!" Her question was joking, however, for I had told her there was no likelihood of either horseplay or stripping at the kind of initiation I was about to attend. Nevertheless, we do strip our characters bare, as time goes on,—to ourselves if we have courage and real desire to improve—to our associates certainly, whether we will it or not. Therefore, I am peculiarly gratified that you boys who have known me for four years have decided to ask me to join you. From that angle it is far more significant than would have been an invitation on a few weeks or months of acquaintance.

I don't want to talk long; yet it will not do, on such an occasion, just to say I thank you, am glad to be one of you, and will try to live up to the injunctions of the charge which I have just heard. There is a thought, worth a few moments of our time now, and worth many hours of careful meditation in our private studies, which came to me out of the miscellany of philosophical and fraternal sayings that have stuck in my memory. Most of you probably haven't heard it, for I got it in an out of the way place. It is this:

Our spiritual status—that is, our stature as men in the world that needs our help, our grade in the sight of our own souls, if you please—depends not upon knowledge alone, as many make the mistake of supposing; nor upon morality alone, as others do; nor upon intelligence alone, as still others seem to think; nor upon application alone, however valuable or necessary application and industry may be. It depends upon all these elements in a certain relation to each other; and the sentence that expresses that relation may well be posted in illumined letters above our beds. It depends in truth upon the intelligence with which we apply our knowledge to the accomplishment of moral purposes. Paraphrasing this to meet the requirements of our particular profession, I have no hesitation in saying that OUR STATUS IN THE EYES OF EVERLASTING JUSTICE, WHOSE SERVANTS WE ARE, OR PROFESS TO BE, DEPENDS NOT ON OUR KNOWLEDGE ALONE, NOR OUR INTELLIGENCE ALONE, NOR OUR MORALITY ALONE, NOR OUR APPLICATION ALONE; BUT IT DEPENDS ON THE INTELLIGENCE WITH WHICH WE APPLY OUR KNOWLEDGE AND OUR POWERS TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF JUST AND MORAL PURPOSES.

SCHOLARSHIP

The award of scholarship honors for last year found John Jay Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta very much in evidence. As was fitting, our Ex-Justice led off being the only one of the brethren to be made a full fledged Bencher. Brother Pearce was made a Term Bencher while Brothers Hiitt and Transue obtained A averages for the year. Brother Glassner's excellent work in the Legal Bibliography Course won for him a complete set of Corpus Juris, four copies of which were offered as prizes for exceptional work in that course.

John Jay Chapter's scholarship prize consisting of a complete set of "Wigmore on Evidence" was won by Robert S. Gordon. Mr. Gordon clearly demonstrated his right to the prize and is to be heartily congratulated on winning it. It is hoped that next year this prize will be won by a member of Phi Alpha Delta.

Brother J. Edward Wrenn of this chapter was sent to Europe last summer by the Department of Commerce for the purpose of studying foreign markets in the interests of American meat industry. It is realized that Brother Wrenn has both the mental and physical qualifications necessary for such a duty, and the brethren of this chapter wish him the greatest pleasure and success in the undertaking.

OUR NEW HONORARY MEMBERS

CLYDE B. AITCHISON

John Jay Chapter has presented the key of Phi Alpha Delta to a distinguished list of legal scholars and public servants. By bringing them within the fraternal fold, it has honored itself and them, and has greatly enriched the fraternity life. Our hearts beat a little faster when, to mention one among many, we think of that courteous gentleman, obliging and beloved brother, and constructive statesman, Huston Thompson, Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission. But we flatter ourselves that in the initiation of Clyde B. Aitchison, member, and former Chairman, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, we have added to our brotherhood one who will occupy in our hearts and in our affairs the same high plane as those who have gone before. Indeed, there are many parallels in personality and achievement between him and Brother Thompson.

Several years ago the writer attended a college conference at which there were a number of Iowa college men. Their first inquiry, when any distinguished man was mentioned, was: "What part of Iowa is he from?" Being aware that this history will be read by brethren who are sons of that state, the writer hastens to record that Clyde B. Aitchison first parted the tall corn at Clinton, Iowa, on February 22, 1875. Brethren from other states may doubt the possibility of so much activity on the part of the lusty infant on the very day of his advent, but this remarkable statement will not, in the least, stagger the imagination of the true son of Iowa.

His father was a clergyman, serving various charges in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois and Nebraska. Being a precocious youth, for whose ambitious intellect the public schools offered no challenge, Brother Aitchison received his early education at home from his father. What untoward events compelled his departure from Iowa, that earthly Paradise in which he was born, we do not know, but when the curtain again lifts we find him, at the early age of fourteen, being graduated with honors from the high school at Hastings, Nebraska. Four years later he was graduated from Hastings College with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Being not unduly burdened with the world's goods he made his way through college by acting as correspondent for a number of newspapers. Until the commencement of 1924, he enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest man ever to have been graduated from his Alma Mater.

The youthful prodigy immediately began the study of law in a law office at Hastings. Within a short time, the land of his birth called to him, and he removed to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he continued his studies. In 1896 he was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Iowa, standing second in a class of 33. While at the Iowa bar, he annotated the Iowa Supreme Court Reports, along the lines followed in Rose's Notes on the United States Supreme Court Reports. This work of legal scholarship, which occupied his evenings, holidays and Sundays for four years, brought him widespread recognition.

All true Iowans sooner or later yearn for more worlds to conquer. Like the Hebrews, they have overflowed their native heath, and scattered to the ends of the earth, and there is no place or country where their voice is not heard. Accordingly in 1903 our hero departed the scene of his earlier triumphs, and removed to Portland, Oregon, where he became attorney and trust officer for a large trust company. In the course of this work he attained recognition as an expert on taxation. This led him into public life, which he has since followed. In 1905 a commission was appointed to revise the tax and revenue laws of Oregon. Brother Aitchison was made secretary of this commission, and bore a large part in the preparation of the legislation recommended by it.

Upon the enactment of the tax legislation prepared by the commission, Brother Aitchison was retained by Oregon commercial interests to draft a railroad commission bill, which was passed by the legislature in February,

1907. Brother Aitchison was immediately appointed to the newly created Railroad Commission, and was reelected in 1908 and 1912. When legislation for the regulation of public utilities was demanded, Brother Aitchison drafted the bill creating the Public Service Commission, which was passed by the legislature, referred to the people under the initiative and referendum, and approved by popular vote. For two terms he served as Chairman of the new commission.

Brother Aitchison's public service in Oregon brought him national recognition, and in June, 1916, he became Solicitor of the National Association of Railway and Utility Commissioners, with headquarters at Washington, D. C. As Solicitor his work consisted, in large part, of presenting to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the views of the various state commissions on questions arising in the course of the federal valuation of railroads. A year later, he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Interstate Commerce Commission, and was reappointed in 1921. In 1919 he acted as Chairman of the Commission.

Brother Aitchison is not only a distinguished public servant, but an authority on the law of irrigation and water rights. While in Oregon, he lectured on that subject in the law school of the University of Oregon. In 1915 that University conferred on him the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1918 his Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws. He is also a choral director of national reputation, having been engaged in choir work since his college days. While in Washington he has created and developed the Interstate Male Chorus, one of the outstanding choral organizations of the national capital.

In spite of his distinguished achievements, John Jay Chapter will not put Brother Aitchison on a pedestal, for long distance admiration only, but will expect much from close and frequent association with him. On the occasion of his initiation he delivered a masterly address, which was a source of much inspiration to the brethren. He has expressed his intention to attend our meetings and take an active part in our affairs. We look forward with the greatest pleasure and anticipation to the relationship between John Jay Chapter and its new brother.

ROBERT D. ARMSTRONG.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF HECTOR G. SPAULDING

Hector G. Spaulding, an only child, was born in Fargo, N. D., in 1879. His family is of good old Colonial stock, the line running back to the early days of Virginia, when Edward Spaulding came from England to settle in James Cittie, in 1619.

The early life of Brother Spaulding was replete with travel such as does not fall to the lot of the average youth. At the age of five he made his first ocean trip when his father, a dentist, sought an opening in Breslau, Germany. One year in Germany was followed by a year in Minneapolis and then our worthy brother returned to Europe for a sojourn of eight years in Paris, France, where his father finally settled. The major part of his early education was obtained in both private and government owned schools in Paris, and at the age of fifteen he returned to Minneapolis to finish his High School course and also to attend the University of Minnesota where he took a four year scientific course. While at the last named institution he became active in debating and public speaking and gained such renown that he represented the University in a statewide oratorical contest.

After graduating in 1900 Brother Spaulding went to Harvard where he finished his law course in 1903. His experience as a practising lawyer includes a connection with the firm of Ritch, Woodford, Bovee and Butcher of New York City, practice in Minneapolis, and also a connection with the firm of Cassoday, Butler, Lamb and Foster of Chicago.

His teaching experience began in 1914 when he taught for one year as acting assistant professor of law at Stanford while Professor Hohfeld was at

Yale on leave of absence. This taste of teaching law proved so agreeable that Brother Spaulding came to George Washington University as a Professor of Law in 1920. This relationship has continued up to the present time except for the year 1923-24 when he returned to Harvard for graduate work under such men as Dean Roscoe Pound, Felix Frankfurter and Manley Hudson.

In 1922 he married Miss Augusta de Laguna, of Oakland, California. They have had one child, a boy, that lived only three weeks.

Brother Spaulding's fraternal affiliations include membership in the Masonic Blue Lodge in Minneapolis, the Shrine in Chicago, and the Scottish Rite in Washington. He is also a charter member of the Acacia Fraternity of George Washington University and on September 25, 1924, he was made an Honorary Member of John Jay Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta. This extensive activity in fraternal circles is partially accounted for by the fact that Brother Spaulding spends many of his leisure hours in the study of philosophy. Professor Spaulding was baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church but he frequently attends other churches for the purpose of singing in the choir. In politics he is not affiliated with any particular group or party but likes to think of himself as a progressive.

A beautiful voice, friendly, helpful nature, and active mind broadened and ripened by extensive travel including seventeen trips across the Atlantic and a trip around the world, coupled with an intimate knowledge of the world's best literature and art, have resulted in a true gentleman of rare charm and personality. As a teacher, Professor Spaulding brings to the classroom a wide and varied experience plus a complete mastery of the subject in hand. This enables him to explain in the clearest possible fashion the intricate rules and theories of Equity, Partnership, and Negotiable Instruments.

ROBERT A. NIXON.

THE BANQUET

The annual banquet given last June was typical of all Phi Alpha Delta functions,—a fraternal triumph from beginning to end.

Bro. Hitt as the toastmaster was surely in his element and his genial smile and ready wit assured the success of the evening from the very start.

The feature of the program was the speech of Bro. Huston Thompson, Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, who was introduced as Phi Alpha Delta's candidate for the presidency. His words of wisdom and advice were inspiring and gave us much food for thought. The thought which he brought home to us was that a man never fails until he loses faith in himself.

The gathering was cosmopolitan, indeed, as we had with us alumni from almost every nook and corner of the United States. And their oratory was not only flowery, but interesting, for they told about their college days and of the influence of Phi Alpha Delta upon their lives. These speakers included: Bro. Cary, Supreme Vice Justice; Bro. Young, one of the founders of the Taft chapter; Bro. Clark of Ryan Chapter; Bro. Van Meter, one of the founders of Jay chapter, and Bro. Ashbaugh, Justice of Washington alumni chapter.

Bro. Armstrong, who served us faithfully as Justice during the last semester of last year told of the work accomplished during the year and was given a tribute of thanks for his untiring efforts toward the making of a greater and bigger Phi Alpha Delta.

Just a word about the food. It was "just the kind Mother used to make." And this together with the singing of some of the good old Phi Alpha Delta songs made the Hall fairly radiate with the spirit of brotherly love. And as the banquet drew to a close, there was a feeling among all that Phi Alpha Delta meant more to us than it ever had.

BARTLEY CORBIN

A FEW WORDS FROM THE NEW JUSTICE

To all the Brothers: GREETINGS!

Like the house that was builded upon a rock, thanks to the untiring efforts of the brothers who have gone this way before us, JOHN JAY CHAPTER begins its fifth year! There are twenty-nine men on the active list and from the other good men in school four have been pledged as we go to press.

But money in the bank and a large membership, per se, will never constitute us a FRATERNITY. We must remember that the initiation ceremony does not make a P. A. D. You can't simply wear a pin and pay your dues, tho far be it from me to discourage the prompt liquidation of financial obligations. (Here's a tip: You'd better pay that Transue Brother WHAT you owe him WHEN you owe him!) Not living together in a fraternity house and with most of us employed during the day, every opportunity must be taken advantage of for that contact and association with the brothers which is the very life of our fraternity. It's yourself that P. A. D. wants, and you will never receive any more from P. A. D. than you give to P. A. D. Let us have a 100% attendance at every meeting of the Chapter this year.

Phi Alpha Delta must also mean scholarship. The scholarship of the fraternity this year will not be upheld by the fact that Brothers Armstrong, Barnard and Jordan graduated with distinction LAST YEAR. A few of the brothers will not be able to hold up the scholarship of this organization while you and I fail to crack the books. It's up to YOU and to ME.

To the brothers who have joined the ranks of the Alumni! Do not feel that you have left us and that Phi Alpha Delta means the two or three years of your membership in the active Chapter. Don't think that wearin' o' the Key lets you out. Keep in touch with the active Chapter. Come around and see us if you are in the city, or you can write us for two cents from any one of the forty-eight jurisdictions.

BENJAMIN H. SAUNDERS,
Justice.

ROBERT D. ARMSTRONG

Robert has launched his ship as a lawyer on the high seas of legal jurisprudence in the city of Indianapolis, in his own native State, and there has probably never been a brother to go forth into the practice of his profession who has carried with him more deserved, cordial, heartfelt good wishes and appreciation than our Bob.

John Jay Chapter owes a debt of great gratitude to him for his unusually constructive labors for the Chapter, first as the Clerk and then as the Justice.

It is not derogatory to any of his able predecessors in office, or to his associates in the management of the affairs of the John Jay Chapter, but it will be a constant inspiration to his successors and an encouragement to all present brothers in the Chapter, and those who will come after, to contemplate the remarkable constructive labors of our brother, partially set forth on pages 48-50 of the Chapter Hand Book and that splendid Handbook itself.

It will be remembered that the Chapter by-laws were incomplete and did not cover in a detailed way the duties of the various officers, nor did they clearly include those provisions of the National Constitution of P. A. D. which bore on the conduct of the local Chapters. The labor of a complete, comprehensive and logical revision and codification of the By-laws with a new scheme of arrangement so as to provide clear detailed instructions for the guidance of the officers and the Chapter for practically every contingency, was a monumental labor of love.

Among the improvements resulting in the new By-laws was the overhauling of the Chapter's financial system, including the enforcement of the provision of the National Constitution for an audit of the books; the collection or disposition of old accounts and controversial items, the raising of dues, and to a large degree the abolishment of assessments.

It may be interesting now to recall, especially to those who experienced

it, that the idea of the Hand Book grew out of the fact that our pledges were greatly handicapped in learning the essential facts concerning the history, organization, and by-laws of the Fraternity at large and of the Chapter, and one of the most important features of the Hand-book is the historical section collected and written by Brother Armstrong in the wee sma' hours from articles in the Quarterly, from a close review of all the Chapter minutes from the founding of John Jay Chapter, from alumni brothers, and especially brothers Van Meter and Turner, and other sources.

He was responsible for the adoption by John Jay Chapter of the wise policy of getting men into the Chapter who would have a longer period of active membership than had before been customary, and by careful and thoughtful consideration and the good work of the Rushing Committee an unusually fine group of second term Freshmen were secured, and the membership built up so that it has started this year with full ranks and with a larger average Chapter life ahead of the actives than ever before.

In very large measure he was responsible for the Chapter's finally achieving its long intended purpose of devoting the major part of its meetings to social enjoyments both interesting and beneficial by reducing the routine business brought before the Chapter and by providing dinner program meetings.

It would seem proper here to remark that this result was accomplished by a severe adherence to the Executive Committee Plan, and the devotion of that Committee, as well as that of Brother Armstrong to the welfare of the Chapter, as it meant a meeting nearly every Sunday afternoon at Bob's apartment to winnow the chaff from the wheat to free the time of the Chapter meetings from being smothered with dry and uninteresting routine.

Another piece of sound constructive work was the promotion by Brother Armstrong of the George Washington University Legal Fraternity Association, by which means a fair and sound policy, beneficial to each Fraternity alike, without detracting from any, in the matter of controlling the ethics of pledging. The By-laws drawn for that association were drawn by Brother Armstrong and were ratified by each of the several Chapters of the Law School Fraternities of George Washington University. These By-laws of the Legal Fraternity Association also lay the foundation for other co-operative relations in joint social affairs and otherwise, which can be made of much mutual benefit if utilized by the succeeding administrations of the individual Chapters.

While these are some of the important and concrete results which stand to his credit, yet it is characteristic of his modesty that he insists that the successes of his administration were due to the excellent co-operation of the officers, the Committee Chairmen, and the Chapter members, and even in admitting that this is true, it reflects all the more credit upon him for the qualities of leadership which made that co-operation so effective.

Those who have carried the strain of a twelve hour or even a ten hour course to the absorption of our recreation time and the sacrifice of many pleasures are in a good position to understand what it means when one has completed a Master's course in three years, and during that time has consummated a particularly happy marriage and has been blessed with two children.

That Bob accomplished so much, at the same time, for John Jay, not only fills the contemplator with admiration, but clinches the conviction that in the natural course of events, he has a great and useful destiny.

Endowed by nature with a fine physique, a splendid brain, and possessing in an unusual degree with energy poise, sustained enthusiasm and the will to work and win, backed by sterling character, splendid qualities of leadership, and an unsurpassed helpmate, what more assurance could we have for the realization of our earnest desire for the future success of our brother in P. A. D. Robert D. Armstrong, of Indiana.

MOULTRIE HITT.

AMONG THE ALUMNI

We take pleasure in announcing the marriage of Ex-Justice Philip E. Barnard to Miss Florence J. Fenton at 8 o'clock P. M., Saturday, September the twenty-seventh, at Wardman Park Hotel, this City.

October 11, 1924.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE DIGEST:

Inasmuch as the first number of "The Digest" should soon appear, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the chapter on its excellent publication. Certainly it will foster in the alumnae a deeper interest in the active chapter, and after all a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta is not composed merely of the active chapter entity but needs must include that second line of defense embracing the alumnae,—a number of whom have already gone to the further ends of the earth (Texas).

One of the most interesting features of the Digest is the personal letter section in which some of our honored brethren have favored us with a glimpse into their first experiences as a lawyer. In my narrow experience thus far, I have found that one of the great difficulties in the trial of a case is to be able to express to the Court my theory of a case. Probably in reading our case books we do not pay enough attention to the ability to state the facts concisely and apply the principles of law. Doubtless this is a process which can be perfected only by the passage of time. At any rate the lecture room offers a splendid opportunity to acquire the "Art."

What has become of our old standby Dan Wheeler?

Fraternally and sincerely yours,

HARVEY SCHMIDT, '23.

48 Sacramento Street,

Cambridge, Mass.

May 15, 1924.

MY DEAR BROTHER ARMSTRONG:

With reference to your letter of recent date concerning my address for the P A D Directory I wish to advise that my old Washington address will be retained for some time. I expect to graduate here in June and will attempt to locate in California, however, until that time I shall retain my present address at 1512 21st St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

I just received a copy of the chapter publication, "Jay's Digest," and I hasten to compliment those connected with its issue. It is a joy to hear of the old boys again and to learn of the splendid activities of those who are "carrying on" in the active chapter.

It is very doubtful if I shall be able to attend the Founders' Day Banquet, but I shall be there in spirit and wish the brothers a full measure of fellowship.

Very fraternally yours,

RALPH S. SCOTT.

April 26, 1924.

Mr. J. Nicholas Petty,
Editor Jay's Digest, P. A. D.,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR BROTHER:

I enjoyed very much reading the special edition, March, 1924, of Jay's Digest. I think the publication is an excellent idea and am sure it will prove of great value to the Chapter. It is particularly valuable to members of the alumni as they are thus able to keep track of each other, also learn how John Jay Chapter is progressing. As you will note by the letterhead, I am in the Naturalization Service in this city and in the future request that copies of the Chapter publication be forwarded to me at that address instead of the address now on your records.

With best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours,

HENRY U. STONE.