



PI STATE
FOUNDERS



THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

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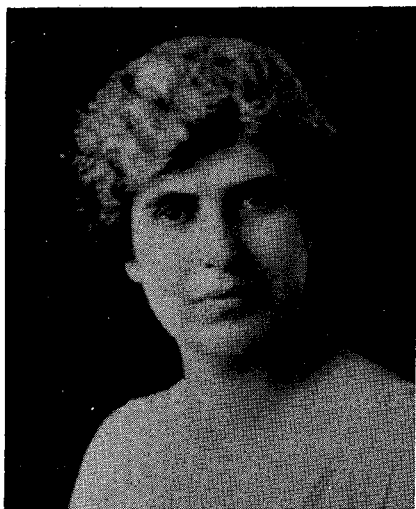
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Foreword

So many members of Pi State have helped with the writing of this booklet that I dare not attempt a listing for fear of omitting the names of some valuable contributors. I am, however, deeply grateful to each and every one.

I especially appreciate the cooperation of Miss Gladys L. Merse-
reau, Pi State Executive Secretary, in making available all the pictures
and papers which she has so carefully preserved in the state archives
and for the printing.

F.H.



Dr. Louise Fitch



Dr. Lolabel Hall



Ruth Mack Havens



Grace S. Hoberg



*Dr. Catherine
Walsh Peltz*



Dr. Alice A. Pierce



Pauline A. Meyer



Dr. Mary Sheehan



Dorothy Douglass Thatcher

The Founders of Pi State



By 1936 fifteen organizations of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society were operating but largely in the South. In the Northeast only Illinois and the District of Columbia had been organized. It was then that the eyes of Texas turned to the Empire State.

New York offered a rich field for this Society of key women educators. The choice of those to be honored as founders was a difficult one. They had to be women of dedication, leadership, and personal charm and there were so many of them. Of this number Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, founder of the Society, chose fourteen York State women.

They assembled April 16, 1936 in the Hotel Biltmore in New York City for the organization of the state, initiation of founders and election of state officers. Two founders were unavoidably absent (Dr. Fitch and Dr. Sheehan) but three state members were initiated and also Dr. Nila B. Smith as a national member and later a founder of Chi State (California).

The national president, Miss Norma Smith, now Mrs. Norma Bristow Salter, conducted the installation and initiations. Members of the Society studying at Columbia University and several from New Jersey served as escorts. At this first meeting Pi State founders elected the following officers: Miss Ruth Mack Havens, President; Dr. Lizzie E. Rector, First Vice President; Dr. Lolabel Hall, Second Vice President; Dr. Ida Adele Jewett, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Pauline Meyer, Keeper of the Records (a title long since changed to Recording Secretary); Dr. Alice A. Pierce, Treasurer; and Mrs. Dorothy Douglass Thatcher, Parliamentarian.

The calibre of the founders attests to the wisdom of Dr. Blanton's choosing. They were at once confronted with the challenge of presenting the idea of a new Society to women accustomed only to educational groups dominated by men. Thus they were destined to be well ahead of their times, truly pioneer women. They came from many fields, elementary to university teaching, and from upstate as well as the metropolitan area.

Belief in the ideals and purposes of the Society and their dedicated work in education bound them into a cohesive group. The 69 chapters and approximately 3500 members of Pi State in 1977 are proof of their effectiveness in the first forty-one years. At the end of the first twenty there were 26 chapters and 1434 members.

Time has taken its toll of the founders. Unfortunately there is little information about several of them, and there are not pictures of all; but with the available resources the founders are presented. They share equal importance in the organization of Pi State, and it is regrettable that they can not share equal space in this booklet.

MISS KATHERINE DEVEREUX BLAKE was a teacher and administrator in the New York City school system for fifty-one years. On her eighty-ninth birthday she was honored at a party in New York City. A former pupil, Bernard Baruch, thanked her for the "inspiration and encouragement she had given (him) as a young boy."

As early as 1897 she drew up the first teachers' salary bill to be introduced in any state legislature. Two years later her bill was passed. Miss Blake was the organizer and president of the New York City Association of Women Principals. The advancement of women was of primary interest to her and she worked hard for woman suffrage.

Her concern for peace took her with Jane Addams to the Second Peace Conference at The Hague in 1907. During World War I she sailed with Henry Ford on his ill-fated peace ship and in 1928 she went to Russia with John Dewey.

A woman of action, she was one who cared. Her work opened windows and doors for her sisters. Miss Blake died February 4, 1950.

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DR. (RACHAEL) LOUISE FITCH was born in Galva, Illinois on September 27, 1878. She attended elementary and secondary schools in Galva and later Knox Collegè, Galesburg, Illinois where she received her A.B. in 1902, her M.A. in 1911, and an Litt.D. in 1932. Dr. Fitch studied summers at the Universities of California and Oregon. She was a founder of Delta Delta Delta, a women's social sorority.

From 1899 to 1902 Dr. Fitch taught in public schools in Illinois and North Dakota. The Midwest was a part of her and she returned to her home state to be librarian of the Cambridge Public Library.

Writing and publishing were her special interests. She was editor of her home town paper from 1906 to 1908 and of the American Association of University Women's publication in 1923 and 1924 when she was Dean of Women at Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. This post led to a transcontinental move to Ithaca, New York as Dean of Women at Cornell University until 1941. Dr. Fitch was a member of Beta Chapter after its installation in 1938.

Among many associations connected with her vocation there were included memberships in the Women's Overseas Service League and League of American Pen Women. Dr. Fitch was the author of *MA-DAME FRANCE* and of numerous articles for the Encyclopedia Britannica on co-education and sororities.

Before going to Cornell Dr. Fitch lectured on the Chautauqua circuit in 1919. A woman of wide interests and boundless vitality, she found pleasure in travel, music and geneological research. Her death occurred in Seattle, Washington.

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DR. LOLABEL HALL of Brooklyn was both a founder and the third president of Pi State. With her indefatigable energy she organized five chapters over a wide area. Her dream to enfold key women educators in a loyal sisterhood had great appeal and she lived to see it become a reality.

In her teaching as first assistant, head of the economics department in Bay Ridge High School, she displayed the talents that brought her recognition as a state founder. She not only organized chapters but also brought back to life the only one in Pi State's history to suffer a terminal illness. That Epsilon is now a thriving chapter is testimony to her first aid ministrations.

Those who had the privilege of knowing Dr. Hall found her a warm, vital person. To her the words of the Delta Kappa Gamma song, "Hand in hand, our loyal band, forward moving ever" was almost an article of faith. Although her own doctoral degree was from Harvard, she discouraged the use of titles. All were to be equal on a first-name basis. Dr. Hall was a memorable woman indeed and further proof of Dr. Blanton's flair for wise selection.

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RUTH MACK HAVENS was the first president of Pi State, chosen and installed at the meeting at the Biltmore. Alpha Chapter composed a loving biography of her and it is from this that the following material was taken in large part.

She was born in Rochester, March 5, 1889 and her early education was in that area. Laura Fisher Kindergarten Training School, Rochester Training School and Teachers College, Columbia followed. She received her B.S. in 1922 and her master's degree in 1928 from Columbia. Later she studied at Oxford and Johns Hopkins. At Johns Hopkins her brother was the chairman of English Graduate Studies and she did work under him. Later he was in charge of the doctoral program of another founder, Dr. Peltz.

Her first teaching position was in the Rochester schools, which she left in 1921 to become Head of the Kindergarten Department at New Paltz Normal School. She was Head of the English Department there when she retired. Five years later she gave \$5000 to the school, now State University of New York at New Paltz, in trust for an annual scholarship for an outstanding high school graduate. This award bears her name.

Miss Havens' sensitive nature and her unusual rapport with her pupils are stressed in many letters of recommendation on file. She moved from the teaching of kindergarten to the college level and adjusted easily to each age group as she encountered it. Always her emphasis was on those traits that distinguish a lady from a female and a gentleman from a male—good manners, cultural interests in art and music and, above all, a love of people.

As first president of Pi State she had the difficult responsibility of launching a new society. This she did very well, for in her biennium she organized Alpha, Beta and Gamma chapters and planned for others.

Those who have followed her have had in part her charm, her scholarship, her interests, her humor, her love of people but no one has been Ruth Mack Havens in toto.

GRACE S. HOBERG was graduated from New Paltz High School and continued at the state normal school there to earn her B.S. Her master's degree is from New York University. She also did graduate work at City College of New York, Teachers College, Columbia, Ohio University and a summer session at Cornell.

Mrs. Hoberg began her teaching career in East Hampton and in 1930 was appointed to a post in the Yonkers public school system. Twenty-one years later she became principal of an elementary school and in 1962 assistant superintendent of schools in charge of elementary education.

Her travels have taken her widely throughout North America and upon her retirement to Boynton Beach, Florida where she has her home. Here she continues her hobbies of cooking and entertaining with the grace that is not only her name but also her hallmark.

In 1966 her superintendent wrote of her, "Mrs. Hoberg has not only demonstrated great skill and a natural talent as a teacher but possesses professional and leadership qualities which make her an able and competent administrator and educator. Her warm, friendly nature along with a deep understanding of and consideration for others has earned her the respect of all with whom she becomes associated; pupils, their parents, teachers, and fellow administrators. Her deep interest and enthusiasm for education is refreshing. She has much to offer to her profession and does so in a gracious and generous manner."

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DR. IDA ADELE JEWETT was a professor of English at Teachers College, Columbia. In collaboration with Dr. Vera Butler of Connecticut and Dr. M. Margaret Stroh, National Executive Secretary, she wrote the monograph, *Better Selection of Better Teachers*, which was published by the Delta Kappa Gamma Society in 1943.

At the time of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of Pi State Dr. Jewett had already retired from teaching. Retirement, however, did not mean an end to her interest in Delta Kappa Gamma. As long as she was able, she attended state conventions where she met old friends and made new ones. She was an outgoing lady with a special facility for conversation. This she directed toward the interests and activities of the person with whom she was talking and not toward her own.

It is unfortunate that this charming woman did not reveal more of herself, for all who knew her found her fascinating. Her story would have had to be equally so.

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DR. ELIZABETH McDOWELL was also a professor at Teachers College, Columbia in the field of Speech. Later she became a psychologist with the New Jersey Bureau of Child Welfare in Trenton. At this point Pi State lost Dr. McDowell to Alpha Zeta State and all efforts to obtain more information about her have been of no avail.

PAULINE A. MEYER was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1890. Her early life was spent in Lawrence, Massachusetts where she was graduated from the high school with high honors in 1907. Since she came of a musical family, she turned to music teaching. After a few years of private piano lessons, she enrolled in Massachusetts State Normal School at Lowell in the course for music supervisors and earned the certificate which started her long career in music education.

Her first position as supervisor was in the Bristol, Rhode Island public schools (1913-14). From 1914-18 she divided her time between the schools in Andover and Marblehead in Massachusetts. An offer from Bristol, Connecticut resulted in two years of teaching there from 1918-20. That year she went to the Connecticut State Normal School at New Britain where she was in charge of the entire program of music education until 1925. Her last move was from her beloved New England to Cortland, New York to be Head of the Music Department at the normal school for twenty-four years until her retirement.

Miss Meyer interrupted her teaching by leaves for further study. In 1924 she received her A.B. from the Carnegie Institute of Technology and in 1932 her M.A. from New York University. She spent a year in graduate study at Teachers College, Columbia in 1940.

Beta chapter was her home and she its first president. At that time it was the only chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in central New York and covered a triangle, which included Syracuse, Cortland, the Triple Cities, Elmira and Ithaca. Because of the travel involved, meetings were two day affairs. In 1950, like an amoeba, Beta divided and Xi became the chapter of the Triple Cities and Elmira. Subsequent divisions made Beta the mother and more recently the grandmother of Alpha Rho, Alpha Omega, Beta Kappa, Beta Rho, Beta Sigma, and Beta Upsilon. Pauline Meyer laid the foundations well not only for her own chapter but also for its seven progeny.

Her skills and abilities in leadership and the field of music were shared with the Society at all levels. It was, however, at the chapter level that her dynamic and vivacious personality made the greatest impact. Her patience, cheer, and graciousness endeared her to her colleagues and Pi State members.

Upon her retirement in 1949 she moved back to New Woodstock, Connecticut and later to Winter Park, Florida where she lives in Winter Park Towers.

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DR. CATHERINE WALSH PELTZ was born in Albany on July 18, 1897. She was graduated from the Albany Academy for Girls in 1914 and then spent two years at Miss Porter's School in Farmington, Connecticut. In 1922 she received her B.A. at the New York State College for Teachers at Albany.

For one year Dr. Peltz taught English in Rome, New York before returning to her alma mater as a member of the English Department. She held this post for thirty-five years. In 1927 Dr. Peltz received her M.A. at Columbia University and in 1941 her Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University.

Ruth Mack Havens' brother, Dr. Raymond D. Havens, chairman of English Graduate Studies, under whom Dr. Peltz worked for three years, wrote that she had completed one of the finest doctoral studies he had ever supervised. During her time at Johns Hopkins she was elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

Dr. Peltz most enjoyed arousing her students to appreciation of the English Romantic Poets. Her pupils, in turn, admired the warmth and radiant understanding in her teaching. Her published writings include two derivatives from her dissertation and *A Salute to Robert Burns—1759-1959*.

Dr. Peltz has always been an enthusiastic traveler. Her many trips to Europe enriched her teaching of literature as only travel can. After her retirement she managed to travel and study as well as teach at Maria College in Albany. Somehow she found time to take a course in Medieval and Modern Philosophy at Siena College in Loundonville. Intellectual curiosity gives a questor no rest.

"A rather quiet teacher all my life." That is the description that Dr. Peltz once ascribed to herself. Her students thought otherwise. One said that she symbolized the fulfillment of all their goals professionally as well as personally. Her friends say, "Her chief glory will be her human touch with the student." Dr. Peltz lives in retirement.

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DR. ALICE A. PIERCE was born on December 19, 1893 in Rathbone, New York. By the time she entered a little red school house, discipline had become a part of her. She has said, "The following bit of philosophy, given to me as a child by my mother, has conditioned much of my life. 'Watch out for the corners and you will have no need to be concerned for the remainder of the house.' As I have grown older, I have observed that excellence is but a sum total of little things well done." There have been no dusty corners in Dr. Pierce's life.

Her career began in 1913 in a rural school where she taught for two years. In 1917 she was graduated from Cortland State Normal School and took a post in a junior high school in Owego, New York where she remained for two years. Her next move was to the State Normal School at Brockport. There she was critic teacher in the laboratory school until 1923.

In that year she returned to Cortland to the normal school, more recently the State University of New York at Cortland. This was the last stage of her career, for, as instructor, supervisor and Professor of Education, she remained there for thirty-seven and a half years until her retirement in 1961.

During these years there was much graduate work. Dr. Pierce earned a B.S. from Syracuse University in 1931. Cornell University awarded her an M.A. in 1932 and a Ph.D. in 1939. The doctoral degree was the result of an invitation by Dr. Julian Butterworth to return to the university to work for it. She was a scholarship recipient and the first and only woman so honored Dr. Butterworth.

Dr. Pierce's publications has been numerous and scholarly. Her master's thesis, *A Study of Agencies Contributing to the Education*

of *School Children in Rural Areas of the United States*, was published as the 1932 bulletin of the Department of Rural Education of the National Education Association. She wrote frequently for *New York State Education* and is the author of *Jim's Discovery*, a story for children. She contributed *The First Twenty Years, 1936-1956*, a history of Pi State, which she wrote with her customary lucidity and skill. It is a veritable treasure house of information about the Society and is used frequently as a reference.

The list of her associations and organizations relevant to her profession is a long one. She found, or rather made, the time to be an active participant. In Delta Kappa Gamma she is a charter member of Beta and was the first state treasurer. There is hardly a chapter committee that she has not chaired. At the state level she has been chairman of Awards, Constitution, History, Birthday and Founders' Day. National and International committees have made use of her skills and she was chairman of the Founders' Day ceremony at the national convention in New York City in 1948. The International Committee on Ceremonies for Special Occasions profited by her expertise in 1956. Many chapters in the state have welcomed her as a speaker.

Dr. Pierce is widely travelled. She has covered the distance from Alaska to the Virgin Islands, from Mexico to Egypt, Central America to the Holy Land, Bermuda to Syria and Lebanon and she has toured the various countries of NATO.

For a time her retirement was in name only. As an equipment consultant she served the State University of New York at Brockport, Buffalo, Cortland, and Plattsburgh. Her life became a melange of blueprints, room measurements, furniture, lighting fixtures, and closed circuit television and there was no dust in the corners.

Dr. Pierce's roots grow deep in American soil, Captain William Pierce was commander of the Mayflower; Richard Piers (an alternate spelling) published the first newspaper in the colonies; Franklin Pierce was the fourteenth President of the United States.

Democratic principles and indomitable perseverance marked the early Pierces. They had a family motto, "Dixit et Fecit." (He said it and did it.) True to that, Dr. Pierce says what must be said and does what must be done. Only when asked about her philosophy of education did she fail to "say it." She replied, "You can't really state it; you just live it day by day." Actions have spoken for her more loudly than words throughout her life.

Of all the Founders Dr. Pierce has been the most active in the organization over the years and the closest to the mainstream of Pi State. In difficult times she has been the pilot to steer the Society into safe waters. A true woman educator, Dr. Pierce personifies the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma. At any chapter or state meeting there are former students, now members of the Society, who speak of her with respect, admiration and warm affection. Her sympathy, perseverance, and faith are yardsticks by which the membership measures itself. A word of encouragement or praise from her is something that warms the heart and lingers in one's memory. It is not easy to live up to her standards.

Dr. Pierce maintains her home in Cortland and active membership in Beta chapter. When Pi State members convene, whether at state, regional, or chapter level, she is sorely missed if her health prevents her attendance. *Floreat diu in vita privata et quieta!* (Long may she flourish in her retirement!)

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DR. LIZZIE E. RECTOR served as assistant superintendent of the New York City school system. When the founders had been initiated in 1936, Dr. Rector was elected First Vice President of the budding organization. On April 22, 1944 she installed Epsilon chapter and became a charter member herself.

Dr. Rector was graduated from Chicago Normal School in 1886 and received a Ph.D. degree from New York University in 1895. She entered the New York City school system as a teacher at Public School 9 in Long Island City. She became principal of Public School 4 in Manhattan and was named a district superintendent in 1918. She served in that capacity in Brooklyn until her retirement in 1936. She died in the Blue Earth Memorial Hospital in Minnesota on January 5, 1955 at the age of 89.

Her leadership gave the chapter stability and contributed to its growth. Dr. Rector is remembered as an outstanding educator, a true key woman teacher.

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DR. MARY SHEEHAN was the first woman to be principal of a Rochester high school. She started to prepare for this post in the first year of teaching at Red Creek, New York. From her program she may well have been almost the only teacher there, for she handled algebra, geography, history, physics, and Latin. In 1914 departments had no boundary lines.

She returned to Rochester where she had attended Cathedral High School, and in 1934 she became Vice Principal of Washington Junior High School and later of Monroe High School. In 1949 she was appointed principal after having been acting head for two years.

Dr. Sheehan was deeply interested in teacher welfare, first on the Board of Directors of the Rochester Teachers Association and then as the president. During the Great Depression she devised and promoted a plan for local teachers to help financially those who lost their teaching status but served as substitutes. She also worked hard to keep the salary schedule intact in order to preserve retirement benefits. At this time she founded the teachers' credit union.

From the Rochester association she was elected president of the Central Western Zone of the New York State Teachers Association and went on from there to become president of the state-wide organization.

At the 105th commencement of the University of Rochester President De Kiewiet cited her for service to the university and notable achievement in her field. He said in part, "The schoolhouse is a symbol

of American democracy. Inspired by this conviction Mary Sheehan finds the true wealth of America in its children and, in their education, the grandest hope of service to the American ideal. . . . Especially concerned for all types of students, she has written significantly on the problems of teaching the slow, the average and the gifted. Enjoying to a marked degree the confidence of her associates, she has contributed a sober and responsible leadership, working steadily to achieve a democratic education for our children, justice for their teachers and service to our state and nation."

After retirement in July, 1960, Mary Sheehan joined the faculty of St. John Fisher College in Rochester in the education department. She served as consultant to the president and also to the New York State Department of Education and the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey.

A further quotation from President De Kiewiet's citation lauds Dr. Sheehan's work outside of the school. "Her membership in civic, cultural and professional groups has been extensive and varied, making us question whether such activity in the Rochester area can go forward without the energy, dedication and good will of Mary Sheehan."

She received numerous citations from various organizations and two honorary Doctor of Letters degrees, one from Nazareth College and the other from St. John Fisher. Before her retirement she was given honorary membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

Mary Sheehan's name is in the Delta Kappa Gamma Book of Honor at International headquarters in Austin, Texas. She was a charter member of Eta chapter. Because her poor health prevented her attendance at meetings, the chapter has given her honorary membership. Dr. Sheehan lives at St. Ann's Home in Rochester.

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RUTH STEWART was born in Johnstown in 1878. Like two other founders she was graduated from New Paltz Normal School. She studied at Teachers College, Columbia University for several summers from 1919, and later took courses at City College of New York and Vassar.

Her first teaching (1901-13) was in an elementary school in Manhattan. From there she moved to Mystic, Connecticut where she was a principal and returned in 1915 to a like position in Beacon, New York. In 1920-21 she was Director of Intermediate Grades in Lockhaven, Pennsylvania and the following year she taught in the model department of the normal school in Brooklyn at a salary of \$2000. This was considered high compensation at that time. In 1922 she became principal of Chatsworth School in Larchmont, New York, which is part of the Mamaroneck system. Possibly tired of so many moves Miss Stewart remained at Chatsworth for twenty years until her retirement in 1942. By then her salary had risen to \$3300!

Miss Stewart is remembered as a strict and respected administrator. Her death occurred in 1963.

DOROTHY DOUGLASS THATCHER was pre-destined to be a teacher. After attending Claverack College and Yale Art School her mother had taught in Danbury, Connecticut before her marriage. Her maternal grandmother was a teacher too and her grandfather, the superintendent of schools in Danbury. Three aunts had taught and each generation had produced a teacher or two. Seven times great-grandfather Abraham Pierson had been the first president of Yale in 1702.

On the paternal side her grandmother had taught before marrying Dr. Richard Douglass. A woman ahead of her time, she went with her husband on active duty with the Northern Army during the Civil War. He served on General Grant's staff with the Army of the Potomac, and Mrs. Douglass took charge of the Union hospital for the Army of the Tennessee at Lookout Mountain. She was commissioned major, a rank given to only one other woman during the War Between the States. A second college president, Henry Dunster, first president of Harvard, was a forerunner of the family in America.

Childhood in the Douglass family was a happy time. The parents believed in the educational value of travel and almost every summer Dorothy and her mother took long trips abroad—the North Cape, the Rhine, Greece, Turkey, Russia, the Near East, the Nile Valley and North Africa. A visit to a tiny village in Buckinghamshire in England thrilled them the most, for a many times "great" grandfather had emigrated from there to America in 1638.

Geneology was of especial interest to the family. In her vita in Pi State archives Dorothy Douglass Thatcher is listed as a member of twenty-one lineage and historical societies. Along with the National Society Daughters of the Pilgrims appear such intriguing names as National Society Women Descendants of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, National Society Magna Charta Dames, National Society Descendants of Knights of the Garter and the Plantagenet Society.

Dorothy Douglass Thatcher received her bachelor's degree from Smith College with a major in chemistry, equal minors in biology and English and a determination to be a chemistry teacher. New England was not ready to accept a woman in this predominantly male field so she turned to New York State. Here she ran into the ever puzzling problems of certification. Liberal colleges in New England practically disregarded the education courses necessary for New York State certification. These lay ahead of her.

Six courses later she had completed her probationary service in Poughkeepsie and was assigned to teach chemistry in the high school. Some of the founders moved more or less freely from one system to another during their careers, but the well-travelled Dorothy Thatcher remained in Poughkeepsie until her retirement.

By the end of her third year of teaching she had earned her master's degree at Columbia with Teachers College certificates showing requirements met for teacher of chemistry and supervisor of science. That same year the head of the science department left Poughkeepsie, and she was able to convince the superintendent of schools and a

dubious principal that she could fill that man's shoes. This is the post that occupied the rest of her career.

Several years before the entry of the United States into World War II Dorothy Douglass had married Dr. Lyndon Thatcher. After Pearl Harbor he entered the Army Medical Corps as a first lieutenant. Since he had been a ship's surgeon on trans-Atlantic passenger liners, he was assigned to duty as a surgeon on army transports. After five years of rigorous service from the North Sea to North Africa, he was discharged with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

During these years Mrs. Thatcher continued her teaching and completed her doctorate. There were now two Dr. Thatchers.

Retirement brought Dr. Dorothy Thatcher no slow-down in activities, nor has it. She gave up her expectation of winters in Florida and summers in Connecticut to serve for a five year term on the Poughkeepsie Board of Education. She also joined the state, district and local affiliations of retired teachers. Almost at once she was elected President of the Dutchess County group and a vice president of the Southeastern Zone. She served four years as president of the latter and has been and is the driving force in retired teachers' legislation.

Ruth Mack Havens founded Alpha chapter with Dorothy Thatcher's cooperation. A charter member, she has been chapter president and a member of practically every committee. At the state level she was parliamentarian on the first slate of officers elected at the founding in 1936 and she has taken part in committee work.

Dorothy Douglass Thatcher, a woman of vision and action, is one more example of Annie Webb Blanton's wisdom in selecting state founders.

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In *The School of Life* Henry Van Dyke wrote, "Individuality is the salt of common life. You may have to live in a crowd, but you do not have to live like it, nor subsist on its food."

The fourteen founders of Pi State were individuals indeed. No one looked at another and saw a mirror image. Each one lived her career amidst the crowd. Their divergent backgrounds and fields may have caused them to view it differently but their beliefs and compassion showed how to understand the crowd and to work within it for common goals. The ideals and purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma bound this disparate group into an entity.

Individuality is the strength of the Society. A tapestry can not be woven all of one color nor can an organization of alter egos survive. For the diversity of the founders and their unity in action Pi State is deeply grateful.

