

Carnegie Endowment

SEP 20 1918

W



PHI BETA KAPPA AND THE

BRITISH COMMISSION

REPRINT FROM THE PHI BETA KAPPA KEY

PHI BETA KAPPA'S GREATEST DAY

(From THE KEY, May 1917, p. 187.)

May 17, 1917, will be memorable in Phi Beta Kappa annals because of the distinguished function that took place in Washington, D. C., at which the British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the Right Honorable Arthur James Balfour, and eleven members of the British Commission, graduates of Cambridge and Oxford, were granted Honorary membership in Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Hollis Godfrey for the Senate presented the candidates, President Lyon G. Tyler of the College of William and Mary welcomed the members; Robert M. Hughes, President of the Alpha of Virginia, repeated the ancient "Oath of Fidelity," gave the grip and presented the keys; and President Grosvenor spoke on the significance of the Phi Beta Kappa in the realm of patriotism as well as in letters and education. Mr. Balfour responded in an eloquent address, concluding with these words. "On behalf of my friends and myself I beg to thank you for the greatest honor which you could possibly confer, and which we could possibly receive." Twelve Senators were present, and also the French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, an Honorary member of the Alpha of Massachusetts. All appeared in academic costume. The entire body was later entertained at luncheon by Dr. and Mrs. Godfrey.

We have but room for this brief account of this significant occasion in this number of THE KEY. A full account will appear in the October number, with portraits of the members of the Commission.



Copyright, Clinedinst Studio, Washington, D. C.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 5, 1917
Taken in front of Centennial Hall.

PHI BETA KAPPA AND THE BRITISH COMMISSION

BY OSCAR M. VOORHEES, SECRETARY OF THE UNITED CHAPTERS

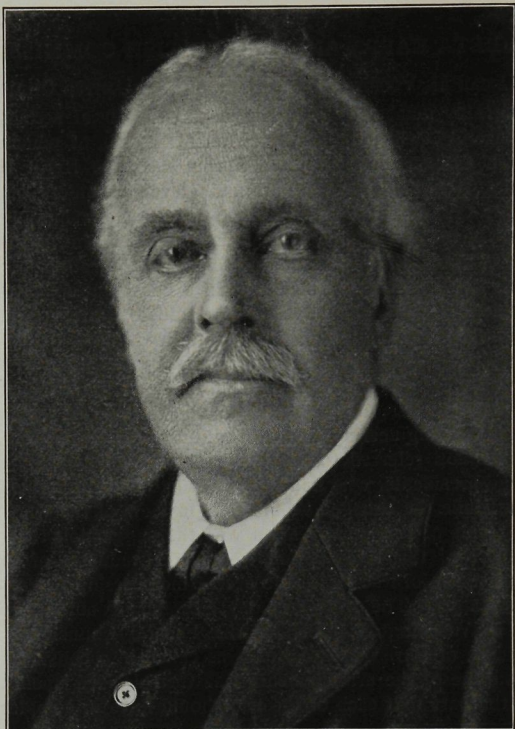
The May number of *THE KEY* contained a brief account of the meeting held in Washington on May 17th, at which the British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the Right Honorable Arthur James Balfour, and eleven members of the British Commission were received into membership in Phi Beta Kappa. We have the great pleasure of presenting in this issue a complete account of this remarkable meeting.

The occasion had its inception in a conversation between President Grosvenor and Senator Hollis Godfrey, held in Washington on May 8th. As noted in the October, 1916, *KEY*, Dr. Godfrey was appointed one year ago by President Wilson a member of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense, and was later made chairman of the Committee on Engineering and Education. Shortly before the conversation referred to he had presided over a meeting of college presidents, who had been called to consult respecting the attitude the colleges should take in view of the war.

A result of this conversation was the suggestion that the members of this Commission who were graduates of Cambridge or Oxford be invited to accept membership in the Phi Beta Kappa. The following day Secretary Voorhees, who was in Washington attending the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, was called into consultation. An outline of the arrangements was then decided upon, and also the part that each of the trio should have in completing them.

Though the time was brief, every detail was carefully worked out; and the arrangements were carried out to the complete satisfaction of all.

The Chapter at William and Mary acted promptly in electing the members, and later sent its President and Secretary, and also President Lyon G. Tyler of the college, to participate in the exercises. Twelve Senators convened in the library of Hubbard Memorial Hall, the home of the National Geographic Society, on the morning of May 17th. There were



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

Mr James Beuford

M. A. Trinity College, Cambridge. Hon. LL. D. Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Cambridge, Dublin, Glasgow, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Bristol and Sheffield, Hon. D. C. L. Oxford, Lord Rector St. Andrew's University 1886; Lord Rector Glasgow University 1890; Chancellor of Edinburgh University since 1891. Entered Parliament 1874; President of Local Government

(Concluded on page 4)

present, in addition to President Grosvenor, Vice President Birge, and Secretary Voorhees, Senators Thwing, Williams, Pendleton, Northup, Shaw, Godfrey, Lane, Schelling, and Kingsley—recorded in the order of seniority. Letters were at hand from the other members expressing regret at their inability to attend.

The keys, and the certificates of Honorary membership were at hand, and were signed by the President and Secretary of the Alpha of Virginia, and countersigned by the President and Secretary of the United Chapters. The presence of Mrs. Thwing should be noted, as also the fact that she assisted Senator Pendleton in tying the certificates and in arranging the keys in the handsome cases that had been provided.

The Senate held a brief session at which the actions which had been taken were heartily confirmed, and the arrangements for the ceremony explained. The president announced the appointment of Henry E. Crampton, College of the City of New York '92, and Gilbert H. Grosvenor, Amherst '97, as marshals, and the ceremonies were carried out by their direction and under their supervision.

The party then proceeded to the handsome MacVeigh mansion, which was the home of the British Commission while in Washington. Here academic robes were donned. The members of the Commission then appeared and were introduced, and the exercises were carried out according to the prepared program.

In introducing the members elect Dr. Godfrey said:

DR. GODFREY'S ADDRESS

Mr. President and Members of the Senate, and Deputies of the Alpha of Virginia, Mr. Balfour, and candidates for membership:

One hundred and forty-one years have passed since Phi Beta Kappa was born at the college of William and Mary, that institution of English origin from which has come some of the noblest of our educational traditions. In its origin it was connected inseparably with the great national issues of 1776 and the youthful genius which was manifested at its beginning, was later reflected in the political philosophy which lies as a basis of our republic. This interest and desire to participate in the direction of our national affairs, has lived on from generation to generation, so that today, the Phi Beta Kappa stands preeminently among those groups which



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

SIR CECIL SPRING-RICE

M. A. Balliol College, Oxford (Exhibitioner and double first class Litterae Humaniores); Diplomatic Service, Commissioner of Public Debt, Cairo, 1901; Minister at Teheran 1906-1908; Stockholm 1908-1912; United States, 1912—

(Continued from page 2)

Board 1885; Secretary for Scotland 1886; Chief Secretary for Ireland 1887-1891; Leader of House of Commons and First Lord of the Treasury 1891-1892 and 1895 to 1902; Prime Minister 1902 to 1905; First Lord of the Admiralty 1915; Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs 1916. Author of "A Defense of Philosophic Doubt," "The Foundations of Belief," "Theism and Humanism," and other philosophic and political works.

control the destinies of our country, and, on an intellectual basis, unite this nation with others in promoting the cause of civilization.

The Senate of the Phi Beta Kappa, elected by the suffrage of the members of the Council of the United Chapters, represents today, the collected patriotism and ability of all those thousands of members who, in their academic work, have been honored by election into this society which has meant that the guardianship of the life of America has been placed in their hands.

It is with the greatest pleasure, Mr. President, that on behalf of the President and Senate, I recommend to the deputies from William and Mary College, of the Alpha of Virginia, the following gentlemen to be admitted into membership.

Arthur James Balfour,
Cecil Spring-Rice,
Thomas White,
Walter Cunliffe,
Ian Malcolm,
Geoffrey G. Butler,

Eustace Percy,
Frederick P. Robinson,
Stephen McKenna,
Maurice Peterson,
Walter T. Layton,
Christopher J. Phillips,

Maurice S. Amos.

It was a matter of regret that Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, Lord Cunliffe and Sir Thomas White were not able to be present. They were, we understand, in New York, attending the funeral services of Joseph Hodges Choate, Harvard '52, who through all the years since his graduation had been a loyal member of Phi Beta Kappa, and had for three terms served as Senator of the United Chapters. Membership was conferred on these men, however, *in absentia*.

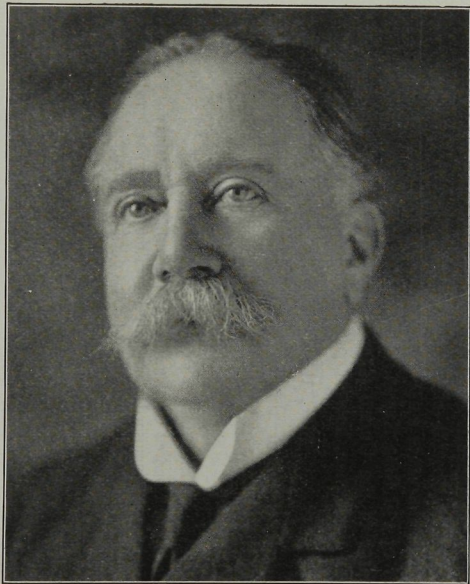
THE INITIATION

President Grovenor then introduced President Lyon G. Tyler, of the College of William and Mary, who spoke for the electing chapter.

PRESIDENT TYLER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Balfour and Honored Gentlemen of the British Commission:

I consider it a distinguished honor to perform the function assigned to me to-day as President of William and Mary College. Your mission here to the United States is to cement those ties of sympathy and union which common principles and a common cause in a great world crisis have created. America receives you with open arms, and William and Mary College and the Phi Beta Kappa Society join in the general acclaim of heartiness and good will.



Photos Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

LORD WALTER CUNLIFFE

M. A. Trinity College, Cambridge, Member of Cunliffe Brothers, London. Governor of the Bank of England since 1913.

Emilose Devey

M. A. Christ Church, Oxford. Member of the Diplomatic Service since 1909.

It was well said by Mr. Viviani in one of his recent addresses that by the accession of the United States to the cause of the Entente the forces of freedom have broken loose. This was a striking and noble figure of speech. To my mind it conjured up many elementary forces which, ordinarily quiet and peaceful, had acquired a new and powerful energy and were combined together in one mighty resistless union to drive autocracy from the face of the earth. Among these agencies of freedom may I not be permitted to say that the Phi Beta Kappa Society has a modest place, and give my reasons for so saying?

The first reason is to be found in its nativity. It is a child of William and Mary College in Virginia—the second oldest college in America. This college is a small institution of learning, but there are many persons who love it. It is a college of small means, but we who have its destinies in our hands are more proud of it than if it were endowed with the wealth of Croesus. With what I hope may be deemed excusable vanity we point to its long line of illustrious alumni—its eminent statesmen, headed by three Presidents of the United States, its host of patriots who have served their country in the Army, headed by Gen. Winfield Scott, Commander-in-Chief, its galaxy of great lawyers and jurists, headed by John Marshall, the great Chief Justice. It is a college which has ever stood on the battle line of freedom holding aloft the starry flag of democracy. By its name, William and Mary, and the date of its foundation (1693) it marks a crisis in English history when the popular will was first recognized in England as the basis of all government, when a king selected by the people succeeded to one who claimed to rule by divine right.

My second reason is to be found in the circumstances of its birth. Thomas Jefferson, the apostle of democracy in America, though too early at college to be a member, was in a certain sense the foster-father of the Society. It was founded shortly after the Declaration of Independence, of which he was the immortal author, and all of the early members fell fully under his influence, and most of them enjoyed the benefit of those free principles which, introduced by him into the college curriculum in 1779, have been cherished by us ever since that time, marking off William and Mary as distinctly a school of honor and a college of freedom.

The third reason why the Phi Beta Kappa Society should be considered one of the forces of freedom is read in its history. My time is too limited to go into details, but among its founders at William and Mary was William Short, minister to Holland and the great Chief Justice John Marshall, and since their day the history of the Union has been starred with Phi Beta Kappa names. If I know its feelings in this great world's war, as I think I do, I am sure that its present members will not prove derelict in discharge of their duty to humanity and to mankind.

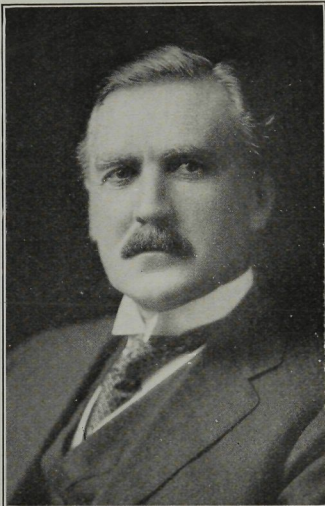
Honorable Gentlemen, as a member of a duly authorized committee of the Alpha Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, it is my high privilege to announce that you were elected members by unanimous vote and I now



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

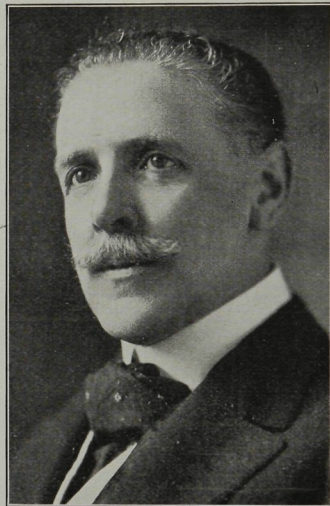
J. P. Robinson

M. A. Cambridge. An official in the Marine Department of the Board of Trade. Secretary to the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea at London, 1913.



SIR THOMAS WHITE

Graduate University of Toronto, Graduate (with gold medal) Law Society of Upper Canada. Member of the Bar of Ontario; Vice-President and General Manager, National Trust Company; entered Canadian Parliament 1911; Minister of Finance since 1911.



Ian Mackenzie

M. A. New College, Oxford. Entered Parliament 1895. Private Secretary to Lord Salisbury, Prime Minister, 1895 to 1900. British Red Cross officer in France, Switzerland and Russia during the war. Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

welcome you to the mysteries of our initiation. Standing here as I do, as President of a college of royal origin and democratic tradition, I salute you as brethren and fellow alumni and I fervently trust that the memories of this hour may long survive as an evidence of a new Union between the British Empire and the United States of America. May we witness as the great result of this combination of all the English-speaking people of the world universal peace in the place of universal war.

Robert M. Hughes, Rector of the College of William and Mary, and President of the Alpha of Virginia, was presented by Dr. Grosvenor. After inviting the members elect to form in a group around him, he spoke as follows:

PRESENTATION OF KEYS BY MR. HUGHES

The form of our initiation was adopted at a time when it was a secret society. It originated as a secret society, but it is no longer such. Its secrets have long been exposed, but we of William and Mary, Alpha Chapter, preserve the initiation for sentimental and historical reasons. I will not ask you, therefore, to formally assent to the oath, although you would not be assenting to anything that would be any great burden on your consciences, but I want to read it to you to show you how the college boys in those days formed a secret society. Our oath was as follows:

I do swear on the holy evangelists of Almighty God or otherwise, as calling the Supreme Being to attest this my oath, declaring that I will, with all my possible efforts, endeavor to prove true, just, and deeply attached to this our growing Fraternity; in keeping, holding, and preserving all secrets that pertain to my duty, and for the promotion and advancement of its internal welfare.

No society of this sort in those days was complete without a grip, and it will now be my pleasure to give you gentlemen the grip, a pleasure doubled by the fact that it will give me personally the opportunity of taking you all by the hand.

(Dr. Hughes here imparted to the candidates the grip of the fraternity).

I now have the pleasure of presenting each of you, gentlemen, with a Phi Beta Kappa key, which we are conceited enough to consider the highest honor of a literary character that can be conferred in this country. The College of William and Mary was largely organized by Oxford men, and upon the model of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge as they then existed.

I might say, too, that the state from which I hail, Virginia, probably comes nearer to being of the true old Anglo-Saxon blood than any other State in the Union. The immigration into it has not been very heavy, and up to the time of the Civil War, when there were large plantations, the



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

Manica Sheldon Amos

M. A. Cambridge. Judge of the Mixed Court, Egypt. An official of the Ministry of Munitions since 1915 in charge of priority.



Manica Peterson

M. A. Balliol College, Oxford. Entered the Foreign Office 1913.



Stenton Wilkerson

M. A. Christ Church, Oxford. An official of the War Trade Intelligence Department since the war.

country life of Virginia was as near that of England as it was possible to be, under the different climatic and other conditions.

I now take pleasure in presenting to each of you the key of the Society, which is given by the United Chapters of the Fraternity, through its Senate.

Permit me to say in closing, gentlemen, that it is an inflexible rule of our Alpha Chapter to ask that every one who joins us sign our chapter rolls, and after this convocation is over, I hope you will do us that honor. We feel that we have conferred an honor, but we feel still more, gentlemen, that we have received an honor.

After saluting the French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, an Honorary member of the Harvard Chapter, whose presence was recognized with peculiar pleasure, Dr. Grosvenor spoke as follows:

PRESIDENT GROSVENOR'S ADDRESS

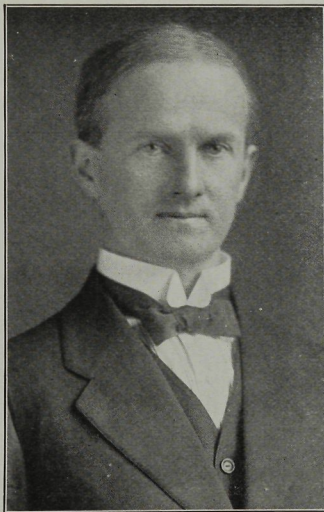
Senator of the Phi Beta Kappa, the Right Honorable Arthur J. Balfour, and Gentlemen:

I count it a distinguished privilege that I may speak to you, Sir, and to your illustrious colleagues, the British Ambassador and members of the British Commission.

At the beginning I am daunted and solemnized by the realization that I am not speaking in any private capacity, but as the official representative of the Phi Beta Kappa, the society that more than any other in the United States represents the colleges and the thought and sentiment of college men.

The senate of the Phi Beta Kappa never convened before on an occasion like this. Always at previous sessions it discussed educational questions and sought the solution of academic problems. To-day we meet in response to an impulse and a longing. It was fitting, it seemed to us well-nigh imperative, that, before your departure from our shores, some expression should be made of the respect, the affectionate regard cherished toward you throughout our American academic world. We would not be self-assertive. There are other splendid associations in our land. But it is becoming that the oldest society of all, recognized and respected before the drafting of the Constitution and the formation of the Union, should, when the national heart beats as one, be interpreter of that heart's pulsations. We longed to say to you, sir, to your associates, to the countless hosts whose faces are turned toward the long-delayed, the ultimate hard-bought victory, "God help and bless you! We are with you, heart and soul."

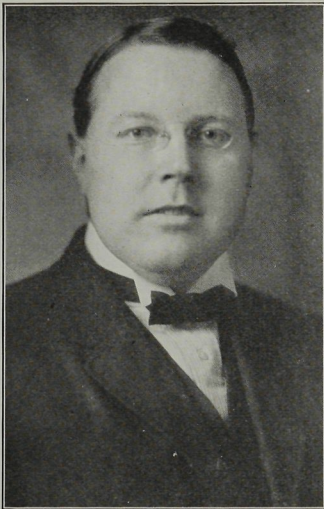
We have followed your course in this country, sir, with intense interest. We cannot too strongly voice our admiration for your marvelous tact and skill. We cannot tell which we most admire, sometimes your apt



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington.

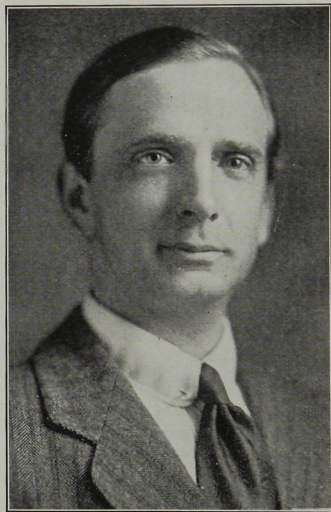
Christopher Phillips

M. A. Cambridge. An official of the Ministry of Munitions since 1915.



Geoffrey G. Butler

M. A. Trinity College, Cambridge. Fellow and Librarian of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and Lecturer in International Law and Diplomacy since 1910. Occasional lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania. Employed in the Foreign Office since the war.



Walter T. Layton

M. A. King's College, Cambridge. Professor of Economics, Cambridge. Head of the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Munitions. Representative of the Ministry on Lord Milner's Mission to Petrograd, 1917.

reticence, sometimes your golden speech. I know no equal instance in the history of diplomacy. Your colleagues have been true to the shining example of their chief. The British ambassador had indeed engraved his record indelibly upon American consciousness. But these other men, to whom this land was comparatively new, who came among us almost strangers a few weeks ago, have so borne themselves that they have drawn still closer the bonds which bind them and their country indissolubly to our country and to us. We talk of common ancestry, common language, common faith, truisms, worn threadbare by constant iteration at festive boards. But there is a cement stronger than cement mixed merely with blood. It is the spirit of comradeship, of being equal fighters and sufferers in a great cause. Let that cause be as now the most stupendous this earth has ever known, let its stake be not for today, not for to-morrow, but for the years, the centuries after, down to the end of time—that is the cement through which is wrought the essential oneness of Britain and America to-day. And from it is to be realized the apocalyptic vision of a new heaven and a new earth. To that achievement the utmost resources of the republic are pledged. On our side as on yours there is no turning back.

Sometime in the future your eye may fall upon the golden badge, significant of the membership in the Phi Beta Kappa, which you have done us honor by accepting here. Upon it you will remark the date, May 17, 1917. Let it remind you of this hour, of those who, kindred indeed to you in lineage, count it their joy and pride to be like you and yours in steadfastness of soul.

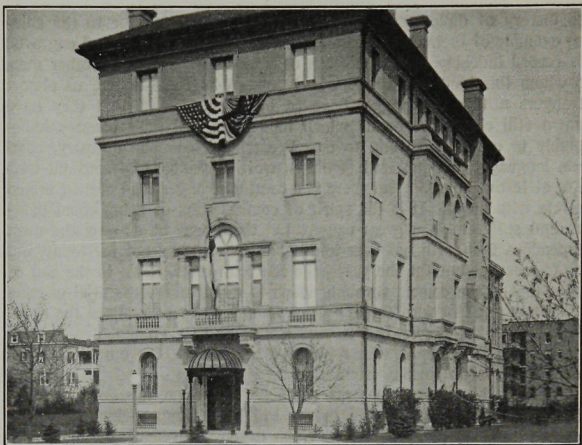
President Grosvenor then introduced Mr. Balfour, the honored head of the Commission, who spoke as follows:

MR. BALFOUR'S ADDRESS

Mr. President and Brethren of the Phi Beta Kappa Society:

I, on behalf of myself and on behalf of my friends, thank you for allowing us to take part in this service, the memory of which will rest with us as long as life exists. You have welcomed us as the Mission from Great Britain; you have welcomed those members of the Mission who belonged to sister universities on the other side of the Atlantic; and you have conferred upon us the highest honor which you can give or it is in our power to receive. We most sincerely thank you for what you have done.

In the eloquent and moving speeches which have today been delivered by your President and others who have taken



Copyright, Harris and Ewing, Washington, D. C.

THE MACVEAGH RESIDENCE

The Home of the British Commission While in Washington

part in the ceremonies, little has been said of matters strictly academic. They were present to our mind, but they lay, and rightly lay, in the background. You who are present represent, and in a lesser degree I suppose we can claim to represent, the academic life and training of the two great countries, and the fact that we should meet together and deal in the main with matters which are international and political rather than with matters which are in the strictest and narrowest sense academic, shows the great truth, or what I deem to be a great truth, that learning and study, if they be divorced from the realities of life and social life, lose more than half their worth.

I understand, and others this morning have reminded us, that this meeting is a symbol of all that represents the culture and education, or most of what represents the culture and education, in these two great nations that are now united in the pursuit of one great, common cause. Let us take it for grant-

ed, then. The history of the Society, of which we are the youngest members, is a happy illustration of the truth which I have just insisted upon; for, if I rightly understood the history of the Society, it was born in the stress and conflict of a great national crisis. The crisis we are living through today is possibly a greater crisis than that which struck this country in 1776. It is one the importance of which extends far beyond the boundaries of this community and touches the whole world, not in America alone, not in Europe only, but wherever the ideals of Christian civilization have come to flourish.

Gentlemen, it surely is a great thing to feel that all of us who have in common a university training, whether it has been carried out here or in Britain, have the same noble traditions which have been maintained for all these centuries; it is a great thing to feel that we are one. You, Mr. President, observed with truth, that we are largely if not wholly of a common stock, but that blood is but a poor cement—I think that was your phrase, is but a poor and weak cement—if that which it is meant to cement is not bound together by ties, spiritual ties, more fervent and more gripping than anything that could be conferred by any accident of heredity. That surely is so. Whether they are students of American universities or whether they are students of British universities, they have a bond of union stronger than language, than literature, than law. Stronger these bonds are and should be. They have the bond of common hopes, of common purposes, of nations making common sacrifices for one great end; and that end is not only that of American Universities and British Universities, not merely the future culture or economic progress of these two great and free communities, but in addition to these causes, in themselves sufficiently great to fill the minds and kindle the imaginations of even the most sluggish, we can surely say for ourselves that we have in our guardianship, gathered here today that we have in our keeping, the future freedom of the world, and success in our efforts means the future civilization of the world.

These are thoughts which I should hardly have ventured to

refer to on such an occasion as this, before a society so strictly academic in its character as this, had not the example been set in the noble address of your President and others, and I should otherwise not have trespassed beyond the relatively narrow bounds of purely academic interests and ventured to go into those wider spheres of policy and humanity which are in all our thoughts at this great and solemn moment of our history.

On behalf of my friends and myself I beg to thank you for the greatest honor which you could possibly confer or which we could possibly receive.

Mr. Balfour's address elicited hearty applause.

President Grovenor then declared the convocation of the Senate and of the Alpha Chapter of Virginia adjourned.

THE LUNCHEON

After a brief period of social intercourse, during which the secretary explained to the new members the symbols of the key, all present were conveyed to the residence of Dr. Godfrey, where luncheon was served. This expression of the abounding hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Godfrey was most thoroughly appreciated.

The occasion was entirely informal for the time would not allow of toast-making. All felt its importance, and enjoyed the fraternal intercourse it made possible.

CONCLUDING MEETING OF THE SENATE

The members of the Senate again convened in the library of the National Geographic Society and a few matters of pressing importance were given careful attention. Adjournment followed.

We take pleasure in presenting portraits of our new members, and also of the mansion in which the meeting was held. This mansion was the home of Honorable Franklin McVeagh, Yale '62, Attorney General during the administration of President W. H. Taft, Yale '78, during the years of his official life. The mansion was offered the home of the British Commission while in Washington by the present occupant, Hon. Breckenridge Long, Assistant Secretary of State.

The use of Hubbard Hall for the meeting of the Senate was kindly offered by Gilbert H. Grosvenor, a son of President Grosvenor, who is Editor of the *National Geographic Magazine*, one of the most successful publications of its class in America. Mr. Grosvenor's services as marshal have already been noted. His colleague, Prof. Henry E. Crampton of Columbia University, is associated with Dr. Godfrey as Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Grosvenor the members of the Senate were privileged to hear an illustrated address by Sir Ernest Shackleton, who was lecturing in Washington under the auspices of the National Geographic Society on his experiences in endeavoring to reach the South Pole, and his successful endeavor to rescue the companions he was compelled to leave behind.

REMARKABLE CONFERENCE AT WASHINGTON

(From THE KEY, October, 1917, p. 235.)

We print as a frontispiece of this number of THE KEY a photograph of a group of representatives of educational institutions taken at a conference held in Washington on May 5 under the auspices of the Committee on Science, Engineering, and Education of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defence. Dr. Godfrey, President of Drexel Institute and a Phi Beta Kappa Senator, chairman of the committee, was the presiding officer. The Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior has issued a report of this conference in a circular dated May 8, 1917. Of the one hundred and seventy-one names listed as being present on May 5th the names of over fifty Phi Beta Kappa members are recognized, and we are sure that other members were present whom we do not recognize.

An educational section of the committee on Science, Engineering, and Education was constituted. Of its twenty-two members, thirteen are members of Phi Beta Kappa. Our readers will be interested to see how many familiar faces they can discover in this group.

