

and the Natural Bridge national forests in Virginia. The new proclamation will add a small area of the Mountain Lake National Forest purchase unit to the George Washington. This area is the northern tip of the former Mountain Lake Unit, north of U. S. Highway 60, between Clifton Forge and Lexington and readily accessible to headquarters at Harrisonburg.

At the same time, that portion of the old Natural Bridge unit south of the James River has been detached from the George Washington and added to the new Jefferson Forest. The gross area of the George Washington National Forest as proclaimed is approximately 1,756,000 acres, of which 855,000 acres are now owned, or are in process of purchase, by the United States. Not all the gross area within the boundaries of the forest will be purchased by the government, as certain areas are suitable for farming or purposes other than forestry.

The Monongahela National Forest, proclaimed in 1928, lies on the headwaters of the Monongahela, Potomac, James and Kanawha Rivers. With the boundary readjustment, it will have an area of approximately 1,674,000 acres, of which 779,000 acres have been bought or are now being acquired. Large portions of both these national forests formerly bore dense stands of commercial timber. Much of the timber has been logged off and the lands burned over. Many other portions have been farmed, and the attempts at agriculture and grazing have in many cases resulted in severe erosion. Practically all the area, however, is suited to timber growing and will be managed by the Forest Service for the production of timber crops and for watershed protection. Areas with outstanding scenic features and recreational possibilities will be developed for public use.

#### THE ALPHA EPSILON DELTA CONVENTION

THE Alpha Epsilon Delta National Honorary Pre-Medical Fraternity held its fourth biennial convention with the Texas Beta Chapter at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, on April 9, 10 and 11. This convention marked the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the fraternity at the University of Alabama on April 29, 1926.

One of the more important actions of the convention was the adoption as a national project of the fraternity, the promotion of a general education in preventive medicine among college students, especially to break down the taboos which prevent the practice of social and mental hygiene. The fraternity went on record to use its influence in encouraging all pre-medical students to take four years of a general cultural course leading to a bachelor's degree as the best preparation for the study of medicine. It was recommended that a closer contact be maintained with the

American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons and the Association of American Medical Colleges. The office of historian was combined with that of the secretary and designated as the central office of the fraternity.

The installation of the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter at the University of Oklahoma immediately following the convention increased the chapter roll to seventeen active chapters. Only universities and colleges that are members of the Association of American Universities, or other recognized associations, such as the Middle Atlantic Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, etc., and are also on the approved list of colleges compiled by the council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association are eligible to petition for chapter membership.

The fraternity was founded as an honor society for pre-medical students and its aims are fourfold: (1) To encourage excellence in pre-medical work by furnishing a goal toward which the student may strive during the early semesters of his or her pre-medical career. (2) To bind together similarly interested students. (3) To act as a force in crystallizing any movement for the good of the pre-medical students. (4) To bridge the gap between the spirit of the pre-medical school and that of the school of medicine.

Officers elected were: *President*, Dr. Emmett B. Carmichael, School of Medicine, University of Alabama; *Vice-president*, David E. Botter, Jr., University of Texas; *Secretary-Historian*, Dr. Maurice L. Moore, department of chemistry, Yale University; *Treasurer*, W. H. McMurtry, Fairfield, Ala.; *Councilor-in-the-West*, Professor Charles F. Poe, University of Colorado; *Councilor-in-the-East* (to be appointed later).

The fraternity publishes a magazine, *The Scalpel*, which contains articles of general interest to pre-medical students as well as fraternity news.

#### THE TERCENTENARY SESSION OF THE HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FIFTEEN specialists on public health will speak at a symposium on "The Atmospheric Environment and its Effect upon Man" at a special Tercentenary Session of the Harvard School of Public Health extending from August 24 to 29. These meetings will immediately precede the two-week Tercentenary Conference of Arts and Sciences.

The public health symposium will include a series of four lectures daily on such subjects as physical fitness, fatigue, air-borne disease and the occurrence and effects of gases. The speakers will also discuss air-conditioning in modern life and the effects of abnormal temperatures and humidities upon man. Other