

# Nebraska Pershing Rifle Company Begins Fifty-First Year on Campus

BY BOB MILLER.

With an inauspicious beginning back in 1892 Nebraska's Pershing Rifle company began a national movement which now embraces some 29 companies throughout the entire nation.

A new school year begins and interest once again focuses itself upon the local company. Designed to be an example for the remainder of the basic cadet corps, Pershing Rifles devotes much of its time to intensive foot drill and military courtesies.

### Call for Fresh.

Every fall there is a call for freshmen basics to try out for the company. At the completion of tryouts, the active chapter picks the pledge class to carry on the tradition. Any freshman, no matter what branch of ROTC he is in, may try.

In an attempt to gain recognition and precision with a small drill unit, Lt. John J. Pershing in 1892 set the foundation stones for the now famous organization. In his mind there was a certain standard of drilling he desired and to realize this standard he picked out 40 of the most proficient soldiers in the regiment at Nebraska.

### Acted as Example.

Those 40 formed a crack drill unit and acted as an example for the rest of the regiment.

The following year was one which saw national recognition come to the infant organization as the company entered the Maiden Drill competition. With a masterful flourish the group annexed first place in this contest. The exhibition was of such a nature that some of the citizenry of Omaha contributed to a fund for a cup to be presented to the winning company. \$1,500 was another prize that resulted from this.

### Pershing Leaves.

In 1895 Lt. Pershing was transferred from Nebraska and in respect the group then known as the "Varsity Rifles" voted to change the name to "Pershing Rifles."

It was from that small group that the basis for the large national organization was moulded. In 1905 the Nebraska organization received photos of the National Military Academy at West Point sent by the academy's commander.

### To Second Best.

An inscription on these stated, "From the best drilled cadet corps in the United States to the second best."

By the middle of the century after the world war and the part which Gen. Pershing played in the national fight, the Rifles had achieved prominence and a corps

was on nearly every campus sponsoring ROTC. In 1929 a national assembly met and chose Lincoln and the University of Nebraska as the national headquarters.

### Has Colonel's Rank.

The National Commander was given the rank of Colonel and each regimental commander was a Lieutenant-Colonel. The former as custom has dictated has always been a Nebraskan. Fred Voigt held the rank last year.

As for the organization on the Husker campus, the situation is well in hand. Under the watchful eye of Francis Cox, company commander, the plans for this year are being formulated. There will be tryouts next week for prospective Riflemen and then an entire year of intense drilling, social events, outside competition and training is on tap.

### Sponsor Military Ball.

One of the achievements of the Pershing Rifles that has been recorded in the history of books was the sponsoring of the Military Ball, annual social extravaganza. Although the military department

took the sponsorship over some time ago, one trace of the Rifle influence is the crack squad drill which effatures every ball.

All members of the crack squad are picked from the company as a whole and then begins a period of training on manual of arms that makes the crack squad member as agile with a rifle as it he had none at all.

### March in Parades.

In addition the entire company marches during all parades and ceremonies as a body behind the band. There are several competes each year both in the company and in the regiment that help to keep interest on a high plane throughout the season.

Significant of active standing in the organization are the blue and white fourrageres or cords worn on the left shoulder. All pledges are entitled to wear a blue and white pledge ribbon over the left pocket until they are initiated.

Entering its 51st year of activity on the Nebraska campus, Pershing Rifles has a record behind it of which it can be justly proud.

## On Second Floor . . .

# Library Shows Photographs Of Once Famous Gibson Girl

. . . Idol of American Women

Second floor of the UN library is the scene of the newest exhibit on campus, one showing illustrations by Charles Dana Gibson.

Miss Phyllis Bull, a new librarian this year, prepared the exhibit of the famous inventor of the Gibson girl. Also on display are photos of Gibson's illustrations and a biography of his life.

The Gibson girl was the idol of American women in the early part of this century. The feminine population wore their hair and dressed to the style set by Mr. Gibson. The famous illustrator has received much publicity lately due to an exhibition of his paintings, being held in the Cincinnati are museum at the present time.

### Tassels—Note . . .

Tassels contrary to previous information will not be able to pick up tickets for the Annual homecoming dance today according to Jack Hogan, in charge of tickets. An announcement will be made in the Daily as to the date upon which the tickets can be procured.

## Society...

BY MARY LOUISE GOODWIN.

At both the DU house party and the Turnpike Saturday night will be Theta Ann Hastings and Kappa Pledge Marcia Craft with Fijis Bill Long and Norrie Anderson, respectively. Sunday evening Norrie will take in Ted Lewis with "Corky" York, Theta . . . The Phi Psi house is keeping the already busy Delta Gamma phone busier and all on account of Pledge Dorothy Thornberg . . . Helen Goodwin and Bill McBride is another Theta-Beta combination that will be doing the campus this weekend. A really good deal we'd say.

Definitely off is the steady deal of last semester between Beta Bill Flansburg and Addy Kloepper of the Dorm . . . "Sadie" Hawken, Alpha Phi pledge, must have really enjoyed the "coke" she and Kappa Sig, Bill Palmer had the other afternoon. They're following it up with a big date Friday night.

Friday may be a closed night on the campus, but Saturday night will open it up again with a bang, with hour dances, the DU house party and the Beta hayride . . . And speaking of the DU party which is, incidentally, the first one this season, we might say that the boys out that way are really going all out for patriotism, using flags of all the United Nations for decoration and selling defense stamp corsages . . . Pat Hunting, Triple Delt, will be there with Bob Ferguson, and Fred Alexander will squire June Schalle . . . Mary Waters of the Dorm is taking it in with Leonard Finnigan, while Alpha Phi pledge, Lorraine Rabe does her Saturday night dancing with John Drummond.

### They're Dating.

Might add Pat Beedle, Chi O and Bob Garrison to your frequent dating list, as well as FH Innocent Randy Pratt and Theta "Cocky" Cochran, who may be seen consuming "coke" in the Crib most any afternoon . . . Another Theta-Beta deal that seems to be on the fire at the present is the one between Bill Seibolt and pledge, Jo Bohrer.

The Kappa Sigs smoked cigars last Monday night from Bob Ogdan who was married this summer to Kappa Delta June Morrison. Also smoking cigars Monday, were the Sig Eps . . . donner Bob Dennis, whose pin is on Penny Henderson of Howard Hall.

Girls at the Dorm enjoyed sweets furnished by Barbara Baldwin, who passed them in honor of the new diamond which sparkles on her third finger left hand—a gift from Jack Henway . . . No joke is the pin hanging of Bob Butz Phi Gam. Lucky girl is Jeanne Hofacre, Gamma Phi of last year.

## Former Chi O Engaged



—Courtesy Lincoln Journal.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Gray of Coleridge announce the engagement of their daughter, Amy, to Myron O. Ravenscroft. Both Miss Gray and her fiance are graduates of the University of Nebraska. She was a member of Chi Omega and of Delta Phi Delta. Mr. Ravenscroft is now employed in the American Rolling Mills company of Ashland, Ky.

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