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### THE FRATERNITIES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Provost Harrison & Dean E. F. Smith.

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## THE FRATERNITIES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PROVOST HARRISON AND DEAN E. F. SMITH.

There are 26 chapters of national Greek letter societies at the University of Pennsylvania. They have always held themselves apart from the University. This is, doubtless, due to the fact that when fraternities first appeared in the University they placed their rooms or houses at some distance from the University campus, so that the membership gradually came to look upon fraternity life as something separate and distinct from the affairs of the University. It has been rare for a fraternity to enter into the politics of the student body. It is not often that fraternity influence is exerted in any of the affairs which may be called student affairs. Such a thing as attempting "to run the University" on the part of fraternities has never transpired here. At no time has the teaching body felt that these organizations are undesirable. It may be said of each one of them that in the management of their "fraternity homes" they have acted wisely and honorably. Drink is not permitted in the "fraternity homes" nor are improper characters taken to them. The fraternities constitute one of the very best aids in the control of our large student body. They are most helpful in reaching men whose lives are not what they should be or who are indifferent to their studies. Each chapter takes a keen pride in the conduct and standing of its members. Perhaps this is due, in part, to the fact that each fraternity has so many resident members in the city who take a real, live interest in the student membership and preserve a close watch upon the things which transpire in them. There are weekly Bible study hours in more than half of our "fraternity homes."

**Seventh General Convention**

**NASHVILLE, TENN.**

**March 8-10, 1910**