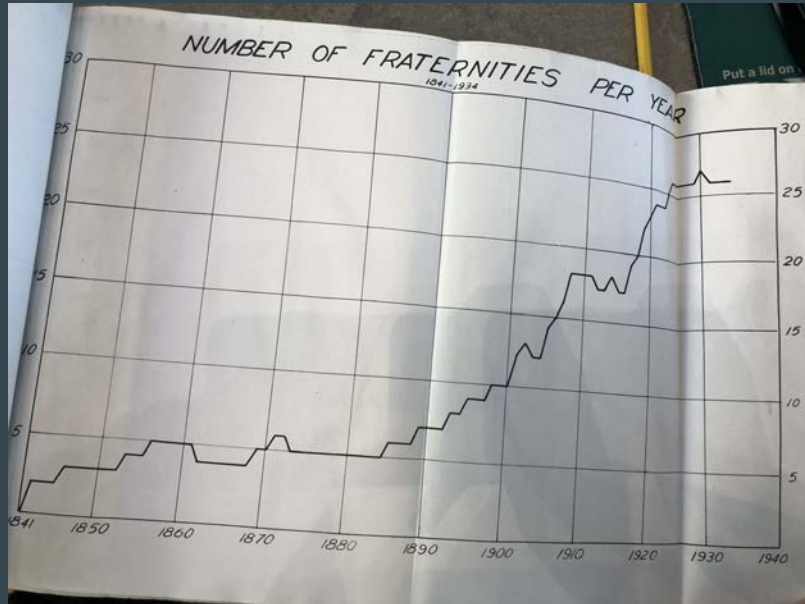


# ... Evolution of Dartmouth Fraternities

Ezekiel Coxe: Writ 5, DCFF

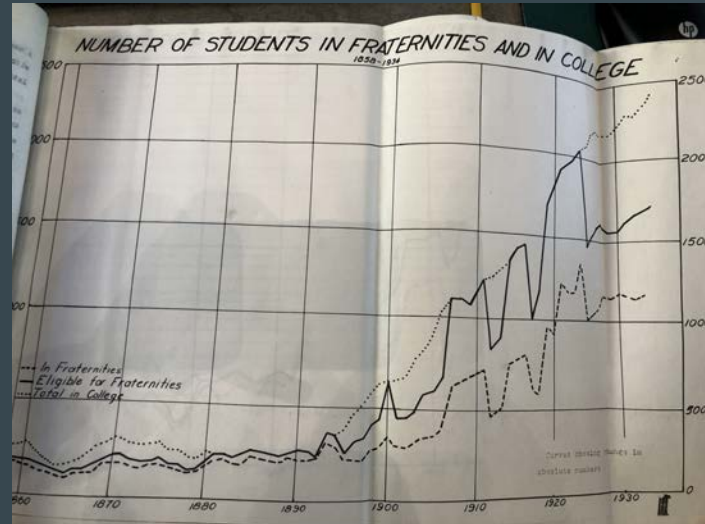
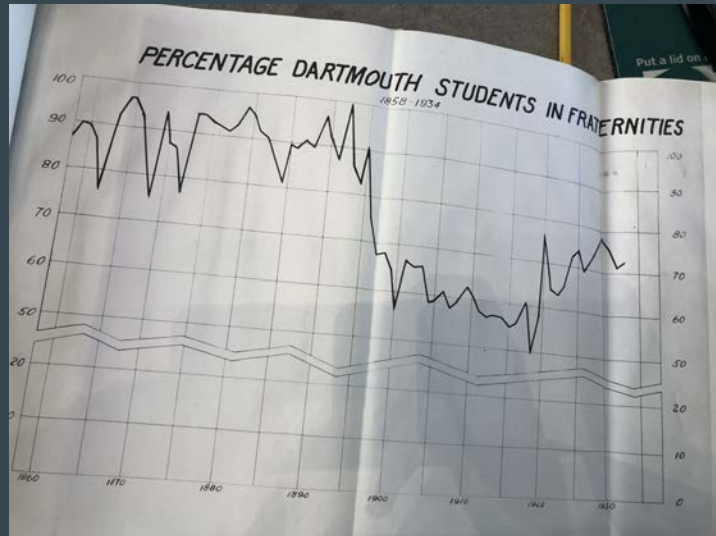
# Dartmouth Fraternities in the 19th Century

- Psi Upsilon founded as first Dartmouth “Greek letter society” in 1842
- 17 more founded from 1842- 1910
- Graph from *Dartmouth College Survey of Social Life 1935*



# Early Fraternity Membership

- Percentages of Interest:
  - (Quint *Story of Dartmouth* Publication Year) 1914: ~58% membership
  - High: ~100% in 1892
  - Low: ~50% in 1912



# Early Fraternity Behavior

- Excerpt from Quint *The Story of Dartmouth* (1914)
  - “The history and the present status of the fraternities is honorable”
  - No problems with administration up until 1914
- Quint describes general direction of fraternity behavior as moving away from dubious traditions such as “Turkey-stealing” and “rum-drinking” (Quint, 256).

# Selections from Quint *The Story of Dartmouth*

parent fraternities. None has deteriorated into an expelled, independent club bearing a parody of the old mother's name and active chiefly as a social organization playing fool pranks in public. In that respect the history and the present status of the fraternities at Dartmouth is honorable. Men may

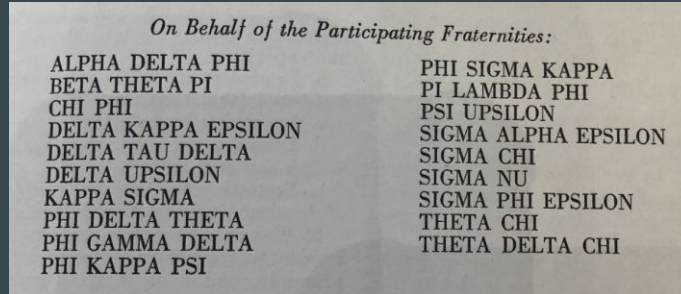
- (Quint, 256)

be happier. However, the fraternity question is in process of better regulation than ever before, partly through frank and free conferences of society delegates with President Nichols, and partly from a feeling among the "frat" men that there may be something in their honorable traditions of scholarship and literature, after all.

- (Quint, 257)

# Fast Forward to 1930's

- 1937: 19 Fraternities



- 1937: Interfraternity Committee publishes *A Preliminary Report on Revitalizing Fraternity Life at Dartmouth College*
  - What went wrong since 1914?
  - Areas of reform specified
    - Faculty meetings with fraternity members (11)
    - Rushing (11)
    - Pledging (11)
    - Budget (16)

# Faculty Meetings

- Photo from *A Preliminary Report on Revitalizing Fraternity Life at Dartmouth College* (1937).
- Illustrates an effort to strengthen fraternity-faculty relations

## *Assumptions of the Process.*

1. Speaker's Bureau set up to assure any house wishing a "fireside talk" a good discussion leader (October 7).
  - (a) About 30 faculty and administrative members on the list.
  - (b) Specifications as to subject and time available.
2. "Inspiration" Dinner (October 20).
  - (a) President Hopkins, Dean Neidlinger, Professor Larmon attended.
  - (b) Ideas as to how to improve

# Rushing

- Photo from *A Preliminary Report on Revitalizing Fraternity Life at Dartmouth College* (1937).

## 4. Rushing.

- (a) Fall period cut from 17 to 10 days (October 7).
- (b) Decided to have no Spring open houses, but instead put through an educational program:
  - [1] Descriptive pamphlet to be given to all freshmen.
  - [2] Smoker for the freshmen to give explanations and present opportunity for questions to be asked.
- (c) Committee recommends that fraternities be ultimately limited to 50 men. That this be accomplished by limiting delegations to 20 men for next few years—this still under discussion.



# Rushing continued

- Photo from *Dartmouth Freshman Green Book 1937*
  - Points of Interest
    - Banning of freshmen (Article 1)
      - If rule broken, can't rush until Junior Fall (3)
    - Judiciary Board (Article 2)
    - \$50 deposit (Article 3)
    - Sophomore rush in fall (Article 4)

## Freshman Rushing Regulations of the Interfraternity Council

THIS has been printed with a definite object in mind, that of adding one more to the agencies by which the members of the Freshman Class may be informed concerning their individual and united relations with the fraternities of the college.

The rule follows in complete form. Italic-face type includes points to be most carefully noted:

Resolved:

ARTICLE 1. That there be no rushing of freshmen; this provision to be interpreted as meaning:

- a) No calling on freshmen.
- b) No open houses for freshmen.
- c) No freshman's name to be voted on in a fraternity meeting.
- d) No entertainment of freshmen in fraternity houses or on fraternity property by fraternity men at any time. *Freshmen may not enter any fraternity house except on specific business.*
- e) The enumeration in the agreement of certain violations shall not be construed to deny others contained in the blanket clause of Article 1—that there be no rushing of freshmen.

ARTICLE 2. That a Judiciary Board be set up to enforce the rule and subordinate provisions as outlined in Article 1.

ARTICLE 3. Each fraternity on campus shall be required to make a deposit of fifty dollars with the Council treasurer at the beginning of each year. Failure to do so will result in suspension from the Council. The following penalties will be inflicted at the discretion of the Judiciary Board for failure to observe Article 1:

- a) *Any freshman deemed by the Judiciary Board to have taken an active part in his being rushed by a fraternity, if he has accepted the advances of the fraternity, shall be deprived of the privilege of joining that particular fraternity until the beginning of his junior year, this punishment to be invoked only in addition to the \$50 fine, in no case to be inflicted without it. The option of deciding the invoking of this penalty shall lie solely in the hands of the Judiciary Committee.*
- b) Notice of violations and trial proceedings will be published in THE DARTMOUTH.

ARTICLE 4. The rushing of *sophomores* will be governed as follows:

- a) *Rushing to start immediately following the opening exercises of the college year, and to continue to the Thursday nearest a four-week period—at which time the customary chinning sessions will follow and the signing of pledge cards will take place.*
- b) *A man may sink any time after the first two weeks of rushing. His sinking will be held as binding, and breaking of his pledge will disqualify him for further sinking for the period of one year from date.*

It is recommended that this be read carefully. The Interfraternity Council feels that since this rule has been brought to the attention of the freshmen in so many different ways there will be no excuse for a freshman "not knowing" if and when he is suspected of violation of the rule.

Signed

D. S. REDINGTON, '34

President of the Interfraternity Council

# Pledging

- Photos from *A Preliminary Report on Revitalizing Fraternity Life at Dartmouth College* (1937).
  - Not much actual detail given regarding the changes, just states that they were made

## 5. Initiations and Hell Week.

- (a) No stunts which endanger health—mentally or physically.
- (b) List compiled [from contributions from all the houses] of suitable initiation stunts so that mind of man in charge of program will not be taxed to an abnormal degree.

(b) Pledge Night (October 1). Nothing directly done but all felt definite need for keeping under control and in one case three or four punished.

# Budget

- Photo from *A Preliminary Report on Revitalizing Fraternity Life at Dartmouth College* (1937).
  - Points of Interest
    - 4) Each fraternity should have two members familiar with house finances
    - 6) Periodic examinations of budget
    - 9) cooperation between houses and their alumni encouraged

1. The treasurer of each house corporation should be a resident of Hanover.

2. Since only three of the seven houses visited made practical use of a budget, strict attention should be paid to enforcing a budget system.

3. A committee of the Interfraternity Treasurers' Council should study feasible means of collecting dues and house charges. A letter explaining financial obligations should be sent to the family of each man pledged.

4. One or more individuals in addition to the treasurer of each house should become acquainted with the financial situation and operation of the fraternity, and these individuals should assume certain of the most time-consuming duties of the treasurer.

5. A simple and uniform system of accounting would be most desirable, and from present indications, would be welcomed by many of the houses.

6. Periodic examination of accounts and conferences on finances with a local accountant will clear many difficulties.

7. Material benefits will result from closer coöperation between the fraternities in matters such as developing uniform methods of bookkeeping and collection, coöperative buying of fuel and furniture, and a group fire insurance policy. Savings can be effected by the installation of sprinkler leakage and automatic fire alarm systems.

A detailed study of all factors involved should bring about an equalization of charges for dues and room rents.

While no definite statement can be made on the basis of this survey concerning the reduction in size of chapters, it is pointed out that one house with a membership of thirty-three operates at a surplus each year, while another with much larger membership is operating on a very slender margin.

Greater coöperation is urged between undergraduate chapters and their alumni corporations.

In conclusion it is recommended that:

(a) Members of fraternities be given a clearer and more comprehensive

# Fraternity Member Survey

- Survey from Dartmouth College Survey of Social Life 1935
  - Points of Interest
    - Live in House: 353 yes v. 765 no
    - Most common house morale
      - Good
      - Fair
    - Most common feelings toward Dartmouth
      - Warm
      - Enthusiastic

1

Do you live in the house? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

1. If so, are you satisfied with your room? *High good* \_\_\_\_\_

2. If not, is it because of: *Poor heat, light, or ventilation* \_\_\_\_\_ *Dissatisfactory roommate* \_\_\_\_\_ *Other reason* \_\_\_\_\_

3. If you do not live in the house, do you visit it? *Fairly* \_\_\_\_\_ *Monthly* \_\_\_\_\_

(as in the years when you did not live in the house, did you visit it?) *(Check one)*

4. Are you, or have you been, a chairman of a committee or an officer of your house? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

5. Think of your five most intimate friends in college. *How many are members of your fraternity?* \_\_\_\_\_

Members of another fraternity \_\_\_\_\_

Members of no fraternity \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you regard the fraternal spirit and morale of your house as a whole *Good* \_\_\_\_\_ *Fair* \_\_\_\_\_ *Indifferent* \_\_\_\_\_ *Poor* \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one)

7. Would you classify your feeling toward your fraternity as: *Enthusiastic* \_\_\_\_\_ *Warm* \_\_\_\_\_ *Indifferent* \_\_\_\_\_ *Hostile* \_\_\_\_\_

8. Judging from house rules, informal practices, and attitudes of members, would you classify your fraternity as one having in actual fact, more the objectives of a social club or a fraternity? *(Check one)* *Social club* \_\_\_\_\_ *Fraternity* \_\_\_\_\_

9. If you are a house or social, looking back for a year or two of fraternity membership:

1. Are you glad that you joined a fraternity? *Yes* \_\_\_\_\_ *No* \_\_\_\_\_

2. What would have been the probable effect on you, over this period of time, if you had not joined a fraternity? \_\_\_\_\_

A-2

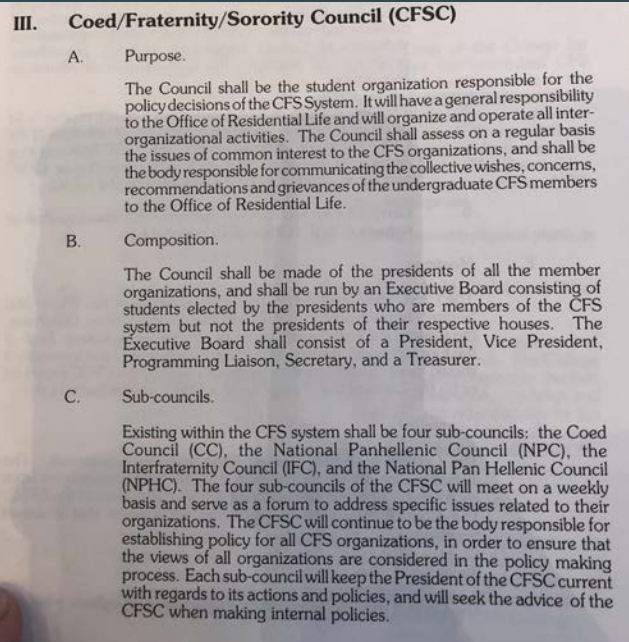
1		1935	1936	1937	Fidge	Chaslas	Total
Number active members in chapter							
Number answered in meeting		274	344	374	29	19	1030
Number answered by mail		46	46	22	7	7	128
Number who did not answer							
Section I		320	390	396	36	26	1154
A. Live in house	Yes	161	170	4	13	3	348
	No	158	216	292	22	17	805
Satisfied	Yes	146	189	4	4	6	349
	No	18	21	29	18	11	87
Not satisfied	Miss	28	26	7	2	2	65
	High rental	10	21	2	2	2	37
	Poor heat, light, or vent.	4	11	2	1	1	19
	Roommate	3	2	1	1	1	8
	Other reasons for dissatisfaction	6	1	2	1	1	13
	House, class, (phil.)	2	7				9
	Neighborhood			21			21
	Personal defects	4	4				8
B. If not in house visit it?	Daily	198	174	112	12	5	492
	Weekly	107	145	122	18	11	393
	Monthly	18	12	8	12	8	56
C. Chairman or Officer	Yes	205	152	24		8	389
	No	22	237	292	24	18	803
D. Five most intimate friends	Members same fraternity	1	20	22	44	6	113
	Members another fraternity	2	77	113	12	19	223
	No fraternity	1	29	124	12	2	168
	Members no fraternity	2	22	22	19	3	68
	No fraternity	1	29	124	12	2	168
	Members no fraternity	2	22	22	19	3	68
E. Spirit and morale of house	Good	128	176	227	17	9	557
	Fair	128	147	121	22	7	425
	Indifference	26	22	11	4	4	78
	Poor	78	22	8			108
F. Feeling towards Fraternity	Enthusiastic	24	129	146	2	6	307
	Warm	128	202	217	22	9	578
	Indifference	22	22	22	10	3	100
	Hostile	4	2	1			7

# *The Real Animal House* (2006)

- Chris Miller's ('63) memoir depicts fraternity life from early 60's
- Dean Seymour represents CFSC (Coed/Fraternity/Sorority Council) in addressing AD fraternity about their troublesome Winter (Miller, 262).
  - "Public urination, public masturbation, public defecation, several acts of indecent exposure" (Miller, 262).
  - "AD wound up on probation for an indefinite period" (Miller, 263).
- Illustrates relations between fraternity and faculty in early 60's through relationship with AD

# Coed/Fraternity/Sorority Council

- Council which punishes and regulates Greek Life at the college
  - Purpose and Composition from *Constitution for Coed, Fraternity, and Sorority Organizations at Dartmouth College* (1997).





# Fraternity Sanctions

- Possible sanctions given from *Constitution for Coed, Fraternity, and Sorority Organizations at Dartmouth College* (1997).

**Warning** — May be imposed to alert an organization that it has failed to comply fully with this *Constitution, Minimum Standards*, or other rules, regulations, procedures, policies and decisions applicable to CFS organizations.

**Probation** — May be imposed as result of (i) events or circumstances determined to constitute a violation, by an organization, of one or more of its duties and responsibilities under this *Constitution, Minimum Standards* or other rules, regulations, procedures, policies and decisions applicable to CFS organizations, (ii) a reoccurrence of, or a failure by an organization to take meaningful corrective action with respect to, matters that gave rise to a Warning. The length of any such general Probation, or the restrictions and other conditions accompanying such sanction shall be determined based upon the nature and severity of the violation or violations giving rise to such sanctions, and the organization's disciplinary history.

**Suspension of Recognition** — May be imposed as a result of (i) events or circumstances determined to constitute a substantial violation by an organization of its duties and responsibilities under this *Constitution, Minimum Standards*, or other rules, regulations, procedures, policies and decisions applicable to CFS organizations, or (ii) a reoccurrence of, or failure by an organization to take meaningful corrective action with respect to matters that gave rise to Probation or a Warning. The length of any such suspension shall be determined based upon the nature and severity of the violation or violations giving rise to such sanction and the organization's disciplinary history. These may include, but need not be limited to, probation with social restrictions, loss of Rush privileges (i.e., no rush, or recruitment of new members before or during Coed/Panhellenic/IFC/Pan Hellenic Rush), and loss of College billing services and funding programs. The progress of the organization during the suspension will be monitored by the ORL.

**Revocation of Recognition** — May be imposed as a result of (i) events or circumstances determined to constitute a major failure by an organization to carry out its duties and responsibilities under this *Constitution, Minimum Standards*, or other rules, regulations, procedures, policies and decisions applicable to CFS organizations, or (ii) a reoccurrence of, or a failure of an organization to take meaningful corrective action with respect to matters that gave rise to a Suspension of Recognition, or (iii) a violation of any of the terms of suspension, or while suspended, any other violations of an organization's duties and responsibilities under this *Constitution and Minimum Standards*. Revocation of Recognition shall result in the revocation of all privileges

# 2015: Another Fraternity Reform

- Excerpt from Steve Kolowich's "Can Dartmouth Rehabilitate Itself?" (2015).
  - Deja vu?
  - Less specific about reformation but similar goal and action as 1937

Last month Philip J. Hanlon, the college's president, declared war on all the negative parts of Dartmouth's reputation. He announced sweeping reforms aimed at combating abusive drinking and sexual violence while increasing diversity and "inclusivity."



# Do the sanctions work?

- Cycle of relations

