Dear Brother,

THIS INFORMAL NETS LETTER, the first of several for the present school year, is an attempt on the part of the active brothers of the Union Chapter to keep the Alumni brothers and the other chapters more adequately informed as to what's going on in the "Delt Shop". These letters, however, are not meant to replace the formal news letter entirely. A Spring issue is forthcoming. We decided on this procedure after the suggestion was made by some of the alumni brothers.

HANS W. HELD, from Bad Oeynhausen, Germany, is the Alpha Delt HELP Plan student this year. Held, a Heidelberg student, is preparing for law. He saw action with the German Army on the Russian front. While recovering from a serious leg injury in Prague, Czechoslovakia, he was captured flat on his back in bed by the Russians. Although the war was over, he was removed to Omsk, Siberia, for two years. In 1946 he was finally discharged and returned to Germany. In the summer of 1947 he entered Heidelberg University. He studied there until the summer of 1949 and then left for Union. Hans has been a valuable addition to the House and is at present working on a permanent exchange between Union and Heidleberg similar to the present St. Andrews exchange.

AFTER THE EXTENSIVE REPAIRS authorized by the alumni since the war to the chapter house, little was left this fall that could be financially undertaken. However, the rugs in the living room and the front hall were repaired, and the heating system in the dining room is fixed. The year-old paint job is holding up quite well despite the soot from the American Locomotive plant and the college heating system.

THE ACTIVE CHAPTER now has 26 brothers, with 4 of the bunch in the married class. Bud Mills and John Vesty took the stop during the past summer vacation, and have since managed to get two of the highest scholastic indexes in the house. The house index as a whole is higher than at any time since the war, and should put us farther up the ladder in the fraternity competition than before.

MAINLY THROUGH THE EFFORTS of Brother Stu McAllester, we have a fine plodge class of 11 Froshmen and 1 Junior. Stu and his committee started working on prospective pledges last summer, and with the added help of the rest of the chapter, brought this year's pledging to a close a few days ago. Al Scott, of Yonkers, N. Y., had been pledged last year, and re-entered Union again this fall. The rest of the pledge class includes Ben Thelin, Armonk, N. Y.; Ron Jacobs, Barneveld, N. Y.; Charles Mosher, Scarsdale, N. Y.; George Winch, Haddonfield, N. J.; Werner Reiners, New York City; Dick Donohoe, Malone, N. Y.; Gary Clough, Newburgh, N. Y.; Jim Hannan, Albany, N. Y.; Bill Gronzebach, Worcester, N. Y.; Bob Shorter, Katonah, N. Y.; and Fred Davies, New Hartford, N. Y. This brings the total in the house up to 38, the highest in the history of the chapter to our knowledge. However, 14 of the present chapter are Seniors. Barring unforeseen difficulties, the house should be down to normal after this year.