

THE NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

First Triennial Convention

The first national convention was held at Lincoln, Nebraska, in June 1918, with Nitrogen as hostess chapter. The first national officers were elected as follows:

President: Mary L. Fossler, Nitrogen
 Vice-President: Miriam E. Simpson, Hydrogen
 Secretary: Edith Hindman, Oxygen
 Treasurer: Icie G. Macy, Tungsten
 Editor: M. Helen Keith, Iodine

During the first convention, Josephine Graves of Nitrogen was chairman and Margaret Hessler of Oxygen was secretary. The national constitution was revised, duties of national officers defined, and the pin devised by the California chapters adopted. This symbol was made up of the letters taken from the original Iota Sigma Pi pin, the two crescents and circles from the Chi Alpha Pi pin, and together embossed upon the seal of benzene ring shape originally adopted by Alchemia.

A committee to adopt seal and letterhead was appointed at this convention and gave certain recommendations on these points and on adoption of a national jeweler for pin manufacture.

Another committee was authorized to research the alchemical symbols and rites with a goal for recommendations of a new ritual. This new ritual would be submitted to the chapters for approval.

The list of delegates and chapters represented at the first triennial national convention held at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, June 21 and June 22, 1918, was as follows:

Chapter	Delegate
Carbon	No delegate
Hydrogen	No delegate
Iodine	Valda Smith
Nitrogen	Josephine Graves
Oxygen	Margaret Hessler
Phosphorus	Florence Wixon
Sulfur	No delegate
Tungsten	Eva Baum

The Triennium, 1918 to 1921

Because of illness and other difficulties, the first national president, Mary L. Fossler, was unable to perform the functions of her office during most of the triennium.



MARY LOUISE FOSSLER

First National President

1918-1921

This resulted in some confusion, but largely through the efforts of Edith Hindman, secretary, and Icie Macy, treasurer, the national organization was held together and even made progress.

Two new chapters were installed during this period: Ytterbium at Yale University, on May 30, 1920, by Icie Macy of Tungsten and three members of Oxygen; and Aurum at Iowa State College on June 1, 1920, by Margaret Perry of Iodine and Ruth O'Brien of Nitrogen.

Second Triennial Convention

The second convention was held at the University of California, Berkeley, on August 4-6, 1921, with Hydrogen as hostess chapter, M. Helen Keith, editor, presiding. The second set of national officers was elected.

President: Zalia Jencks Gailey, Oxygen
 Vice-President: Esther H. Branch, Hydrogen
 Secretary: P. Mabel Nelson, Ytterbium
 Treasurer: Icie G. Macy, Tungsten
 Editor: M. Helen Keith, Iodine

Certain amendments to the constitution were adopted: a pin in the key form was allowed, support for one or more scholarships were supported, and a formal scientific program of reports of research by members was offered.

An interesting historical ritual was presented by Tungsten and Oxygen for the approval of the delegates. It was voted that the original ritual be retained, but that the more elaborate historical ceremony be available for occasional use at the desire of each chapter.

I believe that membership in Iota Sigma Pi should not stop at initiation. I believe that ... helping women to understand chemistry and to reach out to those sincerely trying to further the interests of chemistry should be a working-goal for every woman who repeats the initiation pledge.

Nellie M. Naylor

National Vice-President
 Iota Sigma Pi

The Iotan of Iota Sigma Pi

Vol. 4 No. 1 March 1944
 pg. 6



The Chinese periodic chart represented to me the orderliness of a universe which, to my youthful mind, was absolutely beautiful.

Betty W. Li

United States Department of Agriculture

It was agreed that a directory of the organization be issued every third year by the national editor and national vice-president and the Iota Sigma Pi quarterly, be issued by the editor and business editor, to be subscribed to by all active members. The first compilation of the history of Iota Sigma Pi was also authorized by this convention.

Provision for the preservation of national archive material by national officers was also made as part of the work of the convention, and recommendation of similar preservation made for chapter records.

Listed below are the chapters and their delegates registered at the second triennial convention at Berkeley in 1921.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Carrie E. Lake
Carbon	Ruth D. G. Lee
Hydrogen	Edna R. Hansen
Iodine	Virginia Bartow
Nitrogen	Josephine E. Graves
Oxygen	Robin Wilkes, proxy
Phosphorus	Robin Wilkes, proxy
Sulfur	Blanche Gautier
Tungsten	Willa F. Ferris
Ytterbium	Martha R. Jones

The Triennium, 1921 to 1924



ZALIA JENCKS GAILEY ROWE
National President
1921-1927

During the interconvention period, 1921 to 1924, three new charters were granted. Helium, the eleventh chapter, was installed by Alma J. Neill of Iodine at the University of Oklahoma at Norman on November 5, 1921, with eight charter members. Mercury, the twelfth chapter, was installed at the University of Minnesota at St. Paul-Minneapolis on April 10, 1923, by three members of Aurum, one of Ytterbium and one of Phosphorus, with nine charter members.

Radium, the thirteenth chapter, was installed on May 26, 1923, at the University of Cincinnati by Elizabeth Hyde of Iodine. There were seventeen

active and one honorary charter members.

Late in 1921, M. Helen Keith resigned the editorship. The next year H. Marjorie Crawford of Aurum was elected to take her place.

Third Triennial Convention

The third convention of Iota Sigma Pi was held at Ames, Iowa, June 17-19, 1924, Zalia Jencks Gailey as chair, with Aurum as hostess chapter. The following is a list of chapters represented together with the names of delegates.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Margaret House
Carbon	Florence Tangney (H), proxy
Helium	Margaret Rayburn
Hydrogen	Florence Tangney
Iodine	Ruth Tucker
Mercury	Ethel Phelps
Nitrogen	Cora Johnson
Oxygen	Constance West
Phosphorus	Margaret Woodwell
Radium	Helen M. Norris
Sulfur	Blanche Bobbitt
Tungsten	Icie Macy, proxy
Ytterbium	Ruth Watts

The convention discussed such topics as the national and local scholarship funds, the relationship between active chapters and alumnae, the ritual, the key, convention expenses, membership cards, problems of interchapter communication, future policies of the society, status of professional women in the society, and the material to be furnished by petitioning groups.

An amendment was added to the constitution making the national vice-president chairman of a committee on extension policy, with the members being the vice-presidents of the active chapters.

Other amendments to the constitution concerning membership were proposed by Mercury and adopted by the society. These amendments were to permit the election to active membership of graduate students, provided that they fulfill specific requirements, and of women of the rank of instructor or above. Professional women were to be accepted for active membership on the basis required for faculty members.

A form of petition was drawn up which could be sent to petitioning groups by the national secretary. It was agreed that failure to reply by a chapter three weeks after receiving such a petition and a letter from the vice-president, would lead to the cancellation of the vote held by that chapter on the petition in question.

Charters were granted to groups at the University of Kansas and at the University of Denver.

Officers for the period 1924-27 were elected.
President: Zalia Jencks Gailey, Oxygen

Vice-President: P. Mabel Nelson, Aurum
 Secretary: Blanche G. Bobbitt, Sulfur
 Treasurer: Lillian Cohen, Mercury
 Editor: Esther Hudson Branch, Hydrogen

At the open meetings, addresses were given by Lillian Cohen on "Rare Metals," John Wilkinson on "Soil Colloids," Elizabeth Weirick on the general field of textile chemistry, and Icie G. Macy on the Merrill-Palmer School and its work.

The Triennium, 1924 to 1927

During the interconvention period 1924-27, four new chapters were installed. Platinum was installed August 23, 1924, at the University of Denver, in Denver, Colorado, by seven members of Tungsten, with seven charter members. Kalium was installed with six charter members, on November 29, 1924, at the University of Kansas at Lawrence, by two members of Nitrogen. Fluorine, the sixteenth chapter was installed on February 28, 1925, at Western Reserve University at Cleveland, Ohio, by Lottie Munn of Ytterbium and Dorothy Drake Trumbull of Oxygen. There were thirteen charter members. Iridium, the seventeenth chapter, was installed at Iowa State University at Iowa City on November 21, 1926, by P. Mabel Nelson and other members of Aurum.

Fourth Triennial Convention

The fourth convention was held at Western Reserve University at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 16-18, 1927, with Fluorine as hostess chapter, and Zalia Jencks Gailey, national president, presiding. The chapters and delegates were

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Ida M. Shillin
Carbon	Nelle Hollinge, proxy
Fluorine	Nora Schreiber
Helium	No delegate
Hydrogen	Nelle Hollinger
Iodine	Beulah Westerman
Iridium	Martha Nelson
Kalium	P. Mabel Nelson, proxy
Mercury	Lillian Cohen, proxy
Nitrogen	Viola Jelinek
Oxygen	Anna Church
Phosphorus	Mabel Miller
Platinum	Essie White Cohn
Radium	Elizabeth Gates
Sulfur	Eunice Mason
Tungsten	Ida Lloyd Swayne
Ytterbium	No delegate

The officers elected for the ensuing triennium were
 President: Sybil Woodruff, Kalium
 Vice-President: Blanche Bobbit, Sulfur
 Secretary: Henrietta Hoersch, Iodine
 Treasurer: Elizabeth Gates, Radium

Actions taken during the business meetings of the convention were declaration of invitation to join the National Professional Panhellenic Association, appointment of the permanent historian, revision of constitution to change the office of editor to that of business editor, the mimeographing instead of the printing of the triennial Directory, the bonding of the national treasurer, and the further revision of ritual and constitution. Addresses to the convention were made by H. Gruener, head of the chemistry department of Western Reserve University, Harrison E. Howe, editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Zalia Jencks Gailey, and Glenola Behling Rose.

A banquet was held at Wade Park Manor on June 17. Gilberta Torrey of Fluorine was toastmistress and President Vinson and Dean Smith of Western Reserve University, M. M. Reutschler of the American Chemical Society, Zalia Gailey, and Harriett Hippard of Fluorine were the speakers.

The Triennium, 1927 to 1930



SYBIL WOODRUFF
 National President
 1927-1930

Elizabeth Gates, the newly elected national treasurer, resigned her office at the close of the first year and Ida Shilling, Aurum was elected unanimously by mail-ballot to succeed her.

A meeting of the national council was held in Chicago on May 25, 1929, with Dr. Woodruff, Mrs. Hoerech, and Miss Shilling present. Four amendments to the constitution were discussed, including the duties of national officers, particularly of the newly authorized business editor and permanent historian. The national officers had voted some time previously to substitute the publication of a history for the usual interconvention directory. It was voted also, to have the secretary obtain from the chapters a classified list of all active members, and to complete as soon as possible a permanent national file of members. During this triennium Ytterbium became inactive.

Ask! - for that raise or promotion, or for time off to attend a professional meeting or class. The worst thing that can happen is that the answer will be "no".

Helen Free

President
 American Chemical
 Society 1993
 National Honorary
 Member 1978

I would tell them to invest in finding out their own scientific interests and to follow them in whatever direction they lead and that they are headed for a tremendously exciting, multifaceted career with numerous opportunities. I would tell them they made a good choice.

Carolyn R. Bertozzi

Assistant Professor
Chemistry and Molecular
and Cell Biology
University of California
Berkeley

**Chemical & Engineering
News,**
January 1, 2001, pg 36

Two general Iota Sigma Pi meetings offered opportunity for members to enjoy together scientific and social programs. In conjunction with the meeting of the American Chemical Society in Minneapolis in September 1929, all members were invited by Mercury chapter to meet for dinner and hear a report of the work of the Women's Service Committee of the American Chemical Society given by Emma Carr of Mt. Holyoke College

A second general meeting of Iota Sigma Pi members occurred in Ames, Iowa on Saturday, December 28, 1929. Aurum chapter was hostess to visiting members of Iota Sigma Pi and of Sigma Delta Epsilon who were in attendance at the annual meeting in Des Moines of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Fifth Triennial Convention

The fifth convention was held at the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 6-8, 1930, with Radium as hostess chapter, and Sybil Woodruff, national president, in the chair. The chapter roll call was as follows.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Anne Elizabeth White
Carbon	Blanche Bobbitt, proxy
Fluorine	Mina Daus
Helium	Thelma Reinberg, proxy
Hydrogen	Mary Lynip
Indium	Hallie Isabel Morgan
Iodine	Florence Catherwood
Iridium	Genevieve Stearns
Kalium	Genevieve Stearns, proxy
Mercury	Ruby C. Glockler
Nitrogen	Lucile Hac
Oxygen	Rachel E. Hoffstadt, proxy
Palladium	Mary L. Willard
Phosphorus	Malwina T. Lemmle
Platinum	Blanche Bobbitt, proxy
Radium	Emma D. Luhn
Sulfur	Florence M. Shelly
Tungsten	Dorothea Klemme

Indium and Palladium were seated as new chapters and Tellurium (University of Texas) was welcomed as already installed but not seated as voting at this convention.

This convention adopted the rule that candidates for national office be placed in nomination only after their explicit consent had been obtained and address verified. It also voted for the publication of constitution, directory, and history every three years and for the holding of the triennial conventions at the same time and place as American Chemical Society meetings whenever possible.

Uniform requirements for the contents of petitions for new chapters, a requirement of existence of the previous organization of the petitioning groups for at least two years, and the adoption of the A.A.U.W. rating scale for institutions containing

petitioning groups, were all adopted.

The first printed edition of the History of Iota Sigma Pi was presented to the convention and accepted. A National Editor was added to the National Council.

The officers elected for the ensuing triennium were

President: Virginia Bartow, Iodine
Vice-President: Mary L. Willard, Palladium
Secretary: Helen Norris Moore, Radium
Treasurer: Ida M. Shilling, Aurum
Editor: Mary Morse, Nitrogen

The Triennium, 1930 to 1933



VIRGINIA BARTOW
National President
1930-1933

Late in 1930 Editor Morse requested for the names and addresses of all members, past and present, to bring the file up to date and to prepare for the printing of the new Directory. This request was repeated later, and the response, although slow, gradually produced a voluminous record in the Editor's hands. The system of filing a card for each initiate by the National Secretary, begun by Helen N. Moore, was expected to eliminate much of this confusion.

In August 1932, Tungsten and Platinum sponsored a luncheon in conjunction with the American Chemical Society meeting in Denver. Some forty members from several chapters were present; everyone was introduced and informal reports of chapter activities were made. This gathering predicted an important phase of Iota Sigma Pi's function among women chemists.

The national loan fund functioned for the first time in 1931 when a loan was made to Anne White of Aurum.

Sixth Triennial Convention

The sixth convention was held on September 7-9, 1933 at Douglas, Michigan. The finances of the organization were rendered immobile by the depression during that year and the convention instead of being omitted as was suggested, was called by President Bartow to meet in the informal surroundings of the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Edward Bartow. Iodine acted as hostess chapter. The roll was as follows.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Eunice Walde
Carbon	Margaret Gulick, proxy
Fluorine	Ivy Parker, proxy
Helium	No Delegate
Hydrogen	No Delegate
Indium	Prudence Van Arsdell
Iodine	Vera Conard
Iridium	Marie Andersch
Kalium	Mary Gear Moore
Mercury	Helen Lasy
Nitrogen	Violet Wilder
Oxygen	No Delegate
Palladium	Pauline Beery Mack
Platinum	Hazel Fehlmann, proxy
Phosphorus	Katherine Wilcox Putnam
Radium	Katherine Bachman
Sulfur	Margaret Gulick
Tellurium	Ivy Parker
Tungsten	Hazel Fehlmann

A number of amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws were approved. A recommendation was accepted that national officers visit chapters in their vicinity whenever possible and that the President appoint a member to arrange for Iota Sigma Pi meetings at scientific conventions such as those of the American Chemical Society.

The officers elected were

President: Genevieve Stearns, Iridium
 Vice-President: Imo P. Baughman, Sulfur
 Secretary: Helen Norris Moore, Radium
 Treasurer: Alice Biester, Mercury
 Editor: Mary L. Morse, Nitrogen

The Triennium, 1933 to 1936



GENEVIEVE STEARNS
National President
1933-1939

President Stearns carried on a considerable correspondence with the officers of Phi Lambda Upsilon (national chemical honor fraternity) looking toward some form of cooperation between that organization and Iota Sigma Pi. Apparently cooperation but no merger was approved by the chapters since they wished to safeguard the separate existence of Iota Sigma Pi. During this triennium, Helium became inactive.

Seventh Triennial Convention

The seventh convention was held at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, on July 6 and 7, 1936, with Oxygen as hostess chapter. The chapter also celebrated at the same time the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	No Delegate
Carbon	No Delegate
Fluorine	Agnes Fay Morgan, proxy
Helium	Inactive
Hydrogen	Kathryn Heck
Indium	No Delegate
Iodine	Mary Scott
Iridium	Genevieve Stearns
Kalium	No Delegate
Mercury	Jane M. Leichsenring
Nitrogen	Mary L. Morse
Oxygen	Marjorie Nelson
Palladium	Mary L. Morse, proxy
Platinum	No Delegate
Phosphorus	Jane M. Leichsenring, proxy
Radium	Helen N. Moore
Sulfur	Sheila Murray
Tellurium	Helen N. Moore, proxy
Tungsten	Mary Riggs

The loan fund was reported as unused since 1931. The convention moved to use the money in that fund for a scholarship of \$500 to be awarded during the next triennium, with the hope that the

*When it comes right
 down to it, I love
 the science of chemistry.
 I particularly enjoy
 sharing my love
 of chemistry with others
 through instructional
 roles.*

Nicole R. Brinkmair

Graduate student

TRIENNIAL CONVENTIONS

1921, 1924, 1936



**Delegates to the Second Triennial Convention
Berkeley, California, August 1921**

Left to right: Martha Jones, Ytterbium, Virginia Bartow, Iodine; visitor from Aurum; Edna Hanson, Hydrogen; Icie G. Macy, Tungsten; Zalia J. Gailey, Oxygen; Helen Keith, Iodine; Josephine Graves, Nitrogen; Robin Wilkes, Oxygen; Willa Ferris, Tungsten; Blanche Gauthier, Sulfur; visitor from Sulfur; Ruth Lee, Carbon.



Convention Group at the Third Triennial Convention, Ames, Iowa, 1924



**Convention Group at the Seventh Triennial Convention
Seattle, Washington, 1936**

fund may be replenished so that a like scholarship may be offered during each triennium.

A new and increased national fee per capita was assessed for the next triennium in order to make it possible to pro-rate the expenses of a delegate from each chapter to the next convention.

It was moved that chapters having a membership of less than six be allowed a period of three years' grace to be inactive nationally, paying one-half the national dues and to become active on payment of the remainder of the dues or to have the charter revoked at the end of the three-year period.

The petition of the group at George Washington University was accepted and the charter for a new chapter, the twenty-first, Polonium, authorized.

The officers elected were

President: Genevieve Stearns, Indium
Vice-President: Marion Cleaveland, Fluorine
Secretary: E. Sanderson Radford, Oxygen
Treasurer: Alice Biester, Mercury
Editor: Hazel A. Fehlmann, Tungsten

Eighth Triennial Convention

The eighth convention was held at the University of Iowa at Iowa City on August 30-31, 1939, with Iridium as a hostess chapter. The chapter roll was called.

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Helen Farrenkop
Carbon	Dorothy Craig, proxy
Fluorine	Catherine Rose
Hydrogen	Florence T. McLelland
Indium	Alberta Sohl
Iodine	Elizabeth Weston
Iridium	Dorothy Stinger
Kalium	No Delegate
Mercury	Ruth Foster
Nitrogen	Lois Murphy
Oxygen	Virginia Gonnason
Palladium	June Pfister
Phosphorus	Marjorie Bishop
Platinum	Mary Frances Hartman
Polonium	Ellen Posnjak
Radium	Mrs. F. M. Snell
Sulfur	Dorothy Craig
Tellurium	Margaret Brown
Tungsten	Leota F. Pekar

This was the first convention that was financed by the society, and, as a result, every chapter except one was represented by an active Delegate. The total cost was surprisingly low, \$900 as compared with that of the seventh convention at Seattle, \$513. Transportation of Delegates was not furnished for the Seattle convention.

The convention authorized the establishment of alumnae chapters and granted the first alumnae charter to a group in Chicago, to be known as

Aurum Iodide.

The decision was made to consider scholarship and character the only basis for election to membership and to eliminate all references to secrecy from the Constitution and By-Laws. Thus, Iota Sigma Pi became a real "honor society."

An interesting program of this convention centered about the question of the employment of women chemists. Hazel Fehlmann was delegated to attend the symposium on the same subject held the following week in Boston by the Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society. Mrs. Fehlmann circulated a clear and suggestive report of this meeting to all chapters. Obviously one of the duties of Iota Sigma Pi is the investigation and publication of conditions and opportunities for women for both education and employment in the various fields of chemistry.

The officers elected were

President: Evelyn Laing McBain, Carbon
Vice-President: Nellie M. Naylor, Aurum
Secretary: Icie Macy Hoobler, Tungsten
Treasurer: Grace G. Spencer, Aurum Iodide
Editor: Hazel A. Fehlmann, Tungsten

The Triennium, 1939 to 1942



EVELYN LAING MCBAIN
National President
1939-1945

A National Council meeting was held in Chicago, April 13-14, 1940, with four members present (McBain, Naylor, Spencer and Macy Hoobler).

The discussions dealt with simplification of the routine business of the Society: contacting and organizing the alumnae in order to strengthen the position of women in sciences; and consideration of the finances of the organization.

I find chemistry very exciting. It is challenging, yet understandable. With chemistry I am now able to appreciate and see the beauty in many things that I have previously taken for granted. My exposure to chemistry has stimulated my curiosity about nature.

Gidget Cantrel Ternet

Senior member
Technical Staff,
Space Materials
Laboratory,
The Aerospace
Corporation

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION DELEGATES 1939, 1951



Delegates to the Eighth Triennial Convention at Iowa City, Iowa, 1939



**Delegates to the Tenth Triennial Convention
Denver, Colorado 1951**

Left to right: First row: Anna Marie Duval, Katherine M. Ross, Anna L. Hoffman, Margaret G. Morehouse, Essie White Cohen, Janie Britton, Theodora Edwards, Alberta Rhein, ChiChe Wang. Second row: Laura Gemmell, Nellie N. Naylor, Mildred Pfister, Leora Cunningham, Paula Sue Richardson, Elizabeth Johnson, Alice D. Presnell, Agnes Fay Morgan. Third row: Elizabeth Conrad, Amy LeVesconte, Myra Lansford, Ella Richards, Lucille Ryan, Stephanie Barch, Phyllis Watson, Jean Grunlund. Fourth row: Marjorie Crawford, Helen Ludeman, Lillian Woods, Pauline Beery Mack, Shirley Gleason, Charlotte Roderuck, Isabel Christianson, Jean Stang, Norma Gruver.

At this council meeting Mary Pennington was elected to honorary membership in Iota Sigma Pi.

The Council voted also to contribute \$50 from the National Treasury to the Madame Curie Hospital. Each chapter was urged hereafter to make a contribution of approximately one pound per year as a memorial to the work initiated by Madame Curie who was the first honorary member of Iota Sigma Pi. National Council also agreed to become a sustaining member of the Women's Professional Relations by paying a membership fee of \$25.

During this triennium the National Secretary, Icie G. Macy Hoobler, maintained an active Placement Service for women chemists and was able to direct a number of members of Iota Sigma Pi to positions in education and industry.

The Triennium, 1942 to 1945

No national convention was held in 1942 due to the war conditions. Publication of an annual printed newsletter, called **The Iotan** of Iota Sigma Pi, began in 1941 and served to hold the national group together to record the activities of the chapters.

By mail ballot, the national officers for 1942-1945 were elected by the chapters.

President: Evelyn Laing McBain, Carbon
Vice President: Nellie M. Naylor, Aurum
Secretary: H. Marjorie Crawford, Aurum
Treasurer: Elizabeth M. Koch, Aurum Iodide
Editor: Hazel A. Fehlmann, Tungsten

A survey of women in chemistry was made in 1942 by Laverra Hill of Ontario, California, with the help of the National Secretary of Iota Sigma Pi. Of the 570 women who replied to the questionnaire, 40.9 percent were engaged in teaching, 22.3 percent in industry, 10.2 percent in medicine and biochemistry, 5.9 percent in government service, 4.6 percent were homemakers, 2.1 percent in graduate study, 8.3 percent unanswered or in other work. The range of salaries recorded at that time was from \$840 to \$5000, with means \$9000 to \$55000 in 2000 dollars.

The first Pacific Coast Regional Convention of Iota Sigma Pi was held in Berkeley and Palo Alto, California, June 26-28, 1942, with 57 members from four chapters and two National officers in attendance. President Evelyn L. McBain presided. Reports of activities were made by Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen and Sulfur chapters and by the National president and historian. A symposium, on wartime employment opportunities for women chemists, was a highlight of the meeting.

Breakfasts for Iota Sigma Pi members were held at most of the American Chemical Society conventions. At the breakfast on September 11, 1940, in Detroit, the award of national honorary member-

ship to Mary E. Pennington was made. She presented an interesting description of her research. On September 9, 1941, at Atlantic City, Wanda Farr gave the main address describing her research on starch, linens, leaves and food taken from an Egyptian tomb sealed about 1494 B.C. Honorary members Mary Pennington and Emma P. Carr attended this breakfast. On September 8, 1942 at the breakfast held in Buffalo, honorary membership was awarded to Florence Seibert. During this triennium, Phosphorus chapter became inactive.

Federal Civil Service

Throughout the service, women are being employed to take over the jobs of men who have been called to the armed forces.

The Iotan of Iota Sigma Pi
Vol. 4 No. 1 March, 1944
Pg. 15

The Triennium, 1945 to 1948



PAULINE BEERY MACK

National President

1945-1948

The national officers elected by mail ballot of the chapters for the triennium 1945-1948 were

President: Pauline Beery Mack, Palladium
Vice President: Gladys A. Emerson, Hydrogen, Aurum
Secretary: H. Marjorie Crawford, Aurum
Treasurer: Elizabeth M. Koch, Aurum Iodide
Editor: Else L. Schulze, Radium

The National President visited eleven chapters in the spring of 1947 and nine others in the following year. This activity was a valuable stimulus to the chapters and resulted also in increased extension. In 1947 two new chapters, Uranium and Columbium, were installed. Initial work on the petition of Chlorine began. Chlorine chapter was installed in 1949.

In April 1946 at the American Chemical Society meeting in Atlantic City, the presiding officer at the Iota Sigma Pi breakfast was President Pauline Beery Mack, and in September, 1946, in Chicago, Treasurer Elizabeth Koch presided. Marjorie B. Moore was the speaker at the latter meeting. In April and September, 1947, breakfasts were held

As a young person, one of the things you can exploit very well is enthusiasm. I think young professors breathe a lot of life into departments and help motivate them to move forward.

Mary Kay H. Pflum

Assistant Professor
Chemistry Wayne State
University

Chemical & Engineering News

February 11, 2002, pg 45

in Atlantic City and New York. At the former, national officers Mack, Emerson, Crawford and Schulze were present, as well as honorary member Seibert, and at the latter, national officers Mack, Crawford, former President McBain and honorary member Mary E. Pennington.

Ninth Triennial Convention

The ninth convention was held June 13-17, 1948, at Pennsylvania State College with President Pauline Beery Mack presiding and Palladium chapter as hostess. The chapter roll call was

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Ethelda Norberg
Carbon	Charlotte Greene
Columbium	Geraldine Krueger
Fluorine	Marilyn Davies
Helium	Billie Ruth Vanderwerth
Hydrogen	Lucille Hurley
Indium	Elma Lauterman
Iodine	Elizabeth Underhill
Iridium	Elizabeth Knapp
Kalium	Sheryl Holland
Mercury	Elizabeth K. Mermer
Nitrogen	Marilyn Chaloupka
Oxygen	Frances Greef
Palladium	Evelyn Marboe
Platinum	Eunice Virtue
Polonium	Helen Ross
Radium	Vera Hecht
Sulfur	Stella Alogdelis
Tellurium	Jessie Ternberg
Tungsten	Jeanne Bjork
Uranium	Kathryn Huffman
Aurum Iodide	Elizabeth M. Koch

The Delegates and national council were housed in the Nittany Lion Inn in a delightful country club atmosphere. Since this was the first convention since 1939, a number of revisions of the Constitution and By-Laws were in order. The chapter historians were directed to make reports to the National Editor and Secretary rather than to the National Historian whose duty is that of archivist and editor of the occasional complete history of the organization. New committees, authorized by changes in the By-Laws, included one on extension and one on national honorary members. The yearly issue of **The Iotan** was authorized and the requirements for both undergraduate and graduate members were more clearly defined.

The means of financing convention expenses were discussed. The Finance Committee was instructed to make a plan early in each triennium for the convention expense and to notify the chapters of the amount. Chapter and alumnae donations for this purpose were to be requested.

A national research award or other project was authorized with the appointment of a committee of five members to draw up a plan for such a project to be approved by the chapters and

National Council.

The officers elected were

President: Essie White Cohn, Platinum
Vice-President: Gladys A. Emerson, Carbon,
Hydrogen, Aurum
Secretary: Anna L. Hoffman, Radium
Treasurer: Nellie M. Naylor, Aurum
Editor: Margaret G. Morehouse, Sulfur

The Triennium, 1948 to 1951



ESSIE WHITE COHN
National President
1948-1951

During this period, regional councilors were appointed for the first time and a convention fund was built up through the generosity of the chapters and more than one thousand of the alumnae members. An amendment to the constitution made in 1948 also added to the National Council the Past President as *ex officio* for the triennium following her term of office. On June 4, 1949, the new chapter, Chlorine, was installed at Louisiana State University by President Essie White Cohn and the new chapter, Manganese, was installed by Vice President Gladys A. Emerson at Hunter College in New York City.

The National Council met in Atlantic City on September 21, 1949, and authorized the first Iota Sigma Pi Research Award. A committee consisting of Essie White Cohn *ex officio*, Icie Macy Hoobler, Elizabeth M. Koch, Pauline Beery Mack, Florence Seibert and Agnes Fay Morgan, chairman, set up the conditions of the award and obtained their approval by the National Council. The award was to be made for research achievement by a woman under 36 years of age, sponsored by a chapter of Iota Sigma Pi and preferably a member of the organization. Each chapter was asked to name a candidate and to provide supporting evidence of her achievements. Eleven chapters named ten candidates. Two chapters sponsored one candidate. The award committee selected Charlotte Roderuck of Aurum as the first recipient, and the award was made at the tenth convention in Denver

on June 19, 1951. Dr. Roderuck's research dealt with nutritional status of children and adult women. Her research was presented in fourteen journal articles.

The Iota Sigma Pi breakfasts at the American Chemical Society conventions continued uninterrupted. In St. Louis in September 1948, and in San Francisco in March 1949, large and enthusiastic groups attended, with two or more National Council members present. In Atlantic City in September 1949, and in Chicago in September 1950, a National Council meeting followed the breakfast. At the seventy-fifth anniversary meeting of the American Chemical Society in New York in September 1951, the Iota Sigma Pi breakfast group was addressed by Evelyn Laing McBain, former National President. She described the work of her husband, Dr. James McBain and herself in establishing the new National Chemical Laboratory in Poona, India. At the breakfast in September 1952 at Atlantic City, there were thirty members present, including the second National President, Zalia Jencks Gailey.

Tenth Triennial Convention

This convention was held on the campus of the University of Denver in Denver, Colorado, on June 17-22, 1951, with Platinum and Tungsten as hostess chapters and President Essie White Cohn as chair. The chapter roll call was

Chapter	Delegate
Aurum	Isabel Christensen
Aurum Iodide	Chi Che Wang
Carbon	Alberta Rhein
Chlorine	Paula Sue Richardson
Fluorine	Jean Stang
Hydrogen	Phyllis V. Watson
Iodine	Ella Richards
Iridium	Stefanie Barch
Kalium	Shirley Gleason
Mercury	Lucille Ryan
Nitrogen	Elizabeth Johnson
Oxygen	Theodora Edwards
Palladium	Norma Lee Gruver
Platinum	Anna Marie Duval
Radium	Alice Presnell
Sulfur	Jean Grunlund
Tellurium	Myra Lansford
Tungsten	Janie Britton
Uranium	Helen Ludeman
Columbium, Helium and Polonium were not represented.	

Plans for the 1952 celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the founding of Iota Sigma Pi were discussed at this meeting. This celebration was inspired by the presence of two of the charter members of Hydrogen chapter, Lucille Hewitt and Katherine Ross, class of 1902.

The matter of election of national honorary members was discussed at length and certain recommendations were made for amendment of the

Constitution section on this subject. These recommendations were later approved by the chapters and the National Council. An editorial board of three members, including the editor, was established by vote of the Delegates. There was also discussions of the definition and function of "alumnae" chapters. The terms "academic" and "professional" were proposed as substitutes for the present terms "active" and "alumnae." This question along with other proposed changes in wording of the Constitution and By-Laws was referred to the new National Council and the chapters.

The Research Award of 1951 was given during this meeting. The Delegates voted to change the name of the Loan Fund to Loan and Research Award Fund to indicate the intention of the society to make research awards at intervals.



CHARLOTTE RODERUCK
First Award Winner
1951

Methods of financing and distributing **The Iotan** were considered with the favorable consideration of an invitation to alumnae to pay a small subscription, perhaps one dollar per year, for the publication. Any surplus would be used for convention and research award funds, the first suggestion of the membership-at-large.

The officers elected were

President: Gladys A. Emerson, Carbon,
Hydrogen, Aurum
Vice-President: Margaret G. Morehouse,
Sulfur
Secretary: Anna L. Hoffman, Radium
Treasurer: Anna Marie Duval, Platinum
Editor: Elizabeth Knapp Smith, Oxygen

*Science moves, but slowly
slowly, creeping on from
point to point.*

Lord Alfred Tennyson
1809-1892

**The Oxford Dictionary
of Quotations**, 3rd ed.,
Oxford University Press
(1979)