

**\*MALCOLM RAY DOUBLES**By A. P. BLACK, *Grand Chancellor-Historian*

The first issue of THE RAY made its appearance in February, 1924, early in the fifth year of the fraternity's existence, and in it may be found these words:

"Early in the school year of 1919, work was begun by Manley Arphew Siske, a graduate student who, because of his knowledge of English literature and composition, because of his clear insight and judgment, because of his originality of thought and intellectual prowess, made him an outstanding leader in the organization; by Malcolm Ray Doubles, an undergraduate student whose personality, enthusiasm and familiarity with things fraternal and a willingness to work amply fitted him for a co-worker in the organization and as a future leader; and by me, as a fellow-classmate and worker with Brother Siske."

They were written, of course, by L. P. Good, Worthy Grand Alchemist, a sketch of whom appeared in the December issue of THE RAY, and were part of an article entitled by him "History of Gamma Sigma Epsilon Background". They will serve to introduce to our members the only other living founder of the fraternity, Malcolm Ray Doubles, then a sophomore at Davidson and now Dean of the Law School, University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia. Both Good and Siske were graduate students and they realized that no matter how well their work of drawing up a constitution, by-laws and ritual for the new fraternity might be done, still it was vital to the success of the undertaking that they secure the cooperation of a younger man who would be able to supply leadership to the little group after they themselves should have left the institution. Doubles was chosen because of the qualities of leadership which he had already dis-

\*The second of a series of sketches dealing with the personalities and accomplishments of the founders of the fraternity, with the circumstances leading to its establishment, and with its early history. Others will appear in succeeding issues of THE RAY.



DEAN MALCOLM RAY DOUBLES

Dean Doubles is the author of three books: *Criminal Procedure in Virginia*, *Manual of Legal Bibliography* and *Cases on Contracts*; of an article in Vol. III of the Bar Examiner entitled *Law School Examinations*; and is at present editing the Virginia annotation to the Restatement of the Law of Contracts by the American Law Institute. He is a member of the American Bar Association, of the American Law Institute, and of the Virginia Bar Association. His biography appears in *America's Young Men* and *Who's Who in Law*.

He is a member of the Kiwanis Club and of the Country Club of Virginia. He confesses to three hobbies, golf, fishing, and collecting old and rare editions of law books. With all of his activities which have already brought him eminence in his profession, he retains a lively interest in the fraternity which he helped to found, and in whose early development he played a leading part. It is fitting that this sketch be concluded with a quotation from a recent letter to the author in which he reminisces of his early years at Davidson:

"Well do I remember the cold night during the winter of 1919, (I being a sophomore at Davidson College) when brothers Good and the late M. A. Siske, and I gathered around an open fireplace in brother Good's room in what was then known as Gibb's Hotel at Davidson, and put the finishing touches on the Constitution and By-Laws of this child of ours and declared the fraternity founded.

"Brothers Good and Siske had done almost all of the work on the preliminaries before I was invited to be a co-founder. They were at the time completing their Master of Arts work, and I was invited to assure the presence at Davidson for the next two years of a co-founder. The only contribution I made was

the device adopted for the designation of chapters, viz. the first Greek word denoting the States in the alphabetical order of expansion, and the second Greek word denoting the Chapters in the respective states in like order.

"During my remaining two years at Davidson, almost the entire matter of expansion was left in my care. Well do I remember the installation at N. C. State College (during which trip I missed connections with a train at Greensboro and did not arrive in Raleigh until 9 P. M.); the one at the University of Florida; the one at Auburn University; and the one at Johns Hopkins University, (where we blew out the fuses at the hotel during the installation ceremony).

"Many were the vicissitudes encountered during those early days of the fraternity when we were struggling for recognition and prestige. It is a pleasant memory now, which I shall cherish forever, as I observe the accomplishments of those who took up the work where we left off and have carried on in such magnificent fashion. My heart shall always be with the work and I trust I will be called upon at any time for any service I may be able to render."



#### A MODERN JOSHUA

An old negro, who for several years had conducted an illicit still among the mountains of Kentucky, fell a victim at last to the vigilance of the revenue officers, and was brought before the Court.

"What name?" inquired the Judge, when the frightened negro appeared before him.

"Joshua, Yo' Honah."

"Ah," returned the Judge, "I suppose, then, you are the Joshua who made the sun stand still?"

"No sah," was the prompt reply. "I's not that Joshua at all; I's de Joshua what made the moonshine."



played in extra-curricular activities. The important part which, as we shall see, he later played in the early expansion of the fraternity amply justified his selection as the third member of the group.

He was born at Bay City, Michigan, on May 21, 1900. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Richmond, Virginia; and graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy, at Bedford, Virginia, in 1918. In the fall of that year he entered Davidson College, receiving his B.S. degree in 1922. His campus activities were many and varied. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity and of Sigma Upsilon literary fraternity. He was a member of the Varsity team in both basketball and golf. He was athletic editor of *The Davidsonian*, the college weekly, and of *Quips and Cranks*, the college yearbook.

Because of his excellent scholastic record, his interest in chemistry and his varied campus activities, he was chosen early in his sophomore year by Good and Siske to assist them in the work of organizing the fraternity and he participated with them in the installation of the mother chapter at Davidson. He was chosen as the first Grand Recorder of the fraternity and served in this capacity for two terms or from December, 1919, to November, 1923. Neither of his terms included Editorship of *THE RAY* since, as has been noted, the first number appeared in February, 1925.

Following his graduation from Davidson he became a member of the faculty of McGuire's University School in Richmond where he taught for one year. At the same time he began his studies in the Law School of the University of Richmond from which institution he received his LL.B. in 1926. His academic career there, like that at Davidson, was filled by many and varied activities. He was elected to membership in

Delta Theta Phi legal fraternity and in Omicron Delta Kappa leadership fraternity. He was president of the student government and was selected from his class to receive the medal as the "Best All Around Law Graduate".

The records in the office of the Grand Historian indicate that he holds the distinction of having assisted in the installation of more chapters than any other member of the fraternity. Besides participating as a founder in the installation of the mother chapter at Davidson, he installed Alpha Beta Chapter at North Carolina State College on February 14, 1921 and Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of Florida on December 16, 1921. In both cases he was assisted by a student member of the fraternity. He assisted in the installation of Gamma Alpha Chapter at Johns Hopkins on January 29, 1923 and of Delta Alpha Chapter at Alabama Polytechnic Institute on May 23, 1923. In the case of these chapters, he was assisted by other members of the Grand Council.

After finishing at the University of Richmond he entered the practice of law in that city, teaching part-time in the Law School of the University. After one year he discontinued practice to accept full-time teaching at the University. He received leave of absence to pursue advanced studies at the University of Chicago and received the degree Juris Doctor from that institution in 1929. The following year, at the age of 29, he was made Dean of the Law School of the University of Richmond, which position he holds at the present time with distinction to himself and to the university.

In April, 1931, he married Miss Catherine Clifford Carroll of Clarksville, Missouri. Mrs. Doubles holds the degree Bachelor of Science from the University of Missouri and is a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. They have two children, Malcolm Carroll, aged four, and Eleanor Jane, aged three.