Through the Mail

(Continued from page 5)

then, the organization meets over dinner and discusses problems of general interest to the student and administration members, especially those before the Institute Committee. The student members of Osiris are pleased because they are the leaders of student opinion. Would they be able or willing to oppose a well-organized administration position put forward at one of these meetings—especially in the light of the administration members' further knowledge and experience as well as their control of the students' records and recommendations? Or would the students be good followers and forget about it? The rest of the student body might even remain uninformed of the decision.

I have no proof that the organization has been used for this purpose, but I wonder what they have to hide in their secrecy. Does the administration have views on certain student issues that can only be discussed in secret with a few hand-picked students?

(Continued on page 4)

Osiris

(Continued from page 2)

further ceremonies in the penthouse of 100 Memorial Drive, the home of the late Dr. Karl T. Compton.

The group meets secretly. It is often on Mondays before Institute Committee meetings, and is known to discuss current problems of interest to both students and administration members. Administration members apparently have a standing invitation to address these meetings, and should they be in the vicinity, many do.

Through the years it has been the practice to publish the names of the voting student members in Technique, even though all identities are concealed during the year in which those persons are active. For the first time, however, in 1946 Technique, those names were not listed. There is a strong indication that this was done to secure further the existence and purpose of this organization which now appears to the casual reader of the yearbook to have only members of the faculty and administration on its roster.

Osiris has, in addition to its secret or so select audience, many important faculty and administration members including the Vice President of the Institute, the Dean of Students, the Bursar, the Registrar, members of the Corporation, and members of the teaching staff. The President of the Institute is known to attend meetings although he had not been listed as a member up to 1946. Members are sworn to secrecy and will deny their association with the group. Almost all of them will disclose no information concerning the organization and some will go so far as to feign complete ignorance of its existence. However, among the members from the Class of 1910 not heretofore publicly disclosed, who attended Osiris meetings were Dean L. Jaroff, Albert A. Ward, David R. Pearson, Jack W. Smith, Samuel J. Losh, David L. Vogel, Wilbur Fiske, Edward E. Holschneider, Lawrence Holmes. Members of the present group from the Class of 1930 whose identities are still secret include among others, Albert H. Balley, John 2. Sibley, W. Chandler Stevens, Glenn D. Jackson, Leonard Whorton, David Naselli, Thomas A. Marlow, and David R. Brooks.

In 1940 the question of class honorary societies was a major issue before the Institute Committee. The student members of Osiris are the eyes of their classmates and were truly worthy of membership. Together with $Q Club and Beaver Key, Osiris was under particular fire, being a group of student-elected officials meeting in secret over the confidential files of members of the administration. In the spring of that year, a general vote of the student body was taken on the question of Class honorary societies in which 100 ballots were cast. The vote, however, was voided by the Institute Committee on the grounds that an insufficient number of ballots had been cast. Thus those organizations, Osiris among them, exist today.