

# TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

Volume XXXVI, No. 5

Ithaca, New York

June, 1950

## ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES INVITED TO CONVENTION

Pres. Frederick Balderston has sent letters to Alumni, in areas where they have been organized for social meetings and for work connected with the Association, inviting them to select official Alumni representatives of their areas to attend the 1950 Convention which convenes in Ithaca June 12-17. This invitation is based on broad discussion of member-Alumni relationship since the War; the question was formally considered by the 1949 Convention, and the Cornell Branch during the current academic year had "Alumni Weekends" during which older Telluriders visited the Branch.

"Convention is a time, also, for renewing acquaintance with good friends among the membership, and for making firm friends among the men just entering the Association. Those of us who are carrying on the Association's work today continue to regard the Convention as a major source of cohesion in holding the Association's membership together and impressing its principles of service upon us, as well as an indispensable instrument for getting the necessary business done.

"Alumni of Telluride Association are always welcome at these gatherings. I believe, however, that a direct view of present-day Association activities would bring out our major problems and policies in a way which the News Letter cannot hope to do. Accordingly, I am writing to Alumni in a number of areas to inquire whether an Alumnus from each area is able to plan on attending all or part of the Convention..... An Alumnus who attends the meeting could serve as an informal delegate from amongst our friends who are not now active members."

In his letter, Balderston wrote: "You all remember the years during which attendance at the Convention was one of the important aspects of your trusteeship. Now, as then, that short but hectic week is packed with work to do: decisions on membership and on preferment; review of the performance of our Branches; study and recommendations on investment policy; putting the next year's budget together; and inevitably, debate and reconsideration of Association policy on several important points of principle.

Arrangements have been made with the Delta Upsilon fraternity, our nextdoor neighbor, to use their house for any overflow from Telluride House. Any Alumnus, in addition to the official representatives, will be a welcome guest. Those planning attendance should write the Convention Arrangements Committee, Telluride Assn., Ithaca, N.Y., indicating dates of arrival and departure so that plans may be made for accommodations.

## CHICAGO ALUMNI ORGANIZE

The Telluride Alumni in Chicago formally organized themselves at a meeting at Ricardo's on April 7, with headquarters at 39 S. State St., 16th Floor, Chicago 3. The new officers: Chairman, Penton Howard; Secretary-Treasurer, Wallace Cook; Chairman Membership Committee, Austin Kiplinger; Chairman Arrangements Committee, Gregory Votaw; Recording Secretary, Albert Votaw. Dues were fixed at \$5.00 yearly (payable to Wallace Cook at the State St. address), of which \$2.00 will be forwarded to the National Association. Active TA members are given a special bargain membership rate of \$1.00 annually. The next meeting of the Chicago Alumni will be on June 23.

In a communication to the Alumni of Chicago, dated April 21, Recording Secretary Votaw wrote:

"...Many former members feel left out of activities, and all of us felt the need to meet regularly in the hopes that, in this way, we can make a more regular and substantial contribution to the Association. During the evening, however, the discussion turned to some of the basic questions confronting the Association. I shall try to report to you some of this discussion, hinging it to the suggestions which were made as to possible functions of an Alumni Association.

"One of the first jobs of an Alumni Association is to keep up and to extend the friendships begun in our Association and at Deep Springs.... We also feel that an Alumni Association could very well assume the responsibility for interviewing candidates. During the evening a good deal of discussion turned about the responsibility of the Association to those men it picks for membership. There's been too much emphasis on the individual's duty, too little serious consideration of what the organization can do to help him. To that end, too, we hope that responsible officials of the Association and of Deep Springs can be present at our various dinner meetings to discuss with us the needs and problems peculiar to their jobs..... Among the other points raised during the evening was the perennial question of just what type of leadership we are trying to encourage. Are we trying to squeeze our members into a specific mold, over-emphasiz-

ing the aggressive extrovert at the expense of the researcher. Does the isolation at Deep Springs, so different from the isolation of the earlier units among which members could easily move, encourage an inflexible and rigid Deep Springs "type"?..... There must be many of you who wonder just what is going on in the Association and at Deep Springs today, many who would like to contribute to the work of the Association. Let's see you out, then, on June 23: we'll have lots to discuss and do."

TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER  
 Anthony Geiss, Editor  
 Morton R. Weinstein  
 Alvin Friedman  
 Associate Editors

Published by Telluride Association  
 Ithaca, New York

Vol. XXXVI, No. 5 June, 1950

## EDITORIAL

IN A SUEBLE SENSE the Association makes an investment every time a candidate is accepted. The investment is as tangible on the Association books as any other transaction, but the dividends are perhaps quite intangible. The newcomer may be an immediate asset to the particular Telluride community he joins, but, unless we are willing to consider the Telluride system as a closed one, we must admit that the final pay-off occurs out in the great world at a time and in a manner somewhat beyond the ken of any selection committee. In other words, like other investments, the selection of associates and members is an informed gamble.

But there is, of course, a major difference between this kind of investment and a financial negotiation, and the difference is in the kind of tender. The Association, when investing in a human being, would seem, of necessity to assume a responsibility for the welfare of that person; a responsibility of a kind which is not usually felt towards stocks and bonds. And, in handling individuals, it certainly ought to realize that they are psychological as well as social entities.

On this tack, Cornell Branch has recently concerned itself with the problems in human negotiation which are caused by insecurity of tenure in the Association Branches, and a number of perpetual Telluride problems have been freshened. First, insecurity of tenure seems to inhibit the kind of condition under which the ideal Telluride community might exist. People who feel they are constantly on trial in some manner do not act as they might if not under competitive tension. A relaxation pre-requisite to the best kind of community may be missing. Secondly, the Association, by education candidates to its own standards, calibrating the world for them in terms of Telluride values and then dropping them from the Telluride program, may make them feel too early in life that they are failures. These are only two of the myriad problems involved in the tenure question. One, we can see, affects the welfare of the Branch community, the other the welfare of the individuals indoctrinated by the Association. Both stem from the fact that we are negotiating human beings, psychologically less predictable than bonded paper.

There is no room here for the complexities of the situation. Some may argue that mutual vigilance is the great educating principle of the Telluride system; that each individual understands the conditions of tenure before he comes into the Telluride organization, and therefore has no complaint. In the light of the coming Convention at which the tenure issue may be raised, it might be well to re-examine our opinions on the subject.

*Anthony Geiss*

## BILL SKINNER REPORTS FROM CHINA

William Skinner was last heard from in a letter written in February. At that time he was staying at the West China Union University in Chengtu, Szechwan Province. Chengtu was occupied last Fall by the Communists. At the time of occupation Skinner was living in a small village about ten miles east of the city where he was carrying on anthropological research work. He wrote that his work was progressing well; he had made good contact with the people, they were friendly and receptive, and his program of interviews and observation had been underway for over a month. The Communists soon after their arrival requested that he give up his work and return to the city as they could not be responsible for his safety in the countryside. After complying with this, Skinner spent several weeks trying to obtain the permission of Communist officials from the local army commander to the governor of the province to return to his work. Up to the time of the last letter, this permit had not been granted.

Skinner is now spending his time at the university doing what work he can there. His fellowship from the Social Science Research Council and the Viking Fund will continue in hopes that he can return to his previous project or shift over to some similar anthropological work. No mention was made of his being asked to leave the country, but his future activities will undoubtedly be hampered by the strong Communist antagonism towards Americans.

## DEEP SPRINGS NOTES

By RICHARD A. GEORGE & CURTIS M. KARPLUS

It should come as good news to friends of Deep Springs to learn that the groundwork has at last been laid for the solution of two of the most serious problems to face the institution in recent years: finding a director, and balancing the budget.

### Administration:

Since the departure of Dr. Whitney in 1948 the administration of Deep Springs has been handled entirely by Bonham Campbell. In this time it has become apparent that two men are necessary to coordinate academic affairs and supervise the operation of the physical plant, and it is understandable that the acting director has not been able to concentrate adequately on all phases of the program. This has led to a number of difficulties which have

( Cont'd on page 4 )

## CORNELL BRANCH NOTES

By ALVIN FRIEDMAN

Cornell Branch has been hurrying rapidly to the end of a successful and full term, with the last few weeks of Branch operation marked by the strong but contrasting effects of both the annual Spring Day festivities and approaching final examinations. The more joyful event, occurring this year during the week-end of May 13-14, found the Branch prepared for the usual invasion of women, most of them from the University dorms with several new faces among the "imports."

Several Branchmen mixed business with pleasure during the week-end. They participated in the Cornell Dramatic Club's production of Jules Romains' "Dr. Knock." Rod Robertson, the Branch's accomplished thespian, was cast in the lead of this French comedy. Supporting him and almost dominating the cast in numbers were Jim Bostwick, Bob Gatje, Don Lammers, and Warren Seulowitz.

Branchmen have, as a matter of fact, become in many ways the mainstays of the Cornell Dramatic Club, with Architect Gatje designing sets and staging for a series of productions ranging from "Trial by Jury" to Molnar's "The Play's the Thing," and Robertson eliciting rave notices from the Ithaca Journal for his roles in the Gilbert and Sullivan piece (musically directed by TAer Dave Cole) and "Of Mice and Men," to name just a few.

Even before Spring Week-end, however, the Branch began to show the effects of oncoming final examinations as members were noticeably absent from the much used music room or the almost always continuing discussions. One topic which has not diminished in intensity of discussion is a Branch proposal which will be submitted to Convention, concerning the duration of Branch preferment and the general problem of attitudes of Branch members who are not yet Association members. Specific points in this discussion are elaborated upon elsewhere in this issue of the News Letter.

A rash of Europe-bound travelers is evident at the Branch, with four members definitely planning to visit the continent during the vacation period. Two of the triumvirate of Lawyers, Jack Sheinkman and Bill Vanden Heuvel, have definitely committed themselves to a summer in Europe. Bill is planning to make the trip with Roger Baldwin and his family. Finally, it is expected that Coenraad Ter Kuile, Branch graduate student, will return to his native Holland during the summer.

Increased difficulties in finding adequate summer employment have left many members of the Branch still undecided regarding vacation jobs, but some attractive arrangements have already been completed. Murray Adams will spend his summer assembling airplane parts on a production line in Long Island, while

Ed Hoenicke will begin his apprenticeship with General Electric in August. Ed's training program, a combination of plant work and class instruction, will last for three years. Alumnus Irvin Scott will take neophyte architect Bob Gatje under wing for the summer in his office.

Dr. Neville Sidgwick of Oxford University, an old and good friend of the Branch, returned to this country and to Cornell for the first time in over ten years to deliver the Baker Chemistry Lectures for 1950. Dr. Sidgwick's welcome return coincided with the arrival at the Branch of Dr. Vincent Duvignaud, Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at Cornell Medical College. Dr. Duvignaud was also engaged in giving a series of lectures on chemistry, and while both guests were with us the Branch gave its annual faculty tea in their honor. The yearly Public Speaking Banquet also happened to fall during the visits of both guests who were thus treated to the usual doses of home-grown verse, off-key singing and the acceptance address of Rod Robertson, this year's winner of the Pemberton Cup for excellence in Public Speaking. Prof. Harry Caplan was toastmaster for the evening, and many of our faculty friends attended the party.

The week-end of April 29th-30th marked the second Alumni Week-end of this academic year. Branch members during the mid-20's attended, renewing acquaintances on the hill, watching sports events and meeting the current crop of Housemen. Dr. Simon Whitney was unofficial chairman of a discussion which lasted till well into Sunday morning, touching on a number of problems, current and long-standing, which our organization must face in the future.

Just the other side of exam week lies Convention, and preparations both physical and of a more lofty nature are already under way. The Arrangements Committee has started the annual nose count, the Permanent Finance Committee has just completed its major project and the Undergraduate Guest Committee is in the last stages of its pre-Convention selections. The next and final step will be the ritualistic polishing and assembling of the old brass beds up in the attic and the 11th hour frenzy as the Treasurer looks for that missing 3¢ in the Branch books.

The expenses of the Telluride News Letter can not be entirely covered by the Convention appropriation. The editors therefore renew their request for cash contributions from Telluride members and friends who enjoy getting Association news at regular intervals. All contributions may be mailed to:

Telluride News Letter  
217 West Ave.  
Ithaca, N. Y.

## PERSONALS

James R. Harsch, long-time associate of the Nunns and Charter Member of the Alumni Association, died in Toledo, O., on April 24. He worked with Mr. Nunn at Telluride, Colorado Springs, Provo and Salt Lake City, and was on the job when the hydroelectric plant was built at Niagara Falls. He moved to Toledo where he resided until his death. He is survived by his son, Kirtland Harsch, and by a daughter, Mrs. Fork, of St. Joseph, Mich.

.....

Born: Charles Harrison Todd, on March 21, the second son of Paul and Terry Todd, of Kalamazoo.

.....

James Barnes Tucker, 61, died in his sleep on May 4 after a very brief illness. A Constitutional Member of the Association, Tucker's first job with the Nunns was water-boy on Olmsted construction when he was 12 years old. From 1901-09, he worked intermittently at Olmsted and Grace as waterboy, office boy, and station operator. He received his A. B. degree from Cornell in 1913 and was graduated from the Cornell Law School in 1915. In 1916 he received from Stanford his J. D. degree and subsequently served as lieutenant in the Field Artillery. He served as District Judge in Utah before he moved to Santa Ana, Calif., 23 years ago, where he became a widely known civil trial lawyer. "Red" Tucker held every major office in Telluride Association during his years of membership.

He is survived by his widow, Salena Farrer Tucker; by his brother, Alumnus Dean Tucker; by his daughter, Barbara (Mrs. Glenn Lashbrook, Whittier, Calif.); and by James Barnes, Jr., active member of the Association.

.....

FLASH .....FLASH .....FLASH

Born: Earl Stephens Ohlinger, on May 7. Weight: 7 lbs. 12 oz. Fourth child and second son of Earl and Merb Ohlinger of Brooklyn. Too early to tell whether Earl S. will have red hair.

.....

Clarence E. Ericksen, 65, died at his home in Los Angeles on March 31. Born in Provo, Ericksen attended BYU; he began work with Telluride Power Co. in 1904, and later managed the Telluride Motor Co. He helped to found United Artists in 1919 and was business manager for Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and for May Pickford while she and Fairbanks were partners. Clarence Ericksen was one of the 15 original Charter Members of Telluride Association Alumni. Funeral services were conducted by his nephew, Bishop J. H. Dunn, and burial was at Provo City Cemetery. He is survived by his widow, Hazel Elliot; by his daughter, Gail, (Mrs. Geo. Atwood, Jr.); and by three grandchildren.

Ralph Dudley Comer and Joanne Amick were married on April 8 in Kansas City, Mo. Comer received his A.B. in Feb., 1949, and continues his study of medicine at the University of Kansas.

.....

Casey Robinson wrote and produced "Under My Skin," based on a Hemingway short story. With a long experience of writing -- he wrote five of Bette Davis' biggest pictures -- Robinson has in recent years become outstanding as a writer-director-producer.

.....

Born: Katherine Price Olin on March 4, first daughter and third child of the James Olins of Schenectady. Weight: 7 lbs. 5 oz.

.....

Alfred Harding, IV, was one of the Americans who came out of China recently by way of Tientsin. He is currently in Hong Kong under orders to proceed to Manila where he has been assigned to the staff of the American Embassy. Harding went to China in August, 1948, to study at Peiping on a Fulbright grant.

.....

Word has been received of the death of John L. Hazelton, 82, at his home in Bellevue, Idaho, on May 4. He was Line Supt. for the Telluride Power Co. in the Telluride, Colo., area in 1908-10. He is survived by one son and by four brothers and sisters.

.....

Allen Whiting has received appointment as Gilder Fellow at Columbia University for the academic year 1950-51.

Dr. Robert Sproull (Assoc. Prof., Physics, Cornell) has added to the Historical Files "Resonant-Cavity Measurements" and "The Maximum Efficiency of Reflex-Klystron Oscillators," prepared in collaboration with E. G. Linder and reprinted from the Proceedings of the I.R.E. and Waves and Electrons, May, 1946, and March, 1947, respectively. Also his "Excess Noise in Cavity Magnetrons," reprinted from Journal of Applied Physics, March, 1947.

.....

Roy Pierce has accepted an Instructorship in the Department of Government at Smith College, starting work in Sept. He will receive his doctorate from Cornell this summer. Thesis: Le Rassemblement du Peuple Francais.

.....

Phil Ogden will spend twelve weeks this summer at Forestry Camp in connection with his course of study at Utah State. He reports a busy and enjoyable year.

DEEP SPRINGS NOTES  
( Cont'd from page 4 )

Among the obvious bad features of this system were the scarcity of jobs as compared to the summer months, and the feeling of being out of touch with the rest of the college world. These, plus the administrative complications of a three-semester plan, outweighed the attractions of better faculties during the summer sessions, and of participating in the ranch program during the most active season of the year, and the experiment was judged a failure. As a result of this decision the coming summer term has been canceled, and the new class entering Deep Springs in September will be offered a conventional program of two semesters each year, though it will still take students three full years to complete two years of college work.

## PERSONALS

48 Bd. Perreive N.  
Paris, 17  
February 22, 1950

Dear Erik,

As you will see by the dates, I have had to do these letters in little bites. My life has been full lately, and my new job has required a lot of attention.

Just before beginning this letter, I leafed through the minutes of the '49 Convention and found myself readily back in the atmosphere of the Branch. I have been away so long now that the contact has grown feeble; but I hope to be able to strengthen it, now that my life is becoming a bit more stable.

The new address I have listed is a little apartment I have taken on the Left Bank, in view of my coming marriage. We are now planning it for June, and the only remaining consideration is that of my receiving a waiver to marry an alien from the Foreign Service. I shall make my application within the next two weeks and am confident of its approval.

If all goes well, I look forward to returning to the States next spring to take the Foreign Service orals and to have Françoise naturalized. It is impossible for me to come this year to Washington, and I don't think they will give me the orals here. I must write to Lindsey on this subject, since I hear he has been through it all.

You will notice that my professional plans have wandered far from teaching. The decision, however, is firm and well-considered; and if I succeed in entering the F.S., I shall be very happy in it. All this presumes the study of economics, which I have already begun, and another language: I am at present wavering between the choice of Spanish and of Russian.

I should like to have the feeling that, if I cannot participate actively in the affairs of the Association, I might constitute a sort of out-post. Now that I am solvent, I hope the Branch will feel free to order whatever books

and prints they might desire without feeling obligated to pay for them in advance. Further, will you put my new address in the next directory, so that any travelers will stop to see me.

I recall my own bewilderment when I was planning this sojourn and should like to propose myself as an information service for any of the boys who may be planning to study in France. I am sending, by the next post, (to Johnny) the brochures of some of the schools here and will add others later. If there is anyone at the Branch who is thinking of coming to France, let him write me soon, as this is the time to make plans.

News of the Branch would be most welcome here; do write if you have a moment. Assure everyone of my best regards, and let me hear from you soon.

Yours,

Rags

Address:

c/o Mademoiselle Litoux  
10, Cite Vaneau  
Paris, F<sup>e</sup>, France  
Telephone: Invalides 79.94

( Cont'd on page 6 )

## "LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION"

By GERHARD LOEWENBERG

Harvey Mansfield has been commuting weekly from his home in Columbus, Ohio, to Hartford, Connecticut, where he has been assisting a "little Hoover Commission" in drafting proposals for state government reforms.

Five Connecticut businessmen comprised the Commission on State Organization which studied and deliberated over a series of "task force surveys" which had been made on the possibilities of reform. Mansfield sat in on the discussions of the Commissions and prepared the report which it submitted to the Connecticut General Assembly last February. The report itself goes to fundamentals, including proposals for a new state constitution. To what extent the General Assembly will act on it is doubtful, since Democrats and Republicans each control one house of the legislature, and since the report will be subject to various partisan considerations.

Of his work, Mansfield writes that "it is a fascinating study for a professor of political science." He predicts that "if the report catches hold at all, it is likely to set in motion a contest to run over the next five years rather than to win substantial acceptance this year." Meanwhile, Mansfield is continuing his regular trips to Connecticut to assist in the presentation of the report and to aid its political progress.

The work of the "little Hoover Commission" had drawn nationwide attention.

# TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

## DEEP SPRINGS NOTES

( Cont'd from page 2 )

been the cause of much concern lately, and have emphasized the importance of finding a new director.

Probably the most encouraging aspect of this month's meeting of the Board of Trustees was the attention given to the candidacy of Dr. Benjamin B. Warfield to fill this vacancy. Though negotiations have not been completed, it appears possible that Dr. Warfield will be engaged in the near future for a trial period of one year. A lawyer and an educator, Dr. Warfield visited Deep Springs for almost two weeks early in April, delivering a series of lectures on the personal freedoms inherent in the democratic system. His talks were generally well received, and as a personality he easily won the endorsement of the student body.

If Dr. Warfield is hired he will have to cope with the various problems which have arisen in the past two years, chief among which are those of recruitment, guidance, and continuity in scholastic work, as well as long-term considerations for balancing the budget.

Recruitment- The alarming decline in the number of applications for admission this year has brought the problem of recruitment into relief. Though other factors are involved, limitations on the time which the acting director has been able to spend on recent nationwide recruiting trips, and in making contacts with high school principals and counselors, seem to be responsible for much of this situation.

A two-man administration, sharing the burdens of traveling and paper-work, should eliminate some of the inadequacies in the recruitment program. In addition, committees of organized alumni and associates (such as the San Francisco group) would prove extremely valuable in contacting the interviewing prospective applicants.

Guidance- Although several of the resignations from the student body in the past two years are traceable to problems strictly outside of Deep Springs' affairs, it is felt that many personal difficulties could have been avoided with proper interest and counseling from the staff. With the administration no longer a one-man job, it would be possible for the director to devote sufficient time to this much-needed guidance.

Continuity- A closer coordination of the academic program, especially in helping students plan their scholastic work on more than a term-to-term basis, as has been common practise in recent years, is another problem which should not be put off any longer.

### Finances:

The uncertainties of Deep Springs' finances were brought into focus by the approval of a budget with an operating

deficit of over twenty thousand dollars for the coming fiscal year at the May Trustees' meeting. Recognizing the impossibility of continuing operation at this rate, the Board discussed various proposals for balancing the budget: by reducing expenditures through a planned maintenance and repair program and a more efficient scale of ranch operations, and by increasing income by means of new funds.

Economies- In an effort to economize, the Trustees agreed upon the need for providing funds to cover the depreciation of the physical plant, and appointed a committee to develop a long-term program of expenditures for maintenance and repair, and to plan future capital improvements. It is encouraging to see the adoption of this long-range view toward appropriations.

A definite interest was shown in schemes for revising the operation of the ranch to make it a more profitable proposition. One possibility would be to lease some of our property to an independent party who would thereby be financially involved in the success or failure of the ranch, assuring the school of a fixed income, and providing the ranch manager with an incentive that would make all proposals for expansion depend solely upon financial feasibility. A student committee will work with the director to investigate suggestions of this sort for a more realistic ranch policy, and to make recommendations to the Board.

Many have mentioned the advisability of a cost accounting plan for Deep Springs, a system which could provide a more realistic business-like picture of some of the ranch and farm operations, thereby investigating the efficiency of projects such as the dairy, and adding to student awareness of the financial conditions of their special jobs. Only by keeping careful and accurate records can students derive real educational value from their responsibilities; only under such a plan could a costly work program be justified on these grounds.

New Funds- Looking at the problem of balancing the budget from the point of view of increasing income, the Board considered the possibilities of inaugurating a program to raise funds from outside sources. This plan would be another realistic step toward stabilizing Deep Springs finances.

These trends in financial policies, coupled with the favorable outlook for the early selection of a new director, present a definitely optimistic trend for Deep Springs affairs in the near future.

### News Item:

An important outcome of the recent Trustees' meeting was the decision to return Deep Springs to an academic schedule similar to other colleges, with a long vacation in the summer. A one-year trial was sufficient to point out the undesirability of a three-month break in the winter.

( Cont'd on page 5 )