

# TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

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## THE WORK OF THE 1952 CONVENTION

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### THE PROBLEMS STATED

by Charles Christenson

The 1952 Convention of Telluride Association will convene at Telluride House on June 9, 1952. As usual, a large part of the work of the Convention will deal with membership, preferment, and the budget, all important matters in themselves. This Convention will in addition be faced with several specific issues or problems on which policy decisions will have to be made. These issues are discussed here in the hope of stimulating pre-Convention discussion. Readers who are interested in participating in the discussions of the Convention are invited to do so, either in person, by letter, or by representative.

#### Pasadena Branch

The 1951 Convention voted to close Pasadena Branch as of the end of the coming summer term. In view of the small number of students who expect to be in residence during the summer, Director C. H. Yarrow may recommend that the terminal date be advanced to June 30. In any event, this Convention will have the task of evaluating its primary branch operation, both from the standpoint of the Branch program itself and from that of the Association's interest and ability to carry out such a program. Convention will receive reports from Mike Yarrow, the Student Body Chairman, the Primary Branch Advisory Committee, the Endowment and New Primary Branch Committee, and the President and the Custodians bearing on this problem.

#### Cornell Branch

The Branch at Ithaca will be faced this year with a serious problem in continuity of membership. Only one member of Telluride Association presently resident at the Branch is re-applying, and better than half the present residents of the Branch will not return. This situation arises chiefly from the coincidental graduation of sixteen House members -- Selective Service has not yet made any great inroads into Branch membership. Convention will have to decide what is the optimum ratio of Association members to non-members and grant preferments with this decision in mind.

#### Investments

Along with other endowed institutions, the Association has suffered during the past decade from the effects of inflation. While dollar income has risen, depreciation in the value of the dollar has resulted in a decline in real income.

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### DEEP SPRINGS RECRUITMENT

by Don Noel

I have recently returned from a week-long recruiting trip which was, to the best of my knowledge, the first such journey ever undertaken by a Deep Springs' student. The idea, introduced by John Laylin, was approved at the recent Trustees' meeting, and I left one week later. Following a course outlined for me in San Francisco by Harry Scott, and in Portland by interested educators there, I visited a total of six schools, talking with both seniors and juniors in an effort to excite an interest in Deep Springs. (Miles Everett, working under Joseph Nunn's direction, has made a similar effort in the Los Angeles area.)

The trip was, I think, highly effective. In several schools I found that neither students nor counsellors had a very clear notion of what we are offering in the way of an education; in all instances I was able to clarify greatly the students' concept of Deep Springs, and was able to stir up a lively interest also toward application.

The trip was, of course, conducted too late to be especially useful in securing candidates for admission next Fall. Nevertheless, though most of the seniors to whom I spoke had acceptances and often scholarships from other colleges, I was able to interest several in applying, and I expect that my work among juniors will prove productive next year.

Even more of a problem than the lateness of the trip, though, was the fact that I was often starting on fresh ground. Many of the men had never heard of Deep Springs, and most of those who had heard of us had only a sketchy - and sometimes erroneous - idea of it.

That this situation is not merely local, but widespread, is indicated by the fact that, at this writing, we have received a total of eleven completed applications. My experience has convinced me that this dearth of candidates is not a consequence of a lack of student interest in Deep Springs -- in every case the men with whom I talked were anxious to learn more, wanted in many cases to apply -- but results rather from the fact that the students do not know about Deep Springs. Our recruiting program has receded to the point where our Director in his limited trip, the Chancellor of the Association, and a few isolated alumni groups are the sole broadcasters of the Deep Springs word; we are leaving huge parts of the country untouched.

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# TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

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— W. MULCAHY — C. TER KUILE —

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The Editors of the Newsletter would be grateful to receive, and would consider printing, any articles or letters which contest any or all of the points made by Sidney Walcott in the March 1952 issue.

## The Problems Stated

(From Page 1)

Last Convention decided to make our income more responsive to changes in the general price level by increasing the overall ratio of stocks to bonds in our portfolio to 60-40, based on market value. At the time this decision was reached the ratio was thought to be about 50-50. This estimate was based, however, on book value in the case of our not-readily-marketable Utah securities. There has been some sentiment among the Custodians to the effect that these securities should be valued, in determining such a ratio, by capitalizing their present earning power. Following such a method gives a ratio of about 57-43. Convention will have to decide whether it wishes to modify the decision of last year in view of the revised estimates. Convention will also review the activities of the Custodians this past year in approaching the higher proportion of stocks and in otherwise improving our income expectations by switching out of government bonds into higher-yielding issues.

Association policy toward Federal Savings and Loan Associations will also be reconsidered. These associations offer us a yield differential of about 1% over government bonds. Principal is protected by the Federal Insurance feature, which guarantees repayment of up to \$10,000 in any one firm, and in normal times liquidity is excellent. In the event of a heavy run on these institutions during a deflationary period, however, liquidity would be impaired and we might suffer loss of interest. At the present time we hold \$130,000 in these associations, but \$30,000 of the lower-yielding issues are scheduled to be sold at the end of the present interest-period.

Other major changes in our investment policy have been under consideration by the Custodians and may be made the subject of discussion at Convention.

## Trust Fund and Reserves

The Custodians have also studied the effects of inflation on our trust fund and reserves from the standpoint of financial policy. Last Convention voted to increase the rate of plowback to 15% on the basis of the assumption that the constitutional requirement of 10% of income was not sufficient to maintain the purchasing power of the trust fund. An historical study prepared for the Custodians indicates that, at the present rate of inflation, even 15% is barely adequate for this purpose and will not suffice to build up the real value of the fund.

In connection with the decision to increase the stock-to-bond ratio, the 1951 Convention directed the Custodians to investigate and, at their discretion, to institute an Income Stabilization Fund. While stock yields approximate more closely than bond yields the general price level, they fluctuate in a wider range. The Fund would serve to level these fluctuations and provide the Association with essentially the same purchasing power each year. The Custodians have considered several possible methods for operating this Fund based on historical yield-expectations and will probably recommend one of these to the Convention for final decision.

The Reserves for the Maintenance and Replacement of Telluride House have likewise suffered from inflation. In order to make proper provision for these two obligations, the annual appropriation to the Reserves must be increased. This situation is illustrated by the fact that the present replacement cost of Telluride House would be almost three times the original cost.

## Conscientious Objectors

During the Summer of 1951 the President was informed by the Pasadena Branch Advisory Committee that a student at Pasadena Branch did not intend to register for the draft upon reaching his eighteenth birthday. Consequently, the President convened a meeting of the Central Advisory Committee to consider the implications of this intention. The issues presented to the Central Advisory Committee were these: 1.) Is it a violation of the Constitution of the Association to permit this student to continue at Pasadena Branch? 2.) What significance is there in the relatively high incidence of pacifists, and more specifically, non-registrants, in the Nunn enterprises? The Committee was guided in its considerations by communications received from about twenty of our members and associates in addition to those attending the sessions.

It was the feeling of the Committee that the incident provided no occasion for legal action against the Association. In view of this fact and recognizing that Association policy can be formed and developed only at annual Conventions, the Committee concluded that it was not within its legal powers to give a definitive answer to the first question. The Committee therefore recommended that the 1952 Convention conduct a thorough investigation into both issues and requested the President to obtain the opinions of the Permanent Judiciary Committee and a number of lawyers among the alumni.

## Cash Loans

For several years there has been discussion at Convention and within Cornell Branch of the legality and desirability of granting cash preferment on a loan basis. The most common proposal has been to make such loans non-maturing and non-interest-bearing. The Permanent Judiciary Committee ruled this year that such a practice would be within the legal powers of the Association and would not adversely affect our tax status. This issue, therefore, will probably receive serious attention at the coming Convention.

## DEEP SPRINGS NOTES

by Don Noel

What is probably the most gratifying news from this region is the story of the completion of the repair work on the concrete ditch by the Student Body. Early in April we received a bid from a construction firm to do the necessary work, patching about 1,200 feet of ditch with a gunned-in cement, for \$2,500. Thinking that the cost was too high, the students rearranged the schedule so as to leave Thursday through Monday, April 10-14, free. Then, while some men remained at the ranch to keep the daily work going, we maintained a crew of nine or more men out on the ditch all day each day, mixing and pouring our own cement. The work was completed by Monday noon (a day before the irrigation water was needed) at a cost of less than \$600.

During the last week of March we enjoyed a week-long series of lectures by Alexander Miller, Stanford theologian, on the subject of 'Christianity and Communism.' Work and class schedules were reduced to allow up to two hours' additional reading each day, preparatory to the evening-long lectures and discussions. We were very pleased with the success of the plan, and hope to make such a series, on a topic to be chosen by each Student Body, an annual event.

After a brief attempt at holding afternoon public speaking classes, we have reverted to the evening sessions, with the increased formality of dress and manner which the larger group inspires. Sunday morning speeches are proceeding with regularity, with each service being conducted after the pattern of a particular faith, and a text of philosophical import being delivered by a student, faculty member, or guest.

The Spring Trip, which started for the Colorado River area, met with rain and cold weather at Grand Canyon and spent its concluding half in the heat of Death Valley, rather than in Havasu Canyon as was originally planned. Only eleven students went on the trip. Of the others, two went with the cowboy and English instructor Ed Loomis on a week-long pack trip, two went out on their own, four stayed at the ranch, and one went on a recruiting trip into the Northwest.

The Trustees, at their May meeting, approved the Student Body's new recruiting booklet, and we shall send it to press in the immediate future. The booklet, needed for some time, was prepared by a student committee with advice from Messrs. Laylin and Loomis. It is more thorough and detailed than have been past booklets, and includes several pages of illustrative material.

Next year's Student Body, the largest in the last few years, will probably be twenty-two in number, completely filling the new accommodations. The third year class will be nine men strong, with eight in the second year class and only five new men.

## PASADENA BRANCH NOTES

by Mario Fornoff

The term is quickly drawing to a close, and so is Pasadena Branch.

All the lights are burning until late at night, or even into the early hours of the morning. From one window floats the music of Beethoven's "Eroica" - Sukenick is writing his Anthropology term paper. From another window comes the busy chattering of a typewriter - that's Washburn writing his application for Cornell Branch. A door slams - and Adams is off to his modern dance class, or, perhaps, to a rehearsal for an opera to be given at Los Angeles City College in which he has a part. Rose is conferring with "Dean" Freeman about his college plans for next year. (Mike Yarrow is on his final tour for the Hazen Foundation. This time he is covering the East and Mid-West.)

All the fellows have pretty well made up their minds about future colleges: Bogatay, Sukenick, Washburn and Fornoff are applying to Cornell; Green is planning to attend Swarthmore; Adams will attend the University of Washington; Azumi wants to go to Haverford, Weston to Sacramento City College, and Rose will probably go to the University of California.

The annual faculty-student baseball game will be played on May 18. The Student Body is grimly determined not to lose another game to the faculty - pitchers are already warming up. In the basketball league which we joined we have won one game and lost two to date. On the cultural side, most of our men attended the recent opening of a one-man show of paintings by Roger Barr, of our resident staff.

On our Spring Trip we went to Yosemite, Deep Springs, and Death Valley. At Yosemite, we had wonderful, warm weather; at Deep Springs, the weather was somewhat cooler, but still pleasant; but in Death Valley we spent two cold days and nights. Deep Springers avenged themselves for the bowling loss we handed them last year by trouncing us in a softball game, 32-8. On all other counts, Deep Springs' hospitality was perfect.

On May 5 the Student Body went to Norman Rush's trial at the U.S. District Court. Norman was sentenced to a two-year prison term; he is now at the Los Angeles county jail awaiting assignment to a prison.

The Pasadena Branch Advisory Committee will meet on May 10 to prepare its report for the Convention. Pasadena Branchmen planning to attend the Convention are Adams, Bogatay, Green, Fornoff, Sukenick, and Washburn.

We were very pleased to have Jim Olin stop here on his way to the Deep Springs Trustees' Meeting. He spent a day attending several classes and the public speaking meeting. Afterwards, he discussed with us the reasons for the decision to close Pasadena Branch and the possibilities of opening a branch in the future.

I should like to call for an effort on the part of every alumnus to help Deep Springs in its recruiting. It is very probable that if a large number of our graduates, individually or in groups, were to make contacts with the schools in their areas, we here could successfully follow up the leads developed.

The alumni work should begin in mid-October, just after the first marking period has ended in most schools, when both counsellors and students can be expected to have time to spare. The alumnus can begin simply by appearing at one or two schools in his area, talking for a short time with the senior boys' counsellor, and arranging a date, preferably in October, to speak with ten or twelve of the outstanding boys in the class.

When he returns to talk to this group, he can, if he desires, base his talk around visual recruiting aids which have been prepared here. We have available, for loan to any alumnus, a 22-minute 16 mm. movie depicting Deep Springs' life, three sets of about three dozen 35 mm. color slides for projection, and five albums of black-and-white prints. What we ask of the alumnus is that he briefly describe Deep Springs, explain its ideals, its founding and its connection with the Association, and deliver to those interested a fistful of literature. Finally, he can suggest to these boys that, by writing to Deep Springs, they can arrange to see a member of the Student Body Committee on Applications, who will be making a trip similar to mine in mid-December.

Then, in the week before our Christmas vacation begins, three students - probably third year men - will leave here to make carefully scheduled trips on the West Coast, in the Midwest, and on the Atlantic seaboard respectively. They will talk to the seniors individually or in small groups, attempt to round out the picture of Deep Springs with factual details beyond the scope of an alumnus of several years, and will make every effort to convince the potential candidates that the Deep Springs educational program is the best available.

The immediate result of this course of action will be this, that by Christmas-time the high school senior will have a well-defined notion of Deep Springs, will be able to mull over for himself his candidacy, and will also be equipped to begin work on his application. Our Applications Committee can then prescribe individual interviews with alumni for the early weeks of January, and by early February we can expect to have completed applications at Deep Springs, ready for an early decision which will put us far ahead of other college scholarships.

The time to start organizing alumni groups is at Convention. We urge you to get together then, notify the Committee on Applications of your readiness to help, and try to set a date - early in the fall - when you can begin canvassing the local schools. We shall arrange immediately to send you literature, and will schedule for your use whatever of the pictorial material you make think desirable.

Prof. Nevil V. Sidgwick, G.B.E., F.R.S. chemist of international note, peacefully died during his sleep in a nursing home at Oxford on March 17. He had been in failing health for several months. He was 78 years old.

The Telluride group first made the acquaintance of Sidgwick in 1931 when he was invited to deliver the Baker Lectures at Cornell, and he was then the guest of Cornell Branch for four months. During the following twenty years, on occasional visits to the U.S., Sidgwick became well known to a wide group of our associates. He visited Cornell Branch and Deep Springs and individual associates scattered about the country. During one of his visits to Deep Springs he induced Conant of Harvard to accompany him.

Sidgwick visited the Branch last fall, arranging his stay so that he could be in Ithaca during the month when the autumn colors were at their peak. He renewed old friendships on the Campus and took long rides about the countryside; he received personal honors at the New York convention of the international chemists; he represented Oxford at the installation of Chancellor Kimpton at Chicago.

With a basic training in the classics, Sidgwick subsequently did distinguished study in science in British and German schools. He received his degree of Doctor of Philosophy with highest honors in 1901, and that year he was elected Fellow of Lincoln College. At Lincoln he was a distinguished scientist, a great teacher, a stirring colleague, a warm-hearted human being who held the respect and affection of the University community.

The revival of chemistry at Oxford began with Sidgwick's work. He started in 1920 to apply the Rutherford-Bohr nuclear theory of the atom to chemistry. Several years of work brought forth his Electronic Theory of Valency, which brought him an international reputation. For the last thirty years, he was primarily interested in the structure of molecules and compounds. The Chemical Elements, his greatest and most significant work, published in 1950, is the high point of his years of research and study.

Since Cornell Branch reopened at the close of the War, Sidgwick was several times invited to become one of the permanent resident scholars at the Branch, but other commitments and the completion of his Chemical Elements prevented acceptance. During the past year, there has been discussion by Association members on designating the Telluride-Lincoln College exchange scholarship as the Nevil Sidgwick Scholarship, and the 1952 Convention may take action.

A recent brief note to the Chancellor from Keith Murray, Rector of Lincoln College, says in part:

"I cannot regret now his peaceful passing away in his sleep, though I miss him horribly; he had what he wanted (To Page 5)

# CORNELL BRANCH NOTES

by Jordon Pecile

The much discussed subject around the House now is the approaching Convention. In part this interest has been stimulated by the Advisory Committee, which has organized group discussions on Convention procedures and the purpose and plan of the Association. In part too, the House meetings have kindled interest in Convention topics, for we have been much concerned with the interpretation of certain by-laws, especially that by-law of the Association's Constitution which provides, in the Charter to Cornell Branch, that,

.....The Branch may grant to resident guests the privilege of debate and the right to vote in Branch meetings on all matters except in regard to the express disposition by the Branch of such funds as may be appropriated to the use of the Branch by Telluride Association....

This provision is further implemented in the by-laws of Cornell Branch, Article II, Section I.

Debate has centered around this article because of the many difficulties encountered in voting on financial motions. It is not always easy to separate the "express disposition of funds" motion from the many motions which frequently surround it -- e.g., motions to amend, substitute, postpone, commit, etc.

A special committee headed by Don Claudy was appointed by House President Lammers to consider the procedures involved in voting on financial motions. A majority of this committee interpreted the relevant articles as providing the resident Association members with 'complete power' to dispose of funds appropriated to the Branch. The minority member of the committee interpreted them as intending only to give 'final power' to provide or withhold funds to the resident members. In brief, the distinction is this: 'complete power' means that only Association members can frame and vote on all motions subsidiary to financial motions; 'final power' means that they vote alone only on the final form of the specific motion. After long and serious deliberation the minority interpretation was accepted.

The awkward situations with which the present voting provisions burden House meetings, coupled with the genuine conviction that the following change would increase the educational benefits which preferment offers, led the membership to vote 19-8 in favor of recommending that the Convention investigate the possibilities of extending to all residents of the Branch the privilege of voting on financial motions.

Under consideration at the present is the creation of the position of 'house manager,' an appointed officer whose duty it would be to supervise and coordinate the work of the kitchen and janitorial staffs. The present arrangement, which divides this responsibility

between the Property Committee and the Kitchen Liason man, has proved something less than satisfactory.

Not all our time is spent in House meetings; we have entertained in a gala fashion this term! Several successful dinner dances, an exchange dinner with Delta Gamma sorority, and an afternoon tea-dance were conducted by the Entertainment Committee, whose most recent effort has been the Spring Weekend House Party. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Arent and Mr. and Mrs. Erik Pell were our chaperones. Over 150 guests attended our Sunday evening program of chamber music and enjoyed a concert of 17th and 18th century compositions. We were hosts at that time to the Ithaca Baroque Ensemble, in which Joel Cogen plays the flute.

During her visit to the University, prominent American authoress Katherine Anne Porter was our guest; our evening reception in her honor was attended by members of the Cornell English and Classics faculties.

Other social events involving the faculty included a poker party for members of the Math and Physics departments and a panel discussion of Southeast Asia led by professors of Far Eastern Studies and Sociology.

This year's public speaking program will conclude with our annual banquet on May 14, to which all friends and nearby Association members have been invited. The winner of the Pemberton Cup was James Bostwick.

Among the guests of the House this Spring have been Association alumnus John Newell, Vice-Chancellor and Mrs. John Mountford of Liverpool University, Will and Anna Herberg, and Gary Sadler. The Herbergs, who had recently returned from a lecture tour in the West during which they visited Pasadena Branch, talked with us about their impressions of both Pasadena and Cornell Branches.

Also deserving mention is the fact that, for the first time since the war, one of our intramural athletic teams has met with unqualified success. At the date of this writing, our baseball players have lost only two games, and have won an equal number, one by the score of 23-5.

## Nevil Sidgwick

(From Page 4) more than anything else -- his three months in America. We knew -- and he certainly knew, I am sure -- that it might be the end for him, but he wanted it so much that it was better to let him achieve it.

"As you know, he had a very deep love of the House and Deep Springs, and he has expressed this by making over to the Telluride Association a share of his estate. He has left you 1/10 of the residue, and it will probably be worth about £ 3500 or £ 4000 after payment of death duties...."

Some members have suggested that this bequest become the nucleus of the Nevil Sidgwick Scholarship.

# PERSONALS

Three members of Cornell Branch will be married during June:

Curt Karplus, to Rosemary Hearn, of Haverth, N.J., a fellow English major at Cornell. Both will be graduated this month.

Warren Seulowitz, to Lois Rassmussen, of Waterbury, Conn. Lois received her Cornell degree in 1951.

Wendell Williams, to Dorothy Watt, of Scarsdale, N.Y., a former Swarthmore College classmate.

## BIRTHS

George Frederick Reinhardt, III, in Paris, on Feb. 26. To the Fred Reinhardts.

Carol Elizabeth Hazlett, on March 4, in Chicago. To Don and Conny Hazlett.

Susan Trefethen Palfrey, in Ithaca, on March 10. 6 lbs. 15 oz. To Pete and Emily Palfrey.

Daniel Emery Balderston, in Boston, on April 9. To Fred and Judy Balderston.

Janet Marie McConnaughey, at Washington, on April 16. To Dave and Gloria McConnaughey.

Bonham Campbell was appointed Lecturer in Engineering, Dept. of Engineering, at UCLA on Nov. 1; on Jan. 1, he received an additional appointment as Asst. Director, Office of Relations with Schools, Univ. of Calif. Campbell will divide his time about 50-50 between the two jobs. In the Dept. of Engineering he has teaching and administrative duties, and in the Office of Relations with Schools, he will act as liason with junior colleges and highschools, with emphasis on matters relating to engineering education. Campbell had previously been on the staff at Deep Springs since the summer of 1946.

Ralph D. Mershon, 84, electrical engineer and former president of AIEE, died on Feb. 14 in Coconut Grove, Fla. He worked with the Nunn at Ames, Colo., on the pioneering development of Telluride Power in the early '90s. Mershon invented the 6-phase rotary converter, the compounded rotary converter, the compensating voltmeter, etc., and was awarded the John Scott Medal by Franklin Institute.

Eugene Schaub, 69, died of cerebral hemorrhage on March 19 at his office in the Cache County (Utah) Court House where he had been County Surveyor for 40 years. He studied at Utah State and Stanford and was a civil engineer. One of his early jobs was laying out the power line from Grace to Salt Lake City. He is survived by his widow, 12 sons and daughters, 35 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Oliver F. M. Biersach died after a lingering illness on March 17 in San Francisco. He was born in Versailles, Mo., in 1878. In 1898 he began work as bookkeeper and teller of The First National Bank of Telluride, Colo., and subsequently became cashier. In the '20s he was assistant secretary of the Continental Life Insurance Co., from which position he resigned to become cashier of the Carbon County Bank at Price, Utah. In the '40s he was with the civilian staff of Federal Military Services in San Francisco until his retirement. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. S. V. (Sue Anne) O'Reilly and four grandchildren. He was a brother of W. L. and G. A. Biersach.

Lucius B. Fuller, 72, retired Chief Engineer of the Utah Power & Light Co., died of a heart ailment on April 10 at his home in Salt Lake City. Fuller studied at Montana State and worked summers for Mr. Nunn on the Niagara Falls project; he received his ME degree from Cornell in 1906 and was a member of Sigma Xi, honorary scientific society. During the 45 years previous to his retirement, Fuller had been prominently associated with practically every major electrical development in the Utah-Idaho area. He is survived by his widow (Merce Berkeley) and one daughter.

Telluride Association  
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