TASP Board Tells Faculty For 1962, '63

Richard Ohmann, assistant professor of English at Wesleyan University, has been named by the TASP Board to direct the 1963 Summer Program at Cornell Branch.

Dr. Ohmann, until recently a junior fellow at Harvard, will publish a book on Shaw soon. His program will probably deal with the novel, possibly from the point of view of the relation between society and literature, although no final decision has been made yet.

Also announced last month was appointment of William L. Alderson, professor of literature at Reed College, to assist Prof. Reginald Arragon in this year's West Coast program at Stanford University. Their program will be an "inter-disciplinary approach to the civilization of the ancient Greek city-state."

This summer's Ithaca Program (at Cornell Branch) will be directed by Dr. Shaw Livermore of Princeton University, concentrating on the Bill of Rights from both philosophical and historical points of view. The Cornell Program (underwritten by the University, and held at Psi Upsilon House) will be directed by Prof. James McConkey, with Prof. H. Peter Kahn, both of Cornell, on the subject on "Form, Expression and Method: The Arts in Our Times."

Administrative assistants to the three programs (formerly known as facétotæ) will be, in the order the programs are listed above, Members Abram Shulsky, Kenneth Pursley and Christopher Bruell.

A higher cutoff point of PSAT scores has reduced the total number of applications to be screened, according to TASP Chairman Tom Nagel, but no definite figures are available at this time.

Travelling Lincoln Fellowships Proposed To Honor E. M. Johnson

Enlargement of the Lincoln College exchange program into a travelling fellowship, to honor the late E. M. Johnson, has been proposed to Telluride Association by Associate Norton T. Dodge.

The fellowship program, on which he is soliciting comment through the Newsletter prior to this June's Convention, would replace the writing prize voted by the 1960 Convention on the occasion of Johnson's retirement.

The enlarged prize would require a fund of about $60,000. Dodge proposes, although the program "could be partially beeffed up and additional funds appropriated" by Convention in early years.

Oxford, Dodge notes, leaves a great deal of time free for travel, "but our man gets nothing from us or from Lincoln College either for travel to and from England or for travel in England and on the Continent."

The Lincoln scholar at Cornell Branch receives only $800 in addition to room and board. Since he must pay his trans-Atlantic passage and student fees from this, Dodge points out, "this leaves him with just enough to participate in Branch activities." Nothing is left for vacation or summer travel in the U.S.

The requisite grants needed on either side of the Atlantic to include appropriate travel, Dodge suggests, are:

- $1,300 for the TA scholar at Oxford to cover travel to and from England, plus $800 for travel during the first and second summer. "This would make our fellowship as attractive as a Rhodes, or more so."
- $1,200 more for the Oxford scholar at Cornell, to cover Atlantic fares plus $700 for travel during the three summer months.

Lincoln College might be persuaded to increase their cash grants somewhat, it is suggested, and Telluride might look into the possibility of Fulbright travel grants for the Lincoln scholar.

"I would think such an excellent set of scholarships, which might be named the E. M. Johnson Lincoln Exchange Fellowships, would be a fine and fitting memorial," Dodge writes. Johnson negotiated the Lincoln exchange, was closely identified with it, and felt it one of the Association's most worthy activities.

A campaign to raise funds, Dodge proposes, might be in phases, so there would be several partial goals. The first campaign might aim for enough capital to cover travel costs of both fellows to and from their homes. Later drives could aim for enough to cover the Cornellian's and then the Lincolnian's vacation travel.

Plans for the Johnson literary prize for this year, meanwhile, appear to have been dropped because of the confusion following the late chancellor's death. He had been to chair a prize committee, along with three Associates in literary fields, but no details had apparently been completed before his death.

Reaction to the Dodge proposal will be welcomed in the May issue of the Newsletter, and Dodge is expected to present his plan, possibly with modifications, at Convention. Deadline for Newsletter contributions will be April 15.

News of Associates

Growth Fund Begins Next 5-Year Period

By NORTON DODGE
Manager, Growth Fund

Last Convention marked the first five years operation of the Telluride Corporation Growth Fund, and the beginning of a new and, we hope, more successful second five-year period.

The Fund was conceived as a means of attracting contributions in cash or securities from those preferring to have their contributions invested in securities offering the prospect of a higher return in income or in capital gains than Trust Fund investments. In addition, it was hoped that members and associates would inform the Manager of unusual investment opportunities encountered in their work or otherwise.

During the first year and a half of its existence, the Growth Fund was inactive.

In 1957, however, some of our more likely members and friends were circularized and a more general appeal for contributions was made in the Newsletter. Contributions have numbered about half a dozen and two of these have accounted for 80 percent of the contributions. Nonetheless, the value of the Fund has increased through contributions and appreciation to $4,304 at the end of the 1961 fiscal year.

During this year, the market value of the Fund increased 34% per cent, in contrast to a gain in the Dow Jones Industrial Average of only about 7% per cent over the same period. This was the best gain achieved to date.

At present, the bulk of the Fund is invested in several mutual funds emphasizing growth through new or unseasoned issues, special situations, and foreign securities. Until the Fund increases sufficiently to permit adequate diversification and to warrant the time required to follow these types of securities closely, the objectives of the Growth Fund are best served by investing in mutual funds of this type.

It is hoped, however, that contributions during the next five years will increase the size of the Growth Fund to the point where a more direct and aggressive investment policy can be followed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

May I protest the unusual and perhaps unprecedented action of President Tucker in requesting proxy instructions by members of Telluride Association on the issue of electing women to membership at the 1962 Convention. Whatever the intent of the action, it appears to be an attempt to prejudice a question which can be decided only by the Convention after an open debate.

The article in the February NEWSLETTER by Mses. Claudia and Friedman concludes: "If the requisite 75 per cent vote favorable to a female member does not exist, we ought to discourage female membership applications and lay the matter to rest until such time as internal persuasion secures the requisite majority."

"Internal persuasion?" As I recall, a lot of this internal persuasion used to take place at Convention itself when arguments were presented and issues debated before God and the members assembled. Now I see we decide them in straw votes taken five months before Convention, thus saving ourselves a lot of unpleasantries. We do this also, "in fairness to the possible female membership candidates" who might otherwise throw themselves on the notoriously unmerciful Association.

Think of the time and money Mr. Kennedy would have saved if he had done as Mses. Claudia and Friedman suggest and withdrawn his candidacy in September, 1960, when the polls put Mr. Nixon in the lead. But issues are not decided by polls any more than they are decided by straw votes. A lot of things can happen between September and November—or between February and June, particularly if issues are discussed instead of legalisms.

Even if a 75 per cent vote does not exist in the straw vote, it might very well exist at Convention—so be not discouraged, female membership candidates, even by Claudia and Friedman. For one thing, there is no effective way of insuring that proxy votes will be cast according to instructions. For another thing, even Telluride minds change now and then.

One wonders why this particular issue was singled out and why seemingly an attempt is being made to "lay the matter to rest", if possible, before Convention assembles. One suspects a couple of shrewd lawyers behind this scheme, though I have not the faintest notion who they might be, nor am I much inclined to this kind of conspiracy theory.

But I am much less inclined to let straw votes take months in advance of Convention decide issues which ought to be decided by Convention after open debate. Therefore, I urge that no possi-
Hoskins Urges Telluride Membership For Mature Members of DS Student Body

By JOHN HOSKINS

Should Telluride Association consider applications for membership submitted by non-Cornell Nunn enterprise people? This question may become pertinent at the 1962 Convention if, as now seems possible, several Deep Springs students planning to remain at DS for one or more years should submit membership applications.

In the past, TASP alumni have expressed interest in becoming members of the Association, although they did not plan to attend Cornell. Prior discussion of the matter as a principle may serve to expedite Convention action.

There are at least two aspects to the question to be considered: the idealistic, and the practical.

Idealistically, is there a real need for Association members in the Deep Springs Student Body and at other universities? Would the Association benefit from having some of its younger members engaged in other than Cornell Branch activities? Would these individuals be able to get full benefit from being members of the Association if they did not also participate in the Cornell Branch meeetings?

And from the viewpoint of practical considerations, does a non-Cornellian applicant, with such a small number of new members elected into the Association each year, and with a large group of Cornell Branch sophomores not yet members, stand a reasonable chance of getting in?

Purpose of the Plan

Having spent this year in the dual position of a member of the Association and a member of the DSSB, I feel in some small degree qualified to present my opinions on the first of these questions. While most, if not all, Association members have had some contact with Deep Springs, and are aware of the importance of the primary branch in LL. Nunn’s educational system, relatively few members of the DSSB are as informed about the role of the secondary branch and Association membership in this process of individual growth and development.

However, if several of the outstanding and more mature members of the DSSB were also TA members, this condition of ignorance could be ameliorated. With greater knowledge of the purpose of the plan, students would be able to seek out the unique values of Deep Springs and exploit them more fully, thus benefiting themselves, and eventually the Association. TA-DSSB men should not act as proselytizing agents for the Telluride point of view, if indeed there is such a thing, in conflict with DS traditions, since this would generate needless antagonism at a time when there is a great need for closer cooperation and harmony between the two groups.

In a letter to the Deep Springs Student Body in January, 1951, Chancellor E. M. Johnson wrote, “There has been a wish expressed at Convention in recent years that more men who plan to remain at Deep Springs should apply for membership in the Association. Even if a man fails of membership, he will be under no disability at another Convention and he will have the advantage of mutual acquaintance with Association members.”

Secondary Branch Important

Prospective members from Deep Springs and elsewhere should plan eventually to participate in secondary branch activities, if possible, either at Cornell Branch or at such other branches as may be established.

TA President Tucker states, “In this connection, I feel that the individual who contemplates making application for membership in the Association and who does not plan to continue in secondary branch activity after leaving Deep Springs should be a most extraordinary individual in the best sense. That is to say, such a person should be quite clear about the elements of secondary branch training which he would miss, and realize that he would be more limited in what he could contribute to the Association and get from the Association compared to those who chose participation in the secondary branch activity.”

Accepting for the moment the proposition that both Telluride Association and the individuals concerned would benefit from having TA members at DS and other undergraduate institutions, and turning to the practical considerations, the question arises whether these applicants should gain membership. Theoretically there is no bar to these non-Cornell applicants being chosen. But in actuality, all predictions about future Convention decisions are just guesses in the dark.

Conventions Are Peculiar

President Tucker warns, “Every applicant should be alerted to the realization of the not infrequent peculiar behavior of Convention in regard to membership applications, and to some extent in regard to preference applications. Beyond this basic hazard of unpredictable behavior which every applicant faces, some factors increase the individual applicant’s chances for becoming a member.

“An individual who has worked against the background of high level competition and made substantial achievement within his group automatically presents empirical evidence of the sort of ability, dedication, and responsible action which the Association is interested in when looking for new members.

“An applicant who has the above mentioned factors in a form record of his achievement to this point in his life and who also has a sincere interest and desire to become a member of the Telluride Association would, indeed, stand an excellent chance to become a member notwithstanding the superficial but potentially fatal erratic phenomena of selecting new members sometimes displayed by the Association Convention.”

Increase Size of TA

One solution to the problem of the painful squeeze exerted by applications for membership in the Association which greatly exceed the number of resignations accepted would be to increase the size of the Association. In comparison to the 89 Constitutional members of Telluride Association in 1911, the present number of 71 could be expanded without shattering precedent, which we are all, of course, loath to do. Although an increase in membership would increase the number of members attending a given Convention needed to form a quorum, younger members generally attend Conventions while older members may find it difficult to put in an appearance.

In a Convention attendance study submitted to the last Convention and summarized in the October, ’61 NL, it was shown that 72 per cent of trustees 25 and under generally attend conventions, while only 57 per cent of trustees over 25 generally attend.

The report concludes, “The most obvious antidote to the convention attendance problem is a rejuvenation of the membership.” Not only would this measure combat the problem of “creeping apathy”, it would also provide room within the Association for worthy applicants who are presently handicapped by not being members of Cornell Branch.

For an opposing view from another member of the Deep Springs Student Body, see page four.
A Dissenting View: Read Opposes Early Membership for DS Men

By DON READ

John Hoskins' article concerning Telluride Association members at Deep Springs emphasizes the need for close relations between the two institutions, of which I am well aware. But this suggestion that Association membership be granted to students as a means of achieving this seems not so strong as he implies.

He feels the Telluride-Deep Springs member would add greatly to the program of educating Deep Springs students in Association operations and purpose. However, this may be, the Deep Springs Association member will at this stage have very little knowledge of the work of the secondary branch, the most active to the TA programs.

The education he suggests could best be carried out by a program of Telluride members from the San Francisco area visiting the school and talking about Deep Springs and Telluride programs from experience in both areas. This seems to me a far better way to indoctrinate students with the principles of Mr. Nunn.

There are several problems which should be considered about the potential Deep Springs member. First, Mr. Nunn had in mind a graduated program of trusteeship, from the indirectness of 20 students at Deep Springs working through one student body representative, to the ratio of Telluride members to non-members at Cornell Branch, and finally to individual trusteeship as a member of the Association. In wonder if granting membership to Deep Springs students isn't moving too fast.

Second, the Deep Springer will have two Conventions and over a year of time during which he will function at a lower level of information than most of the other members. He could gain the amount of familiarity with the Association on this level whether or not he were a member, if he were interested enough to attend a Convention and read available material. His outlook would not add a point of view as a Deep Springer that an ex-DSSB member at the Cornell Branch could not supply in broader scope.

Third, the Convention will have less complete a picture of the candidate after at most, two years at Deep Springs than they have on the majority of their other candidates. This increases the chance of selecting an unsatisfactory member. I feel that most Deep Springers interested in the Association will maintain their interest through June of their final year.

These students will be attracted still to the Branch and Association activities, and the extra incentive of Telluride Association membership during their Deep Springs career will not add appreciably to the number of students anxious to go on to Cornell Branch and to participate in the Association activities while there.

News of Associates

The Rev. James L. Barkenquast (DS 19-52; TA 52-53) has accepted a call to become adult coordinating editor with the board of parish education of the new United Lutheran Church in America, whose merger will be completed next January. Recently returned from a year's independent study in Germany, he will edit and coordinate all materials for use in adult education in a "completely modernized and intellectually up-to-date" long-range program.

Keith E. White (DS '48-9) is presently associated with the Cleveland architectural firm of Ruth, Hardie, White and Howe. After four years with the U.S. Air Force and three years of practical work in the architectural profession, White resumed his formal education at Western Reserve, completing both his B.A. and the B.Arch. in 1960. He is an associate member of the American Institute of Architects.

Dr. Aird Visits DS To Lecture, Consult

Dr. Robert Aird, director of Deep Springs and a member of the Board of Trustees, visited the college Feb. 22-24.

He was in almost constant activity, having individual consultations with many students and with the faculty. In addition, he gave a lecture on the medical profession, showed slides of his recent trip to Greece, and led a discussion of the proposed rescheduling of the academic year.

There has been a great deal of interest within the student body about the so-called "Aird Plan", and in this discussion, Dr. Aird succeeded in resolving many of the doubts and reservations people held about the new proposal.