Procedures Set for Pre-Convention Prize Preferment Awards

The Pre-Convention Preferment Committee has codified its procedures for making awards in the spring of 1963.

The E. M. Johnson Travelling Fellowship is a $1000 award, open to students at Cornell Branch, Deep Springs, Telluride Associates, and alumni.

"In recognition of the inspiration offered by Johnny's gift for the cultivated and carefree enjoyment of life, the fellowship shall be awarded to an applicant whose essay gives evidence of an articulate and perceptive understanding in this area, and who, in the opinion of the committee, shows the greatest promise of enjoying his travels in a manner worthy of Johnny's example."

The applicant should have his essay (maximum of 1000 words) in the hands of the committee by March 1. No applications will be accepted beyond that date. The fellowship shall be awarded by a 2/3 vote of the PCPC and the Custodians at the spring Custodians' meeting. This group shall have discretionary power to decline making the award in a given year.

Deep Springers' Preferment may be granted by the PCPC to up to two transfer students from Deep Springs. The President of TA shall appoint a West Coast committee to interview the DS candidates, which shall provide a report on the interviews and other relevant information concerning the candidates to the PCPC for use in its selection procedure. The standard preferment application shall be used. Applications from DS transfer students shall be submitted to the West Coast Committee by February 15, and the PCPC shall render its decision, by a 2/3 vote, by April 1.

The Lincoln Exchange Scholarship shall be awarded each year to a qualified graduate scholar. Applications, consisting of a concise statement of the applicant's plan of study and his reasons for wishing to pursue this work at Lincoln, College, and, plus any other relevant material which may help the PCPC in deciding the award, shall be submitted by March 1, and the PCPC shall announce the award by April 1.

Tucker Sees Growth of TA-DS Accord in Trustees' Meeting

By ERNEST TUCKER
TA President

I recently attended the Fall Meeting of the Trustees. A number of matters presented there are of concern to those who read this Newsletter.

There were reports about the good state of things at the college. A whole variety of encouraging remarks were made by Dr. Aird, Dr. Loomis and Dick Brouhmel, the student representative. All of these indicated to me that life there for the students is proceeding at a vigorous, stimulating and rewarding pace. Reports from the students gave no little praise of the contributions of Dr. Loomis to their very active program.

Contrariwise, Dr. Loomis conveyed to me that the students are among the best he has seen at Deep Springs.

Dr. Aird, in his report, indicated that the re-scheduled program will begin this summer, thus essentially putting the Deep Springs program in operation the year round. Student recruitment and planning for faculty and curriculum are now in progress.

In the section of the meeting which dealt with money, it was reported that a large deficit is in the offing for the year. And, as in years gone by, capital holdings will be sold to meet the costs; that is unless there are some very generous contributions to the TA-DS New Funds Drive. (Incidentally, Dave Werdegahr says to give as much as you can to the Funds Drive. He would like to go over the top this year).

Another part of the meeting had to do with future planning for the Board of Trustees itself. Certain propositions in this regard were examined by all the Board members. There was no direct action taken on any proposition, but a suitable course was decided. No doubt, there will be news forthcoming on this subject in the next few months.

I was given a period on the floor at the meeting. This gave me a chance to remark, among other things, about TA-DS relations. Mostly, I pointed to the decisions made at last Convention which show continuing support for an outstanding program at Deep Springs, support which is based on an appreciation of the present need of the Association to have a more sophisticated flow of men with primary branch training into the Association.

In a word, I tried to emphasize that the Association is deeply interested in helping to firm up the Deep Springs program for the mutual advantage of both institutions. But I also pointed out that circumstance has made this a crucial time in our mutual relations, and that were the efforts to get a solid long range program well situated at Deep Springs to fail at this juncture, there would be little likelihood that the two institutions would ever closely converge again.

I was much encouraged by the remarks of the Board members after I had finished with mine. They are keenly aware of the cruciality of the time and the necessity, as well as the wisdom, to take these steps which will enhance our mutual relations. Already, they have done much in that direction and will doubtless do substantially more, even within the next year.
Deep Springs' Labor, Government, Lecture Programs Flourish in Fall

By LINCOLN BERGMAN

With student body members taking only three courses and public speaking this semester, there has been opportunity for full participation in both the labor and student government programs, as well as outstanding utilization of the supplementary education provided by outside activities and lecturers.

The public speaking course has become a valuable addition to the Deep Springs curriculum and a unifying activity for the entire community. The class is held in the evening in the main room, and everyone is invited. Six student speakers and a student chairman present a program of short speeches. A type of speech is chosen, for example argumentative and demonstrative speeches have been given. Topics have included Cuba, the Common Market, personal experiences, and, appropriate to recent developments, the education of women.

After the program, the speakers meet with the teacher, Mr. Meeker, and discuss their performance. Plans for next semester include the reading of poetry and plays.

The Trustees meeting being in Los Angeles, first year students met only Dr. Aird, Mr. Waldo, and Mr. Laylin who visited prior to the meeting.

Ritual Football

The annual Thanksgiving East-West football game could have been held atop the Druid; it seemed almost a sacrificial rite. On the first play of the game an Eastener broke a bone in his leg but went heroically on to catch a touchdown pass before leaving the game. Other less serious but disabling injuries forced an agreement to stop the game at half time, calling it a draw. The actual score was East 21, West 20.

Three excellent lecturers have come to the college this semester. Doug Powell, former Deep Springs teacher and an expert on the area from geological, biological, meteorological, and historical standpoints, to name a few, gave an excellent talk that exposed much new information about the valley.

Dr. Kenneth S. Oliver, head of the comparative literature and humanities department at Occidental, lectured on the Nichelungenlied, the German epic which the speaker is now translating. His lecture coincided with the study of that work by the class in the epic. Dr. Oliver also spoke informally to many students on the choice of a subsequent college and course of study.

Another former Deep Springs teacher, also from Occidental where he is a teaching and research physicist, Dr. Herbert Soegaard, spoke on nuclear particles and on the relationship of science to our culture.

Fall Roundup

The roundup was marked by Fogger Dunagan, the cowboy, again accounting for every animal, and by the usual glistening of knife blades in the sun. For the first time in several years the ranch has pigs. A slaughter with the help of Mr. Sime, the new cook, and former rancher, saw six students ardently scrap ing, and led to native boardinghouse fare.

Movies this semester have ranged from an individual student-financed short of questionable art value to Marlon Brando in Viva Zapata, the Japanese film Seven Samurai, and Charlie Chaplin. The Christmas Chinaman's featured Phil Craven as a Santa Claus whose beard was soon trampled underfoot by wide-eyed ranch and faculty children. The Christmas spirit was enhanced by the knowledge of impending exodus.

Following the return of Chancellor Loomis from a trip to the East during which he visited Telluride House and spoke to prospective students, the student body dispersed to spend a quiet Christmas at home.

Deaths

Daniel C. Lindsay, Constitutional Member and close lifelong friend of Chancellor Johnson, died at his home April 26, 1962.

George Richard Varney, '45-'47, was killed in a plane crash over Laos April 6, 1962.

Courland O. Baker, an early associate of the Nun enterprises and one-time resident of Telluride, Colo., is reported by his daughter to have died Jan. 15, 1959.

Alumni Charter Member R. M. Strobridge has notified us of the death of his daughter, Mrs. Rosalie Strobridge Bond, in Santa Maria, Calif.
Gatje Challenges Summer Programs' Relevance to Telluride Education

By ROBERT F. GATJE

As we near the 10th anniversary of the Telluride Association Summer Programs it has been suggested we take stock of this educational experiment and analyze its success in serving the interests of the students, the Association, and American education in general.

I would like to make some limited remarks here about one small part of the general discussion — an issue that has interested me greatly and is involved in broader problems which are troubling the Association.

The issue is the comparison between the interests of the students as "opposed" to the interests of TA. In a pointless search for priority it is usually, though I believe mistakenly, stated in "either/or" form as President Tucker did in his report at the 1962 Convention when he asked: "Do we intend them (the Summer Programs) mainly for recruitment or as an educational venture?"

The question is based upon two hidden assumptions:

- that these two fundamental aspects of the programs are somehow at war with one another, and
- that, while no one in his right mind is against a good roving educational experiment, "recruitment" is something of a dirty word.

I chaired part of the 1953 Convention that listened excitedly to the first report of TA, and I might recall some of the atmosphere surrounding its birth. The Association was in trouble. For a variety of reasons most of our traditional avenues for bringing in new members looked at that moment like dead ends and there was fear that a dwindling membership fed by a skeleton Branch would not be able to function as a going institution.

We were institutionally worried about "self-preservation." It didn't seem a selfish or empty concern then, and to me it doesn't now. Rather I believe our concern arose out of a deep sense of loyalty to and pride in an institution from which we had received so much, and a determination that future generations be offered the same challenging opportunities that we had shared.

When Eric Pell and Frank Young outlined their program, it was sold as a worthy use of our educational resources, but it was accepted in the enthusiastic realization that we were opening up a broad new approach to potential members at the same time.

No one suggested then, and no one has tried to prove since, that its value as an educational experience would in any way be diluted by the student's realization that the group sponsoring such a worthy program might deserve further investigation and commitment on their part. I feel confident that the 1953 Convention would not have accepted this many-sided program for one reason without the other. The genius of the idea continues to be that the better it functions as an educational experience, the more effective it is as one means of ensuring the continued life and health of TA.

It is curious that no one plays this self-defeating game of priorities with Cornell Branch or Deep Springs. We simply recognize that a successful year at either, in the context of our own broad purpose, can benefit the worthy student in both the moment and the future rewards of trusteeship. His free commitment to our program and assumption of the responsibilities involved in membership serves, presumably, both the personal interests of the individual and the organizational interests of the Association.

**Core of 'Guilt'**

This brings me to the core of my argument, and may reveal the cause of our recruitment "guilt." It lies in our having gradually removed the Summer Programs from the context of Telluride Association's overall educational work.

Despite carefully worded disclaimers in our printed literature, we have stepped eliminated most ties to the sort of education in responsibility to which we remain otherwise committed. The faculty are outsiders, even chosen for the most part by the co-sponsoring Universities. What personal contact we make is limited to the influence of one relatively young "factotum", who is sometimes not even a Member.

Self-government, practical experience in handling some degree of responsibility — all are apparently gone, victims of convenience. No wonder we have found it embarrassingly difficult to advertise TA as a Telluride program and, having failed to establish the connection in advance, that we have felt guilty about using it to Telluride purposes afterwards.

One way out of the dilemma would be to acknowledge frankly our primary present role of administrators, leg-men and publicists and let the credit go to a Cornell, Princeton or Stanford. This is the way things are heading.

But I would oppose our continued support of TA under such circumstances. It would be an obvious misuse of our time and funds further to invest so heavily in any program, however laudable its aims or effects, which is so unconnected to the program we are entrusted to develop and which is so uncontrolled by our membership.

I would oppose it also for a different reason.

We frequently advertise TA in some such oversimplification as "a means of introducing high school juniors to the reality of college-level study."

A better course for TA would be to fly its own colors: to point out that if TA is typical of anything else at all, it displays in miniature our regular program of combining the extraordinary resources available at a great university with the challenges and rewards of life within a small community dedicated to excellence and service.

This is a field we know — we've been at it for 50 years. If we really work at it we could use our experience to develop TA along lines that would identify it with Telluride, rather than other institutions. The excellence of the program as educational experience must be unquestioned, so that a summer at TA, like a year at CB or DS, could be treasured by the student as a value in and of itself.

However, obviously the summer would take on more meaning in the context of a continuing educational experience: such a possibility, boldly stated as a purpose from the outset, could no longer be guiltily categorized as surreptitious recruiting.

My practical suggestions are few, because I know the obstacles are real and I would rather the solutions come from those with first-hand experience in the running of TA. But to start:

- Recast all of our publicity in terms of Telluride's unique role in American education, and bill TA as an introduction to same.
- Reinstitute some semblance of self-government and practical responsibility to the group by thinking of the experience as something that does not necessarily stop short at the end of six weeks.
- Increase the direct participation of members and alumni in the teaching at TA to re-establish us as the parent organization, both in our own eyes and those of the students.

We must resist those pressures on TA which are molding it into a saleable package — easily understood by hasty students and faculty advisors alike, easily duplicated at any University willing to foot the bill — and work instead toward making TA a significant first step in an educational program just as necessary to American education today as it was on the day the Association was founded.

FEBRUARY, 1963
News of Associates

Isao Fujimoto, CBG, ’62-’63, is assistant director of the CURW Honduras Project for next summer. Among the more than 70 applicants for the student teams were five Cornell Branchmen, all of whom were accepted: David Fleiss, Anthony Woodward, Donald Read, James Dean, and Gerhard Drekonja. The screening and planning has been Philip Blair, Branch sophomore, who went with the project last summer.

Barber Conable Jr., TA ’47, was elected in November to the office of State Senator from the 53rd District in New York. In Albany he will be representing some 211,000 rural Western New Yorkers. A resident of Batavia, he normally conducts a general country practice in law. The Conables have three daughters and a son, ranging in age from 11/2 to 8 years.

Among recent visitors to the Branch was David C. Cole, DS ’46, ’48, T.A. ’49. Contrary to evidence in the last Directory, the Coles have been back from the Philippines for more than a year, and are now in Washington, D.C. (see Changes of Address, this issue). Cole is on the program review staff of A.I.D., with special concern for its Far Eastern programs. His trip to Ithaca came only two days after his return from six-week sojourn in the Far East. Also paying brief visits to the Branch this fall have been Edward Loonius, DS ’43, ’52, and Anderson Pace, TA ’37.

Appointment of Jimmy Jal Oomrigar, CB ’52-’54; TA ’53, as representative of the Clark Agency in Denver, Colo., is announced by the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Births

James E. Baxter, M.D., D.S. ’42-’43, T.A. ’46, and his wife Announce the arrival on October 4 of their second child, first daughter: Adrienne Marshall Baxter. Dr. Baxter is in practice, and Mrs. Baxter is on the staff of Barnard College in the department of American Studies.

Robert (and Anne) Richter, PB ’47-’49, announce the birth on April 20 of a third daughter, Rowena.

Dr. V. J. Ram, CB Guest ’54-’56, and his wife, Indira, announce the birth of a son, Shiva, on April 14 in New York. Dr. Ram has been with the Secretariat of the United Nations in N.Y., for the past five years, since obtaining his doctorate at Cornell in ’57.

Distinguished Guests Highlight Fall Term at Cornell Branch

By Vic Barnes

The Branch this year has benefited from several distinguished guests and a broad range of activities. James Baldwin and Jules Pfeiffer participated in spirited discussions at receptions in their honor: Baldwin commented on his position as a Negro writer, while a desultory series of Jack Paar-style Pfeifferisms culminated in the artist’s contribution of an impromptu cartoon page to the guest book. Other receptions were held for such varied visitors as Dexter Perkins, University professor emeritus, and Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, renowned strummer of the sarode.

A tradition was continued as the Messenger Lecturer again stayed at the Branch. This year he was Dr. Heinz Politzer of Berkeley and Vienna, who donated the manuscript of his lectures to the House Library. Dr. Politzer’s recently published book on Franz Kafka, from which the lectures were condensed, includes a word of thanks to Telluride House and RGC chairman Jon Brezin who acted as official host.

Sorority Dinner

The Branch currently includes four female members (since the de-programming of the girls’ program by Convention). Their influence has not been insignificant, but the old order managed to raise itself to prominence for one evening as CETA hosted an exchange supper with Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

A proposed social activity which turned into a strangely cultural evening was the post-opera party. One of the vocalists with the New York City Opera Company, which visited Cornell, was a native of Sandpoint, Idaho, and a friend of last year’s Branch resident Ken Pursley. The performer visited the party and not only talked and sang, but twisted to his own aria for a highly enthusiastic audience.

Faculty Guests

Faculty guests for this term are Madame Frances Perkins, lecturer in labor history, and Renford Bambrough of the Philosophy Department at Cambridge University. Madame Perkins will remain during the spring term.

The Resident Guest Committee has invited and received letters of acceptance from two visiting professors who will join the Branch for the second term: Dr. Efraim Racker, director of biochemistry at the New York City Public Health Research Institute; and D.G.E. Hall, professor emeritus of the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

The student roster of the Branch will be increased by three graduate students: Gabor Brogyanvi (Comparative Literature), Robert Pannier (Philosophy of Science), and William Wallace (Political Theory).

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