TA and DS Plan Joint Fund Drive

by Chris Breiseth

During the month of October Deep Springs and Telluride Association did more to come together in a spirit of effective co-operation than they have done in a generation. A series of three meetings in Ithaca, Berkeley and Deep Springs involved the East Coast Financial Development Committee of T.A., the Custodians, members of Cornell Branch and Association members resident in Ithaca, the West Coast F.D.C., members of Berkeley Branch, Trustees of Deep Springs and the D.S. Student Body. Jim Withrow and I were present at all of the gatherings. Serious financial limitations plus a determination to expand and improve existing programs have led both Deep Springs and the Association into searching re-evaluations of their programs and resources. The Trustees of Deep Springs since April have been conducting with the Student Body and faculty a major evaluation of curriculum, size of Student Body, student recruitment, faculty strength and salaries, existing physical facilities, and finances. Since its convention in June the Association, through the F.D.C., has wittingly and unwittingly stumbled onto basic problems, as well as unique opportunities, faced by T.A. as it begins a serious search for funds.

Our re-evaluations make clear that in the context of American education in the 1960's we make more sense together than we do apart. To the outside world Deep Springs is an incomprehensible junior college and the Telluride Houses glorified intellectual fraternities. This alien perspective has been brought into our deliberations as we have attempted to communicate our programs to others in search of financial support. To the initiated outsider, and to many of our alumni, the central purposes of Mr. Nunn are clearly realized only when Deep Springs and Telluride Association operate in a complementary relationship. No one in the three recent meetings talked of formal fusion of the two institutions — we are intensely independent and likely to remain so. But we did talk of assisting each other in the most basic areas of our institutional lives: student and faculty recruitment, the progression of individuals from D.S. to T.A., and the involvement of our alumni in the strengthening of both institutions.

The following decisions and proposals have emerged from our deliberations:

* T.A. has invited all members of the D.S. Student Body and Dean Childs to attend the 1967 Convention in Ithaca at Association expense.
* The Trustees have invited T.A. to hold its 1968 or 1969 Convention at Deep Springs.
* T.A. and D.S. will work jointly to ease the transfer policy of Deep Springers entering Cornell and the University of California at Berkeley [six former Deep Springers are now at Cornell Branch].
* We will explore ways of using TASP interviewing committees more effectively for D.S. recruitment.
* The Trustees have invited T.A. to hold a TASP at Deep Springs in 1968 in conjunction with the summer session envisaged under the new curriculum and scheduling just adopted. All Deep Springers and the eight TASPers would be engaged in the labor program and in the same academic program — one seminar-course led by one or two men with genuine leadership experience as well as academic ability. The idea of a TASP-type course to

Financial Development Committee Meets in Ithaca;
Custodians, Branchmen Discuss TA-DS Relations

Relations between Deep Springs and Telluride Association were the central issues before the Financial Development Committee at its October 15 meeting in Ithaca, held to coincide with a meeting of the Custodians. Funding, location of Convention, and student exchange were the major points of interest.

The FDC and several CBTA members discussed at length the possibility of a joint DS-TA endowment funds drive. The committee felt that a joint drive would be to the interests of both Deep Springs and Telluride, and it hoped that the DS Trustees would approve such a drive.

The FDC also discussed a new TA brochure and a questionnaire to be sent to all TA members and alumni. Both would be useful in a fund drive, particularly in approaching foundations.

To help Deep Springers become acquainted with the work of the Association the FDC approved two proposals: one for consulting the DS Trustees on holding the 1968 Convention at Deep Springs, and one for paying travel expenses of Deep Springers attending the 1967 Convention in Ithaca. Convention attendance, it is hoped, would interest Deep Springers in the Association and its Branches, for although several Deep Springers are now in CBTA, the trend may not continue if unaided.
Report from CB: Activity and Delay

Housemembers arriving at Cornell Branch this term were not confronted with heavy equipment constructing the parking lot authorized by Convention, for bids submitted were well above estimates and appropriations, and new bids will be requested of the contractors in January. But a trifle less than seventy-five per cent of the House budget had been expended during the summer to keep the ceilings overhead and the drains draining. Luckily Convention in its prescience budgeted a quarter more for maintenance this year, and disaster was averted.

A more immediate concern of the Branch was personal orientation. A practical work day was proclaimed for the first Saturday of the term, on which the attic was tidied, windows washed and broken, and the cellar cleared. Rain caused successive postponements of a picnic, but it was eventually held. And the Branch has proven itself spirited, congenial, and cooperative in its adversity.

Academic affairs are proceeding more smoothly. Housemembers and faculty guests seem to enjoy the semimonthly receptions, and guests have included F. R. and Queensie Leavis, Kenneth Keniston, Congressman Wettner, and Stanley Kaufman. Seminars have been held with Professor Robert Adams on a selection from Joyce's Finnegans Wake, with Klaus Herdeg on his design for the town of Schaan, Liechtenstein, and with Gabor Brogyanyi on the Arthurian romances of Chrétien de Troyes. Music recitals are a smashing success.

House committees are taking themselves seriously, meeting weekly and generating much floor action on Monday evenings. Although the House's enthusiasm for conventional social activity seems to have exhausted itself in two exchanges with sororities and in the orientation and St. Ursula's Day parties, interest and debate on the place of the individual in the Branch and the place of Cornell Branch in Telluride Association has intensified. Prospective applicants for preference from the Hill are now increasingly and regularly brought to the House for meals and other activities.

The proposed preference of faculty guests has produced discussion of purpose and plan almost as heated and protracted as that on the proposed care and alteration of House kittens.

But interest in the Association has not been confined to machinations within the House. Observing the deliberations of the PCPC and the TASP Board, the House has prepared for the imminent task of selecting applicants for the '67 TASP, and the trusteeship activity of Custodians and Financial Development Committee inspired eight House-members to enlist on the spot as assistant custodians. Already they have made the Branch Office so orderly as to be the envy of the neighboring Association Office.

— Randolph Riley

Szasz Wins Ross Prize

Paul C. Szasz, TA '49, is the winner of a $4,000 stipend for first place in the 1966 Ross Essay Competition, sponsored by the American Bar Association. His entry, chosen from a field of seventy-one, examines the contributions that international law and international bodies—legislative, executive, and judicial—may make to the goal of world peace through world law.

Mr. Szasz recommends in his essay that existing international law be identified, clarified, and analyzed. Concrete steps should be taken to simplify treaty-making procedures through international bodies, expand the scope of the World Court, and smooth the functioning of the Security Council.

He concludes, "International law is still too weak to sustain world peace by itself. However, if carefully nurtured, it will gradually play an ever increasing role, until man has succeeded in establishing a universal society firmly founded on the law."

Mr. Szasz, veteran of numerous TA committees, has received degrees from Cornell in physics and law. He has been a Fulbright student at the University of the Saarland and is now a member of the staff of the Legal Department of the World Bank, located in Washington.

Berkeley Branch:

Our Berkeley correspondent reports that during the summer BBTA's Renovations Committee energetically redecorated the House with new rugs, non-skid stairs, and forty colors of paint. Branch members have also created artwork and tables for the dining room. This year's Berkeley Branch has a population of eleven, an average age of 22, a continuing interest in campus politics, and several unorthodox backgrounds which include Harvard, Yale, and the Army.

PCPC RESULTS

The Pre-Convention Preference Committee met in Ithaca in early October. Preference to Cornell Branch was extended to the following 1966 Summer Program participants:

Cornell I
Lucie White, Greensboro, N.C.

Cornell II
Eve Kosofsky, Bethesda, Md.
Frazer Lively, Princeton, N.J.

Princeton
Aymer Ash, Santa Monica, Cal.
Steve Powell, Woodbridge, Conn.
Rick Velkley, Fort Thomas, Ky.

Hampton
Allan Arkush, Albany, N.Y.
David Fried, Oceanside, N.Y.
Jim Morris, Mendota, Ill.
Jack Nickens, Odessa, Texas
Ed Whitfield, Little Rock, Ark.

The following students, all from the Princeton program, were awarded preference to Berkeley Branch:

Paul Flowerman, Westbury, N.Y.
Stephen Geis, New York, N.Y.
TA-DS DRIVE

(continued from page one) unite the entire Deep Springs Student Body in a single intellectual enterprise was adopted by the Trustees and will begin in 1967. T.A. experience with TASP, recruitment of TASPers and faculty for D.S., and increased number of Deep Springers going to CBTA and BBITA are possible dividends from such a co-operative effort.

* The Trustees formally — and enthusiastically — agreed to join the Association in a fund-raising campaign for endowment among the alumni of both institutions. Appeal to alumni will be for annual contributions and for major bequests. While D.S. and T.A. are preparing independently to approach foundations for support of specific programs and of new buildings (at Deep Springs and Berkeley), the joint drive is aimed at increasing income for existing programs from those people who from experience know best the value of the two institutions.

* A specific goal of the joint fund drive aimed at tying Deep Springs and Telluride Association together, and fulfilling the purposes of L. L. Nunn, is increased endowment sufficient to provide scholarship assistance to cover tuition and fees at Cornell and Berkeley for Deep Springers transferring to Telluride Houses. The heavy expense of tuition and fees, particularly at Cornell, prohibits some Deep Springs students from even considering the complementary experience of life in a secondary branch.

Deep Springs and Telluride Association share with other educational institutions the financial pressures which income from original endowments cannot allay; resort must be made to substantial contributions from foundations, government, and alumni. If we are worthy of continuing in a manner befitting Mr. Nunn's original intentions — and to the initiated this seems like a very luxurious standard — those of us who know best the unique merits of Deep Springs and Telluride Association in preparing men for lives of responsible leadership must give generously. If we are to increase faculty salaries to attract the teachers we want, erect the buildings necessary to carry on a high quality educational program, and bring the endowment up to a level to provide income sufficient to operate Deep Springs without deficits; if we are to put Cornell Branch into its original shape physically, supply scholarship assistance for Deep Springers and perhaps all undergraduate branchmen at CBTA and BBITA to cover tuition and fees in addition to existing room and board scholarships, finance existing summer programs, and retain the flexibility to institute new programs (a central opportunity of trusteeship responsibility), we need to be included by our alumni on their list of organizations which receive the 20% of individual income deductible for income tax purposes. Do our alumni consider their experiences in Nunnian institutions important in their personal development? Are these experiences worth giving to young people today? If so, we need new benefactors from the former beneficiaries.

New Hope for Coal: Gourdine Invention

Dr. Meredith “Flash” Gourdine, CBTA ’50–’53, was awarded a $660,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Interior to develop his ‘electrogasdynamic’ generator. The EGD generator is capable of changing coal into cheaply transportable electrical energy directly at the mine mouth. This process uses little water and a low grade of coal. Small-scale EGD systems have been successful, and Dr. Gourdine is now attempting to build a 10,000 kilowatt pilot plant.

The Interior Department contract was awarded by the Office of Coal Research, Secretary Udall said, because EGD “has the potential of improving the usefulness of coal.” The department noted, “Preliminary speculative cost estimates indicate unit costs of EGD power plants to be well within those of present standard practice.”

The report added that preliminary analyses also indicate “it may be possible to design large mine-mouth power plants which don’t require any appreciable quantities of cooling water.”

Dr. Gourdine majored in physics at Cornell and received his Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology in 1960. A track star at Cornell, “Flash” Gourdine competed in the broad jump, sprint, hurdles, and mile relay, and at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics won a silver medal in the broad jump.

From the Desert . . .

Deep Springers Drill, Hope to Strike Water

With quiet but evident enthusiasm the fall semester at Deep Springs has begun. An innovation this year was the special “warm-up session” which allowed four days of work, trips, and unpacking prior to classes began.

This year’s officers include Joe Cobble, president; Mike Hills, Student Body representative; Doug von Quellen, labor commissioner; George Manlove (formerly of CBTA), secretary; and Rick Hansen, treasurer.

Faculty members for the coming academic year are Mr. Joseph Bala-chowski (foreign languages), Dean Barney Childs (English and music), Mr. John Mawby (geology and zoology), and Mr. Jack Newell (history and economics).

The rest of the community is composed of Mr. Strong, the ranch manager; Mr. and Mrs. Battey, the cooks; as well as a new cowboy, a field hand, and various wives and children.

Work projects remain an important part of ranch life. Last fall the new irrigation reservoir was completed by the general labor force. The talk this year is of the new well. The increasingly rapid self-destruction of the valley pipeline has necessitated a new source of drinking water. A well was selected because it offers the possibility of relief from water softeners and chlorine. New plastic pipe has already been laid from the drilling derrick to the water plant, while the hole is at 275 feet and going down.

The Student Body during this past summer became enthusiastic trippers, making two major trips in the Sierra; instruction from Mr. Newell and Mr. Strong has stirred interest in mountain climbing. Tall thin packs, climbing boots, and rapelling slings have become the new DS status symbols. Planning to prove its ruggedness, the Student Body originally scheduled a Fall Trip to the redwoods and snow-bound Crater Lake, but a sample of chill weather at Deep Springs caused a last-minute rerouting. Seventeen students and Mr. Mawby spent a week hiking in the bahny Grand Canyon; three others remained at the ranch to “winterize” and gloriamize the facilities.

— Eric Swanson

December 1966
ALUMNI NEWS NOTES:

The Times Literary Supplement of September 29, 1966, favorably reviewed a recent book by Dr. Roy Pierce, DS '40, TA '46, of the Department of Political Science at the University of Michigan. The book is entitled Contemporary French Political Thought and was published by the Oxford University Press. The review commended Professor Pierce on his "elegant, readable, and self-effacing exposition."

Charles H. Schaaf, DS '20, TA '24, president of the Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Company, has received the 1966 John Newton Russell Memorial Award, highest individual honor of the National Association of Life Underwriters.

Philip Blair, Jr., TA '63, is now stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia, on a teaching assignment at the Signal Corps School.

From his wife comes word of the death of Morrison Sharp, DS '25, on November 15, 1965. Dr. Sharp, who attended Brown University and Harvard following his three years at Deep Springs, taught in the Department of History at Roosevelt College for some years. He had spent a portion of last year at the University of Guyana, in Georgetown, British Guiana.


Professor W. Paul Jones, TA '15, and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary last August 28, at a reception given in Ames by their two daughters. Their best man, Dr. P. LeMon Clark, TA '15, travelled from Arkansas for the occasion, and shares the story with us, reminding us that "Prof" Jones was an instructor at Bliss, Idaho in 1914-15 and again at Beaver in 1915-16.

Willetts McIntyre Burnham, DS '57, TA '61, was married on May 13th of this year to Carole Darabener, Mac is now teaching psychology at Loyola, in Chicago.

James C. Dean, DS '58, TA '62, married Margaret Ann McCoy on August 13, in Lexington, Kentucky. Since his return from the Peace Corps, Jim has been working towards a graduate degree at the U. of Kentucky.

Robert S. Blang, TASP '60, sends word of his marriage this summer to Rima Calise. They are living in Flushing, where Bob attends Columbia Law School and his wife teaches high school.

Albert N. Votaw, DS '43, is moving with his wife and four daughters to Abidjan, Ivory Coast, for a two-year assignment with AID as advisor on housing affairs to the Ivory Coast government. For the last six years he has been with the St. Louis Housing and Land Clearance Authority, the last four as Director of Development, responsible for directing the city's urban renewal programs and for the planning and construction of low-rent housing.

William B. Turpin, DS '55, writes that he and his wife and son (born last May) are now living in Atlanta. William is teaching psychology at Georgia Tech, and Delilah is carrying part-time work in the pediatric department at Grady Memorial Hospital.

A returned Newsletter indicates the decease of Constitutional Member John W. Clark, who had been living for several years in Azusa, Calif.

Also deceased, details unknown, is L. M. Pharis of Salt Lake City, an early employee of Utah Power and Light Company, good friend of the Nunn family and associate of a number of Pinheads. Later manager of the Shanghai Power Company in China, Mr. Pharis was for several years interned as a prisoner of the Japanese during the last war.

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