REFLECTIONS by retiring President C. N. Breiseth

During the past two years I have been known as the travelling member of the Williams College History Department. I was forced to learn to prepare my classes in the Las Vegas airport on trips back from Deep Springs. Even without Editor Robertson's prodding, the question has frequently occurred to me of whether or not the two years as president of Telluride Association have been worthwhile. The question, of course, has been asked me repeatedly by academic colleagues mystified by this demanding extra-curricular activity. Inevitably an answer to this question involves some evaluation of Telluride itself and its sister institution on the desert which I am more and more convinced is as important to us in the future as we are to her.

(Continued Page 4)

CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

The 1967 Convention of Telluride Association met in Ithaca for sessions that were familiar for their long hours, warm weather, warmer debates, righteous anger, pointed wit, and that old “debbil,” lack of funds. Especially lack of funds. For example, only the most unusual circumstances made it possible for a 1967 Field TASP at Hampton Institute to take place; and new branches or a continuing branch at Berkeley will exist only if they are supported by funds not presently available to Telluride.

While income has risen over the years, expenditures have risen a bit faster. Either the Association holds at its present level of activity (or reduces it somewhat as it has, for example, in the matter of cash grants), or it finds and develops the means to increase its income substantially. The Convention

Consortium 1967
Editorial

The recent Convention was no stranger to controversy; that was highly traditional. Some of the patterns of controversy, however, look a little different than they did ten or fifteen years ago. The familiar split between the so-called soft-heads (liberals) and hard-heads (conservatives) was as much in evidence as in years and decades past. What was unusual about this was that in many cases the conservatives were heavily laden with younger members while the liberals featured large numbers of elders. In Telluride, of course, an elder means anyone with at least eight years of service. But the old foggies have become the young foggies, and the old guard now houses flaming (or sputtering) liberals.

What this means deep down is left to the social analysts among us. What it reflects on the surface is that this Association is still a lively old girl despite her fifty-plus years. Her democratic vitality can be seen, for instance, in the large number of close floor battles where the shifting of one, two, or three votes can and does change important decisions.

The vitality is seen even in the deceptively labeled "routine resolutions" which so frequently develop into very un-routine discussions of major policy and procedural issues. No Telluride resolution is really ever routine. And how did we survive before they were invented?

The vitality can be seen when a Convention morning is devoted to hot discussion of the moral and practical implications of the use of marijuana in Telluride branches. The resolution hammered out is inevitably a compromise in fact but never in principle.

The vitality can be seen in the dedicated search for new programs, the constant evaluation of existing ones, and the never-ending agony to find funds to match our hopes and desires. A late night budget discussion with only a scattering of members attending is never a desultory or routine business, however much it sometimes seems to be on the surface. I have never seen a lazy Telluride meeting. A boring one very often; a silly one frequently; a pompous one regularly. But never a lazy one, never a meeting without that vital push to drive from aspiration to achievement.

This Association, as set up by L. L. Nunn and the founding members, and as it has evolved over the years, has retained a remarkable energy with almost no institutional hardening of the arteries, due no doubt to the regular infusion of new blood (liberal or conservative as the case may be) and the merciful draining off of old blood (fogie or mellow liberal).

As the sometimes faltering but always game voice of the Association, the Telluride Newsletter aims to reflect and stimulate the vital life of the group: members, associates, friends, even active enemies. Our pages are not set up to propagandize any official point of view, if such a thing exists. They are open to everyone who cares to make use of them, and I urge you to do just that. A letter to the editor, a picture, a long essay, a short note, whatever you have to say that would interest a Tellurider—put it down, send it in, let the chips fly.

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Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Convention took positive action in support of Cornell Branch, Berkeley Branch, and the Telluride Association Summer Programs (including Field TASP). New efforts were authorized to improve alumni relations, to chronicle our history and accomplishments, to strengthen ties with Deep Springs, and to raise new endowment money. Membership, preferment, and appropriations were debated at great length, as usual. Despite our best efforts, however, the long debates of Convention left some fundamental questions untouched.

What can the Association do to insure professional diversity in its membership? More than half of current members are present or future college teachers; three-quarters of last year's Cornell Branch seniors are on this path. For members, professional diversity in TA is a unique and valuable feature in these times of narrow specialization. In my view, professional diversity only in academic discipline is insufficient. Telluride's purposes would be poorly served by a membership heavily concentrated in any single profession. Diversity may be obtainable only at the cost of radical changes in recruitment patterns, screening standards, and interviewing techniques.

Even while aiming at a change in balance, we ought to take better advantage of the college teachers among the TA membership and alumni group. Deep Springs needs help in the important areas of faculty and student recruitment. I have asked Chris Breiseth, George Binehart, and Brandt Kehoe (all university teachers) to join two appointees of the Trustees of Deep Springs on a Joint Committee for Educational Programs. Names of candidates for faculty and student positions at Deep Springs will be gratefully received by the Committee.

A second unanswered question: How can the Association properly evaluate and constructively criticize programs with which many members have no first-hand experience? The difficult annual debates concerning Berkeley Branch show that on such issues Convention reaches decisions with great pain and little satisfaction. A similar problem has arisen at times in the past with regard to Deep Springs appropriations. TASP evaluation has gone more smooth-
1967-1968 Budget

1. Cornell Branch Operations  $37,609.45
2. Cornell Branch Contingency  250.00
3. Cornell Branch Faculty Reserve  400.00
4. Cornell Branch Maintenance  4,500.00
5. Cornell Branch Salary
   Contingency  700.00
6. Berkeley Branch Operations  13,020.44
7. Berkeley Branch Preferment
   Contingency  1,140.00
   Contingency  2,000.00
9. Insurance and Taxes  2,450.00
10. TASP Operations  9,780.00
11. TASP Preparations  4,500.00
12. FTASP Operations  1.00
13. Advances-in-Aid  1,250.00
14. Deep Springs  3,317.00
15. Sidgwick Award  900.00
16. C. L. Burr Award  850.00
17. Dunham Award  195.00
18. Executive Secretary’s Salary  8,852.00
19. Executive Secretary’s Expenses  7,500.00
20. Administrative Expenses  5,573.00
21. Convention Expenses  3,200.00
22. Convention Travel Expenses  3,500.00
23. Newsletter  1,600.00
24. Telluride House Replacement
   Res.  2,000.00
25. Howard Branch Investigation
   Comm.  2,000.00
26. Financial Development Comm.  10,900.00

Total  $128,189.89

Elected at the 1967 Convention, David A. Hodges presents a career that surely makes him the very model of a modern T.A. president. He came into view at the very first T.A. Summer Program in 1954, then moved into Cornell Branch for a career that included the George Lincoln Burr Award, factotum of the 1958 TASP at Deep Springs, and a custodian for six years.

Cornell granted him a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering in 1960, and the University of California at Berkeley conferred the Ph.D. in 1965. His thesis topic was "Synthesis and Realization of Monostable and Counting Bistable Circuits," which must surely rank among the raciest titles of this generation. Along the way to a degree, Hodges was a Research and Teaching Associate at the Technical University of Denmark. And along the way he acquired a wife, the former Susan Spongberg, whom he now supports by serving on the staff of the Bell Telephone Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey. He labors there in exploratory development on digital memories.

Tall and reasonably lean, Hodges usually presents a serious mien when speaking on the floor of Convention or developing a point in a committee session. The public facade doesn't completely hide a rich sense of humor and fun. The lean look is kept that way by lots of hiking and skiing, "preferably in the Sierra Nevada," while other recreations include music and softball pitching — 1966 record: 0-5. He confesses a weakness for striped shirts.
REFLECTIONS

(Continued from Page 1)

From any number of contemporary standards, the two organizations of L. L. Numm should have passed on long ago. Even allowing for our good fortune in surviving financially the rigors of a chaotic half century, it is perhaps more remarkable that the peculiarly strenuous and unconventional demands made on students at Deep Springs and in Telluride have not discouraged new recruits or continuing victims in a period when strong individualists, such as we attract, have tended to fight free of commitments to institutions. Furthermore, the pressure to specialize in an academic field—and to it as quickly as possible—would seem to counsel young men and women with well-charted career plans to avoid the Numian institutions because of their multifarious, time-consuming activities and disdain for narrow professional or academic specialization. Finally, in an educational environment where questions of moral value provoke much discussion but scant resolution, and where individuals spurn interference by any group or institution in their private lives, the sufferance by Deep Springers and Telluriders of the group interference in their lives required constitutionally is, on the surface, remarkable.

Only on the surface, I suggest, because down deep I think that Deep Springs and Telluride Association rest on sound assumptions that are anything but anarchistic. Moreover, these assumptions give the lie to much that is associated with contemporary life among college and university populations. To fight free of conventional standards imposed with little regard to their rationale is a commendable and conspicuous battle on campuses today. But once free, where does an individual turn to construct his own standards? I would suggest that in almost all cases an individual must find his values in concert with others. Even if the strong individual has resisted conformity to mores not subject to thoughtful evaluation, he is the slave of his own limited experience and perception if he does not then struggle with others—perhaps with a group he selects—to develop a system of values. This is hardly an abstract issue today. It is of the most painful relevance to all reflective young people—and a few older ones too.

Where do Deep Springs and Telluride fit into this picture? The individuals within these two organizations are being confronted with themselves as they wrestle with the demands of their peers. Decisions on group life, expressed in the Numian vernacular, are taken openly and constantly in these communities and are being debated in terms of a not wholly explicable purpose stated by Mr. Numm. Whatever he really meant, L. L. left succeeding generations of students with a constitution to be repeatedly defined anew but in constant reference to preserving the trust. In working out what that trust means in 1967 this past convention, like countless earlier conventions, forced individuals to measure their actions and those of their fellows against pragmatic and ethical criteria. As we had occasion to discover in a painful convention debate on marijuana, of the utmost relev-

vance to each of us as individuals and to Telluride Association as an organization, we are an institution based on mutual trust. Without candor in discussing our community concerns, and those involve our individual actions, we have violated the spirit of the constitution to which we pledged ourselves when becoming trustees. That pledge to this one organization is symbolic of the larger pledge upon which our American form of government is based. On an issue of marijuana we were forced to debate the rights of individuals versus the rights of the community. The issue was tangible; its resolution did not allow of equivocation. It was a classic confrontation which unfortunately in society at large is today being blurred as the individual considers his life independently from its impact on others. That Telluriders who find themselves being raked over the coals of convention debate should not resign in protest at this infringement of their inalienable right to lead their lives in their own ways is an encouraging indication of the effective sanction the Telluride community exercises over the actions of individuals because those individuals have willingly entered that community and are directly responsible for its health.

A highly abstract answer to my initial question? I don’t think so. I have learned more about the individual’s self-conscious relationship to a community through my association with Telluride than through any other experience. Since I regard the relationship between the individual and his community as central to the most crushing moral questions of our time—alienation, coping out, racial rioting, draft-card burning and flower power—I assume that my answer to the question is clear.

At the theater the other night a Williams economist accosted me at intermission and asked if it were true that I was connected with Deep Springs. I owned as how I was and he then demanded a justification for the expenditure of money and time required to keep a college in operation for only twenty students. To a professional economist concerned with the high cost of education our venture seemed absurdly wasteful. As I struggled to slip him a purpose and plan essay, I felt the difficulty of justifying to a pragmatic, cost-benefit analysis man the lofty individualism that is our legacy from Mr. Numm. For after all, what else lies at the base of the two institutions but a resolve to put a few individuals together in an intimate community where they work out their values in common and strengthen themselves singly to create value in the larger world beyond Deep Springs and Telluride? What is so difficult to explain to the uninitiated in an age of large scale, mass production is the value that beneficiaries of a Numian education place on individuals helping individuals in their total development, with the expectation that helping to give meaning to a young student’s life is to make his life meaningful to others.

The intersection of the Telluride-Deep Springs generations in that never-ending quest is worth the price of a six-hour wait in Buffalo airport on the way to a Deep Springs trustees meeting, the fatiguing late-night convention sessions, the disappointment over proposals defeated, and the increasing cost of
Taspers' College Plans

Of the 64 participants in TASP 66, 48 have notified us of their college plans for next year. As usual, Cornell and Harvard head the list numerically, with the University of Chicago looming as a close third. For the benefit of those who would like to find their co-TASPers, we print the survey results as follows:

Antioch: Jean MacMillan (entered last year), Frederick Tompkins
Berkeley: Stephen Geis, Avram Katz, David Kemnitzer, Daniel Blair (uncertain—possibly U. of Maryland), William Fishman
Brandeis: Catherine Coldwater, Patricia Ann Madsen
Chicago: Caroline Heck, Carolyn Lewis, James Morris, Alan Sundberg, Mary Turck, Judith Weiss
Colorado College: Duane Siler
Cornell U.: Allan Arkush, David Fried, Eve Kosofsky, Howard Rodman, Michael Sloam, Therese Tischler, Richard Velkly, Edward Whitfield, Diego Benedetti (entered last year), Wendy Zomparelli
Dartmouth: Willard Riley
Deep Springs: Stephen Znoos
Harvard: Avner Ash, Thomas Beale, John Clark, Lawrence Farwell, Alan Moore, J. C. Nickens, Bruce Robbins
Hopkins: James Keogh
Michigan State: Joel Hyde
New College: Marian Bussey
Oberlin: Henry Fulford, Stephen Powell
Princeton: Paul Flowerman, Varel Freeman

Radcliffe: Julie Miller, Christine Rich, Lucie White
U. of North Carolina: Robert Mott, Rebecca Scott (entered last year; will be spending this year at the U. of Lyon, Lyon, France)
Wisconsin: Michael Camerini (spent last year at Reed, transferring to Wisc.)
Yale: Mark Lee, Barney Rubin

LETTER

(Continued from Page 2)

ly because a large part of the burden is carried by the TASP Board, a Standing Committee. Perhaps this pattern could be extended to the evaluation of Branches. A Standing Committee might visit each Branch two or three times during the year, and present an evaluation report, complete with resolutions, for Convention consideration. The hectic ritual of evaluation by a Convention Committee might thereby be largely bypassed.

If funds adequate for support of all worthwhile programs are unavailable from income, New Funds, or other sources, should student prefects be asked to contribute part of the coast of preferment? Though this proposal is distasteful, we may reach a stage where only alternative is termination of a desirable program or foreclosing the possibility of a new program. One point to consider is that preferment at Cornell Branch now has no cash value to the able non-transfer student who qualifies for $1100 or more in Cornell scholarship aid. The University deducts the full cash value of Telluride preferment from the cash award it grants such a student. The result is that Cornell Branch preferment has cash value only to students who fail to qualify for aid on a means test, and the original intent of our "no means test" tradition is not being fulfilled.

Major policy changes ought to be considered outside the high-pressure atmosphere of Convention. I hope that the above comments will provoke thought and discussion. The Newsletter, the planned Telluride dinners, and informal contacts among associates offer opportunities for exchange of ideas.

Sincerely,

David A. Hodges
500 Emerson Lane
Berkeley Heights, N.J. 07922
mulled over the problem in a number of ways. Executive Secretary MacLeod's “non-report” asked crucial questions about this and related problems. President Breiseth spelled out the details of what has been done and what can be expected from the work of the new Financial Development Committee. (A special report on this committee will be carried in a later Newsletter.) And then the Convention got to work.

Reports were heard from the standing committees and from the branches. Cornell Branch reported the usual academic excellence from its members, the usual ups and downs of committee work, the “bugs in the institutional machinery,” and the familiar analyses of what went right or wrong. As in years gone by, “brilliant suggestions...would be most welcome.” Perhaps the most challenging remark about Cornell Branch’s place in the Cornell community came in the report: “If Telluride’s place in campus leadership has largely disappeared, it is perhaps because student leadership at Cornell is in general a vanishing phenomenon, as is reflected in the marked success of the recent campaign to abolish student government.” Yet, the student government was not abolished, and Telluriders at Cornell, especially as individuals and in small groups, did make important marks upon the scene. And students at Cornell, no less than elsewhere (perhaps more), stirred up storms of adrenalin among administrators and readers of newspapers.

Berkeley Branch was the source of considerable heated debate in committees, on the floor of Convention, and in countless private gatherings. The very life of the Branch was in serious question, with some members feeling that the Branch should be phased out of existence. After long debate, the Association voted to continue support of Berkeley Branch for at least three years but press the search for new funds to continue the operation there beyond that time. As was often the case at this convention, the vote was close.

The Berkeley Branch question has some similarities to that of the Pasadena Branch in that it is a new venture in uncharted waters for the Association, but the differences are probably more significant. Pasadena was a primary branch committed to a work-study program in a relatively independent and “adventurous education.” Berkeley Branch is attached to an established institution and must seek out its life in relation to that massive institution. Thus, the Branch has reflected, in a highly dramatic way at times, a confrontation between Telluride habits and the multiple social-educational forces that flourish at Berkeley. The Branch has attempted to create a life of its own in some kind of harmony with both influences. The 1967 Convention, as could be expected, sought to understand what has been happening at Berkeley and how best a Telluride presence can be preserved and nourished.

The problems were varied, sometimes familiar and sometimes wildly new. Without going into endless detail about the chores of integrating a Telluride institution into a society largely hostile to institutions, one small example may be illuminating: in response to a Branch inquiry, a Cal. professor replied, “You should charge your residents, or at least claim so in print—for otherwise you are so foreign that students already wary of living groups and established things in general will dismiss you as an obvious front for some zany ideology and go their own way toward the forms of freedom,” viz. apartment living.

This kind of anti-institutional pressure came most vividly to the surface when the Convention debated incidents of the use of marijuana at Berkeley Branch. There is no simple way to sum up the spectrum of opinions expressed: issues of legality, group responsibility, personal integrity, and practicality were touched upon. It was a debate in depth and at length, a debate marked by flashes of passion and restrained exercise of reason, both essential to the resolution of important questions. The Convention voted to ban the use of marijuana and such stimuli at all its branches.

Other reports to Convention revealed enthusiasm about the results of the 1966 Field TASP in Hampton, Virginia, clearly one of the outstanding programs since TASP was initiated some thirteen years ago. However, the 1967 program has been made possible only with financial support from Hampton Institute and from alumni Al Arent, in both cases to the heady tune of several thousand dollars.

Relations between Deep Springs and the Association seemed perky during the past year. The 1968 Convention will meet at Deep Springs, partly because it is a very healthy thing to breathe the rarefied valley air and partly to help celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of D.S. Fifty years? A half century? The Newsletter would welcome suggestions on how best we might commemorate this event. If you cannot send ideas, send money.

Telluride Corporation reported that in addition to its usual income from fund drives, it received a bequest from the estate of Henry Campbell Scarlett of $25,000.

“Be it resolved that Telluride Association accept the proposal of the School of Industrial and Labor Relations [of Cornell] to establish a Frances Perkins Memorial Fellowship.” So begins the resolution, passed by the Association, which sets up this memorial to the late Madame Perkins who was for the last grand years of her life a warm and cherished guest of Cornell Branch. She will be remembered in many ways, of course, but substantially in the person of a Fellow who will live at the Branch while pursuing studies at Cornell’s I. & L.R. School.

Hampton Field TASP Notes

The students have come from Venezuela, Germany, Long Island and Montana to participate in this year's Field TASP at the Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia. They are studying "The Negro: From Slavery to Freedom" under the direction of Professor Herbert Storing of the University of Chicago, assisted by Charles Umbanhowar and Peter Henriot. FTASPers attend three-hour seminars every weekday morning where they discuss court cases, secondary historical works, novels and the writings of great American Negroes themselves.

The program is this year directed at specific issues in the city of Hampton such as voter registration, school segregation, communications, urban re-development and Negro political activity. Hampton Mayor Ann Kilgore and State Senator Hunter Andrews kicked off the community investigation with a stimulating talk and question period. Among those who have spoken to the group are Hampton Institute's President Holland (also a Cornell graduate and now trustee) and Dr. George Cypress, narrowly defeated candidate for the Hampton City Council. Field TASPers are interviewing and investigating the Tidewater area on their own (incidentally the most real and successful practical work program any non-Deep Springs TASP has managed). Also in the works is a two session mock court on cases especially written to elucidate the issues raised in seminar. Students will act as lawyers and judges writing briefs and opinions. A second purpose of this program is to provide an effective and relevant public speaking activity.

TASPers visited Richmond to see Virginia's governor, colonial Williamsburg, and Jefferson's home, Monticello. Recreation activities included a reading Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part I with Rick Cottam as Hotspur, TASP President Keeton as Hal, Steve Sestanovich as Worcester, John Kristenson as King Henry, and Factotum Robert Dawidoff as a redheaded and rather slim Falstaff.

TASP welcomed visits by Association members Alex Gold and Vctor Baras and Executive Secretary MacLeod. New to the program this year is the post of assistant factotum for field work. It is filled by a

Perspectives

(Those who learn nothing from the past are doomed to repeat it. In that spirit, and in the spirit of curiosity, the Newsletter is regularly going to print bits of Telluride history taken from the pages of earlier Newsletters and convention minutes. Personal recollections from our readers are especially welcome as well.)

1917: The nineteen seventeen convention of the Association met in the auditorium of the Central School in Provo, Utah. Because the President, Vice-President, and Secretary were all absent, the chair was taken temporarily by member L. R. J. Edwards, who explained that President C. N. Whitman was at the New Jersey Military Camp, Vice-President B. S. Walcott was on "Aviation Service" in France, and Secretary H. R. Lamb was kept away by "important business matters."

It took a day and a half before a quorum could be mustered, but eventually the Convention got off and in a spirit of forgiveness re-elected all three absent officers.

President Whitman's report began with remarks on the new war and the assertion that "the success of our country in the war will be an achievement of the same kind sought by the preamble of Telluride Association." Of the problems besetting the Association he mentioned the need for a "preparatory branch" and urged that "Mr. Nunn be asked to take charge of our educational work for the ensuing year in connection with the agricultural enterprise which he is now conducting at Deep Springs Valley, California, or in such other place or manner as may to him seem wise."

graduate of last summer's Field TASP, Edward Whitfield, who will this fall come to Cornell as a Branch member and Presidential Scholar.

Individual members have been active in many areas. Mitchell Marcus has interviewed most of Hampton's administration in his quest to use the campus computer to analyze voting statistics. Phil Olenick is tooting the flute in the band, and Greg Bullock is acting in a play sponsored by the Hampton Dramatics Institute.

The most handsome and useful addition to Cornell Branch in some years is the expanded parking lot now located between the tennis court and "Wee Stinky Creek."
Alumni News

Word has been received at the Deep Springs office of the death of HAZELTON MIRKIL, III, DS'40-'42. No details came with the notification, but as of our last information, Mirkil was teaching in the Dept. of Mathematics at Dartmouth.

The GREGORY VOTAWS of Bethesda, Md., announce the birth of their third child and first daughter, Lisa Juliette, on June 2, 1967.

EUGENE HOLMAN, CB63, who has been studying abroad for the past two years, writes that his Fulbright has been extended for another year, which he will spend largely on "studying the influence of Germanic phonological patterns on the southwestern dialects of Finnish." Gene hopes to be returning to Cornell in September 1968.

STEPHEN HAY, TA 50, has joined the Department of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as Associate Professor of South and Southeast Asian History. In between classes, he looks things up in books and is writing one of his own on the intellectual history of modern India-Pakistan.

WENDELL S. WILLIAMS, TA 49, is leaving Parma, Ohio, and the Union Carbide Company to join the faculty of the University of Illinois. The Parma Press notes this fact and laments that the local Southwest Messiah Chorale will miss him greatly. He founded the group and during the seven years of his leadership, molded it into "one of the outstanding non-professional groups in the area."

From JON A. LAMHAM, TASP 65, comes word of his marriage on June 10 to Miss Brook Jones, a student of piano at the New England Conservatory. Jon is an undergraduate English major at Harvard, and the new address is 900 Memorial Drive, Apt. 904S, Cambridge.

LEX KINGSBURY LARSON, DS'57-'59, was married on May 27 to Miss Claire Joy Braubanti, in Durham, N.C., at the Duke University Chapel.

JOEL FINLER, TASP 55, has been doing graduate work at London University, in pursuit of the first graduate degree to be awarded in the field of the cinema by a British university. VISTA Books, London, has announced publication of a series of books on the cinema, one of which, "Stroheim" will be the work of Joel. In addition to his studies, Joel has been lecturing on the cinema at Bath Academy and Maidstone College of Art.

DANIEL MORRISON, TASP 62, will be a "Fellow of Faculty" in the Department of History at Columbia University this fall, specializing in the History of Russia and East Europe.

Elegant and brand new "Garbage House" now sits behind Cornell Branch providing a sturdy home for Telluride trash before it's picked up and spirited away.