Telluride Survives Foundation Tax Bill

The blood of the Paschal lamb on its doorpost, Telluride Association appears to have been passed over by a modern Angel of Death, the Tax Reform Act of 1969.

The key provision of the Act (from our point of view) is Section 509 (a) (3) which excepts certain types of organizations from the general category of "private foundation." (It is against the "private foundation" that the main plagues of the law were directed by an avenging House Ways and Means Committee.)

This section exempts any organization which "is organized, and at all times thereafter is operated, exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more [colleges]" and which "is operated, supervised, or controlled by or in connection with one or more [colleges]."

Any doubts as to the Association's status caused by a too literal reading of this provision are quickly dispelled by considering its legislative history. Specifically, the report of the Senate Finance Committee, in explaining why it put the word "college" (which had been in the singular in the House version of the bill) into the plural, refers to "an organization that meets all the detailed requirements of the House bill regarding [509 (a) (3)] except that it is operated in connection with a university in one part of the country and a junior college in another part of the country." The report continues, "the committee made this change [college to colleges] ... in order not to interfere with this avenue of communication and cooperation between institutions." Given this language in the committee report, it seems unlikely that the Internal Revenue Service would claim that Section 509 (a) (3) does not refer to us.

Now that the Association is not, for the purposes of the Tax Reform Act of 1969, a private foundation, then there is nothing in the law to prevent it from continuing its operation as heretofore.

The Association is greatly indebted to Alumnus Al Arent, whose efforts in our behalf resulted in the Senate Finance Committee amendment and report noted above. Our continued existence in our present form is due in no small part to his exertion and ingenuity.

Reflections on Deep Springs by New Dean

by RANDALL REID

In a time when educational alternatives are sought as desperately as cleaner air, Deep Springs is dangerously easy to sell—at least to those who know nothing about it. It triggers the most contradictory fantasies: to the rebellious, it sounds like the epitome of student power; to the tired, like a haven; to the lonely, like a commune; to the besieged, like the academic equivalent of law and order. It is none of these things, of course—now, as always, Deep Springs refuses to become the living shape of anyone's fantasy. But it remains a curiously vital challenge to those who are more interested in education than in euphoria.

The fact of its survival alone powerfully testifies to that vitality. Chronically underendowed, isolated, subject to constant turnover in faculty and staff and students, it has somehow not only survived but maintained its character. Deep Springs has probably changed less in the last fifty years than any educational institution in America, yet it has almost completely lacked those elements—continuity of administration and faculty—commonly thought essential to permanence. Why? There are many reasons, perhaps the most important of which is this: Deep Springs engages people so thoroughly that they cannot allow it to fail. Its failure would be their failure. And in trying to make it succeed, they endlessly encounter the same problems and must endlessly make many of the same responses to them. Tradition, in these terms, is the natural product of experience, not a sentimental reverence for an accidental heritage.

But an institution cannot judge itself merely by its vitality or by its capacity to maintain traditions. How good is it? What reason does it have to exist? The obvious answer—that it exists to educate students, especially gifted ones—is both true and misleading. Several hundred other colleges would assert the same purpose, and they do not closely resemble Deep Springs. Even the academic program is difficult to compare with others. Deep Springs does not have the library or laboratory facilities, the range of courses and cultural events, which one would routinely find elsewhere. But its current faculty and students would, I think, compare favorably with randomly selected groups at any college in the country. The program itself, though limited, is probably as rich and as demanding as it has ever been. Courses in calculus, physics, German, Russian, sociology, Western civilization, Latin American civilization, zoology, geology, paleontology, composition, English and American literature, poetry, and art are all being offered this year, in addition to the TASP seminar on Race and Poverty and Barney Childs' summer courses in music and humanities. For a school so small, the list is impressive. But there are many serious omissions. Some of these can be remedied through short term appointments of alumni and other visiting faculty, but Deep Springs will never be able to offer the full range of courses considered essential at most institutions. That fact is not entirely discouraging. For one thing, we are permanently spared the

(continued on page 2)

Alumni Weekend Set

Cornell Branch is planning its Spring Alumni Weekend for April 18 and 19. Although invitations have been sent only to those living within 500 miles of Ithaca, all associates are cordially invited. There are a few guest rooms available in the Branch and rooms have been reserved at the Statler Inn and the Hillside Motel. If you plan to be in the Ithaca area at this time and would like to visit the House, please write Mrs. Faith Westburg, Telluride Association, 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, New York before April 1.
Reflections . . .

(continued from page 1)

delusion that our curriculum embraces all significant human knowledge. For another, we are perpetually forced to consider what—within the limitations of student interest, physical facilities, and faculty availability—most needs to be taught. And finally the "narrowness" of this curriculum is offset by kinds of learning which at most institutions are achieved only accidentally and frequently not at all.

The quality of education at Deep Springs simply cannot be assessed, as it commonly is elsewhere, by examining course descriptions and faculty credentials. At Deep Springs, all of the facilities and all of the personnel are part of the educational program, not merely adjuncts to it or supporting facilities for it. The fields are classrooms, the garage and office and boardinghouse are classrooms, and the staff members assigned to these areas are teachers as well as workers. They are currently very good teachers, I think—and not just because they can impart certain practical skills or provide acceptable models of character. The resourcefulness and intelligence which they must use to do their job are frequently impressive. So is their continuing capacity to learn and to demonstrate the importance of learning.

Building the Great Stone Ditch

The academic tendency—intensified after Sputnik—to equate intelligence with scholastic performance constitutes, I think, one of the sillier episodes in the history of self-congratulation—and ultimate self-destruction. It is self-destructive because it falsifies those conditions of life to which the academy presumes to contribute and upon which it depends. I do not mean to echo the familiar slogans of anti-intellectualism, nor do I mean to suggest that "reality" somehow exists on cattle ranches and not on campuses. I do mean that many realities which exist everywhere become particularly visible at Deep Springs. One of these is the universal importance of trained intelligence. When a student discovers that getting the water to run again can be a problem as baffling and as intellectually challenging as a philosophical issue—or when he discovers that responding well to other people strains his comprehension as much as it does his patience—he has taken a step beyond the romantic or condescending attitudes with which so many academic people regard the rest of life. And the failures of intelligence he witnesses—in himself and in others—have disturbing consequences. At Deep Springs, inefficiency and arrogance and thoughtlessness show as what they are—forms of stupidity or ignorance. The student therefore confronts a far more complete vision of what he must learn than classrooms alone can show him.

Perhaps the vision is too complete. It is frequently depressing, even disorganizing, and people at Deep Springs, like people everywhere, devote much of their energy to rejecting perception. But I don't think they repel it successfully. At least not for long. The memories of its alumni are not universally pleasant or even friendly, but they are unusually vivid. And that suggests that Deep Springs provides an intense, perhaps even a rare, educational experience.

But it does not offer an easy prescription for current national ills, any more than it offers a serene refuge for individuals. Deep Springs avoids disaster only at the expense of constant trouble. Giving students power does not resolve problems, even for students. It frequently intensifies them. Over the years, students at Deep Springs have repeatedly shown contradictory—and often simultaneous—tendencies: the desire to gain more power and the desire to abdicate that which they have. But they have also repeatedly shown the capacity to check the more destructive possibilities in both desires. Responsibility is often unpleasant. Its primary spur is not the wisdom of adults or the applause of one's peers but the observed fact that nothing else works.

Fantasies, as I said earlier, are easy to sell—and largely useless or worse once one has bought them. Deep Springs is important because it reveals to us so much of what we must face once our fantasies have worn out. I think it is currently performing that task as well as it ever has, and I think that task may be more important than ever.

TASP Special Recruitment

Tries New Methods

The program of special recruitment for TASP this year has differed in several respects from last year's program. The essential thing learned from last year was that it is more important to present the TASP than to sell it. Harder, too.

The normal recruitment procedure for summer programs relies heavily on self-selection. The "mainline" TASPPer has a reasonable idea of the sorts of demands the program will make upon him. He has to have a motive to apply, as the application requires hours of preparations. Thus the application is some sort of proof of understanding of the program.

This kind of assumption cannot be made about those who are recruited through special programs. Last year's SRC depended on Upward Bound Program directors, high school counselors and others who often had only hazy ideas of the nature of TASP and the qualifications for participants.

We therefore hoped this year that many of the possible candidates selected by guidance counselors and other educators could speak personally to a Telluride Associate about the TASP's before filling out the application. Some indication of the success of these pre-interviews is the reduced number of final applicants to the programs: hopefully self-selection has been given more of a chance to operate.

It is still too early to gauge the final results of this year's SRC: the great majority of finalists are yet to be interviewed. The TASP and SRC are indebted, however, to the Associates who have referred candidates to us and talked with possible applicants. Particularly we thank John Landahl in Seattle, Clare and Paul Wolfowitz in Chicago, Peter Mogielenicki and his Washington minions, Mrs. Don Noel in Hartford, John Hoskins in Hawaii, Mark Merin in New York and John Neville in Cleveland.
Report from Lincoln

by Andrew Kull CB '64

In response to my urgent request for a topic on which to base the article she had commissioned, the Editor of the Newsletter informed me that Cornell is instituting a system of residential colleges and suggested that I discuss this prospect in light of my current residence in one myself. I am happy to comply, although the first thing to be said is that there is virtually no resemblance between an Oxford college and anything that could conceivably be established under the name of "residential college" in any American university.

Such readers as have any factual knowledge about the Cornell project should be forewarned that I have none whatsoever. My experience of the residential college idea in America is limited to a visit paid one afternoon to the campus of the University of California at Santa Cruz, where one drives far up a hill above the city, through vast cow pastures which seem to have some connection (possibly Nunnian?) with the institution, to find a spectacular view of the Pacific and a number of Residential Colleges in various advanced architectural styles, each nearly concealed in forest, and connected by a maze of well-travelled yet mountainous roads of the sort found in National Parks. There was a distinctly prepossessing air about these places—I felt that if I entered one I would immediately be spotted for an outsider—so I wandered around in the undergrowth and took in the vibrations. What I picked up seemed to be largely on the Annapolis wave-length, with a good deal of interference from the direction of the Exalen Institute. I saw a lot of freshmen sitting around a table talking animatedly about Aschylus, Marcus, and the Uncertainty Principle; it all had to do with something called a "Core Curriculum." In another vision there were people sitting on mats on the floor, not talking at all—this was called "The Dynamics of Group Interaction, Admission by Consent of Instructor, Four Credits." I watched the sun set in the ocean and went back down the hill.

Residential colleges here...

My guess is that any plan for something called a Residential College will include among its objectives at least two primary ideas, viz. 1) some sort of "unified" or "interdisciplinary" or "comparative studies" syllabus, in which all students are to take part, perhaps for their first two years only; and 2) an ideal of close interaction between faculty and students and between students themselves engaged in a common intellectual endeavor. Given the right people as participants such a program might well represent an improvement on the present undergraduate curriculum in American universities; though in the long view it remains debatable whether inviting all alike to partake of a carefully concocted bouillabaisse of "human studies" or whatever will go very far to preserve the liberal arts in universities which have in their basic orientation left such leisurely pursuits far behind.

Certainly the attempt is worth making. But the Oxford colleges can hardly be used as a model for the residential college I have imagined, because their practice is directly opposed to the ideal at both my key points. An Oxford undergraduate studies one subject only, most subjects requiring three years; since fairly intensive course work begins immediately, he must of course have chosen his subject in advance of matriculation. English students who enter a university have received what is generally a more thoroughgoing secondary education than an American is likely to have obtained, and considered as a whole the experience is perhaps not widely different from that of an American undergraduate who takes a BA in four years, spending the first two dabbling around before deciding on a major. There remain significant differences—an Oxford syllabus in a given subject is likely more rigorous than the corresponding American "major requirements," and there is no real opportunity for dabbling anywhere—but I leave the reader to imagine the relative advantages and drawbacks for himself. My point is that there is nothing interdisciplinary here, though most disciplines, I think, remain pretty "liberal," attitudes being more important than core curricula. As to the second point, the dynamics of interaction, the difference is even more striking. Aside from a weekly hour with his tutor (an important exception), the student is likely to have no direct "faculty contact" whatever. Far from being a focal point for a continuum of shared educational experience, the college is quite rigidly segregated: there are separate "common rooms" or lounges for undergraduates, graduates, and faculty, and I have heard it argued vehemently that the "middle" common room for graduates is essential because they have nothing in common with undergraduates and don't wish to be herded among them. At Lincoln, the MCR has more elevated periodicals, but the JCR has a television, so the middles and juniors come out about even. The last thing one would do in either place is to continue the Great Conversation. At meal times this division into orders is neatly preserved. Senior members sit at High Table on a raised platform in the Dining Hall and eat good food. Junior members sit on benches in long rows and eat bad food. Middle members have the sense not to eat in Hall in the first place. At Low Table it is considered quite bad form to talk about anything more significant than the food. I had a conversation about poetry one evening with one of my fellow groundlings; it turned out to be a sore point with him—he was a poet; he left his meal unfinished, got up hurriedly saying "One shouldn't talk about such things at dinner," and has avoided me ever since.

...and there

Oxford's residential colleges are a historical development around the really important educational institution here, which is the tutorial system. One hour a week the student discusses what he is doing with his one faculty member; the rest of the time he is left to his books, a choice of lectures, and his own devices. It is an excellent way of studying something, and 90% of the virtues of the system would be retained even if the student had to come across town to meet his tutor in a building that looked like Ives Hall. American residential colleges may be very strong on the other 10%—the intangible trappings, the feeling that small groups and familiar faces have more to do with education than 600-seat lecture halls and punch cards; unfortunately, the real heart of the Oxford arrangement, the tutorial system, is a very expensive method of education and utterly unsuited to patterns of American education which are imposed on schools and universities alike by larger social, economic, and political forces. The tutorial system does not exist in England outside of Oxford and Cambridge: the newer provincial universities, inevitably, tend toward American models.

As a small, homely example of the lack of communal interests and information even in this small college, I was surprised to learn that at this end of the Telluride-Lincoln exchange, the program is virtually unknown among undergraduates—this with "Lincoln" and "the Lincoln" so often invoked around CBTA. People have either never heard of Telluride or find that the name rings only the most distant bell. I can often identify myself as Barry Welser's successor—failing this, I sketch the illustrous line which links me with Senior Dean Dr. David Godley, who has been here about as long as anyone can remember. Early in the Fall a loud guffaw from High Table would often provoke questioning glances among the newcomers on the benches below. "That's just Dave Godley," the veterans would say. Soon nobody had to ask.

March 1970
TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

The Telluride Newsletter is published four times a year in Ithaca, New York.

Editor
Faith Westburg
Associate Editors
Eve K. Sedgwick
Richard Velkley

The Newsletter editors welcome letters, comments, and suggestions from the readers. Please address correspondence to Mrs. Faith Westburg, Telluride Association, 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, New York, 14850.

Photographs: page 2, Cole Sheckler, page 11, Dennis Clark.

LETTERS

In the November issue of the Newsletter, we published a letter from Michael Echerue, from what was then Biafra. In response to his request, associates contributed $175. Mrs. MacLeod forwarded the money in December. However, there is no way to confirm its receipt; the office has had no word from Michael.

Re TASP

Dear Editor,

Did the planners of the summer program expect that Norman Mailer would lead us TASPers to new heights of rationality? Was Malcolm X to be held up as a shining example of a disciplined and logical thinker? Was it supposed that George Orwell, a socialist who declared that all humanitarians are hypocrites, would inspire us to lead honest and well-ordered lives? Was it hoped that Hamlet would clear up our emotional problems? Was it thought that Yeats, who has mysticism coming out of his ears, would encourage us to write sensibly and coherently? Obviously not.

Could it be that someone wanted to play “Bait the Rationalists”? Might the plan have been to take a bunch of innocent and unsuspecting high-schoolers and upset their foolishly consistent views on the nature of reality, and then tell them that the ensuing confusion they experienced was something called “intellectual awareness and flexibility”? Is it possible that because some of us were quite familiar with the game that the program was too successful?

The game is to create a “balance” between rationality and irrationality; unfortunately, there can be no balance. Being “a little bit irrational at times” is like being a “a little bit pregnant,” or “slightly dead.” This game is intellectual suicide.

Reality is catching up with you; one may not make little compromises with existence continually without repercussions. Your amazement and wonder at your plight remind me of some lines by Kipling: “We had a kettle: we let it leak:/ Our not repairing it made it worse. We haven’t had any tea for a week.../The bottom is out of the Universe!”

I write merely to inform you that it is not.

Sincerely,
 JOHN ENRIGHT SP ’60

Telluride Alumni Association

The following letter was sent recently to all members of Telluride Alumni Association. While TAA is in the process of reorganizing, loans are not available.

MEMBERS OF TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION ALUMNI:

Enclosed is a resolution adopted by the Board of Managers pursuant to Article VII of the Constitution and submitted for comment from the members of Telluride Association Alumni. If no opposition is received in writing from a majority of the members on or before March 1, 1970, the transfer of funds authorized by the resolution will be made.

The resolution grows out of a feeling by many members that the Alumni organization has not been sufficiently active in raising financial support for Telluride and Deep Springs; that it has not fulfilled its proper role of keeping active the fellowship of the alumni and the active contact of the alumni with the institutions; and that the lending program, while useful, has been an unnecessarily burdensome and divisive activity which could better be managed by the primary institutions.

It is the opinion of many active members that the improvements desired can best be achieved by starting anew and setting up an organization capable of receiving gifts for the support of the Telluride Association and Deep Springs and capable of performing the other tasks before us. It is not the purpose of this resolution to describe the organization. It is anticipated that there will be a single organization for both Deep Springs and Telluride Association alumni. Whether a geographical or generational representation on the Board of Managers would best fit the needs is a matter for further study and report.

The purpose of the resolution is solely to transfer the lending function to Telluride and to Deep Springs. All other major functions would be carried out by whatever new organization is devised. It is urged that all members contribute their suggestions as to the form and activities of the new organization.

Please address all communications on these matters to William B. Kuder, Room 806, 215 Market Street, San Francisco, California 94106.

Very truly yours,
 ARTHUR A. ROSS, President
 Telluride Association Alumni

WHEREAS it is the desire of the members and the board of managers of Telluride Association Alumni to concentrate their efforts toward the harmony and well being, financially and otherwise, of Deep Springs College and Telluride Association; and

WHEREAS the members and the board of managers of Telluride Association Alumni believe that the granting of loans and scholarships to deserving members and alumni of Telluride and Deep Springs should be the responsibility of the two foundations with alumni support of scholarships and other educational activities being directed through the two foundations; and

WHEREAS it is the opinion of the members and the board of managers of Telluride Association Alumni that the creation of a joint Telluride-Deep Springs Alumni Association would best serve the purpose of the alumni and the foundations;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Managers of Telluride Association and by the members thereof:

THAT the board of managers tender the assets of the Telluride Association Alumni, whether in the form of cash, investments, deposits or receivables, to Telluride Corporation as a donation to the activities of Telluride Association and Deep Springs with the advice but not the requirement that the assets so transferred be used to establish a fund for the purpose of providing interest-bearing loans for members and alumni of Deep Springs and/or Telluride to pursue their formal education, upon the agreement of Telluride Corporation that one half of the assets so received, and of the receivables as they mature and are collected, will be transferred forthwith to Deep Springs Corporation with the same advice as hereinabove set forth; and

THAT upon acceptance by Telluride Corporation of said assets upon said terms and conditions Telluride Association

Page Four

Telluride Newsletter
Alumni transfer said assets to Telluride Corporation; and
THAT the board of managers retain in their account only
such funds, not to exceed $1,000, in cash for the minimal
administrative needs of Telluride Association Alumni.

ARTHUR A. ROSS, President
C. W. DENN, Vice-President
HENRY G. HAYES, Secretary
WILLIAM B. KUBLER, Treasurer

EDITORIAL

As the country, Cornell University and Telluride adjust
to austerity in the face of rising costs and expanding needs,
our programs become more restricted and some are discon-
tinued altogether. Barring an unexpected change, Berkeley
Branch will be the first such fatality for Telluride in recent
years. It seems possible that Cornell TASPs may be the
second.

The Cornell TASPs as currently operated are peculiarly
vulnerable to financial pressures, since they are dependent
on both Telluride and Cornell. Cornell, which has tradi-
tionally paid for one of the programs, is apparently in some-
what worse financial shape than Telluride. The Arts College
is currently evaluating its budget and will have to balance its
recruitment gains and other advantages to the University of
a TASP here against using the funds for other and perhaps
more exigent purposes. Similarly Telluride for the past few
years seems to have been working toward a revaluation of
the Cornell programs—a revaluation which will probably
take place at this year's Convention. In view of the sharp
competition among programs for money in both institutions,
the continuation of the Cornell TASPs is by no means a
foregone conclusion.

Both the chief advantage and the chief problem of the
Cornell TASPs seem to be that they are coeducational. Coed-
ucation in TASPs is a problem because in past programs
social concerns have often seemed to distract from the intel-
llectual aims of the programs. It is an advantage because it
helps fulfill the commitment of the Branch to educate women
by providing an excellent method of recruitment for women.
If the Cornell TASPs end and only our all-male programs
continue, the Association will have to choose its women from
the Hill, a source which has been shown to be insufficient
and unreliable.

Without prejudging the Cornell programs, which seem to
me to have many merits, I would like to suggest a new kind
of program which could circumvent some of their problems
and still share some of their advantages. I suggest that we
institute a program for women. Such a program would en-
able Telluride to continue to recruit women by the method
which it pioneered and in which it excels, rather than like a
fraternity going coed. An all-girl TASP would at the same
time obviate the problems of adolescent coeducation just as
an all-male TASP does.

It seems to me, though I may be mistaken, that to hold a
TASP for women on a coed campus might appear arbitrarily
restricting, that the cohesion of the TASP community might
suffer. Instead, such a program should probably be on the
campus of a women's college, just as our programs for men
take place either at men's colleges or at Hampton, where
social barriers prevent much dating. The Seven Sisters col-
leges, for example, would be good places to investigate.

As for subject matter, of course it could be anything ap-
propriate to TASP, though literary topics spring to mind
(my mind, at least) first. Another obvious possibility might
be a problem relating to the role of women. But in essentials
the concept of this program would not differ from the con-
cept of, say, a Princeton program.

I think the only thing that should be surprising about this
suggestion is that it has not been seriously considered before.
Certainly it should be widely discussed if it seems our re-
cruitment of women through Cornell TASPs may be cut off.
Undoubtedly there are elaborations, modifications, improve-
ments, and other suggestions which ought to be considered,
and they ought to be discussed or at least aired so that Con-
vention can take different alternatives under advisement in
trying to fulfill its commitment to educating women as well
as men.

—E.K.S.

1970 JOINT NEW FUNDS DRIVE
Telluride Association and Deep Springs

Enclosed is my contribution of $........................................
I hereby pledge $................. with payment deferred until ...............

Please make checks payable to Telluride Corporation

☐ Telluride Association (General Operations)
☐ Other (Please specify) .......................................................

☐ Deep Springs (General Operations)

NAME .................................................................

ADDRESS ....................................................................

Many companies match employees gifts to educational institutions. If you are employed by such a firm,
would you please ask it to match your contribution. All such contributions will go to Deep Springs.
Historian's Report: Pride and Prejudice at Cornell Branch

by Orville Sweeting TA '34

It now appears that a draft of the history of Telluride Association and Deep Springs will be in the hands of the Publications Committee within the next month. About five hundred typed pages of manuscript are now ready, and I am closing fast on about half as many more. It will be difficult to reduce this to a pictorial volume of proper size, but come June, I hope to have a layout of pictures and text ready.

As much as possible I have tried to let the participants come through in their own words—especially L. L. Nunn, who was a very complex personality. He had strong convictions on all subjects. His conclusions were always based on facts, but he seemed also to have right instincts. Sometimes it is difficult to decide whether facts preceded decision, or vice versa.

One lively story is that of Hyman Deutsch recounted in part below. It reveals the humanism and freedom from cant and hypocrisy that characterized the Founder to the end of his life. The new Association set out to build a correct and proper Anglo-Saxon enclave that L. L. Nunn never settled into—but let the words speak for L. L.

Deutsch was a Jewish boy who had been elected a scholar at Telluride House in 1914. He was chosen by the Contingent Fund Committee because of his talent in music and was at Cornell Branch not to study at the University, but to attend Ithaca High School and the Ithaca Conservatory of Music.

Deutsch was probably the first non-conformist at the House and resentment against him reached such a point that L. L. in his capacity as Chairman of the Contingent Fund Committee was asked to remove him. L. L. replied in a slashing attack on the Branch membership for their attitude.

Provo, Utah, March 24, 1915

Ithaca Branch of Telluride Association
Ithaca, New York

Fellow Members:

I received, under date of January 13th, a communication from your Mr. Sidney S. Walcott as Secretary of your Advisory Committee. I also received under date of March 15th, a communication from your Secretary, Mr. H. R. Lamb, both communications on the subject of Hyman Deutsch's residence at Telluride House, Ithaca.

By way of apology for the long delay in replying to the former letter, I will explain that it appeared to me to be such a severe indictment, not against Deutsch, but against the Branch, that I could not believe that character and good sense would not assert themselves and dispose of the matter as soon as it was seriously considered. The letter and enclosure under date of March 15th are, therefore, a great disappointment to me.

The action of the Committee in awarding Deutsch preference was not taken at my request or suggestion. I merely acquiesced in a course desired by the majority, seriously questioning the wisdom of the course, but at the same time regretting the existence of the causes upon which my doubt was based. My confidence, however, in the courtesy and kindness of the members was such that I did not anticipate any but favorable results after he had been installed as a guest in the house.

The purpose of the Association is not the advancement of the personal interests of the few constituting its membership and such as are awarded preferences from the outside, but, through those, the influencing towards higher ideals and nobler conduct of the hundred millions of our great land, to say nothing of the vast field of the world outside.

That a race prejudice is contemptible and has been so ac-
cepted by all those who have led the world in its forward movement, there can be no question. That, in the case of the Hebrew, the prejudice against him as an effective instrument for the influence of the world could only be based upon ignorance, there can be no question. In Association affairs, Brandenburger was not only loyal and effective, but also popular with the organization.

When our Association was in imminent peril from the villainous plot made upon it in 1912, it was to a Hebrew, Levy Meyer, the attorney most feared by the financial sharks of any man in the United States, I had to go for the support which secured me a brilliant success, and this without compensation to him, although our own attorneys had not hesitated to exact large sums without accomplishing anything worthwhile in our behalf.

A Hebrew was good enough to defend our tax suit, although the eminent Mr. Locke and others of our friends had advised against even making an effort in behalf of securing exemption. I might refer without a limit, such as to England's great statesman, but the fact of the Hebrew filling the high places among all classes of the great is too well known. Yet, I am told in one communication that Hyman Deutsch has three great faults:

First: He is a Jew.
Second: He has pimples on his face.
Third: He has ability.

Mr. Walcott, under date of January 13th, says:
FIRST: "He is an imposition on Mr. Nightingale." Mr. Nightingale has not complained.
SECOND: "He has gained no conception of the Association during his stay here." Fortunate, indeed, considering the way in which he has been treated—a mere boy after three and one-half months' stay among a community prejudiced against him.
THIRD: "The attitude taken towards him by our guests reflects upon the house." The attitude is just what you make.

L. L. Nunn at Nunn's Station above Olmstead, Utah.
it. If your attitude is the proper attitude towards him and you recognize in him the ability which he possesses, you could not help but be proud of him and the little personal peculiarities would pass unnoticed, or even be taken as adding to the interest with which he would be considered.

FOURTH: "The position he holds in the estimation of the fellows should make it clear that he is, here, a misfit." The humiliating truth is the oppressive mediocrity of the Branch and its disrelish for anything which has even the slightest appearance of genius. I am no judge of musical ability, but all those who are regarded as judges who have met Deutsch have, without an exception, declared him to have great natural musical ability, and I have no doubt but that those who are objecting to him the most will, in the future, pay $10 for the privilege of taking their ladies to his concerts, and brag over the fact that they once lived in the same house with him.

I am told, in your Secretary's letter of the 15th that "his physical appearance is anything but pleasing." I saw nothing repulsive in his appearance, and it certainly is much better than that of Steinmetz whom you have invited to the house, or Dr. Samuel Johnson, who was considered by a certain society lady much in the same manner that Hyman seems to be considered by your Branch, and it might be well to read Macaulay's comments on that matter. Moreover, his personal appearance is entirely under the control of you gentlemen. It requires only a little kindly attention to give him a more favorable appearance than the average boy of his age. The Branch has some obligations to the world. It is not supposed to receive and not give; in fact, every member, under the Constitution, is supposed to ignore his personal interests or the personal interests of his associates for that bigger and broader influence which tends to higher standards of theory and practice in the world.

I am also told that "He has not advanced far enough in general understanding to either comprehend the Association or his relation to it." I can hardly believe that this was ever written seriously. Of a similar instance Macaulay said that "a boy would not learn to swim until he went into the water." Where should a general understanding of the Association be obtained if not in its most advanced Branch? This, again, is an indictment against the Branch, not against Hyman.

Again, the same communication states, "By his connections and associations in Ithaca, through appearance, action and word, a bad impression of the Branch is obtained." This, gentlemen, is all under your control. The difficulty is not with the visitors, but it is with yourselves. I should have no hesitation in taking Hyman, properly groomed and dressed, to the homes of the distinguished, either in this country or Europe, and I might add that few persons are more familiar with such homes or were more frequently guests in them than I was for fifteen years before settling in the harness.

Again, it is asserted that "He is not getting out of Telluride House the companionship, associations, and benefits which should be derived." This again, is entirely in your hands.

I note the comments in his favor, and wish they were more fundamental. I do not think, with Mr. Maguire, that his removal from the Branch would be an injustice to him because he has no claim on the Branch from the Association, save proper treatment while being its guest, but I do think his removal from the Branch would be an injustice to the Branch; that it is the duty of the Branch to complete the work for the year at least and to give them the full measure of hospitality.

I do not understand Owen's statement that "the Branch is not a proper place for him under the conditions, but that the conditions are not justified." Of course no person should be forced by poverty or desire for noble advancement to remain where indignities are heaped upon him, and I cannot believe that Deutsch, rightly treated and cared for, would be repulsive to any gentleman.

Nelson's fear that "the matter will not be interpreted by the Contingent Fund Committee as intended by the Branch" is probably well founded. I, as a member of both, consider the main objection to Deutsch to be based on snobbery which should be eliminated from the Association. This is not the first instance of offensive criticisms of personal appearance, and it is worthy of note that a larger percentage of those thus criticized are making good than of their critics; in fact, this snobbery has been one of the forces contend with from the beginning. Nor is this the first objection on the ground of nationality. Why not object to all religious sects on account of their beliefs, and to nonreligious people on account of their absence of religion?

Cornell Branch

Moore's position seemed to have been diplomatic. I wish it had been based on fundamental character.

Ashworth's objection to his age raises a question upon the decision of which depends the life or death of the Association. The ideal condition for developing character and loyalty is the large home, where the different ages mingle together and modify each other. The Association prospered only when it had members from thirteen to fourteen years of age mingled with those of advanced years and experience, and I believe the life of the Branch, as well as the Association, will ultimately be found dependent as much on the boy as on the developing man. I would not live without boys around me. To my association with them and to their influence I owe the moral and intellectual strength which has enabled me to meet successfully the many enemies of the last few years.

In conclusion I urge you, as members of the Branch, to completely reverse your positions, make the short period of the remaining school year a blessing to yourselves by giving to Hyman new faith in human nature, and a knowledge that there is a noble quality in the human heart to which, up to the present time, he has been a stranger, and be prepared to consider, at the next Convention, the advisability of having young mingling with the older and receiving from them an Association spirit which will develop as they develop throughout their entire lives. I might add that instead of Stanley Schaub's extreme youth being a hindrance to him in Boston, it has been very much to his advantage and has secured for him the friendship and devotion of the most eminent connected with the institution he attends.

I regret having been compelled to write this hastily. Had I time I would rewrite it, omitting some and adding much, especially as to the treatment of the young by the Association, but I am worked to the limit, and that in the common cause.

I suggest that the affair be kept strictly within the branch.

L. L. Nunn
(continued on page 9)
Interview: William J.
Vanden Heuvel TA ’48

William J. Vanden Heuvel TA’48 is a Democratic candidate for governor of New York. He was interviewed in January by Joel Schwartz TA ’69 for the Newsletter.

Schwartz: What was your reaction to the events at Cornell last spring?

Vanden Heuvel: I followed them closely and I was very sympathetic to the position of Jim Perkins. I thought he handled the situation rather courageously and intelligently, though I think he had bad luck. That picture of the men coming out of Willard Straight with guns was the end of his career as president at Cornell; there was nothing he could do about it. He seemed to make an effort to understand what was being said. One of the real problems in all these confrontations is that nobody really listens to anyone: there’s the confrontation, the violence, the action, the reaction and that’s it. But nobody stops to ask what are they saying? Why are they doing this? I read as much as I could of what the black students were saying. I understand, I think, the feelings of those who insist on black identification, black power.

I thought many of the things they were saying made some sense, but again it was in an attitude, a framework, that made it almost impossible for rational discussion. The way the students reacted and the way the University reacted—those extraordinary meetings that were being held—was very impressive to me. It showed that the University was very involved. Certainly there must have been mistakes on all sides, but they were mistakes that I could readily forgive because I felt that the University came out ahead in terms of being alive.

Schwartz: How would you characterize political sentiment in the House when you were living there?

Vanden Heuvel: There was a spectrum. We had good solid conservative Republicans like John Darley. And we had good solid middle liberals like Gerry Loewenberg. There were some who were more activist, though. Certainly the essence of the house was left of center.

Schwartz: To the left of center on campus? Now there are such huge divisions between campus and country. I wonder if that was true then.

Vanden Heuvel: No. Many of the Branch members were campus leaders. And the campus was much quieter. Ours was the quiet generation, wasn’t it? There was no real activist movement, certainly not in the House.

Schwartz: How did you become acquainted with Telluride?

Vanden Heuvel: When I was in high school in Rochester, the principal, William Wolgast, had a son at Deep Springs. Chancellor Elmer Johnson used to come around in those years and pick out selected students he thought might be interested in Deep Springs and Telluride. I made my application and was accepted and went to Deep Springs at the end of June in 1946. My first day there—in an attempt to combat a bout of homesickness—I requested our Labor Commissioner to assign me some work on the ranch. He told me and four others to kill and skin a pig. It was one of the most barbaric episodes I’ve ever been involved in. Finally the poor animal lost his life—I think through fear rather than our efforts. In the process of completing the ritual we had to put him in boiling water so we could skin him properly. I slipped and fell into the boiling water, severely burning my leg. Allen Whiting, who is now America’s China expert, and Edwin J. Wesly, a prominent lawyer in New York City now, rushed me to the hospital over Westgaard Pass, where I spent my first three weeks of my association with Deep Springs, in a small rural hospital in Bishop, California. The other three patients in the room proceeded to die in the course of my convalescence and I figured that if I could survive that whole emotional trauma, I was going to be able to survive almost anything in my life.

Living in Deep Springs, you’re exposed to an environment that you know you’ll never live in again in your life. You have the opportunity for contemplation combined with lots of activity and all the combat that a small student body requires.

I was student body president and student body trustee at Deep Springs and was elected to Telluride Association in the Convention of 1948. We had those insidious groups, known as Committees of the Whole in those days. They were absolutely brilliant in their ability to analyze the intellectual and emotional deficiencies of the 17 and 18 year olds, though not quite as quick on the pickup to foresee the possibilities of those young lives. I was told that after my detractors had finished their essays on why I should not be a member of Telluride Association, Bob Henderson, a professor at Deep Springs, stood up and, with considerable barbed humor apparently, won over the majority of the votes.

Schwartz: And you went to Cornell Branch right after Deep Springs?

Vanden Heuvel: I went to Cornell in the autumn of 1948 and finished my junior year there and double-registered my senior year as first-year law school. In 1948-49, I was the George Lincoln Burr scholar.

I don’t think you could ever account me as being a totally successful member of Telluride House. There’s an anti-establishment aspect to my life in politics that even found expression in Telluride. And my august brothers frequently found either my political involvements or my lack of commitment to the various house enterprises reason enough not to trust me with much more responsibility than being caterpillar.

Schwartz: Could you tell us about your political career?

Vanden Heuvel: Well, I was very active in politics when I was at Cornell, as a matter of fact. In 1948 I was a campaign manager for Donald O’Connor who was the Democratic candidate for Congress. I was only 18, which says more about the state of the Democratic party in that area than my precocity. I travelled with Truman on his famous
campaign train in upstate New York at that time. In 1949 I was instrumental in electing the first Democratic mayor in the city of Ithaca for twenty-five years. He proceeded to die ten days after election, which many people attributed to the shock of the political event. I was always interested in politics, though I didn't come from a family that had any sense of politics. My mother and father were both immigrants who were not involved in the American political process at all. But Franklin D. Roosevelt was a great hero in our household for a variety of economic reasons and he held my loyalties. I even hitchhiked, I remember, from Rochester to Hyde Park for his funeral.

After I was graduated from the law school in 1952, I practiced law briefly in New York and then went into the Air Force. I was assigned after a year to be assistant to the American ambassador, who was also senior partner in my law firm, Wild Bill Donovan, so I spent the next two years in Southeast Asia. I was active in the International Rescue Committee after that and I'm still president of it.

In 1956 I was campaign manager for Tony Akers in a historical Congressional race in Manhattan. In 1958 I was associate campaign manager for Arthur Leavitt. In 1960 I ran myself for Congress against a second-term Congressman named John Lindsay in a district that had been Republican for forty years. John Kennedy ran that year of course and we campaigned together several times. In 1962 I went to Washington as a special assistant to Robert Kennedy and, beginning then, I formed a close friendship with him and stayed with him until his death. I was an associate campaign manager when he ran for the Senate in 1964. Then I was regional administrator to the Office of Economic Opportunity for the eight states of the Northeast.

I went back to private practice in 1966 and was elected as a delegate-at-large to the Constitutional Convention in 1967 and was vice-president of that convention with former Chief Judge of New York State, Charles Desmond, and former mayor of New York City, Robert Wagner. I played a major role in writing that constitution. It was a political fiasco—that convention—but the Constitution itself had a great deal to recommend it and much of it will be adopted.

I went with Robert Kennedy in 1968. After his death I wrote a book, which is being published in February, called Robert Kennedy on His Own. It's a political biography of the years 1963 to 1968.

Having always been active in the Democratic party and feeling more confident in terms of the issues before the electorate this year than any of my presumed adversaries, I chose to run for governor.

At CB in 1950: (l. to r.) Robert Patch, Vanden Heuvel, R. A. George, Donald Claudy, Jack Sheinkman.

March 1970
democracy is probably the highest type of government, a majority vote is by no means a proper method to decide every question. The decisions of many questions should be made by committees who have given special attention to the sort of questions involved and who are entirely free from self-interest in the questions decided by them. That such procedure is in no way inimical to democracy but is on the contrary in furtherance of the democratic principle. That scholarships and grants by the Association be so awarded by an elected committee of five disinterested persons upon consideration of character, scholarship, general ability and personality, each member of the committee personally knowing the candidate.”

L. L. remained a member of the Association until his death in 1925. One of the very last communications to the Association, below, had to do with objections of fellow members that he advocated spending funds on the education of Catholics. He met the criticism head-on without apology.

Jamison Apartments
915 South Carondelet St.
Los Angeles, California
June 15, 1923.

Telluride Association in Convention Assembled,
Provo, Utah.
Fellow Members:

I had for many months the firmest intention of writing you a farewell message of considerable length, setting forth my hopes and fears as to the future of the Association, but for the past three months I have been very sick and entirely incapacitated. I am now so intensely weak (mentally as well as physically) that I can offer no suggestions worthwhile.

I wish to say, however, that the strength of our organization for more than thirty years has been largely due to a real genuine brotherhood without pretense or even a name. It was commented up more than twenty years ago that if during vacation a number of the more than one hundred members started out on a trip of recreation in different directions and some way or other they ended up together, there was a real genuine support of each by all. To the extent that this spirit has been weakened, the Association is weakened.

I sincerely hope that the spirit of condemnation and banishment which has existed at times will not exist at this Convention and that no one who has been maintained for years as a member of any part of the real Association will be dismissed merely because he does not possess the pleasing qualities or even in the intellectual strength which some would like him to have. It has seemed to me that the spirit at the Association House at Cornell has become cold and unfriendly and that prejudice has been allowed to work its way in.

I have heard that criticisms have been made by a good many of the preferment given to one preparing for the priesthood. [A reference to L. L.’s desire to see John E. Mehan realize his intention to become a Catholic priest.] Why, my dear associates, that occupation affords opportunity for the very highest form of actual service to mankind and in the establishment of harmony which advances the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. To object to that class of service is to object to the spirit of the Lord’s Prayer. I beseech you to cleanse the Association from all spirit of opposition to such dedication of one’s self and all he possesses.

May the “God of our Fathers” be with you.
Your devoted member,
L. L. Nunn

These are but two of the “blows for freedom” from the early days, as Harvey Mansfield used to call them, when I first attended convention. They may seem tame to us now, but in the world of fifty years ago, L.L.’s attitudes were outstanding.

Quo Vadis . . . from Berkeley
by Avi Katz

Scene from in-flight movie, Berkeley bound: “I’m going to die soon,” the child shouts from his tractor. “So am I!” answers the old man from horseback, “and it doesn’t make any difference, does it?”

Traditional activities still thrive here: prominent faculty guests swarm about our square black tables like Qanba pilgrims; branchmen and friends engage in intellectual, personal, social, spiritual . . . intercourse: journey, renovate, organize, create, theorize, complain and enjoy. Film festivals and lectures for the campus community are in various development stages.

The Anarchists, quoting Joyce and Carroll on fall and resurrection, sent Brian to join Avi in the student Senate (but Mattynas’ presidential hopes fell victim to middle-of-the-road extremism). Brian has already distinguished himself as the lone abstention in a vote on a student-administration agreement purporting to give students control of student activities.

Individuals continue to excel, of course, in academia and the arts: Ryszard’s Woodrow Wilson and Avi’s one-man show are forthcoming. Academe clutches voraciously at our graduating seniors; several plan to leave the Milhousen and pass on to Trudeau’s happier and safer land. Our wandering dropouts and alumni continue to impress us with their success and/or spiritual growth, from Ibara, who ministered to the poor, to Keene, dubbed “Christopher Prodigy” by the New York Times.

House government amuses many and offends some, but operates smoothly. This quarter’s Adcom—June, Maria, Ryszard and Brant—demonstrates the excellence of Telluridian timing. Our scheduled demise will spare Nunnond “not merely the necessity of a co-ed branch, but the likelihood of a matriarchy” (63 Convention Minutes, p. 32).

Nor have hostile or apathetic external forces succeeded in cutting us off entirely from Mother T. After some confusion, some Tsalapikons reached us. Eric will be factotum at Deep Springs. And alumnus Don Reed has finally attained TTC tax exemption for this year, but retroactive exemption depends upon a complex question of timing, legislation and constitutionality.

So we’re doing better than Biafra for a moment. Ithicans are encouraged to contemplate the fall of the House at Berkeley as an omen in this Silent Democracy, but are warned that such thoughts might produce nightmares.

News from Deep Springs
by Jan Vleck DS ’69

Deep Springs has been fortunate with its weather so far this year. Apart from a very few light snows which were gone from the valley floor within hours, there has been nothing to cause any complaints. The general rule appears to be sunshine and blue sky, which is appreciated by everyone, even the general labor force.

While the weather remains summery, Deep Springs is moving ahead on its building program. The Boardinghouse has been expanded to the east about twenty feet, so an end is in sight to the crowding problems of the past. The new wing is not being used yet, but promises to be a popular place once the interior is completed, for the end wall features a large stone fireplace with raised hearth. Preparations are also being made for the installation of a new modular house at the lower ranch. The footing has been poured and the foun-
News of Telluride Associates

IN MEMORIAM
Ralph C. Carter TA ’11
Charles A. Moore CBG ’41

- Joel Cogen TA ’53 and Philetus H. Holt have formed Cogen, Holt and Associates “to consult in the planning, execution and funding of community development, environmental improvement, housing and other urban programs,” in New Haven.
- Harlon Dalton SP ’64 is on an eight-month tour of Europe and Africa, sponsored by the Henry Russell Shaw Fellowship Foundation at Harvard.
- Isao Fujimoto TA ’63 is teaching at the University of California, Davis, after two years in the Philippines on a program in international agriculture development. His projects include relating his Philippines work to the future of the small town and farm labor problems in California. This past summer he gave a talk to the Deep Springs TASP, after which he and Christopher Breiseth TA ’59 explored the site of one of the Nisei concentration camps of World War II. He described the relevance of the concentration camp experience to issues today in a recent issue of The Black Politician.
- Bruce Granger DS ’38 and his family have returned to the University of Oklahoma after spending a year in Vienna as the University’s Institute of Theater Arts.
- Philip Hanawalt DS ’40 is Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Study in Biology at Stanford. He also directs the graduate program in Biophysics. He was elected to the Council of the Biophysical Society last year and has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Society. Last year’s sabbatical leave found him a visiting professor in biochemistry at the University of Hawaii. His book, Molecular Photobiology, has just been published by Academic Press.
- Sally Philips Hayes CBF ’64 is teaching 8th- and 9th-grade English in Lewiston, Maine.
- David Hodges TA ’57 was appointed head of the System

All Your News That Fits We’ll Print

(No kidding — your friends and TA Associates are interested in what has become of you. Do write us about your recent travels and adventures, honors and awards, books or papers published, promotions or job changes, marriages, births and address changes — not necessarily in that order — for Newsletter publication.)

Name .............................................
Address ...........................................

☐ Check if new address

March 1970
Elements Research Department at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Holmdel, New Jersey, where he is responsible for some of Bell Lab’s research studies on electronic and optical components for future communications systems.

- Clark Hyde SP ’64 was graduated magna cum laude from Oberlin in June 1969, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He married Janet Gail Shibley in October and they are living in Oakland while Clark is in the Bachelor of Divinity program at Pacific School of Religion and Gail studies for a Ph.D. in psychology at University of California, Berkeley.
- Christopher Keene BB ’64 won the first Julius Rudel Award for young conductors and will work with Mr. Rudel and the New York City Opera for a year.
- Charles E. LaRue SP ’67 spent last summer in Russia with the Lawrence University group and will be going to Yugoslavia next summer under the Student Project for Amity Among Nations. He is currently taking courses in Serbo-Croatian at the University of Minnesota.
- Carnes Lord CB ’68 is an instructor in government at Dartmouth College.
- Herbert Melzer TA ’58 is an assistant professor of Psychiatry at the University of Chicago School of Medicine. He is investigating biological abnormalities in acute psychosis. A number of his research reports have been or will be published which document the first clear-cut biochemical, histochemical and electron microscopic evidence that disorders, including acute schizophrenia, are organic diseases, at least in part.
- Martha Merrill SP ’63 was killed in Kenya January 13 when the car in which she was riding was hit by a train. She and the two other girls, who were also killed, had been teaching in Liberia for the Peace Corps since December, 1968.

- Joseph C. Nelson DS ’43 was recently promoted to vice-president for law at Texas Industries, Inc., Dallas-based cement products, construction and real estate development company. He was elected a trustee of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and a director of the Educational Television Foundation for North Texas.
- Frances Prichett SP ’64 is the recipient of a Michael Clark Rockefeller Memorial Scholarship from Harvard for this year. It allows her to spend a year in whatever country she chooses, so she is now in India, after spending three months traveling westward. She will spend three months in Europe this summer.
- A son, Steven David, was born to Jeanette Loeb Reiter SP ’63 in October.
- The Robert Sheridans TA ’31 recently moved to Colorado where he is Director of Engineering and Facilities for the construction of a new plant for the Kodak Colorado Division at Windsor—about fifty miles north of Denver.

Telluride Association
217 West Avenue
Ithaca, N. Y. 14850

Address Correction Requested