

Telluride Newsletter

1972 May Volume 59, Number 4

President Galston Reflects: TA As Microcosm

Watertown, Massachusetts—The period since the 1971 Convention has been eventful but non-catastrophic, and it is thus unlikely that the 1972 Convention will take place in an atmosphere of crisis or impending doom. But, as we discovered last year, complete absence of tension is not necessarily conducive to satisfying actions or discussions. Some mean between lassitude and frenzy is best. Yet it seems that our comportment or orientation is relative to the issues, not the reverse: to wish for a mean of energetic sobriety is to wish for issues which evoke the best of which we are capable. Do such issues now confront us, or is Telluride Association becoming a boring institution, unworthy of the serious attention of serious men and women?

As natural as this question seems, it is to a certain extent badly posed. Within very broad limits, seriousness is an attitude, a choice, a developed capacity rather than a simple reaction to events. "High" questions can be treated in a low or petty manner; seemingly low or insignificant questions can when treated seriously be the best (because the most *concrete*) way of access to the truly significant issues. For myself, I believe that this humble truth has been obscured by the shattering events of our times: it seems impossible to take seriously, e.g., the perennial but mundane problems of group life in Cornell Branch when we find ourselves immersed in issues of war and peace, life and death for ourselves and others. Now it is perfectly true that we cannot and should not insulate ourselves from these issues; if to devote ourselves to Telluride Association is to embrace a selfish and unreflective solitude, then we must surely reject it, if not forever, at least while it remains a "luxury" unsuited to the Iron Age which has descended upon us. But in so doing, we forget that simple immersion in the world is not possible; we always bring ourselves to the world, that is, we take a *stand*, which is always supported and mediated by what we think and what we are. One may doubt that education is wholly for the sake of politics, but a certain measure of intellectual and moral preparation for politics seems indispensable: and this is, at least in part, precisely the task which Telluride Association explicitly seeks to perform. For instance, if we discuss the question of blurbs thoughtfully, we cannot help asking how individuals ought to be judged and whether they ought to be judged at all; that is, we confront not only our own standards but also the question of "elitism" as such. A thoughtful exploration of the proper status and content of elitism would be an unparalleled political education for us all.

It will be argued: you are not being "realistic"; Telluride Association has been and will continue to be mired in its own particularity, its uninteresting if unending struggle to preserve and administer itself. Let me set aside for another occasion the question of whether this struggle is not a microcosm of problems confronting larger groups and whether therefore the problem of understanding it is not important in its own right. I say only: we live more satisfactorily when we interpret the "reality" of our situation, whatever it may be, in the light of its highest potentiality, (provided that this idea is not mere wishful thinking or dreaming); in striving to bring it into being, we elevate ourselves.

Summer Programs Have Elephant Problem

Cornell Ax May Split Three Ways

BARRY WELLER (TA64)

Despite the delay in sending out Summer Program applications (caused by problems at the Educational Testing Service) and the fact that most applicants had two weeks or less to complete their applications, the number of applications completed this year was higher than in the past few years, and the first indications are that we have a healthy proportion of outstanding candidates and an even larger number of well-qualified ones. It remains to be seen if postponing the award of scholarships until early May affects the rate of acceptance (which in the past few years has been 100%), but on the whole it seems unlikely that this "trial year" will definitively resolve our doubts about the new form of the arrangement with ETS. It is still evidently workable (with a little bit of extra pressure on Cornell Branch residents and interviewers) and worthwhile as a means of reaching an extraordinarily diverse range of candidates—but the cost is greater than it has been in the past, the schedule nervewracking (particularly to the Executive Office), and the situation fundamentally unstable (since ETS's hook-up with the National Merit Foundation we find ourselves in the position ascribed to the Canadians by Trudeau of sleeping next to an elephant).

Like most questions about the future of the summer programs, that is, the question of our connection with ETS will neither solve itself nor go away. Our relation to Cornell has been a cliffhanger for several years now. Their continued support of an Ithaca summer program in an era of huge budgetary cuts must be regarded as quasi-miraculous (and of short life expectancy), but the situation has distinct drawbacks. Their stipulation that we seek Cornell faculty to staff the programs and that we seek faculty from no other source until a date well into the fall preceding the programs, has cut us off from many exciting faculty possibilities—though thus far without serious consequences. Our understanding with Deep Springs also limits Telluride's role in the selection of faculty for the Deep Springs program, though for different reasons. The needs of the DS summer session, as well as of the summer program proper, must be respected, and the choice of faculty has therefore functionally belonged to Deep Springs.

When Cornell's budgetary ax finally falls and when the proposal for the Cremona ecological TASP comes before Convention, we are going to have to decide how many summer programs we can afford to support and where. The trade-offs aren't easy. There are strong historical and Telluride-ideological reasons for continuing our connection with Deep Springs. The existence of two programs at Cornell offers the greatest possibilities for economy, and the past two summers have shown the advantages of parallel programs in terms of morale and a high activity quotient. The Cremona TASP possibility reflects the concern of many Association members that we become involved with urgent contemporary issues. The 1972 Telluride Convention will surely force us to make up our minds about at least some of our commitments.

LETTERS to the EDITORS

ALUMNI PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL RECRUITMENT

The Editor
Telluride Newsletter
Madam:

The report of the Alumni Affairs committee at last year's convention dwelt heavily upon the need to involve the alumni in the affairs of the Association. For some time it has been obvious that this group of friends, former associates, and ex-Deep Springers possesses some skills and insights, and of course, money from which the Association can benefit. But it has been generally recognized that an alumni program that merely lines everyone up in order to more efficiently pass the hat will not succeed. Hence the development of an independent body, the ADSTA, currently under the direction of Bob Gatje.

The work of this group has been encouraging: the success of the membership drive, increased contributions to New Funds, and the development of a proposal for a new TASP may be cited. But the purpose of this letter is, regrettably, to suggest that TA has not taken seriously its responsibility to involve the alumni in its work. And as I shall point out later, this neglect of the alumni is paralleled by a neglect of its Associates. Telluride, it would seem, although growing yearly, has failed to come to grips with its developing roles as a national organization composed of many heterogeneous persons.

The above is my general concern, but my attention is particularly directed towards this year's TASP and Special recruitment effort. As members will recall, this was the subject of preeminent concern at last year's convention and the importance of alumni and membership participation in future recruitment was emphasized. For the present year alumni and associates were to be used in an expanded SR, thus laying the foundations of an on going non-PSAT oriented recruitment program.

My feeling is that this year's SR program, whether or not it succeeded in locating a few "minority" TASPers, did not properly carry out a recruitment drive as envisioned at last convention. I speak as a single observer, but if my experience is typical the special recruitment effort was a failure.

The practical problems were these: recruitment materials were mailed out very late, arriving only shortly before the Christmas break. Thus would-be recruiters had to make all arrangements and contact students before a three week vacation, asking them to maintain their interest until the New Year without even being able to give them an up to date brochure. The recruitment materials were in insufficient quantities. On top of this, the nominal deadline for completed applications fell too soon to allow candidates a reasonable time for consideration and writing. Once candidates were found, their names had still to be sent to Ithaca and applications sent to them. (Why not include applications with recruitment material?) From the standpoint of the recruiter perhaps the greatest difficulty was that the whole applications procedure remains beyond his control; he can in no way vouch for what Ithaca will do. In particular the policy on preference for SR candidates was not spelled out. These are truly old problems, not one has not been raised before, and I had hoped that their serious consideration at the past convention would work some change in this year's recruitment.

If personal (as opposed to PSAT) recruitment is to succeed, I think that this year's convention must make some major policy decisions aimed at expanding the program and at more usefully and responsibly employing alumni, associates, and friends. I would present them as follows:

RESPONSE

FROM EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MACLEOD PROCEDURES EXPLAINED

One is tempted to say, after reading Eric Swanson's letter of protest, "The fault, dear Eric, is not in our intentions, but in our performance that we are underlings."

The results of this year's S.R.C. efforts are no indication of the committee's hopeful projections. A few people spent considerable time and effort; others claim they would have, given specific instruction with which they could agree. Most Associates did not actively involve themselves—and this has been the usual experience over the years, even when sample letters were provided, approaches and schools suggested, etc.

The crux of the matter is probably that Associates are not only busy, but ambivalent—wanting to compromise neither high standards nor the democratic commitment. Also, the experience of thirteen years would indicate that it is not possible to issue information on "recruitment policies. . . interviewing and screening techniques" which are effective and acceptable to all potential interviewers. We have in the past alienated some who believed the Association should increase its involvement with minorities; we have put off others who believe that our intellectual prestige should not be risked.

Given this basic ambivalence, we proceed on the assumption that those who believe in the search will help, and those who do not will refrain. The next hurdle, that of time-table, is subject to more difficulty than the non-Board member will realize. Rarely are the details of programs, faculty and topics ready for print before the Christmas preceding the program. In the early fall, there's nothing but general information available, nothing to be said to counselors except "If you have bright students who should be encouraged to apply for a full-scholarship summer program in the social sciences or humanities, please give us their names and address." And to the suggestion that recruiters be given the application forms to distribute, it must be pointed out that the writing-time would then vary widely from student to student. It has seemed only fair to give all applicants approximately the same amount of time to complete their efforts.

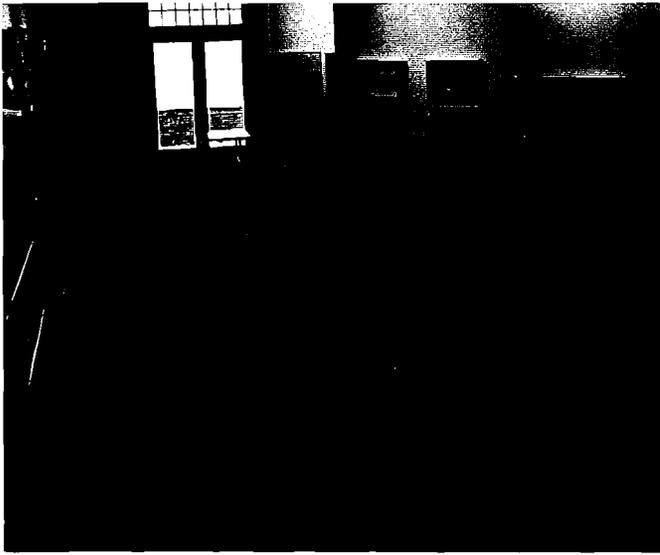
The centralized processing of applications submitted, contrary to Mr. Swanson's allegation, is the most efficient in terms of time and consistency. And only a central Board, with an overview of all candidates interviewed, can make a final equitable selection of participants. With the objective of making up three (or whatever) balanced and interesting groups, the Board considers geographical distribution, interests and abilities of the students in relation to the topics offered, variations in background and attitudes, etc. A quota system whereby area committees could select participants was abandoned years ago for the reason that it could not assure these considerations.

Before Convention, a compilation of SRC's work will be readied for the record. If there are others who feel they would have done more cooperating, given more specific and agreeable directives, their requests should be considered in Convention debate.

1. The TASP board must begin early in the year to develop area committees in major geographic regions consisting of alumni, associates, and others knowledgeable of Telluride. This must be TA's responsibility, but it can be carried out as a joint effort with the ADSTA. Plans must also be developed for reaching areas not covered by alumni.

2. Adequate materials on TASP should be provided at an early date. If the applications continue to be due at the end of January, materials should arrive in the early fall. Included

(continued on page 10)



Renovation Chairman Checks House Rot

Cornell Branch, like the house of the wise man in Matthew, is founded on the rock of structural steel which probably will not crumble before the next ice age. This does not, however, preclude the rotting and collapse of everything else in between; the necessity of checking this rot, plus an unfortunate conjunction of heavenly bodies has sent the Renovation budget soaring into the upper atmosphere. The big event was the collapse of the Branch office ceiling over the summer, caused by leaks in the plumbing between the second and third floors. For a while it was feared that (1) all the plumbing would have to be replaced, (2) all the ceilings would fall in, or (3) both. By the grace of God, none of these has happened yet. Additionally, the service riser and fire alarm system had to be checked and replaced.

In dealing with the last problem, your Renovations Chairman was exposed to the real world of corrupt contractors and has decided at this point that the Ivory Tower is not such a bad alternative after all. It appeared at the end of summer that the original contractor was at fault for the faulty detectors. The rest of the fall was spent in a pathetic attempt to persuade the largest contractor in Ithaca to remunerate us for its repairs. The showdown came in February, when in a meeting with the architect and electrician, the present and past Renovations Chairmen at last realized they were, after all, no more than college students.

For a while it was feared that the front of the House would sink down to the level of West Avenue, as the brick retaining wall began to crumble. It was finally determined that the real cause was not due to settling, but to ice expansion in the cracks. After an interminable length of time the entire wall was replaced. For various reasons the waiter's quarters had been unoccupied during the fall term, and the opportunity was used to repaint and recarpet the whole apartment. This effected no miraculous change in appearances, but perhaps a few liberal consciences somewhere may be eased in knowing that the Association is no longer a slumlord. Additionally, new carpets were bought for the second floor stairs and the Association office.

To move from the trivial to the slightly interesting, the interior of the House has been completely repainted: Association members attending the next convention will be surprised that the Striped Room is no longer striped but painted in a more conservative color hospitable to travelling art exhibits. This, unfortunately, is the only visible change for the better, and if, for any reason, someone is interested in knowing why



Executive Secretary Bea MacLeod takes a break from TASP planning to enjoy the paintings, sculptures and photographs of artists Victoria Roman and Constance Saltonstall. The Show "Babylon Prior to Urban Renewal," was at the Branch April 23-May 12.

the Renovations Chairman had to spend so much money this year, your chairman would be only too glad to provide a roster of those little expenses that went to pad the expenditure. Only he can see any beauty in the new, silver, power conduit that snakes down over the south wall of the House.

New York ADSTA Meets

Favors Moderate

Lustspielen Over Apathy

The First Annual Dinner and *Lustspiel* of NYADSTA found two areas of consensus among the forty associates and guests. *Lustspielen* in moderation are welcome and Don Reis is a worthy *vereinsvorsitzender*. Convened in the attic of Max's Kansas City Restaurant in southern Manhattan in mid-December and led by National President Gatje and Local President-for-Life Reis, the discussion of the future of the New York chapter centered on whether any non-*Lustspiel* activities were appropriate. While not rejecting such diversions from our central purpose out of hand, the varied commitments of individuals to non-Telluride activities of service and culture were held by the majority to be more in keeping with the avowed purposes of the Association and the College than projects requiring alumni efforts within the sphere of the institutions. While asserting their generous willingness to assist the Nunnian enterprises in times of financial need, the members saw the New York group's main purpose as occasional social reunions without activities requiring diversion of significant time and attention from the active concerns which each member had found compelling in his own community, profession or avocation. If a financial, recruiting or other special need arose, the New York group stood ready to contribute its unstinting efforts, good will, and support. Among the 40 present were: Nick Capozzoli, Bob Gatje, Don Reis, Sue Bassett, Donald B. Read, Mary MacGuire, Tom Keenan, Harvey Mansfield, Frank Lesh, Hal and Eve Sedgwick, Mike Davidson, Donald H. Read, John Murray, Steven Rabin, Si Whitney, Bob Richter, Roger Seiler, Chuck Bazerman, Mike Langberg, Leon Jacobsen, John Copeland, Paul Szasz, Gordon Davidson, Ted Schultz, John Lindenbaum, Brad Judd, Ed Wesely, Phil Robbins, Ed Levin and numerous wives and guests. The meeting adjourned with the unspoken assurance that President Gatje would return with a solution to our institutional apathy.

Don H. Read

COUNTERBUDGET

edited by Robert S. Benson (TASP'59)
and Harold Wolman (Praeger, \$2.95)

Reviewed by Paul Stockton (Lincoln Scholar 70-72)

The Federal Budget is probably the most important bundle of legislation passed by Congress in any year. No matter what intentions the Congress or the President may have, or say they have, when it comes to the crunch funding is what matters, and is the best test of what the Federal Government is really committed to doing. Yet budget-making remains an obscure process, both in the executive and the legislative branch, seemingly unrelated to policy-making. *Counterbudget*, prepared by the staff of the National Urban Coalition, is an impressive attempt to make the Federal Budget into a political document open to public consideration and embodying deliberate policy choices.

There is little that is new or radical in the book—as the statement by the Coalition's Steering Committee which prefaces the book says: "Our proposed budgets hardly portend revolutionary changes"—but it does, probably for the first time, synthesize most of the moderate reforms in federal programs which have been advocated in recent years. They set forward six basic goals:

- (1) Full employment with a high level of economic growth and reasonable price stability.
- (2) Equal opportunity for all citizens to participate in American society and government.
- (3) Rectification of the imbalance in revenues between federal and state and local governments.
- (4) An adequate national defense.
- (5) A guarantee of the basic necessities of life for all Americans.
- (6) Meeting of obligations to assist in the economic development of the world's less-developed nations.

To meet these objectives the authors propose a 66% increase in the Federal Budget by 1976, combined with a re-ordering of priorities within the Budget and a transfer of certain functions of government from the state to the federal level. However, they generally make a good case for this not involving a vast burgeoning in the federal bureaucracy or an intolerable over-centralization of power. They specify their recommendations sector by sector (income maintenance, health, education, defense etc.), cost them, and in most cases tie them to specific policy objectives. It is all done with remarkable thoroughness and lucidity. It would be impossible even to summarize the extent of their proposed reforms, but, not surprisingly, their proposals are better in some sectors than in others. At the crux of their recommendations is the idea of income maintenance to replace the chaos of welfare systems, with their state-by-state variations in level of benefits, their destructive effects on family structure, and their lack of work incentives (as opposed to work requirements, which they find obnoxious). Every household of four would receive an annual grant of \$4708 by 1976, which would be progressively reduced according to the household's earned income. This is basically an improved version of President Nixon's Family Assistance Plan. Its most important feature is that it is merely an implementation of the US Government's long-standing commitment to eradicate poverty in America, as defined by the Department of Agriculture's "poverty-line" measurement of what is necessary for a minimal standard of living. They explicitly reject the alternative of bringing every American family up to what the Bureau of Labor Statistics has defined as a "moderate" income (about \$9000) with all its radical redistributive implications. "Income maintenance" is clearly an idea whose time has come, and the Coun-

terbudget's proposed scheme seems to have considerably fewer faults than most, and to be a vast improvement on the present welfare system.

The second important recommendation in *Counterbudget* is the establishment of a national health insurance scheme to cover almost all Americans, which would in effect redistribute the vast amounts already spent on health care both privately and publicly in a more fair and efficient manner.

In general their recommendations look best in areas where federal spending has already shown itself to have had a significant impact, albeit in the wrong directions, such as housing, and transportation, where they recommend a transfer of attention to mass transit rather than highways. They are less successful when they deal with other areas of social development. There is no reason to believe that their proposals for raising "under-achieving" students in elementary and secondary schools to the acceptable minimum level of math and reading (grants to the schools of \$300 per capita of such students) would have any impact on the problem. They ascribe a low priority to environmental quality and pollution control. Their proposed method of control—charging polluters a discharge fee for the pollution they cause (the so-called "license to pollute")—would work only if one could put a reasonably precise cost on the effects of pollution, and if one could be reasonably sure that the federal and regional regulatory organizations would be free from corruption, neither of which is at all plausible.

The section on foreign aid is most disappointing. It does propose increases in the amount of US aid to be made available and a shift towards more reasonable terms for loans; and it lays much stress on the "multilateralization" of aid—avoiding charges of US imperialism by channeling it through the World Bank instead of giving it directly. Unfortunately, this does not convince progressive Third World governments who know that World Bank and US interests tend to be virtually indistinguishable. The book also urges that family planning be the first priority in bilateral aid, a very unpopular policy in the less-developed countries. Despite rhetoric about national independence and self-reliance, the section betrays an insensitivity towards what the governments of the Third World consider to be their problems.

How are all the spending increases to be paid for? Partly by tax increases, partly by a return to a full-employment economy, and partly through an economic growth rate of 4% per year. In addition, extravagant programs such as farm price support are to be phased out, and defense and military assistance spending is to be cut by \$24 billion, largely by eliminating useless duplication of weaponry. But this is premised on the success of President Nixon's policy of "Vietnamization" as a general strategy for Asia.

The recommendations are on the whole wisely derived by eliminating redundant programs and extending those that have proven successful as pilot projects or local programs. The whole *Counterbudget* could be enacted into law immediately, though it seems doubtful whether either branch of government would even consider giving up its time-honored practices and privileges to do so. But its implementation depends on a set of rigid assumptions about the behavior of the US economy over the five years: that it can, with an expansion of demand and an extensive retraining and relocation program, increase growth of GNP to 4% and reduce unemployment to 3.5% without serious inflation. Such economic models have their limitations, and medium-range plans of this sort have rarely, if ever, achieved their growth and employment goals. In which case, the *Counterbudget* provides no guidance as to which of its many recommendations have the highest priority. If past experience, both in the USA and elsewhere is anything to go by, the first victims are likely to be the very social welfare programs the *Counterbudget* is meant to facilitate.

Dry Spell Afflicts Creeks, Applications

By BILL SULLIVAN (DS70)

Seven Deep Springers drove to San Francisco over the Easter weekend in order to be interviewed for Telluride Association scholarships to the Cornell Branch. As this represents over a third of the student body, and since interest in transferring to Cornell Branch has been relatively small in recent years, the event was heralded with some surprise by both TA and Deep Springs. The students were interviewed singly by a three-man board including Mark Merin, Alex Gold, and Lincoln Bergman in a seven-hour session at Merin's San Francisco apartment.

There were indications of renewed interest in Cornell Branch as early as December when four Deep Springers visited the House and stayed with Peter Wakeman, the only present House member who has transferred from Deep Springs.

The student body at Deep Springs has dwindled to 19 so far this year, due to the unexpected departures of three students and two students who turned down reinvitation offers. This low enrollment, although not alarming, may necessitate accepting a larger first year class next year. Unfortunately, the applications committee has received well below the average number of applications so far this year; as of this writing, 25 applications have been received, of which 4 have been judged unacceptable and 3 have been accepted outright. The shortage of applications is apparently due in part to the delay in obtaining the PSAT-based mailing list used for TASP mailings. This situation has led to a "floating acceptance policy" in which the deadline for applications has been extended until enough good applications are received to establish a well-qualified first year class, although several more decisions are expected before the Trustee's meeting in late April.

The reduced size of the student body has also made the labor program more demanding. In addition to finishing the library addition—which now has been fully carpeted—much general labor time has been spent repairing the Great Stone

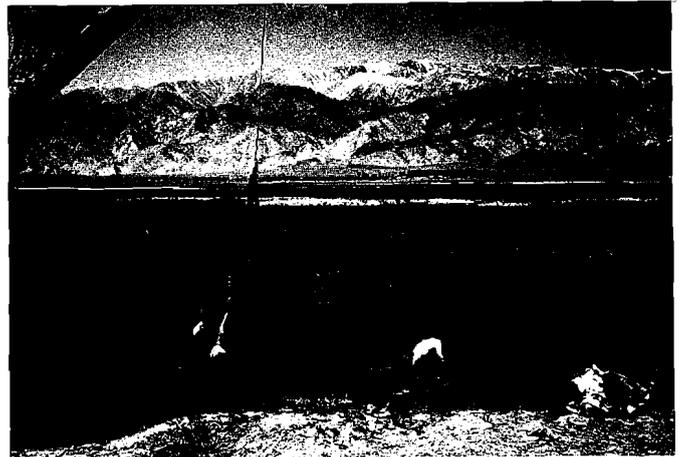


Ditch. The ditch, which had been crumbling at several points, has been patched using cement blocks salvaged from one of the outdated dairy silos.

A possible source of concern for the ranch operations is the lack of a large snow pack in the White Mountains this year. Deep Springs itself has not had any precipitation since December 27. In fact, the Sierra Nevadas have had so little

snow this year that mountain passes are open and ski resorts are closed as much as two months early. A small snow pack could mean that Wyman Creek, the college's source of irrigation water, could diminish in volume or dry up, forcing use of the irrigation pump and well—an expensive and less satisfactory proposition. However, the ranch has managed to stockpile a supply of hay sufficient to supplement a dry year, according to ranch manager Merritt Holloway.

On the other hand, the lack of precipitation has provided several months of fine spring weather ideal for hikes, rides, and suntans.



The student body has planned its spring trip for Escalante Canyon, a wilderness river valley in southern Utah. The agenda allows for a day stop at Bryce Canyon National Park en route.

The ranch has recently acquired two burros. Although they are not broken for anything at present, they are tentatively planned for personal pack trips or for use in conjunction with a cart as an alternative means of transportation for the feed man and his supplies.

For the last term of the academic year, Robert Kinmont, a sculptor from Bishop, California will teach an intensive art course. Kinmont claims to have interested a friend in coming to teach a ceramics course during the same term.

In early April Gary Snyder, a San Francisco poet came to Deep Springs to read his poetry and to lecture.



Campus Scene 1972 . . . Grover



If winter come . . .

I stand in the lobby of Willard Straight Hall. It's one of my favorite places on campus because it reminds me of the Port Authority in New York. An infinite variety of people rush by in countless directions; there are always petitions to sign and leaflets to read. A video tape machine shows scenes from the roller derby; truck driver-like women racing in circles and crashing into each other mirror the action of the lobby itself. Slides of Viet-nameese orphans flash on and off in another corner. One table with psychedelic posters shouting "PEACE — LOVE" has a large string of letters over it spelling out "MONARCHY." A boy behind the table with glasses and the smile of a TV Quiz Show Host beckons me to come toward him. I approach slowly with my hands in my pockets.

"How do you feel about a monarchy for the United States?" he asks cheerfully.

"Don't know," I mutter. "Depends who's on top."

"A monarchy with Jesus Christ as the King," he exclaims.

"Oh," I say. I realize that this table is staffed by old friends of mine from the Campus Crusade for Christ. I read all their booklets. As a member of the Now Generation, they appeal to me. "Get Turned On to Christ." "God is Where it's At." "Freak Out With Jesus." When I talk to them I push my hair forward and stroke my beard, trying to look as Hasidic as possible.

"How do you feel about Jesus Christ?" he asks sincerely.

"He's o.k." I reply. I look through the booklets, eagerly searching for new ones to add to my collection. The girl behind the table speaks:

"Hey, you're in my Russian Lit class, aren't you. You're always saying those brilliant things." Suddenly I feel guilty and take only one booklet.

Two hundred and fifty people charge into the Straight as part of an anti-war rally. I'm swept away from the Campus Crusade and washed up on the Maoist table. There hasn't been this much political excitement since John Lindsay spoke

at Cornell in the Fall. That was before Lindsay was a presidential candidate, when he was only interested in sincerely presenting his beliefs and convictions to an interested group of college students. Two advance men spend two weeks at Cornell to prepare the campus for the Mayor's impromptu appearance. One spends the whole time in his hotel room, talking on the telephone. The other spends a lot of time at the Telluride House. He is fat with a greasy moustache and a double breasted blue blazer: his breath smells of garlic. He can't get Bailey Hall because of an orchestra rehearsal. Advance man on the telephone: "Who is this guy with the orchestra? What's his hang-up? Is he a faggot? Does he take pills? We'll get some heavies on him; we'll get him out of that hall." They get the hall. Hundreds of people. The crowd is hostile. Remember Attica. What about the Tombs, Mistah Lindsay? Paper airplanes slice the air. High up in the balcony is the President of the Telluride House. Somehow, Fate made him drink too much coffee after dinner and he rushes down to the basement to the Men's Room. Nature acts the same to all men, presidents and mayors alike. But the mayor is there first and our president has to wait. He anxiously awaits the Lindsay Succession.

Back upstairs Lindsay finally appears but the crowd is not as relieved as is our president. It is like a circus: shouts, cheers, the dogs. Lindsay smiles. Someone seizes the podium but the crowd shouts him down. A young girl speaks; once she was proud to go to Cornell but now she's embarrassed. Lindsay thanks her. His best line of the evening: we need prison reform: he deplores the conditions in our jails of "forced homosexuality and constant boredom." Some of us formulate it the other way around. ("Come on, guys, cut it out! Sit still!")

Lindsay has dropped out of the race and I escape the clutches of a radical feminist Maoist and leave the Straight. It is spring in Ithaca and the campus looks like a beach. The lawns are covered with sun bathers and people driving dogs mad with frisbees. The air is calm and the bells start to ring. For no reason at all the bells in the clock tower start to ring. I hate the bells. I wouldn't mind it so much if they just pealed, or tolled, or even played simple classical choral pieces. But they play dentist office music, elevator "muzak." The Beatles. Tom Jones. Songs from Mitzi Gaynor's Greatest Hits. I imagine six or seven grotesque, hunchbacked, dwarfed monks jumping off stools to ring those bells. I'd give forty seven ROTC buildings just to destroy those bells.

I make my daily pilgrimage to Sage Chapel. I never go inside but stand out in the bushes where Grover Cleveland, "then Governor of New York, later President of the United States," stood in the late 1800's. A plaque, overgrown with vines, commemorates the event. It is here that I find hope—if not of achieving greatness, at least of engraved obscurity.

Dogs runs across the Arts Quad like satyrs. They don't seem to care that people are trying to keep them out of public buildings. The campus is clearly theirs. All the large dogs have names like Angel, Honey, Baby-face. Only one dog, the dog at the fraternity next to Telluride House, is appropriately named: Hitler. He guards the DU Parking lot where everyone parks at fifty miles per hour. Today the parking lot, tomorrow. . . Our spring term president used to be afraid of dogs but now Uncle Joe and Hitler have a pact.

Posters all over campus advertise Cornell Forum's latest guest speaker, Miss Subways of New York City who will speak on her collection of owl figurines. The Cornell Daily Sun reports that "thirty four per cent of all sexually active Cornell students do not use contraception on a regular basis." A twenty-four hour dance marathon is held in the Straight; it

Branch Faces Dilemmas In Participation . . .

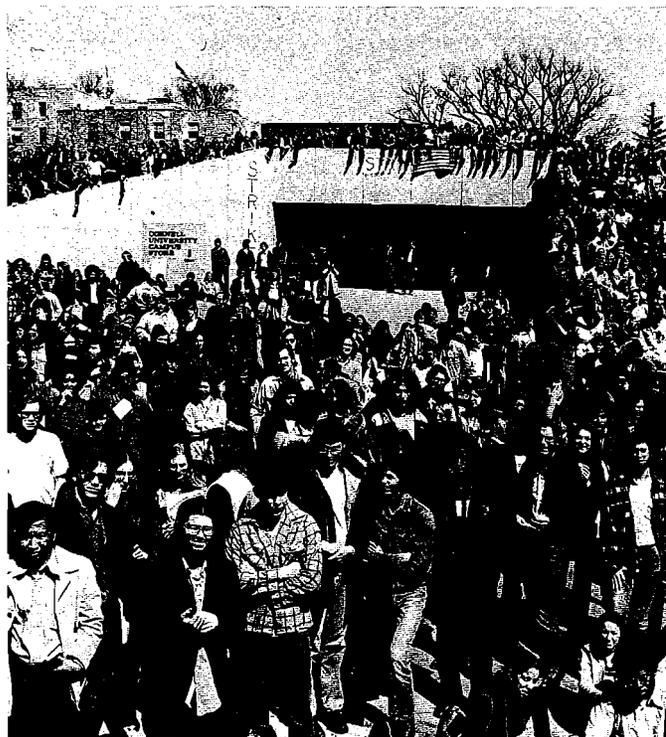
By JOEL SCHWARTZ (TA69) *Branch President*

It is hazardous enough to attempt to evaluate a year at Cornell Branch even at year's end, and still more so in early April. Accordingly, this pre-Convention article is not so much intended to be an evaluation of the Branch as a guideline for such an evaluation, suggesting some areas of Branch life which might be worth Convention's consideration.

Perhaps the biggest dilemma confronting the Branch this year at the outset was the role that women were to play in it. We currently have nine women in the Branch, six of them freshmen. Only one woman in the House is an upperclasswoman and only one an Association member. As might be expected from these statistics, female political influence in the House is not proportional to numerical strength (although a woman was elected to AdCom this spring for the first time in five terms). Questions such as the relatively insignificant political role that women currently play, the expectations that the Branch has of its women members and the expectations that they in turn have of the Branch have been a focus of concern this year. Answers have been for the most part unideological; blame is not simply dumped at the feet of the male establishment power elite. There has probably been more pessimism expressed about the advisability of a co-ed Branch, and a greater recognition articulated of the problems that such a Branch inevitably entails than in any of the preceding three years. Such pessimism is by no means universal, and everyone seems to feel that co-education is here to stay, but the sanguine expectations held by some last year of a 50-50 co-ed Branch are no longer quite so much in evidence.

The question of Telluride's other minority, its black students, has also been an issue this year. It still seems to be the case that by participating actively in Telluride, a black student inevitably curtails his contact and communication with other black students on campus. Hopefully the intellectual and communal advantages of life here compensate in good measure for this loss, but they obviously cannot do so completely. As was the case this year, black Telluriders will probably continue to complain of the restrictions their commitment to the black community imposes on their commitment to Telluride (and presumably *vice versa* as well). At times black students will probably also choose to live out of the Branch, in an effort to increase their contacts with other blacks. Telluride's only response to these phenomena would seem to be to make efforts in the direction of acceptance and accommodation.

To move to more mundane matters, the House this year has distinguished itself negatively in management of the treasury and the kitchen. Matters have been taken in hand in both areas, and hopefully the worst is past, but serious damage has already been done, and the affairs in sum reflect poorly on House leadership. On the positive side, committees have generally functioned better than usual this year, and the freshmen have generally oriented themselves quite well. What Convention is to make of all of this I am not sure. Generally speaking, what Convention can and should do to affect life at the Branch (since both Branch preferment and the Branch budget are more or less *faits accomplis*, thereby rendering the respective powers of sword and purse more or less nugatory) is a question that I, as one who will henceforth be on the outside (*i.e.*, a non-CBTAer evaluating life at CBTA in the hopes of positively affecting it) would like to see considered more openly.



. . . can spring be far behind?

attracts several contestants and a large crowd of spectators.

Some people say that Cornell is a cold place. It is isolated, and there are mountains, but Cornell is really like a city. It has its own movement, and violence, and colorless faces. Normally I find shape in my life through both the banal struggles I encounter everyday (such as waking up or listening to another song from "My Fair Lady" on the bells) and the unusual experiences which make a day different from any other (such as Passover or meeting John Lindsay.) For the most part, the banal occurrences always seem to magnify themselves and occupy the larger portion of one's life; Nixon may bomb Hanoi but your chief concern is still avoiding the editor of the Newsletter because your article is late. Presumably, college offers one more opportunities to overcome banalities and seek the higher things. Still, sometimes when I add up all the parts of my life, the sum is less than a whole. I wander across the campus as the day approaches noon.

DAVID MARSHALL (CB)

JUNE is Convention Month

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				8	9	10
11						

Branch House Shows F. L. Wright Influence

by John Kristensen (CB)

The Cornell Branch of Telluride Association was built in 1910-11. Its architect was a man named W. H. Lepper of Salt Lake City, Utah. Seven years earlier he had designed for L. L. Nunn, founder of Telluride Association, another building in Olmstead, Utah, Telluride Institute. The newer building was based largely on the older one, yet between 1903 and 1910 there occurred a metamorphosis, and while the Olmstead building looks weakly like a Renaissance palace, the Ithaca building has an air which I hope to show can be called distinctly Wrightian.

Between the two commissions from Mr. Nunn Lepper must have become aware of Wright's work. The Wrightian influence is far from all-pervasive in Telluride House, but it exists to a degree which indicates that Lepper had more than just a superficial acquaintance with Wright's ideas. Telluride House cannot be compared to Wright's buildings of 1910 or even of 1903; the low, complex interlocking masses of the Robie and Willits houses are of an era of Wright's development which Lepper, if he understood, certainly did not emulate. Rather, to find similarities we must look to the almost archaic Wright architecture of the 1890's, best characterized by the Winslow house of 1893. It is in this early, monolithic, severely symmetrical architecture of Wright's that the greatest parallels with Telluride House can be seen.

Approaching Telluride House from any angle one is struck by a great flaw which Wright would never have allowed in any of his buildings; the House doesn't fit its site. Arbitrar-



ily imposed flaws can exist in any building. Many great medieval churches have been imposed upon by wholly incongruous "improvements," and even some of Wright's buildings, the Robie and Coonley houses for example, have been esthetically damaged by encroachments on their original lots. A difference here is that in a great building these injuries are the results of subsequent events beyond the control of the architect, while in a case like Telluride House the flaw is an initial lack of perception. The most basic problem is that Telluride House, a close copy of the Telluride Institute building, was designed originally for a spot half a continent away. Every building of Frank Lloyd Wright belongs to its site. Even the essentially cubical Winslow house sits perfectly on its suburban lot. Telluride House, however, perches on its gently sloping hill. The combination of its four story elevation and its sloping front lawn gives it an ultimately irremediable verticality foreign to any of Wright's Prairie houses.

The sense of precarious placement exists even from the back of the building, the one angle from which the contour

of the land does not exaggerate the House's height. The ground floor of the building is actually some feet below ground so that in order to provide ground floor access at the back there is a dry moat which runs the length of the building. From most rear angles one cannot see where building and ground meet, and this ambiguity is unsettling in a building as massive as Telluride House. The overall design is simply not suited to the land. If either Nunn or the architect had not been content simply to pull an old plan out of the files and use it basically unmodified, if they had cared to build a wider building, the lot could take it, so that it could be a story lower, if they had cared to make sure that the building sat rather than stood on its foundation, then they might have achieved a house that was *of its hill* rather than *on it*.

The exterior design of Telluride House cannot entirely overcome the basic failures of size and placement, yet it does much to alleviate these flaws, and it is this exterior frosting which is the element most evidently inspired by Wright. Although the House has four stories, there are only three major horizontal divisions below the cornice. A band of dark red brick extends around the House from the ground to the sills of the main floor where it is capped by a projecting stone band which is integral with window sills and the tops of the walls of the front porch. Above this low, dark band rises the middle and major horizontal element of the exterior. This band of light yellow-orange brick extends from the sill of the main floor to the sill of the third floor with no major horizontal interruption. There is no demarcation between either the first and second or second and third stories, and the second story sills are suppressed rather than accented. This major band is capped like the lower one by an encircling sill. The final narrow band, still in yellow brick, extends from the third floor sills to the marvelous, heavy, Sullivan-esque cornice.

The pronounced visual stratification of the facade accentuates the building's horizontality, and the ratios of the bands serve to lower it further. The bottom band is a necessary concession to the building's actual height. It must be considered as a foundation best left unnoticed though it is, of course, impossible to ignore altogether. This ground level band is made as inconspicuous as possible. Its dark red brick gives it a visual weight which makes it suitable as a foundation and also much less noticeable than the lighter yellow brick which characterizes the rest of the building. The House has even been sunk to the level of the ground floor window sills to keep this lowest band unobtrusively low, if not on a human scale at least in proportion to the rest of the building. It rises to the level of the main floor sills to preserve both the simple vertical ratio of 1:2:1:1 of the major visual elements and the ambiguity of floor demarcation. The two appendages not part of the basic monolith of the building which pierce the division between the two lower bands are the front porch and the porte cochere. Rather than try to integrate these potentially inconsistent structures, the architect separated them visually from the mass of the building by making them entirely of the red brick of the foundation. They do not clash with the basic scheme because they do not figure in it.

Above the ground level mass the yellow part of the building is very similar in its stratification to the Winslow House. Both elevations are composed of two visual bands, the lower one approximately twice the height of the upper. In neither building is the transition of floors marked, and in both the division between bands is at the level of the sill of the upper floor. In each band of both buildings, at least on the main

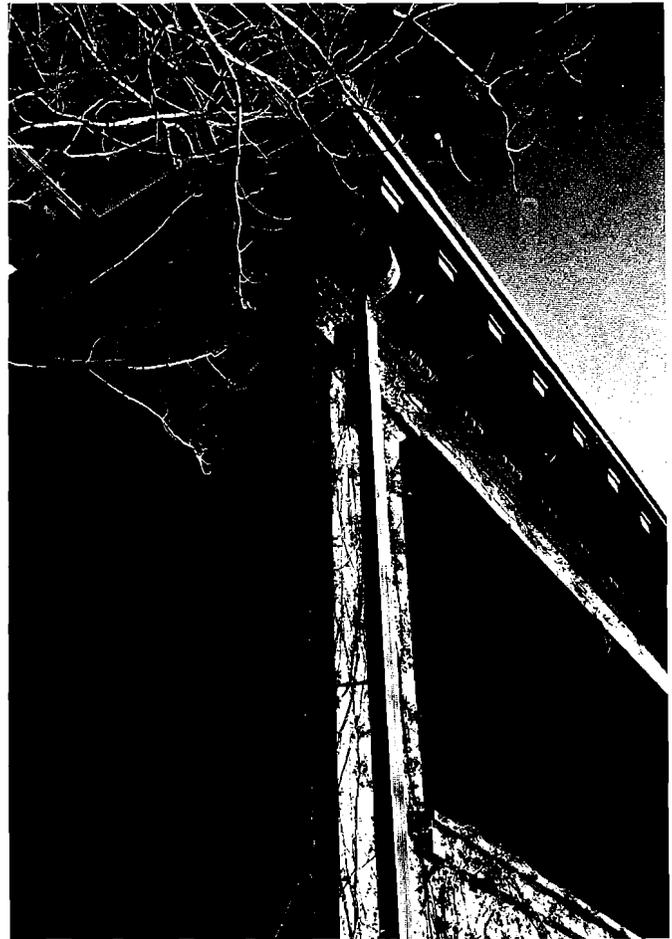
facade, an absolute symmetry of openings is followed. The major difference here between the Winslow house and Telluride is that Telluride fits three stories into a visual scheme which occupies only two in the Winslow house. At Telluride a great deal of juggling has to be done to get the ratios to come out right, the result of which on the interior will be seen later, but from the outside the admirable effect which is achieved is to fit three stories into a facade which "feels" like two again, discounting the foundation level.

On the already low Winslow house set on a perfectly flat lot this overall facade treatment succeeds brilliantly. On too tall Telluride House set on a hill, the effect is substantially lost. The only angle from which it really comes across is the front. The very narrow side elevations are almost square, so that even though the horizontal elements can be seen, they are ineffective. Furthermore, these elevations are closely bounded by a brook and a neighboring building so that one has to crane to see them, not an arrangement likely to enhance their horizontality.

The approach and entry to Telluride—these aspects of architecture were always very important to Wright—have been prejudiced both by the building's pre-determined configuration but more by later changes. The driveway which once swept up the side of the front lawn from what was once West Avenue, now a sidewalk in front of the House, now sneaks up from South Avenue and approaches the House, almost literally, through the garbage pavillion. Unflattering angles of the House seen from too close are one's first sight of Telluride, and even from the sweep of Campus Road the rather grubby back of the House can be seen much more clearly than the impressive front. The path of entry, however, has not been changed substantially, and it still follows an interesting and rather Wrightian progression. The front door is exactly where one would expect it to be in a building of Telluride's symmetry, in the middle of the main facade on the main floor, exactly where it is in the Winslow house. At Telluride, though, this location puts the door some ten feet above the ground, and the entryway is protected by the large, grandly proportioned front porch to which one must ascend.

Interior Structurally Determined

The interior of Telluride House is much less comprehensively Wrightian than the exterior which for all its weaknesses bears an undeniable similarity to early Wright. The interior is much too conventionally laid out, too severely compartmentalized to be basically Wrightian in its conception. A large part of the problem here is the structural rigidity of the plan. On the main floor is a grid of steel ceiling beams and verticals which dictate fairly closely the size and shapes of the rooms. Any room which extends for more than one span must expose a boxed ceiling beam, and since many of the interior walls at this level are load bearing, room size is all but pre-determined by structural necessity. This great lack of flexibility would never be permitted by Wright, yet the architect of Telluride did alleviate the inherent cubical isolation of the interior through some very Wrightian devices. The most apparent of these devices are a conscious control of spacial flow and a continuation of the indirect entry which is brought off so well on the outside. On entering the front door one finds himself in a large foyer. The directness of possible paths from the foyer varies with the importance of the destination. Across the room the main stairs sweep grandly upward to a well lit landing and on to the living quarters. The stairs to the ground floor dining and meeting rooms is covered and less obvious. To one's immediate right a large door leads to the important but seldom used ballroom, while further along to the right wall a much smaller door leads to the back stairs and the Association office. The most obvious entrance, however, is the wide arch to one's immediate left which opens on one end of the long central living room. The openness of this arch forms an interlocking space between the foyer and living room; the visi-



tor with no determined goal is almost forced to enter. In the living room too there are architectural suggestions for flow. Two large doors lead into the large, comfortable, corner music room which is a second center of activity in the House and, indeed, much less imposingly huge than the living room. From the music room, however, is a much smaller door which leads to the smaller, more secluded library.

No floor of Telluride is actually at ground level. From any major door one must either ascend or descend to reach the ground. It might be thought that the fusing of interior and exterior space, so important in buildings by Wright would be utterly lost in a building like Telluride whose main floor is ten feet above a downward sloping hill. Throughout most of the House a clear division of interior and exterior space does exist, but there is one area where there is a certain harmony. The front porch of Telluride has an ambiguous feeling of inside/outside. It is covered, and its beams and piers convey a strong sense of architecture, yet it is open, and from it one can see clearly not the immediately surrounding landscape but West Hill which rises on the other side of Ithaca. Four sets of French windows open on to the porch, and when they are open, the porch, the ambiguous area, becomes a part of the volume of the two rooms which lead off it. Especially in the living room where the French windows make up most of the western wall there is a visual link between the inside and the outside even when the doors are closed. On almost any day one can watch the sunset from the living room sofa.

A final very effective handling of space in Telluride House is one which, as far as I know, has no direct counterpart in any of Wright's early buildings; it is the central staircase. The special transition here is striking because it is so subtle. At no point on the stairs can one say for certain that he has left the main floor and entered the second. Of prime impor-

(continued on page 10)

tance is the fact that the area above the foyer is less like a room than a deep balcony. Almost as soon as one begins to climb one moves out from under the ceiling of the main floor, from the edge of the balcony, into a huge stairwell which is as high as the ceiling of the second floor. It is likely that this well would have been continued deeper into the building to the very base of the stairs except for a structural beam which had to be covered. A three sided bay bulges from the rear facade of the House to accommodate the stairs, and in this bay, half way between the first and second floor, is the landing, as wide as the foyer, an intermediate and interlocking space. Three huge stained glass windows illuminate the whole area. The stair ascends to the landing from one side and ascends from it on the other, so that from the middle of the landing one can look beyond the central well caused by the turning of the stair and see almost equally well both upper and lower spaces.

Beyond this point the House lapses into comfortable ordinariness, and the only thing that can be learned from the second and third floors is the astonishing way in which the interior is forced to conform to pre-determined exterior symmetry. The main floor has properly high ceilings which fit the scale of its large public rooms. The second floor has much lower ceilings which are also fairly well proportioned to the smaller size of the student and faculty rooms. The third floor, however, has again ceilings nearly as high as the main floor, and here the almost cubical proportions of the rooms are distinctly wrong. The only justification for this expensive destruction of interior proportion is the demand for proper exterior proportion.

Here then is Telluride House, a living example of the influence of even the young Frank Lloyd Wright on American architecture. The House could never really be mistaken for a Wright building, yet its utilization of Wrightian ideas does go beyond the superficial use of narrow facing brick and the porte cochere. Perhaps the greatest compliment that could be paid to Telluride House was the comment of the Tellurider at the University of Chicago who, stumbling accidentally upon the Robie house, remarked, "Now where have I seen that before?"

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Alumni Participation *(continued)*

should be information specifically for the area committees on recruitment policies, past experiences, suggested contacts in local schools, and interviewing and screening techniques. . .

3. The Application process should be decentralized. . .

4. As the personal recruitment system becomes established and the reliability of area committees is confirmed, a quota system should be used, guaranteeing committees representing a large population base that some proportion of the final TASP selection will come from their area. . .

Finally I would note that I, as one of the few members from the Northwest, am beginning to feel gripped by that ennui which seems to be a squared function of the distance from Ithaca. Like others so afflicted I have begun to feel that unless the Association can be made an interesting and rewarding activity for an extended membership, unless it can be remodeled on a national basis, so that its affairs actively concern its remote alumni and associates and so that these same people are given productive roles in its regular functions, my membership is of little value. The annual convention is not a satisfactory answer: travel is costly, time is scarce, and the costs owing to discontinuities are great. Given the talent enlisted in Telluride, we ought to be more productive, but to be more productive, we must use our resources more effectively.

I remain,

(condensed from original)

sincerely yours,
ERIC V. SWANSON

Kudos For . . .



Francis Fukuyama (TA71) and Paul Stockton (Lincoln Scholar) have been elected to the Cornell University Senate.

1972 Lincoln Scholar
RICHARD COTTAM
(TA70)



Francis Perkins Scholar:

Chester Katz

Mossner Scholar:

Jeff Boyd

Phi Beta Kappa:

Steve Sestanovich (TA69) Joel Schwartz (TA69)

IN MEMORIAM

D. L. BRUNDIGE

Pinhead

Joining Telluride Power Company in 1907 as an electrical engineer, D. L. Brundige continued his career with Utah Power and Light when that company absorbed Telluride in 1913. Upon his retirement, he had these words to say concerning the early years of Nunnian enterprise:

"This technical field of industry pushes well beyond the capacity of single individuals. In no field are duties more fully shared. We did more than create electricity. We bred a tradition—an atmosphere of mutual trust and regard."

News of Telluride Associates and Friends

■ *Dr. Frederick E. Balderston* (TA42) has been named Chairman of the Center for Research in Management Science at the University of California at Berkeley.

■ Those of you who were distressed at the apparent namelessness of the Blair scion will be relieved to hear that he is Philip Joseph Blair, III, what else?

■ Former Deep Springs faculty member, Warren Carrier, more recently Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at San Diego State, is now Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

■ "I am, alas, still a student," writes *Kathy Frankovic* (TASP63). "However, I expect to finish my dissertation by September 1973: 'The Effect of Religion and Ethnic Group Identification on Political Attitudes.' This year I've been teaching at Livingston—'Religion and Ethnic Politics,' and 'Comparative Ethnic Politics.' No more teaching next year—only the dissertation!"

■ *Patricia Ann Madsen* (TASP66) is enthusiastically helping in the preparation of materials for a Denver-based University Without Walls as it seeks status in the North Central Association. She expects to receive her degree in 1973.

■ The Los Angeles World Affairs Council has announced the appointment of *Raymond G. McKelvey* (TA28) as Director of Special Projects. Recently retired as professor of political science at Occidental College, he also moderates a weekly public service program, "The American Way," over station KFI, Los Angeles.

■ Sarah Elizabeth Noll was born to *Stephen* and *Peggy Noll* on March 2, 1972. Steve (TA67) is to be ordained priest in the Episcopal Church May 28, 1972.

■ Dean and Director of Deep Springs, *Randall Reed* (DS49) has an article entitled "Detritus" in the current issue of *The New American Review*.

■ *Jacob Sheinkman* (TA49) has been appointed by Cornell President Dale Corson to a special committee charged with the responsibility "... to study the status of women students, faculty members and employees at Cornell and to make appropriate recommendations concerning that status."

■ Professor *Marc Szeftel* (CBG) writes, "Since I have left Cornell in 1961 I have published two books, 24 articles, and a certain number of reviews. I will be retiring from teaching here next June. No long term plans for the future have been set so far, but for the academic year 1972-73 they have been laid out by Cambridge University (Clare Hall) which offered me a research fellowship."

■ *Lee Talbot* (DS50) is serving in the Executive Office of the President as Senior Scientist to the President's Council on Environmental Quality. *Newsletter* readers who saw the *New York Times* of 11 March may also have noted that Dr. Talbot is a member of what the *Times* called a "gilt-edged board of trustees" of The Research Ranch, an 8,000 acre former cattle ranch in Arizona now undergoing transformation into an ecological preserve.

■ If you read the *Village Voice* you will see the theatre reviews by *Marty Washburn* (TA53).

■ *Ed Whitfield* (CB67) is teaching mathematics and mechanical drawing at Malcolm X Liberation University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In the News

New York Times, 28 March 1972: *William J. vandenHeuvel*, [TA48] Chairman of New York Mayor John Lindsay's State-City Relations Committee is quoted by *Times* writer Martin Tolchin as claiming "The state is run like a banana republic—three or four people make all the decisions." The accusation was made during the presentation of a report calling for an intergovernmental budgetary commission which would make possible continual communication between state and local officers, public hearings on the state budget, changes in budget categories and what vandenHeuvel characterized as "... neighborhood input into the budget-making process."

Press Office, Supreme Court of the United States, 21 March 1972: The appointment of *Mark W. Cannon*, [DS44] Director of the Institute of Public Administration, New York City, to the newly-created position of Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice of the United States, effective May 15 (1972), was announced today by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger.

The purpose of the new position is to assist the Chief Justice in the first instance in administrative and other non-judicial matters pertaining to the Federal court system which may be delegated to him by The Chief Justice. The development and implementing of administrative innovations to improve Federal court operations will be emphasized in this position.

Dr. Cannon has worked for the Institute of Public Administration for eight years. IPA, founded in 1906, is the oldest center for public administration research and training in the United States. It has pioneered many modern governmental administrative improvements.

The Administrative Assistant will assist The Chief Justice in a wide range of matters dealing with the Judicial Conference and its committees and with the Federal Judicial Center.

The executive co-authored a book on the "Makers of Public Policy" and several studies on executive development and administrative and policy innovation.

TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER

Editors

LeGrace Benson

Joel Schwartz

Deep Springs Correspondent

Bill Sullivan

Photos: page 3, 8, 9, 10, 12, John Kristensen; pages 6, 7 Russell Hamilton, Cornell O.P.I.

ALL YOUR NEWS THAT FITS!

(Using a magnifying glass)

send us news of travels, honors, publications, etc., etc.

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