Erosion of Capital Base?

RISC Ponders Renovations

by Brian Kennedy, TA 63

If its life is to be "perpetual," the Association ought to enjoy an extended stream of real spendable income. But will it? Particularly in view of the high rates of American price inflation since about 1965, is the Association now preserving an adequate real capital base of growing and/or income-producing assets?

The 1973 Convention raised an eyebrow at the evaporation of Association funds. From May, 1965 to May, 1973, the real value of the trust fund (adjusted for inflation) has declined by a startling 30%. Real reserves have declined even further. By contrast, during the same period real investment income has actually risen by 6%, and expenditures have been vigorous.

Existing policy makes some de facto dipping into capital possible: investment can be geared to income rather than to capital growth. Noting that certain features of our spendable income formula might be counterproductive during period of inflation, 1973 Convention wondered whether the present formula was "passing through" to spendable income too much of the trust fund's total return (investment income plus growth), at the expense of the long-term stability of real principal.

Such ruminations were suggestive but obviously inconclusive. The result was a new Convention-appointed standing committee: the Real Income Study Committee (RISC). This committee's mandate is "to review the Association's spendable income formula and concomitant reserve structure, with particular attention to the level and growth-rate of the Association's real spendable income, real investment income, and real capital." Its members are Brian Kennedy (chairman), Henry Higuera, Paul Patterson, Martin Sitte, and Abram Shulsky.

Multi-Lingual Faculty Guests

Animate Cornell Branch Life

by Kathleen Sullivan, CB 72

The excitement level is high at Telluride House as the year begins, largely because its faculty guests are so engaging, and so willing to be engaged in conversation with housemembers. They've sparked a House atmosphere marked by frequent and often animated discussions.

Prof. Martin Bernal, government, Prof. Shlomo Avineri, visiting in government, and Prof. Julia Kristeva, visiting in French, are our cosmopolitan company: Bernal is British, and has a double appointment at Kings' College, Cambridge, and at Cornell; Avineri is Israeli, and teaches at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Kristeva is Bulgarian, but has lived in France for several years, and teaches at the University of Paris.

A number of housemembers are taking Prof. Avineri's course in Marx and socialist thought, and/or Prof. Bernal's course in Chinese government and politics. Some of those qui peuvent comprendre francais are attending Prof. Kristeva's lectures on semiotics and on Mallarme and French literature at the end of the 19th century.

But it is probably Telluride's "kitchen education" that many housemembers enjoy most—it's often over late night nibbling in the kitchen, or at coffee after dinner, that our faculty guests are most talkative. Cultural comparison is usually the most ready direction of conversation, which ranges from such things as how family ethics in America and in communal societies differ to how the world's languages differ. Housemembers collectively know something of French, German, Italian, Czech, Russian, Latin, Greek, Dutch, Hebrew, Arabic, and English, but all our faculty guests are genuinely polyglot, and so one often hears talk about talking.

The faculty guests' influence on the House, though, extends beyond isolated conversations. Their subjects have become to a large degree the House's subjects, so much so that a map of China graces the wall of one of the third floor bathrooms.

In anticipation of Prof. Avineri's and Prof. Kristeva's arrival, two excellent seminars were given. In the first week of the term, housemember Joseph Schwartz conducted a seminar on Marx which centered on Prof. Avineri's book, Karl Marx: Social & Political Thought. Prof. Philip Lewis, chairman of the French department, gave the House an introduction to Prof. Kristeva's thought which focused on two of her books.

Prof. Bernal occasionally sings, in a marvelous tenor, some of his infinite repertory of Scottish, Irish, and English ballads, and it is very good to hear singing in the House again, though the halcyon days of the Telluride Brothers—Dolliver, Epstein and Higuera—were ended by last year's graduation.

continued on page two

Custodians in session at their October 13th meeting in Ithaca.

continued on page three
The excitement level at Telluride House in temporary eclipse. Denis Clark, Cornell Branch President and Treasurer, presides over his somnolent constituents. Other House officers for the Fall term are: Paul Patterson, Vice-president; Katharine Eisaman, Secretary; Francis Fukuyama, 1st Ad Com; Henry Higuera, 2nd Ad Com.

Sherry receptions have brought many of Telluride's faculty friends to the House already, and the FGRC calendar continues to grow. Alumnus Paul Szasz spent several days with us also, when he was at Cornell to give a talk at the Law School.

The early days of the term always offer time for diversions before the onslaught of academic work, and many housemembers spent their time at the movies, and often argued over them in the kitchen when they got home. There was also a House-wide trip to Cornell Cinema to see Truffaut's *Jules et Jim*, on which Prof. Neil Hertz led a seminar over wine and cheese afterwards.

Regular public speaking has been taking place, on such diverse topics as pornography and the first amendment, Freud and imprinting, labor management, Kant's ethics, and Lyckenko's genetic miscalculations.

Beyond all this formal and informal House activity, housemembers have been on at least one occasion collectively reflective on the nature and goals of the House. Long discussion took place at a housemeeting at which it was proposed that house officers be selected by lot rather than by election. The motion was defeated by a large margin, but the discussion and thought it prompted were salutary.

And as L. L. Nunn's sobering gaze bears down upon us from the mantelpiece where his photo rests, life at Telluride goes on, different and yet the same.

**TELLURIDE NEWSLETTER**

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

Editors
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Marilyn Migiel
Kathleen Sullivan

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Photographs: pages, 1, 2, 9 Ruth Seligson; pages 3, 10, Denis Clark; pages 5, 7, Lynn McCloud; page 6, Carl Kay; page 12, NASA photo, courtesy Denis Clark.

**Michael Echueru a Summer Visitor to Cornell, House**

Cornell Branch TASPers this summer had the opportunity to meet Michael Echueru, CB63, who was in Ithaca to deliver lectures sponsored by the Cornell Summer Session and the Cornell Alumni University. This was Echueru's first trip to the United States since the end of the Biafran Civil War, during which he did communications work with the Biafran Army. He was one of the beneficiaries of the general amnesty proclaimed at the close of the war, and returned then to his profession of teaching English at the University of Nigeria in Nsukka, where he has been chairman of his department for the past two years.

Executive Secretary Bea MacLeod was among those who attended the TASP evening; she expressed the feeling, apparently shared by the TASPers, of high drama in Echueru's calm recital of day-to-day experiences in that extraordinary period. He emphasized in particular the psychological effect on Biafrans of fighting a losing battle, and of their determination and passionate persistence despite terrible odds. He spoke also of the problems of having to manage with next to nothing because of the Nigerian blockade—for example, the Rube Goldberg airplanes with which the Biafran air force was obliged to make do.

Echueru was married in 1968 to a medical officer in the Biafran army, and their first child was born in the Spring of 1969. They have had three more children since the end of the war. Mrs. Echueru is on the staff of the University's Teaching Hospital.

**Thirteen 1973 TASPers Given Pre-Convention Preferment**

The following members of the 1973 Summer Programs were granted Pre-Convention Preferment at the PCPC meeting on October 7th:
Derek Berger, Cornell I
Susan Bianconi, Cornell I
Daniel Golden, Cremona
Jody Hochberg, Cremona
Andrea Kavaler, Cornell I
Rachel Kreier, Cornell II
Shelda Maier, Cornell II
Edward Mansfield, Cornell II
Allan Nairn, Cornell II
Julie Neisser, Cornell II
Jenny Oliensis, Cornell II
Rolf Schelander, Deep Springs
Jonathan Simon, Cornell II

Telluride Newsletter
Alumni Survey Finds Shift in Membership Career Choice

By 1964, Issue Largely Academic

Responding to a question posed by Norton Dodge, Executive Secretary Bea MacLeod surveyed the occupations of Telluride Association members from 1914 to 1969 to determine (1) the ratio of academic to non-academic careers chosen by the membership; and (2) the extent to which this ratio has been affected since Summer Programs were initiated and they became the Association's chief avenue of recruitment of new members.

It will come as a surprise to no one to learn that more Association members are choosing academic careers now than did in the past. The figures which follow will show the extent of the change. Since the occupations of living members only were surveyed, the figures from the early years of the Association will tell less than the whole story; complete figures referred to are those in which a member was actually elected to membership. Thus the survey considers only those members elected through 1969, since careers of those elected since 1970 were undecided when the survey was taken.

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<th>Academic</th>
<th>Non-Academic</th>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>185</td>
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<td>1914-1929</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>1930-1939</td>
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<td>1950-1959</td>
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<td>1960-1969</td>
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As these figures show, the trend toward academic careers began in the 50's; in fact, as if to make it clear what lay ahead, 1950 produced 6 academicians to one "non." Nevertheless, the issue remained unclear until the 1960's. The climax of the academic revolution came in 1964: of 10 people elected to membership that year, 9 chose academic careers. Things appear to be leveling off a bit now: for 1968 members, the ratio was 4 to 4, although for 1969 members it rose to 7 to 3.

Telluride was of course not the only institution to experience an academic explosion during the 1960's. Those were the years when record percentages of college graduates went on to graduate school; universities increasingly turned their attention to graduate education, and by expanding their graduate faculties seemed to bear witness to the employability of people with Ph.D.'s. If the harsher realities of the '70's significantly lower the ratio of academic to non-academic career choices among Association members, then we might conclude that the trend of the figures above is a phenomenon less of Telluride Association than of college students in general.

But it seems more likely that there is also a very strong correlation between the inception of Summer Programs and the trend toward academic careers. By using high verbal aptitude scores as one of its chief criteria for identifying potential applicants to the Summer Programs, the Association certainly much insures that program members will have a strong interest in reading, writing, and talking about books — perhaps to the point of making it the business of the rest of their lives.

In Memoriam

WILLIAM F. COURTNEY, TA12, June 23, 1973
ROBERT G. JACKSON, DS37, May 10, 1973
WALTER S. JENNENS, October, 1973

RISC continued from page one

One important tool for RISC will be a new series of investment-performance statistics. So-called "unit values" or "net asset values" have now been calculated for Association assets, retroactive to May, 1972. These figures are just like the mutual funds' unit values. In the jargon, they provide "time-weighted" rather than "dollar-weighted" rates of return. Regularly calculated by the Members to Assist, unit values will automatically summarize one main part of the Association's financial history.

Percentages changes in unit values represent an important "limiting case": what total return the trust fund would have achieved if the Association had directly re-invested all its investment income back in the trust fund, rather than drawing it out. Given such statistics, one can consider what proportion of our total investment return is being eaten up by inflation—which is to say, how much of our total return we can afford to spend without depleting real capital.

The Association's programs of course depend crucially on investment return and on contributions received. If it determines that investment return should be handled differently, RISC will suggest alternate methods for the Association to get spendable income from where it is to where it ought to be. But whatever its findings, RISC will make them known before the 1974 Convention.
Frank C. Noon, 1883-1973

Word of the death of Frank C. Noon in July reached the Newsletter just as it was going to press, making possible an announcement only of the fact itself. However, Mr. Noon’s long attachment to Telluride and to Deep Springs in particular warrants further Newsletter comment.

Mr. Noon was a friend and associate of L. L. Nunn from 1900 until Nunn’s death, a recipient of scholarship aid from the Association’s predecessor, Telluride Institute, a member of the 1911 Constitutional Convention, and the first Chancellor of Telluride Association, in which position he served until after L.L.’s death. In 1926 he went into the savings and loan business and spent more than 20 years with the former Federal Home Loan Bank in Los Angeles, of which he was the first President. But he maintained his contact with the Nunnian enterprises, serving for many years as a director of the Telluride Power Company, and as a Trustee of Deep Springs from its inception until his death.

Some personal reminiscences about Noon are being prepared for the Deep Springs Newsletter by old friends and associates from the early years of the College. A few excerpts from TA minutes will serve here to illustrate the rigorous standards, incisiveness, and conviction which he brought to the first Chancellorship.

From the 1914 minutes, his commentary on Cornell Branch life:

Regarded in a broad way, the work of the Cornell Branch has this year been a failure. During the first semester, few of the members were sufficiently devoted to a purpose to be free from the attractions of those things which make the accomplishment of desirable results impossible. Cigarette smoking in the house was the rule, drinking to excess was not uncommon, and the doctrine of learning by experience how alcohol appeals to some men was fairly common. In November, rules were adopted prohibiting excess drinking and the use of cigarettes in the house. These rules, however, amounted to little or nothing, as every smoker, except two, used cigarettes when not in the house, thus living up to the letter of the regulations, and violating what has been supposed to be a part of the fundamental law of the Association. Low scholarship was a natural and logical result.

Next, from the Chancellor’s Report for 1921, comes this passage in which he looks back on his 20 years’ connection with Nunn’s Association:

... My idea in recalling and going over in my mind, month by month and year by year, all the events of the twenty years, was to determine, if I could, what has made it all worth while, and the answer is the purpose and the idealism of it. The men I met in the beginning were of all sorts. Many were of the rough-and-ready, pioneer Western type; others from long settled New England. There was no river of gold, but instead the most bitter sort of a struggle to make one dollar do the work of two. I recognize that time has softened and erased from my memory much that was undesirable, and that there was in the situation materialism of the worst sort, sordidness, discouragement and bitterness, but looking back over it all, the thing which stands out, giving the whole work dignity, is the very large element of selfless service, the purpose to do something worthwhile without any direct thought of personal profit. Without that spirit, I firmly believe that nothing worth while could have been accomplished, and that with the material odds against it, the organization would have long ago disappeared. All that kept it going, all that built up not one, but several industries, all that made possible the community of interest on which Telluride Association was founded, was a willingness to do something for someone else.

Finally, in another retrospective from the 1924 minutes:

A frank facing of the truth leads to the conclusion that in thirteen years, a period long enough for some results, nothing of any outstanding value has been produced by the Cornell Branch. Each year we have had a nice lot of fellows, whose scholarship and social accomplishments have successfully improved, but they all seem to have graduated into very respectable, ordinary citizens. It would be folly to long continue to spend about twice as much per individual as is required for mediocre results, and unless we seem to be approaching a goal, it behoves us to check our course frequently.

As these minutes suggest, Mr. Noon’s enthusiasm was most easily stirred by the Western version of the Telluride experience, and it was there that he concentrated his attention after leaving the Chancellorship. Those who had contacts with him during his last years were impressed by his kindly disposition, never-failing courtliness, and keen interest in the details of any project of which he became informed. His interest in education and the personal development of youth was straightforward and sincere. Within the limits of his health, he was active until the last in fund-raising work for Deep Springs.

**CORRECTION**

Deep Springs College informs us that the name of Robert B. Aird was omitted from the list published in the July Newsletter of those who contributed to Deep Springs during the 1972-73 New Funds Drive.
Cremona TASP Experiment Succeeds
Topic, Personnel, Site Credited

by Henry Higuera, TA 71

The Public Policy TASP at Cremona Farm is now history. In its conception and organization, this program differed in many ways from any program that we had ever run; and, as it turned out, these differences helped provide for an experience that differed in significant respects from those to be had in Cornell or even Deep Springs TASPs. Now the formal written evaluations are all in from those who ran it and lived through it — the faculty, the factotums, and the students themselves. Facing TASP Board is the task of judging the success of the program, not only on its own merits but also in comparison with the strengths and weaknesses known to be attributes of the other programs.

The 1973 Convention had resolved to run the program again in 1974, barring any mishaps or general failure serious enough to convince us or Professor Dodge that it would be imprudent to do so. We certainly did not encounter anything of that sort this summer. In fact, many of the advantages of the site turned out just as valuable as had been hoped; and most of the potential problems associated with the site or the organizational complexity of the program either were not serious or simply never emerged. Probably the most valuable physical aspect turned out to be Cremona’s proximity to Washington, D.C. Even though it was still about an hour’s drive from the city, there turned out to be a great number of people who were eager to come and speak to a group of students such as ours on many facets of the environmental situation. The field trips were not an unqualified success; but Prof. Dodge’s efforts in lining them all up were rewarded by at least a couple of very good experiences. Prof. Dodge had also assuaged fears about the effects of a lack of library at Cremona by promising that a “modest” library would be ready by the time the students arrived; what he finally assembled was a mammoth collection of books, periodicals, articles, and government publications on the environmental issue.

There are undeniable disadvantages to Cremona’s isolated situation (5 miles from Mechanicville, 20 miles from the nearest genuine town), which cropped up mostly as chronic annoyances for the factotums-turned-errand boys. There are also disadvantages to the living situation within the farm: four separate student cabins, with nothing remotely the size of the Branch’s public rooms to serve as centers of informal activity. Neither of these are at all decisive objections, however.

Clearly, the main thing that distinguished this program from others we’ve run was the type of question the students were exposed to and the intensity with which they were exposed to it. The “environmental problem” is a vastly complicated, often very technical one, and Prof. Carlos Stern, director of the program, was determined that the kids be exposed to at least the main angles. There was a steady stream of visitors, films, and extra articles on the environment; there was but one formal speaker on an “outside” topic, and that was inflation and unemployment. This level of concentration had its benefits: it is evident that the students learned an impressive amount. However it also had its costs: the students were not exposed formally to the same breadth of topic to which they are at a Cornell TASP, and they didn’t get the stimuli which would lead them to try their hands at literary, ethical, and political theory or writing so characteristic of the best TASPs in the past. These deficiencies are by no means to be shrugged off; however it does not follow that the Cremona program can never be a “good TASP” on its own separate grounds. What will ultimately determine the worth of this program is not how close it can be made to a Cornell TASP, but how well it can utilize a unique situation to give its students a unique experience. Uniqueness, of course, is not necessarily a virtue; but that this and future TASP Boards will have to decide is how fair comparisons can be made at all, and how the many notable successes achieved by this first Cremona program can be incorporated into and enrich the Association’s conception of its own purpose and that of its TASPs.
The 1973 Cornell TASPs exuded an overwhelming amount of energy. There was a strong sense of community, a large number of informal discussions and extra-seminar activities, and a general feeling of satisfaction afterwards on the part of faculty and TASPers.

The two seminars were "The Society and the Novel" and "Democracy in America." Cornell I, taught by W. Peter Wetherbee of the Cornell English Department and E. Jay O'Callahan, a free-lance writer, and factotumed by Ruth Seligson, focused on such works as Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby, Conrad's Heart of Darkness, Camus' The Plague, and Agee's Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, among others. Cornell II TASPs also devoted part of their seminar activity to their creative writing. Cornell II was taught by Glen and Sarah Thurow (now at the University of Georgia) with Francis Fukuyama as factotum; their seminar dealt with Aristotle, Locke, Hobbes, the Federalists, Jefferson, and more. Both seminars were held from 9:00 a.m. to noon on weekdays, but they were hardly the only focus of intellectual activity within the programs.

Public speaking was successful in that everybody gave a speech, and the mini-lecture on one figure (for example, Dylan Thomas, Savanarola, Garcia Lorca, Charles Mesmer, William Alfred Lawson, Jean Genet, and Geoffrey of Monmouth) seemed most popular. There were many guest speakers (though they were not, strictly speaking, part of the public speaking program). Neil Hertz led a discussion of Bergman's Cries and Whispers; Werner Dannhauser gave a seminar on Yeats's poem, "Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop"; Dan Fogel read some of his own poetry. LeGrace Benson spoke on American photography and painting, Will Provine spoke on the problem of giving political power to scientists, Michael Echern spoke on Biafra, Isaac Kramnick on Watergate, Martin Bernal on the history and government of China, and Myron Rush on international affairs.

More informal but structured activities were the two play-readings (Othello and The Taming of the Shrew) prior to the Stratford trip, Franktotum's Greek classes (in which he taught "the alphabet and a few roots," but which gave TASPers a chance to read The Clouds and Lysistrata in translation), politics lecture-seminars given daily by one of the TASPers, a Chaucer seminar given at the request of a group of Cornell I TASPers, TASP-organized performances of a play or two, a trip to the Synchotron, and Sarah Thurow's seminars on Rousseau's Second Discourse, which were permanently postponed by the birth of Calen Thurow during the last week of the program.

All of this activity failed to slow down the TASPers, who seemed to derive a certain glee from outdoing Frank and themselves by staying up late night after night, playing violent games of ping-pong, spending long hours at the Rosebud Diner annoying the employees, or playing practical jokes on the factotums and headwaiter—not to mention numerous intra-TASP pranks, which, luckily enough, became long-standing jokes and not much more. About the end of the second week, someone (certainly not a TASPer, though I don't remember who) decided to have a work program. The grass was cut, the lines were repainted on the tennis court, the first floor was cleared, windows washed, sidewalks swept, and the kitchen cleaned—though I dare to add that none of this lasted too long.

Having outlined the activity, one strains toward what it means, or how good it was. Even during the first weeks of this Summer Program, the glitter of the 1971 TASP—about which many of them had heard—blinded them from afar, and they expressed doubts about whether they were as good as former programs. Judging from the number of PCPC applicants (all but five from the Cornell Programs applied to the House), I would say that sentiment about their own program remained high. In her program report, Ruth Seligson wrote, "If TASPs are to be judged according to the participants' assessments of their own intellectual and emotional growth, then this summer's program was a very successful one indeed." If TASPs are judged according to the participants' interest in the House, then this program was even more successful. Finally, the House is quite optimistic about its PCPC candidates; perhaps this TASP will receive an even higher rating when its PCPC acceptees arrive as freshmen next year.

Jenny Olensis and Nick Olcott perform Tennessee Williams's "Mooney's Kid Don't Cry."
Deep Springs Correspondent
Views Summer Program, Fall Term
by Steven Sonnenberg, DS 73

The new scholastic year is well underway at Deep Springs and with the second term nearly completed, things are beginning to pick up. A new first year class of twelve students has settled in, four second year students have returned and another will join us soon, and the third year class has four returning members. Elections were held long into the night at the September 14th Student Body Meeting and while third year men Bruce Hamilton and David Pederson were elected President and Labor Commissioner, the remaining five positions went to first year men. Brooks Coville was elected to the Board of Trustees, Roy Williams was appointed to the Application Committee and John Sledd to the Reinvitation Committee, Bob Clark became our new Treasurer, and Leonard Loomis, after serving a term as Treasurer which will long be remembered by this year’s class, was given a second chance and elected Secretary.

A Student Body Safety Committee has been chartered in response to new OSHA standards which have been recognized as applying to Deep Springs, and work has begun on updating the safety standards of the college and initiating their enforcement. Inspections of the ranch have been made by the committee and precautionary measures are being taken where safety hazards have been found to exist.

This summer’s TASP, a seminar on the Idea of Community, was considered a very successful one by those participating. Peter Miller from the University of California at Santa Cruz assisted Dean Randall Reid in organizing the TASP and we benefitted from several guest instructors who were Deep Springs Alumni. The TASPers took several trips along with the older students, including a week-long trip to the Sierra Nevada and one to the Eureka Valley sand dunes, all of which helped to make it a very good summer.

This term’s calendar has also been an interesting and varied one academically. Randall Reid is instructing the new students in English Composition and all the students in Public Speaking. Günter Sommer has made his return visit to Deep Springs quite profitable to us by holding seminars on Myth and Community and an Introduction to Philosophy.

JoAnn Smith has been responsible for making this term much more enjoyable musically. Along with teaching two Music Theory courses and Opera, she deserves credit for several musical events within the community. Included among these was a concert featuring Mrs. Smith on harpsicord and Lili Lamp on recorder. Third year student Dan Pritchett gave recitals on alto saxophone and recorder, accompanied by Mrs. Smith on piano and harpsicord. Her largest project has been the organization of the majority of the students and part of the staff into the Deep Springs Collegium Musicum, to give its premier performance on October 6th, the program consisting of scenes from Weber’s Freischiitz and several choral works. There is little doubt that it will prove to be quite a successful evening.

The new Deep Springs library addition will be dedicated on November 16th to David Mossner, an alumnus who was killed in Vietnam. Ernest C. Mossner will be here as a guest speaker and Raymond Stone, a Piute Indian from Owens Valley, will donate a sculpture he has carved for this occasion to the college.

Four Charolais calves have been born at the dairy, two of which were twins, the alfalfa has been harvested and a new field planted, and all the cattle have been brought down from the mountains to spend the winter in the valley. Spirits are high and it appears that we can look forward to a good year at Deep Springs.

IS DEEP SPRINGS COLLEGE HARD TO FIND?

Well, actually, yes — but it’s there, in the photograph on page 12. Look for the little speck which under magnification shows up as a big speck. Prizes, yet to be determined, will be awarded those who most accurately pinpoint the college in the photograph. Deep Springers can expect a handicap. Clip the photo and return to the Newsletter, TA, 217 West Ave., Ithaca, N. Y. 14850. News notes on the reverse of the photo are also acceptable.
Israeli Visitor Interviewed on Zionism, Mid-East Conflict

Shlomo Avineri, Professor of Political Science at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, was a visiting professor in Government at Cornell for the opening weeks of the fall term, and a Cornell Branch guest during that time. He is the author of Karl Marx: Social & Political Thought, and of Hegel's Theory of the Modern State; has compiled an anthology of material on the Middle East and on Marx's writings on the underdeveloped world, and has written numerous articles. Professor Avineri had planned an American lecture tour after completing his Cornell course, but cancelled it at the outbreak of fighting in the Middle East to return to Israel. Before leaving he gave the following interview to Jeremy Rubkin, TA71.

Q: Would you describe yourself as in some sense a Marxist? Whatever reservations you may have about some aspects of Marx's thought, would you say that your general political outlook, your long-range hopes and expectations or your ideas about current political practice derive in some fundamental way from Marx—at least as you interpret Marx?

A: Since I'm not sure if I know what a Marxist is, because there are so many varying and various descriptions of Marxism and Marxists, I find some difficulty in answering that question in a flat yes or no. However, I certainly think that a number of the problems raised by Marx, as well as some of the criticisms made by him of modern industrial society, pose some very direct and sometimes some very basic issues with which we have to come to terms; and the ways in which Marx tried to attack those issues appeal to me theoretically very much. If I were going to characterize myself as anything it would be as...as an ecclectic, who is very much impressed by some of the issues raised by Marx but nonetheless also impressed by other political philosophers like Hegel and Plato.

Q: Would you describe yourself as a Zionist—that is by conviction, rather than simply by the circumstance of living in Israel?

A: I have difficulty with that one because people in Israel do not describe themselves as Zionist. Zionism—the way, at least, that term is used in Israel—is a position taken up by a Jewish person living outside of Israel which relates to living in Israel. The self-image of the Israeli Jew is not that of a Zionist but of an Israeli, and certainly from that point of view I very much view myself as part of the Israeli political scene—or if you wish to refer to Zionism as Jewish nationalism, the answer is yes, very much yes.

Q: Well, for example, you were actually not born in Israel—you were born in Poland, isn't that right? Were you old enough at the time that your family moved to Palestine to be aware of that as a conscious commitment to the idea of a Jewish state? Might you have preferred to emigrate to the United States rather than to Israel?

A: Well, I was always very precocious, but at the age of five when my family moved to Palestine, British Palestine as it then was, the question didn't really arise—so from that point of view, I'm very much in the same position and at the same level of consciousness as someone who was actually born there.

Q: How do you understand Zionism? Doesn't it necessarily imply some form of Jewish particularism—and in that case can one be a true Zionist as well as a true socialist?

A: Well, the way I understand Zionism is as Jewish or Israeli nationalism. It is as unique as any other form of nationalism; in so far as it implies particularism it implies particularism as much as French nationalism does so. I just don't see any difference between someone who considers himself an Israeli and someone who considers himself a Frenchman, or for that matter a Norwegian, or a Ghanaian or an Egyptian. I don't see any conflict between being a Zionist and a socialist: you can be a right-wing Zionist or a Zionist and a Communist or a Zionist and anything else.

Q: But do you regard Zionism as simply a political movement? Could it be justified on political grounds, alone? Do you think it can be distinguished in this sense from any other nationalist movement? Does it have—or does it perhaps even require—a significant religious dimension?

A: No, it need have no religious dimension to it whatsoever. The majority of people in Israel are not religious—which sometimes shocks the archtypical American Jewish person who identifies his Jewishness in terms of a religious adherence. There would be only about 20% to 30% of the population in Israel who would view themselves as being religiously Jewish; the rest would view themselves as relating to the Jewish people on a secular, nationalist basis. Obviously part of that relation does encompass historically the religious dimension to Judaism in history in the same way as being a Greek nationalist in the 19th Century had something to do with Greek Orthodoxy. Or being an Irish nationalist, I would guess, has something to do with Catholicism—but you can still be secular while referring to that part of the national heritage that is part of the historical content of that nationalism. There is necessarily no religious component to Zionism; as a matter of fact, it was precisely at the time when religion ceased to be the main component of Judaism, after secularization, Enlightenment and the emergence of a secular Jewish consciousness in the 19th Century, that Zionism arose. So long as there was an exclusively religious content to Judaism there was no need for Zionism. Zionism is the Jewish identification basically of the secular Jew. The originators of Zionism as an ideology were secular if not atheistic. The religious Jewish establishment was basically anti-Zionist because it saw in the rise of a secular, nationalist movement something very much against the exclusively religious tradition of Judaism. Today, you have Zionists who are religious, a minority—I am speaking about people in Israel who consider themselves Zionists—and the majority which is non-religious.

Q: Do you think that the justification of the Israeli state is simply a negative one—that of providing a peaceful haven for Jews who have nowhere else to go?

A: No.

Q: Well, then, if the Jews in that state could remain peacefully but were no longer in the majority, no longer decisively influencing the character of its institutions—would that bother you?

A: Would it bother you if 300 million Chinese overtook the United States? I mean this is that sort of question—would it bother you, yes or no? The whole point is that Israel is not just a haven, there are many other "havens" that might be much more secure; I guess there are many other places where Israelis could live much more securely, possibly in a much more affluent way. The point is that there are some people who would like to live in a country where Hebrew is the spoken language, where the calendar is the traditional Hebrew calendar instead of the Roman or Christian calendar—in which they relate to their own history in the same way that the neighboring Arabs relate to their own history.

Q: Do you think that the conflict between Israel and the Arabs is simply a clash between this sort of Jewish nationalism that you have described and Arab nationalism? or would you say it goes beyond that?

A: No, it is basically a conflict between these two nationalisms—Jewish and Arab nationalism. I'm not sure if it goes beyond that but I think that part of the root of the conflict has to do not only with the fact that the Arabs are not
Q: To what extent do you think the conflict is exacerbated by
A: Well, I don't think it is simply propaganda. I think it
Q: How much has the recent war undermined the position of
A: The Arabs— who do not accept the legitimate existence of the other side—the Israelis; whereas from the Israeli point of view this is not part of the conflict.
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A: There are differences in the degree of moderation among the Arabs. Hussein was more moderate than the Egyptians or the Syrians but he was not strong enough to do business with Israel on his own. The Israelis hoped for an accommodation with Hussein before the war and there were actually some secret meetings involved. Even though the two sides could not agree, the fact of the negotiations was somewhat encouraging in itself. But the general truth is that the Arabs are not yet ready to accept the existence of Israel.
Q: Is there really anything left to debate, then, on foreign policy within Israel itself? Are there really "hawk" or "dove" positions to choose from?
A: "Hawks" and "doves" don't exist in the Israeli context. Disagreement about the war is within the context of aims and scope of the war and does not, as with Vietnam in the United States, reflect a basic questioning of the war itself. If the Israeli government were not ready to make any concessions to the Arabs, the situation might be judged differently—the burden for the war might lie more on the Israelis. Since the government is moderate and willing to negotiate, this does limit the scope of internal disagreement.
Q: Do you fear that the latest round of fighting may lead to increasing militarization of Israeli life? Is there a danger that Israel may actually become a Prussia or Sparta in the Middle East, as some have charged?
A: The militarization of a country is not determined by its level of military preparedness but by the self-perception of the society. We generally think that Arab-Israeli wars are short struggles ended quickly as in 1956 and 1967. But the 1948 war lasted 15 months and the casualties from the '48 war, considering the country's population then, were equivalent to, say, 50,000 casualties in the Israel of today. That war didn't result in the militarization of Israeli society, though, because societies do not become militaristic simply as a result of their military situation. Rather, societies become militaristic from internal factors, like the prevailing political culture. Many countries in Africa and Latin America, for example, are ruled by military juntas and this is obviously not a simple response to some external threat—most of these countries, in fact, do not face overt foreign threats at all.
DS Alumnus Returns to Teach Summer Seminar

by William Allen, DS42

I had the pleasure of spending three weeks at Deep Springs this past summer and the privilege, while there, of conducting a seminar for the five upperclassmen in residence at the ranch. The tone in which I am inclined to write about the experience would make me out the most embarrassingly enthusiastic of old grads. I will try to place some limits on my enthusiasm.

I taught a course that I suppose should be called Introduction to Law. It was the first time I had taught. I think that, apart from my inexperience and the shortness of the time we had for the course, it went reasonably well. The students were most able, interested and, allowing for the substantial demands from my inexperience and the shortness of the time we had for preparation, it seemed heavier than I myself might have wished to bear. The students, however, were not merely bearing it but apparently enjoying themselves. The course was carried on by the students with a high degree of skill, verve and likable—group. An adult is inevitably something of an outsider in what is often referred to as the here and now, and not very self-consciously, as the Deep Springs community, but my wife and I were made to feel welcome.

The endeavors that one associates with Deep Springs are carried on by the students with a high degree of skill, verve and responsibility. For the first-year men and the TASP’ers the burden of ranch work and of preparation for and participation in Randy Reid’s seminar seemed heavier than I myself might have wished to bear. The students, however, were not merely bearing it but apparently enjoying themselves. The administration and faculty and ranch and other staff must be largely responsible for the spirit that characterizes the place. I at any rate came away grateful that the day-to-day affairs of Deep Springs are in the hands of Randy Reid, John Mawby, Merritt Holloway and the others.

It was after an overnight visit to Deep Springs with my family three years ago that I first proposed the idea of spending part of a summer teaching there. That visit was my wife’s second to Deep Springs; it came between semesters when there was little to see or do, and it left her puzzled, I think, about how I could cherish Deep Springs as I did. She is back this time from three weeks in the desert—three weeks of isolation, relaxation and association with the adults and students in residence—as the most ardent Deep Springs partisan I have ever listened to. And my youngest son, Kent, 13, who accompanied us, would also like to return, if only to partake in the nightly volleyball games.

For me the pleasure of the visit was heightened by the fact that our stay overlapped for nearly a week with that of my classmate Steve Hay, whom I had not seen in the 30 years since we were at Deep Springs together. He was there to assist with the seminar. He and I would concur in commending what each of us did to anyone who has fond memories of his days at Deep Springs. Perhaps you can’t “go back,” but you will be enriched in the here and now.

The ADSTA Agenda

The 1973 ADSTA elections and membership drive are now under way; current members, alumni and friends are urged to send checks and ballots to ADSTA, 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, N. Y. 14850. Remember also: your ADSTA check is a dues payment only, and not a contribution to Deep Springs or Telluride Association. Don’t neglect to support the 1973-74 Joint New Funds Drive!

For this year’s experiment in scheduling the Area Dinners well in advance, the date Wednesday, November 28 has been chosen for the Fall gathering. Two areas were able to give us further details at press time:

New York, upstate—Will probably choose an early November date for a Rochester/Buffalo meeting in the Batavia vicinity, hosted by Robert Van Duyne or Bertil Peterson.

Washington, D.C.—at the home of William Allen, 3036 N. Pollard Street, Arlington, VA; “an experiment in avoiding the mounting cost of eating out by having the dinner in someone’s home, with a modest exaction to defray costs.” $2.50/per person.

Los Angeles

ADSTA’s LA Chapter jumped the gun with a gathering on October 1 at the International City Club in Long Beach, hosted by Bob Henderson in the absence (overseas) of Area Chairman Bruce Laverty. Details of the meeting have not been received, but a speaker from Deep Springs was on the agenda.

An impromptu ADSTA gathering took place this July when several alumni joined William Allen, DS42, and his family for brunch at the Newporter Inn in Newport Beach. Bill was en route to Deep Springs for a three-week summer course on aspects of the U.S. judicial system (see article). As Bruce Laverty comments, “His subject was a fitting discussion topic in view of the luncheon location at the Newporter Inn—the site of President Nixon’s staff quarters prior to the provision of adequate facilities for them at the San Clemente White House. After the luncheon, historic photographs were taken by the swimming pool, which is in part enclosed by poolside structures originally installed for Messrs. Ehlichman, Haldeman, and their staffs.”

Last Call for Responses to Internship Survey

Remember, if you want to be considered for a Public Affairs Internship for next summer, you’ve got to let someone know. Deep Springers should get in touch with John Mawby at the College; Cornell Branch and other affiliates with Beatrice MacLeod or Louise Hertz at Telluride Association, 217 West Avenue, Ithaca, N. Y. 14850. You need not be an Association member to participate. Provide information on the following questions: What career(s) are you considering pursuing? What academic preparation for such careers have you had? What relevant previous employment have you had?

Even if you still are quite uncertain about what you will do next summer, you should respond to this survey. Your response will indicate to alumni the kind of work potential interns might be interested in, and may help bring about an internship offer that would not otherwise have been thought of. You will not commit yourself to taking an internship next summer simply by responding to this survey.
News from Alumni and Friends of Telluride

Mark Sexton, DS48, has recently taken a job as Marketing Director of the Cambridge University Press office in New York City, and has written to the Newsletter: "We're launching a new publishing program that will include many books of American origin that will be promoted internationally as well as in the American market. We're interested in works of scholarship at various levels from undergraduate upward, and I'd like very much to hear from Telluride members and associates about their writing projects."

Charles Schaaf, TA24, writes: "I received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities (sic) from Springfield College in June, and we had our eleventh grandchild in August. Our four children are married and scattered all over."

From the Philippines, Nathaniel Tablante, CB46, writes that he was made Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of the Philippines as of September 1. For the two previous years he was Dean of the Institute of Social Work and Community Development at the University.

David Fried, CB67, started Harvard Law School this fall.

A note from Sally Philips, CB64, reads: "I am about to start as a Master's student at Boston University in the School of Education's Department of Counselor Education. If all goes well, I'd like to complete a Ph.D. I am also in the process of becoming a director of a small (86 women) dormitory."

Christopher Keene was conductor for the premiere of a Gian Carlo Menotto opera, "Tamu, Tamu," commissioned for and presented at the Ninth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences the first week in September.

From Susan Kull, SP65, comes the message: "Getting under way at last: I've entered the first year class at the University of California Medical School in San Francisco."

Roderick Robertson, TA50, writes from Kingston, Ontario: "I was recently a visiting director at the Talbot Theatre, University of Western Ontario, where I staged that widely unknown drama, Morning's At Seven. (The only person I've discovered who knows it is Bea MacLeod, bless her.) The play was artistically brilliant and a commercial so-so."

Len Jones, DS27, is with CARE/MEDICO in Kabul, Afghanistan teaching Afghan medical residents and doing research on amebic liver disease, and reports that there's never a dull moment.

Richard Kremer, SP70, has been appointed a Turner Research Fellow for the Turner Precision X-Ray measurements Laboratory of Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. According to Rich, the lab "uses double crystal x-ray diffractometry equipment to provide solid state physics workers with sensitive lattice parameter measurements of highly perfect semiconductor materials." The Turner Lab offers an unusual combination of industrial research and graduate and undergraduate study for a small liberal arts college like Goshen.

Visitors to the House this fall have included Paul Szasz, TA49; C. Murray Adams, CB48; Richard Wolgast, TA43, and his son Stephen; and three of the summer's TASPers: Jenny Oliensis, Derek Berger, and Tim Corrica.

From the Cornell Alumni News:

Erik Pell, TA43, has been named chairman of the Cornell Graduate School Fund.

Nina Tolkoff Rubin, CB61, has finished a residency and fellowship at Mass. General Hospital in Boston and joined the staff of the Renal Unit there and is director of the medical intensive care unit. Her husband Robert is in the infectious disease unit at MGH.

All Your News That Fits We'll Print

Your friends and TA Associates are interested in what has become of you. Write us about your recent travels and adventures, honors and awards, books or papers published, promotions or job changes, marriages, births and address changes for Newsletter publication.

Name ........................................................................................................

Address ................................................................................................

☐ Check if new address

☐ 1973 Convention minutes requested

November, 1973