

TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

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DECEMBER, 1930

Parker Bailey

Dear Editor:—

May I fill a few of your columns with comment evoked by certain reports in the 1930 minutes? My point of view may be called excessively conservative in some quarters, but who can tell whether it may not seem radical in others?

The idea of advertising the Association is an old one, like the idea of having a Chancellor or of founding new branches. It is fortunate that the first comprehensive account of our organizations was put forth for the public in such excellent taste as that displayed in the familiar red-covered pamphlet, now in its third season of usefulness. Whatever the shortcomings of that descriptive narrative may be—I believe, for example, that it is somewhat too long for an initial presentation of facts to the usual intelligent inquirer—it does have the virtue of accuracy, both in content and in typography, and it seems to command respect from its readers.

Before discussing the advisability of broadcasting information about the Association and Deep Springs in other ways, I mention briefly a few of my experiences in trying to present information directly, in personal conference, during the two seasons while I was listed as a member of the chancellor committee. In the pamphlet, the introductory note declares that personal contact and experience with the organizations is indispensable if they are to be fully understood, "for any formulated description can be but supplemental". The truth of that statement is more deeply felt after one has talked with readers who have made a conscientious attempt to understand the organizations, with only the "formulated description" to guide them.

I begin with an account of my most satisfactory conference, and follow with mention of more superficial ones. In June, 1929, I had an opportunity to visit Mr. Ralph E. Boothby, an educator who has done much to further the best development of Western Reserve Academy at Hudson, Ohio, during his five years as headmaster. He was on the point of retiring from this position in order to organize a new school in New Orleans, yet even during this period of change and uncertainty for himself he found time to read the pamphlet carefully. I recommend his method of dialogue highly, for it's a sort of reverse-Socratic one. "Let me make a lot of statements about your organizations," he said, "based on my reading of the booklet and on my own conjectures. The statements may be wildly inaccurate, but your corrections of them will settle my impressions as nothing

Merry Christmas

The NEWS LETTER believes in that good old custom of giving people the Christmas presents for which they ask. In this issue will be found the complete mailing list as it stands to date. Many requests for this have found their way to Ithaca through devious channels and we trust that these have expressed a general feeling. Any corrections or additions to this list, which are sent in, will be printed in subsequent issues. And, need it be added, the NEWS LETTER would appreciate acknowledgments in the form of contributions.

else could." Thus I did not draw out his knowledge by questions, but by a mixture of corroboration and contradiction in response to his own allegedly wild statements. Very little direct contradiction was necessary, of course. We conversed for over three hours, as I remember, and I have no doubt that Mr. Boothby will retain a fair measure of "corrected impressions." I took great satisfaction in placing two of the pamphlets in his custody.

Last June, at Elmer Johnson's request, I had a personal interview with Mr. Harry A. Peters, principal of University School in Cleveland. Mr. Peters was deeply interested, but I was not surprised at his first statement after I was seated at his desk in an interviewing attitude. He said, "I'm ashamed to tell you that I've only had time to glance at your pamphlet. It's been on my desk for weeks, but I keep putting it aside." I gave him as much of a historical outline as I could in forty minutes, and whenever he reads the pamphlet, it will convey more than it would have conveyed without the interview.

I have had four conferences with a Cleveland family, one of whose junior members seems to be a promising possibility as an undergraduate guest for the House in 1932. It is a satisfaction to record their interest and enthusiasm, especially because they are people of ample means. Plenty of corrective comment has been necessary, but it had the best possible effect. The mother told me of a statement of one of her friends to another, over teacups, which is probably typical of many statements by vaguely informed household heads: "And my dear, as I understand it, these boys have the most wonderful opportunity,—they get three years at Deep Springs, and

(Continued on page seven)

Morgan Sibbett

Dear Editor:

Some alumni have told me they thought that the NEWS LETTER in its new garb was too formal and that it would scare away many prospective contributors who would be overawed by its forbidding aspect. I see no reason why this should be so; in fact, it appears to me that the NEWS LETTER, no longer in book form, is perhaps more personal and informal than before. Fortunately it is not yet a literary magazine, but can still be used as an organ for exchanging Association ideas, spreading information about our activities, and, what is also vastly important, keeping up those personal relationships which are so necessary to a cooperative enterprise. To help bear this out, I shall attempt to make this contribution as informal as possible, and yet, I hope, not entirely devoid of food for thought.

A few words will cover my own history since Convention last June. After leaving Ithaca I spent two most delightful weeks at Lake George, N. Y., with Charles Gilbert and his family. It happened that Al Arent and Bob Mansfield came up a few days after we arrived, so we soon had a little Telluride group of four taking a much-needed rest after the arduous labors of Convention. Later I succumbed to the attractions of home life and spent the rest of the summer around the festive board in Provo, working at jobs ranging from manual labor to semi-technical experimentation. From the standpoint of Association contacts the summer was disappointing, as I found it very difficult, while working, to get to Salt Lake City to see the bunch up there. In Provo I found many people interested in the possibility of again seeing the 'pinheads' at Olmstead. Elmer Johnson returning from his trip West comes back full of plans and details for the re-establishment of a branch there. It strikes me that he has investigated this whole matter with singular energy and ingenuity. When he presents the results of his findings in the NEWS LETTER, as I hope he will soon, considerable discussion and comment should be stimulated. My earnest hope is that when the time comes there will be Association men ready and willing to volunteer to cooperate definitely in such a project. It is a question of going into this as a group or as individuals (thinking for ourselves). "It's a fine thing, but I hope that I am not called upon to help out."

In a recent public-speaking meeting Robley Williams presented an idea which had been suggested by Keith Murray about a new branch, an entirely new conception of Telluride Association work. I don't intend to steal

(Continued on page six)

TELLURIDE NEWS LETTER

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DECEMBER, 1930

Preferment

There has been a growing sentiment in the Association that Telluride scholars in other institutions than Cornell are too often glibly voted substantial preferment upon little or no information as to their past performance, future plans, or merit. This feeling found expression in the 1928 Convention, which passed the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED—that the Preferment Committee continue the policy of giving consideration to applications for preferment only when accompanied with detailed statements as to the applicant's plans for the ensuing year and record for the preceding year, including last available grades received in academic work; and that such statements be presented by the applicant in person, by proxy, or in writing addressed to said committee."

On this same point, the Chancellor Committee in the report to the 1930 Convention said in part:

"More attention should be paid the quality of work being done by scholars in the various institutions like Harvard and Yale. Seldom does their work undergo the close inspection of that of members of Cornell Branch."

In the 1930 Convention a motion to grant a scholarship to a constitutional member-elect was voted down, but later reconsidered and passed following a heated discussion—a discussion not so much about the recipient's merit as about whether or not the founder intended as an obligation of the Association that such members should be voted preferment annually.

This same Convention voted preferment to a non-Association man to attend a university other than Cornell, the predominant sentiment in this case being that the man might be kept in touch with the Association as a prospective member he had been observed by The Convention over a period of some four days at Convention, although his recommendations by friends, members of the Association, were of course, based upon an acquaintance much longer than this. The background and future plans of this man appear indeed excellent, but the fact remains that the Association voted an "outside" scholarship of some four days' acquaintance.

Again the 1930 Convention voted a scholarship to a member who had not applied for it, who had no defi-

nite plans for its use, and who even spoke against it on the Convention floor. It is true that the individual in question soon found a worthy use for the scholarship and obtained the approval of many Association members before devoting the money to the desired end, but this does not alter the fact that the Association voted a scholarship which had not been applied for, and for the use of which there was no definite plan.

These same problems of preferment come up year after year. Does the diversity of opinion on these problems reflect a diversity of opinion on the Association preferment, or merely a diversity of opinion in the individual application of principles generally agreed upon and understood?

Preferment as an integral part of the Telluride plan and one of the chief means by which the plan is furthered was in the beginning made a constitutional "duty," Article VI, Section 3:

"It shall be the duty of the Association at annual conventions to appropriate funds for its educational work, to award members and others best adapted to fulfill its declared purposes, scholarships to attend educational institutions; and it shall be lawful to make appropriations for the prosecution by such persons of studies at home or in foreign lands; for the investigation of special subjects; for the establishment and maintenance of dormitories, boarding houses and other homes for its members and other students; and generally for any other object consistent with the purpose of the Association."

Liberal in its scope as to eligible recipients, it is single and inflexible in its aim—"the purpose of the Association." Preferment in this sense assumes the paramount importance of the "plan" itself. In this light it may prove worth while to reconsider "the purpose." "To promote the highest well-being," it specifies two approaches. "Broadening the field of knowledge" is the first and in a broad sense would seem to be fulfilled in either the field of education or research. The second, which is more particularly stressed, and of which it is not clear that the first may be entirely independent, is the more personal matter of individual character development—"Increasing the adoption as the rule of conduct of those truths from which flows individual freedom as the result of self-government in harmony with the Creator." The furtherance of this purpose, from the standpoint of preferment, then becomes the selection of the best characters available with the greatest ability for advancement in the fields of education or research.

The application of this principle obviously depends upon considerable personal acquaintance with, or knowledge of the recipient of preferment. This is the reason that we favor and, in fact, are of necessity limited to the selection of men from our own group. Indeed, it is this which, from the standpoint of preferment, so sharply differ-

entiates our association from innumerable other scholarship-voting organizations.

In actual practice Association preferment is either preferment to the Cornell Branch or preferment to scholars in educational institutions other than Cornell. The appropriations to Deep Springs and, perhaps, even the annual fund set aside toward a new branch might also in a sense be considered preferment. However, for the purposes of this discussion it is not essential to consider these further.

The Cornell Branch, as the primary center of what we may call in a broad sense the Telluride plan, is fundamental to the life of the Association. Preferment to this institution is always a moot point for detailed differences of opinion and heated debate, and consequently preferment here is usually very well considered.

It is the "outside" scholarships which arouse the gravest doubts as to the efficacy of our preferment system. The cases mentioned at the beginning of this article all belong to this class. These cases were mentioned not because they alone are questionable but because they perhaps best illustrate the weakness of our system of preferment.

The fact that such preferments are granted to scholars usually isolated with respect to Telluride activity is perhaps the chief reason for the doubt as to the character of their work and the factor which makes the evaluation of their work difficult. While a scholar to Cornell Branch is apt to receive the closest scrutiny, not only as to his scholarship and Association activity, but also as to his personality, social grace, ability in politics and activities on the "Hill," and so forth; the outside scholar in many instances is voted a substantial scholarship with scarcely an adequate check-up on his scholastic record. Furthermore, because of their isolation, not only is it more difficult to evaluate the outside scholar's merit, but also it is more difficult for the isolated scholar to maintain the high working level and peculiar Telluride standards demanded of him by us. We must be doubly cautious, then, in choosing these men; they demand even more close scrutiny than the Branch scholars. Either they should have gone through a Telluride center (Cornell Branch or Deep Springs), which would ensure our knowing them pretty well, or their qualifications and recommendations must be so outstanding as to offset our lack of personal acquaintance. This latter group, with excellent qualifications and relatively slight acquaintanceship, is, in addition, generally expected to make up for their lack of knowledge and understanding of us and our Association, a task again doubly difficult because of their isolation.

It becomes evident, then, that it is this group—the outside scholars—that particularly requires the careful application of the principles underlying preferment as outlined in the

(Continued on page three)

Preferment

Paul P. Ashworth

(Continued from page four)

earlier portion of this article. Yet too often, it is in these very instances that we exercise our judgment most carelessly. Not only do we need more careful scrutiny of our scholars, and especially "outside" scholars, and even more the thoughtful application of the fundamental principles on which Telluride preferment is founded.

And finally, may I add, that the above was not written for the purpose of discussing possible preferment mistakes of the 1930 Convention, but rather in the hope of stimulating thought on principles which are fundamental to the solving of similar problems in the future.—R. B. AIRD

Elmer Johnson

The library at Telluride House, Ithaca, has for years received an occasional pamphlet, article, book, thesis, etc., produced by Association members or Alumni. These contributions have found their way into our library through no effort of our own, and we have apparently overlooked their value to us as individuals and as an organization. Aside from their historical interest, these literary and scientific works are one concrete evidence of Association accomplishment and should be collected. Indeed, I know of no educational institution which fails to collect zealously the works of its faculty and alumni especially when those works are more or less produced under its own auspices. I seriously doubt if the Association even has complete files of its own publications such as the NEWS LETTER, the printed minutes, and the various pamphlets issued.

At the present time the shelves at Ithaca contain a few representative works, but this list does not by any means include all; indeed, the writer recalls several contributions now missing, either through carelessness or undue appreciation. There are numerous things which have never found their way to our shelves, and they never will unless we go after them. The birth-control papers of Percy Clark, the novels of Robert Washburn, the published poetry of Father Meehan, the anthropological articles of Dr. Julian Steward, the biographical articles of Frank Monaghan, the musical compositions of Parker Bailey, engineering articles by Mr. P. N. Nunn, a book on underground distribution by Paul Reyneau, a study in the viscosity of oils by Dr. A. E. Flowers, volumes of essays and poems edited by Dr. Paul Jones, articles on air conditioning by Daniel Lindsay and radio articles by Dr. Herbert Reich.

I suggest that a definite move be made to collect and catalogue these works. The House at Ithaca seems the most logical place for the collection which will grow enormously with the age of the Association and the increasing number of its Alumni.—E. M. J.

Dear Editor:—

The days have passed so quickly since I saw you in Ithaca that I did not realize that it was time for another issue of the NEWS LETTER—and for the contribution which I promised to make. The November number has just come and has been read with much interest, although I regret that I know so few of the Telluride men whose doings are chronicled therein.

Since returning home, I have had the opportunity of going over the Olmsted situation with Chancellor Johnson and Ollie Clark, and the matter is now under the consideration of the former. No doubt he has already advised you of the present status of the prospect.

My visit to the Cornell Branch was indeed pleasant, particularly so because it was my first visit in more than fifteen years. It was gratifying to see that the physical property is being so well maintained; in fact, there appears to be no deterioration in all these years. It was pleasant to renew acquaintances with Prof. Burr, Bernt, Olof, and others, and to meet so many recent members of the Association. My impression is that the group is composed of an unusual number of intelligent, clean-cut, young fellows, in whose hands the Association is safe. Some impressions relating to customs and traditions at the House were somewhat disappointing, (a sure sign of approaching old age, I suppose) and these I am constrained to discuss in a brief memorandum which is being sent direct to the Branch.

At other points on my trip I had very pleasant visits with former associates—saw Fent Howard, Ted Munroe and Ray Fruit in Chicago, Harold Cole in Montreal (he was there for the National Electric Light Association, Engineering Section, meeting, as was I), McRea Parker, the S. A. Baileys and Claude Rakestraw in Cleveland, and Dr. A. E. Flowers in Poughkeepsie, as well as a large number of college and business friends.

Chancellor Johnson and I were fellow passengers on the train between Chicago and Salt Lake City and we spent many hours discussing Telluride Association. I congratulate the Association upon its selection of Elmer Johnson as Chancellor, for I know that he will serve it well. It is to be hoped that members will give him full, active support. He has the confidence of the Alumni and will unquestionably receive full cooperation from them. Wherever I have been I have found a strong disposition on the part of the Alumni to "foster Telluride Association." The Chancellor should be able to set up an arrangement with the Alumni whereby this desire may be converted into deeds.

I hope that the individual and collective conduct of the members of the Association may continue to be such as to justify the confidence in them,

which the Alumni must have if whole-hearted, effective cooperation is to be obtained.

Sincerely,
PAUL P. ASHWORTH

P. S.—Season's Greetings to everybody!

G. F. Ferris

Cambridge, England,
Nov. 12, 1930.

Dear Editor:

The first number of the NEWS LETTER in its "house organ" form has just reached me here. And for the first time in many years I can, in reading it, almost feel that once more I belong to Telluride Association, for in the list of names of the Cornell branch there are actually included a few belonging to people that I know! My Biology class at Deep Springs seems to have moved over bodily to Cornell. I don't suppose that I shall very soon get as good a Biology class again, but I sincerely hope they have already found better instructors.

I am spending the winter at Cambridge, working as a sort of paying guest in the Moltens Institute for Research in Parasitology, trying to complete a "monumental" work on the sucking lice upon which I have been engaged for some years. Just at the moment I happen to be laboring with the louse of elephants. I shall proceed to that of the walrus soon and top it off finally with some reflections upon *Pediculus humanus*. All of which will keep me busy until next spring.

I shall spare you any travelogue about Cambridge University. I don't know anything about it anyway except that it is a gloomy damned place. Those of you who are accustomed to the brightness and sunshine of Deep Springs Valley would pine away in the bit of feeble sunlight that occasionally manages to penetrate the clouds here for a few minutes at a time. In my own case I can endure it, for my figure will bear quite a bit of pining, but I wouldn't recommend it for the young and growing boy. Still it is a pretty husky-looking bunch of lads here. They don't lend much support to the commonly-accepted American theory that the English race is running out. But that is getting to be travelogue stuff and I had best quit before it gets away from me. With best regards to all of the fellows.

G. F. FERRIS

San Francisco Meeting

The Telluride members and Alumni in the San Francisco district met at a private dining room in the Cliff Hotel on the evening of November 13th. Those attending were:

Wayne Bannister	Frank Larrigo
Paul Cadman	Rev. J. E. Mechan
Wayne Clarke	P. N. Nunn
N. B. Dinkel	Harold Owen
Chester Dunn	Isham Raffley
Donald Falconer	Arthur Ross
Henry Hayes	Edward Walter
E. M. Johnson	Otis Whitecotton

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- McKay, N. A., 816 Laurel Ave., Hollywood, Calif.
- Moore, Theo. G., 2064 26th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
- McCarthy, Ford E., c/o The Spooner-Campbell Co., DeKalb Jct., N. Y.
- Munroe, Parker, Harris Forbes & Co., 56 Williams St., New York City.
- Munroe, T. B., Vice Pres. Celotex Co., 919 Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
- Noon, F. C., 1005 Pacific Finance Bldg., Los Angeles, Calif.
- Nunn, P. N., 2440 Albatross St., San Diego, Calif.
- Nunn, J. J., 940 N. 19th St., Salem, Ore.
- Nurt, J. R., c/o Union Trust Co., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Nightingale, L. G., c/o Central Hudson Gas & Elec. Co., Box 625, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
- Oliver, G. D., c/o Mountain States P. Co., Riverton, Wyo.
- Othus, J. C., 303 N. 31st St., Corvallis, Ore.
- Owen, H. R., c/o Electrical Prod. Corp., 930 30th St., Oakland, Calif.
- Owen, E. R., c/o Utah Power & Light Co., Logan, Utah.
- Oliver, A. R., c/o Standard International Service, 1141 Devon Ave., Chicago, Ill.
- Parker, McRea, 2355 Bellefield Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Putnam, Hon H., 404 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Park, A. E., Gunnison, Utah.
- Pugsley, E. D., c/o American Tel. & Tel. Co., 15 Dey St., New York, N. Y.
- Rakestraw, C. N., Cleveland Electrical Illuminating Co., Cleveland, Ohio.
- Ray, Hoyt E., U. S. District Att'y, Boise, Idaho.
- Rowe, J. F., Eureka, Utah.
- Rust, F. S., Hardin, Missouri.
- Ross, A. A., c/o Allen Realty Co., 1212 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame, Calif.
- Reyneau, P. O., c/o Western Electric Co., Publicity Dept., 50 Church St., New York City.
- Sebree, Major John B., c/o U. S. M. C., Washington, D. C.
- Schaub, Eugene, Logan, Utah.
- Smoot, H. E., Provo, Utah.
- Suhr, O. B., Deep Springs, Calif.
- Smith, D. B., Koppers Co., Koppers Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Scott, Irvin L., 117 W. 11th St., New York City.
- Thornhill, E. A., No. 9 Belleayre Apts., Ithaca, N. Y.
- Twelves, C. M., 3728 Rucker Ave., Everett, Washington.
- Twelves, J. W., c/o Utah P. & L. Co., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Twelves, I. A., c/o Utah P. & L. Co., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Tucker, D. S., Provo, Utah.
- Townsend, R. H., c/o R. K. O. Studios, Hollywood, Calif.
- Vincent, L. L., Bureau of Public Works, Manila, P. I.
- Vincent, P. D., c/o Telluride Motor Co., Provo, Utah.
- Waldo, H. R., 1309 Walker Bank Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Waldo, H. R., 1309 Walker Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Waters, H. B., 1309 Walker Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Woodhouse, A. L., c/o Dixie Power Co., Cedar City, Utah.
- Woodhouse, E. P., 672 Merle Court, San Leandro, Calif.
- Wurts, T. C., 5432 Northumberland Ave., Pittsburgh, Penna.
- Wurts, A. J., 1164 Shady Ave., Pittsburgh, Penna.
- Wegg, David S., 250 S. 85th St., New York City.
- Whitecotton, J. A., c/o West India Oil Co., Santiago, Chile.
- Whitecotton, G. O., c/o Cardinal Hotel, Palo Alto Calif.
- Wrench, M. C., Univ. Sta., Box 325, Tucson, Ariz.
- Worn, G. A., c/o Beth. Steel Co., Cunard Bldg., N. Y. C.
- Warneke, P. N., c/o International Harvester Co., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Wood, Ledger, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.
- Whitney, W. D., 15 Broad Street, New York City.
- Walter, E. J., 1246 Portola Drive, San Francisco, Calif.

FRIENDS OF TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

- Bailey, C. S., 606 Otis Bldg., 810 16th St., N. W. Washington, D. C.
- Bannister, L. Ward, 801 Equitable Bldg., Denver, Colo.
- Beck, D. H., Beaver, Utah.
- Carr, Percy H., Dept. of Physics, U. of Ia., Ames, Ia.
- Clark, Percy L., 909 E. 64th St., Chicago, Ill.
- Bennion, A. S., c/o Utah Pow. & L., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Dickinson, C. L., Dryden, N. Y.
- Elmhurst, Richard, Dartington, Totnes, Devon, England.
- Gerry, H. S., c/o National City Bank, New York City.
- Gabele, Thomas, Beta Theta Pi, Granville, Ohio.
- Johnson, J. R., Apt. 32A, Faculty Apts., Ithaca, N. Y.
- Joyce, Robert P., c/o U. S. Consul, Shanghai, China.
- Larrigo, Frank, Stanford Univ., Palo Alto, Calif.
- Lathrop, Mrs. C. C., Pike, Wyoming Co., N. Y.
- Lowe, E. A., Corpus Christi College, Oxford, England.
- Murray, Keith A. H., Oriol College, Oxford, England.
- Olmstead, J. W., c/o U. C. L. A., Los Angeles, Calif.
- Phipps, Ian, Waite Research Institute, Adelaide, Australia.
- Pijoan, Michel, 4627 Keswick Rd., Baltimore, Md.
- Schraivesande, J., 205 Union Bk. Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich.
- Simmons, Bruce, 17 Battery Place, New York City.
- Smith, Harold D., 107 Cayuga Hts. Rd., Ithaca, N. Y.
- Strahl, W. W. 7 Evelyn Pl., Princeton, N. J.
- Thomsen, Harry, 20 N. Pleasant St., Oberlin, Ohio.
- Tomlinson, H. C., 74 Columbia Hts., Brooklyn, N. Y.
- Van Erten, J. C., 68 70th St., Portland, Ore.
- Washburn, R. C., 10 W. 11th St., New York City.
- Whitman, C. N., c/o Whitman & Dey, 40 Franklin St., Rochester, N. Y.
- Woodhouse, L. P., c/o Dixie Power Co., Cedar City, Utah.

Cornell Branch Notes

Recent Events

ANOTHER LIMEY—Paul Reinhardt has burst into the limelight in the role of "Olsen-A Sailor" in Eugene O'Neill's "Bound East for Cardiff," a tragedy of the sea in one act.

BOOK AND BOWL—Cam Scarlet has at last joined the deathless ranks of the Immortals, and will have to retract any crude or unkind remarks cast in their direction by him in last year's NEWS LETTER. Because he's a good fellow with a taste for literature he now belongs to Book and Bowl, bringing the Branch total to five.

PHI KAPPA PHI—Robley Williams and Mike Yarrow have been elected to Phi Kappa Phi, honorary scholastic society and now have the obligation of paying nine dollars for the badge and privileges of the society. This brings the Branch total to four, Davy and Levering having been elected last year.

Guests

Mr. Ossip Gabrilowitsch, conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, visited the Branch for a few hours on Wednesday, December third, when he came to Cornell to present a symphonic program. His artistic temperament displayed itself unusually in the geniality of his conversation, as well as in the excellent interpretation of Beethoven, Franck, and Wagner, which was rendered by his orchestra in the evening. Unfortunately, he departed immediately after the concert, and opportunities of talking with him were limited to short sessions at lunch and dinner. Some of the men heard him play the piano before dinner, which may have established more of a "contact" than many hours of conversation.

Cecil Jane, M. A. (Oxon.), visiting Professor of History at Wellesley College, stayed at the Branch overnight on December second. He came to lecture on Latin American History; "Is Spanish American Coming of Age?" was the title of the speech.

At the invitation of Al Arent, Mr. Paul Porter, Field Secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, also spent the night of December second at the Branch. He lectured before the Liberal Club on, "The British Labor Party and Soviet Russia—Two Approaches to a New Social Order."

Dean Thornhill has been of service in bringing four guests here for lunch during the past month: Professor Brown of the Department of Chemistry; Professor Spring, known to many of us as "John Spring's father"; Professor Faust, and Professor Lyon, George Lyon's father.

Two of the Branch members have

been visited by their fathers. Mr. Spooner came the week-end of the Dartmouth Game, and Mr. Sablus spent the following week-end with us. Other recent-out-of-town visitors have been: Mr. W. D. Guthrie; Dan Lindsay, McRea Parker, an early alumnus; Mr. and Mrs. Rakestraw. (Mr. Rakestraw worked with Mr. L. L. Nunn at Olmstead); and Charlie Schaaf.

Several members of the Faculty and other friends have come for dinner: Professor and Mrs. Dennis; Professor and Mrs. Hevesy (he is the non-resident lecturer in Chemistry, from Freiburg University); Walt French; Maynard Cassady and his wife; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morse, their son Tony; their daughter, Mrs. Nelson, with her husband, who is a professor at Duke University; Mr. and Mrs. von Engeln (Last fall Prof. von Engeln gave a course in Geology and Physical Geography at Deep Springs. He is in the Cornell department of Geology); Professor and Mrs. Whiteside; Professor and Mrs. Pumpelly; and Mr. Woodford Patterson, Secretary of the University and University Publisher.—W. B. K.

Morgan Sibbett

(Continued from page one)

Kelth's thunder, because I know that he wants to explain his plan at greater length in the NEWS LETTER. However, it provoked much discussion in the House; and to many of us, I think, it raised the whole question of the scope of our purpose and the form it should take in the individual members as they start out in life. I have always been considerably bothered by the tendency in this group to accept implicitly certain callings as useful to mankind and as fulfilling the Telluride ideal, while others are branded with indifference or contempt. The doctor, the teacher, and scholar, are justly considered as very 'useful' persons, but don't we go too far in assuming that the man who chooses one of those fields is ipso facto discharging his obligation to the Association? The law seems to be another profession which, for a reason that I cannot understand, enjoys such widespread favor and unquestioning approval. And yet a bad lawyer can conceivably do as much damage as could a criminal! On the other hand, I am sure that there are some in this Association who seriously doubt that the engineer, the bond salesman, or the business man, can do anything which could be classified under that much misunderstood term 'service'.

Now far be it from me to deprecate in the least the first-named callings or to elevate unduly the latter above their true worth. My point is that the degree

of social usefulness of any line of work whatever is largely dependent upon the extent to which the individual is governed by the motive of giving or that of receiving. I feel that we are unconsciously limiting the scope of our work by emphasizing the most obvious and for that reason the most ordinary types of service; that, on the other hand, we are exalting contributions in the field of the mind, the spirit, and the intellect, and at the same time neglecting the equally legitimate (and perhaps more important, in the face of existing conditions) task of alleviating adverse and unjust conditions in material and economic life. There are thousands of men who will gladly patch up the human body in an efficient and thorough manner (as long as the returns are attractive), many more who will build good, substantial bridges; and there are plenty of hopefuls whose sole aim in life will be to probe the mysteries of the biological and physical worlds. An organization which seeks merely to add a few more to this vast group of so-called 'public servants', men who are merely doing the task which is assigned to them, is accomplishing little, it seems to me, toward an aim which is expressed in loftier terms than these. It is blinding itself to the real need of today, which is social-mindedness rather than individual-mindedness. It is neglecting to supply men in all fields who will relate their work to human values and who will subordinate their career as individuals to the general good. There will always be plenty of tolerably honest and successful lawyers who will be able to win cases and to interpret the law, but how about men like Judge Brandeis whose concern will be for society as a whole, and who will dare to oppose the vested interests in the cause of justice? Clever engineers are becoming a drug on the market. How many of these have an eye to the social consequences of their work, to the immense human importance for both good and evil of the great machines which they devise? To 'serve the public' will ever be the aim of the average man, because he knows that it is best for him to do so. There are comparatively few, however, who perceive the difference between 'serving the public' and benefiting a broader group which is not so ready to reward one's efforts in terms of dollars and cents. Such men will find out the particular need of their own field and set out to remedy it, in the interest of the race and not of the individual. If Telluride Association cannot provide men of this caliber, if it can do no more than to contribute to society a few solid and upright citizens, then in my estimation it would do better to give its endowment to charity and admit a dismal failure in the direction of constructive education.

MORGAN SIBBETT

Parker Bailey

(Continued from page one)

all their education at Cornell, and they don't have to pay a cent for it!"

A lady of unusual intelligence, who holds in this city a position calling for the exercise of that intelligence, after reading the pamphlet and actually putting me on the trail of a family who had expressed some interest in Deep Springs, made a surprising conjecture. When I mentioned to her a former member of the Deep Spring's Student Body who had signified his desire to postpone for a year his application for membership in Telluride Association, she said, "Perhaps he felt that he couldn't afford the dues at present." I must have shown some sign of surprise, for she went on, "I assume, of course, that the Telluride Association requires payment of annual dues, as most clubs do." Dazed at this extraordinary misconception of hers, I explained rather mechanically why dues were not a part of the plan. I offer this incident as proof that erroneous assumptions are bound to thrive lustily, regardless of the curative power of print.

On one occasion I talked with an applicant who professed great eagerness to go to Deep Springs. A few questions showed that he didn't even have any clear knowledge of its geographical location, and as for "knowing what it was all about" . . . Idly I asked the fellow-member who now holds office as our president, "How can anyone be willing to say he's ready to go to a place and spend two or three years, without first finding out where it is, at least?" With the brevity which is truly the soul of his wit, he replied, "It's free. There you have it!"

In every one of the interviews which I have cited, the interest of the inquirers has been thoroughly active; yet each one, with the notable exception of Mr. Boothby, only began to form correct impressions after careful explanation. It is now suggested that we try to awaken the passive interest of a larger public by means of magazine articles, written by a well-known man, whose services are to be secured and supervised by a committee which is, to say the least, a heterogeneous one.

Let us be ever so optimistic, and imagine that the members of this committee, sometime during this season, with admirable enterprise and full fraternal accord, secure the services of a man whose name is sufficiently celebrated to catch the attention of the high-grade public whom they seek to interest. Let us allow our imagination to continue its rapid course in this hopeful plane, and see this man seated in his study, awaiting the careful, tactful advice of each member of our committee, with consummate docility. If we go as far as this with our mind's eye, we might as well go the limit and consider the article written, revised, and ready for printing. A

final committee meeting is held, with the obedient celebrity as guest of honor, and good-will reigns as never before.

Now a magazine must be found. Let it be a thoroughly arrogant, intellectually correct periodical, whose very cover will seem to say, "I associate only with America's most expensively cultured minds. It is beneath my dignity even to refer to my high quality. May I, however, condescend to paraphrase one of the descriptive accounts of a hostelry which enjoys the privilege of drawing attention to itself by means of my pages,—the more vulgar periodicals would call this advertising, but I am above such commonplaces—and say that my readers are persons who always do things well, . . . who may be found applauding Toscanini at Bayreuth, . . . In our library reading Aldous Huxley, or viewing the worth-while in art . . . Need I condescend further?" Such a magazine will accept without question the article by the well-known man, and we may expect to see its perfectly groomed readers laying aside Aldous Huxley long enough to search for the current culture in these appropriately high-priced pages. Since they are people—I crave your pardon, they are "persons"—who "always do things well", they will study the initial article on Telluride Association and Deep Springs with the detachment which is characteristic of the cultivated mind—I am still under the influence of the high-grade copy-writer for that correct hotel—and await the rest of the articles in the series as eagerly as they await their next opportunity to applaud Toscanini in the right surroundings. With a clientele of this sort to draw upon, our future is assured. All honor to the heterogeneous committee!

Is there no escape from false values? Who started this worship of the "well-known" and the self-styled "high-grade", anyway? It seems like the most futile subserviency imaginable. There are many well-known men who have been guests at Telluride House, and who respect the Association highly on the strength of acquaintanceships more or less brief. Possibly some of these ex-guests might have sufficient friendliness for us so that they would be willing to attempt articles, but I venture to say that the best of them would decline respectfully, on the ground that they could not afford to write anything for publication without careful study. As for the epithet "well-known", I wish that G. K. Chesterton might put his paradoxical-phrase-machine to work upon some topic as "The Obscurity of the Famed", or "The Greatness of the Negligible." I can imagine him in a wearisome American interview, asking, "Why, pray, do you call me well-known? I'm not well-known, though my name may be."

As for the high-grade persons who read the magazine, they probably wouldn't even read the articles through. If they did happen to be in-

mentarily attracted to them by the author's name, they'd turn to something else after reading a few paragraphs, dismissing the Association and Deep Springs with the ease of well-cultured judgment: "Just another one of those impractical educational experiments." If the magazine fell accidentally into the hands of someone who was sufficiently interested to read the first article carefully, and follow it up with the series, the chances are that his interest would be largely fed by the thought that "It's free. There you have it!" Even if the series ran through several issues of the magazine, it would be more or less buried after its first appearance, set away in the files of periodicals in libraries, or, after aging a few years, sent forth kindly with other obsolete copies of magazines, to alleviate unhappiness in some quarter or other.

We don't wish to reach educators with superficial articles. We have an able representative now who is doing his best, as he has done for several seasons, to make the advantages of Deep Springs and the Association accurately known where the interest is keenest and most disinterested. One intelligently informed headmaster is worth hundreds of half-indifferent cultured readers.

Cornell University has signified, by action of its Trustees, the high esteem in which it holds Telluride Association. If the University looks upon the Association as a valuable contributor to its best interests, and wishes to assure the House a permanent site, so that no ambitious building-program will interfere with it, why should we ourselves not be willing to take a chance on the permanency of the organization? Permanent institutions do not have to be described in magazine articles by subservient well-known men. There is a page waiting in the T-Volume of a good encyclopedia, for a brief historical statement of its educational plan. There may also be space waiting for a biographical sketch of the founder, in the N-Volume. Whether or not Deep Springs is yet old enough to make its way into a compendium of information with an account of itself, is a question still to be decided. There is no hurry about the placing of these articles, for once the Association gets its record into an encyclopedia, succeeding editions will carry it on indefinitely into the future, and, in the words of our recently-retired president, "make the facts about our work the property of a circle somewhat larger than that composed of the educators of this country and our personal friends."

The next evocative report is that of the resolutions committee. I regret that I had to miss the concluding hours of the convention, for it would have been a great satisfaction to see two of the resolutions volitionally rejected. I refer specifically to resolutions five and six of the second report of the committee, noting that the former was tabled and the latter rejected. While it is too

(Continued on page eight)

Parker Bailey

(Continued from page seven)

bad to have blemishes such as these resolutions in our records, the record of negative action upon them takes away some of the bad taste. Both resolutions are utterly puerile; they are unworthy of a Telluride member, and it seems unfortunate that they were even brought in for serious discussion at convention.

Taking them up in turn, there is nothing to be said in answer to the first one (number five) except this: read article III, sections 2 and 3, of the constitution. After a candidate has received the requisite number of votes, he has the right to sign the constitution under the watchful eye of a notary, and exert his best judgment to further the work of the convention. Any argument against his signing at the earliest possible moment must be based upon some superficial condition of expediency. One can only record impatience at the complete lack of insight shown in such a resolution as this one.

As for the rejection-slip, "printed on bond paper"—of any of the brands that are described (not advertised in high-grade magazines, shall we say?—and "bearing the President's signature"—why not add, "appropriately embossed"?—who can find adjectives that will stigmatize sufficiently this unborn document? It reeks of "mannish" efficiency, and of an insincerity that is almost as persuasive as commercial courtesy. The only member who would deserve to receive it as a notification of the vacating of his membership would be its author.

The argument about the alleged difficulty of obtaining a quorum has arisen at various times during the five conventions which I have attended. It seems to have surprisingly little common sense to back it, and I often wonder if it may not be a mere hang-over from the days when the lower numerical limit of the membership roll was one hundred, instead of sixty. At present there are eighteen members of Telluride Association at Cornell Branch, and if interest ever ebbs so low that three more members and eleven proxies cannot be secured to start the convention, we had better have a conference with the officers of the Smithsonian Institution.

On page fifty of the minutes my name appears as a member of a committee to consider certificates of graduation. Again the committee is a heterogeneous one, my fellow-members being Father Meohan, who has attended ten of the fourteen conventions since his election, and Tom McCaddon, who has attended two of the six since his election. I rather enjoyed the company of the latter at the 1927 convention, and have enjoyed his communications in the NEWS LETTER from time to time; especially the one in which he undertook to weigh the publication accurately and had his

own contribution weighed in retaliation, by the editor and his assistants. Perhaps this letter of mine will go on the scales. May we not have a public discussion of the certificate question in these columns? At present my impulse is to deplore the use of any artificial, standardized document or service-emblem. When the time comes for a member to relinquish his trusteeship, he should be satisfied to appraise the quality of his interest in the Association by himself. No stilted phrases in a certificate can do justice to the quality of devotion which we have a right to expect from members, and neither can such phrases serve to mask the shortcomings of those who have participated in the trust in a half-hearted way.

In this connection there comes to mind a custom observed fairly frequently at conventions, which may be discussed more thoroughly by Bill Biersach, our time-honored custodian of credentials, than by me. On several occasions older members, wishing to have their memberships declared vacant, have deliberately withheld their proxies. This seems a mistaken practice. While there is little danger, under present conditions, that a sufficiently large number of proxies would be withheld so as to interfere with voting on membership or on constitutional amendments, it seems bad policy to use a proxy merely as a signal. Here one may note with satisfaction the action of Cabot Coville, who expressed definite desire in a communication to the NEWS LETTER last year, that his membership be vacated in furtherance of a policy which he had repeatedly advocated at conventions,—that of keeping the control of the Association in the younger, active group. In spite of this desire expressed by him, and in spite of the fact that he sees no prospect of being able to attend a convention again for several years, he continues to send in his proxy as an absent trustee, and we may request him to let us retain him in that capacity as long as we see fit to do so. It is far better to vacate the "doubtful cases," even though their names may not have graced the roll very long, than to relinquish those who have displayed the strongest, most active interest as long as they were in a position to attend conventions regularly. Twenty-three members have been elected since Cabot began to do his work in the Orient, and with that amount of new blood, we must exercise due care in giving up the old.

For the convenience of alumni who may not have copies of the 1930 minutes at hand, I quote herewith the two resolutions referred to above:

(From the second report of the committee on resolutions, delivered June 21, 1930.)

(5) BE IT RESOLVED—that it be the sense of the Association that new members, elected at a convention, refrain from signing the constitution until after the complete reports of the Member-

ship and Preference Committees at that convention shall have been submitted and approved. (Tabled)

(6) BE IT RESOLVED—that the following notice, printed on bond paper and bearing the President's signature, be sent to all members whose memberships shall have been vacated at a convention:

"Whereas it is necessary, both according to the Constitution and for facility in obtaining a quorum following the election of new members, to declare vacant certain memberships of Telluride Association, and whereas the Association does this with great regret, especially in the cases of men whose interest is active and lasting,—the 19... Telluride Association in Convention Assembled urges you to join the Telluride Association Alumni and sincerely hopes that your feeling toward the association will continue as close as formerly. It also invites you to attend all conventions, with full privileges of the floor, in the knowledge that your advice and criticism will ever be welcome." (Rejected.)

No doubt certain orthographical inconsistencies in the original report have been carried over into the printed one. They are retained in this copy, and I suggest that any member who wishes to experience full chagrin at the deeper inconsistencies in these foolish resolutions, make a copy of them for himself, as I do in closing this letter.

With best regards,

PARKER BAILEY

Steward's Indian Mound

Early this month the Associated Press announced the discovery of a huge Indian mound, the first of its kind ever found in Utah, by Dr. Julian H. Steward, head of the archaeological department of the University of Utah. The mound contained a kiva, or religious dance house, and 25 "men's club rooms." In one room were found a number of "gambling sticks," which had been used in a hand gambling game believed to have been popular among the tribes which roamed the Southern Utah and Northern Arizona territory approximately 15,000 years ago.

Dr. Steward is a member of Telluride Association and a Cornell graduate of the class of 1925. He was a member of the Deep Springs student body in the early years of the school and a member of Cornell Branch from 1921 to 1925. He held office as secretary of the Branch in 1922-23 and for three years served the NEWS LETTER as associate editor, managing editor, and editor, successively. After leaving Cornell, Dr. Steward did graduate work in archaeology at the University of California.