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ALUMNI NEWS

Dinner Meeting

The next Alumni Dinner Meeting, to be held on January 12, will have Elmer S. Nelson, economic consultant, as speaker of the evening. Mr. Nelson will discuss “Business Conditions and the Industrial Trend in Southern California for' 1955-56.”

Now a consultant to private business on economic, financial, and trade problems, Mr. Nelson was appointed Trade Expert and Economic Advisor to the U. S. government under President Woodrow Wilson in World War I. He later served on the World Trade Board, the War Industries Board, the U. S. Food Administration and the U. S. Shipping Board. During World War II he served with the Office of Price Administration and the War Assets Administration. In 1947 he went with the U. S. Department of Commerce, and in 1951-52 he was Supervisory Economist for the Office of Price Stabilization. He has also been on the staff at UCLA, giving courses in economics, money, banking, foreign trade, and transportation.

The dinner will be held at the Carolina Pines Restaurant, 7315 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles. The time is 7:00 p.m. Wives are welcome. And the committee promises that the tariff will be $3 or—if possible—under.

Alumni Picnic

The annual Alumni Picnic will be held this year on Saturday, June 25 at the Marineland of the Pacific located on Palos Verdes Peninsula. The Oceanarium, picnic areas, restaurant and parking space will be available to alumni. Save this date for your visit to this exciting marine display—and for an organized picnic with your family and friends.

Continued Story

Colonel John K. Arnold, '41, MS, command pilot of a B-29 shot down over Korea in January, 1953, was listed as “missing in action” until October, 1954, when word was received that he had been located as a prisoner of war. An AP dispatch from London, dated November 23, gives further details on Colonel Arnold.

"Thirteen Americans who dropped out of sight on aerial missions against the Communists in the Korean war were sentenced by a Red Chinese military court today to prison terms ranging up to life on spy charges...

"Colonel John Knox Arnold, Jr. of Silver Spring, Md., was the highest ranking of the prisoners listed... the commander of a B-29 shot down January 12, 1953, he drew 10 years.

"... By the Peiping account, Col. Arnold was the
commanding officer of the 581st Supply and Communications Wing of the U. S. Air Force, 'charged with the task of carrying out espionage in the service of the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency' against Red China and the maritime areas of the Soviet Union in the far east.

"Against American reports that his B-29 fell over North Korea, the Chinese said it was shot down 'after intruding into China's territorial air space over Liaoning Province' of Manchuria, across the Yalu.

"News of the court action came out only a few weeks after delivery of some letters from the Air Force prisoners to their relatives in the United States through Chinese Red Cross Channels. These lifted a blanket of silence lowered by the Reds almost two years ago."

A later newspaper dispatch quoted the Chinese as saying that Colonel Arnold had confessed that the mission of his wing was to "bring in, supply, evacuate or recover underground personnel." The U. S. story is that his group was engaged in psychological warfare, dropping leaflets—and that Colonel Arnold and his operations officer merely went along for the ride on the day that they were shot down.

Open House

ALUMNI LITERALLY went back to campus life recently when Caltech's eager football squad met Oxy's Tigers in the classic contest November 12. Not about to be overwhelmed by the adverse combination of a halftime score of 0-27 and an especially damp Patterson Field, the pigskinning Beavers provided alumni and students alike a great second half by outscoring Oxy 13-12.

Appropriately enough, a "victory" celebration had been planned at Dabney Lounge on campus, at which the Alumni Association played host to old grads and present students. Thanks to a warm hall, coffee, and a band, the evening proved to be a success for all—including the twenty-some men who put up such a determined battle earlier in the evening.

When Thomas A. Edison first put B&W Boilers to work in the Pearl Street Station, he launched a new industry of electric power which made possible an era of tremendous growth. Electricity—cheap, available, abundant—is the bedrock of America's strength. And certainly, this great pioneer envisioned all the wonders still to come, in the soft glow of his first practical lamp.