Alumni News

President's Report

During the past year all the activities engaged in by the Caltech Alumni Association were highly successful, due almost entirely to the help and cooperation of Institute personnel and a great number of alumni. We wish to thank all those people who were so generous.

Most exciting was the Board's decision to join the Institute in its $16,100,000 Development Program, directed by Dr. Arnold Beckman. Dr. Simon Ramo enthusiastically agreed to serve as chairman of the Alumni Committee of the Development Program, aided by Alumni Association Directors Ed Fleischer, John Fee, Nick Ugrin and myself. Dr. Don Clark has been invaluable as this Committee's secretary and Grice Axtman was assigned by the Institute to work full time as Alumni Program Director.

Caltech and the Association suffered a great loss in the passing of Howard B. Lewis. Howard was a past president of the Association, was instrumental in the establishment of the Caltech Alumni Fund, and at the time of his death was making further contributions of his time, serving as chairman of the Alumni Fund Council. Needless to say, the benefit of his advice, based on many years of experience in fund activities, will be missed.

The Board of Directors, after several years of pro and con deliberations, unanimously voted to increase yearly Association dues from $1 to $5 starting with the fiscal year 1958-1959. The cost of a life membership will increase from $75 to $100 effective at the close of the annual meeting. These increases in membership fees are to be applied directly toward more fully allaying the cost of publishing one of the most outstanding alumni magazines in the country today, Engineering and Science.

Most interesting to the younger graduates is the preparation of the supplement to the 1957 Alumni Directory. This activity was under the directorship of Junior Board Member John Fleming.

Social Program Director Frank Bumb, who was helped by General Program Chairman Bill Haefliger and his committee of six, gave alumni a change of scene and sound at the annual dinner dance and provided speakers at the two dinner meetings who attracted record attend-

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Alumni News... continued

ance. In addition, all arrangements for this annual meeting and for the picnic later this month have been well taken care of. I would like to think that some small credit should go to these people for Tech's overdue gridiron victory over Oxy last fall, since a great many alumni rooters witnessed this sports phenomenon as a prelude to enjoying post-game dancing and refreshments.

The Seminar program was overhauled this year by Director Fort Etter, General Chairman Ralph Jones, and Program Chairman Owen Johnson. To say that their efforts were rewarded would be the understatement of the year, since attendance soared into four figures—1,185 to be exact, an increase of some 77 percent over last year's attendance.

Senior Directors Chet Lindsay and Jack Osborn convinced 3,105 annual dues-paying alumni of belonging to the Association, and life members numbered 664—making a membership total of 3,769. This membership met the budget nicely, indicating a 4.7 percent increase over 1956-57, when memberships totaled 3,570. It is gratifying to report that at this time more than 50 members of the class of '58 have joined the Alumni Association.

Retiring Directors this year are John Fee, Chet Lindsay, and Jack Osborn. On behalf of the alumni, I would like to thank these men for their several years of service.

Mr. Joe Lewis was appointed Chairman of the Alumni Fund Council subsequent to the death of Howard B. Lewis.

Four capable men join the Board as junior members. All of them have already contributed to the success of a number of Association activities. They are Frank Alderman, Bill Haefliger, Ralph Jones and Francis Odell.

—Willis R. Donahue
President

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