OF INTEREST

ALUMNI PRESIDENT WIELDS GAVEL IN ARMY

Theodore C. Combs, '27, late director of business in the Los Angeles office of the West Coast Timbermen's Association, and past president of the Alumni Association, was called to active duty with the army in November.

Ted received his commission as Second Lieutenant in the Engineer Reserve after completing his R.O.T.C. training at Tech in 1927. Prior to the latest call to active duty, Captain Combs, '27, had already earned an enviable record as an authority on timber bridge design and construction for use by the army engineers. All Tech men who have been privileged to serve under Ted have considered it an honor.

In November he was called to active duty at the Presidio of San Francisco and assigned as technical aide to the Commanding General, Ninth Corps area.

BOARD ORGANIZES

The resignation of Theodore C. Combs, '27, as president of the Alumni Association, after being called to active duty as a captain in the Corps of Engineers Reserve, has necessitated a reorganization of the Board of Directors of the Association.

John E. Shield, '22, who has been vice-president, has moved up to president of the Association. Jack did a very efficient job as social chairman last year, and is in charge of chapter organization this year.

Ely Gristede, '34, was elected vice-president of the Association in addition to his duties as secretary. Allen Dunn, '29, is serving as treasurer.

Other members of the board and their functions are as follows:
- Herbert B. Holt, '15—membership
- Paul C. Schaffner, '36—athletics
- Al Knight, '22—social
- George Langner, '31—publications
- Ted Coleman—Institute relations.

ALUMNI DIRECTORY

Plans for the Biennial Directory of all Cal Tech Alumni are rapidly maturing and it is expected that it will be ready for mailing to all paid members of the Association about April 1, 1940. Work has been carried forward since the publication of the last directory in tracing Alumni listed as missing in 1939.

In order for the publication plans to function efficiently it is quite important that all Alumni, whether members or not, reply promptly to the inquiry cards which are being sent out. Besides the directory use, the information secured is of value to the Institute and the Alumni Placement Service.

The Directory Committee consists of Sidney Bamberger, '33, chairman, Mott Frudames, '32, and Ray Labory, '31. The Committee expects to better the accuracy standard set by the 1939 Directory.

NEW SEMINAR BOARD SETUP OUTLINED

Plans are in progress for another interesting and stimulating series of events when the Fourth Annual Alumni Seminar Week-End convenes on April 5th and 6th, 1941. The Seminar Board, appointed by the Directors of the Alumni Association in June, 1940, has been considering plans for the 1941 Program, and laying the foundation for an administrative organization to provide a continuity of thought and action through succeeding years.

The present Seminar Board is composed of four members, two of which will serve for one year and the others for two years. Two new Board members will be selected annually by the Directors of the Alumni Association from a list of four to six candidates submitted by the Seminar Board.

It is readily seen that continuity of method and organization of the Seminar plus the ideas and stimulation of new personnel will be obtained by this plan.

Each member of the Seminar Board has a definite function. One of the senior members, serving his second year, will be General Managers Program Chairman for that particular year. The Junior members will serve as understudies and assistants to the senior members. This year, however, the plan was set up only due to the fact that two members will serve for only one year. Fred A. Hough, '24, and Donald P. MacFarlane, '26, are Program Chairman and Assistant Program Chairman, respectively, this year, and will serve as General Manager and Chairman, with two new Board members for understudies on the 1942 Seminar Board.

NATIONAL DEFENSE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, acting as chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, has made public a list of scientific men and engineers who have thus far accepted definite appointments as members of the particular National Defense problems that they propose.

Of the eight members of the Committee, created by order of the Council of National Defense on June 27, 1940, two of the committee members in key positions, are affiliated with the California Institute. Dr. Richard C. Tolman, dean of the Graduate School is vice-chairman in charge of the Division dealing with armor and ordnance. Dr. Frank B. Jewett, '98, chairman-of-the-board of Bell Telephone Laboratories, is chairman of the Division dealing with communication and transportation.

Vice-chairman of the ordnance and armor division is Professor Charles C. Lauritsen, Ph.D. '29. Other members of Dr. Tolman's Division, who are affiliated with the Institute, are Robert A. Becker, M.S. '27, Donald S. F. Bates, Ph.D. William A. Fowler, Ph.D. '36 and John F. Streib, Jr., '36.

Dr.'s Linus Pauling, Ph.D. '23, and Don M. Yost, Ph.D. '26, are serving in the Division dealing with chemical problems, under the chairmanship of Dr. James B. Conant of Harvard.

PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS FROLIC AND FORECAST

The California Institute is well represented in all phases and departments of the petroleum industry, according to reports received by the Directors of the Alumni Association, and the Tech contingent of petroleum geologists is no small one. Practically every major company is represented.

Almost without exception, Tech's band of petroleum geologists convened with others of their species on November 7-8, at the seventh annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Section, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles. The meeting was attended by the foreign contingent, of course, with a present only in spirit.

Papers were presented by Wendell Woodring, formerly professor of invertebrate paleontology at the Institute, now of the U.S. Geological Survey; and Roland Eckis, M.S. '30, Bakersfield district geologist for Richfield.

The Institute geological faculty was represented by Dr. La. G. Campbell, Dr. P. D. Bode, '30, and Dr. J. H. Maxson, '27.

Various other Tech men, lounging or alert, presented less formal discussions or engaged in varying banalities. For example...

Dr. Layton Stanton, '27, Bakersfield district geologist for Union, was observed collaring listeners to tell them about his two daughters, 5 and 7. Dr. Hampton, Texas company, was seen in the bar collecting donations for a baby shower.

Kenneth Lohman, '29, of the U.S.G.C., now recognized as one of the country's experts on distillate, discussed recent findings of deep-sea dredging in the Atlantic Ocean. John Warlemont Daly, '29, stayed awake during all papers on geophysics, since that is his line with the Shell Company.

Ed Joujon-Roche, '28, scout for the Shell Company, darted in at the last moment to glad-hand all hands... Frank Bell, '28, micropaleontologist with the same company, turned down all spoken invitations to hurry home to the little woman.

Conversely, Alex Clark, '28, of the Shell Company, and George Schrotter, '28, of the Filtroll Corporation, were kept busy turning down the little woman to play poker. The work was not only a huge success, and the Tech men's papers were well received and timely. Both Woodring's topic, "Late Miocene and Pliocene Stratigraphy and Paleontology of the Santa Maria District, California," and Eckis' contribution on "The Stevens Sand, Southern San Joaquin Valley, California," were timely and well-received contributions.

BORSOOK BOOK


Dr. Borsook is one of the nation's outstanding research men in the field of vitamins, and already has made many notable contributions to the science. His investigations of vitamin B have resulted in aids to the medical profession in dealing with some of man's chronic aches and pains.

An article written by him especially for the Alumni Review appeared in a recent issue.

Another Smash Hit

DON'T MISS THE
Annual Alumni Dance
Biltmore Hotel - February 15, 1941

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Faculty Appointments

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, as chairman of the executive council, has announced two important faculty appointments at the Institute.

Dr. William V. Houston, professor of physics, has been named acting dean of the graduate school. He will continue the work of Dr. William R. Smythe. L. Winchester Jones, assistant professor of English, and a member of the Alumni Club, has been appointed to the newly created position of assistant dean of upper classmen. He will work with Frederic W. Hinrichs, Jr., dean of upper classmen.

DEFENSE EDUCATION

Representatives of engineering colleges and universities of the southwest met recently at the Institute to discuss participation in the federal educational program for technical experts. Professor R. L. Daugherty, chairman of the committee, reported that the federal program calls for instruction in special courses at government expense of more than 30,000 students at more than 150 institutions of learning.

The first objective is to forestall potential shortages of inspectors of materials, chemicals, materials, and power plants; designers of machinery, equipment, tools, and dies, and aircraft power plants, structures, and instruments; production engineers and supervisors, physical and chemical engineers, and marine engineers and naval architects.

A Caltech committee, with Professor Franklin Thomas chairman, and including J. R. Royall, Sorensen, W. R. Sears, R. C. A., and L. W. Scott, has been conferring on courses of study that can be undertaken at the Institute.

IN THE NEWS

After completing nearly a quarter of a century as secretary of the Caltech faculty, Dr. Harry Clark Van Buskirk has retired in favor of Dr. J. E. Wallace Sterling, associate professor of history. Dr. Van Buskirk, professor of mathematics, has been with the Institute since 1924, and was registrar from 1915 to 1935. Professor Franklin Thomas replaces Dr. Linus C. Pauling as chairman of the faculty.

Professor Royal W. Sorensen, president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, reported upon his return from a tour through Europe a tremendous interest in his campaign for engineers to educate the public on how an engineer functions in society. The need of more engineers to educate the public was illustrated with slides showing the uses of electricity and electrical devices in non-electrical research at Caltech.

SANITARY AWARD

A. Perry Banta, assistant professor of sanitary engineering at Caltech, and two collaborators have been awarded the James Laurie Prize by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Mr. Banta, with A. M. Rawn, chief engineer of Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, and Dr. Richard Pomeroy "26, who has been research chemist for the districts, was awarded the coveted prize for a communication entitled "Multiple-Stage Sewage Sludge Digestion."

The award, which will be awarded publicly at the annual meeting of the society in January at Cincinnati, Ohio, was given for showing excellence in describing in detail accomplished works of construction, their cost, and errors of design and execution.

Mr. Banta, at Caltech on a part-time basis, is assistant engineer on the staff of the sanitation districts. He obtained his master's degree at Tech in 1928, after being graduated from Stanford University.

STRANGE BEDFELLOW

When George Cohn, a junior, returned to his room, 47 Ricekets House, recently, he found an automobile with its motor still running in his bed! When going into the room behind him and feigning surprise were a score of students. "Can't you afford a garage?" "How do you keep your room warm?" they asked.

George noticed a suspicious smile on two and began laughing. He declared that the house men had noticed 89 gr. to the cubic inch of a more modern model, had taken it apart and reassembled it in George's room.

After the crowd had had its fill, the motor was hosed down with water, removed the body and axles from the chassis and hauled the parts outside, where they were once more assembled. The car has the distinction of having more owners than any other automobile at Caltech.

FOR SUPER SEEING

Dr. Thomas F. Anderson, Institute physicist, is to be the first recipient of the R. C. A. electron microscope fellowship. He is among the newly developed super-magnification instruments that use streams of electrons instead of beams of light. The electron microscope is capable of producing magnification as great as 100,000 diameters, contrasting with an ultimate performance of 3,000 diameters for the ordinary type of microscopes, even when using ultraviolet light.

Dr. Anderson, a native of Wisconsin, has studied at the Universities of Wisconsin and Chicago. In addition to his work at Caltech he has been the year of graduate study at Munich, Germany.
Thirty members of the California Tech Club of New York were given an insight into the petroleum industry on November 15th by a pair of Tech men well qualified to present their respective subjects. Loren P. Scoville, M.S., '30, spoke on "The Essential Parts and Operations of a Modern Refinery." Following this, Vladimir A. Kalichevsky, B.S., spoke on "Modern Methods of Manufacturing Motor and Aviation Gasolines." Not content with letting the two speakers relax after delivering their well prepared talks, thirty representatives of the engineering schools at the speakers until both popular and scientific phases of the industry were thoroughly covered.

Last September 8th proved to be a red-letter day for the California Tech Club of New York. On Sunday morning at an early hour, an enthusiastic group of men, women, and children assembled at a midtown pier on the East River for a cruise along beautiful Long Island Sound. With all hands on board, bathing suits and lunches stowed away for the landing hour, the trim craft slid under the trim, away from the skyscrapers of Manhattan that fashion. The anchor was cast on a Point Pleasant. A number lounged about to those on the beach. Following lunch, cream and afternoon tea were served to all, the ship's mate Mr. Whittaker's, for a very enjoyable evening. Unfortunately, Paul at the last minute was detained in the hospital, but Mrs. Scherer graciously opened their home for the party. Dr. James A. B. Scherer, Paul's father and former president of Throop College of Technology, was present.

Our sympathies have been extended to the family of Durac A. Jeciker, '31, who passed away on October 15, 1940, at home in Mill Valley. Duroc had been in ill health for some time and suffered a paralytic stroke last summer from which he did not recover.

Our regular Monday luncheons at the Palace Hotel Fraternity Dining Room are being continued and a hearty welcome is extended to all.

Very truly yours,
Robert B. Freeman, Secretary.

MISSING ALUMNI
The Alumni Association's files are lacking information on the present whereabouts of the following men. A post card dropped to the Alumni Office will assist in completing the files and in the preparation of the Alumni Directory which is expected to come off the press next March. Please help us locate these men.

1900-20
Davidson, Leonard E
McCutcheon, H. C.
Norris, Frank E.
Craig, Robert W.
Fleming, Thomas J.
Alcara, Max R.
Brown, George N.
Miller, Palmer
Aguirre, Wm. F.
Bleat, Alyn A.
Hansen, Raymond J.
Johnston, W. I.
Aissenoff, Constantine I.
Campbell, John S.
Forster, Alfred
Marlau, John E.
Eastman, Luther J.
Clark, John D.
Efies, Eugene
Schubert, David
Webb, Glenn M.
Ferguson, Robert S
Holmes, Wm M.
Fen, Joseph
Keighley, Clyde R.
Roberts, Frank F.
Stone, George B.
Scofield, T. W.
Waller, Conrad J.
Watkins, Robin T.
Hsia, Chuan-Yue
Huang, Jue Chih
Medlin, Lewis E.
Hayward, Donald

ABOUT OUR AUTHORS
One of the world's outstanding authorities on the chemical refining of petroleum has taken time out from his myriad activities as General Supervisor of the Research and Development Department of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company to contribute our feature article on "The Progress of Petroleum," (with Stagner) are classics of petroleum literature. But he has always found time to be an active member of the New York Alumni Chapter.

Emmett Irwin, '24, writes about magnetic testing of steel with considerable authority for a large part of the work in this field has been done by himself. He is now Chief Engineer of the Magnetic Corporation, exploiting one of his own inventions.

The class of '24 must be unusually prolific of literary ability. Certainly we think Ed Layton's description of life in the Venezuelan oil fields ranks near the top. Ed's six months in Venezuela took him to many interesting scenes, including the famous fire which destroyed the lake-village of Lagunillas. His pictures of the fire were destined for a Life magazine cover, but were intercepted by the oil companies to serve as evidence in a threatened Venezuelan government suit. Ed is now in the Los Angeles office of the Lufkin Foundry and Machine Company.

Nick D'Arcy, Jr., '29, provided us with a very interesting article on internal combustion power for drilling. Nick is now in charge of the Sales Office at Emsco Derrick and Equipment Company in Los Angeles and an ardent Alumni Association booster.

Bob Sturton, '30, claimed he was too busy with responsibilities on the Alumnae Magazine to write much of an article for the Review. But after persuasion he turned out one that's really a corker, on the position of engineer in the Orient today. Bob's chief worry has been a good time during his two and a half years in Singapore, but he's also glad to bid his share of the white man's burden in the East.

Sid Zipser, '30, also takes us on an Oriental adventure, but through the eyes of a photographer. If Technicians doesn't keep Sid away from home he'll write another article next issue, and with more illustrations of the photographer's art, we hope.

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