

FACULTY WAITERS

FOR THEIR SECOND consecutive victory in the ASCIT Consolidated Charities Drive interhouse competition, the men of Dabney House were rewarded on Thursday, March 4, with a formal banquet of four courses and an after-dinner show featuring distinguished members of the Caltech faculty with their hair more or less down.

Faculty members waited on tables as part of this prize last year as well as this year, but the entertainment was a new feature which certainly met with general approval.

The ASCIT Charities Drive is sponsored by the student body and was directed this year by George Johnston, ASCIT vice-president. Solicitations are made of graduate students and members of the faculty by students in the undergraduate houses, and the house whose men have solicited the biggest total is treated to this evening of fine food and fine entertainment.

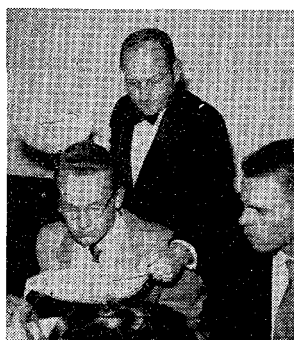
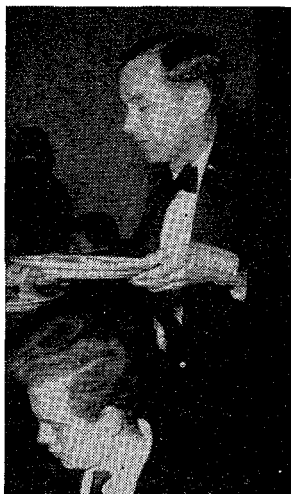
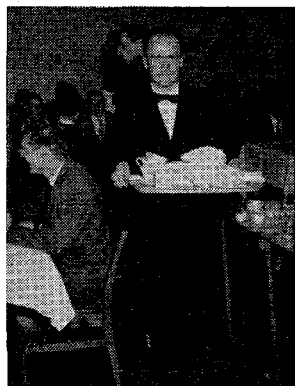
The festivities started shortly after six o'clock with the serving of the first of the four courses by the faculty waiters, who were led by Headwaiter George Beadle and who included on their impressive rolls Drs. Pauling, Davidson, Kyropoulos, Paul, and Eagleson, and Deans Strong and Eaton. Even the kitchen of the student houses got into the holiday mood and served up New York steaks for the lucky Dabneymen.

The dining room atmosphere was lush and formal and illumination was by candlelight. Music was furnished for this elegant setting by a chamber music group composed of Drs. Brown, Erdelyi, and Duwez, with Mr. Campbell at the piano.

The waiters, who were doing pretty well despite their inexperience (well, it *was* their second year at that), had cleared the tables by 7:40 and the entertainment began.

Dr. DuBridge was to have served as master of ceremonies but he explained that his duty led him elsewhere, and with regrets he turned the toastmastership over to Dr. Whaling (Physics), who introduced the rest of the program.

Dr. Whaling told the audience that some years ago, when the plans for educational television first reached the drawing boards, the Caltech administration had felt that it should prepare an educational seminar for programming. After many months of hard work it had finally readied this seminar for presentation. The evening at Dabney, he explained, was the "dress rehearsal,"



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and if it was successful the seminar—entitled “Science Speaks”—was to go on the air “at an unannounced time in the future.”

The program was sponsored by “nackle—spelled N-A-C-L—the stuff that makes you crackle,” and two instructors who shall remain nameless here presented what might possibly be called a commercial. Tirelessly they praised the virtues of NACL, “the new wonder tonic.” “Use it in place of salt,” they suggested; “wherever salt is used, NACL may be safely substituted!”

The seminar then began with a lecture by Dr. Cowan (Physics) regarding the velocity of escape of flies from flypaper. Studies of the rather low coefficient of restitution of such collisions, Dr. Cowan reported, were expected to lead to information on the mean free paths in an equilibrium mixture of gnats and mosquitoes. Unfortunately, he said, the experiments had been carried out on a very cold day, reducing the partial pressure of flies in the atmosphere to an extremely small quantity and invalidating the results of the experiment.

Professors Small (Air Science) and Clark (English) then gave a “demonstration lecture on aeronautics” which actually amounted to a somewhat bawdy song entitled “I Wanted Wings” (“until I got the — — — things”). The two gentlemen, dressed as they were in almost unrecognizable “monkey suits,” were only slightly fazed by the realization that their profanity was falling on the ears of several feminine guests whom the gallant Dabneyites had invited to the dinner. The girls, however, were good sports about the whole thing, and Small & Clark were permitted to retain their commissions.

Dr. Harrison Brown (Geochemistry) then produced some excellent piano renditions of “St. Louis Blues” and “The Sheik of Araby.” The unusual nature of the arrangements could not hide the fact that there was real musical talent here.

The program ended with a lecture by Dr. Fowler (Physics) on the pecking order (“order of peckulation”) in domestic fowl, the practical sociology of the coop, and application to the genetics of lower animals.

By 8:15 it was all over except the reminiscing. Some may have gone up to snake, others out to celebrate; but all were surely in a good frame of mind, and Dabney to the man could be pleased and proud of its record and its reward.

—*Martin Tangora '57*

