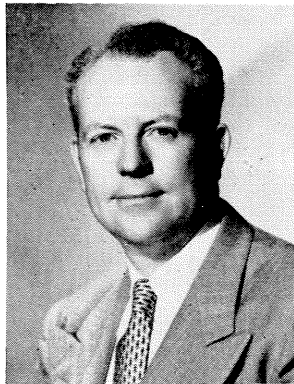


ALUMNI NEWS

Annual Meeting



VIRGIL M. PINKLEY, editor and publisher of the Los Angeles *Mirror-News* will be the dinner speaker at the annual banquet and meeting of the Caltech Alumni Association to be held at the Pasadena Elks Club, 400 West Colorado Street, on June 6.

Mr. Pinkley's talk — "Asia and the World" — will be based on a 30,000-

mile trip he made recently to Southeast Asia and the Far Pacific, where he interviewed ambassadors, business men, farmers in the field and private citizens. Until he became editor and publisher of the *Mirror-News* Mr. Pinkley was general European manager and vice-president of the United Press Association.

Reunion classes at the annual banquet and meeting will include 1916, 1921, 1926, 1931, 1936, 1941, 1946 and 1951. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will start at 7. Besides Mr. Pinkley's talk, President DuBridgely will give a year-end review of developments at the Institute. Reservations should be in at the Alumni Office by June 1.

Alumni Picnic

HAVE YOU SEEN a championship western rodeo recently? No? Then here's your chance, at the annual picnic. Just load the wife and kids in the family bus on Saturday, June 23, and head for Corriganville, the world-famous movie ranch.

Enjoy a leisurely picnic (bring one or buy it there) in the shady Robin Hood Forest. In the morning and early afternoon Hollywood stunt men will reenact a daringly realistic bank hold-up and a stage coach hold-up, just as you see it in famous movie scenes.

Before the rodeo there will be time to walk through the interesting movie sets of Fort Apache (home of the TV Rin-Tin-Tin series), the Corsican Village, and Silvertown (an old frontier town). There will also be time for horseback riding, a stage coach ride, or perhaps a short hike with junior. Then at 3:30 the spectacular rodeo starts. This will keep you on the edge of your grandstand seat, with all the thrills of a championship rodeo.

Save the date—*Saturday, June 23rd*. See you and your family at Corriganville.

—John Eaton Fleming, '46
Chairman, Annual Picnic.

National Academy of Sciences

FOUR CALTECH ALUMNI were elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences last month, bringing alumni membership to 26. Those elected were Walter Heinrich Munk, BS '39, MS '40; Folke Karl Skoog, BS '32, PhD '36; Charles Hard Townes, PhD '39; and William A. Fowler, PhD '39, Caltech professor of physics (see page 21).

Dr. Munk, an Austrian by birth, became an American citizen in 1939, at the same time that he got his BS from Caltech. After receiving his MS here, he went to the University of California, where he got his PhD in oceanography in 1947. Now professor of geophysics at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Dr. Munk has explored the spectrum of motions of the sea surface which has led to research on ocean waves as a meteorological tool. His studies of wind stress on the water, tidal movements of the ocean surface, and gravity waves in the atmosphere, reach into related astronomical and meteorological problems.

Dr. Skoog, professor of botany at the University of Wisconsin, was born in Sweden and became an American citizen in 1935. After receiving his BS and his PhD from Caltech, he became a National Research Council fellow at the University of California in Berkeley. He was an instructor and research associate at Harvard University from 1937 to 1941. Then, after three years of teaching at Johns Hopkins University, he served as a chemist and technical representative for the Office of the Quartermaster General in Europe, until he joined the staff of the University of Wisconsin in 1947.

Dr. Skoog is a leader in studies of plant growth substances. He uses a variety of techniques—physiological, chemical, microbiological and cytological—in attacking the problems of cell growth. He has contributed to our understanding of cell divisions and recently announced the isolation of a substance, kinetin, which appears to be an important regulator of this process. For his work on auxin physiology, the American Society of Plant Physiologists gave him the Stephen Hales award in 1954.

Dr. Skoog has also pioneered in research with the blue green algae which are so ruinous to fish in Wisconsin's lakes and streams. From studies of the nutritional cultivation and growth of these algae, he has created a compound which will destroy them.

Dr. Townes, professor of physics at Columbia University, is one of the pioneers and chief contributors in the field of microwave spectroscopy. A native of Greenville, South Carolina, he received his BA and BS from Furman University there, got his MA at Duke University in 1937 and his PhD from Caltech in 1939. After working in electronics for six years, he joined the Columbia University faculty in 1948.