

ALUMNI NEWS

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The San Francisco Chapter meets weekly for lunch at the Fraternity Club, 345 Bush Street, on Mondays.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S INDUSTRIAL FUTURE TOLD AT MARCH MEETING

EMPHASIZING his statements by citing several actual cases, Mr. Paul K. Yost, vice-president of the Security-First National Bank, declared that the rapid industrial growth now occurring in Southern California is indicative of the future of this region. Speaking before a meeting of alumni at the Pasadena Athletic Club on March 20, Mr. Yost reviewed the reasons for the increasing business and industrial importance of Southern California and gave several reasons for believing that the characteristics now developing will be come permanent in spite of cyclic variations in business activity.

The prime prerequisite for business and industrial growth is, of course, the presence of sufficient population to provide employees and users of the resulting product. Climate has caused the population density to increase to the point where, with other favorable factors, production of many articles here has become economical. The war accelerated both industrial development and population growth. The limitation which water supply places on population is recognized, but at the same time it must be acknowledged that before existing water supply capacity is reached, means may be found to utilize water from the ocean. For this reason it would be wrong to

state now that the population must forever be limited to that which existing water supplies will support.

In closing, Mr. Yost warned of the sociological problems which normally increase with rising population density. It is possible to avoid serious results from these problems if provision is made now to meet them through adequate civic planning and support of humanitarian agencies.

Following Mr. Yost's talk there was considerable discussion as the result of several questions from the floor. Mr. Yost's direct answers, based on considerable experience in Los Angeles and on-the-spot observation in all large industrial cities in the nation did much to give his listeners a clear view of the future.

Mr. Yost was introduced by George Hawley of the class of '21, manager of industrial sales of the Southern California Edison Company.

JAMES BOYD '27 GETS GOVERNMENT POST

DR. JAMES BOYD, dean of the graduate school of the Colorado School of Mines, who obtained his B.S. degree in 1927, was recently appointed director of the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

J. R. PIERCE '33 WINS I.R.E. AWARD

THE Institute of Radio Engineers awarded the Morris Liebmann Memorial Prize for 1947 to Dr. J. R. Pierce '33, at the annual banquet of the I.R.E. 5 March in New York.

Dr. Pierce received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and continued at the Institute until 1936 when he obtained the Ph.D. degree. He then joined the staff of Bell Telephone Laboratories and has been with this organization since. During the war his efforts were devoted almost exclusively to the development of electronic devices for the Armed Forces. Since then he has been carrying on research in high frequency tubes and it was for his specific development of the traveling wave type of tube that he received the 1947 Liebmann Memorial Prize.

DR. ROBERT P. SHARP '34 NAMED PROFESSOR HERE

THE appointment of Dr. Robert P. Sharp as professor of Geomorphology in the Division of the Geological Sciences, effective 1 September 1947 was announced early in March. Dr. Sharp is currently professor of Geomorphology at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Sharp received his bachelor's degree in 1934 and his master's degree in 1935 in geology at the California Institute. He was a three-year letterman—quarterback of the football team—and in his senior year was captain of the football team, as well as student body president. He was a member of Tau Beta Pi, and was awarded the honor key on graduation.

In the fall of 1935 he went to Harvard on a scholarship and in 1936-37 was holder of the Woodworth Traveling Fellowship, awarded by Harvard University. His Ph.D. degree was obtained at Harvard in 1937, for a thesis involving structural and physiographic study of the Ruby Mountains in Nevada.

On completing his graduate studies at Harvard,

Dr. Sharp joined the faculty of the University of Illinois where he remained until after the outbreak of the war, when he was commissioned in the Arctic, Desert, and Tropic Information Center of the Army Air Forces. His work there was largely with the Arctic Section. After discharge from war service he went to the University of Minnesota.

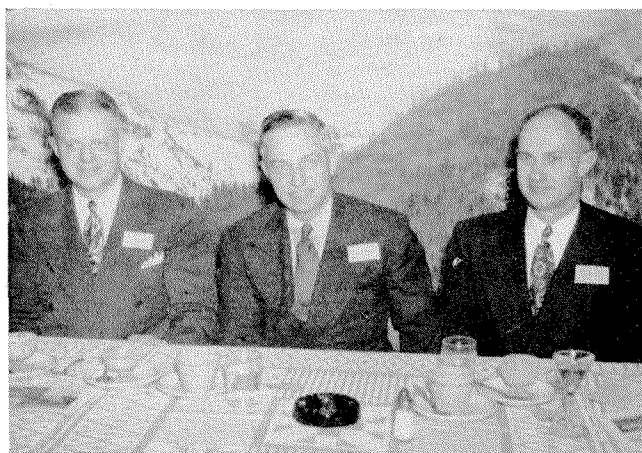
Dr. Sharp has had additional teaching experience in the geology summer field camp faculties of Stanford University and the University of Michigan. He is the author of many scientific papers, the majority dealing with problems of geomorphology. Opportunities for study in this field in Southern California are excellent, and it is anticipated by the Division of Geology that the addition of Dr. Sharp to its faculty will bring new contributions to our knowledge of the land forms of Southern California.

FORMER BIOLOGY RESEARCH FELLOW WINS STANFORD APPOINTMENT

DR. C. STACY FRENCH, associate professor of plant physiology at the University of Minnesota, who was a research fellow at CalTech in 1935, has been appointed director of the Division of Plant Biology of the Carnegie Institute of Washington at Stanford University. He will assume his new duties on July 1.

TWO 1929 GRADUATES DEVELOP METALLIC ANALYZER

CLASSMATES Maurice Hasler and Roland W. Lindhurst '29 demonstrated late in February a device called a "quantometer" which permits immediate visual analysis of metallic elements in any given metallic sample.



Howard Vesper '22, Lee A. DuBridge, president of the California Institute, and Maurice Jones '26, president of the San Francisco Chapter.

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Showing the proportions of as many as 11 elements in a given sample as dial readings, the quantometer may save the steel industry millions of dollars annually in blast furnace time, the inventors believe. The result of three years of research and development, the tool is already in use by the laboratories of several large metal producers.

Physicist Hasler, M.S. '30, Ph.D. '33, and his partner Lindhurst, B.S. in electrical engineering '29, produced the quantometer at their Applied Research Laboratories in Glendale. This analyzer represents the latest step in the present chemical technique of reading alloy contents. Delayed by the war, during which they made analytical equipment for defense industries, the Army, and theanford and Oak Ridge projects, the first instrument was finished several months ago.

The average test requires 45 seconds, more than 10 times faster than previous spectrophotographic methods, and hours faster than the traditional "wet chemical" process. Twelve multiplier phototubes register the proportions of up to 11 elements in respect to a 12th or basic known element on a console.

DUBRIDGE SPEAKS TO SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER

ROBERT P. JONES '35, secretary-treasurer of the San Francisco Chapter, writes: On March 7 the San Francisco Chapter of the CalTech Alumni Association had the most outstanding meeting in its history. Ninety-one alumni attended to meet and hear Dr. DuBridge. It was a pleasure that this chapter will long remember.

Dr. DuBridge's talk was entitled "CalTech, Past, Present and Future." For all present a more interesting subject could not have been chosen. Most of the alumni have been out of touch with Institute doings for some time. We were glad to hear about CalTech's part in World War II in the development of rocket propulsion and other projects. Of the present, we were enlightened on the size of the student body, type of student, the financial condition and sources of income. Best of all was the progress made towards acquiring Tournament Park*. The future of the 200-inch telescope, plans for expansion, coming research projects and some discussion of the future graduate completed the talk of the evening.

For all those present the evening was altogether too short. We extend our sincere thanks to Dr. DuBridge and wish him well in his new position.

Among those present were, H. L. Albright '23, E. M. Atchison '45, H. E. Baker '30, M. A. Baldwin '27, S. F. Bamberger '33, W. W. Baustian '29, J. Y.

* This meeting was held before the three-to-one approval of Pasadena voters was given to the abandonment of Tournament Park and its sale to the Institute.

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