# C. I. T. NEWS

### **December Meeting**

THE December 13 Alumni Dinner Meeting, held at the University Club, was a great success. There were 70 members and guests present: the class of '33 being represented by six members—not bad! After a session of elbow bending and the partaking of a most delicious dinner, the meeting was formally opened by President Charles Varney. Vice-President and Program Chairman Al Laws introduced the speaker of the evening. R. G. Kenyon, vice-president of the Southern California Edison Company.

Mr. Kenyon gave a very interesting talk on Labor-Management Relations. He differentiated between labor as a commodity, and the laborer as an individual. Labor as a commodity is priced in accordance with standard economic laws of supply and demand and not according to the buyer's ability to pay. This classification fits very accurately into the picture when used with reference to the depression of 14 years ago and the huge demand for labor during the war years. Labor problems date back as far as 1350 A. D. At that time the great plague took place in England and people died in such large numbers that there was a serious labor shortage for food production.

Mr. Kenyon then went on to give a history of the organization of labor into unions. The earliest known labor union was organized in 1790, but not until 1886, when the Knights of Labor was formed with 700,000 members, did labor unionize into a large organization. However, the Knights of Labor lasted only six years, and not until the American Federation of Labor was started in 1900 were there any strong unions. With the A. F. of L. came the institution of collective bargaining. Mr. Kenyon then described the labor-management relations during the war and at the present time. He ended his talk with the statement that management is not hostile to labor unions as such, but to some of the corollary philosophies which have developed in the movement.

President Varney then asked for further business, and Al Laws gave a short resume of the coming meetings next year.

The meeting was then adjourned.

## **Affiliates With National Organization**

N organization known as the Association of Pasadena Scientists was formed at the California Institute of Technology in November 1945. Purposes of the Association will be to study the problems associated with the relationship between society and scientific developments, with special emphasis on problems of atomic power; to promote freedom of research, particularly nuclear research; to cooperate with other groups which are working to prevent the destructive use of atomic energy, and to convince the public at large of the necessity for taking action designed to achieve this goal.

At a special meeting of the new organization held December 19. addressed by Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer, former head of the Los Alamos bomb project and by Dr. Linus Pauling, the membership voted to affiliate with the American Federation of Scientists, the national group formed to gather and disseminate information concerning

developments in science insofar as they affect world peace and the general welfare.

Membership in the American Federation of Scientists is open to local associations with at least 25 "qualified" members. Qualified individuals (for voting purposes in the Federation) shall be natural scientists, mathematicians, or engineers active in scientific works with a minimum of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent, in science or engineering.

### **Physics Research**

(Continued from Page 3)

have been made. To others, however, who see the value of such things to all engineering applications, as well as to those whose minds are only satisfied when everything is finally in order, this presents a challenging problem. At the present time, work is under way in a great many academic and industrial laboratories on what is roughly designated as the "theory of solids".

On the other hand, the field of research that is now so much in the public eye as to be a possible source of embarrassment to physicists, is that of nuclear physics. In a sense, nuclear physics began with the discovery of radio-activity. Its progress was slow until the early 1920's, when patient and persistent efforts of the physicists in the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge began to show results, and the first atomic nucleus was broken down. After that time interest grew at an increasing rate, until the tremendous expenditure of funds during the recent war produced results in the application of nuclear physics to the destruction of people and cities that has brought it to the attention of every thinking person. Most physicists are very unhappy because of the emphasis that has been put upon the destructive possibilities of the results, but many of them believe that by continued research and investigation this new source of energy can be made adaptable to extensive peacetime uses, and to uses that may tend to alleviate some of the causes of war.

#### NUCLEAR RESEARCH

Most active physics laboratories, both academic and industrial, are now making extensive preparations for nuclear research. It can be done in a variety of ways, but characteristic of most of these methods is the necessity for relatively large installations and equipment. There are those who think that such research should be operated and sponsored by the Government. But the Government has not yet decided to what extent and in what way it may contribute to research of this kind. There are others who think research would be much more fruitful if sponsored entirely by individual groups. In the meantime, active preparations are being made in the Kellogg Radiation Laboratory and the Norman Bridge Laboratory at California Institute of Technology for a resumption of nuclear research at something like the point where it was dropped in 1941. Some of the advances during the war can be turned to advantage, but, in general, it is a laborious process of attempting to recover the ground lost while developing lethal weapons of one kind or another.

### Herbert Ingersoll '26

Herbert Ingersoll was killed December 15, 1944, in Subic Bay, when he was a prisoner of the Japs aboard a prison ship which was sunk. Herb was in action on Bataan. His wife has received the Silver Star Citation.

### Dr. William Houston to Be Rice President

On March 1, Dr. William V. Houston, professor of physics, and chairman of the Department of Physics, Mathematics and Electrical Engineering at California Institute of Technology, leaves the Institute to become president of Rice Institute at Houston, Texas.

John T. Scott, chairman of the board of trustees of Rice Institute, announced the appointment of Dr. Houston who succeeds Dr. Edgar Odell Lovett, president of Rice Institute since its organization in 1908. Dr. Lovett will continue to serve as president emeritus.

Dr. Houston received his B.A. and B.Sc. from Ohio State University in 1920 and his Ph.D. from the same Institution in 1925. He came to C.I.T. in 1925, and his work at the Institute has won him a national reputation

in the field of physics.

Since Rice Institute, like C.I.T., is a school in which the fundamentals of engineering and science are supplemented by a generous study of the humanities, Dr. Houston's career will continue in an educational atmosphere congenial to him. All of the Institute Staff and alumni wish Dr. Houston success and satisfaction in his new duties.

### **New Associate Dean Appointed**

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Technology held on December 3, 1945, Foster Strong, assistant professor of Physics was appointed Associate Dean of Freshmen. L. Winchester Jones remains Associate Dean of Upper Classmen, and the title of Franklin Thomas is changed to Dean of Students rather than Dean of Upper Classmen.

Fill in and send to:
News Editor, Engineering and Science Monthly 1201 East California Street, Pasadena 4, Calif.
NameClass
Home address
Information about myself (marriage, position, type of work, change of position or location, etc.)
Information about another alumnus
Name Class.

### MISSING ADDRESSES

The residence, business, or military addresses of the following graduates are unknown. If anyone reading this column could supply this information, it would be appreciated if they contact the Alumni Office.—Editor.

Alumni Office.—Editor.	-	
Name Class	Name	Class
Aggeler, William F'25	Greenlees, A. L	
Alexander, Chas. K'37	Gregory, Carter	H'31
Allen, Robert N'16	Gregory, Jackso	n, Jr'32
Anissmoff,	Gridley, Horace	V'24
Constantin'26 Applegate,	Griest, Raymone	1 л 32 Тг '35
Lindsay M	Grimm, George Gross, Siegfried	T35
Arnold, Lee	Haeff, Andrew	V
Ayars, William F'14	Haffner, Bernha	rd'40
Batu, Buhtar	Hamilton, Jame Hamway, Danie	s п 25 l S '41
Beakley, Wallace M'35	Hand, Ross L	36
Beichley Francis W'40	Hanger, Willard Hansen, Raymo	M'43
Bell, Richard W	Hansen, Raymo Hardwick, Fray	nd J25
Bennett, Foster C37	Hartman, Edwir	P'40
Benson, Arthur S'41	Hastings, Rober	t C'24
Berry, Frederick	Hayward, Russe	11 E'38
A., Jr	Head, Altred B Hendry, Noel V	42 V '30
Blackman, Roy B'98	Herlin, Robert	G33
Bradshaw.	Hetzel, Eustace	P'40
Richard R	Hoard, J. L Hoch, Winton	
Briggs, Thomas H., Jr	Holzman, Benja	
Burns, Martin C'39		
Byrne, Hugh J. P'25	Hughes, Lawren E., Jr	
Cabeen, William'39	Imus, Henry Jack, Samuel S	30
Call, Raymond	Jackson, Andre	
Carlmark, Carl W'41	Jennings, Stephe	en'38
Carr, John	Jetter, Ulrich	
Chang-Hung-Yuan	Jones, Winthrop Johnson, Norma	n S '34
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### PERSONALS

T WILL be helpful if readers will send personal items concerning themselves and others to the Alumni Office. Great interest has been shown in these columns, but more information is required. Do not hesitate to send in facts about yourself, such as change of position or location, present job, technical accomplishments, etc. Please help.

Editor

#### 1918

CORLISS A. BERCAW, who holds the position of district sales manager for General Motors Corp., electro-motive division, Chicago, Ill., made a business trip to Los Angeles in November in connection with testing a 6,000 h.p. diesel electric loco-motive between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles on the Union Pacific.

ALFRED A. NEWTON passed away on November 12 in a Boise, Idaho, hospital of cerebral hemorrhage. Mr. Newton was en route home from Seattle, where he had gone to meet his sister on her return to the states after liberation from a Japanese prison camp. Mr. Newton was very active in civic affairs in the city of Santa Monica, Calif., where he lived and was professionally a civil engineer, holding an executive position with the Aircrafts Products Co. of that city.

NEAL D. SMITH has been appointed city engineer of the City of San Diego and assumed office on the first of December. Mr. Smith was city manager at Ontario, Calif., for six years, resigning to take the San Diego position.

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