

# ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

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## Outlook for the Association Next Year

By HOWARD LEWIS

At the June 11 annual Dinner Meeting of the Alumni Association, Howard Lewis made the following remarks on accepting the presidency of the Association for the 1948-1949 year:

**T**HE strong group of directors you have chosen for the coming year and the fine understanding which has developed between our Association and our Alma Mater, guarantee us an outstanding Association program for the coming year.

In the past two years we have done a great deal of thinking and talking among ourselves and with the Institute staff about the place of the Alumni in the Caltech community and the reasons for the existence of an Alumni Association.

The Alumni and the Institute Administration agree that:

First, the Institute's product is its Alumni. The standing of its Alumni in the community and in their professions is the best measure of the success of the Institute

Second, the Institute owes its Alumni, (its foster sons) a continuing interest in them and in their welfare

Third, the Alumni owe their Alma Mater (their fostering mother) a continuing interest in her welfare

Fourth, the respective obligations of the Institute and its Alumni, each to the other, are independent and should not be considered as elements of a trade or an exchange.

Both the Institute and the Association have taken and are taking positive steps to implement this philosophy.

The Alumni Association is, of course, a voluntary organization of the Alumni of Caltech. Its purpose in life is to help the Alumni maintain contact with each other and with the Institute. From the Institute's point of view, an Alumnus is an Alumnus, whether he is a member of our Association or not, but, of necessity, the only way the Institute can maintain effective contact with its Alumni is through organized channels. No matter how earnestly the Institute may wish to

discharge its obligations to its Alumni, it cannot reach those prodigal sons who are not members of the Association and do not notify us of changes in occupation or address.

For his part, an Alumnus can, if he chooses and if he has the time and inclination, do a great deal for Caltech without being a member of the Association, but with the limited time and with the other obligations most of us have, we can accomplish far more by collective effort than we can as individuals.

Our plans for next year do not contemplate any great changes in the activities of the Association.



Howard Lewis '23, now president of the Alumni Association, entered C.I.T. when the Institution was still the Throop College of Technology. After graduation he continued his education at Cornell, where he acquired an M.E. degree.

Howard spent six years with the Hughes Development Company and Multicolor, Ltd., a laboratory processing motion picture film. Starting all over again when these enterprises retrenched in the depression, Howard turned to development work, and in 1940 he and Glen M. Larson formed the Lewis-Larson Company. They equip-

ped a Los Angeles building to serve as offices, laboratories, and experimental shops for 12 to 15 men. There they gathered a group of varied talents able to do justice to almost any engineering problem. The efforts of the Lewis-Larson Company have been devoted primarily to serving the smaller business which does not require enough engineering services to maintain a staff of its own.

He was elected to the Board in June 1946, and served as chairman of the Fund Study and Institute Relations Committees. Last year Howard was vice-president, and chairman of the Fund and Institute and Student Relations Committees.

We hope that, with the co-operation of the Institute, we shall be able to produce a better magazine of more general interest; we hope to continue to improve our meeting programs. Perhaps, if it can be arranged before the Hale telescope at Palomar goes on a regular schedule of observations, we can schedule a trip to Palomar. We should like to increase the participation of Alumni in conferences or seminars with students to help the students orient themselves in relation to the world outside. We hope that more Alumni will join the Association and that more members will volunteer to help in the work of the Association. We hope that three or four times as many men as have contributed to our fund program this year will support that program next year. We particularly want to attract more men who did their undergraduate work elsewhere and graduate work only at Caltech, for this group is growing very rapidly.

We hope more Alumni will offer constructive suggestions for improving our Association.

In short, we want more Alumni participating in every phase of our Association's activities. The Association does not consist of nine directors and four officers; it does not consist of the twenty-five or so men who serve on committees, the 300-odd who participated in the fund canvass or the few hundred who attend one or more meetings each year. Our Association is over 2,000 strong and should be much larger. Working together we can move mountains. Please don't wait till you are asked to help on some particular job; there are many things of many types to be done. I know each of you would enjoy doing some of these things. If you'll tell us what you'd like to do we'll be only too glad to have your help. Your satisfaction and enjoyment of your Association will increase as some power of the part you play in its activities.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

By MORT JACOBS

Mort Jacobs, president of the Alumni Association for the 1947-1948 year, gave the following report on the Association's progress:

FIRST in order is a comment on our finances. Like all outgoing Presidents I should like to report an excess of income over expense. Unfortunately this cannot be done this year; for we shall show a deficit of several hundred dollars. We should have been approximately in balance in spite of higher costs of nearly everything and some tough problems in connection with publishing our magazine **Engineering and Science** except for one thing: we published our first post-war Directory costing about \$900.00.

Under our administrative policy this year individual Directors were made responsible for individual activities or groups of activities, and I shall report by these groupings.

(1) Membership and Chapter activities have been under the direction of Director Doug Sellers. Bill Holladay has served as Chairman of the Committee, and both men have done excellent jobs. Membership at the year's close was 2,066 as against 1,888 a year ago, indicating healthy growth. Included in these figures are Life Memberships of 384 as compared with 354 a year ago. In addition to San Francisco and New York, there are now active Chapters in Boston and Chicago, also indicating progress.

During the year our warm friend Professor Sorensen accepted an Honorary Membership in our Association, tendered in recognition of his extraordinary service to and high interest in our Association throughout his many years on the faculty. Other Honorary Members, as most of you know, are Doctor Millikan, Doctor DuBridge, Professor Clapp, Professor MacMinn, and Charles Schwieso. The latter many of you knew as the Campus Y.M.C.A. Director who gave our Association much support in its early days.

(2) Director Fred Schell, with an assist from Director Edison Hoge, has ably guided the Program, Social, and Seminar activities. Past President Fred Peterson came back for more this year, serving as Chairman of the Program Committee. One Southern California membership meeting was held in October in Pasadena, at which Mr. John Despol of International Steel Workers Union was speaker. At another in Pasadena in December Lt. Gov. Goodwin Knight spoke. Attendance at each was about 80. In addition, the Program Committee handled plans for the Annual Banquet at the Athenaeum in Pasadena, June 11.

Joe Peterson (no relation to Fred) has been Chairman of the Social Committee, which staged a highly enjoyable theater party at the American Theater, Farnsworth Park, Altadena, in February. "Sheila" was the play, and attendance was over 250. In March a dinner dance was held at Oakmont Country Club, Glendale, with 200 attending. Both functions offered Alumni an opportunity to bring their ladies.

In April the 1948 Seminar was heralded by a record breaking attendance of 487 men and women as the "best ever", to the credit of Chairman Carl Tutschulte and his committee. Inaugurated this year was a program of speakers for the ladies, which definitely made a hit. Included were lunches served in the Student Houses for the men and in the Athenaeum for the wives, a ladies' tea, and a joint banquet with Dr. DuBridge as the speaker in the evening, which was attended by 322.

(3) Director Jim Bradburn has guided the publications activity and preparation of the directory and manual of operations. Past President Harry Farrar, like Fred Peterson, also came back for more and has effectively handled a tremendous job as Chairman of the Publications Committee and staff, which produces **Engineering and Science Monthly**. The magazine has faced plenty of tribulations this year as advertising revenues continued to decline following the