



The President's Report

A review of the year

by Howard B. Lewis

OFFICIALLY I am rendering a report to the members on the state of our Association's affairs and on our conduct of those affairs during the past year, but I would like, with your tolerance, to enlarge that official duty and try to give you a little broader view of our Association, past, present and future.

A great and fundamental change has taken place in our own conception of our reason for existence and in our relationship with the Institute. A few years ago we were alternately tolerated and ignored by the Institute administration because we were too few and too young to count; now we are accepted and recognized as a member of a great team, composed of the trustees, the Associates, the Administration, the Faculty and the Association, working for the growth and advancement of Caltech. We are, it is true, a junior member of that team but, nevertheless, a real member. We have won this recognition as a member of the team because we have shown that, as an Association, and as individual alumni, we have both the desire and the ability to function as an effective member of the team.

In numbers, we are by far the largest member of the team. In terms of the amount of time and money each of us as an individual can contribute, we are the weakest member of the team. Because of our numbers we have the widest geographical distribution and perhaps the greatest diversity of interests and contacts.

What functions do these characteristics qualify us to perform? Obviously, we can contribute money for general or specific Institute purposes. Our large number of members means that even a small contribution from each will produce a substantial total. Somewhat less obviously, but none the less certainly, we can assist the faculty in interpreting the outside world to the students, and in orienting the students toward suitable careers. Conversely, we can help substantially in interpreting the Institute to the outside

world, to industry, and to prospective students, their teachers and families.

We recognize that we cannot do much more than this. We cannot be sufficiently familiar with Institute problems to have much influence on Institute policies or programs. Our comments, criticisms and suggestions are and will be welcomed, but pressure would, rightly, be resented.

There is another group of functions which we have handled entirely in the past, and perhaps could continue to perform, but they require the services of full-time personnel. Part-time volunteers cannot handle a mass of clerical or accounting work, and a part-time committee can't publish a magazine worthy of the Institute and our Association.

The Institute has recognized these facts and has recognized the possibilities of increased efficiency through consolidation of some of these functions with similar Institute functions; the clerical work of the Alumni Office, our day-to-day accounting, and the labor of addressing and mailing to the alumni have been largely assumed by the appropriate Institute personnel. The Institute has recognized the value, present and potential, in a good magazine and has recognized, too, the fact that an Institute staff member could do a far better job of collecting and presenting the stories of the work at the Institute than could an outsider. They have employed a capable editor to help us put out the best possible magazine.

It has been the assumption of these functions by the Institute, not as a subsidy to the Association but as a part of its obligation to its graduates, as a part of an effective public relations program and as functions the Institute could handle more efficiently and effectively than could the Association, that has made possible the enlarged program of the Association and the conversion of a \$1,000 deficit into a surplus this year.

I believe the past year has been a successful one in more ways than the

balance sheet can show. Under the able direction of Ed Hoge and George Whitworth and their hardworking committees we have had a highly successful program. The Palomar trip last October, which drew well over 1,000 people, was by far the most popular affair in the history of our Association. The Seminar was outstandingly successful and our dinner meetings, the Alumni dance, and the theatre party were all well attended and well worth attending. A new affair, the joint Alumni-Student Body dance marked a new high in integration of undergraduate and alumni activities. I sincerely hope the example will be followed in future years.

It should be observed that the social and educational program has been supported entirely by those who attended the various functions. No income from dues is allocated to these functions.

Association membership did not maintain its rate of growth in the past year. Whether the cause was a little tightening of the personal budgets of our alumni, a lack of effectiveness in our publicity, or a disapproval of some of our policies, I do not know—and I would like to know. I do know that Nick D'Arcy, who has worked hard on the membership campaign, would appreciate any suggestions. We had a gratifying increase in our life membership rolls and can look forward eventually to an income from invested life membership funds which will give the Association a high degree of financial stability.

The Fund campaign also showed a somewhat disappointing dollar return when compared to the preceding year but it showed a most satisfactory increase in the number of alumni contributing. Last year we collected \$20,200 from 483 donors. This year we have collected \$16,300 from 731 donors, or a two-year total of \$36,555 from 941 donors.

The Class of '49 set a grand precedent by contributing \$500 as a class gift to the Fund. A full report of the Fund's

progress to July 1 of this year will appear in the October issue of *E & S*. Names of donors will be published too.

E & S, as I have already intimated, is now a joint Institute and Association venture, with our Association the legal owner and the Institute our agent. Management policy is set by a management board of Alumni and Institute staff members and the actual editing is done by Ed Hutchings as a member of the Institute staff. The total budget of *E & S* is about \$16,800 of which the Institute pays \$9,300 in cash and services, the Alumni Association pays about \$4,000 and advertising revenue pays \$3,500. We hope that more circulation and more advertising will gradually reduce the Institute's share, or even make the magazine self-supporting, but this will be a very slow growth. Wendell Miller, Bob Lehman and Harry Farrar have ably represented the Association on the management board.

Doug Sellers and Rube Mettler have done an outstanding job this year in the

field of student relations and placement counseling. In a series of weekly lectures by successful men in different industrial and professional fields, followed by opportunities for discussion, those students who were interested have had a chance to get a look into different possible vocations through the eyes of men active in those fields.

A panel of some 70 alumni, who have volunteered their services, has been organized to give any student a chance to meet and talk individually with a man or men experienced in a particular field.

Our Association has grown far beyond the boundaries of Southern California. New York and San Francisco have had strong and effective chapters for several years. Chicago and Washington have young but apparently very virile groups. Boston, because many alumni go to Boston for advanced study, has had a rapid turnover of membership and has had difficulty in maintaining a cohesive group. At the moment a strong effort is being made to

re-activate the Boston chapter. These chapters are a great source of satisfaction to alumni resident in distant parts, whether they are exiled Californians or foreigners who came to Tech for a brief interlude. They are also a welcome point of interest for the traveling alumnus, as I can well testify for I have visited three of them this year and thoroughly enjoyed meeting old friends and new with a common interest in Caltech.

The Chapters are also of great value to the Association as outposts to stimulate interest in Association activities, and to the Institute as contact agencies which can help in evaluation of prospective students.

You have a strong Association; its financial situation is healthy, its membership is large and growing both in numbers and in ability and experience. You have sound reasons to support the Association in its program of assistance to Tech and to Tech alumni and students.

It's up to us to maintain our standing on the great team of which we are a part.

PERSONALS

1918

William R. Hainsworth is by now in Alaska with the Arctic Institute of North American Expedition. He says, "I hope to climb Mt. Vancouver with Walter Wood, leader of the expedition, and others. In this case, the 'old men' are going into the mountains and the young men will take care of the scientific work—a reversal of the usual procedure."

1922

Richard M. Bozorth, Ph.D., hasn't been back to Caltech since he got his degree, and doesn't appear to have had time to. Besides working for Bell Labs, he has (1) been in Japan for the Navy, in 1945, (2) written the current article on magnetism for the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, (3) written most of his book on ferromagnetism, (4) delivered a paper at the Amsterdam Conference on Metals last year. Next year he's invited to Grenoble for the International Conference on Magnetism, but hopes to make Pasadena in 1951.

1925

Edward H. Hart is in London setting up a color process there for his Cinecolor Corp. He's also helping an English company establish controls for their process.

Markham E. Salsbury has been named Temporary Chairman of the newly created California Legislative Council of Professional Engineers.

1926

C. Hawley Cartwright, Ph.D. '30, is Research Physicist for Corning Glass Works. He has a wife, Valentia, and a two-and-a-half-year-old son, Edgar Hawley.

Burt Beverly has returned to Arabia after a short vacation home, but he didn't ever get around to telling us what he's doing there.

1927

Frank A. Nickell, M.S. '28, Ph.D. '31, returned to Pasadena in June from a round-the-world air trip started last February. As a member of an international board of experts on high dams, Nickell made an inspection tour of dams in Nepal and United Provinces of India, to check on progress made since his last trip two years ago. He also spent two weeks inspecting similar construction projects in Afghanistan.

Robert L. Heilbron has been named Acting Principal of La Jolla Junior-Senior High School.

1928

Thomas C. Graham died April 22, of a heart attack, in Canton, China. He had been employed by Standard Vacuum Oil Company of Shanghai since 1928. From 1942 to 1945 Graham was in a Shanghai prison camp, and had never fully recovered his health since that experience.

1930

John D. Clark got his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1934, and has since worked for General Electric, J. Wyeth & Bro., and Hema Drug. Currently he's with Wallace and Tiernan in Belleville, N. J., doing research and producing, among other things, the Periodic Chart in the May 16th issue of *Life*. Clark says his possessions include 1 wife, 1 malemute dog, 5 turtles, 6 goldfish, and several incipient ulcers.

Howard E. Baker, after fourteen years on the West Coast, was transferred by his company to New York. He's been there since 1947, claims to like the East fine.

1931

Glenn J. Chamberlain, M.S. '32, is starting his second year as a consulting mechanical, electrical, and civil engineer in Palo Alto. He has three boys—Jack, 11, Bob, 10, Fred, 8—all interested in arithmetic and athletics.

Howard G. Smits has just moved into his recently completed house in San Marino. He has three daughters, aged 3, 10 and 13. Smits is Executive Vice-President of the Pacific Iron and Steel Co.

Rudolph C. Hergenrother, Ph.D., is working on cathode ray tube development for the Raytheon Manufacturing Co. in Waltham, Mass.

Paul G. Burman writes: "After ten years as Engineer in Charge of the Fuel Injection Laboratory at the American Bosch Corporation in Springfield, Mass., I have been made Section Engineer, Special Assignments. In this newly created post I will be directing longterm research projects concerned with new developments in fuel injection, governing, and engine combustion. In my spare time I'm writing a text and reference book on *Fuel Injection and Controls for Internal Combustion Engines*, which it is hoped will be ready for the publisher, John Wiley & Sons, this Fall."

Joshua I. Soske, M.S., Ph.D. '35, Geologist and Geophysicist of the Geophysical