TO ALL CAL BAND ALUMNI:

(We're looking for a title to go here)

VOL. I; No. 1 "Deus Managrum Nostrum Damnet" July, 1964

"WHY THIS NEWSLETTER" -- Editorial

For some time a number of you have expressed great interest in the establishment of a newsletter, written for and by alumni of the California Marching Band. Some of us are able to participate frequently in various alumni activities; many more cannot. Some of us occasionally return to a Cal football game, departing with the thought of how great the Band's performance was. But a great many of us are just too busy raising future Cal Bandsmen to find much free time to return to Campus.

Nevertheless, there is no doubt that all of us remain interested in hearing about the current Cal Band and its activities, about alumni events, about fellow alumni, or about changes on the campus and in the University. To these ends we dedicate this first issue.

An alumni advisory board has been formed to guide and review the policies of the newsletter. We plan to go to press three times each year, thanks to financial support (con't next pg.)

CAL BAND GOES VAUDEVILLE

Spring Sing at the University of California is a light-hearted affair in which various campus living groups compete, either singly or in pairs, for campus honor and for a permanent Sweepstakes Trophy. Held each Spring in the Hearst Greek Theater, the Singgoers were enchanted in the Spring of 1960 by the Cal Band's first entry into this event. Performing non-competitively due to its musical skill, the Band played and sang itself into the hearts of the audience with "Trepak", "Song of Youth" and "Soldier's Chorus." The latter two numbers were transcribed by Mike Flier (D. M. 1961.) from a recording of the Russian Army Chorus and were sung in authentic Russian.

It was Spring of 1962 when the Band again chose to participate in the Spring Sing. With (con't pg. 4)
EDITORIAL (con't from pg. 1)
from the current Cal Band. The Band's enthusiastic support certainly provides evidence of its great interest in the alumni and the newsletter.

This is your newsletter, and we need your help and advice on many things concerning the title, contents, and addresses to which future newsletters are to be sent. We have enclosed a questionnaire to be filled out; it is vitally important that you provide the mailing and personal information requested. (Where else can you get a lifetime subscription for a 5¢ postage stamp?) You may be interested to know what is to be done with your information. A complete roster of all band alumni--some 2,000 strong--will be compiled and maintained on IBM magnetic tape. We will make copies available on request at a later date.

Tentative plans have been formulated for special features, anecdotes and other articles of interest in future issues. Those of the advisory board associated with this first issue are enthusiastic about the new venture. We hope this is your reaction also.

PREVIEW (con't from pg. 1)
prise awaiting them on that (probably rainy) afternoon in November.

Including the trips to Seattle and Los Angeles, the Band will march at nine (out of ten) games. There will be only one bye-week, making multi-week show preparation a real luxury. Every bit of the Cal Band's great drive and spirit will be needed to meet such a grueling pace and maintain the standard of the "pace-setter" of college marching bands."

With the prospects for a Rose Bowl appearance the "rosiest" in several years, every Bandsman will find great satisfaction in meeting such a challenging season while anticipating a fitting climax on January 1.

The technical aspects of the shows this fall will be highlighted by continued refinement of pre-recording techniques initiated in the "Camelot" show of 1961 and continued in the "Porgy and Bess" show last Fall. Due to the installation this Spring of recording equipment for the Band and the ASUC Choral groups, the pre-recorded numbers will not necessarily be concentrated in one show, but will be included as individual stunts in several shows.

The themes planned will include a "political" show (with several ideas adapted from "Hello, Dolly"), a "Spanish" show, as well as the '63 Big Game show (cancelled because of President Kennedy's death). A half-time, utilizing musical arrangements from several television programs, is also planned. The marching for this fall's half-time performances includes many fresh and unique ideas.

In sum, the Cal Band has prospects for an exciting, challenging, and memorable year. To make this doubly true, the new Executive Committee is now pushing ahead with plans for a visit to the New York World's Fair in June, 1965, coupled with a tour of the United States. Accomplishment of this feat will provide a climax to what will truly be one of the Cal Band's greatest seasons.
LOOKING BACK ON 1963

Reflecting on the 1963 football season, a Cal Bandsman’s thoughts would most certainly center on the standing ovation received for a great performance on the cold, muddy field of Ute Stadium at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. The performance climaxed a grueling bus trip from Berkeley (including a blizzard, many snow fights, and a "paint the bus" stop in Winnemucca), and a Saturday morning rehearsal on a field covered with eight inches of snow.

The trip to Los Angeles also provided a unique experience for Bandsmen. The Band performed for the first time (as far as is known) at a night football game, and to top the evening off, the Bears defeated UCLA 25 to 0!

Each year the Band looks for new show ideas. This year the Band’s Cal-Washington game show continued the new technique of "pre-recording" in excerpts from Porgy and Bess. The pre-recording of the Bandsmen singing the lyrics is made in advance, and then the recording is played back and synchronized on the field with the Band’s live performance.

The Straw Hat Band spent this spring "whooping it up" at home basketball games as well as away games, traveling over 6500 miles by bus, plane and car. During Christmas vacation, a busload of Bandsmen ventured into Arizona, accompanying the team to the Sun Devil Classic in Phoenix. The Arizona fans had never seen anything like it. Unfortunately, the University of Arizona Band could not appear—they had all gone home for vacation! In February, several Bandsmen drove north to Eugene for the game with the Oregon Ducks. During the game, several very strange duck calls were heard from the general direction of the Straw Hat Band, and a large, bright blue balloon appeared. This was batted around the gym by the crowd until a small boy decided to sit on it. In late spring, the Band performed at the dedication of the Santa Cruz Campus. The entire Band also put on a special performance at the 1964 "Spring Sing."

TELLEFSEN HALL (con't from pg. 2)

time a color photo-portrait of Chris was presented to the Hall. Tellef森 Hall now celebrates Chris' birthday annually on April 1.

Excitement over the coming year was evident as returning Hall members met this spring, even during finals, to discuss ideas. A formal initiation ceremony is being planned for new members. The Hall will receive another new tradition next year with the design and completion of a Tellef森 Hall flag this summer.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

News of Cal Band Alumni

You will be glad to know that Chris Tellef森, the Number One California Bandsman, was honored at a Tellef森 Hall dinner this spring, where he and the men of the Hall celebrated his 82nd birthday. Chris and his wife, Bessie, are enjoying their retirement at their home in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Bill Ellsworth (Jr., Manager, 1895) is busy spreading spirit throughout the ASUC in his position as Assistant Activities Advisor. Among the many groups under his wing are members of the Rally and Games Council and the different classes. It is rumored that many of these groups now have birthday parties quite often.

Louis Kahn (Manager, 1953), serving as staff assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey in Istanbul, has one comment to make about the Cyprus situation: "Awk."

Dick Coleman (Manager, 1957) is working for the Sonoma County Public Health Department in Santa Rosa and is hoping to return to Berkeley in the fall to study toward his Master's Degree in Public Health.

And speaking of Master's degrees, Mike Flier (Drum Major, 1961) - "There was a Flier of great renown" - received his M.A. in Slavic Languages at the Commencement Exercises in Berkeley on June 13. Mike plans to continue to study toward his PhD.

Anybody in need of expert legal advice may contact Art Robson (Manager, 1952) now handling a successful legal practice in Walnut Creek.

Bob Desky (???) has been very active in alumni functions in addition to his duties in the D.A.'s office, city of San Francisco. Bob was instrumental in the forming of Tellef森 Hall and now serves as President of the Tellef森 Hall board.
A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Cal Band Alumni:

I am pleased to be able to bring greetings to each and every California Bandsman through an article in this Newsletter. Since I was an undergraduate member of the Band in the late 30's, I should like especially to bring warm regards to all my colleagues of the great organization of that era. It doesn't seem quite possible, but quite a few of our sons are already attending the University nowadays. I will have to admit (but not to the present undergraduates) that most of them play and march better than you and I did. Just like everything else here at Berkeley, standards seem to have a way of rising, and the Cal Band is no exception.

The Marching Band remains, as always, organized as a student activity without academic credit, sponsored by the Associated Students. The personal involvement of more students in management and committee work has increased. The Concert Band work has been expanded to include a Chamber Band (forty-five piece wind ensemble) in the Fall Semester, and a second Concert Band in the Spring Semester. These organizations, of course, are Music Department—sponsored and academic credit is earned for participation. The Marching Band remains solidly all-male, but the girls are welcomed in increasing numbers in the Concert Bands.

The informal activities of the Band are conducted through the volunteer participation of Marching Band members in the Straw Hat Band. The spirit and spontaneity of this group have become legendary on the Berkeley Campus.

As you may know, the Band has a new home in the Student Center. We now have complete facilities, including a rehearsal hall, offices, a modern locker room, and a small lounge to preserve the continuity of old Room 5, Eshleman Hall. We welcome visits by you Band Alumni when you are in Berkeley.

I hope in future articles to tell you of our activities in greater detail. In the meantime, let us hear from you and about you.

JAMES BERDAHL
DIRECTOR OF BANDS

VAUDEVILLE (con't from pg. 1)

the brilliant 1960 performance as an inspiration, the Band brought the house down a second time with a Latin beat as it sang and played "Jamaican Calypso", "Day-O", "Angelina" and "Jump in Line" complete with dancers who limboed under a flaming pole.

Again it was two years until the Band entered the Spring Sing in 1964. The preparation for the Band's performance was carried on much as that for a field stunt: informal stunt committee meetings, many long hours of choreography designing, and the concentrated efforts of each Bandsman in the planning, preparation, and rehearsal of the final show. Around the theme "This Is My Country", the Band did a survey of American Music as it performed "Hello, My Baby", "Sweet Adeline", "Waitin' for the Robert E. Lee", "America" from West Side Story, "Battle Drill" (a polyphonic arrangement of "Battle Hymn" and "Dixie"), and "This Is My Country." Complete with costume changes, a lighted backdrop, and a pit band, the Cal Band stole the show again. Praise ran high and Band Alumni present commented that this Spring Sing performance was the "most professional thing the Band has ever done." With similar comments coming from all segments of Campus, the prospects for future Band Spring Sing performances look bright and promising.

CAL BAND ALUMNI CALENDAR

Two annual Band Alumni events were called off last year as a result of the death of President Kennedy: the dinner reunion at the Del Webb Towne House on November 22nd, after last minute phone calls to those who planned to attend; and the Alumni basketball game the following week, which was cancelled.

Alumni Band Day this year will be September 19th -- the Missouri game. Further details will be announced in the next newsletter.

PROPOSED ARTICLES - FUTURE ISSUES

Alumni Band information -- Reviews of Alumni Band activities -- Articles on the history of the Cal Band--

--STRAW HAT BAND ACTIVITIES--