Where the Blite Meet

By G. William Domhoff

Domhoff, author of "Who Rules America," is a professor of psychology and sociology at the University of California in Santa Cruz. This article is excerpted from the August issue of Psychology Today.

each year, the U.S. power elite commune with nature and each other. by winding trails. Here, for two weeks sprinkled with 129 camps connected was a 2,700-acre expanse of redwoods California forests. Their destination made their way into the Northern impressive group of middle-aged men since the turn of the century, an

visible minds in academe, the richest and most successful entertainers and members, past Presidents, the most congressmen and senators, cabinet captains of business and industry, and guests are the bluest of the chips: social clubs in America. Its members Francisco's Bohemian Club, one of the most unusual and powerful male as the Bohemian Grove is an isolated retreat owned and operated by San This extensive playground known

tive atmosphere of Bohemia encour-The relaxed, intimate and coopera-

> reaches consensus and maintains its is no innocuous playpen. cohesiveness. The Bohemian Groye where the ruling class of America what it is—an important encampment the Grove should be recognized for let it all hang out, to relax off guard ages America's corporate heavies to harmony. But

worries are, at least formally, put ment in which worldly business and aside. and designed to create an environopening ritual of the two-week realmost as impressive as its audience import of the Grove. It is spectacular, treat, belies the political and social The "Cremation of Care," the

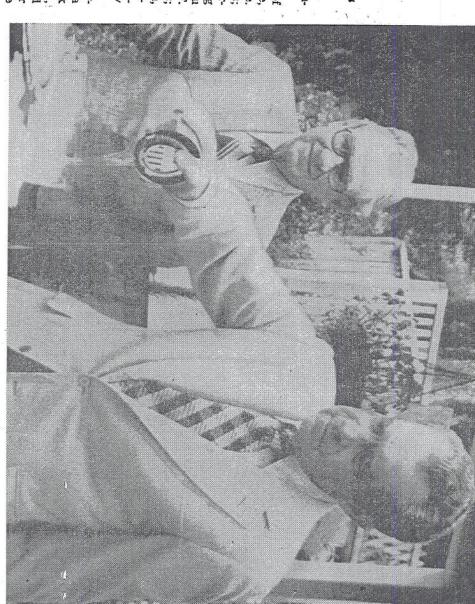
quietly with drink and a cigar, enjoying the gentle light and eerie patan excellent dinner and are sitting evening and tower above. ful open-air dining hall. It is early Picture yourself seated in a beautithe majestic redwoods You have just finished

terns cast by the gaslights at the din-

president of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, and Karl R. Ben-Champion Papers. detsen, president of U.S. Plywood/ three years later, Louis Niggeman, ing pointed red hoods and flowing many carry torches and all are wear-Kaiser, chairman of Kaiser Industries; would have recognized robes. Among them, in 1969, you A procession of men approaches; come the low, sad sounds of a dirge. the hillsides near the dining circle, Out of the shadows, from one of Edgar

woes that important men must bear muslin. This is the body of Care, cremated. wooden in their daily lives. Care is to be which symbolizes the concerns hg an Some of the hooded men are carryopen coffin. Inside lies a skeleton wrapped

See BOHEMIAN, Page C2



Richard Nixon played host at San Clemente recently to members of his Bohemian Grove "camp," among them newscaster Lowell Thomas. By Hack Miller-The Salt Lake City Desert News

BOHEMIAN, From Page C1

in front of them. The altar is in the of Fellowship. base by a gentle flame from the Lamp left, to a green meadow on the other area into the forest. The procession form of a huge Owl, illuminated at its the altar that looms skyward 50 yards large altar. The followers move to the the body go off to the right toward a comes to a lake where the priests and side of the lake, where they sit facing tege as it trails slowly past the dining The diners fall in line after the cor

with the holy trees and the spirit of your grief to the fires and be strong ploring the Bohemians to "burn away dryad, emerges. It begins to sing, imthe sorrows of yesterday" and "cast large redwood, and a spirit, the hama-A spotlight suddenly illuminates a

arts, literature, and other diversions. members that within the portals of Boclub, "Weaving spiders, come not here," a line from Shakespeare's "A him." He next invokes the motto of the within the Grove be reverent before and worldly concerns, but only the hemia they are not to discuss business Midsummer Night's Dream," to remind Owl is in his leafy temple; let all worship, the high priest intones, "The large area in front of the Owl. In a priest and his assistants enter the the tree, and the light fades. The high ine that echoes the Episcopal call to After a chorus sings, the high priest The spirit ends its song, returns to

great explosion, and the fires go out. He spits upon the torches, there is a will ye learn that me ye cannot slay?" and cries, "Fools! Fools! Fools! When ready to burn. He rises from the bier the corpse of Care," but Care is not proclaims, "Our funeral pyre awaits The high priest falls to his knees in

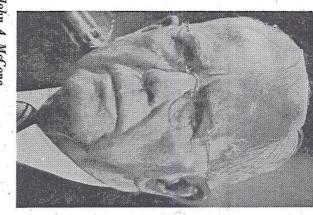
Care is on its way out. It is cremated by torches lit from the Light of Felcan drive out Care; only fire from the front of the great Owl, begging the Bohemia has that power. With that tells the faithful that no worldly fire bird for advice. The sagacious bird Lamp of Fellowship on the Altar of

They couldn't be happier if they were back in college and their fraternity shout, sing, dance and hug each other. across the lake begin to rejoice. They As the pyre burns, the onlookers



Bohemian Club membership includes, from left, Lucius Clay, Bing Crosby, Edgar F. Kaiser and John A. McCone.





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here

represented: transportation, utilities 1965 and 1970, almost a third of 1969's conglomerates and retailers. Between there. Other business sectors were also banks were represented at the encampdustrial corporations was present. Similarly 20 of the top 25 commercial director from 40 of the 50 largest intry were listed in Standard and Poor's are drawn from the corporate leaderfrom every part of the U.S.; 40 25 life-insurance comapnies were ments. Men from 12 of the wealthiest and Executives. At least one officer or Register of Corporations, Directors ery three from other parts of the coun-Francisco area members and one in evship of America. One in every five San tween 1965 and 1970. In large part they contributed guests and members bestates and the District of Columbia

Brands, Continental Can, Chase International Investment Corporation. Chemical, American Express, Standard

nia, director: Wells Fargo Bank. fire and Rubber Company of Californard K. Firestone, president: Firestone Bank, director: United Air Lines. Leo-R. P. Cooley, president: Wells Fargo

John Flanigan, vice president: Anheuser-Busch. Jack K. Horton, chairman: Southern California Edison, dustries, director: Stanford Research cific Mutual Life, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Tri-Continental Corpora-Edgar F. Kaiser, chairman: Kaiser Indirector: United California Bank, Palion, H. J. Heinz Company. Company, director: Mobil Oil, Chubb ham, vice chairman: Bankers Trust Institute, Urban Coalition. Lewis Lap-

Guaranty Trust, Continental Oil, Leonard F. McCollum, chairman: Capitol director: National Morgan

John A. McCone, chairman: Joshua Hendy Cornoration director Central

the Grove by at least one officer or di-

tune magazine, were represented top-level businesses, as ranked by For-

rector.

3

policy-planning organizations of the upper class. They sponsor meetings differences and formulate policies. on Foreign Relations, the Committee class-related issues. Other extra-corsocial clubs are settings for the development of policy consensus from all over the country iron These are the consensus-seeking and Business Council) are more important porate or extra-governmental organizamajor forums for developing policy on among the prominent, they are not the mian Club, and other highpowered the ruling class (such as the Council tions, conceived and run for and by and discussions wherein wealthy men for Economic Development, and the Despite the evidence that the Bohe-

class, the place where leaders hear the ideas and findings of their hired ex-THEY ARE the training ground for new leadership within the upper

perts and the setting wherein they look

of the upper class are bankers, busi clubs. imize profits and minimize taxes. We gether at the Business Council and the nessmen and lawyers who meet to members of other upper class social must add that they are Bohemians or Council on Foreign Relations to max-

ance Corporation, counselor and chairman of the policy planning council of "on leave for government service." In ities." The smaller Committee for Ecoyears to undertake official responsibiltion, "Over a third of the Council's rector of the Federal Deposit Insurthree or four trustees who are listed as nomic Development (CED) always has the government during the last 20 Council on Foreign Relations publicathey affect national policy. Says a 1961, CED members were serving as ditions and clubs reach government; per class consensus-seeking organiza-,500 members have been called on by The policies developed in these up

members of the Council on Foreign

Council of Economic Advisers. for the Committee for Economic De State. Herb Stein, longtime economis viser before becoming Secretary dent Nixon's chief foreign-policy ad out the 1950s and '60s, served as Presi Council on Foreign Relations through singer, closely affiliated with velopment, served as chairman on hi ernment advisers. Thus, Henry with these organizations serve as gov Hired experts intimately identified

of them all, has two forms of contac general concern and talk privately cials, conduct panels on problems stead Hotel, a quiet resort for the well day affairs in Washington, and two are ment officials. Two of these are two its four yearly meetings with governwith the government. Best known are speeches by leading government offi meetings council to-do in rural Hot Springs, Va. At these four-day gatherings at the huge Home The Business Council, the big dadd members

who sit on the Business Council and brace social interaction, business com of ruling-class institutions that em are the central points in the network The Bohemian Grove, the New York Links Club and the Business Council ing-class playgrounds is considerable tween policy-forming councils and rul together at the Grove. The overlap be the Council on Foreign Relations romp with government representatives. And many of those corporate leaders

Council of Foreign Relations, and ties to the policy organizations. Forty-Club, and both social clubs have strong munication and policy formation. Bohemians and 78 Links were memand 56 Links members were on the one Bohemians and 70 Links memmian Club also belonged to the Links bers of the Business Council. Economic Development, 34 Bohemians bers were members of the Council for Forty-nine members of the Bohe

selves in social, economic and political ests and organizations, involving themare the people who span many interment leaders in the ruling class. They members are among the most promimemberships, but the interlocking a large percentage of the total club decisions of major consequences in a The interlocking overlappers are not

variety of issue areas. The very fact that rich men

your grief to the fires and be strong with the holy trees and the spirit of the sorrows of yesterday" and "cast ploring the Bohemians to "burn away

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away from their daily responsibilities making new ones. They will be far fires, renewing old friendships and as the decision-makers and opinion drinking for the men of Bohemia as they sit around their blazing campmolders of corporate America It will be a night of story-telling and

BUT THE CAMARADERIE has imact in unison to shape and influence many of the rulers of America, aiding carefree get-togethers actually provide national and corporate policy. them to reach consensus so they can the cement that helps bind together portant consequences, for these

President Richard Nixon recognized









Bohemian Club membership includes, from left, Lucius Clay, Bing Crosby, Edgar F. Kaiser and John A. McCone.

tune magazine, were represented at the Grove by at least one officer or direpresented: transportation, utilities banks were represented at the encampcontributed guests and members befrom 1965 and 1970, almost a third of 1969's conglomerates and retailers. Between there. Other business sectors were also dustrial corporations was present. Simdirector from 40 of the 50 largest inery three from other parts of the counrector. top-level businesses, as ranked by For ments. Men from 12 of the wealthiest larly 20 of the top 25 commercial and Executives. At least one officer or Register of Corporations, Directors try were listed in Standard and Poor's Francisco area members and one in evship of America. One in every five San are drawn from the corporate leadertween 1965 and 1970. In large part they states and the District of Columbia life-insurance comapnies were every part of the U.S.; 40

ented enough entertainers to have beadvertising directors by trade, but tal pay a fraction of the dues of full mem-These men are associate members who ers, musicians, actors and singers who are neither socially nor economically of the Bohemian Club, however, who prominent. These are the artists, writbers. They maintain the Bohemian come performers if they had chosen. nessmen, publishing representatives or ment. They're architects, small busiprovide most of the Grove's entertain-There are several hundred members

or drama. This category includes Edgar Rergen. Bing Crosby, Tennessee fessionally with literature, art, music shall be men who are connected proalso ensure that at least 100 members The bylaws of the Bohemian Club

national Investment Corporation. Brands, Continental Can, Chase Inter-Chemical, American Express, Standard

nia, director: Wells Fargo Bank. Fire and Rubber Company of Californard K. Firestone, president: Firestone Bank, director: United Air Lines. Leo-R. P. Cooley, president: Wells Fargo

dustries, director: Stanford Research director: United California Bank, Pa-John Flanigan, vice president: An-heuser-Busch. Jack K. Horton, chairion, H. J. Heinz Company. Corporation, Tri-Continental Corpora-Company, director: Mobil Oil, Chubb ham, vice chairman: Bankers Trust Institute, Urban Coalition. Lewis Lap-Edgar F. Kaiser, chairman: Kaiser In cific Mutual Life, Lockheed Aircraft. man: Southern California Edison,

Guaranty Trust, Continental Oil, Leonard F. McCollum, chairman: director: Morgan Capitol National

Pacific Mutual Life. fornia, ITT, Western Bancorporation, California Bank, Standard Oil of Cali Hendy Corporation, director: Central ntelligence Agency (1961-1965), United John A. McCone, chairman: Joshua

Corporation. Bank of America, director: Dillingham Rudolph A. Peterson, president:

gelow-Sanford, Otis Elevator, Metro-Trust, American Express, Kraftco, Bi Philip D. Reed retired chairman: General Electric, director: Bankers

pany, and Electronics.

Cave Man is another "heavy" camp Southern Pacific, General Telephone Life, and Dry Dock Company, Philadelphia neco, director: Houston National Com-Gardiner Symonds, chairman: Ten Kern County Land Newport News Shipbuilding

upper class. They sponsor meetings on Foreign Relations, the Committee class-related issues. Other extra-coramong the prominent, they are not the development tions, conceived and run for and by the ruling class (such as the Council mian These are the consensus-seeking for Economic Development, and the porate or extra-governmental organizamajor forums for developing policy on Business Council) are more important social clubs Despite the evidence that the Bohe-Club, and other highpowered of are settings policy consensus for the

VISETS. as corporation or governmental over young experts for possible service perts and the setting wherein they look ideas and findings of their hired exclass, the place where leaders hear the THEY ARE the training ground for I new leadership within the upper

differences and formulate policies. and discussions wherein wealthy men

from all over the country iron

stitutions. There the powerful get a fix Grove and other upper-class social inout the oil provided by the Bohemian tory to the upper class as a whole. But oping policy positions that are satisfacferences. clubs create a desire among upper class members to reconcile their difgain a sense of shared potency. The on each other's styles and beliefs, and they could not function smoothly with-These groups are essential in devel

It is not enough to say that members

must add that they are Bohemians or imize profits and minimize taxes. We of the upper class are bankers, busi members of other upper class social Council on Foreign Relations to maxgether at the Business Council and the nessmen and lawyers who meet to

Council on Foreign Relations publica-tion, "Over a third of the Council's group supplied the government with trator of the National Aeronautics and man of the policy planning council of ities." The smaller Committee for Ecothe chairman of the President's bluethe Department of State and adminisance Corporation, counselor and chair-"on leave for government service." In three or four trustees who are listed as nomic Development (CED) always has years to undertake official responsibil the government during the last 20 tions and clubs reach government; per class consensus-seeking organiza-Deputy Secretary of Defense. Secretary of the Treasury, and resentative for trade negotiations, ribbon-defense panel, the special rep-Space Administration. In 1970, ector of the Federal Deposit Insur-961, CED members were serving as dihey affect national policy. Says a ,500 members have been called on The policies developed in these up the

of the most important postwar commis ident to recommend policies. All eight and committees appointed by the Prestions also serve on special commissions Many members of these organizaby

> stead Hotel, a quiet resort for the well ment officials. Two of these are two day affairs in Washington, and two are with government representatives. general concern and talk privately cials, conduct panels on problems of speeches by leading government offi meetings council members to-do in rural Hot Springs, Va. At these four-day gatherings at the huge Home

together at the Grove. The overlap be who sit on the Business Council and ing-class playgrounds is considerable of ruling-class institutions that em-brace social interaction, business comare the central points in the network The Bohemian Grove, the New York tween policy-forming councils and rul the Council on Foreign Relations rom munication and policy formation. of ruling-class institutions that Links Club and the Business Council And many of those corporate leader

Club, and both social clubs have strong Council of Foreign Relations, and 57 Bohemians and 78 Links were memand 56 Links members were on the Economic Development, 34 Bohemians bers were members of the Council for ties to the policy organizations. Forty mian Club also belonged to the Links bers of the Business Council. one Bohemians and 70 Links mem-Forty-nine members of the Bohe

a large percentage of the total club memberships, but the interlocking members are among the most promidecisions of major consequences in a selves in social, economic and political ests and organizations, involving themare the people who span many interment leaders in the ruling class. They variety of issue areas. The interlocking overlappers are not

well and as influentially as if they were a certified, recognized ruling can all agree that the rich live very pluralists may remain unconvinced, we across the country gather in such close pleasures. They probably live just ists in this country. Even though some circumstances as the Bohemian Grove ions of Care and other midsummer well indeed with their lavish Cremao me that a cohesive ruling class exike the Business Council is evidence and seek unanimity in policy groups The very fact that rich men from

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national and corporate policy President Richard Nixon recognized

tion flows from ivy halls to Governother shakers. New scientific informaducing official government policy. Bepoliticians find the off the record at the power of club members when, in 1967, he gave a speech at the Grove to come to examine each other." try, education, the arts and politics can case where leaders of business, indusments "have long been a major show journalist, the midsummer encampment and industry. According to one eology to politicians, scientists and communicate orthodox big business idneath the trees, corporate executives mosphere of the Grove useful in introsis for a later public address. Other Communism. That talk became the barest their reaction to his views on

stay out of the running unless Nixon the two reached an agreement about dential nomination: Reagan agreed to the race for the 1968 Republican presi encampment for an off the record meeting with Richard Nixon. There guest during the late 60s, used the 1967 make deals. Ronald Reagan, a frequent Politicians come to the Grove to

while anyone could aspire to be Presi could aspire to be President of the Bodent of the United States, only a few sent his regrets to Bohemia, saying that off-the-record rule of the Grove), he side speaker (the press objected to the and media pressure prevented President Nixon from being the feted Lake The following year, when political

is elite. Men come to the Grove Indeed, the membership of the club

> or drama. This category includes Edgar Bergen, Bing Crosby, Tennessee Ernie Ford, George Gobel, Dick Martin and other stars

most prestigious members of the club. position, many in this group are the prominent educational managers also University of Washington, and other Charles E. Odegaard, president of the Who in America. of every three were listed in Who's During 1965 to 1970 more than two out are members. In terms of honors and president of Columbia University nia. But Grayson Kirk, until recently branches of the University of Califoruniversities: Stanford and the various men are generally professors at neaby special category of Bohemians. These Faculty members make up another

executives in 1968 included: moned." Mandalay's all-star team of lake. "You don't just walk in there," said one club member, "You are sumalong the river road overlooking the pensive lodgings high up the hillside rate eexcutives is Mandalay. It has exmost impressive encampment of corpoered equal in status, some are more camps. Although the camps are considare dispersed throughout the 129 Grove equal than others. Far and away the The corporate movers and shakers

Clay, partner; (investment banking), director: Allied ister, Colgate-Palmolive, Amerada Pe-Falconbridge Nickel Mines. Lucius D. troleum, CIT Financial Corporation, banking), director: National Cash Regchairman: Dillon, Read (investment Guaranty Trust, Frederick H. Brandi chtel Corporation, director; Morgan Stephen D. Bechtel, chairman: Be Lehman Brothers

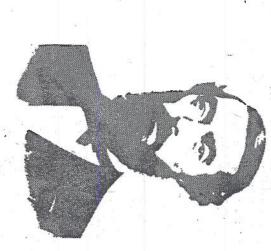
ship, dominate such clubs as Poison more than their share of club membercamp of Richard M. Nixon. The Call-It is most famous as the camp of for and Electronics.

Cave Man is another "heavy" camp. Balls lunch. Oak and such rituals as the Bulls' fornians, whose proximity gives them may be more interesting today as the mer President Herbert Hoover, but it

America. J. George Harrar, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, was the guest Gaylord A. Freeman Jr., chairman of the First National Bank of Chicago; David M. Kennedy, former man of the Bank of America had as his between host and guest were what one Thomason, president of the United one of his bosses, Deputy Secretary of Joint Chiefs of Staff, was the guest of Thomas H. Moorer, Chairman of the guest of Frederick Seitz, president of ury, was the guest of Rudolph A. Peterson; president of the Bank of then serving as Secretary of the Treas-National Bank and Trust Company, chairman of the Continental Illinois mia; 341 guests came to the Grove from ard, president Press, was the guest of Jack R. How-Defense David Packard. would expect: Louis Lundborg, chaireign countries. Some of the pairings all over the United States and nine for able concerning the sociology of Bohe THE 1970 guest list is probably the Newspapers lockefeller University. of Scripps-Howard

of Republican blgwig Leonard Fire-stone. Walter Hickel, then Secretary of ment-business pairings. president of Union Oil, the company spill, was the guest of Fred L. Hartley, ley. John D. Ehrlichman was the guest tions concerning the Santa Barbara oil the Interior and involved in negotiaand Democratic fat cat Edwin W. Pau responsible for the spill. Commission, was the guest of oil man Dixon, chairman of the Federal Trade More intriguing were the govern-

which means they must be willing to participate in the rituals and plays. they can work. When Nelson Rockefeltales. If they can't act or spin yarns show or in the more ribald Low Jinks ler visited the Grove in 1963 to give a They write poetry or tell after dinner They act in the elaborate High Jinks famous, must be good Bohemians, All club members, even the rich and The New York Times



ribute to a stubborn man

afternoon, "Drake's Folly" became the world's countryside would see for years to come. That Pennsylvania. It was to be the last quiet day that Sunday in the lumber country of northwestern first successful oil well. August 28, 1859, was a pleasant summer

in which petroleum would play an ever increas-And America launched on a century of progress dream turned Titusville, Pa., into a boom town Overnight, Edwin L. Drake's impossible

no more than an interesting novelty. Farmers brine wells. soaked it up with blankets and used it for liniment. Salt drillers cursed when it ruined their liquid that seeped into Pennsylvania creeks was Before Drake's pioneering, the black, sticky

sold for \$1.50 a gallon, considerably cheaper be burned as lamp fuel. In that form, it could be it as a far more useful product. Distilled, oil could than whale oil, which only the rich could afford. But Drake and his New England backers saw

a day, Drake hired a salt borer and tried drilling and-shovel digging yielded only 10 gallons of oil drilling know-how. But he did have one great pipe. He ignored the taunts of local skeptics and ion the first drill pipe from off-the-shelf plumber's designed his own tools. Cave-ins led him to fash-He built his own 21/2-story wooden derrick and asset—a stubborn will. After two years of pick-Drake had neither business experience no

drilled ahead-at three feet a day.

struck oil. At 691/2 feet. spent and his backers were ready to quit. But he persevered. After three months of drilling, he In the end, his paltry \$2,500 capital was

producing petroleum still takes perseverance are thousands of times greater. But finding and wells often run several miles deep. Capital needs founded has far more efficient tools, and the and the willingness Drake had to take big risks. Today, 116 years later, the industry Drake

oil demand has exceeded domestic supply. We major oil producing country of the world. But users of energy, and for the past few years U.S. Americans also became the world's biggest abroad, and the gap threatens to widen. now import nearly 40 percent of our oil from "Drake's Folly" made the United States the

stubbornness. To redouble our efforts to improve achievement, Americans need to emulate his and gas will stretch further. To step up exploramore oil can be pulled from existing wells. To insecondary and tertiary recovery techniques so And, somehow, to find the huge capital needed tensify our resolve to conserve energy, so our oil tion for still-undiscovered reserves off our coasts. Which is why, in remembering Drake's

We had a good teacher. trying, because it's our job. We're stubborn, too It won't be easy. But as a company, we're

ment and industry. According to one journalist, the midsummer encampcome to examine each other." try, education, the arts and politics can case where leaders of business, indusments "have long been a major show-

meeting with Richard Nixon. There guest during the late 60s, used the 1967 stay out of the running unless Nixon the race for the 1968 Republican presithe two reached an agreement about encampment for an off the record make deals. Ronald Reagan, a frequent dential nomination: Reagan agreed to Politicians come to the Grove to

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Indeed, the membership of the club elite. Men come to the Grove

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man of the Bank of America had as his would expect: Louis Lundborg, chairable concerning the sociology of Bohe of the Rockefeller Foundation, was the National Bank and Trust Company, between host and guest were what one all over the United States and nine for-Press, was the guest of Jack R. How-Thomason, president of the United Defense David Packard. one of his bosses, Deputy Secretary of Joint Chiefs of Staff, was the guest of guest of Frederick Seitz, president of ury, was then serving as Secretary of the Treas-Chicago; David M. Kennedy, man of the First National Bank of guest Gaylord A. Freeman Jr., chaireign countries. Some of the pairings Thomas H. Moorer, Chairman of the America. J. George Harrar, president Peterson; president of the Bank of chairman of the Continental Illinois Rockefeller president the guest of Rudolph A. University. of Scripps-Howard Admiral former

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taken over the club, but the artistic truly Bohemian, a club for artists and Since then, the pitching in goes back to the time in the 1870s when the Bohemian Club was This tradition of creativity and newcomers



Tribute to a stubborn man

Sunday in the lumber country of northwestern countryside would see for years to come. That Pennsylvania. It was to be the last quiet day that first successful oil well. afternoon, "Drake's Folly" became the world's August 28, 1859, was a pleasant summer

dream turned Titusville, Pa., into a boom town in which petroleum would play an ever increas-And America launched on a century of progress ing part. Overnight, Edwin L. Drake's impossible

soaked it up with blankets and used it for liniment. Salt drillers cursed when it ruined their no more than an interesting novelty. Farmers liquid that seeped into Pennsylvania creeks was brine wells. Before Drake's pioneering, the black, sticky

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a day, Drake hired a salt borer and tried drilling and-shovel digging yielded only 10 gallons of oil asset-a stubborn will. After two years of pickdrilling know-how. But he did have one great designed his own tools. Cave-ins led him to fashpipe. He ignored the taunts of local skeptics and ion the first drill pipe from off-the-shelf plumber's He built his own 21/2-story wooden derrick and Drake had neither business experience nor

drilled ahead-at three feet a day.

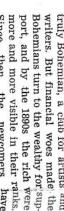
spent and his backers were ready to quit. But he struck oil. At 691/2 feet. persevered. After three months of drilling, he In the end, his paltry \$2,500 capital was

producing petroleum still takes perseverance, are thousands of times greater. But finding and wells often run several miles deep. Capital needs founded has far more efficient tools, and the and the willingness Drake had to take big risks. Today, 116 years later, the industry Drake

oil demand has exceeded domestic supply. We users of energy, and for the past few years U.S. Americans also became the world's biggest major oil producing country of the world. But abroad, and the gap threatens to widen. now import nearly 40 percent of our oil from "Drake's Folly" made the United States the

secondary and tertiary recovery techniques so stubbornness. To redouble our efforts to improve achievement, Americans need to emulate his more oil can be pulled from existing wells. To inand gas will stretch further. To step up exploratensify our resolve to conserve energy, so our oil to do these huge tasks. And, somehow, to find the huge capital needec tion for still-undiscovered reserves off our coasts Which is why, in remembering Drake's

We had a good teacher. trying, because it's our job. We're stubborn, too. It won't be easy. But as a company, we're



"Damn, but I get a kick out of you at these meetings, Evans! I wish to hell

By Wm Hamilton; @ 1973 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc

more of our directorates interlocked!"

tradition remains.

