

**Horace D. Taft Alumni Medal
and
Citation of Merit
1962 Recipient**



**Mason Welch Gross '29
1911-1977**

Philosopher, raconteur, sometime crew coach, television star, erstwhile second bass, editor, and now president of a great state university, you move with grace, wit and authority through the great affairs of our nation. You have taught philosophy at Harvard and Columbia, debated prohibition at Taft, and earned degrees from Cambridge, Harvard and Princeton and the Bronze Star from your government. As a Leonardo of the liberal arts, your ability to analyze and synthesize and to administer with humor and good will has brightened and served not only your own Rutgers University, but mediation boards, hospitals, charities and even occasionally politicians. In the midst of a kaleidoscope life you have found time to serve our school as trustee and in countless other ways. Your career already exemplifies our finest traditions, respect for knowledge and its power, belief in the individual and service to society. Your ungrooved mind, your spirit, your mustache, your zest for life bring to mind another earlier tall man of Taft. The alumni of Taft take pleasure in conferring upon you their Citation of Merit.