

President and Mrs. DuBridge receive a volley of pom-poms from Culbertson stage at tenth anniversary celebration

THE MONTH AT CALTECH

Anniversary

DR. L. A. DUBRIDGE celebrated his tenth anniversary as president of Caltech this month, and the faculty and trustees of the Institute honored him at a dinner in the Athenaeum on December 7.

The anniversary celebration included brief tributes to President DuBridge by Albert Ruddock, chairman of the board of trustees, and by Dr. Robert Bacher, chairman of the division of physics. Dr. Clark Millikan, professor of aeronautics and director of the Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory, was master of ceremonies during the evening, and faculty members presented a musical skit, "Who Is This Guy DuBridge?"

One of the high points of the anniversary occasion

was a telegram received by President DuBridge, which read:

"Please give my greetings to the students, faculty and the Board of Trustees of the California Institute of Technology on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the administration of their president, Dr. Lee Alvin DuBridge, scientist, educator and public servant. Dr. DuBridge has contributed repeatedly and significantly to the strength of the nation. I join his friends in wishing him many more years of service to his countrymen. Best wishes to you all."

(signed) Dwight D. Eisenhower

On January 12 Mr. and Mrs. DuBridge will leave Pasadena for a trip around the world, to visit universi-

ties, engineering schools and scientific research centers under the auspices of the Ford Foundation.

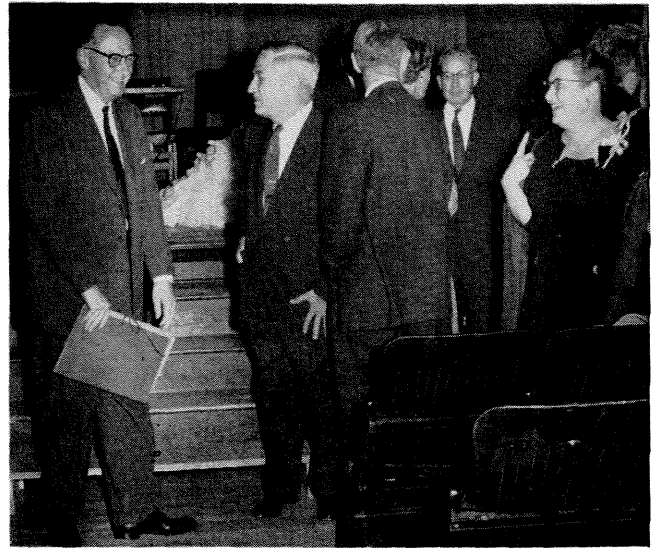
The chief purpose of the trip is to exchange ideas with scientists and educators, principally in the countries of Southeast Asia, and to report to the Ford Foundation on the various activities in which they are interested or are supporting.

After brief stops in Honolulu and Manila, the DuBridges will spend about ten days in Indonesia, then ten days in Burma, slightly over three weeks in India, and two weeks in West Pakistan. The visits to the Middle Eastern countries will be determined by conditions which exist there at the time of their arrival. It is expected, however, that they will spend two days in Teheran, a few days in Beirut, Lebanon, and several days in Istanbul. From that point on, their trip will be occupied by vacation and sightseeing in Greece and Italy. They will return home on the Queen Mary, leaving Cherbourg on April 18, and will be back in Pasadena on April 25.

New Appointments

WILLIAM H. CORCORAN, associate professor of chemical engineering, and NORMAN H. DAVIDSON, associate professor of chemistry, have now received appointments as professors at the Institute.

Dr. Corcoran, whose appointment will become effective on January 1, has been on the Institute staff since 1953. He received his BS from Caltech in 1941 and his MS in 1942, then joined the research staff of the Cutter Laboratories in Berkeley. In 1943 he returned to Caltech to serve as development engineer on the rocket development program. After the war he resumed his graduate studies at the Institute, and was awarded a National Research Council fellowship. In 1948 he was one of the first men to receive a PhD degree with a major in chemi-



Mutual congratulatory society—Elliott Davis, who wrote music for anniversary skit, and the DuBridges.

cal engineering. From 1948 until he joined the Caltech faculty in 1953, he served as head of the Cutter Laboratories' technical development division.

Dr. Davidson has been a member of the Caltech faculty since 1946. He was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1937, then spent two years at Oxford, as a Rhodes Scholar. He received a BSc at Oxford in 1938, and a PhD degree from the University of Chicago in 1941. He worked on the uranium separation project at Columbia University, then served as an instructor at the Illinois Institute of Technology before joining the staff of the University of Chicago plutonium project, where he remained until 1945. From 1945 to 1946 he worked at the RCA Laboratories in Princeton, N.J., on electron microscope research and studies of electron diffraction by solids.



Faculty members and wives serenade the president on his tenth anniversary, during musical skit, "Who Is This Guy DuBridge?"

At Caltech his research has mainly involved studies of the rates of very fast chemical reactions, and in 1954 he received the California Section Award of the American Chemical Society for this work.

Dr. Davidson's appointment as professor will become effective on July 1, when he returns to Caltech from a year's leave of absence as visiting professor of chemistry at Harvard University.

Geographos

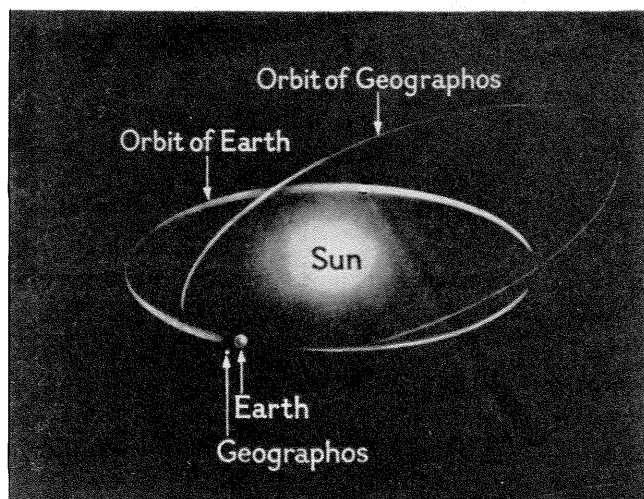
ON AUGUST 31, 1951, Dr. Albert G. Wilson and Dr. Rudolph Minkowski, staff members of the Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories, discovered a small new planet while they were working on the National Geographic Society-Palomar Observatory Sky Survey.

Now, after more than four years of checking, the planet's existence has been officially confirmed. Its discoverers have named it Geographos, after the National Geographic Society. Dr. Wilson is now director of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona; Dr. Minkowski is still in overall-charge of the Sky Survey.

Small as it is (probably no more than a mile in diameter) Geographos is especially interesting to scientists because, with the exception of the moon, it comes closer to the earth than any other celestial object with a known orbit. In 1969 it will come within less than four million miles of us.

Aid to Hungary

CALTECH UNDERGRADUATES last month donated \$1,000 to help Hungarian students who have fled to Austria to escape reprisal for their part in the Hungarian revolt against Russian domination. The gift, which will be administered by the World University Service, was voted at a meeting of the student body board of directors, and the action followed receipt of a cable from the general headquarters of the World University Service in Geneva,



New planet, Geographos, as it will appear in relation to earth in 1969, when it will be 4,000,000 miles away.

Switzerland, appealing for funds to aid the students. The World University Service operates in conjunction with the International Red Cross and the International Rescue Commission.

After making their donation, the Caltech students contacted student body officers of other southern California colleges and universities to get their support for the project too.

Honors and Awards

BRUCE H. SAGE, professor of chemical engineering, has been named the 1956 recipient of the American Rocket Society's C. N. Hickman Award for solid propellants advancement in the jet propulsion field. Dr. Sage was presented the award at the Society's eleventh annual meeting in New York on November 29.

Bruce Sage was graduated from Texas A & M College in 1929, and received his MS from Caltech in 1931, and his PhD in 1934. He has been associated with the Institute ever since. In 1945 he was made head of the explosives department of the Naval Ordnance Test Station at Inyokern, California, and since 1950 has been senior consultant for NOTS.

From 1941 to 1946 Dr. Sage served as a consultant to the Division of Rocket Ordnance of the National Defense Research Committee of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and later as investigator and supervisor of the Propellant and Interior Ballistics Division of the National Defense Research Council's rocket program at Caltech.

He played an important role in the development of rockets for military purposes, and in 1948 received the Medal for Merit, the outstanding civilian award for contributions to the war effort, for his studies on rocket ballistics.

Since the war Dr. Sage has led the development of solid rockets as a propulsion medium. In addition he is credited with the development of a propellant "blackening" process which greatly increased solid propellant reliability by counteracting radiation phenomena, and the creation of successful extrusion methods for propellants.

JOHN D. ROBERTS, professor of organic chemistry, has been elected chairman of the American Chemical Society's Division of Organic Chemistry for 1957. Dr. Roberts, who has been a member of the Caltech faculty since 1953, received the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry for 1954 for his research achievements in theoretical organic chemistry.

R. R. MARTEL, professor of structural engineering; and THEODORE VON KARMAN, professor of aeronautics, emeritus, will be made life members of the American Society of Civil Engineers at the January meeting of the society's Los Angeles section.