

The Month at Caltech

Another Hundred Years

Caltech's 13-week television series, "The Next Hundred Years," has gone over so well that the show is being extended for another 13 weeks, to May 3. The programs, which feature Caltech scientists demonstrating and describing their current investigations, are presented as a public service by KRCA-Channel 4 and the National Broadcasting Company. They are shown in the southern California area on Channel 4, Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. The last two shows of the initial 13-week series will feature Dr. Robert Sharp, professor of geology, whose subject is "The Ice Age Cometh?" on January 17 and Dr. John Richards, assistant professor of chemistry, in "Nature's Moldy Factory" on January 24. The second series of programs starts on Sunday, February 8 at 8:30 p.m.

AUFS on Campus

Edward A. Bayne, the first of four representatives of the American Universities Field Staff to visit the campus in 1959, arrived at Caltech this month to report on political, social and economic conditions in Israel, Iran and Italy. Mr. Bayne, economist and writer, has been studying economic development in Africa, Asia and Europe for the past 16 years. He has been with the AUFS since 1952.

Robert A. Burton, whose field is China, will be on campus from January 26 to February 4. From February 9 to February 18 Charles Gallagher will report on North Africa, and K. H. Silvert, whose field is Latin America, will be on campus from February 23 to March 4.

All four men have just completed 18-month periods of study in their chosen areas, under the auspices of the AUFS, which is sponsored by Caltech and nine other universities.

Industrial Relations Grant

Caltech's Industrial Relations section has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Ford Foundation in order to set up a pre-retirement counseling study for one year. The project will be carried out by Michael T. Wermel, Caltech research associate in economics, and his staff, and will be under the general direction of Robert D. Gray, director of the Industrial Relations Section.

The purpose of the one-year project is to determine the major problems faced by employees at retirement and how companies can assist in the solution of these problems.



All-American Sharp

Robert P. Sharp, chairman of the division of geological sciences at Caltech, has been elected to *Sports Illustrated's* third annual Silver Anniversary All-America. Each year the magazine elects 25 men on the basis of their career success and community service in the intervening 25 years since their senior football season at college. Nomination for the honor is made by each candidate's alma mater, and election is by a panel of eminent judges.

As a Caltech undergraduate, Bob Sharp received a letter for three years of varsity football as a quarterback and was captain of the team in 1934, his senior year. He was a member of the conference championship team in 1931, and in 1933 he was awarded the Wheaton Trophy for sportsmanship, moral influence and scholarship. Dr. Sharp received both his BS (1934) and his MS (1935) from Caltech and then went on to Harvard for his PhD in 1938. After several years on the staff at the University of Minnesota, he came back to Caltech in 1947 and has been chairman of the geology division since 1952.

Outstanding Young Man

Albert R. Hibbs, chief of the research analysis section of Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, has been chosen one of California's five outstanding young men of 1958 by the State Junior Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Hibbs was in charge of the operation which determined the orbit of Explorer I, the first successful U.S. earth satellite, and continued to work on this program along with the succeeding lunar probe project (the launching of Explorer III).

Dr. Hibbs received his BS at Caltech in 1945 and his MS in mathematics at the University of Chicago in 1947. He returned to Caltech to work for his PhD

in 1950 and, at the same time, began his career at Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as a junior research engineer. He received his PhD in 1955 and in 1956 became chief of the research analysis section at JPL.

John Scott Award

Renato Dulbecco, Caltech professor of biology, has been awarded the 1958 John Scott Award for inventing a method of isolating and identifying viruses. The \$1,000 award was presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington last month. The award was established by John Scott, a Scotch chemist, who died in Edinburgh in 1816. He bequeathed \$4,000 with the instructions that income derived from it was to be awarded to inventors. Since then, the fund has grown to more than \$100,000 — and the original \$20 award is now \$1,000 or more. In the 142 years since the award was established, more than 500 inventors have received it. Among them were Thomas A. Edison, Orville Wright and Madame Curie.

Dr. Dulbecco received his MD from the University of Torino in Italy in 1936 and came to Caltech in 1949 as a senior research fellow. He became associate professor in 1952 and has been a professor since 1954.

He began his virus research in 1952. His technique involves growing viruses on living cells known as tissue culture. The viruses themselves are too small to watch, but from the changes in the cells the action of the viruses can be determined. Dr. Dulbecco's prize-winning technique has been used in preparing the Salk and other important vaccines.

Dr. Dulbecco's current research at Caltech is one of two projects now being supported by March of Dimes grants. A grant of \$73,594 was awarded to the Institute last month for investigations of virus inheritance by Dr. Dulbecco and Dr. Marguerite Vogt, senior research assistant. In experiments involving polio virus mutations, Dr. Dulbecco and his associates are attempting to mate two kinds of viruses to produce offspring combining traits of both "parents."

If viruses can be changed, it may be a step toward developing weakened strains for more effective vaccines.

A second March of Dimes grant of \$33,943 will support a program involving the study of certain key components of nucleic acids by Linus Pauling, professor of chemistry at Caltech, and his associates. This group has been investigating the molecular structure of proteins and nucleic acids for the past few years. They will now attempt to determine the incredibly small distances between the atoms of nucleic acid.

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