

The Month at Caltech

Chairman of the Board

Arnold O. Beckman, president and founder of Beckman Instruments, Inc., and a Caltech trustee since 1953, has been elected chairman of the board of trustees of the Institute. He succeeds the late Robert L. Minckler, chairman since 1961, who died on August 6, 1963.

A native of Cullom, Illinois, Dr. Beckman received his BS and MS degrees from the University of Illinois, and his PhD in photo-chemistry from Caltech in 1928. He taught chemistry at Caltech for 14 years, until 1940, when he left to go into the business of making scientific instruments. His firm now makes a broad range of precision instruments, systems, and components used in science, industry, medicine, space-defense, education, and agriculture.

Dr. Beckman has been a member of the California Institute Associates since 1948 and in 1953 he became the first alumnus to serve on the Caltech board of trustees. He headed the Institute's development program, launched in 1958, which raised \$19.5 million dollars for new buildings and faculty salaries. The Institute's new Beckman Auditorium, built with funds contributed by Dr. and Mrs. Beckman, is to be dedicated next month.

Dr. Beckman is a regional trustee of Mills College in Oakland, California, and a member of the lay advisory board of Orange State College. He is chairman of the technical committee of the Southern California Air Pollution Coordinating Council, and adviser to the Orange County Board of Supervisors. He served as president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce in 1956, and serves as a director and chairman of many southern California corporations.

Hans A. Bethe, Visiting Professor

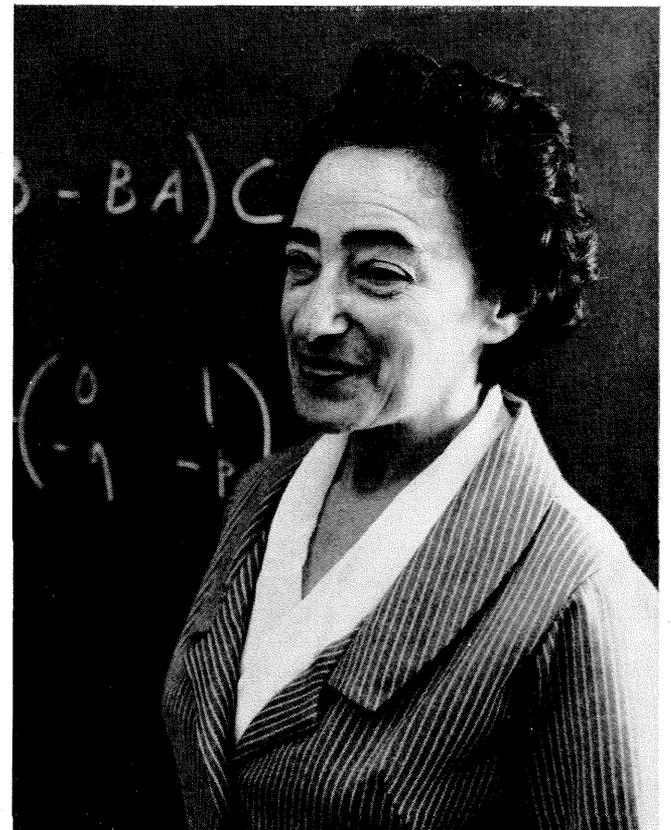
Hans A. Bethe, professor of physics at the Laboratory of Nuclear Studies at Cornell University since 1937, came to Caltech this month to give a series of lectures on "The Theory of Nuclear Matter" and to conduct research in elementary particle physics and nuclear physics. Dr. Bethe is

the originator of the theory which accounts for the sun's heat by conversion of hydrogen into helium and contributed greatly to the research done on the development of the atomic bomb and the H-bomb.

Woman of the Year

Olga Taussky Todd, research associate in mathematics at Caltech, has been named one of the 1963 Women of the Year by the Los Angeles *Times*. Dr. Todd is one of the world's most outstanding women mathematicians. She and her husband, John Todd, who is professor of mathematics at Caltech, came to the Institute in 1957 after ten years with the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C.

A native of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Todd received her PhD from the University of Vienna in 1930, and her MA from the University of Cambridge in



Olga Taussky Todd, Woman of the Year

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1937. She has won world-wide recognition for her work in matrix theory and class field theory, and her interests range from the most abstract mathematics to specific problems such as the flutter theory in aeronautics. At Caltech she has greatly supplemented and strengthened the work in algebra and number theory. She is the Institute's only voting woman faculty member.

Christian M. Clausen

Christian M. Clausen, head of the public information and education department of Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, died of a heart attack on December 10 at his home. He was 49.

Clausen had been at JPL since 1957. He was the originator of the Lab's public information department and also served as a staff assistant to Dr. William Pickering, director of the Laboratory. Prior to joining JPL Chris Clausen was a science writer for the Los Angeles *Daily News*, and had served for eight years as medical editor for the Los Angeles *Examiner*.

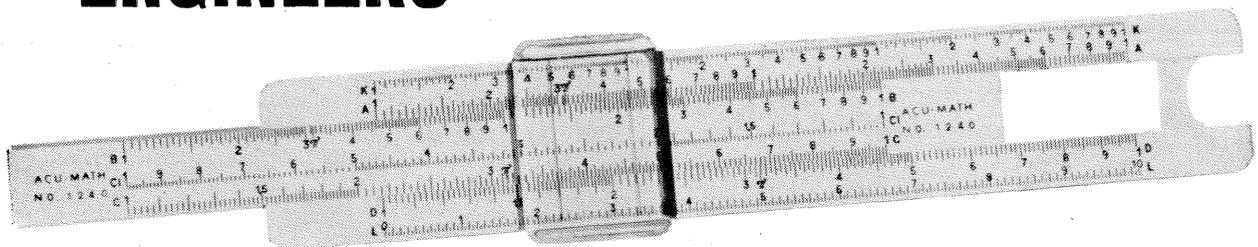
AUFS Checks In

On January 7, the first of four representatives of the American Universities Field Staff came to Caltech to report on political, social, and economic conditions in foreign areas. Willard Hanna will be on campus from January 7-16 to give a series of lectures and informal talks to the faculty and students on Malaysia. John Hanessian will report on Antarctica, from January 21-30; Victor Du Bois, French West Africa, arrives on February 4 and will be on campus until February 13, and Louis Dupree will discuss conditions in Pakistan, from February 18-27.

P.S.

A faculty member who went to this year's Rose Bowl game reports that the University of Washington card-section, in the middle of their half-time demonstration, flashed the crowd a quick "CALTECH," hastily withdrew it, came up with an "OOPS," then produced "U of W."

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