

# The Month at Caltech

## *Freshman Grades*

The Institute's new policy of giving no grades to freshmen (E&S — November 1964) has resulted in the establishment of a new freshman faculty-adviser system. Sixteen senior faculty members will serve as counselors to freshmen for discussion of academic progress, goals, and extracurricular activities. Initiative in making use of the system will rest largely with the students, except when they may clearly be threatened by academic trouble.

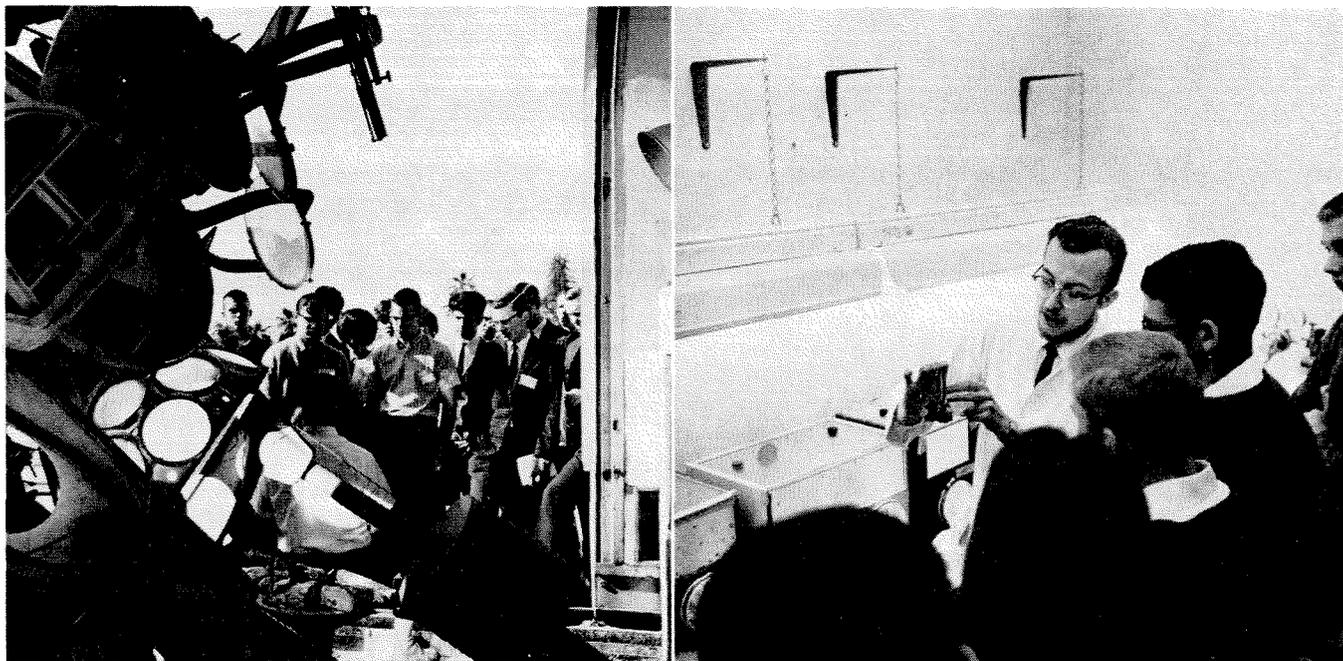
The new policy does not imply changes in the nature of Caltech's courses or teaching methods. There will still be homework, classroom tests, and mid-term examinations, and these will be graded as in the past. The student's performance in this work will provide part of the basis for his ultimate Pass or Fail.

## *Honors and Awards*

Robert B. Corey, professor of structural chemistry at Caltech, received an honorary degree on October 7 from his alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh, for his work on amino acids and peptides.

President L. A. DuBridge has been elected to the board of directors of National Educational Television. He is also currently chairman of the board of Community Television of Southern California, which operates KCET, the education television station in Los Angeles.

Giles S. Hall, Jr. has been appointed to the newly-created position of assistant director of the Caltech Industrial Relations Center. Robert D. Gray serves as director. Mr. Hall has served as personnel di-



STUDENTS' DAY, 1964

*Over a thousand southern California high school students and teachers came to the campus on December 5 for the 15th annual Students' Day. The all-day program included a series of lectures by Caltech faculty members and a tour of current research projects at the Institute*

*(more than 40 exhibits in all) such as (left) the solar furnace on the roof of the Robinson Laboratory of Astrophysics; and (right) work on living nervous systems, conducted jointly by electrical engineers and biologists in the Booth Computing Center.*



#### DUMOND SPECTROGRAPH GOES TO THE SMITHSONIAN

*Thirty-three years have elapsed between these photographs of the same two scientists, Jesse DuMond and Harry A. Kirkpatrick, working with an instrument that proved a vital theory of physics in 1931. The instrument, called a multi-crystal spectrograph, was designed by Dr. DuMond, now professor of physics emeritus at Caltech, to prove his theory that an electron moves about the nucleus of its atom and is not a stationary object, as some physicists believed. Dr. Kirkpatrick,*

*who was DuMond's first graduate student, and is now doing research at USC, spent more than a year aligning the instrument's 50 calcite crystals so that spectral photographs could be taken to prove the electron's motions. At right, the men are preparing the instrument, resurrected from a Caltech basement last month, to take its place among other distinguished pieces of apparatus in the Division of Electricity at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.*

rector and assistant secretary of Consolidated Electrodynamics Corporation in Pasadena.

Richard L. Mooney, buyer supervisor at Caltech, has been promoted to purchasing agent. He came to the Institute in April 1964, from the Ryan Aeronautical Company in San Diego.

William H. Pickering, director of Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, was awarded the Columbus Gold Medal for 1964 for "deeds of high human significance in interplanetary exploration" in Genoa, Italy, last month.

Bruce H. Sage, professor of chemical engineering at Caltech, has been named editor of the *Journal of Chemical and Engineering Data*, a quarterly publication of the American Chemical Society. He

assumes his editorial duties with the January 1965 issue of the journal.

Maarten Schmidt, staff member of the Mt. Wilson and Palomar Observatories, received the Helen B. Warner Prize from the American Astronomical Society this month for his spectroscopic studies of quasi-stellar sources and of radio galaxies. The prize is offered annually to a North American astronomer under 35 who has made a significant contribution to astronomy.

Robert P. Sharp, chairman of Caltech's Division of Geological Sciences, has won the Kirk-Bryan Award, one of the three top awards presented by the Geological Society of America, for his article "Wind Ripples," published in the *Journal of Geology*.