

# The Month at Caltech

## **Professor Emeritus**

Roger F. Stanton, professor of English, became professor emeritus this month after 40 years as a member of the Caltech faculty.

Dr. Stanton came to the Institute in 1925 as an instructor in English after receiving degrees from Colgate University and Princeton. He returned to Princeton in 1929 to get his PhD and resumed teaching at Caltech in 1931.

From 1949 to 1963 Dr. Stanton served as director of Institute libraries. Although the appointment was originally "just for a year," his extended service as director involved him deeply in plans for the new R. A. Millikan Memorial Library, to which he gave much time and study.

Dr. Stanton's love of music and the theater has been expressed in numerous contributions to Caltech and the community. For many years he was co-director of Caltech undergraduate plays, an actor at the Pasadena Community Playhouse, and a member of the board of directors of the Coleman Chamber Music Association.

"Röger Stanton, in his forty years' service on the Caltech faculty," says Hallett Smith, chairman of the humanities division, "has exhibited the versatility and the grace under pressure which the humanists of the Renaissance recommended as the highest virtues. As a teacher and counsellor of students, as administrator of student loans, as director of Institute libraries, he has made valuable contributions to many different areas of Caltech education. His colleagues in the humanities division will miss his daily presence in Dabney, but congratulate him on his well-earned leisure and his distinction as Professor Emeritus."

# And Social Sciences

The Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences became the official title of the division of humanities on January 10 when Caltech's board of trustees approved the name change voted by the faculty at their December 6 meeting.

The division, which is offering undergraduate degrees this year for the first time in the Institute's 74-year history, proposed the new name in order to more accurately describe the fields it covers.

#### Honorary Doctorate

Max Delbruck, Caltech professor of biology, received an honorary doctorate from the University of Copenhagen on November 25 at the commemoration of Neils Bohr's 80th birthday anniversary. Four other former associates of Dr. Bohr were honored at the ceremonies.

Dr. Delbruck's citation acknowledged "the great significance your researches have had for the development of modern virology," and the "new and deeper meaning to virus research, first and foremost through the development of precise quantitative methods."

A photograph of the occasion (below) was obtained by Morens Westergaard, Gosney Research Fellow in Biology at Caltech last year and now at the Carlsberg Laboratory in Copenhagen. It was sent to Dr. Delbruck with the following caption:

"Professor Max Delbruck of Caltech, known as



King Frederik of Denmark congratulates Max Delbruck on his award at ceremonies in Copenhagen.



King Gustav Adolf of Sweden presents the Nobel award to R. P. Feynman at ceremonies in Stockholm.

a staunch anti-royalist, yesterday refused to shake hands with His Majesty King Frederik the Ninth of Denmark at a reception at the Copenhagen University. The distinguished scholar ostentatiously kept both hands behind his back, ignoring the friendly, outstretched hand of the king. Embarrassment and sadness are reflected in the faces of Professors Heisenberg and Rosenfeld standing nearby."

## Feynman Dinner

The Caltech faculty honored its newest Nobel Prizewinner on January 7 with a dinner at the Athenaeum. Richard P. Feynman, Richard Chace Tolman Professor of Theoretical Physics at Caltech, who was co-winner of the 1965 prize in physics, had just returned from Sweden, where he received the award at ceremonies on December 10. At the faculty dinner he regaled his Caltech colleagues with an account of the perils and protocol that come along with a Nobel award.

# Earthquake Study

An extensive program of earthquake research, costing an estimated \$137 million for a 10-year period, has been proposed by a panel of 14 prominent earth scientists.

The ad hoc committee, organized at the request of President Johnson by the Office of Science and Technology following the Alaskan quake of 1964, includes among its members George W. Housner, Caltech professor of civil engineering and applied *continued on page 30* 

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mechanics, and Hugo Benioff, professor of seismology, emeritus. The panel is headed by Frank Press of MIT, former director of Caltech's Seismological Laboratory.

Their report, which offers hope of predicting major earthquakes hours, days, or weeks in advance of their occurrences, and of greatly reducing casualties and property damage, is a detailed scientific plan calling for:

1. Extensive geological and geophysical surveys of fault zones.

2. Laboratory and theoretical studies of mechanisms of fracture and creep of rocks under realistic pressures and temperatures.

3. Research in prediction theory as applied to geophysical phenomena.

4. Augmented research in earthquake engineering.

5. The development, installation, and operation of new instruments for monitoring earthquake faults. Clusters of these instruments, some to be placed in holes 10,000 feet deep and located along major fault systems in the California-Nevada area and in Alaska, will register stresses, strains, and tilts in earth strata, and changes in gravitational, electrical and magnetic fields.

The projected program is now being studied by various government agencies – the Army Engineers, the Geological Survey, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the new Environmental Science Service Administration, and the National Science Foundation.

## Earthquake Engineering

George Housner is chairman of another earthquake study group - The Committee on Earthquake Engineering Research – of 12 distinguished U.S. engineers chosen by the National Academy of Engineering to make a year's study and report on earthquake engineering research. Other Caltech members are Donald E. Hudson, professor of mechanical engineering and applied mechanics, and Ronald F. Scott, associate professor of civil engineering. Formed in reaction to the costly 1964 earthquakes in Alaska and Niigata, Japan (damages \$350 million and \$1 billion), the committee has been asked to report on the present state of knowledge on the subject, to propose a 10-year research program, and to make specific recommendations for methods of furthering the development and dissemination of knowledge in the field.

## Conference on Invertebrates

An international conference on the nervous systems of invertebrates, sponsored by Caltech and the National Institutes of Health, was held on campus January 10-12. More than 30 world authorities on the subject attended the sessions.

C.A.G. Wiersma, Caltech professor of biology, who was organizer of the conference, said the sessions were planned to stress the necessity of studying invertebrate nervous systems at all levels of development and complexity, not only to obtain insight into how they function, but also to explore the value of such studies in learning more about the nervous systems of mammals.

## Fifty Years at Caltech

The 50th anniversary of the Caltech YMCA will be celebrated on February 25 in Beckman Auditorium. The program includes songs by the Caltech Glee Club; an illustrated history of the Caltech Y by its executive secretary, Wes Hershey; a dramatic musical by Kent Clark, professor of English; and a talk by President DuBridge.

### Staff Changes

Ivan F. Betts, who has served as assistant treasurer of Caltech since 1962, has been elected treasurer of the Institute by the board of trustees. He will continue to be responsible for the administration of Caltech's investment properties and for trust and estate property matters.

Lee Stockford, sales administrator and instructor in employment psychology, is the newly appointed assistant director of management development at Caltech's Industrial Relations Center. Stockford has taught at the University of Southern California, Occidental College, Los Angeles State College, and San Francisco State College. He also has served as corporate industrial relations advisor for the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

Ethel H. Rogers, administrative assistant to the director of physical plant operations and Caltech's longest employed non-academic staff member, retired this month after 36 years with the Institute. Mrs. Rogers was secretary to William B. Munro of the humanities division when she first came to Caltech in 1929. She also was the first secretary of the Caltech Management Club.