

# THE MONTH AT CALTECH





## NEVER SAY DIE

Hallowed traditions disappear almost daily at Caltech, but one durable old tradition that refuses to lie down and die is the Mudeo. On November 14 teams of eager freshmen and sophomores slid once again into the big mud pit for the 53rd annual Mudeo. The freshmen won this one, so the sophomores threw the judges into the pit-to join the buried tennis shoes, T-shirts, and spectacles.



#### INTERHOUSE

Caltech's seven undergraduate student houses rolled up the rugs November 18 for the annual Interhouse Dance. The complex construction efforts ranged from Snow White's cottage to the Kingdom of Id, an Indonesian temple, and a prehistoric rain forest, but the BIG thing this year was sound (electronic) and light (psychedelic)—of which there was a surfeit.







#### December 1967

#### SOME LIKE IT HOT

A Dixieland band strutted into Beckman Auditorium in New Orleans marching style for a November 12 concert sponsored by the Caltech YMCA. The Southern California Hot Jazz Society furnished the musicians, which included some of the great old Dixieland names, and the Caltech community, which included some students who, God forbid, had never heard Dixieland before, furnished the stomping feet.





Woodrow Wilson

William Howard Taft

Eugene Debs



"I want to pay my tribute of respect to the President of the United States. I do not think any man who knows his facts can question the patriotism or the integrity or the public purpose of the man who now presides at the executive office in Washington, D. C."\*

# TAFT IS THE MAN TO BEAT!

First came the candidates. Then their party supporters moved in with banners and posters. Up went the speakers' platform and the microphone, and the presidential campaign was under way on the Olive Walk, in the center of the campus, in the middle of the morning of November 8.

The campaign of 1912, that is.

Caltech students of History 151 ("Industrialization, Change, and an Age of Reform in America, 1865-1917") were concluding an assignment for Robert L. Woodbury, assistant professor of history. They had planned and charted a national presidential campaign strategy for the political party of their choice—the Socialist, Progressive "Bull Moose," Republican, or Democratic. Using only material that was public domain in 1912 (hindsight was considered out of bounds), and with the help of rolls and rolls of microfilm of *The New York Times* 1912 editions, members of the four parties delivered their 1912 campaign speeches to a gathering of slightly bewildered, but highly entertained 1967 passersby.

\*Woodrow Wilson, of William Howard Taft-November 1967, Olive Walk

THE HONORABLE THOMAS H. KUCH-EL came to Caltech on November 30 at the invitation of the Caltech YMCA, not only to talk but to listen. The Senator gave a public lecture in Beckman Auditorium on the problem of the ghetto, the subject of the Y's year-long study program. But at a seminar of students, Senator Kuchel asked a few questions and did a lot of listening. Many of the answers he got came directly from the ghetto-from representatives from the Westside Study Center in Pasadena.





Traffic timers Tom Burton and Ray Ellis.

#### ANOTHER ROSE BOWL INCIDENT

Drivers to the Rose Bowl game this New Year's Day may have two Caltech students to thank for saving them a \$1 parking fee and the possibility of being late for the kickoff. Juniors Ray Ellis and Tom Burton were recently asked to do a time-delay study for the director of special projects of Pasadena in connection with the city's proposed Rose Bowl pay-parking program. The boys ran a series of timings on cars stopping, paying, and starting; accumulated some related statistics; and did a bit of calculating. They came up with the conclusion that 5,700 drivers would still be trying to get into the parking lot when the game began. Their report may have had something to do with the city's recent decision to shelve the project.

#### STUDENTS TACKLE SMOG

At an ASCIT board meeting in the spring of 1966, members talked over, for the first time, the need and desire among the student body for "something" that the undergraduates could do together that would involve them in science *and* the social sciences.

Out of that discussion has come a proposed twoyear undergraduate research project which could involve more than 200 Caltech students, 50 or more participants from other campuses around the country, and up to 100 technician-trainees from ghetto areas around Los Angeles.

When Caltech classes began this fall, a special committee of students which had been meeting through the summer called an all-student meeting to choose a specific project from among a number of suggestions. The result is: A PROGRAM BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR THE STUDY OF AIR POLLUTION.

In addition to a title, the project has some other concrete aspects: 100 students who have signed on to participate; a 12-man faculty advisory committee; a network of student, planning subcommittees; \$2,000 from the Institute to set up project headquarters on the second floor of the converted residence that now functions as a student coffee house; an elaborate contextual map designed by Fred Thompson, professor of applied science and philosophy, to keep up-to-date information on current project developments available at a glance; and the draft of a proposal for \$110,000 to finance a six-month pilot project, scheduled to begin in February 1968. In the next few weeks these funds are to be sought from an outside source.

Some of the specifies are still loosely defined on paper, but the project's purpose is firmly stated:

"The ASCIT research project is an experiment in redefining the American student into a vital member of society. By attacking a problem of national scope through areas of social, technical, economic, and psychological study and application, the project will call attention to the problem of the student and to the problems of Los Angeles County as well as the actual problem of air pollution.

"The research project is also an experiment in education. University students in the U.S. typically experience education as a sequence of vaguely related concepts. The research project offers an experience in problem-oriented education, that is, in tackling a real problem of sufficient complexity to encourage individual scholarship."

# CALTECH'S NEXT PRESIDENT

A serious task faced by Caltech is currently being considered by a faculty committee headed by Robert P. Sharp, professor of geology. At the request of Arnold O. Beckman, chairman of the Caltech board of trustees, the former chairman of the faculty, Jesse Greenstein, acting with the advice and consent of the faculty board, appointed a faculty committee to consult with and advise the trustees upon candidates to succeed Lee A. DuBridge as president of Caltech.

The faculty committee consists of 14 members: James Bonner, Norman Brooks, Robert Christy, Norman Davidson, Jesse Greenstein, Marshall Hall, George Hammond, Robert Huttenback, Lester Lees, Robert Leighton, Ned Munger, William Pickering, Hardy Martel, and Robert Sharp.

At its meeting of November 28, Dr. Sharp discussed the committee's plans and progress with the board of directors of the alumni association. He reported that a large list of names is being prepared from which the committee will ultimately choose a small number of especially attractive candidates for submission to the board of trustees, which is responsible for the final selection. Dr. Sharp stressed that the committee is eager to promote communication concerning potential candidates and would welcome comments and suggestions from alumni.

# **CIVIL ENGINEERS:**

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