IN THIS ISSUE

ON THE COVER

This month's cover picture shows some of the visitors to the Institute campus on Students' Day, Saturday December 2, looking over the 20-inch telescope on the roof of Robinson Hall, the astrophysics building.

Students' Day was the first open house to be held at the Institute since before the war—and a highly successful one too. Instead of holding a wide-open-house this time, the Institute limited attendance to prospective students. Some 750 Southern California high school seniors, with their teachers, were therefore invited to tour the campus on Students' Day. The function was a joint effort of Caltech students, faculty and other participating groups, including alumni.

You'll find some pictures of Students' Day activities on pages 14 and 15—a couple of pages, by the way, which we held up until the last minute, so we could get these pictures in this issue.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Committee in charge of Students' Day—Hildebrand, Varney, Tautz

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CONTENTS

Books 2

In This Issue 5

The Air Pollution Problem in Los Angeles 7
by A. J. Haagen-Smit

Students' Day 14

Two Radiation Detectors 16
Institute researchers develop a new nonstop cloud chamber and a nonstop Geiger counter
by C. M. Stearns

Science in Art 19
The Arts and Sciences in 1698
by E. C. Watson

The Month at Caltech 22

The Beaver 24
Some notes on student life
by Bob Madden '51

Civil Defense 28
Some warnings and some recommendations
by Grant V. Jenkins '24
Los Angeles Coordinator of Civil Defense

Alumni News 32

Personals 34

Lost Alumni 38

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Here it is, winter again. And unless this year turns out different from all the years that have gone before, winter means that the whole countryside is going to be slopped up with rain, mud, sleet, snow, fog, wind and what have you?

Except, of course, down in the South and Southwest. Around Palm Springs, Phoenix, Tucson, etc. the sun is now spending the winter. You can do all the shirt-sleeve loafing you like there. We recommend it.

**How’re You Going?**

There are, of course, many ways to get to the Southwest resort and guest ranch country. For example, you could walk. (You’d probably encounter some interesting bone formations from people who found this method over-tiring.)

Another possibility is to drive your own car. On the off chance that you may be considering this method, we have prepared a special presentation of the scenery you can expect to encounter en route.

In the crowded, metropolitan areas, where traffic creeps along bumper to bumper, if you dare take your eyes off the car ahead for a moment, chances are you’ll receive a by-then untimely suggestion like this:

**Snow-bound?**

Of course, some people aren’t sun worshippers. So if you believe there’s no fun like snow fun—or if you have some other reason for heading north—we have some very sweet streamliners headed thataway.

From Los Angeles to San Francisco, you can go by Daylights, Starlight or Lark. From San Francisco to Portland, take the Shasta Daylight or the Cascade. And if your spirits need a Reno-variation, go there over the High Sierra on the City of San Francisco.

**Happy Holiday**

The nearly 90,000 men and women who are Southern Pacific join in wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and peaceful New Year.