In This Issue

Saving Space

One of the people who can speak with real authority about the past, present, and possible future of space exploration is Bruce Murray. It has been the focus of his professional interest for more than 20 years, beginning in 1960 when he first came to Caltech as a research fellow in space science. In 1963 he became the Institute’s first professorial appointment in planetary science. He was an active participant in the scientific teams that planned, observed, and analyzed the Mariner missions to Mars, Venus, and Mercury. In addition to doing research, he has made countless talks, served on boards and committees, and written both books and articles on the subject.

Murray recently announced his impending resignation from the directorship of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a position he has held for the past six years. During that time the pace of his interest and the weight of his responsibility have, of course, been greatly intensified. He has become increasingly concerned not only for space science itself but for the role of the United States in future space exploration. In January he discussed these issues in a Watson Lecture at Beckman Auditorium. An adaptation of that talk, "Where Do We Go Next In Space?" begins on page 2.

Chemical Action

John Balde- schwieler came to Caltech in 1973 from Washington, D.C., where he had been for two years as deputy director of the Office of Science and Technology. That was, however, just an excursion out of academia. He had previously been on the faculties of Harvard and Stanford universities. For his first five years at the Institute Balde- schwieler had to divide his working hours between administrative duties as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineer- ing and continuing his research activities as professor of chemistry. Then, after six months’ leave of absence spent as a visiting scientist at Bell Laboratories and the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory, he came back to Pasadena and plunged into the work described on page 14 in “Tiny Bubbles” by Dennis Meredith, director of Cal- tech’s news bureau.

Of course, he plunged into a few other things too. Some 30 of the more than 200 publications listed under his name have been written since then, and he has continued to serve and/or take on new responsibilities with a number of national committees, including the Commit­ tee on Scholarly Communication with the People’s Republic of China. He also serves as a consultant to a number of industrial firms.

STAFF: Editor — Jacquelyn Bonner
Staff Writer — Jane Dietrich
Photographer — Chris Tschoegli


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