

In This Issue

Engineering & Science



A New Era Begins

On the cover—Marvin L. Goldberger, newly installed president of the California Institute of Technology, delivers his inaugural address. The inauguration was a gala occasion that included more than 5,000 guests assembling on a sunlit Beckman Mall on the morning of October 27. And there were other—though smaller—festivities before and after as well. “Caltech: Harnessing Science and Technology with Wisdom,” which begins on page 7, is Goldberger’s statement about some of his hopes and plans for Caltech’s future. More pictures of the participants and the parties appear on pages 2 to 6.



Rodman W. Paul

When *E&S* learned last summer that a contingent of Caltech trustees and faculty would be accompanying President Marvin Goldberger on a trip to China, we knew we wanted to publish a story of the trip. It was our good fortune that Rodman W. Paul, Edward S. Harkness Professor of History and acting chairman of the division of the humanities and social sciences, was to be a member of that group—and that he was willing to keep a diary for the duration. Paul has a number of qualifications for telling such a story. One is that he is a prolific and distinguished writer of history, although his special field is not the Orient but the American West. But neither he nor we could have predicted that diary-keeping would prove so fascinating that it would turn into a two-part article. “Caltech Goes to China: Entries from a Diary” on page 24 is Part I; Part II is slated to appear in an early issue.



Looking Up

Even though Gillian Knapp started life in Liverpool, England, she considers herself a Scot. She was reared in Edinburgh and took her BS in

physics at the university there in 1966. Then she came to the United States to study astronomy at the University of Maryland—a school she chose partly because of its proximity to this nation’s capital. She was awarded her PhD in astronomy in 1971.

Optical astronomy had been an interest of Knapp’s since she was a child, but she found that, on the eastern seaboard, viewing was something between not particularly good and impossible. She was, however, able to turn to radio astronomy and extra-galactic research, and she has found it a very happy substitute.

After a short stint of teaching at Maryland, while her husband finished work for his degree. Knapp took a job as a research fellow at Caltech in 1974. In 1976 she was promoted to senior research fellow and made a staff member of the Owens Valley Radio Observatory. Now she spends a quarter to a third of her time at Owens Valley and puts in an occasional session at Palomar. Between the two, she considers herself privileged to work with the best equipment in the world. Last May Knapp gave a Watson Lecture about some of that work. “Interstellar Molecules” on page 16 is adapted from that talk.

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