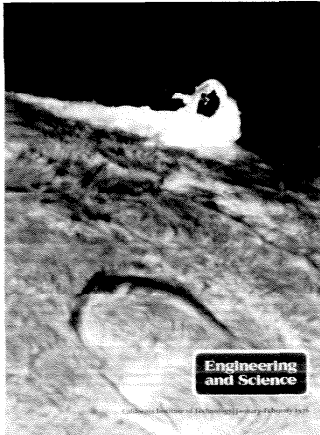


In This Issue



Solar Flare

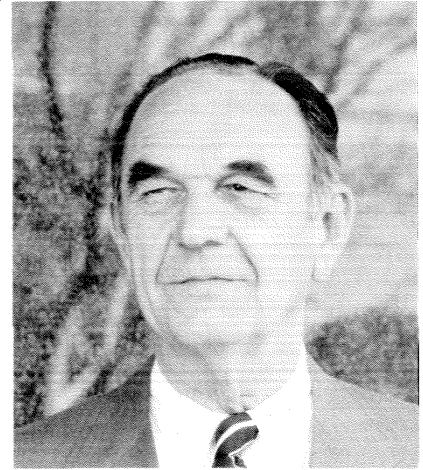
On the cover—a spectacular solar flare, photographed at Caltech's solar observatory on Big Bear Lake on July 9, 1974, at precisely 23:42:12 universal time. As an indication of the size of this flare—the hole inside the loop shown on the cover is about twice the size of the earth. Even so, this is not a particularly large flare. It is, however, one of the most pictorially impressive ones to be recorded at the observatory—as you can see from the photographic evidence on pages 32 and 33. It is worth noting that the shadows you can see in the loop, in these pictures, are rarely, if ever, observed, and are still not understood. Also note that this whole photographic record covers only 14 minutes.

The Way It Was

Richard P. Feynman, who is Richard Chace Tolman Professor of Theoretical Physics at Caltech, and winner of the 1965 Nobel Prize in physics, spent the war years working on the Manhattan District atomic bomb project, first at Princeton University, then at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory.

He recalled those years last February, in a public lecture at the University of California at Santa Barbara. His was one of nine talks given in a lecture series there, under the general heading of "Reminiscences of Los Alamos, 1943-1945." The other speakers included George Kistiakowsky, Laura Fermi, Edwin McMillan, and Norris Bradbury, and all the talks are now being edited for book publication by William Badash, professor of history at UCSB. It's a book we look forward to with relish, after sampling only the Feynman talk, "Los Alamos From Below"—which you'll find on page 11.

The article has been adapted from a direct transcript of the talk given by Feynman at Santa Barbara on February 6, 1975.



The Chairman

R. Stanton Avery has been chairman of the Caltech board of trustees since May 15, 1974, when he succeeded Arnold Beckman, who had served as chairman for 10 years. A member of the board since 1971, Avery is founder and chief executive officer of Avery Products Corporation, the world's leading manufacturer of self-adhesive products, with headquarters in San Marino. He is one of a small handful of executives in this country — like Arnold Beckman, Edward Carter, Justin Dart, and William Paley — who founded his own company and is still running it after more than 40 years. Avery Products began as a one-man, part-time, mail order organization. It is now a multinational corporation which last year entered the ranks of the 500 largest manufacturing companies in the U.S.

Some highlights in the life of the remarkable man who accomplished this, and an introduction to your chairman of the board — on page 8, "He Might Have Been Written by Horatio Alger."

STAFF: *Editor and Business Manager*—Edward Hutchings Jr.
Managing Editor—Jacquelyn Bonner
Photographer—Floyd Clark

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