

# THE MONTH AT CALTECH

## AUFS Men Report In

ON JANUARY 12 Richard H. Nolte comes to Caltech to report to the faculty, students and friends of the Institute on current conditions in Egypt. He will be on campus until January 21.

On January 26 Lawrence W. Witt will arrive here to report on Brazil, remaining until February 4.

Both men are representatives of the American Universities Field Staff (*E&S*—November 1951), an organization set up in 1951 by Caltech and seven other educational institutions in this country to send qualified young men out as their correspondents in foreign areas. In addition to sending back regular reports to the sponsoring colleges and universities, each of these men returns home every two years to visit the campus of each of the sponsoring institutions to report in person on current conditions, problems, and personalities in the area he is studying.

Richard Nolte, born in Duluth, Minnesota, was graduated from Yale in 1942, served as a Naval aviator from 1943 to 1945, then returned to Yale, where he received his M.S. in international relations in 1947. Awarded a Rhodes Scholarship, he continued his studies at Ox-

ford University from 1947 to 1950 in the Faculty of Oriental Studies—specializing in Arabic and Turkish language, history, and literature; and in Muslim law and other social and religious institutions.

Under the auspices of the Institute of Current World Affairs, the organization which fathered the American Universities Field Staff, Mr. Nolte made field trips to the Middle East in 1948 and 1950. Since April, 1951, he has lived in Lebanon and in Egypt, studying cultural, social, economic, and political affairs.

Lawrence Witt grew up in Milwaukee, and received a B.S. in agricultural economics at the University of Wisconsin in 1937. He took an M.S. at the University of Chicago and was awarded a Ph.D. by Iowa State University in 1941.

From 1941 to 1943 Mr. Witt was associated with the Institute of Current World Affairs, which enabled him to work in Brazil and study particularly the changes in methods of production and their impact on trade patterns and political relations between Brazil and the United States.

He then joined the staff of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, where his assignments included the direction of an Agricultural Resources Mission that was sent to Colombia in 1944-45, and of a study group of the Inter-American Coffee Board.

Since 1947 Mr. Witt has been on the faculty of Michigan State College, for the past four years as Professor of Agricultural Economics. He was a consultant to the Food and Agricultural Organization in 1951 and has written numerous articles in the field. Currently he is editor of the *Journal of Farm Economics*.

He comes to Caltech this month fresh from a short study tour in Brazil.

## Mrs. Thomas Hunt Morgan 1891-1952

MRS. LILIAN V. MORGAN, 82, Research Associate in Biology at the California Institute of Technology and widow of Dr. Thomas Hunt Morgan, Caltech geneticist who received a Nobel Prize in 1933, died in a Pasadena hospital on December 6.

A native of Hallowell, Maine, Mrs. Morgan was graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1891 and received the M.A. degree there in 1892, after which she spent a year studying in Switzerland. She published four papers on zoological subjects before she married Dr. Morgan in 1904. She then left scientific work until her four children began to grow up. After returning



Mrs. Lilian Morgan, Research Associate in Biology, working with *Drosophila* in the Kerckhoff Laboratories.

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to the laboratory in about 1920 she published seven scientific papers and continued to make important contributions to the genetics of *Drosophila*, a field in which her husband was eminent.

Mrs. Morgan lived at 1149 San Pasqual Street, Pasadena. She is survived by four children, Howard K. Morgan, Mrs. Edith Whitaker, Mrs. Lilian Sherp and Mrs. Isabel Mountain; six grandchildren; two nieces; and a sister-in-law.

### Sea-Water Research

**P**RESIDENT L. A. DUBRIDGE has been named as one of nine advisers to aid the Department of the Interior in a research program designed to discover an economical method of converting sea water into fresh water.

This program calls for government-industry cooperation, and the actual research will be handled by private organizations on a contract basis. The appointment of the nine-man advisory committee is a preliminary step in getting work started on a five-year \$2,000,000 job.

Other members of the advisory committee include Robert G. Sproul, president of the University of California; J. J. Cronin, vice-president of General Motors Corp.; Louis Koenig, director of research at the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio, Texas; Henry J. Schmitt, editor and publisher of the *Aberdeen (S. D.) American-News*; George D. Humphrey, president of the University of Wyoming; Sheppard P. Powell, Baltimore consulting engineer; Frederick L. Hovde, president of Purdue University, and James D. Killian Jr., president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

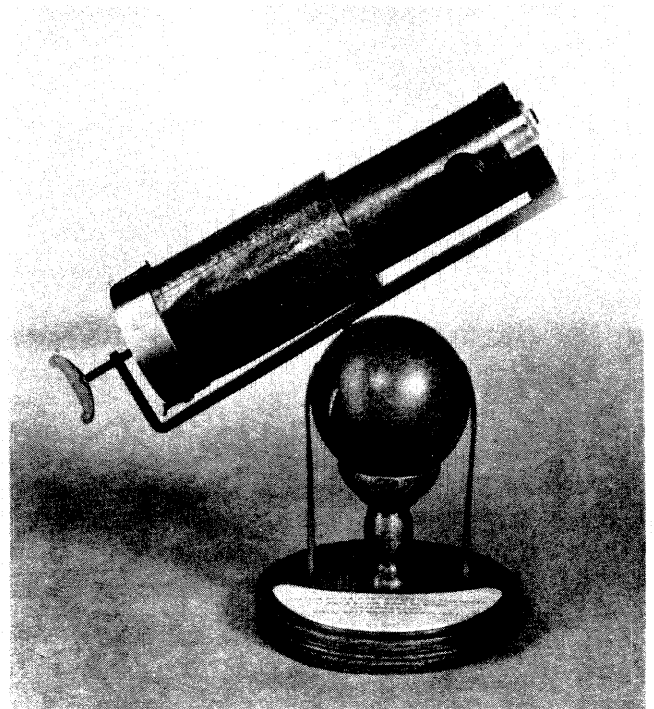
### Newton Telescope

**A** FULL-SIZE REPLICA of the original Newton reflecting telescope, earliest ancestor of the 200-inch Palomar telescope, was presented to the Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories last month by the Royal Greenwich Observatory in England.

The 10-inch high model is an exact copy of a telescope Sir Isaac Newton, famed mathematician and physicist, presented to the Royal Society in London in March, 1672. The replica is built of wood, cardboard, and metal, as was the original.

Newton built his first telescope when he was 26 years old. He replaced the lenses used in previous refracting telescopes with a concave mirror to bring light to a focus. This eliminated the chromatic aberration or blurring caused by different wavelengths of light arriving at slightly different focuses when lenses were used.

Newton's original reflecting telescope had a 6 1/3 inch focal length, a magnifying power of 38 diameters and a mirror slightly more than two inches in diameter. This mirror was too small to compete successfully with the existing refracting-type instruments. The first re-



*Replica of Newton telescope presented to Observatories*

flecting telescope to be used for serious astronomical work was built by John Hadley in 1722 and had a mirror about six inches in diameter. This compared favorably in both magnification and resolving power with the largest refracting telescopes then in existence.

Larger and larger reflecting instruments were built through the years, culminating in size and light-gathering power in the 100-inch Hooker telescope on Mount Wilson and the 200-inch Hale, now in operation on Palomar Mountain.

Newton's pioneering telescope is housed in the Royal Society in London. Sir Harold Spencer Jones, British Astronomer Royal, arranged for presentation of the replica to the Observatories after a visit here last summer. The instrument will eventually be exhibited in the museum of Palomar Observatory.

### Tau Beta Pi

**S**EVENTEEN STUDENTS were initiated into the Caltech chapter of Tau Beta Pi, national honorary engineering scholastic fraternity, on December 4.

The Caltech chapter selects its members from students in the upper one-fifth of the senior class and the upper one-eighth of the junior class who also have excelled in extracurricular activities.

The new members are: From Los Angeles—Gordon D. Seele, Walter H. Thorson, Robert W. Stanton, Morris A. Robkin, David F. Stevens, Rolf W. Weglein, George Johnston and William Autrey; George H. Moore, Pasadena; Charles E. Benjamin, Evanston, Ill.; Edward H. Daw, Temple City; Donald P. Snowden, Sherman Oaks; Kenneth R. King, Phoenix, Ariz.; Robert L. Easton, Long Beach; Bruce L. Scott, Van Nuys; David Tilles, Berkeley; and James Crosby, Manila, Philippines.