

"One prime asset of the good instructor is secret because others are unconscious of it. This is the difference between learning alone and learning from living men. This is communication with the students beyond handing over the subject matter of the course. The instructor is master of the subject matter, so he can be probing the student reaction to it. In this way he *can* maintain a continuous evaluation of the student's progress. This means that the actual test will serve mainly as a goad to the student, rather than as a measuring tool. The man who finds this contact easiest hasn't any barrier between him and the student. The man who fails to come up to this measure has a huge barrier to vault. He might try being friendly with the guy while putting over his points. The student is ignorant or he wouldn't be taking the course. Let's not confuse his ignorance with his low intelligence. The student didn't pay tuition for a theatrical display of arrogance. . . ."

In our profundity, we assumed a student who is somewhat interested in the courses offered; let's say he's pulling a low C average. He is right in the area where a good instructor can do the most. He'll lay out his brain to be inoculated, and nothing more, until he blunders onto a man who seems to take an interest in him as well as his subject. This student will work for a guy like that, ignoring the credits offered, even giving the ultimate: thinking about the subject while he is lolling around on Saturday nights.

If the instructor can manage this, he's laid the groundwork for some fresh, new accomplishment in the field, and has gained one kind of immortality.

—Russ Hunter '57

Alumni Seminar Day

THE 19TH ANNUAL Alumni Seminar Day will be held on Saturday, April 7. Committee members working out plans for the event are: Hugh Carter '49, director in charge; C. W. Lindsay '35, chairman, Alumni Seminar committee; Raymond E. Cox '27, chairman, catering; Richard A. Andrews '42, chairman, registration; Howard B. Lewis, Jr. '48, arrangements; and Wesley Hertenstein '25, Institute relations. Arthur Schneider '42 is chairman of the program committee, assisted by John T. Bowen '42, Horace W. Baker '35, L. Fort Etter '34, John L. Mason '47 and Paul D. Saltman '49.

Although program arrangements are not yet complete, early plans include a symposium of three speakers—Drs. William Fowler, Jesse Greenstein, and possibly Fred Hoyle, of Cambridge University in England—who will discuss the creative processes of the universe. Also scheduled is Dr. William Pickering, who will talk on earth satellites.

San Francisco Dinner Dance

THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER of the Caltech Alumni Association will hold its Pre-Spring Dinner Dance March 2 on Treasure Island, as guests of Ensign Walter Eager '53. Beginning with a social hour at 6:30 and dinner at 7:30 (choice of prime ribs or lobster), the dance will be held in the Treasure Room of the Treasure Island Officer's Club. The cost per couple is \$8.50. For reservations or more information about the dance, call Don Loeffler (50 Overlook Court, Walnut Creek), whose telephone number is YE 4-9240.

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