

THE MONTH AT CALTECH

Ford Foundation Grant

CALTECH HAS been awarded a \$1,229,990 grant from the Ford Foundation which is specifically designed to increase faculty salaries. The grant is part of a \$260,000,000 gift by the Foundation to 615 colleges and universities.

Each grant is to be invested as endowment and the income used for faculty raises, which, in Caltech's case, would be an increase of about 4 percent. The grant will be given in two installments over a period of two years.

AUFS Correspondents

ON JANUARY 9, K. H. Silvert arrived at Caltech to give a series of lectures and informal talks to the faculty and students on current conditions in Central America. On January 23, Edward A. Bayne will be on campus to report on Italy, Iran and Israel.

Both men are representatives of the American Universities Field Staff, an organization set up by Caltech and seven other educational institutions in this country in 1951 to send qualified young men out to foreign areas to study current conditions, problems and personalities. Besides reporting regularly by mail, these correspondents visit the campuses of each of the sponsoring institutions every two years to make comprehensive reports in person.

Dr. Silvert has been a close student of Guatemalan affairs since 1951, and is the author of a two-volume work, *A Study in Government: Guatemala*. He recently returned from a summer spent in Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica.

E. A. Bayne, an economic administrator, has been closely associated with international development programs for a number of years. During World War II, he served in West Africa as a representative of the Board of Economic Warfare, in Italy as administrative officer of a combined British and American economic intelligence agency, and in China (where he remained from the end of the war until 1948) as economic advisor to the prime minister of Nationalist China. Prior to joining the AUFS in 1953, he was director of the Foreign Operations Administration's economic aid program in all European colonial territories.

In February, two more AUFS correspondents are due on campus—Richard D. Robinson, from Turkey, who arrives on February 6; and A. Doak Barnett, from China and southeast Asia, who will be here on February 20. Both men were at Caltech, as AUFS representatives, in 1953.

Richard Robinson was graduated from the University of Washington in 1942, and received an MBA degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1943. He then enlisted in the Army, and was trained in military government and Far Eastern studies. In 1947 he left government service and traveled to Turkey, where he taught for a short time at Robert College. Later, as a fellow of the Institute of Current World Affairs, he lived in central Anatolia for nearly a year to study Turkish provincial life. Thereafter he established a base in Ankara.

A. Doak Barnett was born in Shanghai and spent his first 15 years in China. He was graduated from Yale in 1943 and, after wartime service as a Marine officer, returned to receive an MA in international relations at Yale. He joined the Institute of Current World Affairs in 1947, and has served as a correspondent for the AUFS since 1952.

AFROTC Discontinued

THE AIR FORCE ROTC unit at Caltech, which has been active since 1951, will be discontinued after July 1, 1957. Caltech is one of the 25 institutions (out of 188) in which the units are being discontinued.

In a recent reappraisal of all AFROTC units, David S. Smith, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, reported that one of the requisites in a continuance of the program was the necessity of obtaining at least 25 cadets annually for flight training. Although the quality of the ROTC program at Caltech has been excellent and the caliber of the students good, said Smith, not enough cadets have applied for flight training. For instance, out of 37 graduating students in the unit who were commissioned last year, 28 were assigned to duty in the technical and scientific divisions of the Air Force; the remaining nine volunteered for flight training.

Present freshmen may continue the basic phases of their training until the end of their sophomore year,

sophomores may continue training through the current year, and juniors and seniors who are now in the advanced phase of their training are obliged by their contracts with the government to continue training until their graduation, when they will be eligible, as before, for commissions in both technical and flying service.

Research Center

CALTECH'S INDUSTRIAL Relations Section, which has conducted studies and courses in the field of personnel administration since 1939, has now set up a Benefits and Insurance Research Center to deal with the phenomenal growth of employee benefit plans in the U.S. The center will make a long term study of the benefits and insurance of employees.

Dr. Michael T. Wermel, research director of the center, has joined the Caltech staff as a research associate in economics and insurance. A prominent actuary and authority on social insurance, Dr. Wermel received his PhD in economics at Columbia University in 1939 and subsequently taught in a number of colleges and universities. He has served as consultant to the Department of Employment of the State of California and has

worked for the Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Employment Security. Dr. Wermel is vice president of Woodward & Fondiller, Inc., consulting actuaries.

Although Caltech is providing space, utilities and basic services for the new center, salaries and expenses will be carried by 45 contributing business organizations, most of them with headquarters or branches in California.

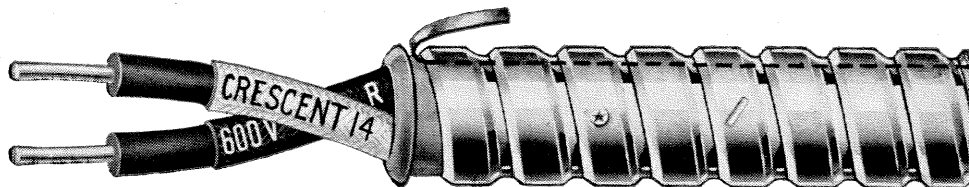
Honors and Awards

DR. THEODORE VON KARMAN, professor of aeronautics emeritus, last month received the Federal Grand Cross for Merit with star, one of West Germany's highest decorations, at a ceremony in Duesseldorf.

LINUS PAULING, chairman of the division of chemistry and chemical engineering, received an honorary doctorate degree from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn in November at their centennial anniversary celebration.

DR. FRITS W. WENT, professor of plant physiology, has been elected president of the board of governors of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum at Arcadia.

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