

INSTITUTE STAFF MEMBERS RECOGNIZED IN AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE

Comparative Institutional Listings Disclose C.I.T. Is Outstanding. (Continued)

The March number of the *Alumni Review* contained an article on the starring system which is used in *American Men of Science* to designate outstanding workers in the various fields of science. It was pointed out how the six editions of *American Men of Science* (first edition, 1906; sixth edition, 1938) contain a biographical record of scientific activity in the United States for the past thirty years, and how at the same time they furnish data for a comparison of the institutions in this country which are active centers of scientific research. Such a comparison was made between the California Institute and fifteen other American universities. This comparison was based on figures compiled by Mr. Stephen S. Visher, who, in the October, 1938, number of the *University of Chicago Magazine* published the totals of starred scientists on the staffs of the institutions compared.

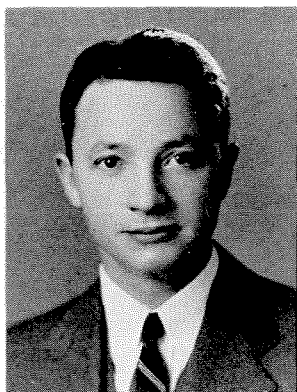
In arriving at his totals, however, Mr. Visher followed a rather intricate system of counting. Where a staff member did not devote his whole time to teaching and research he was counted only a half. Professors emeriti were apparently not counted at all, regardless of whether they were still actively at work. Other restrictions, too involved to discuss here, were also applied. Since presumably the same system was used for each of the institutions involved, Mr. Visher's figures could be used for comparative purposes. Nevertheless, his totals in each case must be considered subject to revision. (1) Consequently, it seemed desirable, in the case of the California Institute, to make an independent count. This was done by checking the staff list of the Institute (excluding all those below the rank of instructor) against the 1928 edition of *American Men of Science*. The final total makes no discrimination between part-time and full-time members

of the staff, since the value of their work in stimulating their colleagues and adding prestige to the Institute bear no necessary relation to the full or part-time status.

The result of this check is gratifying in that the total arrived at is considerably larger than Mr. Visher's (his total was 22½). In all, twenty-nine members of the Institute staff are starred. Two were first starred in the first edition (1906); two more in the second edition (1910); four in the third edition (1921) four in the fourth (1927); four in the fifth (1933); and thirteen in the sixth (1938).

The total number of teachers at the Institute, as given in the current *World Almanac*, is 191. But this figure includes teaching fellows, who have not been long enough in independent work in their various fields to be eligible for starring. Hence, omitting them and revising the faculty total to include only those through the rank of instructor, the figure is 123. This gives the ratio of starred to unstarred as 1 to 4.24; the percentage starred, 23.57. But the figure 123 includes engineers. As was explained in the previous article, while *American Men of Science* includes the biographies of engineers, it applies the starring system only to the sciences. Therefore, to get the ratio between those starred and those eligible for starring, it is necessary to count out the members of the engineering departments. This gives, then, as the total for the science faculty, 85; the ratio of starred to unstarred is 1 to 2.93; the percentage starred, 34.12.

(1) An independent check of Harvard and Princeton gave a total considerably larger than Mr. Visher's. A similar check of the University of California, made by Mr. Harold Ellis of the News Bureau, disclosed the same sort of discrepancy.



H. VICTOR NEHER
Ph.D., 1931
Assistant Professor of Physics



CARL D. ANDERSON
B.S., 1927; Ph.D., 1930
Associate Professor of Physics



ROSCOE G. DICKINSON
Ph.D., 1920
Professor of Physical Chemistry

The table given below shows the distribution, etc., of starred faculty members according to departments. (2)

	No. in Dept.	No. Starred	Ratio	Percent.
Biology	17	4	1 to 4.25	23.51
Chemistry	16	4	1 to 4	25
Geology	14	3	1 to 4.66	21.43
Mathematics	9	3	1 to 3	33.33
Physics	21	12	1 to 1.75	57.14

It should be of considerable interest to members of the Alumni Association that of the thirteen Institute staff members first starred in the 1938 edition of *American Men of Science*, the six men pictured with this article are alumni of the Institute.

(2) The total here, it will be noted, is 26. The other three starred faculty members cannot be classified according to department.



JESSIE W. M. DUMOND
B.S., 1916; Ph.D., 1929
Associate Professor of Physics



CHARLES C. LAURITSEN
Ph.D., 1929
Professor of Physics



DON M. YOST
Ph.D., 1926
Associate Professor of Inorganic Chemistry

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COMMENCEMENT

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
June 9, 1939, 4:45 P.M.

Processional March Institute Band

Invocation and Chaplain's Address
MOST REV. JOHN D. CANTWELL, D.D.
Address

Opportunities in the 'Forties
WILLIAM C. FULLENDORE, A.B., J.D.
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees
FREDERIC W. HJNRICHS, JR., M.A.
Dean of Upper Classmen

WILLIAM VERMILLION HOUSTON, PH.D.
Member of Committee on Course in Science

FRANKLIN THOMAS, C.E.
For the Committee on Course in Engineering
RICHARD CHASE TOLMAN, PH.D.
Dean of the Graduate School

Conferring of Degrees
on behalf of the Trustees and Faculty
ROBERT ANDREWS MILLIKAN, PH.D., LL.D., Sc.D.
Chairman of the Executive Council

The Progress of the Institute
DR. MILLIKAN

Benediction

(The audience will stand for the Academic Procession and the Invocation.)

(ALUMNI MOST CORDIALLY INVITED.)

LABOR RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Dr. Robert Millikan, chairman of the Institute Executive Council, on May 10th, announced the establishment of a labor relations department as a division of the department of humanities for the coming school year.

According to preliminary statements, two experts in labor relations will join the staff, one on the campus and one in the field, the men rotating assignments. Labor relations problems will be attacked by scientific methods, much needed information will be secured and disseminated.

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STOCK FELLOWSHIP

Dr. Chester Stock, professor of paleontology at the Institute, has been awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, which carries a stipend of \$2,500. As a result of the award, Doctor Stock will search for undiscovered caves in northern Mexico in which remnants of human and animal life in early times may be found.

The fellowships are granted to scholars and artists who have shown unusual ability by prior work, a total of sixty-nine being awarded for the current year.

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ROUSE TO IOWA

Dr. Hunter Rouse, who has been assistant professor of fluid mechanics since 1936, has accepted a position as professor of hydraulics in the college of engineering of the University of Iowa for the coming school year.