

LETTERS

Beverly Hills, California

Sir:

I was fascinated by the letter in your October issue which gave the statistics on the reunion of the Class of '32. I was particularly interested in Questions 18 and 19 in the questionnaire sent to all class members, which dealt with past and present political convictions of the class.

Question 19, about the present opinions of the class (90.7% Republican) is easy to understand, but the results of Question 18 are rather unusual. In fact, 64% Republican in 1932, at the depth of the depression (or fairly close to it) when graduating scientists and engineers had very poor employment prospects, indicates at best a lack of political awareness in the Class of '32 in '32. As I recall, Mr. Hoover didn't do too well in the election that year.

John Wise '57

Pasadena, California

Sir:

The introduction to your October article, "A New Technique of Education," describes the author, Dr. Simon Ramo, as "a noted scientist."

After recovering from the shock of seeing the editorial kidnapping of a noted engineer, I read the article with great appreciation. It was true to form, Caltech engineering style. Ramo, like all Caltech doctorates in engineering, is not at a disadvantage among scientists but he is first, last and all the time an engineer of whom that profession is proud.

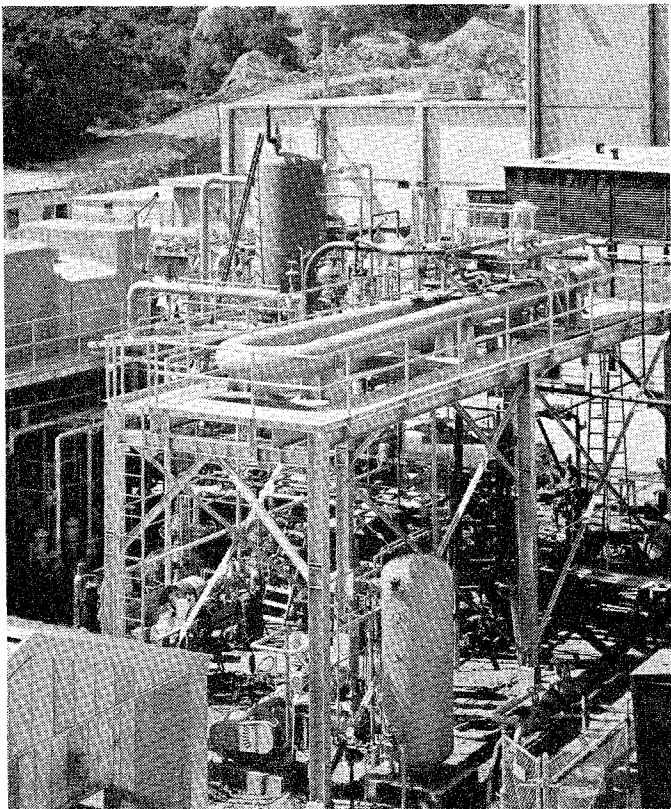
He was granted a B.S. in E.E. degree with Phi Kappa Phi high honors by the University of Utah in 1933 for the completion of a course in Electrical Engineering. At Caltech, he made an outstanding record as graduate student and teaching fellow in Electrical Engineering and in 1936

obtained the distinguished degree Ph.D Magna Cum Laude in Electrical Engineering. His major research program from which we learned much was carried on in the 1,000,000 volt laboratory and his doctorate thesis title was "A Proposed New Standard for High Voltage Measurement."

He is a registered professional engineer, winner in 1941 of an Eta Kappa Nu award for engineering achievement, a Fellow of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and of the Institute of Radio Engineers, all of which, as well as his writings and inventions, testify to the fact that though he can be properly called a scientist and also a musician of ability, he is by profession an engineer. His onetime professors claim the right to have him known as such.

*Royal W. Sorensen
Professor of Electrical
Engineering Emeritus*

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