

# Alumni News

## RPI President



RICHARD G. FOLSOM, '28, MS '29, PhD '32, has been elected president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. He moves into his new job on March 1. For the past five years, Dr. Folsom has been director of the Engineering Research Institute and professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Folsom joined the faculty of the University of California at Berkeley in 1933 and rose through the academic ranks to become professor of mechanical engineering. From 1947 to 1953 he was chairman of the mechanical engineering division, and in 1952-53 he was also director of the university's mechanical engineering laboratories.

## Lecture Series

HOWARD S. SIEFERT, PhD '38, and staff engineer for the guided missile research division of The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation in Los Angeles, is the organizer of a statewide series of lectures now being presented by the University of California's extension division. The series is sponsored jointly by UC's departments of engineering and physical sciences and by Ramo-Wooldridge.

The lectures, which started on January 13 and will run through May 14, deal with the fundamental principles of very long range ballistic vehicles and cover all fields of science active in this research. The complete series will be given in San Diego and San Francisco as well as Los Angeles.

Among the lecturers taking part are a number of Caltech alumni and faculty members, including Lester Lees, Caltech professor of aeronautics; Ernest Sechler, '28, MS '29, PhD '33, Caltech professor of aeronautics; Eberhard Rehtin, '46, PhD '50, chief of the electronics research section of JPL; William H. Pickering, '32, MS '33, PhD '36, director of JPL; Martin Summerfield, MS '37, PhD '41, professor of aeronautics at Princeton University; Jack H. Irving, '42, special assistant to the vice president of Ramo-Wooldridge; George P. Sutton, '42,

MS '43, chief of the preliminary design engineering section of Rocketdyne; Millard V. Barton, '32, manager of the engineering mechanics department of the guided missile research division of Ramo-Wooldridge; Frank Lehan, '44, associate director of the electronic research and development division of Ramo-Wooldridge; and William T. Russell, '47, PhD '50, manager of the inertial guidance department of Ramo-Wooldridge.

## Space Labs

SIMON RAMO, PhD '36, and research associate in electrical engineering at Caltech, has relinquished his duties as executive vice president and secretary of The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation in Los Angeles, to devote full time as president of the new Space Technology Laboratories, an autonomous operating division of Ramo-Wooldridge. He remains as a board member of the parent company.

The new division is an outgrowth and extension of the company's guided missile research division, which was responsible for the technical direction and systems engineering of the Air Force ballistics missiles Atlas, Titan and Thor. Designed primarily to aid in expanding the Air Force space weapons programs, the new laboratories will have their own completely separate personnel, facilities and services, and will not engage in manufacturing operations.

Other top officers in the Space Technology Laboratories include Louis G. Dunn, '36, MS '37 ME, MS '38 AE, executive vice president and general manager, and Ruben G. Mettler '44, MS '47, PhD '49, vice president and assistant general manager.

At the same time, The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation and Thompson Products, Inc., of Cleveland, Ohio, announced the formation of a new subsidiary corporation to be known as Thompson-Ramo-Wooldridge Products, Inc. Dean E. Wooldridge, PhD '36, president of Ramo-Wooldridge, will also serve as president of the new Los Angeles company which will concentrate its efforts on industrial process control, including the marketing of its first major product—the RW-300 digital control computer. Joseph F. Manildi, '40, MS '42, PhD '44, has been named general manager. New products in the field of industrial process control will be undertaken for the new corporation by The Ramo-Wooldridge Corporation, which will also manufacture equipment in its newly activated manufacturing facility in Denver, Colorado.