

# The Month at Caltech

## *Scientist of the Year*

Frank Press, director of Caltech's Seismological Laboratory, was named scientist of the year this month by the California Museum of Science and Industry and its educational affiliate, the California Museum Foundation. Dr. Press received the award of \$5,000 for proving that the earth is thrown into free oscillations and actually rings like a deep-toned bell for from one to two weeks after an earthquake or



*Frank Press, director of the Seismological Laboratory.*

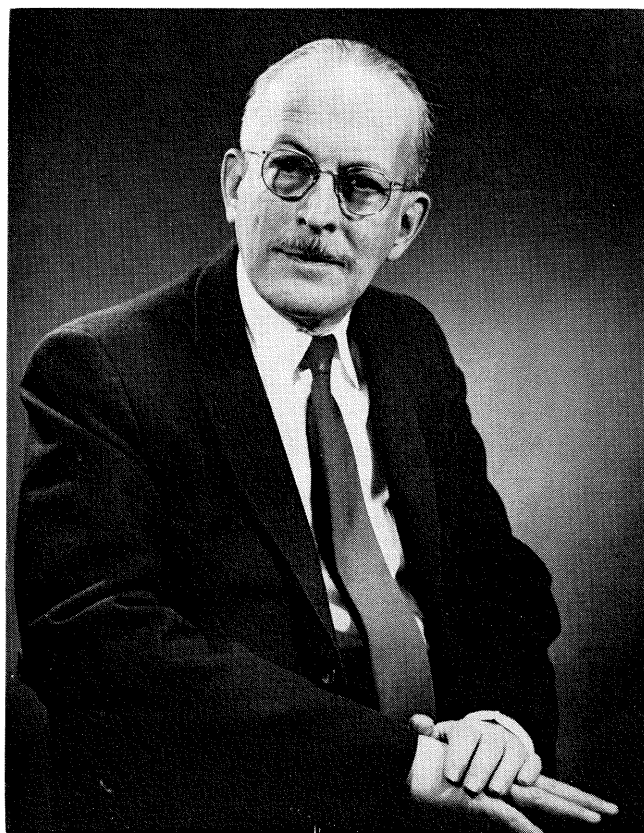
other shock. The award was presented by Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and chief of the judges in the science selection, at a banquet at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on May 11.

## *American Academy of Arts and Sciences*

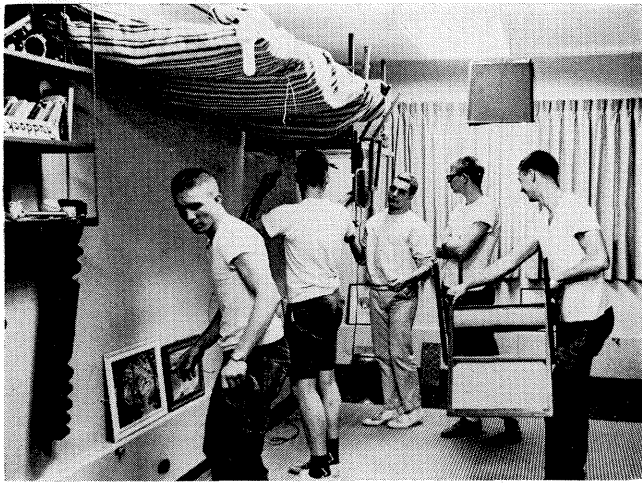
Richard M. Badger, professor of chemistry, has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Also this month Dr. Badger was named recipient of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association Medal and Citation for his superior work as a teacher in the field of chemistry. This, the highest honor in the education field which the Association can bestow, consists of a medal, a citation, and \$1,000. It is given annually to six chemistry teachers, chosen for outstanding success in "awakening in students a genuine interest in chemistry." Presentation of the award will be made at the annual meeting of the Association in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, on June 8.

Dr. Badger has taught undergraduates at Caltech for 32 years. A Caltech graduate himself (1921), he received his PhD here in 1924, then spent four years on the staff as a research fellow. After a year at Goettingen and Bonn, Germany, as an International Research Fellow, he returned to Caltech in 1929.

Dr. Badger is currently doing research on the structure of molecules by infrared spectroscopy at Caltech on a Guggenheim Fellowship.



*Richard M. Badger, professor of chemistry.*



**SENIOR DITCH DAY** *It's that time of year again. Caltech seniors took a day off to go to the beach this month, and Caltech juniors, sophomores and freshmen spent the whole long day redecorating the seniors' rooms.*

### *Birthday Celebration*

Theodore von Karman, professor of aeronautics, emeritus, and director of NATO's Advisory Group for Aeronautical Research and Development, was honored on his 80th birthday on May 11 at an all-day celebration at the Park-Sheraton Hotel in Washington, D.C., attended by representatives of scientific and military organizations in America and Europe. Joseph V. Charyk, undersecretary of the Air Force, was the speaker at an evening banquet, and Edward Teller, director of the Radiation Laboratory of the University of California, was toastmaster. Dr. von Karman was director of Caltech's Guggenheim Aeronautics Laboratory from 1930 to 1949.

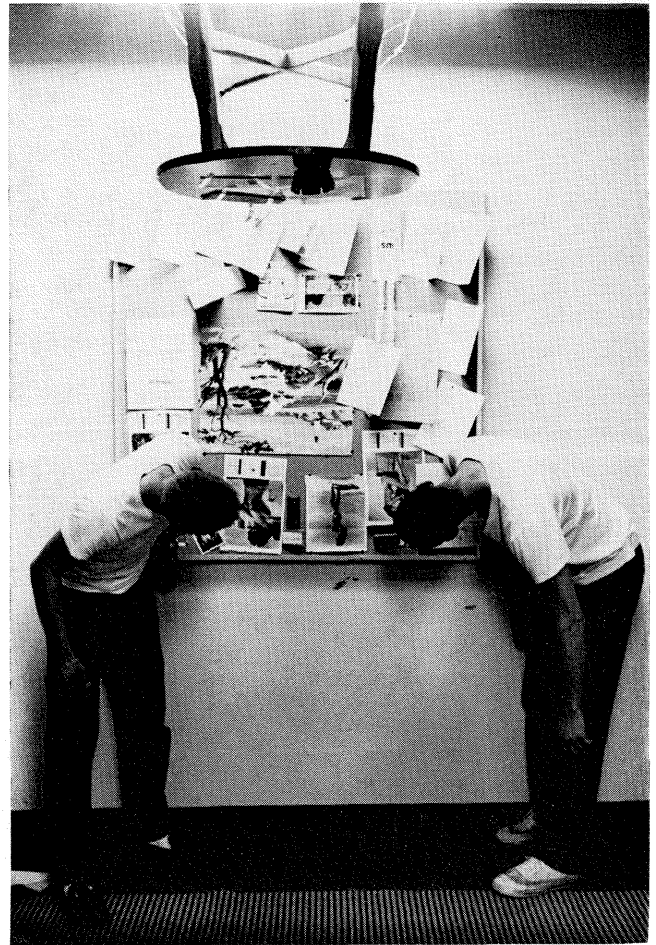
### *Frontiers in Science*

*Frontiers in Science*, the book made up of articles from *Engineering and Science*, has just been selected by the American Booksellers Association as one of the 200 outstanding books published over the past four years. It will be presented to President Kennedy during the ABA Convention Week in June, and will remain in the White House library for the Chief Executive's family and guests.

Royalties of over \$21,000, received from sales of *Frontiers in Science* since it was published in 1958, have gone to Caltech's Faculty Salary Fund.

### *1961 Swimming Championships*

Climaxed by a record-breaking effort in the 400-yard Freestyle Relay, the Caltech varsity swimming team swept to its third consecutive Conference swimming championship on Friday, May 5, at the Alumni Pool. The relay team members — Larry Daubek, Gary Mitchell, Gary Tibbetts and Bruce Chesebro — swam



to a time of 3:33.9 compared to second-place Occidental's 3:34.1.

Caltech first places were scored by Gary Turner, a junior, in the 200 Individual Medley and 200 Backstroke; Pete Mayer, a senior, in the 200 Breast Stroke; and by the 400 Medley Relay team of Gary Turner, Alan Huber, Bill Howard, and Gary Mitchell.

Gary Tibbetts, a senior, established new Caltech records in two events, though winning neither. His time of 2:12.5 in the 220 Freestyle was good for third, and his 4:49.0 was good for second in the 440 Freestyle. New Conference records were established by the winners in both events.

Bruce Chesebro, a sophomore, placed second in the 50 and 100 Freestyle events. His times of 23.7 in the 50 and 53.6 in the 100 established new Caltech varsity records.

The Caltech victory was very much a team effort, as points were scored in every event, and in almost every case Tech men turned in their best performances of the year. The final team scores were Caltech — 115, Occidental — 68, Redlands — 56, Claremont-Harvey Mudd — 20, and Whittier — 7. Pomona did not enter the meet this year.

Caltech finished third in the frosh division behind Occidental and Claremont-Harvey Mudd. Dave Seib established new Caltech school records of 2:20.9 in the 220 Freestyle and 5:11.3 in the 440 Freestyle.