Alumni News

Throop University Graduate

RICHARD W. SHOEMAKER, '03, one of the three earliest graduates of Throop University, was honored in the spring of 1962 by the Engineering Council of Sacramento Valley for his contribution to the growth and development of the electrical power industry and the engineering profession. Born in Germantown, Pennsylvania, 81 years ago, Mr. Shoemaker has lived in California since he was one year old, and received his entire education here. While still in college he sent California's first wireless message to Catalina Island. He later installed the first trackless trolley in this country in Laurel Canyon, near Hollywood. He then spent some time in Asia where he negotiated for the electrical railways in Harbin, Manchuria. Upon his return to California, he made an accurate estimate of the power potential of the Hoover Dam, and designed the drop for the All-American Canal in the Imperial Valley.

Mr. Shoemaker, who holds some 25 patents, is the author of *Radiant Heating* (McGraw-Hill), a text that is used worldwide. Although he retired in 1946 from the Chase Brass & Copper Company, he has been active on projects for the Oakdale and Turlock Irrigation Districts, and is presently serving on the technical papers committee of the Sacramento Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Tau Beta Pi President

DONALD S. CLARK, professor of mechanical engineering and director of placements at Caltech, is the new president of Tau Beta Pi, national engineering honor society.

He is also chairman of the five-man executive council, the governing body of the society which serves for four years. Other members of the council are Hallan N. Marsh, who received his BS from Caltech in 1922; David R. Stern, research manager for the American Potash and Chemical Corporation; Robert L. Mannes, professor of mechanical engineering at USC; and Edward P. Coleman, professor of engineering at UCLA, who serves as the council's vice president.

Dr. Clark, who received his BS, MS, and PhD degrees from Caltech, has been on the faculty since 1934 and is widely known for his research on the dynamic behavior of metals.