

The Inauguration of Harold Brown

It was, as it should have been, a very special day. Even the skies were clear, and the sun unseasonably hot.

It was a *big* day. Almost 4,000 people came to see the ceremony, so that bleachers had to be put up at the far end of Beckman Mall along San Pasqual St.

It was a colorful day. The academic procession included delegates from 204 colleges and universities and 43 learned societies, 8 Nobel Laureates, and 7 recipients of the Caltech Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

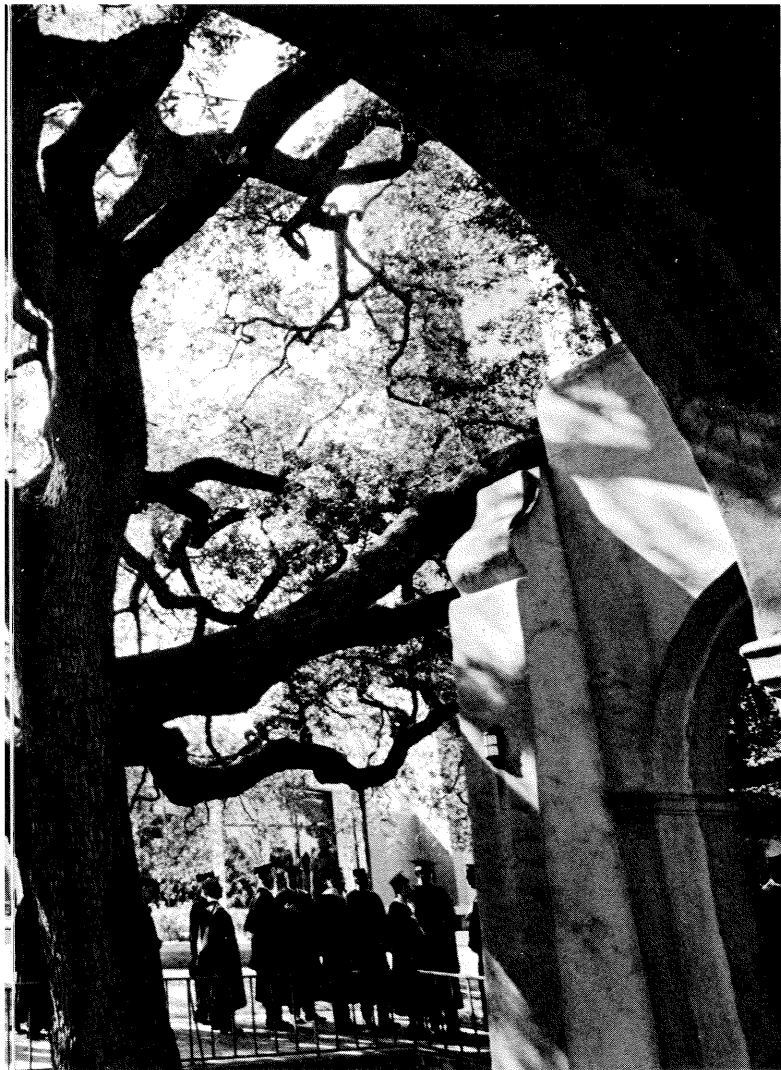
It was an impressive day. In the formal ceremony of investiture, by which Harold Brown officially became president of the California Institute of Technology, the academic hood placed on his shoulders was that of R. A. Millikan—who, like Brown, had received his PhD in physics from Columbia University.

It was a family day. At a special luncheon for distinguished visitors in the Athenaeum (which had never before served 720 people) the speaker was L. A. DuBridge, who left the Caltech presidency last year to become science adviser to President Nixon.

It was a full day. In the late afternoon the faculty gave the Browns a champagne reception. In the evening the students had a twilight buffet in Winnett Plaza, then capped it with a rock concert in Beckman Auditorium.

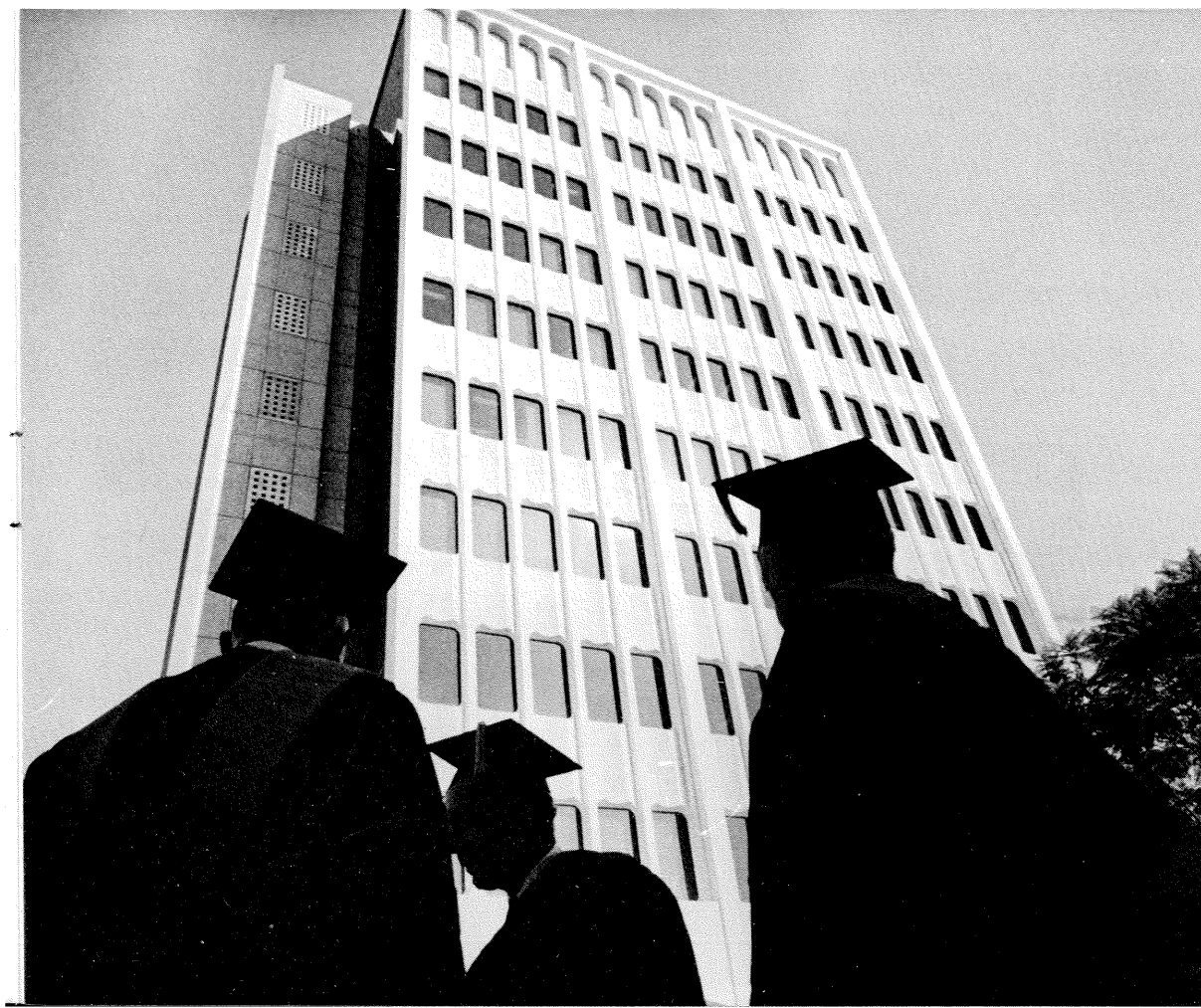
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“A man very well endowed to forward the supreme mission of this institution, to reaffirm in this time of technology the primacy of the human being . . . I present our new president, Dr. Harold Brown.”

—Trustee Thomas J. Watson Jr.





Colene Brown offers her own congratulations to the new president.



The Nobel Laureates in the academic procession picked up an added starter at 3:30 a.m. on Inauguration Day when Caltech's Murray Gell-Mann was notified he had won the 1969 Physics Prize. His fellow marchers are Caltech's Max Delbrück, 1969 co-recipient of the Prize in medicine and physiology, and his boss—Carl Anderson (chairman of the division of physics, mathematics and astronomy), physics winner in 1936.

