

Letters

Cover Story

In its last issue *E&S* ran a cover picture and a story about Robert Sharp, professor of geology, and his annual course in classical field geology—*Ge 136*. We got some fan mail on the story, but what was even nicer, so did Sharp. Here are excerpts from a couple of his letters.

San Francisco

Dear Bob,

I suppose congratulations on the Penrose Medal*—a well-deserved award—are in order. Yet I enjoyed more the spread in *Engineering and Science* re *Ge 136*.

I recently had a note from my businessman brother-in-law saying he'd read in some journal a forecast of "professions in the 1980s." It listed geology after medicine (and before computer analysis!). I've been saying for a long time that geology is that important. If the science does reach that position, it will be because of your type of teaching—to which black-box stuff and research is both peripheral and indebted.

Congratulations,

BILL

(William H. Freeman,
President, Freeman,
Cooper & Company,
publishers)

**The Penrose Medal is the Geological Society of America's highest honor. Sharp recently received it in recognition of his contributions to geology through both his research and his leadership.*

Coronado

Dear Bob,

Vicariously I shared the excitement and hard work of your *Ge 136* in the *E&S* that arrived this morning.

Although I don't think you resemble him in many respects, the picture of you worshipping your favorite rock on Casa Diablo Till looks remarkably like Nelson Rockefeller (above).

Since retiring in '73, except for my continued consulting, I've become more active in alumni activities at Caltech. It's good to see how well so many of our former colleagues have done, especially in achieving happiness.



After all, that's what it's all about, isn't it? You certainly are near the top in this department.

It was sad to hear that football is being discontinued, though I'm not surprised. I'm sure you share my conviction that we were indeed lucky to have been at Caltech when it was possible to combine sports under Stanton* and scholastic effort in reasonable proportions.

Keep up the good work. Hope to see you for more than a handshake one of these days.

CLARK

(Clark Goodman, '32,
professor of physics,
emeritus

University of Houston)

**William L. "Fox" Stanton was Caltech's physical director from 1921 until the early 1940s.*

For the Record

Villanova, Pa.

Editor:

Let me say, first, that in my opinion you and your staff are doing a magnificent job in putting out *Engineering & Science*. One only wishes that funds were available for more frequent issues. The latest one came in today's mail and, as usual, I read it from cover to cover with great interest, even though Kip Thorne had me hanging on the ropes a bit.

Now for the nit-picking. In the fine tribute to Bill Michael, whom I remember well, the statement is made that he joined the staff of the California Institute of Technology in 1918, when it was still Throop Polytechnic Institute.

In 1918, and for several years previously, CIT was TCT, Throop College of Technology. I cannot tell you the date when TPI became TCT,

but it is my impression that its name was changed at or before the time when Throop Hall was built on the present campus site, and that was 1912 or earlier, if I am not mistaken. My father, W. Howard Clapp, became a member of the faculty about 1914, and it was definitely Throop College of Technology at that time.

The big T on the mountain was constructed by removing brush soon after 1914, and I suspect that many present-day students are not aware that it originally stood for Throop, not for Tech.

GEORGE W. CLAPP, '26

You're right; we're wrong. Here—for your records, ours, and anyone else who is interested—are the facts: Throop University was founded in 1891. In the spring of 1893 it was re-named Throop Polytechnic Institute. In 1913 that name was changed to Throop College of Technology. Finally, in 1920, TCT became the California Institute of Technology. And Throop Hall was dedicated in 1910. We have now posted all this information on our bulletin board. We hope it will be an effective reminder.

Statement of ownership, management, and circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). 1. Title of publication: *Engineering and Science*. 2. Date of filing: September 8, 1977. 3. Frequency of issue: 4 times a year. 4. Location of known office of publication: 1201 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91125. 5. Location of the headquarters of general business offices of the publishers: 1201 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91125. 6. Names and addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Publisher: California Institute of Technology Alumni Association. Editor: Edward Hutchings, Jr., Managing Editor: Jacquelyn Bonner, 1201 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91125. 7. Owner: California Institute of Technology Alumni Association, 1201 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91125. 8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: none. 9. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes have not changed during the preceding 12 months. 10. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes have not changed during the preceding 12 months. 11. Extent and nature of circulation: A. Total no. copies printed: average during preceding 12 months, 10,778; actual number of latest issue, 10,600. B. Paid circulation: 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales: average during last 12 months, 20; actual number of latest issue, 20. 2. Mail subscriptions: average during last 12 months, 7480; actual number of latest issue, 7480. C. Total paid circulation: average during preceding 12 months, 7500; actual number of latest issue, 7500. D. Free distribution by mail, carrier, or other means: Samples, complimentary, and other free copies: average during preceding 12 months, 3018; actual number of latest issue, 2840. E. Total distribution: average during preceding 12 months, 10,518; actual number of latest issue, 10,340. F. Copies not distributed: 1. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing: average during preceding 12 months, 260; actual number latest issue, 260. 2. Returns from news agents, none. G. Total: average during preceding 12 months, 10,778; actual number of latest issue, 10,600. I certify that the statements made by me are correct and complete. Edward Hutchings Jr.