

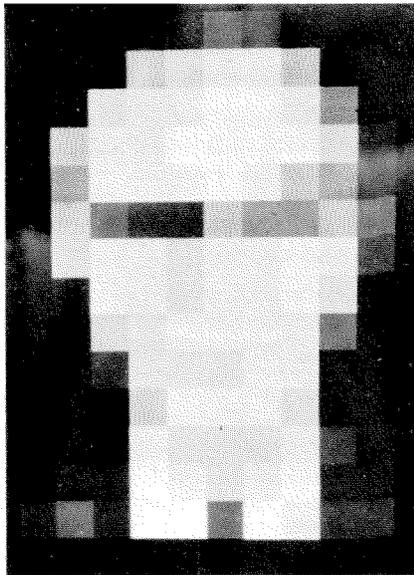
Speaking of...

Anyone You Know?

Amateur attempts at drawing portraits, though often extremely detailed, are usually unrecognizable. The block picture at the right (and on the cover), though not at all detailed, is easily recognizable. Moral? It is more important to be right than to be detailed.

The block picture was one of many intriguing exhibits in Caltech's Baxter Art Gallery in February and March, in a show of "The Many Arts of Science," assembled by David R. Smith, associate professor of English. Believe it or not, it's a picture of John R. Pierce, professor of engineering, whose face is more readily available in the photograph at the far right. To bring him into focus in the block picture, try backing away from it until his face appears, or try squinting at the picture until it is sufficiently blurred.

The picture was made by Leon D. Harmon at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, where Pierce worked before coming to Caltech in 1971. The



picture is produced by computer processing of a photograph. It contains 10x14 squares representing about 8 levels of light and darkness, or 3 bits of information — which means there are 420 bits in the picture. Since the teletypewriter uses 5 bits per character,



the picture could be produced with only 84 characters — which seems to say that not much information is needed to describe a face.

Happy Birthday

Linus Pauling, who has been on Caltech rosters since 1922, was back at the Institute on February 28 for a triple-treat occasion. Former students, colleagues, family members, and friends turned up for a scientific meeting, a family reunion, and to celebrate Pauling's 75th birthday.

Edward Hughes, senior research associate in chemistry emeritus, who planned the event, had to shift the afternoon lecture from Noyes to Baxter Lecture Hall to accommodate the crowd that came to hear E. Bright Wilson of Harvard talk on "The Nature of the Chemical Bond, 1976."

Dinner at the Athenaeum for more than 250 people featured Hughes's slide show of some of the more informal aspects of Pauling's career and tributes from two Nobel Laureates, each named Max. Max Perutz of Cambridge University was speaker of the evening, and Caltech's Max Delbruck presented Pauling with a volume of greetings from nearly 200 friends.



A most happy fella on a most happy occasion — his 75th birthday party. Linus Pauling stands between son Crellin (left) and grandson Barclay Kamb. In the front row, from left to right, Anthony Kamb, Mrs. Pauling, Linus Kamb, Linda Pauling Kamb, and Linus Pauling Jr.