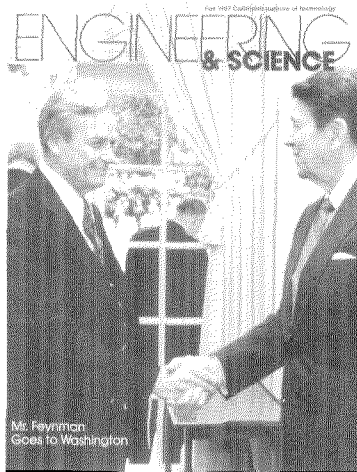


## In This Issue



### Surely He's Joking . . .

On the cover — President Ronald Reagan thanks Richard Feynman for serving on the presidential commission to investigate the Challenger disaster, in which the Space Shuttle exploded after takeoff, killing all on board. This meeting occurred in June 1986 as the commission presented its final report to the President in a ceremony in the White House Rose Garden.

Appended to that report was Feynman's own special report — a sort of dissenting opinion based on his own investigations. His irreverent account of those investigations, his dealings with engineers, managers, and government officials (as well as the now-famous ice water experiment), appear in "Mr. Feynman Goes to Washington," which begins on page 6. The article is adapted from a talk given to the Caltech Management Association last May.

Feynman, the Richard Chace Tolman Professor of Theoretical Physics, has been a member of the Caltech faculty since 1950. He won the Nobel Prize in 1969 and is more recently famous as author of the 1986 bestseller, *Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman*.

### Fewer but Fatter

Beginning with this issue *E&S* will appear quarterly instead of five times per year. But no one is getting gypped. It will be bigger, 44 pages instead of 32 — a net annual gain of 16 pages.

### Other Authors

In April last year the American Chemical Society presented the Priestley Medal, the country's highest award in chemistry, to Jack Roberts, one of the pioneers of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) applications to chemistry and biochemistry. His acceptance speech on that occasion, "Priestley and me," is reprinted here beginning on page 28. Roberts, who joined the Caltech faculty in 1952, is now the Institute Professor of Chemistry, and he has also served as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and as provost and vice president of the Institute.

Paul MacCready's innovative thinking has produced human-powered airplanes and re-created giant flying reptiles, but these projects have also drawn his attention and concern to the larger issues of technology's role in civilization and its survival. His article about these issues and what an individual can do about them — "Technology, in Perspective and under Control," starts on page 23. MacCready is an alumnus of Caltech (MS '48, PhD '52). The most recent project of his firm, AeroViron-

ment (in collaboration with GM and Hughes) is the solar-powered car, Sunraycer, which will compete in the Australian transcontinental World Solar Challenge next month. *E&S* hopes to publish an article on Sunraycer in a future issue.

### Warm Welcome

In September Caltech welcomed Tom and Doris Everhart with a round of receptions, and in October the Pacific plate greeted them with a 6.1 earthquake, which left some of the bricks of their new residence scattered on the lawn.

Everhart is no stranger to earthquake country, however. His years as chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and dean of Cornell's College of Engineering were preceded by 20 years at Berkeley and in the 1950s graduate school at UCLA. A number of Caltech faculty, past and present, have known him since his years in California and were willing to offer their recollections and opinions for the article that begins on page 2.

More about the earthquake can be found on page 45.

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