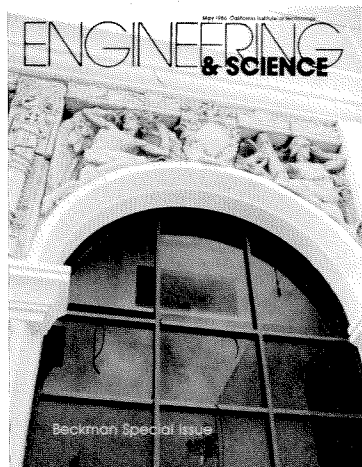


In This Issue



Raised Arches

On the cover — allegorical figures of Imagination (left) and Law fill the spandrels of one of the three arches originally created in 1910 by Alexander Stirling Calder for Caltech's first building. When earthquake-damaged Throop Hall was razed in 1973, the arches were consigned to obscurity in a city storage yard. Their return to adorn the bridge between the east and west wings of the new Arnold and Mabel Beckman Laboratory of Chemical Synthesis marks a happy conclusion to an old story and an auspicious rebirth of two old labs.

The cover photo was taken (with the help of Carlos Mendez of Physical Plant, who lifted photographer Bob Paz up in the cherry-picker for a closer view) during the last stages of construction. The building was dedicated on April 25, 1986.

This special issue of *E&S*, on the occasion of the dedication, includes stories about the new laboratory (page 4) and its arches (page 28), and about the history of Beckman Instruments (which observed its 50th anniversary this year) and the long-time personal Beckman-Caltech connection. The latter two articles (beginning on pages 20 and 9, respectively) contain material taken extensively from two Beckman oral histories. One was conducted in 1978 by Mary Terrall for the Caltech Archives,

and the other, beginning in 1979, by Harrison Stephens and Enid Douglas for the Claremont Graduate School Oral History Program. Stephens edited the Claremont interviews into a book, *Golden Past, Golden Future: The First Fifty Years of Beckman Instruments, Inc.*, published in 1985. The soft-cover book is available for \$7.00 (check payable to Beckman Instruments, Inc.) from:

Jan Horn
Mail Station A-38-E
Beckman Instruments, Inc.
2500 Harbor Blvd.
P.O. Box 3100
Fullerton, CA 92634

Between Bugs

Festivities for the new chemical synthesis laboratory dedication provided an appropriate time for the second annual Arnold O. Beckman Lecture, established last year by Caltech and Beckman Instruments, Inc. The occasion also suggested a fitting topic, although the chosen speaker approaches chemical

synthesis from a somewhat different angle. Jerrold Meinwald studies insects — “highly skilled chemists from whom human chemists and biologists have a great deal to learn.” An article based on his Beckman Lecture, “The Insect as Synthetic Chemist: Chemical Aspects of Defense, Courtship, and Mate Selection,” begins on page 14.

Meinwald is the Goldwin Smith Professor of Chemistry at



Cornell University, a position he has held since 1980. Except for a year at UC San Diego, he has spent his

academic career at Cornell, beginning as an instructor in 1952 and becoming professor of chemistry in 1962. He earned his BS from the University of Chicago in 1948 and his MA (1950) and PhD (1952) from Harvard. Meinwald is also an accomplished flutist and occasionally combines speaking tours with concert performances.

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