

ALUMNI NEWS

NEW YORK CHAPTER MEETING

THE CALTECH CLUB OF NEW YORK met on January 17 at the Hotel Holley, on Washington Square, to hear Franklin Thomas, Professor of Civil Engineering and Dean of Students, talk on "Re-Orientation at Caltech". The combination of speaker and subject drew a sizable crowd for the dinner meeting, which included wives and other guests. On hand were Bill Smyth and the Harvey Whites, '48; Ken Shaver and Robert W. Taylor, '45; the Sydney K. Golds, '42; Reuben P. Snodgrass and L. Curtis Widdoes, '41; the Cliff Burtons and the Randlow Smiths, '40; Evan Johnson and Daniel Okins, '38; the Richard T. Brices, '37; C. R. Baker and K. T. Bush, '36; James C. Davis, '35; Phil Schoeller, '32; Howard E. Baker, '30; Howard G. Dodge and Albert E. Myers, '29; M. M. Bower, Mason A. Logan, the Ellery Baxters, and the Ralph Watsons, '27; W. Howard Wise, '26; M. B. Karelits, '25; Paul R. Ames, '22; and the Harry P. St. Clairs, '20.

EMERALDS IN THE LABORATORY

CARROLL F. CHATHAM, '38, is uniquely engaged in the production of synthetic emeralds. He and his laboratory, in San Francisco, were the subject of an article in the January 8 issue of *Collier's*. According to *Colliers*, Chatham left his job as research chemist in a foodpacking concern to build his own small factory in 1946. His first quality synthetic emerald is at the Smithsonian. He is now producing about five pounds of emeralds a year, at approximately half the cost of real stones. He believes he is getting close now to producing piezoelectric crystals, which rank high on the list of strategic materials for national defense.

Personals

1927

Theodore C. Combs is now vice-president and general sales manager of Timber Structures, Inc., in Portland, Ore. Previously he was resident manager of the company's San Francisco and Oakland offices.

John E. Marsland has been named Senior Technologist of Shell Oil's Head Office Manufacturing Department, in New York. Marsland began with Shell in 1933 as a lab helper at the Martinez Refinery, became Chief Technologist at the Wilmington Refinery in 1945.

1932

Maurice A. Biot, Ph.D., now professor

in the Graduate Division of Applied Mathematics at Brown University, has been elected a fellow of the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences. Biot joined the Brown faculty in 1946, after four years in the Navy.

C. P. Schoeller passed through Caltech in January on his way to Rio de Janeiro, where, he says, he will be "working on a railroad" for the Morrison-Knudsen Co. Phil's peripatetic engineering career includes work in the Hawaiian Islands early in the war, on the construction of naval bases, followed by a couple of years on construction projects in Saudi Arabia. Even when he settled down to a position as office mana-

ger with Morrison-Knudsen in New York a few years ago, he managed to crowd in some business trips to Afghanistan on the side.

William R. Bergren, Ph.D. '41, has been doing advanced study on nutritional factors in bone formation at U. S. C. and, more recently, at his own laboratory in Monrovia. The suburban lab, he says, is more congenial to the large cat colony he works with.

Vincent Kelley, M.S., Ph.D. '37, is Professor of Geology at the University of New Mexico, and is engaged in a study of the iron ores of that state.

ALUMNI SEMINAR

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, has been set as the date for the 12th Annual Alumni Seminar at Caltech. A fine opportunity for alumni to catch up on what's going on at Caltech in 1949, the tentative program for the one-day session now runs as follows:

8:30—Registration, Dabney Hall

9:00—Dr. Linus Pauling, Chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
"England Today"

10:00—Choice of three lectures:

Dr. Robert V. Langmuir, Senior Research Fellow in Physics

"High Energy Accelerators"

Dr. Oliver R. Wulf, Research Associate in Chemistry

"The Effect of the Sun on the Earth's Atmosphere"

Dr. Hunter Mead, Professor of Philosophy and Psychology

"The Impact of Psychology on American Thinking"

11:00—Choice of three lectures:

Dr. Anthonie Van Harreveld, Professor of Psychology

"Nerves, Shock Treatment, and Nerve Regeneration"

Prof. W. D. Rannie, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering

"Gas Turbines"

Prof. Royal W. Sorensen, Professor of Electrical Engineering

"Visit to Japan"

12:00—Robert D. Gray, Director, Industrial Relations Section

"The Aims of Industrial Relations"

1:00—Lunch, Student Houses

2:00—Dr. Robert P. Sharp, Professor of Geomorphology

"Glaciers"

2:45—Dr. Vito A. Vanoni, Assistant Professor of Hydraulics

"The Guam Harbor Project"

3:00—Field trip to Azusa for inspection tour of Guam Harbor Project

or

Musical, Dabney Lounge

6:30—Dinner, Shakespeare Club

Address by President DuBridge

1933

Donald F. Poulson, Ph.D. '36, will return to Caltech in March as a Gosney Fellow to do some advanced work in biology. He will be on sabbatical leave from Yale University, where he is Associate Professor of Biology.

Everett C. Edwards, Ph.D., writes that he is doing consulting for the Honolulu Oil Corp. and the Humble Oil and Refining Co., but would still have time to meet and greet alums going through Laguna Beach.

1934

John F. Pearne, formerly patent counsel for the Sherwin-Williams Co., has joined the law firm of Evans and McCoy in Cleveland, Ohio.

Frances H. Clauser, M.S. '35, Ph.D. '37, Professor of Aeronautical Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed to the subcommittee for fluid mechanics of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Clauser, who was also recently appointed a Fellow in the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, organized the Hopkins department of aeronautics, and serves as its chairman.

1936

Bradley T. Scheer is now Associate Professor of Zoology at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. "I have been here since September," he writes. "We have an active and vigorous, though still very young department, and great plans for expansion in the field of marine biology. I am able, for the first time, to devote a substantial portion of my time to research in invertebrate physiology and biochemistry."

1937

Bruce Lockwood is in business for himself as a consulting geologist. He's been doing considerable work lately in Idaho, but maintains his home and office in Glendale.

1938

Russell E. Hayward, after a six-month's leave of absence spent largely at Caltech, has returned to his job with Socony-Vacuum in Bogotá, Colombia. He took with him a wife: the former Miss Dorothy Frances Warren, of Los Angeles.

1939

Robert J. Dery, graduate student 1936-39, died December 28. A physical chemist with the U. S. Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh, at the time of his death he was making important advances in the theory of flame and turbulence.

Paul O. Engelder, M.S. '40, is now research engineer of the Oil Well Water Locating Company of Long Beach, and secretary-treasurer of the Major Play Leasing Syndicate.

William R. Cobeen, M.S., for the past several years has been engaged in engineering and geological consulting in North Hollywood. He reports that his office has successfully met the challenge of its location directly under a dance studio, and is spending about a third of its time in straight geological and petroleum engineering consulting, and the rest in contract exploration work.

1940

Cydnor M. Biddison and his wife Virginia announce the birth of a son, Mark Ellis, on January 12. Cyd has his civil engineer's license and is a

structural designer with John Case and Co., in Los Angeles. He's studying for his master's degree at U. S. C.

Frank W. Dessel, Jr. writes: "I am now in partnership with my father in a drug store here in San Francisco. I have two boys, aged six and two. Also bulldog, nine months old."

1941

Robert B. Galeski is seismologist and geologist with the Honolulu Oil Corp. Bob reports that he is a member of 18 company offshore seismic operating committees. For the last three years he has been working on the California coastal and tidelands geology.

1942

George P. Sutton, M.S. '43, whose book, "Rocket Propulsion Elements," is reviewed in this issue, went to work for Aerojet after he got his master's at Caltech in 1943. In 1946 he shifted to North American, where he is now supervisor of Propulsion Development. He works on their confidential rocket development program at the Downey plant, lives in Los Angeles.

David Hill and Harold Kuhn (B.S. '47), represented a group of forty-six Princeton graduate students at a recent press conference in New York, held to publicize the group's protest against the dismissal of three University of Washington faculty men on charges of Communism.

In a telegram to the president of the University, the students said: "Without attempting to judge the accuracy of your policy decision in this particular case, we, the undersigned, feel impelled to protest strongly against any curtail-

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ment of academic freedom on purely political grounds . . . Whereas we do not in any sense endorse the political views held by the dismissed professors, we strongly support their right to establish and to maintain any legal political affiliations without fear of endangering their social and economic security."

Hill is taking graduate work in physics, Kuhn in mathematics.

George W. Almassy won a Charles A. Coffin Award from the General Electric Co. this month, in recognition of his outstanding initiative and ingenuity in designing and testing an improved aircraft electrical power supply system. Almassy, who is now Resident Engineer for the Industrial Control Division of the G. E. Apparatus Department at the Trumbull Electric Manufacturing Co. in North Hollywood, went to work in the Los Angeles office of General Electric in 1942, as a member of the Engineering Division. In 1943 he became a field engineer in the aviation section of the Engineering Division, and it was on this job that he devised and tested the system which brought him the Coffin Award "for work of outstanding merit during 1948."

Harrison Price and wife Anne announce the birth of twins: a boy, David, and a girl, Dana, on February 4, in Oakland. The Price family will soon be on its way to Rio de Janeiro, where Harrison will continue his work as field engineer for the Ingersoll-Rand Company.

1943

John E. Cushing, Jr., Ph.D., is now Assistant Professor of Bacteriology at Santa Barbara College, University of California. Under a grant from the U. S. Public Health Service, he is continuing his research begun last year at Johns Hopkins into the resistance of bacteria to sulfanilimide.

Paul Saunders, Ph.D., is now Assistant Professor in Pharmacology in the School of Medicine at U. S. C. George Feigen, Ph.D. '48, Research Associate in Pharmacology at the School of Medicine, is working with Saunders on the problem of the mechanism of cardiovascular drug

action. Feigen, incidentally, was married last Halloween to Priscilla Ann Roth, former secretary to Dr. Linus Pauling at Caltech.

1944

Douglas G. Dethlefsen, M.S. '48, is attending the Law School at Stanford University.

Raymond L. Ely, M.S., is a teaching assistant in mathematics at Carnegie Institute.

Jay Borden, M.S. '47, and Barbara Hughson, of Niagara Falls, Canada, were married on November 24 in Pasadena. They met in Naples in 1946 when Jay was a 1st Lieut. with the U. S. Signal Corps., stationed in Caserta and Barbara was an Army Nurse (2nd Lieut). Jay is now a research engineer on guidance and control with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory; Barbara is a nurse in the obstetrical department of St. Luke's in Los Angeles.

1945

Kenneth Gale Anderson received his master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Minnesota in December.

Richard A. Dean got his master's degree at the autumn convocation at Ohio State.

1946

W. Clifford Taylor has settled in Phoenix, Arizona. He's co-owner there of the Southwestern Scale Company, specializing in Howe Scales sales and service.

1947

Alex Smith, Ph.D., is now with the St. Eugene Mining Corp. Ltd., at Vancouver, B. C.

1948

Ray Smith, M.S., is doing graduate work in geology at Princeton University. Previously he worked three months with the Venezuelan Geological Survey, expects to return there next summer.

Kenneth Wright and Margaret Jean Bell of Pasadena announced their engagement this month. They'll be married in the late summer.

Robert P. Brinkman, Robert F. McLean, Curtis Whittlesey, and Harold Ford, industrial designers, are all working for

General Motors. After an indoctrination course last summer, which included tours of the Electromotive Plant in LaGrange, Ill., the Railroad Fair in Chicago, and various GM plants in Michigan, the boys settled down to work in Detroit: Whittlesey and McLean in Experimental Design; Brinkman in Auto Design; Ford in the Exhibit and Design Studio, which produced the Train of Tomorrow and the recent General Motors show at the Waldorf in New York.

John Attias and Ruth Margaret Christopher of Pasadena have announced their engagement. They're to be married on June 18. Attias is studying for his M.S. in aeronautical engineering at Caltech.

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