



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 6, 1954

I regret to announce the death in Wilmington, Delaware, on April 5th of Pierre S. duPont, '90, who served for thirty-five years as a Life Member of the M.I.T. Corporation. He had been an Emeritus Member since 1951.

A former president of General Motors Corporation and president and chairman of the board of E.I. duPont de Nemours & Company, Inc., Mr. duPont, who was 84 years old, had been senior member of a noted family of industrialists. He was born in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1870, studied at the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia, and in 1890 received the degree of bachelor of science at M.I.T. After several years' experience in the manufacture of explosives, Mr. duPont was named treasurer of E.I. duPont de Nemours & Company in 1902. He became chairman of the board of directors in 1915, and during World War I was president of the firm.

In addition to his many philanthropic activities, Mr. duPont served in Delaware as head of the Service Citizens for the improvement of social conditions; as a member of the State Board of Education; as state liquor commissioner from 1933-38; and as Delaware's tax commissioner from 1924-37 and 1944-49.

Mr. duPont was a member of the American Philosophical Society and Phi Beta Kappa, and received the honorary degrees of doctor of laws from Lafayette and Delaware colleges in 1922. Named Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor for his service to the Allies during 1915-16, Mr. duPont was advanced to the rank of Officer of the Legion of Honor in 1928 in recognition "of the great help and encouragement he has shown and interest he has taken for many years, before, during, and after the World War."

Karl T. Compton
Chairman of the Corporation

duPont
Death