



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 22, 1963

To Members of the Faculty:

I regret to inform you of the death of Professor Houlder Hudgins of the School of Industrial Management on Saturday night, July 20, at the Massachusetts General Hospital following a brief illness of three weeks.

Professor Hudgins joined the faculty in 1955 after twenty-eight years in executive management positions with several major business and industrial enterprises. He was an authority on the formation and execution of corporate policy, and his teaching and research in the School of Industrial Management were concentrated in this area.

Professor Hudgins was born May 22, 1900, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He received both the B.A. and the B.S. degrees in 1923 from Cornell University and served as an instructor at Cornell until 1927, when he became Controller and Assistant General Manager of Mandel Brothers Department Store in Chicago. He was Merchandise Manager of the Montgomery Ward Co., Chicago, from 1932 to 1938 when he became President, Director, and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Sloane-Blabon Corp., Trenton, N.J., then a subsidiary of the Alexander Smith Co., a major carpet manufacturing concern. In 1950 he was made Executive Vice President and a Member of the Executive Committee of the parent Alexander Smith Co. From 1954 to 1955, when he came to M.I.T. with the rank of professor, he was Executive Vice President of Galen Van Meter, Inc., a New York management consultant firm.

During World War II, Professor Hudgins served in Washington as Director of Purchases for the War Production Board and as Vice Chairman of the Joint Armed Services Board of Procurement Policy. At the time of his death he was a member of the Massachusetts Economic Stabilization Board, to which he was appointed by former Governor John Volpe. He was active in numerous civic organizations, a Director of the Harvard Cooperative Society, and a member of the American Management Association, the American Ordnance Association, the Navy League, and the Newcomen Society.

Professor Hudgins made his home at 54 Brimmer Street, Boston. Survivors include his wife, Vallie Katrin (Olson) Hudgins; a son, John W. Hudgins of Boston; and a daughter, Mrs. Alan Helgesson of Mountain View, California.

Visiting hours will be at the J. S. Waterman and Sons Funeral Home, 495 Commonwealth Avenue, (Boston) on Tuesday, July 23, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Funeral services will be held at Trinity Church in Copley Square at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 24.

J. A. STRATTON

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