



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 8, 1964

To Members of the Faculty:

I regret to announce the death of Professor Emeritus Wayne B. Nottingham on Friday, December 4, in Aerdenhout, Holland. Professor and Mrs. Nottingham were touring Europe following a series of lectures he had delivered earlier this fall.

Professor Nottingham was a leading authority on physical electronics and thermionics. In 1935 he organized and conducted the First M.I.T. Physical Electronics Conference which provided a unique forum for the exchange of information in this special field. These conferences became highly successful and have been held annually at M.I.T. each spring except for the World War II years.

Born in 1899 in Tipton, Indiana, Professor Nottingham was graduated from Purdue University in 1920. The following year he studied at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, as a Benjamin Franklin Fellow of the American-Scandinavian Foundation, and upon his return to the United States he joined the staff of the Bell Telephone Laboratories. He then continued his graduate education at Princeton University where he received his Master's degree in 1926 and his doctorate in 1929, having done his thesis on metallic arcs under Karl Compton. He also was awarded the degree of Electrical Engineer in 1929 by Purdue, and from 1926 to 1931 he was a Bartol Research Fellow of the Franklin Institute.

Dr. Nottingham joined the M.I.T. faculty as an Assistant Professor of Physics in 1931, was appointed Associate Professor in 1936, and Professor in 1942. He contributed more than fifty papers and articles to symposia and journals in his field, and developed a number of electronic measuring devices. During World War II, he served as a special representative of the M.I.T. Radiation Laboratory to the federal Office of Scientific Research and Development in Washington. A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he was also a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Optical Society of America and the American Physical Society. He belonged to Eta Kappa Nu and Sigma Xi, and held the Louis E. Levy Award of the Franklin Institute.

Professor Nottingham is survived by his wife, Mrs. Eveline van Berkum Nottingham of Rindge, New Hampshire, and his son, Marsh W. Nottingham of Roswell, New Mexico.

J. A. STRATTON

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