



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 8, 1971

To Members of the Faculty:

I regret to inform you of the death of Dr. Charles D. Coryell, Professor of Chemistry. Professor Coryell died on Thursday, in the New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston, having been admitted two days previously.

There will be a memorial service for Professor Coryell at the M. I. T. Chapel at 11 a. m. Thursday, January 14.

Professor Coryell, widely known for his pioneer work in nuclear chemistry, extensive study of the isolation and identification of fission products, came to M. I. T. in 1946 after having served with distinction in the Metallurgical Laboratory, Chicago, and at Clinton Laboratories, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, in the Manhattan District Project during World War II.

Professor Coryell was born February 21, 1912, in Los Angeles, California, and attended the California Institute of Technology where he received a bachelor of science degree in 1932, and a Ph. D. in physical-inorganic chemistry in 1935. His graduate work included studies of the electrode potential of vanadium, the fluorescence of acetone and the reduction by water of divalent silver. He continued his research at Caltech, working with Professor Linus Pauling on the magneto chemistry and structural chemistry of hemoglobin derivatives, and continued this work and other structural studies at the University of California at Los Angeles from 1938-42.

Appointed Professor of Chemistry at M. I. T. in 1946, Professor Coryell's work centered on those aspects of physical, inorganic, and structural chemistry which are basic to nuclear science and in the chemistry of nuclear transmutations, particularly of nuclear fission. Many of his studies are regarded as basic in the science of nuclear chemistry, particularly "Radiochemical Studies: The Fission Products," co-authored with Professor Nathan Sugarman in 1951.

A recipient of the 1960 American Chemical Society Award for nuclear applications in chemistry, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Physical Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Professor Coryell received the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Citation and medal last year in honor of his achievements in nuclear chemistry.

Professor Coryell is survived by his wife, Barbara, and daughters Patricia and Julie.

The family has requested no flowers, and has suggested that contributions be made to the American Cancer Society.

Howard W. Johnson