The logical choice for this week's SPOTLIGHT is the scientist, educator, and administrator who guided the Institute through the difficult war years during which the scientific marvels on display this weekend were developed—our President, Dr. Karl Taylor Compton.

Born in Wooster, Ohio, on September 14, 1887, Dr. Compton took his undergraduate work at Wooster College, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy in 1908. He did advanced research and teaching at Reed College (Portland, Oregon) and at Princeton University. In 1930, when he received the call to come to M.I.T., he was chairman of the Department of Physics at Princeton.

Dr. Compton is the author of many technical works dealing with his research in photoelectricity, ionization of gases, soft X-rays, spectroscopy in the extreme ultraviolet, fluorescence and dissociation of gases, and electric arcs. Perhaps his most important contributions to science are in the fields of thermonics—the study of electron emission from hot filaments—and the investigation of matter by means of light waves. Among the many awards he has received is the Rumford Medal, one of the world's most distinguished scientific honors.

In World War I, Dr. Compton, who has always taken an active part in civil and national affairs, was engaged in the development of submarine detector devices for the United States Army Signal Corps, and was later appointed Associate Scientific Attache at the United States Embassy in Paris. He was appointed by President Roosevelt in 1933 to head the Science Advisory Board, a group which considered the relation of science to the activities of the Federal Government, and he served on many other important pre-war boards and commissions.

Orders For Senior Rings To Be Taken Wednesday

Orders for Senior rings members of the Classes of 1945 and 1946 will be taken on Wednesday, November 14 in Room 301 Walker Memorial, Cambridge, Mass. The numerals in three sizes and in dark and light finishes. The numerals will be engraved on rings ordered by students in premiums those in the Class of 1945 of their choice of either '44 or '45