By Bob Gomelsky

Yesterday MIT paid tribute to Harold H. Carter of the Chemical Engineering Department, who completed fifty years of service to the Institute. Mr. Carter is the fifth person to achieve such a record at the Institute, and he was the last to gain the distinction.

A native of Maine, Mr. Carter—known at MIT as Nick—arrived as a messenger boy on February 2, 1918, at the age of 15, while trying to get into the Yankee Division. He was promoted to the academic staff as a technical instructor in 1930. Mr. Carter's career at the Department of Chemical Engineering was formed in 1939, when he was promoted to the academic staff as a technical instructor.

"Carter method"

Many MIT alumni working in industry have testified to the success of the "Carter method" in instilling good thinking habits. With a firm, good humor, he taught his students valuable lessons in thinking problems through before working on them.

"Carter's first answer to graduates who came to him for equipment to test their thesis was always no," recalls Professor Gilliland, Head of the Chemical Engineering Department.

"Students had to convince Carter why they wanted to do what they proposed before he would assign a thing to them. He was a man who made a name for himself in his work.

"Mr. Carter plans to continue working part-time. "It's an awfully nice place to work," he says. He will purchase equipment and keep records for the Department, but he will miss the one-to-one relationship with the students as a personal advisor that has marked his career.

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