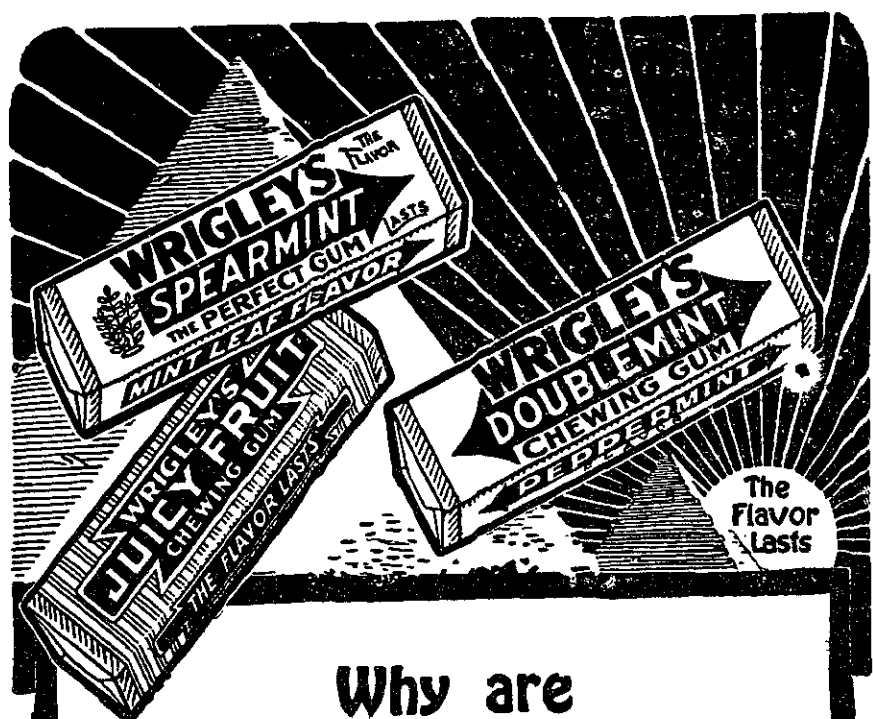




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LAST WORDS OF PRESIDENT GIVEN ALUMNI AT DINNER

(Continued from page 3)

Much Due to Institute's Founder
The third man is Rogers,—William Barton Rogers, the first President and real founder of the Institute. Technology men generally, although they hold Rogers's name in reverence, do not appreciate sufficiently how much the Institute and the world owes to him. A prophet is not without honor save in his own country and before the war I learned from high technical authorities in Germany how much Rogers's early contributions to the theory and practice of higher technical education were appreciated in Germany. According to one authority there, the extraordinary development of industry in Germany depending so largely on scientific applications was due more to the ideas that the American Rogers expounded in the early days than to those of any German. The most striking thing about Rogers was the breadth of vision and the large view that he had of the Institute's place in the industrial development of America. It was, of course, a very small thing in his day, but he looked forward with clear vision to its future growth. Observe that he saw the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as much more than a school of industrial science and that he had in-

corporated in its charter a statement that it was founded for the purpose of instituting and maintaining a school of industrial science and "aiding generally by suitable means the advancement, development and practical application of science in connection with arts, manufactures and commerce."

Plan in Accord With Rogers' Views

It may seem a far cry from Rogers day to the so-called Technology Plan, about which there is so much discussion and some controversy in these days. I hope, however, you will agree that the Technology Plan is a natural outgrowth of Rogers' conception of the Institute and that it presents today one of the "suitable means" whereby the Institute can aid "the advancement, development and practical application of science in connection with arts, manufactures and commerce." The fundamental idea of the Technology Plan is that although the primary purpose of Technology is to train men, Technology itself is much more than a school. Physically, it consists of a vast group of buildings with an extraordinary variety of technical equipment representing almost every branch of applied science outside the field of medicine. On its human side it consists of a notable group of professors and instructors, between three and four hundred able men competent to deal with the immense variety of scientific knowledge comprised within the limits of the Institute's courses; a great group of students over three thousand in number coming to Technology from every part of the United States and of the world, and an army of Alumni over ten thousand strong rich in experience and power.

Answer's Criticisms of Plan

This, I say, is the Institute and the purpose of the Institute as Rogers expounded it was to "aid generally by suitable means the advancement, development and practical application of science." The Technology Plan enables the Institute to do this by setting up the right kind of organization to give industrial corporations the information that they want regarding men and scientific processes that are applicable to their industry. A mere school might not be able to do this, but an institution conceived so broadly as Technology is well adapted for this great end. This is not the time or the place to discuss the plan in detail but I cannot refrain from referring to two criticisms that are current with reference to the plan. One of them is that the Technology Plan calls upon industrial corporations to pay for services that they have hitherto obtained gratuitously. The answer is that the plan does not do this. The kind of service that has hitherto been rendered gratuitously will continue to be so rendered. There is, however, a real difference between service rendered gratuitously and haphazardly and service rendered in a business-like way, and the Institute is, of course, bound to see to it as a matter of business that the corporations that pay for service get a fair return for the payments that they make. As you know, Technology is getting up a business organization to render this service and has placed one of its most effective officers, Dr. Walker, in charge of this very important branch of its activities. Dr. Walker will, of course, surround himself with an able band of assistants.

The other criticism of the plan is that it encourages the Institute to encroach upon the field of private practice of its Alumni. Coleman du Pont has answered this criticism by saying that if any Institute man has made such a criticism he must be a poor specimen of the breed, for the real Technology man has no fear of competition. My own view is that any such criticism as is here suggested is based on a narrow and unsound analysis of the facts. It is based on the same economic theory as that of the labor unions that believe in limiting competition and restricting output. I believe that this is bad policy on the part of the labor unions and what is bad for the labor unions is bad for Technology graduates. All the broader and more experienced Technology Alumni with whom I have discussed this matter take the view that the Institute's Alumni will greatly benefit by the success of the Technology Plan. They realize, of course, that the service that the Institute can render directly through its staff is but an infinitesimal fraction of the total tech-

nical service that the country needs. They believe, further, that the more that industrial corporations are brought to appreciate the advantages that come from attacking their problems in a scientific way the greater will be their demand for the services of highly trained men.

Divulging Donor's Name Inevitable.

I seem to have wandered a long way from the subject with which I began and in the short time that remains to me I must return to Mr. "Smith." Nearly eight years ago when he made his first great gift of two and one-half millions to Technology he expressed the wish that his name be withheld. He is a man who instinctively wishes to avoid all fuss and prefers to do things quietly and unostentatiously. He gets infinitely more satisfaction in doing things than in having people talk about them. He would prefer to remain anonymous, but the great gift that he has just made to Technology has been made by transferring to the Institute stock that he owns in the company that he directs. The annual report of the Treasurer of the Institute has to be published and in this report the assets of the Institute must be listed so that it could only be a short time before Mr. "Smith's" identity must be revealed. Knowing how much pleasure it would give Technology men to be told at this time who he is, Mr. "Smith" has consented to a public statement tonight regarding his association with Technology. You will remember that the announcement of Mr. "Smith's" first gift to the Institute in 1912 started a great guessing competition that ran the rounds of the newspapers of the country and that this competition has been revived as a popular pastime on every occasion when another substantial contribution from him to Technology has been announced. At the time of the dedication of our new buildings suspicion centered on two New York millionaires each of whom strongly suspected the other. It is said that they dined together to have it out, but separated without having discovered any secrets and with enlarged respect for the bluffing powers of the other. As a matter of fact, neither was a Mr. "Smith". In another center a man, not Mr. "Smith", claimed to be he and in still another a woman made it known to her friends that she was certain that Mr. "Smith" was her husband, although here she was in error.

The secret has been kept for nearly eight years. Lately a good many have been told and now I am glad to reward Technology Alumni for the manner in which they have responded to Mr. "Smith's" offer by removing all doubt as to his identity. I am often asked a recipe for keeping a secret. It is, after all, very simple. Tell it to no man and to very few women. I have told it to two—my secretary Miss Miller, and my wife.

SIMPLEST CEREMONIES MARK FUNERAL OF DR. MACLAURIN

(Continued from page 2)

Technology. They were the following:

Governor Calvin Coolidge, Welles Bosworth '89, Dean Alfred E. Burton, Professor Davis R. Dewey, Coleman du Pont '84, George Eastman, Merton L. Emerson '04, William Endicott, Frederick P. Fish, Judge Robert Grant, Francis R. Hart '89, Charles Hayden '99, Edmund Hayes '73, Walter Humphreys '97, Dr. Malcolm Kinsella, President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University, Charles T. Main '76, Everett Morris '85, James P. Munroe '82, Henry S. Pritchett, James Ford Rhodes, Professor Robert H. Richards '68, Chief Justice Arthur P. Rugg, Professor William T. Sedgwick, Dr. Payson Smith, Professor Charles M. Spofford '93, Charles A. Stone '88, Moorfield Storey, Professor Henry P. Talbot '85, Elihu Thomson, Ambrose Walker '91, Edwin S. Webster '88, George Wigglesworth.

Buried at Mt. Auburn

At the close of the service at Old South Church, his public career was finished. Only a few close friends and the family went with the body to Mt. Auburn cemetery.

The distinguished simplicity of the services seemed like the plain grandeur of the tomb of Washington, where in a simple vault in his own garden, the great man speaks, with the inscription on the wall, "I am the resurrection and the life."



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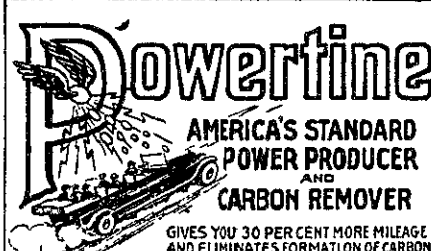
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