

ARTHUR THOMAS IPPEN**1907 - 1974**

Arthur Thomas Ippen, Institute Professor Emeritus at M.I.T. and past President of the B.S.C.E. died Friday, April 5, 1974.

Dr. Ippen was born in London, England, on July 28, 1907, and became a naturalized American citizen in 1945. In 1931 he received a Diplom-Ingenieur from the Technical University of Aachen, Germany. From 1933 to 1936 he studied at the California Institute of Technology, from which he received both his Master of Science degree and Ph.D. in 1936 in hydraulics. He held appointments as Assistant in Geodesy at Aachen; Exchange Fellow at the Institute of Hydraulic Research at the University of Iowa in 1932; and teaching and research fellow in hydraulics at Cal Tech.

He remained at Cal Tech as an instructor and research engineer until 1938. At that time Dr. Ippen became a faculty member at Lehigh University and took charge of the construction of an hydraulic laboratory.

In 1945 he came to M.I.T. as an Associate Professor of hydraulics. He became a full Professor in 1948 and was responsible for the planning and construction of the Institute's first hydrodynamics laboratory. The laboratory was formally dedicated in 1951 and Dr. Ippen served as Director until his retirement in 1973. The laboratory was enlarged and renamed the Ralph M. Parsons Laboratory for Water Resources and Hydrodynamics in 1970. This facility houses research and teaching activities by more than 60 faculty members and graduate students. Dr. Ippen was also head of the

Department of Civil Engineering's Water Resources Division from its inception in 1961 through 1970.

Since his retirement and under an appointment as Senior Lecturer, he had continued his teaching and research work at the Institute.

Dr. Ippen was appointed Ford Professor of Engineering in November 1965, and Institute Professor in June 1970. The title of Institute Professor is bestowed on a limited number of faculty members by the administration and faculty colleagues to recognize exceptional distinction.

At the time Dr. Ippen was appointed Ford Professor, the then dean of the M.I.T. School of Engineering, Gordon S. Brown, described him as "one of our most distinguished engineering educators."

The recipient of many honors, Dr. Ippen was named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1949 and of the National Academy of Engineering in 1967. In 1962 he received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Toulouse, France, followed by honorary doctorates from Karlsruhe, Germany, in 1967 and from the University of Manchester, England, in 1968. Among the awards he has received are the 1953 Karl Emil Hilgard prize offered by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the 1963 Vincent Bendix Research Award for Engineering Research from the American Society of Engineering Education. He was named "Distinguished Alumnus" at California Institute of Technology in 1970. He was a member of Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, and Chi Epsilon.

Dr. Ippen's investigations have covered a wide range of subjects, including free surface flow, hydraulic machinery, cavitation phenomena, solid-fluid flows, internal flows due to density differences, wave characteristics, turbulence, sedimentation, and environmental conditions in coastal waters.

He had served as a consultant in important engineering assignments for the United States government, foreign governments, and private firms. He was involved in work with unusual design problems for hydraulic structures, harbors, coastal improvements and environmental investigations.

Dr. Ippen has written more than 100 professional articles, engineering reports, and other papers. He was a member of numerous professional organizations, and he has held many leading offices in these. His memberships include the American Society of Civil Engineers (Life Member), the Boston Society of Civil Engineers (Honorary Member), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Geophysical Union, the International Association of Hydraulic Research (Honorary Member), Japan Society of Civil Engineers (Honorary Member).

He has held the presidency of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers (1960-61), the presidency of the International Association for Hydraulic Research (1960-64), and the chairmanship of three national committees of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Dr. Ippen's first wife, Elizabeth A. Wagenplatz, died in 1953. He is survived by his widow, the former Ruth M. Calvert; two children of his first

marriage, Dr. Erich P. Ippen of Red Bank, N.J., an M.I.T. graduate in 1962 and now employed by the Bell Telephone Laboratories in Holmdel, N.J., and Dr. Karin E. Ihler of Pittsburgh, Pa., a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh; a step-daughter, Julie J. Webb of Santa Monica, Calif., three grandchildren, and a brother, Joseph P. Ippen of Lindau, Germany.

M.I.T. President Jerome B. Wiesner said, "Art Ippen's many friends and colleagues are saddened by his death. His loss will be deeply felt at M.I.T., in this country and abroad for his pioneering work in water resource engineering has benefited all our lives. Art will be deeply missed by his colleagues and students who were lucky enough to know the warmth of a personal relationship with him."

Alfred H. Keil, Dean of the M.I.T. School of Engineering said, "Arthur Ippen was a truly great man. From a base of towering professional strength and great personal warmth he exerted most effective leadership whenever required and was also an outstanding contributor to any team effort he joined. He was throughout his long, distinguished career, devoted to the development of the whole man: to his students who now practice and teach all over the world, to his junior colleagues and to all who know him, he was always a personal friend, setting an example of true professionalism and deep personal commitment."

Friends and relatives of Dr. Ippen are contributing to the Arthur T. Ippen Memorial Scholarship Fund, in the Department of Civil Engineering at M.I.T., to perpetuate Dr. Ippen's work in the area of water resources.