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## *In Memoriam*

### *Robert Harding Bliss, 1911-1971*

Harding Bliss, first editor of the *AIChE JOURNAL*, died on July 27, 1971, in New Haven, Connecticut.

Professor Bliss was born July 14, 1911, in St. Louis, Missouri, and received his B.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois in 1932. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1935 under the direction of Professor B. F. Dodge. After finishing graduate school he worked three years for Rohm and Haas and then, in 1937, started his academic career, which was to span 35 years, as an Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. Harding returned to Yale in 1939 and was made Professor of Chemical Engineering in 1947.

A proper appreciation of the kind of man Harding Bliss was and of his own contributions and those he inspired in others is impossible to set forth here. Perhaps a glimpse from some personal memories of many years as student and colleague will help: his comments on research, "... if we *really* knew what to do next, it wouldn't be research . . ."; on the correct use of the English language, "... *that* word isn't in my dictionary. . ."; on the continuing condition of government (via an auto license tag attachment), "OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT taxpayer." The inner strength of the man is shown by his continuing for more than 20 years, from 1949 on, an active and distinguished professional career even though severely handicapped and confined to a wheelchair as the result of poliomyelitis.

Harding was a superb teacher, but more than that he was an educator in the fullest sense of the word. He was, I believe, able to accomplish over the years most of the things which the teacher and scholar holds dear. We have in the pages of this journal the enduring evidence of his work in the establishment and guidance of a learned publication. We have also the hundreds of undergraduate students who studied such things as thermodynamics under his instruction and encouragement and who were pressed toward a fuller appreciation of personal endeavor and accomplishment by his quiet example. We have those who carried out graduate research under his direction, who learned the meaning and excitement of adding the new to the old, and who hopefully were able to acquire even a fraction of the intellectual zeal and curiosity of their teacher. Finally, we have all of us, colleagues in the profession to which Harding Bliss contributed so much and who benefit in so many ways from his life's work. Our loss is great.

JOHN B. BUTT  
Northwestern University