

FRANKLIN W. OLIN

It is with deep regret that we learn of the passing of Franklin W. Olin, founder Olin Industries, Inc., on May 21st at the age of 91.

Born on January 9, 1860, in a primitive lumber camp in Woodford, Vermont, he received his early education in a rural school in Washington County, New York. He taught school to advance his own education and played professional baseball. He enrolled in Cornell University in 1882, playing baseball with a Cornell Club, and was a member of the Varsity Crew.

Following his graduation from the university in 1886, Mr. Olin built five powder plants in eastern United States, and in 1896 started the Equitable Powder Company at Alton, Illinois, which eventually became the Western Cartridge Company. In 1932, he negotiated the purchase of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company, and later the Bond Electric Corporation and Ecusta. He served as president of the Western Cartridge Company until Olin Industries was formed in 1944.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his family. There remains his wife, Mrs. Mary M. Olin, and two sons, John M. Olin, President of Olin Industries, and Spencer T. Olin, First Vice President. There are six grand-children and four great-grandchildren. Another son, Franklin W. Olin, Jr., died in 1921, and it was in his honor that the new engineering building at Cornell was given in 1941.

All who knew Mr. Olin respected and admired him, and his passing takes another from that rapidly diminishing group of strong and courageous men who helped to make America great.