



Tribute to Den Hartog

THIS issue of the JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING FOR INDUSTRY is dedicated to Professor J. P. Den Hartog who retired this year from M.I.T. The papers included here were presented at a special Vibrations Conference organized by the Design Engineering Division and held in Boston, March 29-31, 1967.

Professor Den Hartog is known throughout the world for his many contributions to Applied Mechanics. His famous textbook *Mechanical Vibrations*, which first appeared in 1934, is still widely used and has been translated into several foreign languages including German, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, Japanese, and Chinese.

Professor Den Hartog was born in Java in the Dutch East Indies and received his first degree in Electrical Engineering from the Technical University at Delft in 1924. Until 1932 he was an engineer in the Westinghouse Research Laboratories in Pittsburgh. During this very productive period he also attended the University of Pittsburgh where he took the PhD in Mathematics in 1929. In 1930 he spent a post-doctoral year at the University of Göttingen where he worked with Professor L. Prandl. From 1932 until World War II Professor Den Hartog was a member of the staff of Harvard University. Throughout the war he served in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a Captain to join the staff of the Mechanical Engineering Department at M.I.T. in 1945. From 1955 to 1959 he was head of that department.

Professor Den Hartog's learned contributions have been widely recognized. A few of his many honors include membership in the National Academy of Sciences, honorary memberships in the ASME and the Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers, and honorary degrees from Harvard University, the Carnegie Institute of Technology, the University of Ghent (Belgium), and from his Alma Mater, Delft, in 1967.

On this special occasion in his busy and productive career we, his friends, students, and colleagues, extend our very best wishes.