

**RICHARD SCOTT PERKIN**, scientist and business man.

Family circumstance forcing you to forego further formal schooling when you were eighteen, within less than a decade you had become a successful Wall Street business man and trusted financial adviser in the midst of the Great Depression which discouraged so many others. Retiring from this career at an age when most men are beginning theirs, you returned to your early proclivities, founding a new company to produce optical instruments for astronomical observation. Expertise quickly developed in instrumentation enabled you to provide unique and invaluable scientific tools which contributed largely to the Allied effort in World War II, and brought you international recognition as designer and maker of high quality precision optical and analytical instruments. Your balloon-borne telescopes analyzed the atmosphere of Mars long before Mariner Spacecraft ever blasted off. Now exploring applications of later science to technology, you have even more importantly developed new concepts of international cooperation in the establishment of research and development operations in England, Germany, and Japan, which advance the scientific endeavor of the foreign nation simultaneously with our own.

In an era where college degrees are for many a necessary ticket to achievement and success, you are the exception which proves the rule. Your disciplined use of intelligence in all enterprises – your energy, vitality, and imagination – foretell no limit in the sky, the heavens, or the universe for your achievements.

*Honoris Causa*, DOCTOR OF SCIENCE