

**WILLIAM CURTIS PIERCE**, of the Class of 1928, Trustee of the College, retired partner of the New York law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell; while, strictly speaking, a native of New York, having been born there, he is a person with deep Maine and Bowdoin ties. A fourth generation graduate of the College on one side of his family and a third generation graduate on the other, he can look back to the author of the words of Bowdoin *Beata*, to one of the founders of the Society of Bowdoin Women, and more distantly, to a trustee whose name first appears in the College charter. He has himself contributed significantly to that illustrious family history. A *cum laude* graduate, he was awarded his law degree at Harvard University and went on to a distinguished professional career in New York City. Among other activities, he serves as Director of the European-American Banking Corporation and then European-American Bank and Trust Company, and acted as the chairman of the Banking Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. His influence on the shaping of the Uniform Commercial Code was substantial. A former president of the Bowdoin Club of New York, he became and Overseer of the College in 1962 and a Trustee in 1967. For the following two years, he served as chairman of the Special Study Committee on Underclass Campus Environment, and its report, known now simply as the Pierce Report in tribute to his farsighted chairmanship of that study, provided the initial recommendation for the College's decision to adopt coeducation. Now chairman of the Governing Boards Committee on the Arts, he continues to chart the dynamic growth of the institution. Steeped in Bowdoin history, his vision has never been confined by that tradition, but has constantly illuminated new ways in which the College can serve the common good.

*Honoris Causa*, DOCTOR OF LAWS