to this class belong all business corporations. Two apparent exceptions, mutual insurance societies and stock exchanges, both of which are ordinarily "non-stock" corporations, may be noted; both organizations in their fundamental character, however, are simply clubs which, like many other clubs, offer to their members certain valuable privileges. "Stock" corporations, on the other hand, are formed with the object of carrying on business ventures; they have a capital stock divided into transferable shares; they are intended to make profits which are to be distributed to their members, or stockholders, in proportion to the number of shares each one possesses; each stockholder secures his shares by purchase for valuable consideration from the corporation or by transfer from some previous stockholder; each stockholder is an owner of the corporation and its assets to the extent of the number of shares that he holds.

3. *Definitions.*—The most famous definition of a corporation, and a definition that in its main features is as sound to-day as it ever was, is that given in the Dartmouth College case in 1819 by Chief Justice Marshall of the United States Supreme Court, who referred to a corporation as "an artificial being, invisible, intangible, and existing only in contemplation of law." Blackstone, author of England's greatest legal text-book, gives a definition that is almost as well-known as Chief Justice Marshall's in the following words: "A corporation is an artificial person created for preserving in perpetual succession certain rights which, being conferred on natural persons only, would fail in the process of time." You will note that this definition emphasizes the most striking distinctive feature of the corporation, namely, its artificial personality. The corporation is an entity or being in itself, apart from the persons who organize