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Pierre Vernimmen, who died in 1996, was both an M&A dealmaker (he advised Louis Vuitton on its merger with Moët Hennessy to create LVMH, the world luxury goods leader) and a finance teacher at HEC Paris. His book, *Finance d'Entreprise*, was and still is the top-selling financial textbook in French-speaking countries and is the forebear of *Corporate Finance: Theory and Practice*.

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