

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
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R E Hellmund

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LAMME MEDAL AWARDED TO R. E. HELLMUND

The Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to R. E. Hellmund, East Pittsburgh, Pa., "for his contributions to the design and development of rotating electrical machinery". It is expected that the Medal will be presented at the Summer Convention of the Institute which is to be held in Toronto, Canada, June 23-27, 1930.

The Lamme Medal was founded as a result of a bequest of the Lake Benjamin G. Lamme, Chief Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, who died on July 8, 1924, to provide for the award by the Institute of a gold medal (together with a bronze replica thereof) annually to a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, "who has shown meritorious achievement in the development of electrical apparatus or machinery" and for the award of two such medals in some years if the accumulation from the funds warrants. A committee composed of nine members of the Institute awards the medal.

Mr. Lamme made similar bequests to the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education and the Ohio State University, providing in the former for the annual award of a medal "for accomplishment in technical teaching or actual advancement of the art of technical training", and in the latter for the award every five years of a medal to a graduate of the Ohio State University in any branch of engineering for meritorious achievement in engineering or the technical arts. The three organizations have adopted a common obverse for their medals and each has prepared a suitable reverse.

The first award of the Lamme Medal of the A.I.E.E. was made in 1928 to Allan B. Field, Consulting Engineer of the Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Company, Ltd., Manchester, England.

Rudolf Emil Hellmund, Chief Electrical Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh,

Pennsylvania, was born in Gotha, Germany, February 2, 1879. After receiving his early education in Gotha, he attended the Ilmenau Technical College, from which he graduated with honors in electrical engineering in 1898. He later took post-graduate work at the University of Charlottenburg.

Prior to his studies at Charlottenburg, Mr. Hellmund worked for some time as a designer of electrical machinery and spent one year in the laboratory of the "Land-und-See Kabelwerke", Cologne. Subsequently, he was placed in charge of the test floor and laboratory of the "Maschinenfabrik Esslingen", Stuttgart, Germany.

After his course at Charlottenburg, Mr. Hellmund came to the United States and was employed by the Krantz Company of Brooklyn as a designer of switches and switchboards. In 1904 he was employed by William Stanley, of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, with whom he worked on the design of induction motors and also on experimental work on self-compounding alternators. Following this, Mr. Hellmund worked for the Western Electric Company at Hawthorne, Illinois, designing a line of induction motors which was then marketed by that company. In 1907 Mr. Hellmund entered the employ of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company as a designer of induction motors. Later he was engaged in general engineering work and, in 1912, was placed in charge of the design of all direct and alternating current railway machines.

In 1917, Mr. Hellmund was assigned miscellaneous consulting work, in which he continued until 1921, when he was appointed engineering supervisor of development. In 1926 he was appointed chief electrical engineer of the company.

In his engineering experience with the Westinghouse Company, Mr. Hellmund developed new ventilating systems and stator structures of various types of machines, numerous control systems, new armature windings, regenerative systems for railways, control systems and structures for phase-converters and phase-converter locomotives, all of which are in practical use. He obtained in the neighborhood of three hundred United States and foreign patents covering various features of the above mentioned and similar subjects.

Mr. Hellmund is the author of many papers which have appeared in the "Transactions of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers", and "Proceedings of the British Institution", and various other American and foreign technical magazines, covering such subjects as rotating fields and leakage fluxes in a-c. machines, single-phase commutator motors, regenerative control for railways, electric traction, engineering education, etc.

He joined the Institute in 1905, was transferred to the grade of Member in 1909, and became a Fellow in 1913. He is also a member of the German Electrotechnical Society.

From:

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