

# Harold B. Smith

## President-Elect of the A. I. E. E.

Harold B. Smith, Professor of Electrical Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., and Consulting Engineer, Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, East Pittsburgh, Pa., was elected President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers for the year beginning August 1, 1929, as announced at the Annual Meeting of the Institute held at Swampscott, Mass., June 25, during the annual Summer Convention of the A. I. E. E.

Professor Harold Babbitt Smith was born at Barre, Massachusetts, May 23, 1869. He was graduated from Cornell University with the degree of M. E. in Electrical Engineering in June 1891, but remained as graduate student until December 1891.

In January 1892 he was appointed Professor of Electrical Engineering in charge of the department at the University of Arkansas. Resigning from this position in December 1892, he became Head Designer and Electrical Engineer for the Elektron Manufacturing Company, Springfield, Mass. From September 1893 to June 1896 he was Director of the Department of Electrical Engineering at Purdue University. He has held his present position as Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of the Department at Worcester Polytechnic Institute since 1896.

Professor Smith retained a connection with the Elektron Manufacturing Company as consulting engineer until 1902, and did consulting work for several other organizations at various times. Since 1905 he has served as a consulting engineer for the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

He was Chairman of the International Group, Jury of Awards in Electrical Engineering at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. During the years 1917-19, he was an associate member of the Naval Consulting Board and consultant of the Special Board of the Navy on Anti-Submarine Work.

He has been a pioneer in the development of high-voltage power transmission systems and equipment, has carried on many researches involving advanced conceptions of dielectric phenomena and stress distribution, and holds numerous patents. He has contributed many papers to the transactions of the societies and other engineering publications.

Professor Smith's Institute activities are as follows: Associate

1891; Member 1901; Fellow 1913; Director 1920-24; Vice-President 1924-26; Chairman of Sections Committee 1924-27; and member at various times of the Coordination Education, Electrophysics, Law, Instruments and Measurements, Sections, Student Branches, Edison Medal, Research, Meetings and Papers, and a number of special committees. He is at present Chairman of the Committee on Code of Principles of Professional Conduct.

His other memberships include American Society of Mechanical Engineers (Member), Institution of Electrical Engineers (Great Britain), Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Sigma Xi, and Tau Beta Pi.



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### Engineers to Award Their First Welfare Medal

At some time during the current year there will be presented by the American Association of Engineers, the first Clausen Medal, of which subsequent annual awards will be made to the engineer who, during the preceding year, "has accomplished distinguished service in the welfare cause—social or economic or both." The movement is sponsored by H. A. Wagner, a national director of the Association, and this year's committee of judges of award is composed of such men as G. M. Butler, Dean and Director of Engineering University of Arizona; L. W. Baldwin, President of the Missouri Pacific Lines; J. W. Thomas, Vice-President of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company; C. F. Kettering, General Director of the General Motors Research Laboratories; Rufus B. von Kleinsmid, President of the University of South-

ern California; Michael I. Pupin, Research Laboratory Department of Physics, Columbia University; A. E. Morgan, President of Antioch College; W. L. Saunders, Chairman of the Board, Ingersol-Rand, New York; G. C. Warren of Warren Brothers Company, Boston, and A. N. Talbot, Professor Emeritus, College of Engineering, University of Illinois. The medal is named in compliment of Henry W. Clausen, of Chicago, who has given the Association such commendable service for the past 15 years in various executive capacities. It bears the inscription "Award in recognition of a signal public service. Designed to mark the

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EE, July 1931  
p. 5245  
Aug 1929 p. 649