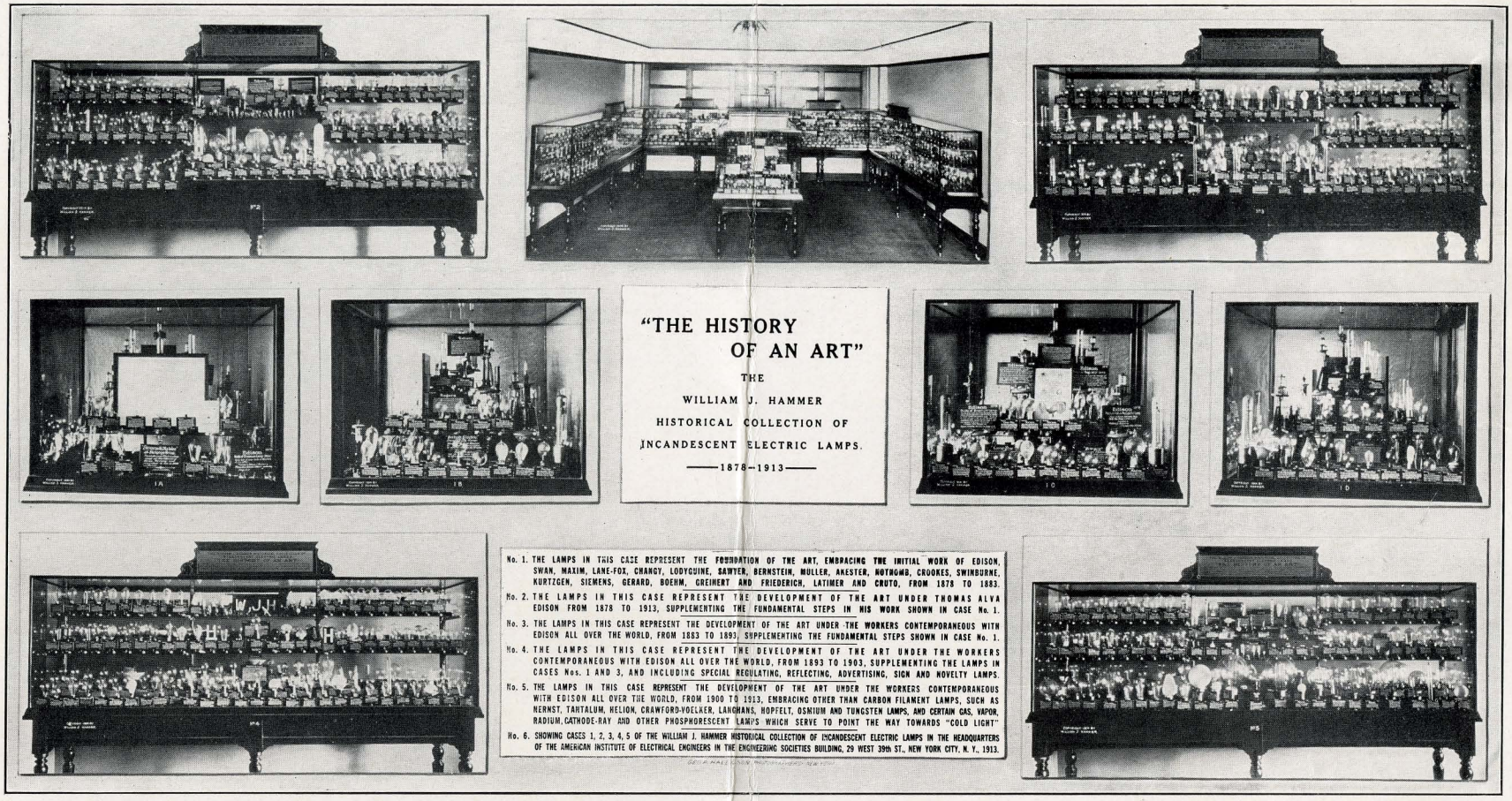

William J. Hammer, Consulting Engineer, New York City, spent 34 years in the United States and Europe in securing and arranging this Historical Collection of Incandescent Electric Lamps.

He started the collection while an Assistant to Mr. Edison at Menlo Park, N. J., in 1879-1880-1881, in charge of the tests and records on the incandescent electric lamps in the Edison Laboratory, later continuing the work at the original Edison Lamp Factory at Menlo Park in 1880-1881, where he was the First Chief Engineer of the Company, which turned out 50,000 lamps during his first year there.

Late in October, 1881, he was sent by Mr. Edison to England to assist in starting the English Edison Electric Light Company, of which he was the Company's Chief Engineer until early in 1883, when he was offered the posts of Chief Engineer of both the French and German Edison Companies, accepting the post of Chief Engineer of the German Edison Company, now the Allegemeine Elektricitaets Gesellschaft, remaining until late in 1884 when he returned to the Edison interests in America, subsequently opening an office as an independent Consulting Engineer.

In 1889 Mr. Edison sent him as his Personal Representative to the Paris International Exposition where he set up and operated all of Mr. Edison's various inventions. During all this period of 34 years he diligently collected the many types of Lamps of Mr. Edison and his American and foreign competitors which constituted important steps in the Art.

This collection, constantly augmented, was awarded a Special Silver Medal in 1882 by the International Electrical Exposition at the Crystal Palace, London, Eng.; "The Grand Prize" by the St. Louis International Exposition of 1904, and the "Elliott Cresson" Gold Medal by the Franklin Institute in 1906.