



**"THE HISTORY
OF AN ART"**
THE
WILLIAM J. HAMMER
HISTORICAL COLLECTION OF
INCANDESCENT ELECTRIC LAMPS.
— 1878-1913 —

- No. 1. THE LAMPS IN THIS CASE REPRESENT THE FOUNDATION OF THE ART, EMBRACING THE INITIAL WORK OF EDISON, SWAN, MAXIM, LANE-FOX, CHANDY, LODYQUINE, SAWYER, BERNSTEIN, MULLER, ANESTER, ROTROW, CROOKES, SWINBURNE, KURTZEN, SIEMENS, GERARD, BOEHM, GREINERT AND FRIEDERICH, LATIMER AND CRUTO, FROM 1878 TO 1883.
- No. 2. THE LAMPS IN THIS CASE REPRESENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ART UNDER THOMAS ALVA EDISON FROM 1878 TO 1913, SUPPLEMENTING THE FUNDAMENTAL STEPS IN HIS WORK SHOWN IN CASE No. 1.
- No. 3. THE LAMPS IN THIS CASE REPRESENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ART UNDER THE WORKERS CONTEMPORANEOUS WITH EDISON ALL OVER THE WORLD, FROM 1883 TO 1895, SUPPLEMENTING THE FUNDAMENTAL STEPS SHOWN IN CASE No. 1.
- No. 4. THE LAMPS IN THIS CASE REPRESENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ART UNDER THE WORKERS CONTEMPORANEOUS WITH EDISON ALL OVER THE WORLD, FROM 1895 TO 1903, SUPPLEMENTING THE LAMPS IN CASES Nos. 1 AND 3, AND INCLUDING SPECIAL REGULATING, REFLECTING, ADVERTISING, SIGN AND NOVELTY LAMPS.
- No. 5. THE LAMPS IN THIS CASE REPRESENT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ART UNDER THE WORKERS CONTEMPORANEOUS WITH EDISON ALL OVER THE WORLD, FROM 1900 TO 1913, EMBRACING OTHER THAN CARBON FILAMENT LAMPS, SUCH AS NERNST, TANTALUM, HELIUM, CRAWFORD-VOELKER, LANGMANS, HOPFELT, OSMIUM AND TUNGSTEN LAMPS, AND CERTAIN GAS, VAPOR, RADIUM, CATHODE-RAY AND OTHER PHOSPHORESCENT LAMPS WHICH SERVE TO POINT THE WAY TOWARDS "COLD LIGHT"
- No. 6. SHOWING CASES 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 OF THE WILLIAM J. HAMMER HISTORICAL COLLECTION OF INCANDESCENT ELECTRIC LAMPS IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS IN THE ENGINEERING SOCIETIES BUILDING, 29 WEST 39th ST., NEW YORK CITY, N. Y., 1913.

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 Allgemeine Electricitaets 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.