

In Memoriam

WILLIAM STATES LEE

Resolutions

Adopted by the Board of Directors
of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers
May 25, 1934

In the death, on March 24, 1934, of William States Lee, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers lost its forty-third president and one of its most energetic and influential leaders.

Beginning his practical engineering career in 1897, after a brief period as instructor at the Citadel, from which he had been graduated in 1894, he rose rapidly from the positions of resident engineer of the Anderson (S.C.) Light & Power Company and the Columbus (Ga.) Power Company to become chief engineer of the latter in 1902, and vice-president and chief engineer of the Catawba Power Company, Charlotte, N.C., in 1905. In succeeding years, he served several power companies as vice-president, chief engineer, and director, the W. S. Lee Engineering Corporation as president, and the Piedmont and Northern Railway Company as president and chief engineer. He attained an enviable reputation as an executive in charge of many large power development and construction projects.

Throughout his career, his ability as an engineer, his keen perception of the controlling factors in any situation encountered, and his constant attention to the human values involved made him an outstandingly effective and a highly respected leader of men. His genial personality and wide range of information won him a multitude of friends.

Mr. Lee joined the Institute in 1904, and generously gave his time and energy to its activities in various capacities: as director 1911-14, and 1929-30, and president 1930-31; as member of a considerable number of committees, and as a representative of the Institute upon several joint organizations. He stood firmly at all times for the highest ideals of the Institute and ranked among its foremost leaders. As president of the American Engineering Council,

during the years 1932 and 1933, he worked intensively and enthusiastically to make the engineering profession as helpful as possible in all problems involving engineering and affecting the public welfare.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers hereby expresses, upon behalf of the membership, its deepest regret at the death of Mr. Lee and its sense of great loss sustained by the Institute and by the entire engineering profession; and be it further

RESOLVED: That these resolutions be entered in the minutes and copies be transmitted to members of his family.

President

National Secretary

RESOLUTION IN REFERENCE TO WILLIAM STATES LEE

RESOLVED That the members of the North Carolina Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, in meeting assembled at Raleigh, April 13, 1934, desire to express their profound regret at the death of their fellow-member, William States Lee, and to record their high appreciation of his life and character and of his conspicuous ability as an engineer and as a man.

Mr. Lee was born in Lancaster County, South Carolina, January 28, 1872, and died at his home in Charlotte on March 24, 1934. He was one of the outstanding engineers of his day, his major work being the development of the Duke Power System in the Carolinas.

Early in his career Mr. Lee became a member of the Institute and was at all times interested in its affairs and in the welfare of the profession which he had chosen, giving generously of his time and talents to promote its various activities. In 1930 Mr. Lee was President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and during his term of office devoted a large part of his time to the affairs of the Institute.

The North Carolina Section of the Institute was organized in 1929, and Mr. Lee was active in the organization of this Section, attending its meetings and taking part in the discussions, and in all respects was a most valuable member. It would be difficult to over-estimate the value of his services to the Institute and to the profession.

The Secretary will have this resolution appropriately recorded in the minutes and will transmit a copy to National Headquarters and a copy to the family as an expression of our sincere sympathy.

The foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted.

Stanley L. Coulter
Secretary.

Herbert M. Daenschuk
Chairman.