

# Benjamin G. Lamme

(Associate 1903, Member 1903)

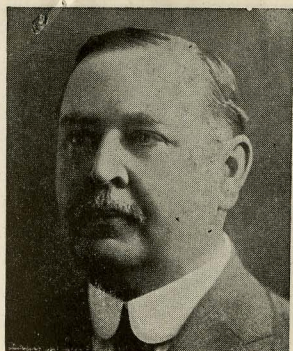
Edison Medalist 1918

FOR more than 30 years Benjamin Garver Lamme was an acknowledged leader in the invention and mathematical design of electrical apparatus particularly in the a-c field. Chief among his inventions of which the patents numbered more than 150, were the "umbrella" generators first used at Niagara Falls, the synchronous converter and the series commutator-type motor, which is now in use in street and other electric transit systems. Beginning in the testing department of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company in 1889, he rose to distinction early through his remarkable ability to apply complex mathematical theorems to electrical apparatus: in 1890 he prepared specifications purely from calculation for a double-reduction railway motor. In 1900 he was made assistant chief engineer and from 1903 until his death July 8, 1924, he was chief engineer. Mr. Lamme was greatly interested in high-power generator and shortly before his death designed a 65,000-kw generator, the largest built to

50th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

"Elec. Engineering"

B. G. LAMME



that date. He was born January 12, 1864, at Springfield, Ohio, and graduated in 1888 from Ohio State University with the degree of mechanical engineer. He served the Institute on many committees and represented it on the national committee of the International Electrical Congress (1919-21) and acted as chairman of the committee on inventions of the Naval Consulting Board in 1917. The Lamme medal was established by his bequest.