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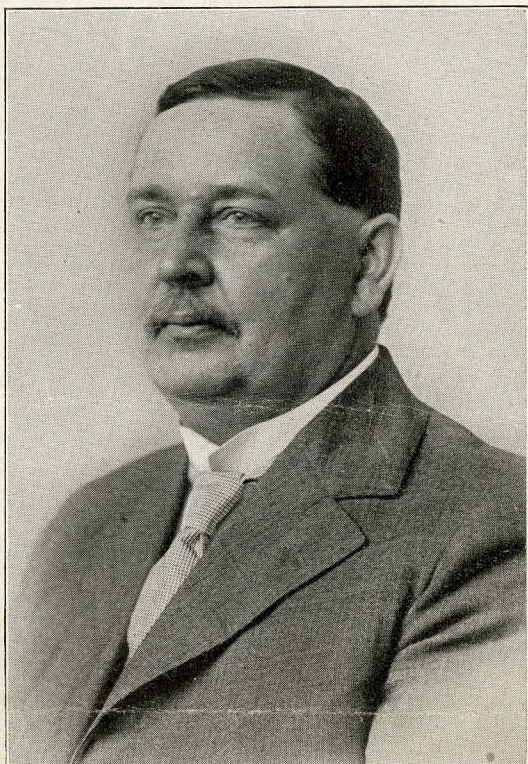
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October 9, 1915

BENJAMIN G. LAMME

Chief Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company of Pittsburgh. Recently appointed by Secretary of the Navy Daniels as a member of the Naval Advisory Board.



BENJAMIN G. LAMME

BENJAMIN G. LAMME, Chief Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, of Pittsburgh, who has just been named by Secretary of Navy Daniels, as a member of the Naval Advisory Board, was born in 1864 on a farm near Springfield, Ohio, and was educated in the country schools of that vicinity. Later he entered the Ohio State University and was graduated as mechanical engineer in 1888.

In May, 1889, he entered the employ of the Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Company in their Testing Department. Soon afterward he took up design work, which he has followed continuously since.

In 1900 Mr. Lamme was made Assistant Chief Engineer, succeeding to the position of Chief Engineer in 1903, which position he now holds. He has always been considered as one of the late George Westinghouse's most valuable assistants and advisers, the famous inventor depending upon his excellent judgment in matters of vital responsibility.

He has been a leader in the developing of alternating current apparatus including the induction motor, poly-phase generators, rotary converters and single-phase railway apparatus. He has also been a pioneer in the development of the first direct current apparatus for railway lighting and power work.

As an electrical engineer, Mr. Lamme is known the world over, and is an exceedingly fertile inventor, having to his credit over one hundred important patents covering electrical apparatus. His ability to analyze and grasp the facts of a great problem and his wonder-

ful gift as an expert mathematician has placed him in the very front rank of engineers in this or any other country.

One of his duties at the present time is the chairmanship of a committee of the Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Co., which passes on the value and application of various inventions which are brought to the attention of the company.

The recommendation of the appointment of Mr. Lamme was made to the Secretary of the Navy by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, which appointment was made after a very careful consideration of the entire membership of this organization numbering over 10,000 and constituting what is one of the largest and most influential engineering societies in the world. In thus conferring this honor upon Mr. Lamme, the Institute has accorded to him the highest possible rank as an engineer and an inventor.

To attempt to enumerate the achievements of Mr. Lamme in the engineering field would be far beyond the scope of this article. His record and his prominent position with the Westinghouse Electric & Mfg. Company have fully established his position in the engineering field. This company has been foremost in the field of power generation, transmission and utilization for industrial purposes, particularly in the development of railway apparatus in their interurban and steam railway lines. In this development the work done by the company has in a large measure been due to the ability of Mr. Lamme.

Among the more prominent installations with which he has been identified may be mentioned the famous 5000 h. p. revolving field Niagara Falls generators, installed in 1895, the design of the single-phase motor and generator equipment for the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, the Philadelphia-Paoli Electrification of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and numerous other installations of importance. It is interesting to note in connection with the Niagara Falls generators, which at that time were many times larger than any which had been built to that time. The design was totally new and contained many radical departures from standard practice. The design of the station had been entrusted to world famous engineers and they had recommended certain features which Mr. Lamme radically differed. On account of excellence of the Westinghouse designs, however, they were finally accepted, and the original machines are in service today with no essential changes since they were originally constructed. This same statement could be made concerning a large number of other pioneer installations throughout the country in which Mr. Lamme has taken prominent part.

Mr. Lamme's writings are noted for their clearness and freedom from mathematical complications, he having acted for some time past as chairman of the Board of Editors of the Electric Journal.

Mr. Lamme is particularly interested in the training of young engineers and takes a particular delight in discovering young men gifted along the lines in which he himself has been successful and further placing them where they can make the most of their abilities.

He is a keen enthusiast in the subject of photography and the evolution of the phonograph and is the possessor of a marvelous collection of photographs from all over the world.

His selection as one of the Nations' Naval Advisory Board is an honor to his country as well as a recognition of his wonderful talent and judgment in large affairs where the interest of the country is involved.