

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
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LAMME MEDAL AWARDED TO LEWIS B. STILLWELL

The 1933 Lamme Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers has been awarded to Dr. Lewis B. Stillwell, New York, N.Y., "for his distinguished career in connection with the design, installation, and operation of electrical machinery and equipment", and will be presented at the Summer Convention of the Institute, which is to be held at Hot Springs, Va., June 25-29, 1934.

The Lamme Medal was founded as a result of a bequest of the late Benjamin G. Lamme, Chief Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, who died on July 8, 1924, to provide for the award by the Institute of a gold medal (together with a bronze replica thereof) annually to a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, "who has shown meritorious achievement in the development of electrical apparatus or machinery" and for the award of two such medals in some years if the accumulation from the funds warrants. A committee composed of nine members of the Institute awards the medal.

Mr. Lamme made similar bequests to the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education and the Ohio State University, providing in the former for the annual award of a medal "for accomplishment in technical teaching or actual advancement of the art of technical training", and in the latter for the annual award of a medal to a graduate of the Ohio State University in any branch of engineering for meritorious achievement in engineering or the technical arts. The three organizations adopted a common obverse for their medals, and each prepared a suitable reverse.

Previous awards of the Lamme Medal of the A.I.E.E. were: Allen B. Field, 1928; Rudolf E. Hellmund, 1929; William J. Foster, 1930; Giuseppe Faccioli, 1931; and Edward Weston, 1932.

Lewis Buckley Stillwell, consulting engineer, New York, N.Y., was born in Scranton, Pa., March 12, 1863. He was a student in the Latin-Scientific course at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., 1882-84, and took a special course in electrical engineering at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa. His degrees are: E.E., Lehigh University, 1885; M.S., 1907; D. Sc., 1914; and Sc.D., Wesleyan University, 1907.

From October 1886 to April 1891, he was employed as assistant electrician of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, and served as chief electrical engineer of that company from 1891 to 1897.

He was an outstanding leader in the development of alternating current, and had an active part in the determination of Westinghouse policy with respect to system development engineering and the establishment of 60 and 30 cycles as standard frequencies. Among his most important inventions are the "Stillwell

Regulator", for the adjustment of voltage on outgoing lines; the "Time Limit Circuit Breaker", used to localize interruptions of service due to short circuits; and the "Diagrammatic Pilot-control Switchboard", which is universally used to maintain before the operator a diagram of the power circuits as the main switches are opened or closed.

His contributions, as Westinghouse engineer, to the general layout and design of the first plant of the Niagara Falls Power Co., led to his appointment as electrical director of the latter company, which position he held from 1897 to 1900.

Mr. Stillwell began his practise as a consulting engineer in New York City in 1900, and has filled engagements with many companies on large and important engineering projects, including: the electrification of the elevated lines of the Manhattan Elevated Railway Co., 1900-06; Rapid Transit Subway Construction Co., 1900-09; Hudson and Manhattan Railroad, 1905-13; Wilkes-Barre and Hazelton Railway, 1902-05; Erie R.R. electrification, 1906; United Railways and Electric Co., Baltimore, 1906-20; Interborough Rapid Transit Co., 1909-20; electrification of Hocsac Tunnel of New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railway Co., 1910-11; New York, Westchester, and Boston Railway Co., 1911-15; Lehigh Coal and Navigation Co., 1912-18; New York Municipal Railway Corp., 1913-16; Holland Vehicular Tunnels, 1924-27; New York State Bridge and Tunnel Commission and New Jersey Interstate Bridge and Tunnel Commission 1924-27; and Port of New York Authority since 1927.

Mr. Stillwell joined the Institute in 1892, and was transferred to the grade of Member later in the same year. He was transferred to the grade of Fellow in 1912. He has served on many of the most important Institute committees, including the Executive, Code of Principles of Professional Conduct, Public Policy (now Institute Policy), Edison Medal, Standards, and Board of Examiners. He also has represented the Institute upon the Assembly of the American Engineering Council, the Engineering Foundation Board (Chairman, 1924-28), John Fritz Medal Board of Award, and the Coordination Committee of Engineering Societies. He was a Director of the Institute 1896-9, a Vice-President 1899-1901, and President 1909-10. He was Vice-President of the American Engineering Council for four years, 1930-33 inclusive.

He is the author of several important technical papers presented at Institute meetings and published in its Transactions.

In 1920, he was elected a Trustee of Princeton University for life. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1921-23.

In 1899, Mr. Stillwell was awarded the Niagara Medal by the President of the Niagara Falls Power Company. In 1929, the American Society of Civil Engineers conferred upon him a medal "for leadership as Chairman of Engineering Foundation in consolidating the research work of the Foundation and the Founder Societies".

His other memberships in leading engineering and scientific societies include: American Institute of Consulting Engineers, President 1918-19; American Society

of Civil Engineers; Institution of Electrical Engineers, Great Britain; National Academy of Sciences; Fellow, Royal Society of Arts, Great Britain; American Philosophical Society; and Franklin Institute.

From:

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