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 August 1, 1933

**RUDOLF EMIL HELLMUND**  
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Rudolf Emil Hellmund, Chief Engineer of Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, is an outstanding example of Germanic engineering brilliance. He is a pioneer with the vision, courage and initiative to leave his native land and establish himself anew against the handicaps of a new language and a new people of different characteristics and customs.

Mr. Hellmund is known throughout the world in the electrical and allied industries for his inventive genius and for his work on design of new and improved electrical apparatus. About 300 patents in the United States and other countries bear testimony to his creative imagination and practical engineering ability.

He was born at Gotha, Germany on February 2, 1879 and received his early education in the grade and high schools of that city. Later he attended the College of Ilmenau and was graduated with honors in 1898 with the degree of Electrical Engineer. He later took post graduate work at the University of Charlottenburg.

The four years following his undergraduate work was spent in practical work with three firms: with Poeschmann & Company, near Dresden; with the Land & Sea Cable Works at Nippen, near Cologne; and with the Esslingen Machine Works at Stuttgart. He stayed two and one-half years with the last named firm where he had charge of the test floor, in addition to doing design work on apparatus and appliances. It is interesting to note that

this stage of his experience was quite similar to that of the founder of the medal, in that both laid the foundation for a broad career in design work on fundamentals obtained from personal testing of machines.

On completion of his course in Charlottenburg, in 1903, Mr. Hellmund came to the United States and was employed by the Krantz Company of Brooklyn as a designer of switches and panel boards. In 1904 and 1905 he was associated with William Stanley of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, and worked upon the design of induction motors and also on self-compounding alternators. Following this he was employed by the Western Electric Company at Hawthorne, Illinois, and designed a line of induction motors which was then marketed by that company. This experience directly qualified him for similar work with the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company which he took up at East Pittsburgh, Pa., in October, 1907. He worked on the design of several lines of induction motors for about four years, after which he was engaged for a time on application engineering in the General Engineering Department.

In 1912 he was placed in charge of the design of all direct and alternating current motors for light and heavy traction. In 1917 he was assigned to consultation activities in which he undertook special analytical work on railway electrification and machinery design. In 1921 he was appointed supervisor of development and established the Company's system of planning, executing and financing all new engineering developments. In 1926 he was made Chief Electrical Engineer.

As Chief Electrical Engineer and Chairman of the verification committee, he was vitally interested in the development work of all engineering departments of the Company and with other officials was the final authority in approving the sufficiency of new ideas. As a member of the Patent Board he acts as advisor in the consideration and purchase of all ideas and inventions offered to the Company from outside sources.

On March 30, 1933 he was appointed Chief Engineer, an office which has been held vacant since the death of Benjamin Garver Lamme in 1924. This well deserved promotion indicates the recognition of Westinghouse officials of Mr. Hellmund's broad knowledge in all branches of engineering and machinery design.

In his work for the Westinghouse Company, he has traveled extensively in the foreign field, representing the Westinghouse Company in engineering and business conferences frequently. His travels have taken him to England, Germany, Scotland, Ireland, France, Spain, Switzerland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Jamaica and Canada. He has also delivered many addresses before technical societies both in this country and abroad and his papers on engineering subjects have been widely published.

In 1930, Mr. Hellmund was awarded the "Lamme Medal" by the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The award was made "for his contributions to the design and development of rotating electrical machinery."

Citing three reasons for the award, one of which emphasized the training of young men, the Medal Committee's

statement concluded as follows:

"The contribution to the art of designing rotating machinery, which is recognized by this award of the medal, is an integration of years of patient study and strenuous work. With it is coupled the spirit of service which makes available to all the contributions of a gifted few."

Mr. Hellmund is a tireless worker and is constantly knocking at the door of the research laboratory in search of new ideas that can be translated into practical commercial products. He has a keen interest in young men and has the ability to teach and interpret for them the practical methods of calculation resulting from his own experience. During the past two years he has devoted much of his attention to development of air conditioning equipment.