

Frank J. Sprague Funeral Will Be Held Here Today

Burial To Be at Arlington in Honor of His Navy Service

Funeral services for Frank Julian Sprague, inventor of the electric trolley car, will be held at 2 p. m. today at the West End Collegiate Church, West End Avenue and Seventy-seventh Street. The Rev. Dr. Henry Evertson Cobb, senior minister of the Collegiate Reformed Church of New York, and the Rev. Edward M. Chapman, of New London, Conn., will officiate. Mr. Sprague died Thursday.

Honorary pallbearers were announced as follows:

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| Bancroft Gherardi | Rear Admiral S. S. Robison |
| Dr. F. B. Jewett | |
| Dr. O. T. Hutchinson | Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske |
| Frank H. Shepard | G. A. Richardson |
| Philip Torchio | Charles Gordon |
| Edward R. Hewitt | Frank R. Phillips |
| Thomas Robins | Bion J. Arnold |
| Frank Hedley | Maj. C. A. Benton |
| Col. W. J. Wilgus | Prof. M. I. Pupin |
| Gerard Swope | J. A. Johnson |
| Thomas A. Ewing | C. O. Bradshaw |
| Robert Lundell | Dr. D. C. Jackson |
| L. P. Graner | Oliver Herford |
| Ellwood Colahan | Hermann Irion |
| Alexander McIver | Julian Street |
| Hugh Pattison | Horace B. Mann |
| W. R. L. Emmet | F. Luis Mora |
| J. S. Tritle | |

Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery in honor of Mr. Sprague's service in the Navy.

27, 1934.

FUNERAL RITES TODAY FOR FRANK J. SPRAGUE

**Many of Notables Are Pallbearers
for Service for Inventor at
the West End Church.**

A funeral service will be held at 2 P. M. today at the West End Collegiate Church, Seventy-seventh Street and West End Avenue, for Frank Julian Sprague, noted inventor of electrical devices, who was known as the "father of electric traction." The Rev. Dr. Henry E. Cobb, pastor emeritus of the church, and the Rev. Edward M. Chapman of New London, Conn., brother-in-law of Mrs. Harriet C. J. Sprague, widow of Mr. Sprague, will officiate.

Honorary pallbearers at the funeral will be:

Dr. Cary T. Hutchinson, Frank H. Shepard, Alexander McIver, Hugh Pattison, Bancroft Gherardi, Dr. Frank B. Jewett, Philip Torchio, Edward R. Hewitt, Thomas Robins, Frank Hedley, Colonel W. I. Wilgus, Gerard Swope, Thomas Ewing, Robert Lundell, L. P. Gramer, Ellwood Colahan, W. L. R. Emmet, J. S. Tritle, Rear Admiral S. S. Robison, Rear Admiral Bradley A. Fiske and G. A. Richardson.

Also Frank R. Phillips, Charles Gordon, Bion J. Arnold, Major Charles A. Benton, Professor Michael I. Pupin, J. Allen Johnson, C. O. Bradshaw, Dr. Dugald C. Jackson, Oliver Herford, Hermann Irion, Julian Street, Horce B. Mann and F. Luis More.

The chief usher at the funeral will be E. E. Dorting.

Burial will take place in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., on Monday afternoon. A naval guard of honor will participate in the burial ceremony. Mr. Sprague, a United States Naval Academy graduate, had resigned as an officer of the navy in 1883 but had been associated with the navy for many years thereafter.

Mr. Sprague died on Thursday at his home, 40 West Fifty-fifth Street, at the age of 77.

with the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. He first joined the commission in 1907 and acted in the capacity of assistant chief engineer until 1912, when he became chief engineer of that great development.

► **WILLIAM L. COLLINS**, vice-president of the Buffalo, Niagara & Eastern Power Corporation, has been appointed chairman of the Buffalo Municipal Housing Authority by Mayor George J. Zimmermann. Eradication of slum conditions will be the first objective of the new board.

► **M. S. OLDACRE** has been appointed equipment planning engineer in the equipment section of the Commonwealth Edison Company, Chicago. **L. I. ANDERSON** has been appointed equipment standardization engineer in the equipment section of the company.

► **FRANK R. DEVLIN**, widely known San Francisco attorney, was appointed to the California Railroad Commission to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Clyde L. Seavey, who accepted an appointment to the Federal Power Commission. Mr. Devlin has a long career of public service, his record including service on the Railroad Commission from 1915 to 1921, eight years as District Attorney of the city and county of San Francisco and two years as judge of the Superior Court of Solano County (Calif.).

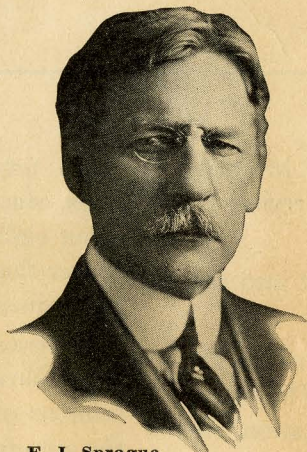
► **RAYMOND A. HOPKINS**, formerly a member of the consulting engineering firm of Hopkins & Gove, Waltham, Mass., has been appointed engineer in charge of hydro-electric station design for the Tennessee Valley Authority, with headquarters at Knoxville, Tenn. Mr. Hopkins was previously connected with the Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation, Boston, for 22 years as an electrical engineer and was in charge of electrical project development for many clients, including the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company (ELECTRICAL WORLD, October 25, 1930, anthracite breaker electrification).

► **WILLIAM F. WYMAN**, formerly division manager of the Central Maine Power Company, Augusta, Me., and previously rate engineer of the company, has been appointed assistant to George S. Williams, vice-president and general manager. **RALPH KENNISON**, formerly distribution engineer and at one time assistant to the operating engineer of the system, has been appointed acting manager of the Central-Southern division in place of Mr. Wyman. **H. LATON JACKSON** of the general operating department has been appointed distribution engineer, and **GEORGE FORBUSH** has been made superintendent of stations, succeeding the late Fred Fortier.

OBITUARY

Frank J. Sprague

Frank J. Sprague, outstanding pioneer in the development of electric traction and the high-speed electric elevator, who died October 25 (ELECTRICAL WORLD, October 27, page 44), made contributions in the course of his distinguished career to electrical progress which have vitally affected many industries. His



F. J. Sprague

achievements, in addition to the development of the electric street railway, included the invention of the multiple-unit system of control; the first electric elevator, culminating in the modern dual system using two elevators in the same shaft; automatic remote control system for fire doors, banks, theater curtains and many other purposes, and important features of modern electric railway signals. In recent years he maintained a laboratory in New York, where he was actively engaged until his death.

Born at Milford, Conn., on July 25, 1857, Mr. Sprague attended the U. S. Naval Academy, from which he was graduated in 1878 with honors. After spending a few years in the service he resigned and became technical assistant to Thomas A. Edison. Convinced that the use of electricity for power would rival or surpass its use for lighting, he left Mr. Edison and with Edward Johnson, Mr. Edison's former representative in London, formed the Sprague Electric Railway & Motor Company. It was this company that installed the first electric railway system in the world at Richmond, Va., in 1887 and brought about a revolution in transportation. There he developed his constant-speed electric motor and was the first to engage in general manufacture and introduction of industrial electric motors.

The Sprague Company was absorbed into the Edison General Electric Company in 1890 and Mr. Sprague became

consulting engineer. He soon resigned, however, to concentrate his energies on the development of the elevator. He invented a method of operating two elevators on the same rail in a common shaft, as well as acceleration control of car safeties. He invented a system of regeneration used on mountain electric railways and on high-speed electric elevators and developed a system of automatic signal and brake train control to enforce obedience to signals.

Many honors in recognition of his work came to Mr. Sprague, among them the award of the gold medal at the Paris Electrical Exhibition in 1889, the grand prize at the St. Louis Exhibition in 1905 and the Elliott Cresson medal of the Franklin Institute. On July 25, 1932, tribute was paid to him by a large assembly of engineers, scientists, educators and transportation men in New York on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of his birthday, and on January 23 of this year a portrait bust of Mr. Sprague, a past-president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and recipient of its Edison Medal in 1910, was accepted by Dr. Whitehead of the institute. More recently he was selected to receive the John Fritz gold medal for 1935. The presentation was to have been made with suitable ceremony at the convention of the A.I.E.E. in January.

► **JAMES F. SINCLAIR**, general manager of the Jeffery-Dewitt Insulator Company, Kenova, W. Va., died October 23 in Huntington, of a heart attack. He was 57 years of age. Mr. Sinclair had actively managed the company since 1922, but because of poor health had delegated most of his duties during the past two years.

► **WARREN PARTRIDGE**, vice-president of the Utility Management Corporation of New York, a subsidiary of the Associated Gas & Electric Company, died October 30 in Orange, N. J., after an illness of three weeks. Mr. Partridge was 59 years old. After taking his engineering degree at Harvard University in 1897, he obtained his first position with the Associated Gas & Electric Company, and he served that organization in various capacities.

► **JOHN M. SPLITDORF**, inventor of electrical appliances and formerly manufacturer of electrical devices, died October 24, of heart disease, after a long illness. He was 65 years of age. Mr. Splitdorf went to work in association with his father and brother in the Splitdorf Laboratory in New York, which his father had founded in 1858. Subsequently, with his brother Charles, he founded Charles F. Splitdorf & Company in New York, makers of electrical products. He served as vice-president until 1912, when the Splitdorf Electrical Company was formed to succeed the old Splitdorf organization.

respected
*who was in America
equipped first modern
trolley st. ny. in
Richmond
1887*