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G. Ross Henninger, Associate Editor

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
33 West 39th Street, New York, N. Y.**Institute Editor Retires****After Twenty Three Years' Devoted Service**

George R. Metcalfe, since February 1910, the active pilot of the editorial department of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, retired from active service as of January 1, 1933, bringing to a close a long career of devoted service to the Institute. Quiet, patient, self-effacing, an untiring worker and a stickler during his more than 2 decades of service for accuracy, Mr. Metcalfe has quietly pioneered the way in many important developments in the Institute's publication practice and its publication service to its members. His infinite patience, his tact, and his perserverence enabled him to "ride out" many a storm in the earlier periods of the Institute's more active publication development, a time when-- even more than now-- technical writers and self-styled technical writers considered all editors to be unmitigated nuisances and proceeded to deal with them accordingly. Within the

Note
 Dear Mr. Henninger.
 I don't see how you could have done better.
 You have gotten together a lot of detail information
 unknown to most of us, and very well pieced the facts
 together. I congratulate you.
 Sincerely, G. Ross Henninger

distinct limitations of his office he has jealously guarded the interests of the membership and achieved some noteworthy results in the field of technical publication.

Statistical data concerning Mr. Metcalfe and his long and active career are notably scarce as a result of his modesty. Nevertheless by dint of much effort and solicitation of friends, acquaintances, and former associates, some information has been gathered and will be outlined in the following paragraphs.

George Richmond Metcalfe was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., February 4, 1865, to George and Elizabeth Talbot (Root) Metcalfe. He pursued normal educational efforts, attending Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (1878-81) subsequently to enter Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N.J., to pursue the electrical engineering course as then offered in the then mechanical engineering department, graduating with the class of 1886. Subsequent to graduation for 6 months Mr. Metcalfe served as assistant to the chief engineer of the Edison United Manufacturing Company (New York) after which he spent most of the year 1887 in the drafting and

testing departments of the Daft Electric Company (New York) in connection with design of controlling switches used on the ~~York~~ subsequently being associated for about 8 months Daft system of railway control apparatus,

with J.C. Henry, designing and building ~~street~~ railway

^{for the} motors, ~~operating on the~~ Rochester (N.Y.) Electric Street Railway Company, ~~by John G. Henry.~~

^{installed by}

Late in 1888 Mr. Metcalfe became associated

with the (Frank J.) Sprague Electric Railway and Motor Company,

which at that time was engaged in the historic electric

street railway development at Richmond, Va. and else-

where, ~~xxxxxx~~ In his capacity as inspector and

superintendent of construction, Mr. Metcalfe was intimately

associated in the development of early ^{Sprague} electric railway

lines at Steinway, and between Brooklyn and Jamaica,

Long Island, N.Y. ~~xxxxxx~~ He was in responsible charge of

important work in connection with the construction of the

electric street railway lines and associated power plant

for the Winnipeg (Manitoba) Electric Street Railway Company,

apparently the first electric street railway in Canada.

During 1890 and 1891, Mr. Metcalfe served as

electrical engineer with the Edison General Electric

Company, ~~(New York?)~~ ~~(Schenectady?)~~. Serving as inspector and superintendent of construction, he was in responsible charge of important work in connection with the building of the Brandon (Manitoba) Electric Light and Power station.

On July 1, 1891, Mr. Metcalfe became associated with the late C.O. Mailloux, who then was active as an independent ~~exam~~ consulting electrical engineer. Mr. Metcalfe calculated the windings, proportions, and other design features of the electric generators and motors built by Mr. Mailloux for the Metropolitan Railroad, Washington, D.C. His work also embraced extensive design and application in connection with the then radically new electrical installation at the Toledo, Ohio, ~~insane asylum~~, ^{and} the Utica, N.Y., insane asylum, the Wagner Palace Car Company, Lang's Brewery at Buffalo, N.Y., and many smaller commercial and industrial plants.

Mr. Metcalfe's career turned into a new channel when in May 1892 he became associate editor of "Electricity," a popular electrical weekly first issued in Chicago July 22, 1891, and subsequently moved to New York with the issue of

December 16, 1891. The publication was "devoted to the advancement of electrical interests," and emphasized & the "popular and practical as well as technical and theoretical."

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ With his training and wide practical experience, the understanding and interpretation of the tremendously rapid development of that promotional era in electrical history was a task well handled by Mr. Metcalfe, who became editor of the publication with the issue of June 29, 1892. From 1897 until 1899 he was a member of the New York firm of Metcalfe and Moeller, actively engaged in the maintenance and repair of electrical machinery, incandescent lamps, and associated equipment.

Again turning into the editorial channel, Mr. Metcalfe became technical editor of the "Street Railway Review," published in Chicago, Ill., serving in that capacity from 1899 to 1904. ~~THE~~ Mr. Metcalfe's last reported venture in the field of strictly engineering application was his service during 1903 and 1904 as electrical engineer for the Wood Motor Vehicle Company. (————). Following this,


he became editor of "Technical World," also published in
(1904-5)
Chicago; during this same time he edited text-books for
the American School of Correspondence in Chicago.

On April 16, 1906, Mr. Metcalfe was called to
Pittsburgh, Pa. by the Westinghouse Electric and
Manufacturing Company, to become "editor of the publica-
tion department," a position of responsibility which he
filled with high credit until he severed his connection with
the Westinghouse Company ~~on~~ December 1, 1909. Sub-
sequent to that he became associated with the publication
department of the General Electric Company at Schenectady,
N.Y., where he remained until he came to A.I.E.E. head-
quarters in New York in February 1910, as Institute editor.

In addition to the other activities mentioned
Mr. Metcalfe edited technical articles for the International
Encyclopedia (1904-5) and during 1926-1927, edited the
"Proceedings" of the Institute of Radio Engineers. At
one time, Mr. Metcalfe was a member of the American
Institute of Electrical Engineers, having been elected
as an Associate April 19, 1892, transferred to full

membership November 15, 1892, but subsequently resigning^{ed}

May 1, 1898. On November 8, 1899, Mr. Metcalfe married Grace Darling Brown; their living children are: Richmond (deceased), Winthrop, Donald, George, and Grace Elizabeth. For many years the Metcalfe home was at Middletown, N.Y., ^(where Winthrop still resides) but more recently established at Hewlett, Long Island, N.Y., where the family now is situated.



~~20 to him~~

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