

**The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University**  
**Ohio State Engineer**

**Title:** Back Matter

**Issue Date:** May-1922

**Publisher:** Ohio State University, College of Engineering

**Citation:** Ohio State Engineer, vol. 5, no. 4 (May, 1922).

**URI:** <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35049>

**Appears in Collections:** [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 5, no. 4 \(May, 1922\)](#)



## Benjamin G. Lamme

VISITORS at the Chicago World's Fair, in 1893, saw the first extensive use of alternating current ever undertaken, when Westinghouse lighted the entire grounds with this type of current. This achievement marked the beginning of the commercial development of alternating current for power purposes, and brought the induction motor into a prominence which it has never since relinquished. Great and rapid have been the developments since that day, but the most impressive aspect of this progress is not to be found in the spectacular evidences that are visible to everyone, but rather, in the vision and fundamental soundness and determination that have been quietly at work blazing and clearing the trails which the electrical art has followed.

There is, for instance, the synchronous converter. This machine is the most efficient and economical means for changing alternating to direct current, which the operation of most street railway systems and many other processes require. Without it, the development of alternating current to its present universal usefulness would have been tremendously retarded.

The synchronous converter, in its present perfection, is but one of the great contributions to electrical progress that have been made by Benjamin G. Lamme, Chief Engineer of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company. Mr. Lamme, in 1891 when he was Chief Designer, conceived and developed the converter, which, first used commercially in connection with the

great Niagara power plan, has since come to be indispensable to large producers of power.

When a man has played so vital a part in electrical progress that his knowledge and vision have contributed to practically every forward engineering step, it is perhaps misleading to attempt to identify him particularly with any one development. His work on the induction motor, the turbo generator, the single-phase railway motor, and the synchronous converter is but typical of the constructive ability which Mr. Lamme has brought to bear on practically every phase of electrical development.

A man of foresight, visioning the alternatives in a problem as well as its hoped-for results. A man whose mind combines great power of analysis with the gift of imagination. A prolific technical writer, whose style is unequalled in clearness and simplicity of expression. Few engineers so thoroughly predetermine the results they actually achieve. Few men capitalize their experiences so completely. And few indeed have at once his thorough technical equipment, his commercial understanding, and his broad human interests.

An institution which has builded its success largely on engineering achievement pays Benjamin G. Lamme affectionate loyalty and respect. The young engineer on his first job, as well as the most seasoned co-worker, finds in him understanding, sympathy, wise counsel, and a conscience; to all of which his associates, in preparing this article, are proud to bear witness.

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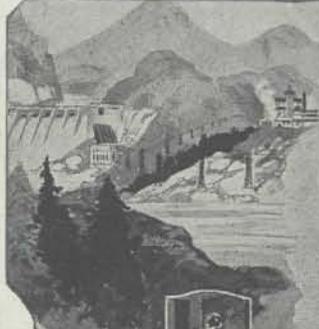
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# Westinghouse

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GENERATION



AIR PURIFICATION



HEADQUARTERS  
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY  
SCHENECTADY N. Y.

## A Gateway to Progress

There it stands—a simple forty-foot gateway but unlike any other in the entire world. Through it have come many of the engineering ideas that have made this an electrical America.

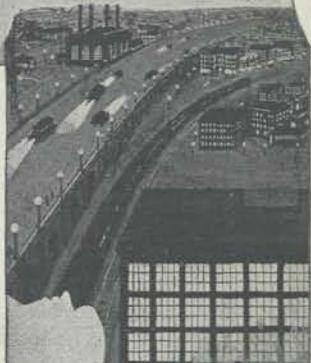
The story of electrical development begins in the Research Laboratories. Here the ruling spirit is one of knowledge—truth—rather than immediate practical results. In this manner are established new theories—tools for future use—which sooner or later find ready application.

The great industries that cluster around Niagara Falls, the electrically driven battleships, the trolley cars and electrified railways that carry millions, the lamps that glow in homes and streets, the household conveniences that have relieved women of drudgery, the labor-saving electrical tools of factories, all owe their existence, partly at least, to the co-ordinated efforts of the thousands who daily stream through this gateway.

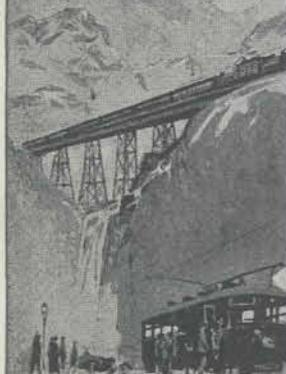
**General Electric**  
General Office Company Schenectady, N. Y.  
95-511-H



TRANSMISSION



LIGHT



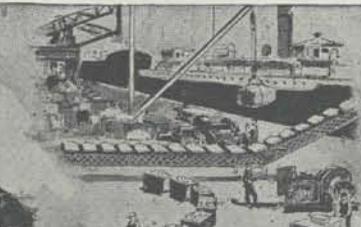
TRANSPORTATION



HEAT



MARINE ELECTRIFICATION



MATERIAL HANDLING



FARM ELECTRIFICATION



HOME CONVENIENCES