

WILLIAM S. LEE

ENGINEER, COUNSELLOR, INVENTOR REPRESENTS ONE OF THE SOUTHLAND'S OUTSTANDING PIONEERS IN ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT

WILLIAM STATES LEE, Vice-President and Chief Engineer of the Duke Power Company, et al, and renowned consultant in matters of engineering and industry, was born in North Carolina at Lancaster in 1872 and comes from the same old English stock from which originated the Virginia ancestors of General Robert E. Lee.

Mr. Lee's father was a professor of languages and created an atmosphere of culture in the home that did much to excite his son's early desire for knowledge. At the age of 12 the boy accompanied his uncle, Major Thomas B. Lee, on many of his surveying trips and thus obtained his first idea of the tremendous power and potentialities of water. These trips inspired him to study engineering.

Later he won a free scholarship to the South Carolina Military Academy in a competitive examination. In return for this benefit he was expected to devote two years to teaching, following his graduation. This obligation he fulfilled faithfully. And so it was in 1894 before he was able to commence his engineering career.

Mr. Lee's first job was in railroad construction followed later by a connection with the Anderson Light & Power Company where he soon became resident engineer. During the Spanish-American War he was with the United States Engineers on coast defense work. Here his ability attracted marked attention and an assign-

ment by the Duke Power interests in 1905, where his services have been valued in the highest degree ever since.

Mr. Lee is looked upon as one of the country's foremost pioneers in water power development. Much of the industrial advancement in the Carolinas can be credited to his individual effort and ability. It is said that he literally changed the industrial geography of these states by his hydro-electric enterprises embracing power stations aggregating 540,000 H.P. furnishing energy to a vast network of transmission lines.

Among Mr. Lee's long list of masterpieces will always be mentioned the *Saguenay* development at Isle Maligne, P.Q., in Canada, an enormous hydro-electric project on the Saguenay River and operated under the

name of the Duke-Price Power Company, Ltd. In 1922 the site was but a wilderness. Permission to start construction was acquired that year with the understanding that the project was to be completed by January, 1926. Ground was broken January 3rd, 1923, and power was furnished March, 1925, almost a year earlier than the time limit. Among the industries made possible through this development are a paper mill producing 600,000 tons of newsprint paper annually, and the world's largest aluminum plant.

As an inventor, as well, Mr. Lee has ac-

(Continued on Page 10.)



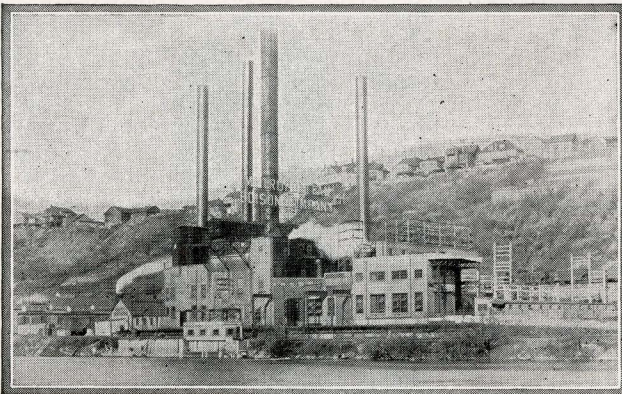
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(Continued from Page 6.)

quired considerable prominence. Perhaps his best known and most widely used invention is the *Lee All-Metal Insulator Pin*. Under the provisions of the late Mr. Duke's will, Mr. Lee was made a trustee of the *Duke Fund* of some \$80,000,000 which is to be administered for the benefit of colleges and hospitals in North Carolina. Mr. Lee is a *Fellow* of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, a *Member* of the American Society of Civil Engineers, of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and of the Engineering Institute of Canada. His interest in industrial progress has likewise made him a valued member of the Southern Manufacturing Association. He is *President* and *Chief Engineer* of the Piedmont & Northern Railway Co., *Vice-President* and *Chief Engineer* of the Duke Power Company, the Great Falls Power Company, Wateree Power Company, the Western Carolina Power Co., the Catawba Power Co., Catawba Mfg. & Electric Power Co., the Duke-Price Power Co., the Quebec Development Co., and a *Director* of the American Cyanamid Company.

While of dignified yet pleasing bearing, Mr. Lee possesses one of those cordial delightful personalities so characteristic of the traditional Southern gentleman. His knowledge, his experience and his unique ability makes his opinion ever in demand. His counsel in matters of engineering and industry is being constantly solicited.



Metro-Edison Plant

THIS is a view of the steam electric generating plant of the Metropolitan Edison Company at Easton, Pennsylvania, an Associated Gas & Electric property. This property was formerly a part of the General Gas & Electric Corporation recently acquired by the Associated System.



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