

27 20-47

Nominee for President, ASEE

Blake D. Hull

Chief Engineer Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

FEB 18 1947

A.I.E.E. Activities

For over thirty years Mr. Hull has been active in the work of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Starting as an Associate in 1915, he became a Member in 1926, and a Fellow in 1939.

During his early Institute years he participated actively in the affairs of the St. Louis Section serving on various committees. He was Section Chairman for the year 1925-1926.

In 1928 Mr. Hull was elected Vice President of the Institute, representing the Seventh District. Two years previously, when he had moved to Texas, there were only three Sections in the Seventh District, St. Louis, Kansas City and Oklahoma. He set to work promptly and energetically in promoting the organization of additional Sections and during his term of Vice President was largely instrumental in the establishment of Sections in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio and in the reorganization of the Oklahoma Section as the Oklahoma City Section. Within a short time of its organization, the Dallas Section under his direction was host for the 1929 District Meeting.

Mr. Hull served as Director of the Institute for the 1931-1935 term. In 1944 he served as General Chairman of the Convention Committee for the Summer Convention held in St. Louis.

He has served on the following Committees of the Institute:

Communication	1928-29, 1931-32, 1933-35
Nominating	1931
Technical Program	1931-35
Institute Policy	1938-40
Transfers	1945-

He is currently a member of the Committee on Transfers and of the Subcommittee on Professional Development.

Professional Achievement

Graduating from the University of Kansas in 1905 with a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering, Mr. Hull was employed in Kansas City the same year by the former Missouri and Kansas Telephone Company. For the next five years he was a construction engineer concerned with designing all types of outside telephone plant. In 1910 he was appointed to the newly created job of Transmission and Protection Engineer for the same company. Upon the merging of the Missouri and Kansas with other companies in 1912 to form the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, Mr. Hull was transferred to St. Louis and made General Transmission and Protection Engineer for the entire territory of the new company, comprising the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and a small part of Illinois. He continued in this position until 1925, when he became General Building and Equipment Engineer for the same territory. A year later he was appointed Area Engineer for Texas, in which capacity he was for ten years in charge of all phases of engineering in the state. In 1936, he was appointed Chief Engineer of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, which position he now occupies.

During the period in which he has been Chief Engineer, Mr. Hull has been directly responsible for the engineering design of additions to the telephone plant throughout the five Southwestern States. In this period the number of telephones served has doubled and the amount of telephone plant in service under his engineering jurisdiction has increased to more than a half billion dollars.

During the war Mr. Hull spent about a year and a half with the Construction Section of the Office of Production Management (later the War Production Board). Subsequently he served for a year as Consultant for the Defense Plant Corporation. In both capacities he was actively concerned with checking the progress of numerous war construction projects and recommending measures for expediting the work.

Under the automatic retirement rules of the Bell System, Mr. Hull will retire from active service October 1, 1947. If he is elected President of the Institute for the 1947-1948 term, he will be free to give full attention to the duties of that office. He will bring to the office a wide experience in the activities and the management of the Institute, a distinguished record of professional achievement and the wisdom and character which has won him the affectionate esteem of a very wide circle of friends.

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