

Bert Lord, New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, N. Y., representing the group of administrative officials and departments;

T. D. Pratt, Motor Truck Association, New York City, representing the owners and operators of motor vehicles;

G. G. Kelcey, American Gas Accumulator Company, Newark, N. J., representing the group of automotive accessory, signs and signal manufacturers;

A. H. Rudd, Safety Section, American Railway Association, representing the railroads;

W. P. Young, general manager, National Automobile Underwriters Conference, representing the group of insurance interests on the sectional committee;

W. P. Eno, of the Eno Foundation, Washington, D. C., representing the group of scientific and technical societies;

Harry Meixell, of the Motor Vehicle Conference Committee, New York City, representing the motor vehicle manufacturers;

and the three officers of the sectional committee.

The sectional committee by resolution invited the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of the United States to participate in the work of the committee. It was also decided at the organization meeting of the sectional committee to appoint a sub-committee to investigate the efficiency of all color signals now in use as traffic signals, and where possible to ascertain the reasons for adopting certain colors for specific uses. This committee will investigate the use of various types of semaphores and silent policemen. Another committee will make an original study of specific colors for definite uses as a check upon previous researches and to establish certain colors for traffic signals. A third committee will study non-luminous signs and signals and propose, after thorough research, signs of definite colors and shapes for highways and also for railroad crossings.

THE CHARLES A. COFFIN FOUNDATION

ON May 16, 1922, Mr. Charles A. Coffin, in his seventy-eighth year, retired from the active leadership of the General Electric Company. Mr. Coffin has been identified with the development of the electrical industry since 1882. He was the founder and creator of the General

Electric Company, of which he has been the inspiration and leader for thirty years. As an expression of appreciation of Mr. Coffin's great work not only for the General Electric Company but also for the entire electrical industry and with the desire to make this appreciation enduring and constructive as Mr. Coffin's life and work have been, the board of directors of the General Electric Company created on his retirement and now desire to announce the "Charles A. Coffin Foundation."

A fund of \$400,000, to be known as the "Charles A. Coffin Foundation," has been set aside and the income, amounting to approximately \$20,000 per year, will be available for encouraging and rewarding service in the electrical field by giving prizes to its employees, recognition to lighting, power and railway companies for improvement in service to the public and fellowships to graduate students and funds for research work at technical schools and colleges. The foundation will be controlled and administered by a foundation committee appointed by the board. This committee, within the limits of the purposes for which the foundation is created, will have power to change the conditions applicable to the distribution of the fund and the amounts for each particular purpose.

The committee proposes to distribute the income of the foundation as follows:

First. Eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) in prizes for the most signal contributions by employees of the General Electric Company toward the increase of its efficiency or progress in the electrical art. Particularly, the prizes are to further encourage suggestions from workmen. With each prize, the company will give a certificate of award.

Second. A gold medal, to be known as the "Charles A. Coffin Medal," will be awarded annually to the public utility operating company within the United States which, during the year, has made the greatest contribution towards increasing the advantages of the use of electric light and power for the convenience and well-being of the public and the benefit of the industry. The company receiving the medal will also receive one thousand (\$1,000) for its employees' benefit or similar fund.

Third. A gold medal, to be known as the "Charles A. Coffin Medal," will be awarded annually to the electric railway company within the United States which, during the year, has made the greatest contribution towards increasing the advantages of electric transportation for the convenience and well-being of the public and the benefit of the industry. The company receiving the medal will also receive one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for its employees' benefit or similar fund.

Fourth. Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) is to be awarded annually for fellowships to graduates of American colleges and technical schools who, by the character of their work, and on the recommendation of the faculty of the institution where they have studied, could with advantage continue their research work either here or abroad; or some portion or all of the fund may be used to further the research work at any of the colleges or technical schools in the United States. The fields in which these fellowships and funds for research work are to be awarded are: Electricity; physics; physical chemistry.

A committee appointed by the foundation committee will award such fellowships and funds for research work, with the advice and cooperation of a committee of three, one to be appointed by each of the following: The National Academy of Sciences, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. This committee is to be known as the "Charles A. Coffin Fellowship and Research Fund Committee" and the fellowships are to be known as the "Charles A. Coffin Fellowships."

The board of directors of the General Electric Company has appointed as the "Charles A. Coffin Foundation Committee" the following officers of the company: A. W. Burchard, J. R. Lovejoy, E. W. Rice, Jr., Gerard Swope and O. D. Young.

The following committee, to administer the fund and to act with organizations outside the company, have been appointed:

Committee to cooperate with the National Electric Light Association: A. H. Jackson, J. R. Lovejoy, vice-presidents.

Committee to cooperate with the American Electric Railway Association: J. G. Barry and A. H. Jackson, vice-presidents.

Committee to cooperate with the National

Academy of Sciences, American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education: E. W. Rice, Jr., honorary chairman, A. H. Jackson, vice-president, and W. R. Whitney, director of research laboratory.

THE SOCIETY OF SIGMA XI

THE annual convention of the Society of the Sigma Xi will be held in Cambridge on December 27, at the time of the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The program of the convention includes the following:

2:30 P.M. Business session.

6:15 P.M. Annual dinner.

8:45 P.M. Joint meeting with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Address, "The Nation and its Health," by President Farrand of Cornell University.

The chapters of Sigma Xi are entitled to delegates with the right to vote at the business session. Attendance at the business session or the dinner or the evening address is not limited to delegates. All members of the society are invited to be present and will be welcome at all the meetings. A special desk for the registration of members of Sigma Xi will be provided in the registration bureau of the association, where programs and dinner tickets may be secured. Clerks will be in attendance at this registration desk on December 26 and 27.

The business session of the convention will be one of unusual importance, since a complete revision of the constitution of the society is to be brought up for adoption. The revision has been made necessary by the growth of the society as well as by the expansion of its work. Sigma Xi is no longer a society of a few chapters scattered among the educational institutions of the country, but it is a large organization numbering thirty-eight chapters in universities and in some of the research institutions of the country. In addition to this active membership there are scattered over the country and the world some fifteen thousand members of Sigma Xi, who by the provisions of the new constitution will be brought into closer touch with the work of the society. All