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THOMAS ALVA EDISON

TRIBUTES FORMING A MEMORIAL PROGRAM GIVEN AT THE NEW ORLEANS MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

AN APPRECIATION OF MR. EDISON BASED ON PERSONAL ACQUAINTANCE

By Dr. CHARLES L. EDGAR

PRESIDENT OF THE EDISON ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY OF BOSTON

I AM deeply honored by being asked to address your association, especially upon the subject assigned to me. I note that I am to be followed by three addresses, having to do with the achievements of Mr. Edison, and it is, perhaps, fitting that I should try to give you, in the few minutes at my disposal, a somewhat personal picture of the man as an individual, a friend and an associate. This will, I hope, give a sympathetic setting to the remarks of those who come after me. If I can give you a little of the Edison atmosphere, I think I will have accomplished my purpose.

I have been associated with him or with companies

that bore his name for practically fifty years, and I am afraid that, in telling you of some of the incidents connected with our acquaintanceship, I may bring myself too much into the picture. This, I fear, is unavoidable, and I therefore apologize in advance for possibly being too personal.

I was brought up in the Edison atmosphere. I spent my boyhood vacations on my grandfather's farm, located within a few miles of the renowned Menlo Park, where Edison carried on his most important work. We had to pass the laboratory in going to the nearest village, and I came to know the surroundings and the general talk of the neighborhood as to

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