



LIFE MEMBERS V. W. O. A.

The Association announces many Life Members on its rolls and is very hopeful of extending this list as eligible Members feel inclined. These Members have indicated to the Membership and the radio industry that they have faith in the Association's permanence with its aims and purposes. In becoming a Life Member one is marked as one who is heartily in sympathy with the splendid activities of the Association, and indicates his support and regard. A beautiful hand engrossed Certificate is furnished all Members of this distinguished class.

We regret that lack of space prevents a more detailed biography of our Life Members. However, we have attempted to state in brief a few words concerning these gentlemen.



E. A. NICHOLAS

E. A. NICHOLAS, General Sales Manager, R.C.A. Victor. Began his career with the old United Wireless, back in 1909, serving on board many vessels as a wireless operator. He later was promoted to shore duty at New Orleans and then became Supt. of the R.C.A. Marine Division on the Great Lakes. In 1924 he was made Ass't to Mr. Sarnoff, Vice-Pres. and General Manager of the Radio Corporation. Mr. Nicholas' advancement was rapid until he became head of the R.C.A. Victor Co., Radiola Division. Resigning this position he organized his own Company as distributor of R.C.A. Products in Chicago. A spectacular career and an example to every embryo young operator of today.



FREDERICK A. KOLSTER

FREDERICK A. KOLSTER, Radio Engineer, International Telegraph & Telephone Company. He was associated with the Stone Telegraph and Telephone Company from 1902 to 1909 at the same time attending Harvard University in a special course from 1904 to 1908. From 1909 to 1911 Mr. Kolster was connected with the De Forest Radio Company and from 1912 to 1918 he entered the Government service with the Bureau of Standards, as Chief of the Radio Section. From 1918 to 1931 he was Chief Research Engineer with the Federal Telegraph Company at Palo Alto, Calif.

He was designated by the State Department as Technical Adviser to the U. S. Delegates representing the Department of Commerce at the International Radio Conference in London, 1912.

He is a pioneer in the development of radio communication; inventor of the Kolster decremete, the Kolster Radio Compass and directional systems for radio communication. A Fellow of both I.R.E. and A.I.E.E.



C. W. HORN

CHARLES W. HORN, General Engineer, N.B.C., is one of the high-lights in the broadcasting world. Commencing as a youthful amateur back in 1910, he secured a commercial license and sailed the seven seas. Served in the Navy as Lieutenant during the war. Became Manager of the Westinghouse radio operations. A pioneer in the development of short wave transmission. Since his connection with N.B.C. he has been personally responsible for many outstanding feats in re-broadcast from foreign countries. He is regarded as one of the world's foremost authorities on radio broadcasting. A Fellow of the I.R.E., Lt. Comdr. in the Naval Reserve and a member of numerous clubs and societies. Never too busy to cooperate in V.W.O.A. affairs.

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B. J. MIESSNER



DAVID SARNOFF



COL. SAMUEL REBER

BENJAMIN J. MIESSNER, President Miessner Inventions Inc. Started his radio career in the U. S. Navy, graduated from the Naval Electrical School in 1908 and served as operator and operator-in-charge of various Naval Radio ship and shore stations. He became associated with John Hays Hammond, Jr. in torpedo control research work and later coordinated with Fritz Lowenstein. Attended Purdue University in Electrical Engineering until 1916. Was appointed Expert Radio Aide for Aviation in the Navy Dept. until 1917. Research Engineer with Emil J. Simon, Naval Radio Contractor during the World War. Acoustical expert, Brunswick Balke Collendar Company in development of electrical recording and reproduction until 1922. Various connections as Chief and Consulting Engineer of many radio manufacturing concerns and author of many radio publications. A well-known inventor and Licenser to various radio manufacturers. Has about 25 U. S. and foreign patents and about 40 pending applications to date. Had a first grade Commercial Radio Operators license in 1913. With his charming wife and two lovely children he occupies a beautiful mansion in Short Hills, N. J.

DAVID SARNOFF, President and Director of many Radio Corporation subsidiaries, commenced his career as a wireless operator in 1907. with the Marconi Company. His progress in the radio industry has been most spectacular as he has climbed the ladder of success step by step. Mr. Sarnoff's directorships business associations, society memberships and club affiliations would fill a volume. He has an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science from the St. Lawrence University. Is a Fellow I.R.E., Member A.I.E.E., N. Y. Society for Electrical Development, Economic Club of N. Y. and Fellow American Geographical Society. He was appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. Army Reserve Corps in 1924. A genuine Veteran operator by virtue of his many and early years as a wireless operator with the Marconi Company. His beautiful clean-cut Morse while he was attached to the Wanamaker Station will always be remembered by operators of that era. The story of Mr. Sarnoff's life is worthy of the aspirations of every young man today and reads like a story from Horatio Alger and could well be titled "From Messenger Boy to President of the World's Largest Communication System". His interests in the affairs and activities of the Association are continuous and intense.

SAMUEL REBER, Colonel U. S. Army (retired), General Foreign Representative, Radio Corporation of America. He was graduated from the West Point Military Academy in 1886 and graduated from John Hopkins in Electrical Engineering in 1894. He was commissioned a Major in the Volunteer Signal Corps during the Spanish War and later promoted to Lt.-Colonel and Chief Signal Officer. In July 1900 he was commissioned a Captain in the Signal Corps of the regular Army and became Colonel in 1916. During the World War, Colonel Reber served in France with the 28th and 88th Divisions on active duty. His Army service was most active and varied, covering many campaigns and departmental duties. In 1900 he was actively engaged in the development of the first American System of Radio Telegraphy. Is a licensed balloon pilot and served extensively in the Aviation Section of the Army Signal Corps. The author of many technical papers and books, a Fellow in the Institute of Radio Engineers and the recipient of the Fourth Order of the Rising Sun, an Officer de l'Etoile Noire.

(Ed. note: We regret that space does not permit a more detailed biography of Colonel Reber's brilliant career, his contributions to the art of radio telegraphy and allied science.)

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C. J. PANNILL



W. E. BEAKES



G. W. JOHNSTONE

CHARLES J. PANNILL, Executive Vice-President Radiomarine Corporation of America. Entered the radio service in early 1902 with Prof. Fessenden. He was Superintendent in the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America in 1912. When the Naval Communications system was organized in 1914 Mr. Pannill was appointed Expert Radio Aide to the Director. In January 1919 he organized the Independent Wireless Telegraph Company and on January 1, 1928 became Vice-President and Director of the Radiomarine Corporation of America, later Executive Vice-President. He is also Vice-President Comite International Radio-Maritime, composed of 14 foreign radio companies. Is a member of the Sleepy Hollow Country Club, American Yacht Club, New York Club, Whitehall Club, National Geographical Society, Society of Marine Architects and Naval Engineers and a Fellow in the I.R.E. Mr. Pannill is considered one of America's outstanding authorities on radio communications. He is keenly interested in the Association and ever helpful in its affairs.

WM. E. BEAKES, Vice-President and General Manager, Tropical Radio Telegraph Company. He served in the Signal Corps of the U. S. Army in many campaigns installing telegraph-telephone lines in the Philippine Islands and conducting early radio experiments in the Signal Corps in 1903. He was associated with Prof. Fessenden from 1904 until 1912 when he became Chief Engineer of the Tropical Radio Tel. Co., which took over the United Fruit Company's radio operations. Was appointed to his present position in 1928. Mr. Beakes was in charge of engineering design and construction of the present and former Central American system operated by the Tropical Co. Was appointed delegate to the Hague International Radio Conference in 1929, by the Governments of Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras. He is a member of various Technical and Management Committees in Washington on preparation of International radio regulations. Was appointed a Lieutenant-Commander in the communications branch of the Naval Reserve in 1930.

G. W. JOHNSTONE, Manager Press Relations, National Broadcasting Company. Mr. Johnstone was an amateur operator and experimenter in 1910 and when War was declared he entered the Navy and graduated from the Newport Training Station. Was assigned to the Naval Radio School at Harvard University as Code Instructor. He was transferred to sea duty at his own request and saw service on many ammunition ships in the war zone. Was radio operator on the SS George Washington when President Wilson made his second trip to Europe in February 1919. In July 1919 he engaged in his two hobbies, newspaper work and leader in his own jazz band and later became associated with Vincent Lopez's orchestra. Mr. Johnstone fore-saw broadcasting possibilities but found no opportunities open in his chosen lines of publicity or music. Seeking to become familiar with broadcasting from the inside he accepted a position as control operator at WEAF. In October 1924 he became the head of publicity at that station. When the NBC was formed he was made Manager of Press Relations which position he now occupies.

LIFE MEMBERS V. W. O. A.



FRED MULLER



E. E. BUCHER



A. F. VAN DYCK

FRED MULLER, Marine Radio Superintendent Tropical Radio Telegraph Company. Entered the Radio field in 1908, graduating from the Naval Electrical School and assigned to the Fleet. He joined the United Fruit Company (Radio Dept.) in 1912 as Operator and later became Inspector, having charge of installations aboard ships. In 1917 he served as Officer-in-Charge Armed Guard (Radio Section). In 1919 he returned to his former civil capacity and later was appointed to his present position with the Tropical Radio Telegraph Company (subsidiary of the United Fruit Company).

Under his supervision vessels of that Company were equipped with Direction Finders, high and low frequency apparatus, and all spark transmitters discarded.

As Marine Radio Superintendent Mr. Muller is in charge of all Marine activities of the Tropical Company. He is a Lieutenant in the Naval Reserves. He was Secretary of the V.W.O.A. during 1930 and President in 1931. The progress of the V.W.O.A. during the past many months is due in great part to his faithful interest and abilities.

ELMER E. BUCHER, Assistant Vice-President R.C.A., joined the DeForest Wireless Company as Experimental Engineer in 1903. In this connection he constructed several high-power wireless stations and was engaged in very important experimental work. He was also responsible for many wireless installations on shore and aboard ship. In 1909 he organized a training school for the United Wireless Company and was later appointed Construction Engineer and Chief Inspector of that Company. The first radio school in New York City was initiated by him in 1910. When the Marconi Company absorbed the United Wireless in 1912 he joined the latter Company as Construction Engineer. Mr. Bucher is the author of many technical works. He was appointed Commercial Engineer of the R.C.A. in 1920, and later became the Manager of their Sales Department. In October 1927 he became Assistant Vice-President of the R.C.A. With the formation of the RCA Photophone in April 1928 he was appointed Vice-President in charge of commercial matters and on January 1, 1929 became Executive Vice-President. On November 1, 1929 he again assumed his duties of Assistant Vice-President of the R.C.A. which position he now occupies.

ARTHUR F. VAN DYCK, Radio Engineer, Patent Dept. R.C.A. Graduated from Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University in 1911 with a Ph. B. Degree. He was an amateur experimenter and commercial operator at sea (United Wireless Co.) from 1907 to 1910. After graduation he engaged in radio research with Prof. Fessenden at Brant Rock, Mass. for the National Electric Signaling Co. until 1912. He was connected with the Research Department of Westinghouse Electric Co. from 1912 to 1914. From 1914 to 1917 he was Instructor in Electrical Engineering at Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pa. In April 1917, Mr. Van Dyck was called into the U. S. Navy as Expert Radio Aide and stationed at New York Navy Yard and Washington, D. C. until June 1919. In 1919 he joined the Marconi Co. at Aldene, N. J. From 1920 to 1922 he had charge of radio receiver design for General Electric Co. at Schenectady, N. Y. Since 1922 he has been associated with R.C.A. Companies and is now Engineer of the Patent and License Department of the R.C.A. He is a Charter Member, Fellow and Director of the I.R.E.; Member of Engineers', Yale, Dunwoody Clubs and Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserve.

(**EDITOR'S NOTE:** It is regretted that the photo and biography of ALONZO S. CARROLL were not available for publication in this Year Book)