



Before Alternating Current Dominated the Electrical Industry *S S S*

What Engineering Owes to the Far-Sightedness of George Westinghouse



The pathways of power are the highways of progress

THE impregnable position now occupied by alternating current was attained only after a bitter struggle, for, due to its supposedly deadly characteristics, practically the entire electrical fraternity once opposed the progress of what was generally referred to as "Westinghouse Current."

Gaulard and Gibbs originated the alternating current system in Europe. Their system was impractical in many respects, but had been used with some success for lighting.

George Westinghouse became interested, and immediately recognized that the weakness of their system lay in the design and principles governing the transformer.

He devoted the resources of his organization to the development of the transformer. When he made it a practical unit, alternating current, with its vast commercial advantages, then became possible.

The beginning of the bitter struggle by George Westinghouse for the supremacy of alternating current goes back to 1885 and 1886. Remarkable progress has been made since then and voltages as high as 220,000 are in commercial use today.

Engineering owes much to the far-sightedness and fighting qualities of George Westinghouse.

Westinghouse

ACHIEVEMENT & OPPORTUNITY

