



RALPH ROBERT ROSS

Thesis: *Proposed Hydro-Electric Power Development on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama.*

Armour Branch, A. I. E. E.

Nebraska Club, Pres. (4)

Nebraska has sent us so many students that, in her honor, we have at Armour the Nebraska Club. Perhaps it may not be out of place to introduce to you the president of the Nebraska Club. Born March 6, in our favorite year, 1890, Ralph R. Ross became a member of the community of Omaha. His early education was obtained in Omaha and Blair, Nebraska, where, as his name suggests, he was an earnest follower of the three R's.

Theoretically we heard little of Ralph until the end of his third year when, by means of his junior thesis, he blossomed forth as an ardent exponent of the electron theory. Practically, we heard from him every day. Even in his early college years the dynamo laboratory seemed to have an intangible fascination for him and for the past year it has been his favorite pastime to saunter in during an afternoon and ask the rest of us questions we cannot answer. If the draughting room only held half the fascination of the dynamo lab. our Nebraska representative would surely have been the chief draughtsman for some growing concern.

Ralph R. Ross seems to have a regard for southern natural resources for he cast his lot with the group whose task was to Design a 36,000 H. P. Hydroelectric Power plant on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama. The location of this historic stream is given elsewhere. Since his regard for the drawing board is not very strong, we may suppose that he did most of the theoretical work and the preliminary as well as final calculations.

Whether or not Ross will ever fish in the Tallapoosa river above the dam we are not prepared to state, but we confidently believe that, when he is not engaged in working out a new theory for alternating current phenomena, he will be holding down the chair of Electrical Engineering in one of our technical schools.