

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WILLIAM BRYAN DUNCAN

William Bryan Duncan, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, died in Palo Alto on December 18 at the age of 33.

He graduated from Stanford in 1925, and received the degree of Engineer in 1926. In the succeeding year and a half he was engaged in engineering work for the Standard Oil Company of California, and then returned to Stanford as instructor, and later as Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering.

His premature death cut short a career of unusual promise. During his academic career Professor Duncan specialized in lightning, illumination, and transmission line design. He took a prominent part in the lightning investigations carried on jointly by a group of oil companies after the disastrous oil tank farm fires of 1927, and devoted a number of summers to field studies in connection with this project. In the past several years he was actively interested in developing illumination work in the University, and with the cooperation of industrial interests was placing instruction in this field upon a firm and permanent basis.

He was an effective teacher and had the respect and confidence of his students, as evidenced by the fact that he had been chosen by the students of the A.I.E.E. Branch as their faculty advisor. He had the true pioneering spirit, and an intellectual curiosity that led him forever forward into new things. To his immediate associates he was not only an enthusiastic worker, but also a friend, always cheerful, helpful, and cooperative, whose passing leaves a gap that will be slow in closing.

Therefore, be it resolved, that a copy of this resolution be inscribed on the minutes of the Academic Council, and that a copy be transmitted to the Board of Trustees, and to Mrs. Duncan.

C. P. Stone
L. L. Burlingame
F. E. Terman, Ch.