

William Comings White, born in Brooklyn in 1890, became a wireless experimenter by 1904. He received an E. E. degree from Columbia University in 1912. He was immediately hired by the General Electric Company, assigned to tube research and development, and retired in 1955. Beginning about 1917, White assembled a considerable portfolio of U. S. patents. He held a long series of offices with the Institute of Radio Engineers: director, treasurer, and committee chairman in multiple areas, and was elected a Fellow in 1940. He represented the IRE on the Board of the National Electronics Conference.



He authored a long series of technical articles in *Electronics*, the *Proceedings of the IRE*, and the *GE Review* (example: "The Pliotron Oscillator for Extreme Frequencies," *GE Rev.*, 1916.

White died in 1965.

Beginning in the early '20s, the author assembled a major collection of tubes - salvaged laboratory samples, items solicited from the public, and tubes gotten from other sources. He later presented some of these to collectors Howard Schrader, Joseph Fetsch, and Gerald Tyne.