

T. E. MURRAY DIES; FAMOUS INVENTOR

He Held 1,100 Patents, Second to Edison in Nation—Lauded for War Device.

MEDAL FOR SAFETY AIDS

He Was Associated With the Late A. N. Brady in Mergers in Electric Power Field.

Special to The New York Times

SOUTHAMPTON, L. I., July 21.—Thomas E. Murray, to whom, next to Thomas A. Edison, have been granted more patents than any inventor in the United States, and who was for many years in charge of all the allied Edison companies in New York and Brooklyn and of subsidiaries in Westchester County, died at his Summer home, Wickapogue, Southampton, this morning, after an illness of several months. Mr. Murray's city home was at 783 St. Marks Avenue, Brooklyn. He was sixty-nine years old.

In addition to his activities in the field of electricity and invention, Mr. Murray was active in religious work. He took a prominent part in the affairs of the Catholic Church. His activities were rewarded by his being made a member of the Knights of St. Gregory and of the Knights of Malta. He was one of the few persons in the United States privileged to have mass celebrated in his own home and to maintain an altar there and to have the Host in his home.

Mr. Murray was born in Albany. At an early age he had established a reputation as an expert machinist and attracted the attention of the late Anthony N. Brady. Mr. Brady was then entering the public utilities field, and he placed Mr. Murray in charge of the Municipal Gas Company of Albany. It was while holding that post that Mr. Murray first displayed signs of the inventive genius which was to result in his obtaining patents on more than 1,100 inventions.

Effected Utilities Mergers.

While still a young man Mr. Murray was sent to New York by Mr. Brady to organize and purchase all of the electric franchises in New York and Brooklyn. The mergers which he effected in Brooklyn resulted in what was known as the Edison Electric Illuminating Company of Brooklyn, which was afterward called the Brooklyn Edison Company, Inc.

Mr. Murray's organization work in New York resulted in the formation of the New York Edison Company and the United Light and Electric Power Company. After the consolidations had been effected Mr. Murray was put in complete charge of all the allied Edison companies in New York and Brooklyn and also of subsidiaries in Westchester County. Because of ill health he resigned from the vice chairmanship of the board of the New York Edison Company in November, 1928.

He continued to maintain general supervision of his own corporations, the Metropolitan Engineering Company, the Metropolitan Device Corporation, the Murray Radiator Company and Thomas E. Murray, Inc. He was formerly president of the Association of Illuminating Companies.

Honored for Safety Inventions.

Although his early inventions were confined to the development of electrical and gas appliances, Mr. Murray's knowledge was so broad and his research studies so varied that his work has found its way into almost every modern industry.

His numerous inventions of safety appliances brought to him the Longstreth Medal of Merit from the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia. His method of welding shells during the war and an invention which resulted in the manufacture of 240-millimeter mortar shells brought him high commendation from the War Department.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in St. Gregory's Church, St. John's Place and Brooklyn Avenue, Brooklyn. Mr. Murray is survived by eight children, Joseph, Daniel, Thomas E. Jr., Mrs. Katherine McQuail, Mrs. Anna McDonnell, Mrs. Julia Cuddihy, John F. and Mrs. Marie McDonnell.