



COLONEL E. LESTER JONES

It was with the deepest regret that the International Hydrographic Bureau learnt of the death at his home in Washington, D. C., of Colonel E. L. JONES, Director of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, which occurred on the very day of the opening of the First Supplementary International Hydrographic Conference.

Ernest LESTER JONES, son of Charles HOPKINS and Ada (née LESTER) JONES, was born at East Orange, New Jersey, on 14th April, 1876, and he leaves a widow and two daughters.

He was educated at the High School Orange, N. J., Newark Academy and Princeton University. Degrees:— A. B. & honorary A. M. Princeton University. Held a commission as Hydrographic and Geodetic Engineer.

Was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries in 1913 and Director of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey 1915.

Served in France and Italy during the Great War as Colonel, Division of Military Aeronautics. Decorations:— Officer of the Order of S^t Maurice and Lazarus, Medal of War Fatigue (Italy); Officer of the Legion of Honour (France).

Member of:— American Society of Civil Engineers, Meteorological Society, Seismological Society of America, Federal Board of Surveys and Maps, Explorer's Club of America, and numerous other engineering and scientific organizations.

Member of the International Boundary Commission appointed to fix the boundary between the United States, Canada and Alaska. Member of the First Aerial Patrol Commission of the United States. Member of a number of Government and scientific missions. One of the last of these was his appointment as a Delegate to the International Geographic Congress, 1928, Cambridge, England.

Author of the following U. S. Government publications: "*Alaska Investigations*", "*Hypsometry*", "*Elements of Chart-Making*", "*The Neglected Waters of the Pacific*", "*Safeguard the Gateways of Alaska*", "*Aerial Surveying*", "*Earthquake Investigation in the United States*", "*Tide and Current Investigations*" of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Author of the following (non-official) publications:— "*Evolution of the Nautical Chart*", "*Science and the Earthquake Perils*".

Perhaps his most important contribution to science and engineering had its foundations in his firm conviction that the best of workmen cannot do good work without good tools. Accordingly, as Director of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, he saw to it that modern surveying ships and the best of instrumental equipment were provided for the work of its Engineers. Radio-acoustic Sound Ranging, the Fathometer, and other modern hydrographic instruments and methods were developed largely through his active encouragement. He was not only personally active in research and practical survey work, but was also insistent upon supplying the most modern facilities to the Engineers under his direction.

