

2549

J. FRANKLIN STEVENS
ENGINEER
1811 CHESTNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA



May 28, 1930

Mr. F. L. Hutchinson, Secretary,
American Institute of Electrical Engineers,
33 West 39th. St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

Replying to your letter of May 8th. I request that I be enrolled upon the records as a "Member for Life" with exemption from the payment of annual dues from and including May 1, 1930.

I would like to explain, as I have several times verbally, that this is, with me, a matter of principle. I feel that the Institute should, following the example of the three other national engineering societies, exempt from further annual dues members of 35 years standing without requiring a request from members who may be eligible.

Should the Institute in future years require financial support to replace the dues exempted by the present policy, I would be very willing to contribute an amount at least equal to such dues as I have not paid and to resume the payment of dues during my life.

Very truly yours,

J. Franklin Stevens

To	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	
	DATE	BY
SECRETARY		
CLERK		
ASSISTANT SECRETARY		
MEMBER		
ASSOCIATE MEMBER		
PROBATIONER		
RESERVE		
NON-RESIDENT		
ASSOCIATE		
MEMBER		
ASSOCIATE MEMBER		

June 3, 1930

Mr. J. Franklin Stevens
1811 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Stevens:

In accordance with your letter of May 28, we have recorded your name, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws, upon our list of "Members for Life", without further payment of dues. This exemption applies to the bill which you recently received covering annual dues for the year beginning May 1, 1930, and we have cancelled this bill.

I note that you believe it would have been better had the Constitution been so revised that exemption from dues after thirty-five years' membership would be automatic, without requiring any action from the member concerned. This question, however, was very carefully considered, and inasmuch as it was believed that a considerable number would be entirely willing to continue to pay annual dues, it was decided by the Board of Directors that it would be better to notify each member upon the completion of his thirty-five years of membership, and advise him that upon his acceptance of exemption from dues the necessary record would be made.

In the last paragraph of your letter I note your kind expression that if necessary at any time in the future you will be glad to contribute an amount covering your dues since the exemption took effect. I sincerely hope that it will not be necessary for the Institute to call upon you or others who have made offers of the same nature, and I can say definitely that there is nothing in sight at the present time which indicates that the Institute will not be able to carry on and still exempt all the members of thirty-five years' standing from future payment of dues.

With best regards to yourself and Mrs. Stevens,

I am

Very truly yours

National Secretary

MEMBER FOR LIFE
See Journal
p. 43

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