

OBITUARY

CHARLES DELACOUR LE MAISTRE, C.B.E., who died at his home in Bramley, Surrey, on the 5th July, 1953, was born in Jersey on the 6th January, 1874.

He was educated at Brighton College and by private Tutor between 1882 and 1885, and at the Central Technical College, South Kensington, until 1895. Two years' pupillage under Mr Charles E. Grove, in the Electrical Department of the Thames Ironworks, was followed by four years as Chief Assistant in the same department.

He was appointed Electrical Assistant Secretary of the Engineering Standards Committee from 1902 until 1916, when he succeeded to the post of Secretary. In 1929 the British Engineering Standards Association (successor to the Engineering Standards Committee) was granted a Royal Charter and Mr Le Maistre was appointed Director, a post he retained when the B.E.S.A. changed its name in 1931 to the British Standards Institution. He relinquished this office in 1942, and was appointed Chairman of the Executive Committee until his retirement in 1943.

He then played a prominent part in the formation of the United Nations Standards Co-ordinating Committee, and served as Secretary of that body until its dissolution in 1946 to make way for the International Organization for Standardization. He came to be known as one of the most energetic personalities in the field of international standardization.

Although Mr Le Maistre's early training was in electrical engineering, he was interested in many branches of industry, and for his services in connexion with standardization during the 1914-1918 war he was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He served on the British delegations at several Commonwealth Conferences when matters affecting standardization were discussed. He was a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and also a corporate member of the (British) Institution of Electrical Engineers.

Mr Le Maistre was elected an Associate Member of the Institution in 1907.

He is survived by his widow and a son.