

CARROLL PHILLIPS BASSETT

CARROLL PHILLIPS BASSETT, of Summit, New Jersey, has for many years been closely identified with some of the leading interests of the State, and his executive and financial acumen have earned for him a distinct recognition.

Mr. Bassett was born in Brooklyn, New York, son of Allan Lee and Caroline (Phillips) Bassett. His father was the first president of the Prudential Insurance Company, and for many years, prior to his death in 1892, was prominent in the business life of Newark. On both his father's and his mother's side he traces his ancestry to early colonial times in New York and New England, his first paternal ancestor in this country, John Bassett, having arrived in the New Haven Colony from England in 1638; while his first maternal ancestor in this country, Rev. George Phillips, arrived on the ship "Arabella" with Governor John Winthrop, and was the pastor of the first Congregational church in America, at Watertown, Massachusetts.

Mr. Bassett graduated from the Newark Academy, and entered Lafayette College in 1879, being graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1883, with the degree of Civil Engineer. Pursuing his studies in a post-graduate course, he had the degree of Mining Engineer conferred upon him in 1884 by the same institution, which also honored him with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1888. He supplemented his studies in this country by travel and study for some time in Europe. In the course of his professional work as a civil engineer he has designed and constructed water works, sewerage systems and sewage purification plants, and electric generating and distributing plants in the States of Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware. He was honored with election to the presidency of the New Jersey Sanitary Association, 1892-93. He is a director of and largely interested in the following corporations: The Commonwealth Water and Light Company, Mountain Water Company, West Orange Water Company, Clinton Water Company, Lakewood Water, Light and Power Company, Point Pleasant Electric Light and Power Company, Lakewood Hotel and Land Association, and the First National Bank of Summit, New Jersey.

Mr. Bassett is connected with the following social and other organizations: Phi Delta Theta college fraternity, has filled various offices in the body, including that of president; Phi Beta Kappa college fraternity; American Society of Civil Engineers, American Water Works Association, National Electric Light Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Public Health Association, New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, Washington Association at Morristown, Lakewood Country Club, Highland Club, Canoe Brook Country Club, Baltusrol Golf Club and University Club of New York; for a number of years chairman of the Board of Trade committee for the beautification of Summit, which arranged the purchase by the city of Bonnel Park and completed its preparation.

Mr. Bassett is an author of considerable note in the profession with which he is identified, and among the numerous technical papers he has contributed to the literature of this field are the following: "The Conservation of Streams," "Inland Sewage Disposal," and many others. For a long time he has been a regular lecturer on hydraulics and sanitation at the University of New York, and at Lafayette College, and he is consulting engineer for a number of water companies.

In 1904, Mr. Bassett married Margaret Condit Kinney, daughter of the late Thomas T. Kinney, of Newark. They have three children. Their home, "Beacon Hill," at the summit of the Second Watchung Mountain, at Hobart's Gap, in the city of Summit, is one of the notable homes in the northern section of the State.

[Bassett served as an alumni trustee of Lafayette College from 1898-1904 and 1916-1922 and as a life trustee from 1923-1952.]