

JOHN FRITZ MEDAL  
AND  
EDISON MEDAL

Presentation Ceremonies

A.I.E.E. WINTER CONVENTION



WEDNESDAY EVENING  
JANUARY THE TWENTY-SEVENTH  
NINETEEN-THIRTY-TWO  
EIGHT-THIRTY

ENGINEERING AUDITORIUM  
33 WEST 39TH STREET  
NEW YORK

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## THE JOHN FRITZ MEDAL

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The John Fritz Medal is the honor awarded by representatives of four national engineering societies, having more than sixty thousand members, namely: American Society of Civil Engineers, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and American Institute of Electrical Engineers. In memory of John Fritz, of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, one of America's great pioneers in the iron and steel industries, Honorary Member of several societies, friends and associates, most of whom were members of the four societies, in 1902 established the John Fritz Medal.

The medal is of gold, awarded not oftener than once a year, for notable scientific or industrial achievement, without restriction on account of nationality or sex. It is accompanied with an engraved certificate. This certificate states the origin of the medal, the specific achievement for which the award is made, and bears the names of the members of the Board by which the medal was awarded and the signatures of the President and the Secretary of the Board.



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## MICHAEL IDVORSKY PUPIN

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The 1932 John Fritz Medal was awarded to Dr. Michael I. Pupin, scientist, engineer, author, inventor of the tuning of oscillating circuits and the loading of telephone circuits by inductance coils.

Doctor Pupin, Professor Emeritus in Active Residence, Columbia University, is widely known for his important contributions to knowledge in long distance communication and many other scientific subjects. He has received many degrees including those of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Berlin, Doctor of Science from Columbia and Princeton Universities, and Doctor of Laws from The Johns Hopkins and New York Universities, Muhlenberg College, and other institutions.

His inimitable autobiography "From Immigrant to Inventor" and other writings have given him a high place as an author.

He is a Past President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and a Past Chairman of The Engineering Foundation. He has received the Edison Medal of the A.I.E.E., the Cresson Gold Medal of the Franklin Institute, and other high honors.

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## THE EDISON MEDAL

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The Edison Medal was founded by an organization of associates and friends of Thomas A. Edison who desired to commemorate the achievements of a quarter of a century in the art of electric lighting with which Edison had been so prominently identified.

It was decided that the most effective means of accomplishing this object was by the establishment of a gold medal which could serve "as an honorable incentive to scientists, engineers, and artisans to maintain by their works the high standard of accomplishment set by the illustrious man by whose name the medal is known." The American Institute of Electrical Engineers was invited to undertake the responsibility of making the awards. The Institute accepted, and organized the Edison Medal Committee, composed of twenty-four members.

The By-laws of the Committee provide for making one award each year, and the Deed of Gift specifies that the award shall be made to some one resident in the United States or Canada, for meritorious achievement in electrical science, electrical engineering, or the electrical arts.



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## EDWIN WILBUR RICE, JR.

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Doctor E. W. Rice, Jr., is the recipient of the 1931 Edison Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers which was awarded "for his contributions to the development of electrical systems and apparatus and his encouragement of scientific research in industry."

He is one of the pioneers of electrical development in the United States, and played a conspicuous part, in association with the late Charles A. Coffin, in the building of the present General Electric Company. He served this company as Technical Director, Vice-President in charge of manufacturing and engineering, Senior Vice-President, and finally as President, 1913-22. Since 1922 he has been Honorary Chairman of the Board.

Through his organization methods, improved factory routine, technical development, and engineering and scientific inventions he has contributed much to the prominence attained by the company.

His degrees are Honorary A. M., Harvard University; Sc. D., Union University; Doctor of Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; and Sc. D., University of Pennsylvania. He is a Past President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and has received high honors from the governments of France and Japan.

EDISON MEDAL PRESENTATION

TO

Edwin Wilbur Rice, Jr.



Presiding

CHARLES E. SKINNER

*President, American Institute of Electrical Engineers*

The Origin of the Edison Medal

DUGALD C. JACKSON

*Chairman, Edison Medal Committee*

Address

ELIHU THOMSON

*Consulting Engineer, General Electric Company*

Presentation of Medal

PRESIDENT SKINNER

Response

EDWIN WILBUR RICE, JR.

JOHN FRITZ MEDAL PRESENTATION

TO

Michael Idvorsky Pupin



Presiding

WILLIAM S. LEE

*Chairman of the Board of Award*

Address

BANCROFT GHERARDI

*Vice-President and Chief Engineer  
American Telephone and Telegraph Company*

Presentation of Medal

LINCOLN BUSH

*Chairman of the Board which made the Award*

Response

MICHAEL IDVORSKY PUPIN

## THE EDISON MEDALISTS



- 1909 ELIHU THOMSON. For Meritorious Achievement in Electrical Science, Engineering and Arts, as exemplified in his contributions thereto during the past thirty years.
- 1910 FRANK J. SPRAGUE. For Meritorious Achievement in Electrical Science, Engineering and Arts, as exemplified in his contributions thereto.
- 1911 GEORGE WESTINGHOUSE. For Meritorious Achievement in Connection with the Development of the Alternating-Current System for Light and Power.
- 1912 WILLIAM STANLEY. For Meritorious Achievement in the Invention and Development of the Alternating Current System and Apparatus.
- 1913 CHARLES F. BRUSH. For Meritorious Achievement in the Invention and Development of the Series Arc Lighting System.
- 1914 ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL. For Meritorious Achievement in the Invention of the Telephone.
- 1916 NIKOLA TESLA. For Meritorious Achievement in his early original work in Polyphase and High-Frequency Electrical Currents.
- 1917 JOHN J. CARTY. For his work in the Science and Art of Telephone Engineering.
- 1918 BENJAMIN G. LAMME. For Invention and Development of Electrical Machinery.
- 1919 W. L. R. EMMET. For Inventions and Developments of Electrical Apparatus and Prime Movers.
- 1920 MICHAEL I. PUPIN. For his work in Mathematical Physics and its application to the Electrical Transmission of Intelligence.
- 1921 CUMMINGS C. CHESNEY. For early Developments in Alternating-Current Transmission.
- 1922 ROBERT ANDREWS MILLIKAN. For his experimental work in Electrical Science.
- 1923 JOHN W. LIEB. For the Development and Operation of Electrical Central Stations for Illumination and Power.
- 1924 JOHN W. HOWELL. For his Contributions toward the Development of the Incandescent Lamp.
- 1925 HARRIS J. RYAN. For his Contributions to the Science and the Art of High-Tension Transmission of Power.
- 1927 WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE. For his Contributions to the Incandescent Electric Lighting and the X-ray Arts.
- 1928 FRANK B. JEWETT. For his Contributions to the Art of Electrical Communication.
- 1929 CHARLES F. SCOTT. For his Contributions to the Science and Art of Polyphase Transmission of Electrical Energy.
- 1930 FRANK CONRAD. For his Contributions to Radio Broadcasting and Short Wave Radio Transmission.
- 1931 EDWIN WILBUR RICE, JR. For his Contributions to the Development of Electrical Systems and Apparatus and his Encouragement of Scientific Research in Industry.

## THE JOHN FRITZ MEDALISTS

The first medal was given to John Fritz at a dinner to him on his eightieth birthday, August 21, 1902.

- 1905 LORD KELVIN. For his work in Cable Telegraphy and other Scientific Attainments.
- 1906 GEORGE WESTINGHOUSE. For the Invention and Development of the Air Brake.
- 1907 ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL. For the Invention and Introduction of the Telephone.
- 1908 THOMAS ALVA EDISON. For the Invention of the Duplex and Quadruples Telegraph, the Phonograph, the Development of a Commercially Practical Incandescent Lamp, the Development of a Complete System of Electric Lighting, Including Dynamos, Regulating Devices, Underground System, Protective Devices and Meters.
- 1909 CHARLES T. PORTER. For his work in Advancing the Knowledge of Steam Engineering and in Improvements in Engine Construction.
- 1910 ALFRED NOBLE. For Notable Achievements as a Civil Engineer.
- 1911 SIR WILLIAM H. WHITE. For Notable Achievements in Naval Architecture.
- 1912 ROBERT W. HUNT. For his Contributions to the Early Development of the Bessemer Process.
- 1913 No award.
- 1914 PROFESSOR JOHN E. SWEET. For his Achievements in Machine Design, and Pioneer work in applying Sound Engineering Principles to the Construction and Development of the High-Speed Steam Engine.
- 1915 DR. JAMES DOUGLAS. For Notable Achievement in Mining, Metallurgy, Education and Industrial Welfare.
- 1916 DR. ELIHU THOMSON. For Achievement in Electrical Invention, in Electrical Engineering and Industrial Development, and in Scientific Research.
- 1917 DR. HENRY M. HOWE. For his Investigations in Metallurgy, especially in the Metallography of Iron and Steel.
- 1918 J. WALDO SMITH. For Achievement as Engineer in Providing the City of New York with a Supply of Water.
- 1919 GENERAL GEORGE W. GOETHALS. For Achievement as Builder of the Panama Canal.
- 1920 ORVILLE WRIGHT. For Achievement in the Development of the Airplane.
- 1921 SIR ROBERT A. HADFIELD. For the Invention of Manganese Steel.
- 1922 CHARLES PROSPER EUGENE SCHNEIDER. For Achievement in Metallurgy of Iron and Steel, for the Development of Modern Ordnance, and for Notable Patriotic Contribution to the Winning of the Great War.
- 1923 SENATORE GUGLIELMO MARCONI. For the Invention of Wireless Telegraphy.
- 1924 AMBROSE SWASEY. For Achievement as a Designer and Manufacturer of Instruments and Machines of Precision, a Builder of Great Telescopes, a Benefactor of Education, and the Founder of Engineering Foundation.
- 1925 JOHN FRANK STEVENS. For great Achievements as a Civil Engineer, particularly in Planning and Organizing for the Construction of the Panama Canal; as a Builder of Railroads, and as Administrator of the Chinese Eastern and Siberian Railways.
- 1926 EDWARD DEAN ADAMS. For great Achievements as Engineer, Financier, Scientist, whose vision, courage and industry made possible the Birth at Niagara Falls of Hydro-Electric Power.

## The John Fritz Medalists—*continued*

- 1927 **ELMER AMBROSE SPERRY.** For the Development of the Gyro-Compass and the Application of the Gyroscope to the Stabilization of Ships and Aeroplanes.
- 1928 **JOHN JOSEPH CARTY.** For Pioneer Achievement in Telephone Engineering and in the Development of Scientific Research in the Telephone Art.
- 1929 **HERBERT HOOVER.** As Engineer, Scholar, Organizer of Relief to War-Stricken Peoples, Public Servant.
- 1930 **RALPH MODJESKI.** For Notable Achievement as an Engineer of Great Bridges Combining the Principles of Strength and Beauty.
- 1931 **ADMIRAL DAVID WATSON TAYLOR.** For outstanding Achievement in Marine Architecture, for revolutionary results of persistent research in Hull Design, for Improvement in many types of Warships and for Distinguished Service as Chief Constructor of the United States Navy during the World War.
- 1932 **MICHAEL IDVORSKY PUPIN.** Scientist, Engineer, Author, Inventor of the Tuning of Oscillating Circuits and the Loading of Telephone Circuits by Inductance Coils.



### JOHN FRITZ MEDAL BOARD OF AWARD (1931)

which made the award to Dr. Pupin

#### AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Lincoln Bush, *Chairman* Anson Marston  
John F. Coleman John F. Stevens

#### AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGICAL ENGINEERS

W. H. Bassett E. DeGolyer  
Frederick W. Bradley George Otis Smith

#### AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

W. L. Abbott Charles Piez  
Alex Dow Charles M. Schwab

#### AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

Bancroft Gherardi R. F. Schuchardt  
W. S. Lee Harold B. Smith



### EDISON MEDAL COMMITTEE

Dugald C. Jackson, *Chairman*

H. H. Barnes, Jr.	J. E. Kearns	F. W. Peek, Jr.	W. I. Slichter
C. I. Burkholder	A. E. Knowlton	W. S. Rugg	H. B. Smith
H. P. Charlesworth	W. S. Lee	H. J. Ryan	C. E. Stephens
F. A. Gaby	P. M. Lincoln	F. A. Scheffler	R. H. Tapscott
C. F. Harding	E. B. Meyer	R. F. Schuchardt	P. H. Thomas
F. L. Hutchinson	L. W. W. Morrow	C. E. Skinner	