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Sparks Of Genius Portraits Of Electrical Engineering Excellence

Vicki Daitch, Lillian Hoddeson



Sparks Of Genius Portraits Of Electrical Engineering Excellence:

Sparks of Genius Frederik Nebeker, 1994 Biographical studies of eight Americans who have contributed to the emergence of new branches of electrical engineering such as microwave television solid state and biomedical or to advances in established areas such as radio power and telephone switching No index Annotation copyright by Book News Inc Portland OR

Calculation and Computation in the Pre-electronic Era Aristotle Tympas, 2018-01-12 Although it is popularly assumed that the history of computing before the second half of the 20th century was unimportant in fact the Industrial Revolution was made possible and even sustained by a parallel revolution in computing technology An examination and historiographical assessment of key developments helps to show how the era of modern electronic computing proceeded from a continual computing revolution that had arisen during the mechanical and the electrical ages This unique volume introduces the history of computing during the first steam and second electricity segments of the Industrial Revolution revealing how this history was pivotal to the emergence of electronic computing and what many historians see as signifying a shift to a post industrial society It delves into critical developments before the electronic era focusing on those of the mechanical era from the emergence of the steam engine to that of the electric power network and the electrical era from the emergence of the electric power network to that of electronic computing In so doing it provides due attention to the demarcations between and associated classifications of artifacts for calculation during these respective eras In turn it emphasizes the history of comparisons between these artifacts Topics and Features motivates exposition through a firm historiographical argument of important developments explores the history of the slide rule and its use in the context of electrification examines the roles of analyzers graphs and a whole range of computing artifacts hitherto placed under the allegedly inferior class of analog computers shows how the analog and the digital are really inseparable with perceptions thereof depending on either a full or a restricted view of the computing process investigates socially situated comparisons of computing history including the effects of a political economy of computing one that takes into account cost and ownership of computing artifacts assesses concealment of analog machine labor through encasement black boxing Historians of computing as well as those of technology and science especially energy will find this well argued and presented history of calculation and computation in the mechanical and electrical eras an indispensable resource The work is a natural textbook companion for history of computing courses and will also appeal to the broader readership of curious computer scientists and engineers as well as those who generally just have a yearn to learn the contextual background to the current digital age In this fascinating original work Tympas indispensably intertwines the histories of analog and digital computing showing them to be inseparable from the evolution of social and economic conditions Prof David Mindell MIT *Dawn of the Electronic Age* Frederik Nebeker, 2009-05-06 A comprehensive and fascinating account of electrical and electronics history Much of the infrastructure of today s industrialized world arose in the period from the outbreak of World War I to the conclusion of World

War II It was during these years that the capabilities of traditional electrical engineering generators power transmission motors electric lighting and heating home appliances and so on became ubiquitous Even more importantly it was during this time that a new type of electrical engineering electronics emerged Because of its applications in communications both wire based and wireless entertainment notably radio the phonograph and sound movies industry science and medicine and the military the electronics industry became a major part of the economy Dawn of the Electronic Age explores how this engineering knowledge and its main applications developed in various scientific economic and social contexts and explains how each was profoundly affected by electrical technologies It takes an international perspective and a narrative approach unfolding the story chronologically Though a scholarly study with sources of information given in endnotes for engineers and historians of science and technology the book is intended for the general public Ultimately it tells the story of the development of a new realm of engineering and its widespread applications during the remarkable and tragic period of two world wars and the decades in between

True Genius Vicki Daitch, Lillian Hoddeson, 2002-10-28 What is genius Define it Now think of scientists who embody the concept of genius Does the name John Bardeen spring to mind Indeed have you ever heard of him Like so much in modern life immediate name recognition often rests on a cult of personality We know Einstein for example not just for his tremendous contributions to science but also because he was a character who loved to mug for the camera And our continuing fascination with Richard Feynman is not exclusively based on his body of work it is in large measure tied to his flamboyant nature and offbeat sense of humor These men and their outsize personalities have come to erroneously symbolize the true nature of genius and creativity We picture them born brilliant instantly larger than life But is that an accurate picture of genius What of others who are equal in stature to these icons of science but whom history has awarded only a nod because they did not readily engage the public Could a person qualify as a bona fide genius if he was a regular Joe The answer may rest in the story of John Bardeen John Bardeen was the first person to have been awarded two Nobel Prizes in the same field He shared one with William Shockley and Walter Brattain for the invention of the transistor But it was the charismatic Shockley who garnered all the attention primarily for his Hollywood ways and notorious views on race and intelligence Bardeen s second Nobel Prize was awarded for the development of a theory of superconductivity a feat that had eluded the best efforts of leading theorists including Albert Einstein Neils Bohr Werner Heisenberg and Richard Feynman Arguably Bardeen s work changed the world in more ways than that of any other scientific genius of his time Yet while every school child knows of Einstein few people have heard of John Bardeen Why is this the case Perhaps because Bardeen differs radically from the popular stereotype of genius He was a modest mumbling Midwesterner an ordinary person who worked hard and had a knack for physics and mathematics He liked to picnic with his family collaborate quietly with colleagues or play a round of golf None of that was newsworthy so the media and consequently the public ignored him John Bardeen simply fits a new profile of genius Through an exploration of his science as well as his life a fresh and thoroughly

engaging portrait of genius and the nature of creativity emerges This perspective will have readers looking anew at what it truly means to be a genius Historical Essays on Meteorology, 1919-1995 James Fleming, 2016-06-30 On the occasion of its 75th anniversary the American Meteorological Society engaged a number of eminent pioneers and leading practitioners to write about the fields they helped develop They were joined by several professional historians of science and technology The resulting essays constitute a substantial sampling of what has been learned since 1919 in the atmospheric sciences and services in research in education and in the private sector This volume will be of interest to weather professionals and enthusiasts historians of science and to students of science and history It will help us calibrate where we are where we have been and where we might be going as a discipline Hopefully it will inspire others to value the past and to dig into it more deeply Such attention to history is a necessary step in the maturation of a scientific discipline **Crystal Fire** Michael Riordan, Lillian Hoddeson, 2023-10-24 Without the invention of the transistor I am quite sure that the PC would not exist as we know it today Bill Gates On December 16 1947 John Bardeen and Walter Brattain physicists at Bell Laboratories jabbed two electrodes into a sliver of germanium The power flowing from the germanium far exceeded what went in in that moment the transistor was invented and the Information Age was born No other devices have been as crucial to modern life as the transistor and the microchip it spawned but the story of the science and personalities that made these inventions possible has not been fully told until now Crystal Fire fills this gap and carries the story forward William Shockley Bell Labs team leader and co recipient of the Nobel Prize with Brattain and Bardeen for the discovery grew obsessed with the transistor and went on to become the father of Silicon Valley Here is a deeply human story about the process of invention including the competition and economic aspirations involved all part of the greatest technological explosion in history The intriguing history of the transistor its inventors physics and stunning impact on society and the economy unfolds here in a richly told tale Science News Thoroughly accessible to lay readers as well as the techno savvy A fine book Publishers Weekly **The Evolution of Electrical Engineering** Ernst Weber, Frederik Nebeker, 1994 Bioimpedance and Bioelectricity Basics Orjan G. Martinsen, Arto Heiskanen, 2023-07-15 Bioimpedance and Bioelectricity Basics Fourth Edition discusses in detail dielectric and electrochemical aspects as well as electrical engineering concepts of network theory The book takes readers from an introductory postgraduate level to a developed understanding of core dielectric and electrochemical aspects of bioelectricity combined with the necessary electrical engineering concepts such as network theory to allow readers to work effectively across the interface of biology physics and engineering The book has a highly effective organization and covers important concepts relating to bioelectricity and impedance including finite element analysis endogenous sources control theory tissue electrical properties and invasive measurements With its concentration on instrumentation and system design data and analysis the book is suited to readers with an applied focus on experimentation and device development It paves an easier and more efficient way for readers seeking basic knowledge about this discipline This book's focus is on systems with

galvanic contact with tissue and the importance of the geometry of the measuring system cannot be overemphasized Contains new pedagogical features that support learning and make this an ideal text for teaching Includes more content on electrochemistry cyclic voltammetry amperometry cell properties and machine learning Covers tissue immittance building up from the basics in an accurate and easy to understand manner supported with figures and examples with Geometry and instrumentation also covered

Makers of the Microchip Christophe Lecuyer, David C. Brock, 2022-10-25 The first years of the company that developed the microchip and created the model for a successful Silicon Valley start up In the first three and a half years of its existence Fairchild Semiconductor developed produced and marketed the device that would become the fundamental building block of the digital world the microchip Founded in 1957 by eight former employees of the Shockley Semiconductor Laboratory Fairchild created the model for a successful Silicon Valley start up intense activity with a common goal close collaboration and a quick path to the market Fairchild's first device hit the market just ten months after the company's founding Fairchild Semiconductor was one of the first companies financed by venture capital and its success inspired the establishment of venture capital firms in the San Francisco Bay area These firms would finance the explosive growth of Silicon Valley over the next several decades This history of the early years of Fairchild Semiconductor examines the technological business and social dynamics behind its innovative products The centerpiece of the book is a collection of documents reproduced in facsimile including the company's first prospectus ideas sketches and plans for the company's products and a notebook kept by cofounder Jay Last that records problems schedules and tasks discussed at weekly meetings A historical overview interpretive essays and an introduction to semiconductor technology in the period accompany these primary documents

Engineers as Executives William Aspray, 1995 Historian of technology William Aspray interviews 13 senior executives from important technological companies in Germany Japan and the US learning about their management philosophies the problems they confront in their work and the importance of having an engineering background Interviewees include both top level executives at major international corporations and successful entrepreneurial executives Lacks an index Annotation copyright by Book News Inc Portland OR

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