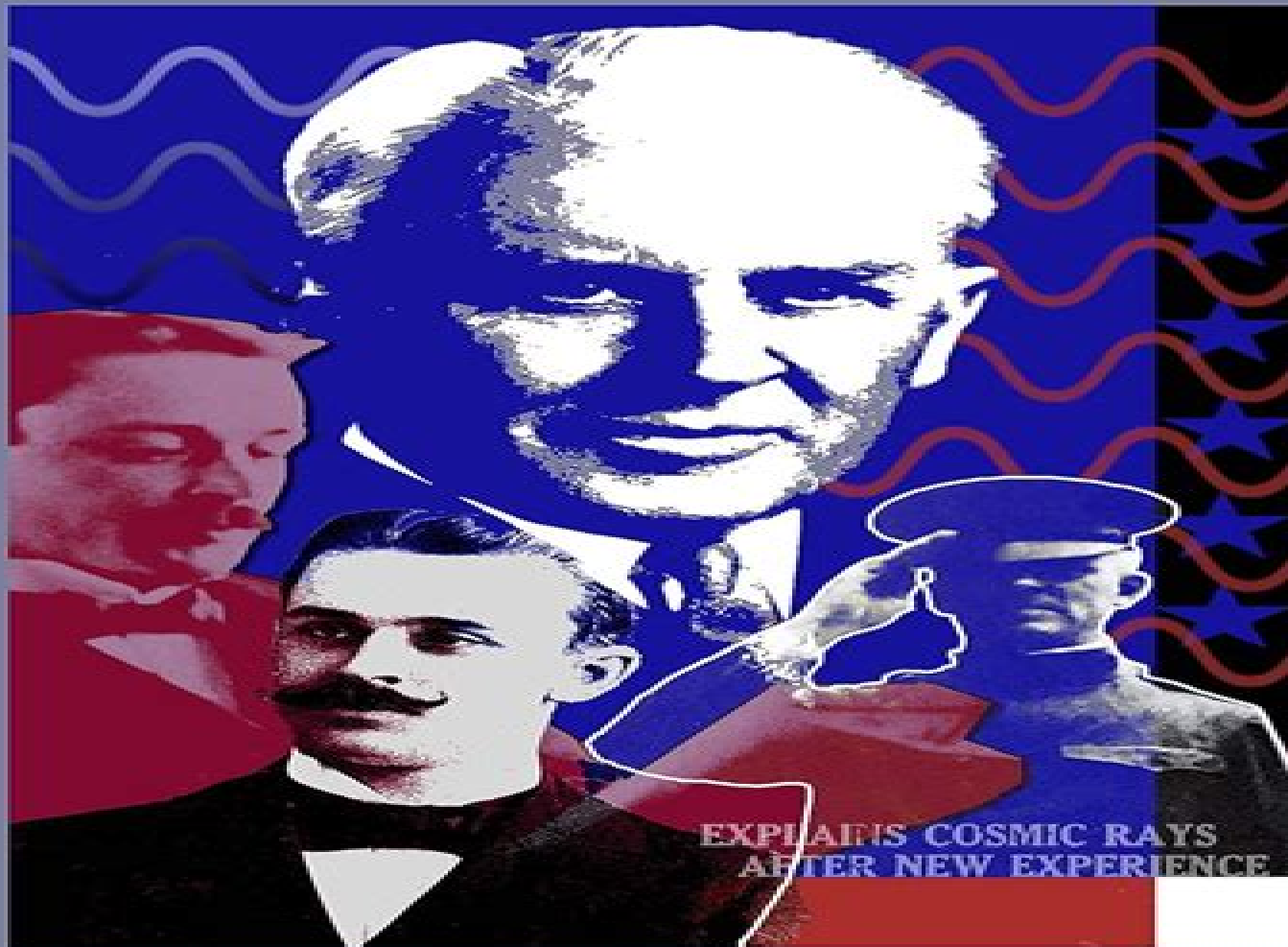


# THE RISE OF ROBERT MILLIKAN



ROBERT H. KARGON

# Rise Of Robert Millikan

**Paul S. Boyer**



## **Rise Of Robert Millikan:**

*The Rise of Robert Millikan: Portrait of a Life in American Science* Robert H. Kargon, 2020-11-08 I do not consider myself to be Robert Millikan's biographer. This book is not a full record of Millikan's life or even of his scientific career. It is an essay very selective on themes that are illustrated and illuminated by Millikan's life in American science. It is as well a portrait of the development of a scientist. Robert Millikan was among the most famous of American scientists to the public of the 1920s. Millikan represented science. The first American born physicist to win the Nobel Prize. Millikan was a leader in the application of scientific research to military problems during World War I and a guiding force in the rise of the California Institute of Technology to a preeminent place in American scientific education and research. His life is therefore peculiarly suited to illuminate and provide texture for the vast changes that have taken place in science during the twentieth century. In this extended essay I employ the biographical mode to explore several important aspects of this theme. Millikan was successively a teacher, researcher, administrator, entrepreneur, and sage. By describing the novel roles that he assumed I suggest how science grew in complexity and carved out an essential place for itself in our general culture. Robert H. Kargon from the Preface of *The Rise of Robert Millikan: Portrait of a Life in American Science*. Professor Kargon has given us a sympathetic account of Millikan's scientific career, including his great triumphs, his rearguard actions to defend untenable positions, and the eventual rejection or revision of every major result or standpoint. But he is more concerned with Millikan's influence on the developing American physics community and with Millikan's role in advancing American science generally and American higher education. Together with the chemist A. P. Noyes and the astronomer G. E. Hale, Millikan believed in an American scientific destiny. This picture of American science is presented with great insight, tremendous learning, and wit. Professor Kargon's book strikes a happy balance between being an interpretive story of a scientific life and a social history of science in America. Every reader interested in science or in the place of science in society will come away from this book with new information, important insights, and a better understanding of the growth of scientific ideas and institutions in the twentieth century. I. Bernard Cohen, *Nature*. With the publication of this volume by Kargon, readers now have new and valuable access to much material about Millikan that was previously unavailable. Kargon states that he is not writing a biography of Millikan but rather a portrait of the man and the scientific scene in early 20th century America. He has succeeded well in this endeavor. The book is well written, and readers who are already reasonably conversant with 20th century developments in physics will find much that is illuminating, a genuine contribution to the history of science. Katherine R. Sopka, *American Scientist*. Here is an admirable piece of work. Kargon has not sought to make his readers like his subject but only to understand his scientific style, his achievements, and his character, and to perceive how his life was a microcosm of new roles assumed by the scientist during the course of the twentieth century. Kargon's insights are important, and his book is deserving of a careful study. Robert C. Post, *The American Historical Review*. A useful corrective to Millikan's self-portrait that reveals some of the

blemishes as well as the embellishments of an important life in American science Robert W Seidel Science For over thirty years the only overview of Millikan s life available to the layman was his own selective autobiography That book either omitted or told only one side sometimes biased by hindsight of many important controversial episodes associated with his achievements and views Kargon s portrait essay deals with some of these neglected incidents in a well written and coherent manner aimed at a wide readership John L Michel Technology and Culture A very readable work with the virtue of containing a great deal of information in a brief compass Kargon s book deserves and will receive a wide audience as the successor to its subject s autobiography Kargon also merits credit for interesting discussions on Millikan as a statesman administrator and spokesman for science a clearly first rate narrative Nathan Reingold Isis Admirably Kargon combines institutional with intellectual history Kargon offers a fascinating discussion of Millikan s and George Hale s contributions to war research the California Institute of Technology and the Mount Wilson Observatory Kargon rightly stresses the collaborators links with the leaders of finance and industry developing Los Angeles as a brief sketch of Millikan the scientific institution builder Kargon s book deserves the wide audience he seeks Peter Galison The Journal of American History The book leaves us in no doubt about Millikan s ability but does not gloss over his occasional obstinacy or his wishful thinking about past errors matters on which some histories tend to be silent Millikan was not a revolutionary who started new ideas but the author stresses rightly the importance of men like him for the progress of science Rudolf Peierls The New York Review of Books A gem of a book thought provoking insightful highly interesting reading Lawrence Badash University of California Santa Barbara The author skillfully weaves the story of Millikan with the story of modern science in a book that will be well received by a variety of audiences from professional historians of science to the general public Choice Kargon s background in physics serves him well in placing Millikan s work in its theoretical context in the analysis of the work itself and in generally managing to capture both the intense excitement and the routine involved in testing the ideas of the giants of that period in physics Kargon has certainly opened enough questions in this perceptive work in addition to the large number that he has settled and he has demonstrated an important use for the biographical mode The general American historian as well as the historian of science can profit from reading this volume George H Daniels The Historian Robert Millikan s scientific career his character and his roles as teacher administrator at the California Institute of Technology entrepreneur and public figure are the topics covered in this biography Even in discussing Millikan s later decline as a front line scientist author Robert Kargon treats the scientist with compassion and fairness and portrays him as a many faceted often controversial man with doubts and uncertainties at the height of his fame The high school physics student will find this book engaging and insightful in its description of a scientist struggling with science self and society A Cordell Perkes The Science Teacher V ery well researched and written Robert Kargon gives an excellent picture of the rise of American physics from the years when every aspiring young American physicist wanted to go to Germany to study to the years when every aspiring young European physicist

wanted to come to the United States for the same purpose He clearly understands science yet knows how to present its history so that it is interesting and meaningful to non scientists He tells not only of Millikan s triumphs but of his doubts as well of his discoveries and also of his mistakes All in all this is an excellent book strongly recommended to the reader who is interested in the history of American science and in the life of an outstanding practitioner of it Donald E Osterbrock The Wisconsin Magazine of History

*Millikan's School: A History of the California Institute of Technology* Judith Goodstein, 2020-10-19 In November 1891 wealthy former abolitionist and Chicago politician Amos Throop founded a thoroughly undistinguished small college in Pasadena California which he named after himself Millikan s School is the history of this institution that stands today at the pinnacle of world academics with 300 full time faculty nearly 1 000 undergraduate 1 250 graduate students and 39 Caltech and alumni Nobel Prize recipients Although Amos Throop the name of the college was changed to Caltech in 1920 could not have realized the importance of geography the fact that Pasadena lay at the foot of Mount Wilson was central to its success astronomer George Ellery Hale built his telescope there in 1902 the finest at that time in the world Later Hale joined the board of trustees of the struggling school and persuaded Arthur Amos Noyes former president of MIT and the nation s leading physical chemist to join him in Pasadena The third member of Caltech s founding troika was renowned physicist Robert A Millikan from the University of Chicago The dedication of Caltech in 1920 and the proclamation of what it stood for in science and education set the stage for Millikan who functioned as the school s president to bring the best and the brightest from all over the world Theodore von K r m n in aeronautics Thomas Hunt Morgan in biology Paul Sophus Epstein in physics Beno Gutenberg in seismology Linus Pauling in chemistry to Pasadena to work in an ever larger number of areas in science and technology The book also covers the funding planning and construction of the 200 inch telescope on Palomar Mountain Willy Fowler s work in nuclear astrophysics and the wartime rocket experiments that grew into the Jet Propulsion Laboratory JPL today the world leader in deep space exploration Millikan s School presents an interesting and thoroughly reliable account of the astonishing change over a period of a few years of a small technical school in Pasadena California into one of the world s leading scientific institutions Linus Pauling In *Millikan s School* Judith Goodstein tells the remarkable story of the rise of Caltech She details how Millikan aided by Hale and Arthur Amos Noyes America s leading physical chemist and another of Hale s inspired acquisitions took a former trade school and forged from it a grandiose university among the orange groves It would be impossible while reading Goodstein s lively account not to be impressed by the energy drive and boundless enthusiasm of men like Millikan Hale and Noyes who had the bare faced audacity to set about building an institute to rival the cream of the universities of Europe and America Marcus Chown New Scientist Goodstein s story is first and foremost the tale of three men the astronomer George Ellery Hale the chemist Alfred Noyes and the physicist Robert Millikan It is the story of their attempts to transform an undistinguished little school founded in 1891 into a world class scientific establishment A useful book Tony Rothman Science In *Millikan s School* the story of

Throop University's transformation into Caltech is told with precision. Judith Goodstein's history offers a quick tour of the landmarks of science in the mid 20th Century and a glance at how pure science puts itself at the service of government, commerce, and the military. Goodstein approaches her subject with a healthy sense of humor and an acute sense of academic politics. She tells a wonderful story about how Caltech lost to Princeton in a bidding war over the services of Albert Einstein, for example. To her credit, Goodstein asks the hard question: What is the best way to do science? Millikan's School offers enough hard data to enable us to come to our own conclusions. Jonathan Kirsch, Los Angeles Times: A cleanly written, scientifically well-informed account of one of the world's foremost institutions for science and technology. Ed Regis, Nature: Relying on archival material, published secondary sources, and interviews with institute scientists, Goodstein presents a highly readable account of Caltech's beginnings at the turn of the century, substantive, informative, and a good read. Rebecca S. Lowen, Technology and Culture: As a history of science, this book is well-crafted. Orderly in its flow, it is not only a tribute to Millikan but also places him within the development of physics as a field. Andrew Rolle, Southern California Quarterly: A fascinating history that speaks to issues far larger than Cal Tech itself. This well-written and honest account witnesses the many cited instances of anti-Semitism in the scientific world; it is both a good read and a sobering reminder that big science and top schools are not brought by storks. Carroll Pursell, History of Education Quarterly: The author focuses on the personalities and the research fields of the principal scientific figures. The emphasis on personalities and capsule surveys of relevant scientific fields produce a book that can be apprehended by a wide audience. Roger Geiger, Isis: This chronicle offers glimpses of the passion and drive that have motivated a roster of distinguished scientists. Publishers Weekly: A lively tale. Goodstein's individual profiles are lean and candid; her background on subjects as diverse as nuclear astrophysics, seismology, aeronautical design, quantum mechanics, and rocket fuel are crisp and understandable. With a light style and meticulous documentation, Goodstein has produced a tale worthy of her subject. Marshall Robinson, Foundation News: A distinguished and uniquely American institution has found its chronicler, and its chronicle, in Judith Goodstein's thorough but compact story of Millikan's School. The emergence of Caltech as a powerhouse of science and engineering and a makeweight in the technological advancement of 20th-century industry is both beautifully and reliably presented. Harry Woolf, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University.

Splinters of Infinity Mark Wolverton, 2024-03-12: The riveting story of a modern-age scientific feud between two Nobel Prize-winning scientists over the nature of cosmic rays and the universe. Set in a revolutionary era of physics and science when a series of rapid-fire discoveries was upending our understanding of the universe, *Splinters of Infinity* by Mark Wolverton tells a little-known story: the tale of two of America's foremost physicists, Robert Millikan (1868–1953) and Arthur Compton (1892–1962), who found themselves locked in an intense, often deeply personal conflict about cosmic rays. Confirmed in 1912, cosmic rays' enigmatic forms of penetrating radiation seemed to raise all new questions about the origins of the universe, but they also offered the potential to explain everything or reveal the existence of

God In engaging accessible prose Wolverton takes the reader through the twists and turns of the Millikan Compton debate one of the first major public examples of how heated the controversies among scientists could become and the lengths that scientists would go to settle their disputes What set them apart at least in most cases Wolverton shows was their ability to concentrate finally on what mattered the science Along the way Wolverton probes the forever elusive question still unanswered today about where cosmic rays come from and what they reveal about black holes distant galaxies the existence of dark matter and dark energy and the birth of the universe concluding that these splinters of infinity may not hold the keys to the secret of creation but do bring us ever closer to it *A Short History of Physics in the American Century* David C. Cassidy, 2011-10-24 As the twentieth century drew to a close computers the Internet and nanotechnology were central to modern American life Yet the advances in physics underlying these applications are poorly understood and widely underappreciated by U S citizens today In this concise overview David C Cassidy sharpens our perspective on modern physics by viewing this foundational science through the lens of America's engagement with the political events of a tumultuous century American physics first stirred in the 1890s around the time x rays and radioactivity were discovered in Germany with the founding of graduate schools on the German model Yet American research lagged behind the great European laboratories until highly effective domestic policies together with the exodus of physicists from fascist countries brought the nation into the first ranks of world research in the 1930s The creation of the atomic bomb and radar during World War II ensured lavish government support for particle physics along with computation solid state physics and military communication These advances facilitated space exploration and led to the global expansion of the Internet Well into the 1960s physicists bolstered the United States international status and the nation repaid the favor through massive outlays of federal military and philanthropic funding But gradually America relinquished its postwar commitment to scientific leadership and the nation found itself struggling to maintain a competitive edge in science education and research Today American physicists relying primarily on industrial funding must compete with smaller scrappier nations intent on writing their own brief history of physics in the twenty first century **The Oxford Companion to United States History** Paul S. Boyer, 2001-07-04 Here is a volume that is as big and as varied as the nation it portrays With over 1 400 entries written by some 900 historians and other scholars it illuminates not only America's political diplomatic and military history but also social cultural and intellectual trends science technology and medicine the arts and religion Here are the familiar political heroes from George Washington and Benjamin Franklin to Abraham Lincoln Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D Roosevelt But here too are scientists writers radicals sports figures and religious leaders with incisive portraits of such varied individuals as Thomas Edison and Eli Whitney Babe Ruth and Muhammed Ali Black Elk and Crazy Horse Margaret Fuller Emma Goldman and Marian Anderson even Al Capone and Jesse James The Companion illuminates events that have shaped the nation the Great Awakening Bunker Hill Wounded Knee the Vietnam War major Supreme Court decisions Marbury v Madison Roe v

Wade landmark legislation the Fugitive Slave Law the Pure Food and Drug Act social movements Suffrage Civil Rights influential books The Jungle Uncle Tom's Cabin ideologies conservatism liberalism Social Darwinism even natural disasters and iconic sites the Chicago Fire the Johnstown Flood Niagara Falls the Lincoln Memorial Here too is the nation's social and cultural history from Films Football and the 4 H Club to Immigration Courtship and Dating Marriage and Divorce and Death and Dying Extensive multi-part entries cover such key topics as the Civil War Indian History and Culture Slavery and the Federal Government A new volume for a new century The Oxford Companion to United States History covers everything from Jamestown and the Puritans to the Human Genome Project and the Internet from Columbus to Clinton Written in clear graceful prose for researchers browsers and general readers alike this is the volume that addresses the totality of the American experience its triumphs and heroes as well as its tragedies and darker moments

**City of Quartz** Mike Davis, 2006-09-17 This new edition of the visionary social history of Los Angeles is as central to the L A canon as anything that Joan Didion wrote in the seventies New Yorker No metropolis has been more loved or more hated To its official boosters Los Angeles brings it all together To detractors L A is a sunlit mortuary where you can rot without feeling it To Mike Davis the author of this fiercely elegant and wide-ranging work of social history Los Angeles is both utopia and dystopia a place where the last Joshua trees are being plowed under to make room for model communities in the desert where the rich have hired their own police to fend off street gangs as well as armed Beirut militias In *City of Quartz* Davis reconstructs L A's shadow history and dissects its ethereal economy He tells us who has the power and how they hold on to it He gives us a city of Dickensian extremes Pynchonesque conspiracies and a desperation straight out of Nathaniel West a city in which we may glimpse our own future mirrored with terrifying clarity In this new edition Davis provides a dazzling update on the city's current status

*Globalizing Physics* Roberto Lalli, Jaime Navarro, 2024-07-09 This is an open access book available under the terms of a CC BY NC ND 4.0 International licence It is free to read on the Oxford Academic platform and offered as a free PDF download from OUP and selected open access locations Following the centenary of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics this volume features contributions from leading science historians from around the world on the changing roles of the institution in international affairs from its foundation in 1922 to the present The case studies presented in this volume show the multitude of functions that IUPAP had and how these were related to the changing international political contexts The book is divided into three parts The first discusses the interwar period demonstrating how the exclusion of communities of the Central Powers from international scientific institutions imposed by victorious allied countries made IUPAP ineffective until the end of World War II The second part analyzes the changing roles assumed by IUPAP starting from its complete renovation after World War II Case studies covering the role of IUPAP in physics education in metrology in joint commissions with other unions and in defining the complex relations between pure and applied physics provide examples of IUPAP's impact on the world of science Part III squarely addresses the science diplomacy aspects of IUPAP during the Cold



War highlighting the importance of IUPAP in furthering diplomatic goals and explaining the origin of the pursuit of the free circulation of scientists as the activity that characterized the main function of international unions during the Cold War Highlighting how often scientific agendas and political imperatives were entangled in the activities of IUPAP the book analyzes the work of the Union as exercises of science diplomacy thus contributing to the current debate on the use of science and technology in international relations

**The Harvest of a Century** Siegmund Brandt, 2009 Physics was the leading science of the twentieth century and the book retraces important discoveries made between 1895 and 2001 in 100 self contained Episodes Each is a short story of the scientists involved their time and their work The book is richly illustrated by about 600 portraits photographs and figures

The Idea Factory Jon Gertner, 2013-02-26 The definitive history of America s greatest incubator of innovation and the birthplace of some of the 20th century s most influential technologies Filled with colorful characters and inspiring lessons The Idea Factory explores one of the most critical issues of our time What causes innovation Walter Isaacson The New York Times Book Review Compelling Gertner s book offers fascinating evidence for those seeking to understand how a society should best invest its research resources The Wall Street Journal From its beginnings in the 1920s until its demise in the 1980s Bell Labs officially the research and development wing of AT T was the biggest and arguably the best laboratory for new ideas in the world From the transistor to the laser from digital communications to cellular telephony it s hard to find an aspect of modern life that hasn t been touched by Bell Labs In The Idea Factory Jon Gertner traces the origins of some of the twentieth century s most important inventions and delivers a riveting and heretofore untold chapter of American history At its heart this is a story about the life and work of a small group of brilliant and eccentric men Mervin Kelly Bill Shockley Claude Shannon John Pierce and Bill Baker who spent their careers at Bell Labs Today when the drive to invent has become a mantra Bell Labs offers us a way to enrich our understanding of the challenges and solutions to technological innovation Here after all was where the foundational ideas on the management of innovation were born

**Dawkins' GOD** Alister E. McGrath, 2013-06-05 Alister E McGrath is one of the world s leading theologians with a doctorate in the sciences Richard Dawkins is one of the bestselling popular science writers with outspoken and controversial views on religion This fascinating and provoking work is the first book length response to Dawkins ideas and offers an ideal introduction to the topical issues of science and religion Addresses fundamental questions about Dawkins approach to science and religion Is the gene actually selfish Is the blind watchmaker a suitable analogy Are there other ways of looking at things Tackles Dawkins hostile and controversial views on religion and examines the religious implications of his scientific ideas making for a fascinating and provoking debate Written in a very engaging and accessible style ideal to those approaching scientific and religious issues for the first time Alister McGrath is uniquely qualified to write this book He is one of the world s best known and most respected theologians with a strong research background in molecular biophysics A superb book by one of the world s leading theologians which will attract wide interest in the growing popular science market

similar to Susan Blackmore's *The Meme Machine* 1999      Biographies of Scientists Roger Smith, 1998 Identifies over 500 sources of information about the lives of scientists for young and adult general readers and for scholars Entries ranging from a quarter to a half page in length explain briefly what the subjects achieved worthy of biography as well as describing the work in some detail The works cited include books encyclopedias and periodicals and both biography and autobiography The arrangement is by discipline the social sciences are not included with indexes by author and subject scientist Annotation copyrighted by Book News Inc Portland OR

**Willis R. Whitney, General Electric and the Origins of U.S. Industrial Research** George Wise, 2020-01-21 Born in Jamestown New York Willis R Whitney 1868 1958 was the longtime director of General Electric's Research Laboratory and is widely considered one of the fathers of industrial research He graduated from MIT in 1890 to become assistant professor of chemistry there In 1896 he received his Ph D from the University of Leipzig under Wilhelm Ostwald Having grown dissatisfied with purely academic work he jumped at the opportunity provided by Elihu Thompson in 1900 to become director of the newly created GE Research Laboratory The laboratory was to be devoted exclusively to original research It is hoped a 1902 report stated that many profitable fields may be discovered and so it was when Whitney took over GE needed more economical lamp filaments and the laboratory developed a new form of metallized carbon which gave 25% more light for the same wattage the first radical improvement in Edison's incandescent carbon filament Millions of the new lamps were sold in a single year The laboratory's many other contributions include the tungsten lamp several applications for wrought tungsten replacing platinum targets in X ray tubes and platinum contacts in spark coils magnetos and relays and the Coolidge X ray tube in a wide range of sizes Whitney's broad scientific knowledge ability as a chemist and resourcefulness as an experimenter lay the basis for all the work of the laboratory He stepped down as director in 1932 He was a member of numerous institutions including the American Institute of Electrical Engineers American Society of Electrochemical Engineers National Academy of Sciences British Institute of Metals and National Research Council and he received many honors such as the Willard Gibbs Medal in 1920 the Perkin Medal in 1921 the Gold Medal of the National Institute of Social Sciences in 1928 and the AIEE Edison Medal in 1934 for his contributions to electrical science his pioneer inventions and his inspiring leadership in research Whitney invented modern industrial research George Wise re creates much of the anxiety and excitement of the decades when business discovered science and vice versa David Diamond *The New York Times* Wise has not simply written biography and a story of the research laboratory at General Electric but also a great deal of General Electric history and history of technology as well The author's technical and scientific presentations are generally lucid and accessible to the layperson Martha M Trescott *Journal of Economic History* A book of many strengths Most immediately apparent is the very high quality of the writing As a skilled biographer Wise succeeds in bringing the reader into the life of an interesting and important individual Wise does not neglect the personal side of Whitney's life including his unhappy family situation and his personal illnesses The primary focus however is on his work at GE work the

author expertly fits into broader patterns of science industry and society in early twentieth century America James H Madison *Journal of American History* A thoroughly researched and lucidly written book Wise's book makes important contributions to the understanding of the origins of industrial research and the development of science in the American context John K Smith *Technology and Culture* George Wise effectively develops the foundation for an interesting and in depth view of a man who made an outstanding contribution to industrial research while at the same time suffering personal disappointments and fighting a continuing battle with recurring mental depression Wise's book is warm personal and rich in historical background it provides a view into the life of the individual who set the stage for industrial research in America Alfred A Bolton *Academy of Management Review* An important book Wise's portrayal of Whitney is acute and sensitive Moreover it demonstrates that the depiction of industrial scientists as either alienated and unhappy academics in exile or mindless minions of the giant corporation is overly simple Wise has produced a first rate study of a pioneering establishment that should be read by anyone interested in the crucial relationships between science and modern industry Larry Owens *Business History Review* A turning point in the long neglected history of industrial research Not merely outstanding a definitive work that establishes critical standards for future research in this field beautifully crafted a sensitive and insightful biography of Willis R Whitney Edwin T Lawton Jr Isis Wise has accomplished perhaps the most difficult task before any biographer successfully connecting his subject's historical significance with the deeper elements of his humanity This humanity is described with a biographer's sympathy and a historian's sophistication Wise writes with sympathy and often charm drawing not only from substantial archival records but also from dozens of interviews carried out with Whitney's associates and workers This biography will not only be the standard study of Whitney but it will also provide a useful model and guide for all students of the key institutions of modern science Robert Friedel *British Journal for the History of Science*

*Science at Harvard University* Clark A. Elliott, Margaret W. Rossiter, 1992-02 This collection of original historical essays examines aspects of the relationship between science and the nation's oldest academic institution This is history as viewed from the varying perspectives of a group of scholars for whom science at Harvard University is a significant component of their ongoing research Thus the essays are of specialist interest while collectively the volume is a case study of science in an institutional setting In conducting their research the authors have used a wealth of primary sources from the Harvard Archives and other repositories The volume opens with a thematic introduction by Margaret Rossiter reflecting the picture of Harvard science drawn in the several papers in the volume while suggesting ways in which a study of Harvard relates to and illuminates the history of science in America The subsequent papers follow a generally chronological sequence beginning with Sara Schechner Genuth's study of attitudes toward comets in relation to early Harvard University programs and functions Mary Ann James examines the beginnings of applied science at Harvard and Bruce Sinclair continues that theme with a comparative study of MIT and Harvard Toby Appel's paper on zoologist Jeffries Wyman identifies the special part that

personal character plays in institutional history Curtis Hinsley concentrates on facilities and shows how the Peabody Museum gave rise to teaching in anthropology David Livingstone's biographical treatment of Nathaniel S Shaler reveals a number of intellectual strands running through the University in the late nineteenth century and John Parascandola's paper on L J Henderson likewise deals with a figure of wide influence and many interests ranging from biochemistry to sociology The latter topic leads to Lawrence Nichols's account of the rise of sociology at Harvard A view of the internal tensions within psychology are seen in Rodney Triplet's study of Henry A Murray I Bernard Cohen examines the relations among Howard Aiken IBM and Harvard in the development of the Mark I computer while Peggy Kidwell studies the Observatory community during World War II and its response to national defense and a developing federal support system Finally Clark Elliott considers the history of Harvard science as a field for study through a review of published literature and archival sources and makes suggestions for further investigation

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*Reader's Guide to the History of Science* Arne Hessenbruch, 2013-12-16 The Reader's Guide to the History of Science looks at the literature of science in some 550 entries on individuals Einstein institutions and disciplines Mathematics general themes Romantic Science and central concepts Paradigm and Fact The history of science is construed widely to include the history of medicine and technology as is reflected in the range of disciplines from which the international team of 200 contributors are drawn

**Physical Chemistry from Ostwald to Pauling** John W. Servos, 1990 John Servos explains the emergence of physical chemistry in America by presenting a series of lively portraits of such pivotal figures as Wilhelm Ostwald A A Noyes G N Lewis and Linus Pauling and of key institutions including MIT the University of California at Berkeley and Caltech In the early twentieth century physical chemistry was a new hybrid science the molecular biology of its time The names of its progenitors were familiar to everyone who was scientifically literate studies of aqueous solutions and of chemical thermodynamics had transformed scientific knowledge of chemical affinity By exploring the relationship of the discipline to industry and to other sciences and by tracing the research of its leading American practitioners Servos shows how physical chemistry was eclipsed by its own offspring specialties like quantum chemistry

*Partners in Science* Robert E. Kohler, 1991 Robert Kohler shows exactly how entrepreneurial academic scientists became intimate partners in science with the officers of the large foundations created by John D Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie and in so doing tells a fascinating story of how the modern system of grant getting and grant giving evolved and how this funding process has changed the way laboratory scientists make their careers and do their work This book is a rich historical tapestry of people institutions and scientific ideas It will stand for a long time as a source of precise and detailed information about an important aspect of the scientific enterprise It also contains many valuable lessons for the coming years John Ziman Times Higher Education Supplement

*World's Fairs in the Cold War* Arthur P. Molella, Scott Gabriel Knowles, 2019-09-13 The post World War II science based technological revolution inevitably found its way into almost all international expositions

with displays on atomic energy space exploration transportation communications and computers Major advancements in Cold War science and technology helped to shape new visions of utopian futures the stock in trade of world s fairs From the 1940s to the 1980s expositions in the United States and around the world from Brussels to Osaka to Brisbane mirrored Cold War culture in a variety of ways and also played an active role in shaping it This volume illustrates the cultural change and strain spurred by the Cold War a disruptive period of scientific and technological progress that ignited growing concern over the impact of such progress on the environment and humanistic and spiritual values Through the lens of world s fairs contributors across disciplines offer an integrated exploration of the US USSR rivalry from a global perspective and in the context of broader social and cultural phenomena faith and religion gender and family relations urbanization and urban planning fashion modernization and national identity all of which were fundamentally reshaped by tensions and anxieties of the Atomic Age

**A History of the Future** Peter J. Bowler, 2017-11-02 In this wide ranging survey Peter J Bowler explores the phenomenon of futurology predictions about the future development and impact of science and technology on society and culture in the twentieth century Utilising science fiction popular science literature and the novels of the literary elite Bowler highlights contested responses to the potential for revolutionary social change brought about by real and imagined scientific innovations Charting the effect of social and military developments on attitudes towards innovation in Europe and America Bowler shows how conflict between the enthusiasm of technocrats and the pessimism of their critics was presented to the public in books magazines and exhibitions and on the radio and television A series of case studies reveals the impact of technologies such as radio aviation space exploration and genetics exploring rivalries between innovators and the often unexpected outcome of their efforts to produce mechanisms and machines that could change the world

The Wind and Beyond: Theodore von Kármán, Pioneer in Aviation and Pathfinder in Space Theodore von Kármán, Lee Edson, 2022-05-22 A n autobiography that happily is an engrossing full bodied reflection of the man a neatly balanced combination of technical insights and always pertinent often irreverent anecdotes an upbeat tale of a man who had a great love of life and a well merited sense of achievement told with genuine gusto and fascinating detail Richard Witkin The New York Times It is the triumph of this book that it manages to combine a chatty anecdotal and highly readable tale of a distinguished scientist s everyday life with a substantial number of penetrating insights into the creative process I B Holley Jr Science The present biography is eminently readable sometimes puckish and von Karman himself is rather inspiring in his faith in science Kirkus Every paragraph grips the reader s attention a book almost impossible to put down until it is read Aerospace Historian This account of von Kármán s life and his contributions to the science of aerodynamics is most fascinating reading The Science Teacher Every page of this superb classic is infused with von Karman s humanity As his narrative makes clear he was not simply a clever technician but a man of character whose vision advanced the aerospace sciences and fostered international cooperation Aviation History

*Undisciplining Knowledge* Harvey J. Graff, 2015-08 Scholars across the disciplines

specialists in higher education administrators and interested readers will find the book's multiple perspectives and practical advice on building and operating and avoiding fallacies and errors in interdisciplinary research and education invaluable

Michael Bevis The Ohio State University School of Earth Sciences The Quarterly Review of Biology

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