

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

- Title:** Charles F. Scott
- Creators:** Bucher, William B.
- Issue Date:** Apr-1930
- Publisher:** Ohio State University, College of Engineering
- Citation:** Ohio State Engineer, vol. 13, no. 6 (April, 1930), 10.
- URI:** <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/34686>
- Appears in Collections:** [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 13, no. 6 \(April, 1930\)](#)

CHARLES F. SCOTT

By WILLIAM B. BUCHER, M.E. 1

Each year the American Institute of Electrical Engineers awards the Edison medal to the person in the field of electricity who has shown himself



Courtesy Alumni Monthly
CHARLES F. SCOTT

most worthy. The award was founded by friends of Thos. A. Edison and is given by a committee of twenty-four members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. Among those who have received the medal are Robert Millikan, Benjamin Lamme (Ohio State '88), Michael Pupin, Alexander G. Bell, George Westinghouse, and Nicola Tesla.

Professor Charles F. Scott, who won the medal this year, is the son of Dr.

William H. Scott, the third president of Ohio State University. Professor Scott graduated from Ohio State in 1885.

Professor Scott started working for the Westinghouse Co. on a night shift, watching the bearings on a shaft to see that they did not get too hot. For this he received \$30 a month. Soon after this he was promoted to assistant to Nicola Tesla who was working on the commercial production of the induction motor. After working two years in the research department he became known as one of the very able designers of A. C. apparatus in this country.

Scott had been experimenting with A. C. motors of about fifty horse power during the year 1890. In 1891 he designed a 100 h.p. motor, to be run on single phase current, for a company in Colorado.

At this time Edison's lamp was about twelve years old. Transformers for converting A. C. current into D. C. had been in use about five years. The first single-phase lighting plants had been in use about three years. These used 1,100 volts at 133 cycles, so we see what Professor Scott had as material to work with.

In 1892 the Thompson Houston Co. brought out a complete line of two-phase installations. In 1893 the Chicago exposition was lighted by two-phase alternators of 750 k.w. rating. During this same year the General Electric Co. announced a three-phase system and again during this year Mr. Scott designed his two-phase, three-phase connection transformers.

In 1891 Professor Scott became assistant electrician; in 1897 he became chief electrician. In 1904 he was made consulting engineer, which position he now holds. In 1911 he accepted the professorship of electrical engineering at Yale, and on January 29, 1930, he received the Edison award.