

Harold B. Smith

Professor Harold B. Smith was born at Barre, Massachusetts, May 23, 1869. He was graduated from Cornell University with the degree of M. E. in Electrical Engineering in June, 1891, and remained as graduate student until December, 1891.

In January, 1892, he was appointed Professor of Electrical Engineering in charge of the department at the University of Arkansas. Resigning from this position in December, 1892, he became Head Designer and Electrical Engineer for the Elektron Manufacturing Company, Springfield, Mass. From September, 1893, to June, 1896, he was Director of the Department of Electrical Engineering at Purdue University. He has held his present position as Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of the Department at Worcester Polytechnic Institute since 1896.

Professor Smith retained a connection with the Elektron Manufacturing Company as consulting engineer until 1902, and did consulting work for several other organizations at various times. Since 1905 he has served as a consulting engineer for the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

He was Chairman of the International Group, Jury of Awards in Electrical Engineering, at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. During the years 1917-19 he was an associate member of the Naval Consulting Board and Consultant of the Special Board of the Navy on Anti-Submarine Work.

He has been a pioneer in the development of high-voltage power transmission systems and equipment, has carried on many researches involving advanced conceptions of dielectric phenomena and stress distribution, and holds numerous patents. He has contributed many papers to the transactions of the societies and other engineering publications.

Professor Smith's Institute activities are as follows: Associate 1891; Member 1901, Fellow 1913; Director 1920-24; Vice-President 1924-26; Chairman of Sections Committee 1924-27; and member at various times of the Coordination, Education, Electrophysics, Law, Instruments and Measurements, Sections, Student Branches, Edison Medal, Research, Meetings and Papers, and a number of special committees. He is at present Chairman of the Committee on Code of Principles of Professional Conduct.

His other memberships include the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (Member), Institution of Electrical Engineers (Great Britain), Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fellow Sigma Xi, and Tau Beta Pi.

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