

**Nikola Tesla**

greeting his

**Seventy-fifth Anniversary**

**July 10, 1931**

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
THE HARVARD ENGINEERING SCHOOL

COMFORT A. ADAMS

Pierce Hall  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

June 8, 1931



Dear Mr. Tesla:

It is a great pleasure to participate in the commemoration of your seventy-fifth birthday, and I am glad to have an occasion for the expression of my appreciation of the contributions which you have made to the electrical industry and science.

As one of my chief interests is the design of electrical machinery, and particularly of induction motors, I am particularly grateful for the very important pioneer work which you have done in this field.

With heartiest congratulations and with every good wish for your health and happiness in the years to come,

Very sincerely yours,

CAA/EG



8 ADAMS ROAD  
SCHENECTADY  
NEW YORK

June 26, 1931.

Dear Mr. Tesla:

In almost every step of progress in electrical power engineering, as well as in radio, we can trace the spark of thought back to Nikola Tesla. There are few indeed who in their lifetime see the realization of such a far flung imagination.

I am happy indeed to have a chance to pay this tribute to what we owe to you, and at the same time send you my greetings and best wishes.

EFWA/B

Sincerely,

*E. F. W. Alexander*



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

GOWER STREET, LONDON, W. C. 1.

TELEPHONE NO. MUSEUM 8101.

IN REPLY PLEASE

QUOTE \_\_\_\_\_

June 20, 1931

To Dr Nikola Tesla



Dear Dr. Tesla,

I hear with great pleasure that your seventy fifth birthday is to be celebrated by a volume of friendly greetings, and that I am to be allowed to press in among the many more distinguished men who will unite in praising your great achievement and wishing you a sunny future. Some of the first experiments which inspired me as a boy with the beauty and mystery of physics were those carried out with the Tesla coil. Since then, although as a pure physicist I do not know of all your work as well as I should like, I have from time to time been brought into contact with your elegant and powerful inventions. I rejoice to be able to let you know of my warm regard, and I wish you a happy birthday, surrounded by the affection of the friends who know you personally and the esteem of all good physicists and electricians on both sides of the Atlantic. May you enjoy many more years of happiness and peace.

Yours sincerely  
EN da C. Andrade

E. F. W. ALEXANDERSON  
W. R. BLAIR  
E. L. CHAFFEE  
FRANK CONRAD  
H. T. FRIS  
G. S. GIBBS  
S. C. HOOPER  
R. H. MARRIOTT  
G. W. PICKARD  
CHARLES MCK. SALTEMAN  
GEORGE O. SQUIER  
A. HOTT TAYLOR  
WILLIAM WILSON

## NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Established in 1916 by the National Academy of Sciences  
under its Congressional Charter and organized with the cooperation of the  
National Scientific and Technical Societies of the United States

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RADIO UNION  
(U. R. S. I.)

AMERICAN SECTION

B & 21ST STREETS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Bureau of Standards  
A. E. KESSELY, Vice-Chairman  
Harvard Engineering School  
J. H. DELLINGER  
Technical Secretary  
Bureau of Standards  
F. K. RICHMYER  
Corresponding Secretary  
National Research Council

Dear Dr. Tesla:

I wish to join with your many admirers and friends in hearty congratulations and good wishes for your coming birthday. As one of the early workers in radio telegraphy, I am glad to express to you personally, as I have already done in print, my feeling of the great debt that the radio art owes to your genius. The solutions to many of the problems of the art which you presented at so early a date - 1893 - undoubtedly guided many of the later workers and laid a foundation for a large part of its present development.

Very sincerely yours,

*L. W. Austin*



TELEFUNKEN  
GESELLSCHAFT FÜR DRAHTLOSE TELEGRAPHIE  
M. B. H.  
DIREKTION

BERLIN SW 11, DEN 2. Juni 1931.  
HALLESCHES UFER 12

Dr. Georg Graf von Arco  
-----

Herrn

Nicola Tesla,  
New York.  
-----

Sehr verehrter Herr Tesla,

Es ist mir eine besondere Freude und Ehre, dem genialen Altmeister der Radiotechnik zu seinem 75. Geburtstag meine herzlichsten Wünsche und den Ausdruck meiner Bewunderung und Verehrung darbringen zu dürfen.

Als ich als Assistent Slaby's im Jahre 1897 in die Welt der Hochfrequenz eingeführt wurde, war das erste die Bekanntschaft mit den schon im Jahre 1895 in deutscher Übersetzung erschienenen Werken Tesla's, die auch von Slaby für eine wesentliche Grundlage der Hochfrequenztechnik gehalten wurden. Neben den grundlegenden Gedanken über Mehrphasenströme enthalten sie die Beschreibungen Ihrer fundamentalen Versuche der Hochfrequenz-Technik.

Wenn die klassischen Arbeiten von Heinrich Hertz die elektromagnetische Strahlung systematisch darstellen und den Zusammenhang mit der optischen zeigen, so waren die Ihrigen technische Offenbarungen neuer Mittel, um Hochfrequenzströme von grosser Leistung mit geeigneten Apparaturen herzustellen, und sie enthalten schon den Hinweis auf die Wichtigkeit der elektrischen Resonanz abgestimmter Kreise. Wenn man heute, zu

b.w.



B. A. BEHREND  
110 CLIFF ROAD  
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS.

FELLOW AM. INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERS  
AM. ACADEMY ARTS & SCIENCES  
MEMBER AM. SOCIETY CIVIL ENGINEERS  
AM. SOCIETY MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

CONSULTING ENGINEER  
June 3, 1931

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
Hotel Pennsylvania,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Tesla:

Among those who are happy to express to you their good wishes on your impending birthday, I am one of the humblest, but perhaps the last living engineer whose good fortune it has been to design literally millions of horse-power of motors and generators of the "Tesla System".

And though one should think that such monuments to your great inventive genius might be sufficient to fill the world with the fame of the name you bear, it must be recorded that such would be the case had it not been for the world's usual ingratitude toward its benefactors.

To those of us who have lived through the anxious and fascinating period of the development of alternating current power transmission there is not a scintilla of doubt that the name of Tesla is as great here as the name of Faraday is in the discovery of the phenomena underlying all electrical work.

Comparisons are odious and at the moment, while we are grateful that you have lived to see your great ideas realized far beyond your own dreams, it is perhaps bad taste to point out that the popular inventor of the incandescent lamp has had to look to your discoveries and inventions, and to our generating equipment designed with your ideas, for the generation of the electric energy without which his inventions would have remained lifeless.

As there is so much popular misunderstanding on this subject I think these lines may help to adjudicate where fame should be and where praise should fall.

Yours sincerely,



*B. A. Behrend*

Consulting Engineer,  
Dr. of Engineering hon. causa.

TELEPHONE: 0081 RICHMOND.

G. G. BLAKE, M.I.E.E., F.INST.P.

RADIOLOGIST. (Established 1905)

(Member, Society of Radiographers).

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The Royal Hospital, Richmond (12 years).

Radiographer to—

St. John's Hospital, Twickenham.  
Hounslow Hospital.  
Teddington Cottage Hospital.  
St. Mary's Cottage Hospital, Hampton.  
County of Middlesex Red Cross Hospital.\*  
Auxy. Military Hospital, "Percy House," Isleworth.  
Auxy. Military Hospital, Hampton Court.  
Kingston, Scrpton, and District Red Cross Hospital.  
New Malden.\*

\*Indicates Hospital closed since the War.



June 7/31.

Dear Mr. Tesla:

It affords me very great pleasure to participate in the congratulations which you will be receiving from men of Science all over the World on the attainment of your 75th birthday. It must give you great satisfaction when you see that your contributions to electrical knowledge have had such profound & far reaching results. I am mainly interested in that part of your work which has left its deep impress in the field of Wireless research & I will leave others to deal in their letters with your great & revolutionary inventions regarding alternating current power transmission, & the transformer called after your name. Many of your discoveries are of fundamental importance in Radio Telegraphy - I believe you were the first to suggest the rotating calibrator & if my information is correct your British patent of 1901 covering the use of an interrupter in a receiving circuit predates Professor "Tischer" by about 5 years. The earliest suggestion I have discovered of the use of "rotating sparkgaps" & of "choking coils" is in your 1896 patent. How gratified you must feel when you set your clock by Wireless time signals in remembering that these signals are the outcome of your conceptions. Amongst all your wonderful achievements your discovery and application to power transmission of Stationary Waves on the Earth is one of the most remarkable - Your important discovery in 1900 that the intensity of electrical oscillations increases with decrease of temperature may yet prove a very fruitful one.

In such a letter as this one cannot attempt to enumerate all that your fertile brain has given to the World.

Will you accept my best wishes for a continued useful

& long life

yours sincerely

G. G. Blake





TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
RUMFORDIG, PICCY, LONDON.

TELEPHONE:  
REGENT 0669.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION,  
21, ALBEMARLE STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

11th June 1931.

Dear Dr Nikola Tesla,

It is a very great pleasure to be allowed to contribute to the volume of greetings which you will be receiving from your friends and admirers the world over. I remember vividly the eagerness and fascination with which I read your account of the high tension experiments more than forty years ago. They were most original and daring: they opened up new vistas for exploration by thought and experiment. Since that time the electron, X-rays, radio-activity, the quantum theory and other startling additions to our knowledge of Nature have in turn impressed their wonder upon us. But I shall never forget the effect of your experiments, which came first to dazzle and amaze us with their beauty and interest.

Yours sincerely,

*W H Bragg*



July 1, 1931

H. W. BUCK  
101 EAST 72ND STREET  
NEW YORK

Dear Mr Tesla



Please accept my best wishes on your Birthday. It must be a great satisfaction to you to look back over the years and to realize how many of your predictions of forty odd years ago have been fulfilled in electrical science, whenever I see the radio towers at Port Jefferson it seems as if they were the reincarnation of your old tower at Wading River. It is a pity that the inertia and prejudice of thirty years ago prevented you from carrying that development to its proper conclusion. It might have set radio progress forward many years.

Hoping that you will have many more Birthdays.

Sincerely Yours

H. W. Buck

Nicola Tesla Esq.



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CHARLES E. CAMPBELL, GENERAL MANAGER

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LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

June 16, 1931.

TELEPHONE JACKSON 890  
CABLE ADDRESS  
CAMANCO LYNN, MASS., U. S. A.

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
Brooklyn, New York.



Dear Mr. Tesla,

I wish to extend greetings and very best wishes and express my appreciation of the work you have done in the past.

My work has been principally in the manufacture of high frequency equipment for physicians and hospitals. I do not think anyone appreciates more than I the importance of your early pioneer work in the production of high frequency currents by the alternating current transformer. This is practically the foundation of the whole radio industry today. I became interested in the high frequency currents following your early work in 1890-1891.

I sincerely trust that you are enjoying good health and that you may continue to enjoy good health through the years to come.

Very truly yours,

*Charles E. Campbell*



RADIO CORPORATION  
OF AMERICA



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MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS, 75 FRONT STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

TRIANGLE 5591  
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FITEROY 6900  
FOR INTERDEPARTMENT CALLS

June 30, 1931.

Nikola Tesla, pioneer in electrical arts, and inventor of many of the familiar devices of today, early attempted to solve the transmission of electric power by high-frequency currents - or, as we would say today, by radio.

In 1899, a transmitting station was erected in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to determine experimentally the laws underlying this new inroad into the secrets of electricity. Here Mr. Tesla discovered the presence of stationary electric waves in the earth, and followed this by many other discoveries which led him to believe that "ground waves" were the factors affecting his transmission of high-frequency currents.

Later, a similar tower was located in Waredenclyff, Long Island, and its mushroom-like cap was a familiar, if mysterious, sight to many. Here many further researches were carried on, until, due to a combination of circumstances, experiments ceased.

To dwell upon the many achievements of Nikola Tesla would require volumes. Suffice it here to mention his high-frequency coil, the well-termed "Tesla Coil", which is used today in one form or another at all radio stations. This is still the world's choice when demonstrations of the effect of high voltages are desired.

Under the joint leadership of the Smithsonian Institution and the Radio Corporation of America, plans are being arranged for the housing of a complete engineering and historical record of the birth and growth of radio, in several large centres of the United States, the most complete display to be that of the Smithsonian Institution itself, in Washington, D. C. In this series, the pioneer work of Nikola Tesla will have a prominent position.

G. H. Clark  
Curator, RCA Museum Warehouse

LOUIS COHEN, PH. D.  
Consulting Engineer  
3100 CONNECTICUT AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



TESLA, PIONEER IN RADIO

Among the many engineering achievements on which Tesla's fame rests as inventor and engineer his contributions to the early development of the radio art are probably not so well known.

In such a rapidly changing art as radio, where new discoveries and inventions crowd upon each other in rapid succession, we are apt to lose sight of the early pioneering work which is the very foundation upon which the magnificent structure of the radio art has been built, and to the building of this foundation Tesla's contributions were of first magnitude.

We owe much to Tesla's teachings in the elucidation and interpretation of the phenomena of resonance. He was one of the first to appreciate the importance of tuning and coupling in oscillatory circuits. In his famous "Tesla Coil" he has taught how to utilize the distributed inductance and capacity of coils to effect tuning. Tesla also built the first high frequency alternator, and if he would have combined this high frequency alternator with circuits that he had developed in connection with other experiments he could have had the first continuous wave telegraph system which was considered in later years as a marked advance in the art.

In reading of Tesla's work one is constantly struck by his many suggestions which have anticipated later developments in the radio art. I am sure that all of us who are familiar with the early development of the radio art appreciate the pioneer work of Tesla and are glad to place his name in the first rank of those who helped to create this magnificent art.

I consider it a privilege to participate in the greetings to Tesla on his seventy-fifth birthday, and assure him of the high esteem in which he is held by all who have knowledge of his work.

*Louis Cohen.*

L. K. COMSTOCK & COMPANY

INCORPORATED

ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION

16 EAST 52<sup>ND</sup> STREET

NEW YORK CITY

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EDGAR ELLINGER  
J. E. METZGER, SECRETARY



NEW YORK  
CHICAGO  
CLEVELAND  
PITTSBURGH  
MONTREAL

July 13th, 1931.

Mr. Kenneth M. Swezey,  
159 Milton Street,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.



Dear Mr. Swezey:-

Thank you for affording me the opportunity of contributing to the Birthday Book for Mr. Nikola Tesla. I feel that you have conferred upon me a great favor.

Although Nikola Tesla was not born in this country, he came to America when a young man and his nearly fifty years of citizenship have been most fruitful ones. His contributions to the engineering profession and the world as a whole have been large. His creative mind has produced not only the Alternating Current Transmission System, a System of Arc Lighting, the Potential Method of Dynamo Regulation, wireless transmission of intelligence and power, but many other inventions now in practical use. His research ability in the higher realms of electrotechnics has been notable.

His courage and perseverance which he developed early in life and which led him to cast aside positions of promise to undertake hazards in a new country have served him well. He was possessed of a courage and determination which could result only in success.

I submit this with the greatest respect and admiration for Nikola Tesla.

Very cordially yours,

LKC:D.

# American Television Laboratory Ltd.

7160 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

Hollywood, California

GRANITE 7604

June 8, 1931

Mr. Nikola Tesla  
New York City



My dear Mr. Tesla:

On the occasion of your seventy-fifth birthday I wish to express my heart felt appreciation of my deep personal obligation to you, as scientist and inventor.

For no one so excited my youthful imagination, stimulated my inventive ambition, or served as an outstanding example of brilliant achievement in the field I was eager to enter, as did yourself.

Your simple statement to me on one occasion, that you "knew I could succeed," renewed my courage and gave me new faith in myself at a time when I was sorely tried.

I can freely state that one of the greatest satisfactions of my life has been the realization that your faith in me was not misplaced, and that I was finally enabled to achieve an invention which could be placed in a niche alongside of your great gift to humanity, the polyphase motor.

Not only for the physical achievement of your researches on high frequencies which laid the basic foundation of the great industry of radio transmission in which I have labored, but for the incessant inspiration of your early writings and your example, do I owe you an especial debt of gratitude.

That your remaining years may be many, and filled with the rich happiness of a realization that your life has achieved greatly for humanity, is the sincere wish of an early Disciple.

*Lee de Forest*

Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company  
East Pittsburgh, Pa.

Office of  
W. K. Dumlaf,  
Acting Vice-President

June 4, 1931



My dear Mr. Tesla:

\*

On this your seventy-fifth anniversary, it must be with no little pride and gratification that you realize how much the inventions which you made in the decade prior to 1890, culminating in the numerous patents issued to you covering generators, motors, transformers, transmission systems, etc. now known to the art as the Polyphase System, have done to advance the welfare of your fellow man.

It was your work which made possible at so early a date the successful development at Niagara, the pioneer in the adoption of your system on a large scale and the forerunner of the tremendous electrical power industry which has grown up throughout the civilized world and without which modern life as we know it would be impossible.

With heartiest congratulations and best wishes, I remain

Most sincerely yours,

Mr. Nikola Tesla  
New York, New York



GANO DUNN  
43 EXCHANGE PLACE  
NEW YORK



To Nikola Tesla

Greeting to my great friend and teacher, who before radio telegraphy was known, proposed to distribute time signals to ships at sea by Hertzian waves from a discharge, whose demonstration of cold light turned attention to increased illuminating efficiency, and who established many other fundamental conceptions in the high tension, high frequency field.

Prolific inventor, who solved the greatest problem in electrical engineering of his time, and gave to the world the polyphase motor and system of distribution, revolutionizing the power art and founding its phenomenal development.

My contact as your assistant at the historic Columbia University high frequency lecture and afterward, has left an indelible impression and an inspiration which has influenced my life.

*Gano Dunn*

July 1931.

MINISTÈRE DE LA GUERRE

GÉNIE

N° \_\_\_\_\_

Paris le 25 Juin 1931.

51 bis, Boulevard Latour-Maubourg (VII<sup>e</sup>)

Téléph : SÉGUR 22-84

*Le Général FERRIÉ, Commandant Supérieur  
des Troupes et Services de Transmissions*

à Monsieur le Professeur T E S L A .



Monsieur le Professeur,

Pionnier de la première heure de la Radiotélégraphie, je tiens à m'associer à l'hommage rendu aux services que vous avez rendus à la science de l'Electricité .

C'est grâce à vos beaux travaux sur les courants de haute fréquence, et en utilisant les procédés de production de ces courants, que vous avez indiqué, qu'il a été possible de produire les premières ondes hertziennes et de réaliser ce procédé de transmission à distance de la pensée qui a déjà bouleversé les conditions de la vie moderne . Vous pouvez être fier de l'oeuvre que vous avez accomplie .

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Professeur, en même temps que le témoignage de ma grande admiration, l'assurance de ma haute considération .

*Ferrié*

June 13th, 1931

Mr. Nikola Tesla:



My dear Mr. Tesla:

It is a rare privilege for me to send you a letter congratulating you on the attainment of your seventy-fifth birthday. I find it difficult to realize that within that period of time the electrical industry has come into being and has transformed civilization, largely by means of the ideas and inventions which were conceived in your own brain. It is even more difficult to imagine the changes which the future will bring when other concepts of yours, now imperfectly comprehended, shall have reached their fruition.

It is not too much to claim that the beautiful idea of the rotating magnetic field, produced by polyphase currents, and the associated mode of transmission of power, has done more toward the achievement of true freedom for the human race than any other discovery.

Your early mastery of high frequency oscillations and your perception of their fundamental importance marks a penetration into the secrets of Nature which we have scarcely begun to grasp.

You have made the whole world your debtor, but there is no suggestion of a burden in the debt which is owed to you. Two countries - those of your birth and of your adoption - take especial pride in the relationship, and we of the United States feel honored that you have chosen to make your home with us.

The occasion of this letter is unique. It cannot occur again. But you and your work will be remembered on innumerable future birthdays, for yours is a life that can never be forgotten.

I am, Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

*William Pratt Graham*

William Pratt Graham

2221 KALORAMA ROAD  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 3, 1931.



My dear Dr. Tesla:

After twenty years of research in electrical development, I look back with amazement at the work you conducted in the beginning of the twentieth century. Your knowledge and vision at that time was of a prophetic order that can justly be classed as genius.

My contact with you was inspiring and you revealed to me that exquisite artistry in your creations that gives to invention a subtlety and a philosophical accomplishment.

Sincerely,

*John Hays Hammond Jr*

Dr. Nikola Tesla.

Jambury 26, Kaliny 2. III, den 14. Juni 1931.

Herr Graf von von Nicola Tesla!



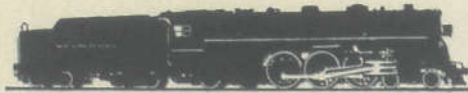
Ihr einem ausgeübten und begabten Jüngling der Physik ist es  
nicht selten erwünscht, sich mit sorgfältigen Glückwünschen zu einem 75.  
Geburts-tage einem Mann näher zu tun, dessen Name als der eines  
führenden Geistes der physikalischen Forschung anerkannt und eines Mannes,  
begründer der elektrischen Großtechnik für immer in das Gedächtnis  
eingegraben ist.

Der Mann Tesla ist jedem Sachverständigen geläufig, der einem  
ausgebildeten Physiker unterwirft bei Gelegenheit, es ist die Erinnerung an  
den so überaus glänzenden Forscher mit dem Fortschreiten der  
wissenschaftlichen Arbeit, die sich mit dem Namen Tesla verbindet.  
Auch der Schriftsteller des "Kosmos" wurde gerade durch die  
Veröffentlichung der "Tesla-Handschrift" in der physikalischen Zeitschrift  
wird lange vor der Zeit allgemein bekannt, in welcher die  
modernen Radiotechnik-Entwicklungen der Welt bekannt ist und die  
für den Weltfrieden eine wichtige Bedeutung in der Natur der  
elektrischen Kommunikation und die so überaus wichtigen  
Kommunikationsmittel mit den geographischen Tesla-Systemen.

Ihre für den bescheidenen Fortschritt der menschlichen Kultur  
aber bedeutende Aufgabe - Ihr eigentlicher Lebenswerk, die  
Fortschritte der menschlichen Welt - haben es allen Tugenden für  
Ihre großen physikalischen und technischen Leistungen; die für die Welt,  
welche die Fortschritte der Wissenschaft über menschliche Wissenschaften von  
Silvanus P. Thompson und anderen hat, die die Wissenschaftler die  
wahren Tugenden von Ihnen lassen, und welche Ihnen für Ihre  
überaus glänzenden Verdienste mit den Fortschritten der Welt  
Ihre großen Leistungen, Ihre Arbeit und Ihre Leistung für die Welt der  
Wissenschaften. Ihre großen Verdienste sind Ihnen noch bis zur Gegenwart  
zu den Fortschritten der Welt und zu den Fortschritten der Welt.  
Ihre großen Verdienste sind Ihnen noch bis zur Gegenwart  
zu den Fortschritten der Welt und zu den Fortschritten der Welt.  
Ihre großen Verdienste sind Ihnen noch bis zur Gegenwart  
zu den Fortschritten der Welt und zu den Fortschritten der Welt.  
Ihre großen Verdienste sind Ihnen noch bis zur Gegenwart  
zu den Fortschritten der Welt und zu den Fortschritten der Welt.

Das höchste Lob und Dank  
Ihr Dr. Wilhelm Jäger.

**EDWARD HUNGERFORD** 466 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y.



May 11, 1931.

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
Citizen of the World.



My dear Mr. Tesla:

When a man has made his progress successfully three-quarters of the way across a magnificent century of progress, I feel that he is entitled to the warmest congratulations in the world. Those are yours from me. I wish that I might spell them in words of gold, punctuate them with glittering thoughts in diamonds. But, alas, I have no such large abilities. All I can say is that I wish you the best of good fortune and continued progress in your high place in your profession.

Faithfully yours,

5 MERCER CIRCLE  
CAMBRIDGE

To Dr. Nikola Tesla  
On Celebrating His Seventy-fifth Birthday

Dear Dr. Tesla:



I heartily congratulate you on your attaining the seventy-fifth anniversary of your birth.

Scientists may quarrel over priority of hypotheses or discoveries and the reverberations go on for generations; but for discoveries which are converted to useful purposes such quarrels have with us a tribunal for their determination, which is the Federal Courts, in the high justice of which Americans take much pride, and which decide such matters in less than a lifetime. Your invention of polyphase power devices caused a good share of determined contests, but you were declared by our Federal Courts to be an independent discoverer and the original inventor in that very important field. From your work as its welling source flows that great stream of progress which the development of polyphase motors has provided for American industry.

The New York Times  
Times Square

June 12, 1931



Dear Mr. Tesla:

Let me join the hundreds of your friends and admirers in America and Europe and offer you my hearty congratulations in commemoration of your seventy-fifth birthday.

As I look back over thirty years of editorial and journalistic work confined to the interpretation of science and engineering your figure looms larger than any with which I have been brought in contact. It was a privilege to bring to the public notice the results of your epoch-making experiments in electrical engineering and electrical resonance. I owe you more than a debt of gratitude for your aid. The fine, imaginative quality that underlies all your work and your bold advance into fields that other engineers were too commercially minded to enter proved to be an inspiration.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Waldemar Kaempffert', is written over a horizontal line.

Waldemar Kaempffert  
Science and Engineering Editor

Nikola Tesla, Esq.  
New York, N. Y.



VLADIMIR KARAPETOFF  
CONSULTING ENGINEER  
PROFESSOR OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, N. Y.

May 25, 1931.

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
8 West 40th Street,  
New York City.



Dear Sir:

As one of the electrical engineers whose work during the last thirty-five years has been based at least in part on your great discovery of the induction motor principle and of the high-frequency circuit, it gives me great pleasure to send you a message of good will and sympathy on your seventy-seventh birthday.

The importance of your early work cannot be over-estimated, and your friends rejoice with you that kindly Fate has granted you to live to see tremendous practical developments based largely upon your great intuition and prophetic vision.

You have amply earned your place among the most prominent men in our profession, and may you live long in good health, with serene recollections of the accomplishments of the past and a hopeful look towards the future, when your great inventions will be used still more for the benefit of humanity.

Faithfully yours,

*V. Karapetoff*

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
THE HARVARD ENGINEERING SCHOOL

A. E. KENNELLY  
*Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering*

*Pierce Hall*  
*Cambridge, Massachusetts*  
June 5, 1931.



Dear Doctor Tesla;

I am very glad to contribute a letter of personal greeting to a group of testimonials which, I understand, is being prepared for presentation to you in recognition of your pioneer work in alternating-current machinery.

It is hard for many of us today to visualise a period, not many decades back, when there were no a.c. induction motors. I remember that period very well.

Your contribution to the development and extension of the alternating-current system of electric transmission and distribution, through the production of a model induction motor, in those early days, was an event that I shall always remember with much satisfaction. From your original model there has been developed a long series of increasingly powerful machines which are part of the equipment of innumerable factories, farms and dwellings on this continent.

Hoping that you may long enjoy the well-deserved recognition of the electrical engineering fraternity for your pioneer efforts in advancing alternating-current power transmission,

I remain, with all kind wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

*A. E. Kennelly.*

Dr. Nikola Tesla,  
8 West 40th St.,  
New York City.

Berlin, 15. Juli 1931

Hoch verehrter Herr Tesla !



Die Arbeit, die ich als Ingenieur, als Universitätslehrer und als Staatsbeamter verrichtet habe, war zum grössten Teil der drahtlosen Telegraphie gewidmet. Es ist mir darum bewusst, dass Sie, Herr Tesla, wie auf vielen Gebieten der Elektrotechnik, auch hier bahnbrechend gewirkt haben. Als Student lernte ich Ihre damals neuen Versuche mit hochfrequenten Schwingungen kennen; und als Schüler und Mitarbeiter des vor 25 Jahren verstorbenen Physikers Paul Drude bewunderte ich Ihre vorbildliche Forschungsarbeit. Der Reichtum Ihrer Ideen ist so gross, und Ihre experimentelle Kunst ist so vollendet, dass die drahtlose Telegraphie für mich nie den Charakter einer geheimnisvollen Kunst gehabt hat. Nach der Entdeckung der Hertz'schen Wellen und der Teslaströme war vielmehr die Entwicklung der drahtlosen Telegraphie geradezu eine Naturnotwendigkeit; wenn diese Technik unter dem günstigen Einfluss späterer wirtschaftlicher Erfolge und wissenschaftlicher Fortschritte sich zu besonders hoher Blüte entwickelt hat, so bleibt das wissenschaftlich-technische Fundament, die Beherrschung der hochfrequenten Wechselströme, Ihr unbestreitbares Verdienst.

Es ist mein herzlichster Wunsch, dass Sie, Herr Tesla, nachdem Sie Ihr 75. Lebensjahr vollendet haben, in der aufrichtigen Bewunderung, die Ihnen auf der ganzen Erde gezollt wird, und in der warmen, dankbaren Verehrung, die Ihnen auch in den Kreisen der Hochfrequenztechniker entgegengebracht wird, eine hohe Genugtuung empfinden, deren Sie sich noch lange Jahre in Gesundheit erfreuen mögen.

In aufrichtiger Hochachtung begrüsse ich Sie.

*Franz Kiebitz*

# Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company



Office of  
S.M. Kintner  
Vice President

East Pittsburgh, Pa.

June 5, 1931.



It gives me great pleasure to join with Mr. Tesla's many friends in extending to him our sincere greetings on his Seventy-Fifth Birthday.

When one pauses to consider that one hundred years ago Faraday and Henry had not then discovered the principle of electro-magnetic induction, that was later to be so thoroughly understood and applied by Tesla to so many new and useful purposes, he cannot fail to realize how truly a pioneer Tesla is.

It would be difficult to imagine an electrical industry with Tesla's contributions left out.

It was the Polyphase System - of power generation - transmission and utilization - first proposed by Tesla and developed by Westinghouse, that started the electrical industry on its rapid march to its present mammoth size.

Tesla's marvelous imagination led him to attempts at distant communication without connecting wires. Many of the instrumentalities developed by him were found to be of inestimable value to the later investigators in the Radio art. In many instances, Tesla's early experiments can be distinguished from those of later successful investigators in Radio, only by most painstaking examinations.

There are few living pioneers in the electrical industry who can take rank with Tesla and it is a great satisfaction and inspiration to still have him with us.

Sincerely,

Greeting to Prof. Tesla.

Berlin, May 1931.

Dear Professor Tesla,



Sending you my best wishes for your health and my heartiest congratulations for the great achievements due to you in the fields of Physics and Electrotechnics I hope you will be pleased by my pointing out anew how Tesla-currents were useful in the first stage of phototelegraphy. An evacuated tube - now a days Neon-Tubes have replaced the old apparatus- made luminescent by Tesla-currents sent its rays through a small window on the receiving photographic paper, and the Tesla-currents were modulated by the signals arriving from the transmitting station.

The first photo sent over a telegraphic line (München-Nürnberg-München) by the aid of a photoelectric cell in the transmitting station was received in 1904 in this manner.

This was the beginning of modern phototelegraphy.

Yours very truly

*Arthur Korn*



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON

July 10, 1931.

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
8 West Fortieth Street,  
New York City.



My dear Mr. Tesla:

On your seventy-fifth birthday it is a privilege and a pleasure to greet you as a pioneering scientist whose inventions were so revolutionary that they were not appreciated when first disclosed, but who has lived to see those very inventions come into everyday use throughout the world.

Without the induction motor there would have been no long distance energy transmission as we know it today, many modern industrial processes would not have been developed, and the electrical service now considered a public necessity would have remained a luxury for the few.

Fortunate, indeed, is the age in which you have lived that so many of your "dreams" have come true, and more fortunate still are the generations to come which will see in fuller realization the electrical marvels you conceived.

Please accept my best wishes that you will enjoy, in good health, many more happy birthdays.

Very sincerely,

*A. P. Laurent*

Marius Latour

1, Calle Easo

San Sebastián

Saint Sébastien, le 24 juin 1931

Monsieur Nikola Tesla  
Etats-Unis d'Amérique



Monsieur,

Permettez-moi de venir vous présenter  
mes meilleurs vœux à l'occasion de votre  
anniversaire.

Ils s'adressent à celui, dont parmi tant  
d'autres inventions, le nom reste attaché  
à celle du moteur d'induction devenu la  
machine fondamentale de la technique  
des courants alternatifs et à celle des  
transmissions sans fil qui ont révo-  
lutionné les relations humaines.

Puisse croire, Monsieur, à l'amu-  
risme de mes sentiments particulièrement  
dévoués

Marius Latour

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS  
33 WEST THIRTY-NINTH STREET  
NEW YORK



WILLIAM S. LEE, *PRESIDENT*  
535 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.  
TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 5200  
CABLE ADDRESS, WESLEE

Charlotte, N. C.,  
June 11, 1931.



My dear Mr. Tesla:

Please permit me to take this occasion to extend to you, on your seventy-fifth birthday, my sincere congratulations and best wishes.

Having been largely interested in the development of prime movers in hydro-electric and steam generation, I have watched from time to time your work in the electrical field and it has been of great use and benefit to the industry and the manufacturers of our country. I, therefore, want to express my deep appreciation for the work you have done in the field of Electrical Engineering.

I am, With kindest regards and all the good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

  
W. S. Lee.

WSL/E

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York, N. Y.



Telegrams  
"14000, NORMANTON, AMESBURY."  
Station for Goods, AMESBURY.  
Telephone: 42 AMESBURY.



NORMANTON HOUSE,  
LAKE,  
SALISBURY.

26 May 1931

Dear Mr. Nikola Tesla

I learn with surprise that you have already reached the age of 75 & I send you hearty congratulations.

I well remember the time when as a young man you aroused the attention & excited the enthusiasm of London scientific men by the demonstration of high-tension electricity which you gave at the Royal Institution of Great Britain. Those experiments produced results which could

anything previously accomplished up to that time. You did this by using the inductive power of the strong currents produced by electrical discharges, & showed an amount of burst discharge which was unexpected & surprising.

Unfortunately I did not see this demonstration, for I was ill at the time, but I saw your apparatus afterwards & recognized that your open coil transformer with oil insulation was better & more effective than anything I had used in the same kind of direction. My lamp had

to considerable improvement in comparison with high-tension electricity, & has been used for engineering purposes.

You find it possible to transmit strong currents through the human body provided the frequency was sufficiently high, a fact which constitutes a discovery in physiology.

With all good wishes I am  
Yours sincerely

Oliver Lodge



Dr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

It has not been my good fortune to meet you personally but I am well acquainted with many of your brilliant ideas and basic scientific discoveries. For many years it has been my pleasure to present to successive generations of University students, your concepts of polyphase electric systems, of rotating magnetic fields, of high frequency oscillatory discharges and to show the far reaching effects of your inventions on present day electric apparatus, machines and power systems. Incidentally, let me mention that during the past academic year two of my students constructed a large Tesla coil and reproduced your impressive demonstrations of oscillatory discharges that astonished the world forty years ago.

The passing years give perspective to great deeds and with each decade your achievements loom larger. Your discoveries form the firm foundation for an ever increasing number of important industrial applications.

My students and colleagues join me in extending congratulations and best wishes on your seventy-fifth birthday. We salute you, Sir, as master thinker and great engineer!

Very sincerely yours,

*C. E. Magnusson*  
C. E. Magnusson

Seattle, Washington  
June 15, 1931

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

WASHINGTON

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
BUREAU OF STANDARDS

IN YOUR REPLY  
REFER TO FILE NO.

July 10, 1931.



Dear Mr. Tesla:

Permit me to add my greetings to, and expression of sincere admiration for, the inventor whose "dreams" of long ago are the realities of today.

Your opinion, expressed nearly a quarter-century ago, that "the wireless art offers greater possibilities than any invention or discovery heretofore made," was little appreciated at that time. Conclusive proof of your ability to foresee practical developments in the wireless art is afforded by your statement in 1908 that "it will be possible for a business man in New York to dictate instructions, and have them instantly appear in type at his office in London or elsewhere. He will be able to call up, from his desk, and talk to any telephone subscriber on the globe, without any change whatever in the existing equipment. An inexpensive instrument, not bigger than a watch, will enable its bearer to hear anywhere, on sea or land, music or song, the speech of a political leader, the address of an eminent man of science, or the sermon of an eloquent clergyman delivered in some other place, however distant. In the same manner any picture, character, drawing or print can be transferred from one to another place. Millions of such instruments can be operated from but one plant of this kind."

You were then, and are now, much ahead of your generation. Your one mistake was in being born about a quarter-century too soon.

However, just as the very practical American industry now appreciates fully the value of your "dreams" about the revolving magnetic field - embodied in the ever present induction motor - so will it in time place the proper value on your pioneering contributions to the wireless art.

May you live through an extra quarter-century so as to obtain the recognition which your foresight so thoroughly merits.

Sincerely,

*Addams S. McAllister*

Addams S. McAllister

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
8 West 40th St.,  
New York City.

The University Club  
1 West 54th Street

June 29/31

My dear Tesla:



They tell me you are about to have a seventy-fifth birthday anniversary. Under you my congratulations and the sincere hope that you may live through many more happy years.

I often think of the time when I was in the laboratory of the Westinghouse Company in Garrison Alley. Outstanding in my memories

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
PASADENA

NORMAN BRIDGE LABORATORY OF PHYSICS

Dr. Nicola Tesla,

May 30/1931.



Dear Dr. Tesla

When I was a young man of twenty five as a student in Columbia University I attended a down-town public lecture in New York at which you made one of the first demonstrations of your Tesla-Coil and its capabilities. Since then I have done no small fraction of my research work with the aid of the principles I learned that night so that it is not merely my congratulations that I am sending to you now but with them also my gratitude and my respect in overflowing measure.

Cordially yours

Robert A. Millikan.

# Electrical World

A MCGRAW-HILL PUBLICATION

FIFTH AVENUE AT 36th STREET  
New York, N.Y.

June 15th

1931



Dear Mr. Tesla:

On behalf of the editorial staff of Electrical World, I wish to extend you birthday greetings and best wishes. Needless to say, your name has long been held up to the electrical industry both as a contributor to its development and as an example for others to follow. Your career, to us as editors is a shining example of the value of education and of original ideas united with the persistency and intelligence needed to render contributions to human welfare.

To the father of the induction motor and the exemplar of our highest human ideals we render grateful thanks. May your name continue to inspire us and may you have many other birthdays for the receipt of our deepest appreciation.

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. W. W. MORROW".

L. W. W. MORROW

Editor

LWWM:DG

592 Park Avenue,  
East Orange, N. J.  
June 13th, 1931



My dear Mr. Tesla:

It gives me great pleasure to write to you at this time in your life. For over forty years I have been an unchangeable admirer of you and your work. I sat beside the platform in old Columbia College on the evening of May 20th, 1891. You fanned into a never dying flame my latent interest in gaseous conduction. I have always promptly absorbed all that you have written. Early in 1894, I told our mutual friend, the late T. C. Martin, that your book "The Inventions, Researches and Writings of Nikola Tesla," which contains your original lectures, would still be considered a classic a hundred years hence. I have not changed my opinion. It is a record of researches into fields then practically virgin that is unparalleled. The application of the principles therein first enunciated have definitely changed for the better, life on this planet. While we were walking up Fifth Avenue one fine Sunday afternoon in 1894, you deliberately stopped and thoughtfully said, "After we have signalled from any point to any point on the earth, the next step will be signalling to other planets."

The length of the pioneer discharges, which you later produced with your coil in Denver, will be even more appreciated by posterity.

To develop the world, there must be first, explorers with minds strong in imagination and vision and second, laborers by the roadside.

I rejoice with you that the name Tesla is cast into the first water turbine alternating current generators at Niagara, and that your part in the development of Lighting and particularly gaseous conduction lighting can never be forgotten.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Moore".

Dr. Nikola Tesla  
New York City

DMcM/ERS

Telephone 13 F 3.

EREWHON FARM  
MONROE, N. Y.

June 16th., 1931

Dr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York City, N. Y.



Dear Dr. Tesla,

The near approach of your 75th. birthday gives me an opportunity to tender my respectful congratulations and homage to one who has made very great contributions to electrical science.

In my humble opinion, the tardy application to radiotelegraphy of your synchronous discharger - although, unfortunately, not associated with your name - constituted one of the most important advances in that art until the advent of the tube.

Good health to you, Sir; and many happy returns of the day.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arthur H. Morse".

Arthur H. Morse.



GREENLEAF WHITTIER PICKARD,  
NEWTON CENTRE, MASS.



Dear Mr. Tesla:-

In this birthday greeting I, a worker in radio for thirty-three years, wish to express the deep indebtedness of my art to your pioneer work with high frequencies. Forty years ago you predicted "the transmission of intelligible signals to any distance without the use of wires" and outlined the means by which this was to be accomplished; you have lived to see this done, first by code signals, then by the spoken word and now you are witnessing the beginning of practical television.

It is my hope that on some not-too-far-distant return of this day you will see this earth covered by an invisible mesh linking all nations by sight as well as by sound; rest assured that in this apotheosis of communication radio engineers will recognize the part you have played.

*Greenleaf Whittier Pickard*



Considering generally Mr. Nikola Tesla's valuable contributions to the alternating current technique and especially his beautiful investigations on high-frequency currents (the Tesla currents) I wish to send Mr. Tesla by these lines my heartiest greeting and congratulation on occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

15/6. 1931.

Denmark. Gentofte.

Valdemar Poulsen.



# THE NIAGARA FALLS POWER COMPANY.

NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK.

July 10, 1931.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
PAUL A. SCHOELLKOPF

Nikola Tesla, E.E., A.I.E.E.,  
New York City,  
New York.



Dear Mr. Tesla:

On this anniversary of your birth, The Niagara Falls Power Company offers congratulations to the man who some thirty years back wrote after his name in its visitors' book, "Stop in New York but heart is at Niagara", and who so fundamentally contributed to the world's pioneer power development.

Of those engineers, financiers, and scientists whose genius, courage, and industry made possible at Niagara the birth of hydro-electric power and created the first five thousand horse power water turbines directly connected to alternating current generators and inaugurated in America long distance transmission of power by electricity, you are among a very small number of individuals who have been permitted to survive to witness and take part in further growth and development of the Niagara idea, now become the heritage of the world almost without thought in the mind of the present generation of the condition of the electric art prior to 1893.

The momentous decision made in 1893 to adopt polyphase alternating current for Niagara power development was greatly facilitated by your invention of polyphase induction motors making practicable the conversion of electricity into mechanical power.

It is fitting that your name continue as it now is, inscribed on the bronze nameplate of the first 5000 h.p. alternator used at Niagara.

I, who am now privileged to represent the Niagara Companies, desire to add my personal congratulations, with the wish that you may have many happy returns of this day and that your heart continue to remain where you so early placed it in the world's service.

Faithfully yours,

*Paul A. Schoellkopf*  
President of  
The Niagara Falls Power Company

CHARLES F. SCOTT  
YALE STATION  
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

Birthday Greetings to Nikola Tesla



I well remember an evening about the middle of August, 1888, in the Westinghouse testing room at Pittsburgh. I had just come with the Company and was assistant to Ed Spooner who was running the dynamo testing room at night. He called me and said "There comes Tesla."

I had heard of Tesla. A few months previous I had read his paper on the polyphase induction motor which my former college professor had pronounced as a complete solution of the motor problem. And now I was to see Tesla himself.

There he came, marching down the aisle with head and shoulders erect and with a twinkle in his eye. It was a great moment for me.

And later on I became Tesla's wireman and his assistant in preparing and making tests. It was a splendid opportunity for a beginner, this coming in contact with a man of such eminence, rich in ideas, kindly and friendly in disposition.

Tesla's fertile imagination often constructed air castles which seemed prodigious. But I doubt whether even his extravagant expectations for the toy motor of those days measured up to the actual realization. For the polyphase system which it inaugurated is the basis of the electric transmission and power service of today, exceeding in magnitude and usefulness and promise for the future the wildest dreams of the early days.

And so from the standpoint of useful achievement for the benefit of mankind and in memory of most pleasant and personal relations, I extend heartiest greetings on this his seventy-fifth anniversary.

July 3, 1931

SPRAGUE  
SAFETY CONTROL AND SIGNAL  
CORPORATION  
421 CANAL STREET

NEW YORK. July 2, 1931

FRANK J. SPRAGUE,  
PRESIDENT



Dear Tesla:

A friend, the well known writer Julian Street, once wrote a series of brief newspaper reviews entitled "Flowers for the Living", rightly thinking that most men would prefer appreciation of their work from their contemporaries than eulogies from future historians.

And now a good friend of yours, following a commendable but not frequent practice, has proposed that on your coming birthday you should receive from your contemporaries some concrete evidence of recognition of your pioneer work in the electrical field. I am only too glad to join with others in this happy suggestion.

Few men who have engaged in original work and laid the foundation for great industries receive even from their fellows, and even less from the public, any adequate recognition of their labor. You are not alone in this category, for in our present day of hero worship popular fame, even when evanescent, is largely a matter of newspaper exploitation or commercial propaganda.

But those in the know can have no hesitation in according to you and many of your inventions an exceptionally high place in electric technique and the commercial world. Whether in the laboratory or in the great field of the transmission of electric energy, your experiments with high frequency circuits, the development of the Tesla coil, and the creation of the polyphase system of power transmission and the rotary field motor will remain inextinguishable beacon lights in a great art and industry.

I hope that the evidences of friendship and appreciation which you will receive will gladden your heart, and be an incentive for further endeavor.

With my best wishes in all things,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York City.

LEWIS B. STILLWELL  
M. G. STARRETT  
F. M. BRINCKERHOFF

L. B. STILLWELL  
CONSULTING ENGINEER  
11 WEST 42<sup>ND</sup> STREET, N. Y. CITY



June 29, 1931.

My dear Tesla:

It must be a great satisfaction to you upon the occasion of your seventh-fifth birthday to know that you have made one of the great contributions in your day and generation in the field of mechanic arts. Whatever other inventors may have thought or done here or abroad, it was you who gave to America the polyphase motor upon which today practically all electric transmission of power depends. That is a contribution which ranks with Edison's lamp, Bell's telephone and the air brake of Westinghouse.

As one who was a member of the Westinghouse Engineering staff when in 1888 you first came to Pittsburgh with your motor and for more than forty years since that time has maintained keen interest in its development and now almost universal use, I offer my congratulations and all good wishes for your continued health and activity.

Sincerely yours,

*Lewis B. Stillwell*

BARTOL RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
OF  
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

June 5, 1931.

W. F. G. SWANN  
Director

ADDRESS  
WHITTIER PLACE  
SWARTHMORE, PENNSYLVANIA



Dr. Nicola Tesla  
8 West 40th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Doctor Tesla:

Although I have never had the pleasure of making your personal acquaintance, you are so well known, through your work, to all men of science, that I am glad to have the opportunity of joining with so many of my friends in writing to congratulate you upon the attainment of your seventy-fifth birthday.

I so well remember those days in my early youth when, reading of your work with a nascent mind, I used to think of you as a veritable wizard in the most spectacular field of electrical science. That feeling has always remained with me, so that when I read of some new discovery which is about to come from you I look with expectancy to the successful accomplishment of something which had before seemed almost beyond practical realization.

May you continue to enjoy the best of health, so that you may reap the satisfaction of your many efforts and continue to enrich the realms of electrical discovery.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. F. G. Swann". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

WFGS:CKL

# Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company

150 Broadway, New York

Office of  
Charles A. Terry,  
Vice President

June 15, 1931



My dear Mr. Tesla:

On the occasion of your approaching your seventy-fifth birthday, I wish to extend to you my hearty congratulations, and also to express my deep appreciation of the notable contribution which, forty-three years ago, you rendered to the alternating current system of distribution.

At that time when George Westinghouse was earnestly endeavoring, against strenuous opposition, to introduce the alternating current, he was greatly hampered by the lack of adequate means for converting the electrical energy of the alternating current into mechanical power. Efficient direct power motors were available, but no one had succeeded in devising a suitable alternating current motor.

On May 1st, the electrical world was startled by the appearance of your remarkable set of patents disclosing the type of motor now universally known as the "Tesla Motor". The opportune appearance of your motor at that critical time solved one of the serious problems then confronting a general introduction of the system of distribution by which electrical energy is today distributed over vast distances throughout the country.

The fact that you, at such an early date and at such an opportune time, came to the rescue of the advocates of the alternating current system entitles you to high commendation, and it should be a source of extreme gratification to you that not only the public, but the United States Courts generally have recognized that you are justly entitled to the great credit of having contributed to the art the famous "Tesla Motor".

With best wishes for a happy birthday and many returns thereof,

Sincerely yours,

*Charles A. Terry*

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York, N. Y.



THE VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER,  
Faculty of Technology.

MILES WALKER, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.  
Professor of Electrical Engineering.

Telephone: 7225 City.  
Telephone: Buxton 137.

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY,  
SACKVILLE STREET,  
MANCHESTER.

5<sup>th</sup> June 1931



Dear Nikola Tesla,

As a student in the early '90s I followed your work on polyphase phenomena. Few of us then anticipated the enormous developments of polyphase machinery and transmission of power that would ensue.

The advent of this machinery has given to me personally a great interest in life as well as a livelihood and to the World at large it has been a powerful factor in the progress of civilization.

I thank you for your great gifts to the World.

Yours sincerely

Miles Walker

FRANK N. WATERMAN  
220 BROADWAY, NEW YORK



Dear Mr. Tesla:

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity of joining with others of your friends and professional associates in felicitating you on your 75th birthday anniversary and in wishing for you many more years of health, happiness, and successful endeavor.

My thoughts inevitably go back to those long ago days in Garrison Alley. What a revolution has been wrought as a result of the work you did there then! The entire trend of electrical development was abruptly altered and turned into the channels which have led to the present amazing attainments of power transmission.

Few inventions have ever effected such a profound change and advancement in civilization, and few inventors or scientists have been able to look back upon so large a contribution to the welfare of humanity. We live in an age of power! I congratulate you on having so largely contributed to its realization.

It is a great personal gratification to me to have been associated with you even though in the humblest of capacities in this work, and to have been able to assist in some measure in the sustaining of your patents.

With cordial greetings and all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. Weston".

150 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK



June 12, 1931.

Dear Dr. Tesla,

Permit me to join with your other good friends and admirers, in tendering you my hearty congratulations and sincere good wishes on the occasion of your Seventy-fifth Birthday anniversary.

I was privileged to be among those who witnessed the early commercial development of your major contribution to the utilization of the alternating system, and recall vividly the high estimate that Mr. Geo. Westinghouse placed upon the character of your many important contributions to the electric art.

I trust that your birthday anniversary will be a happy and enjoyable one and that there will be many more of them.

Sincerely yours,

*H. H. Westinghouse*

Dr. Nikola Tesla,

New York City.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

JOHN B. WHITEHEAD, PH. D.  
PROFESSOR OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
FELLOW, AM. INST. EL. ENGRS.  
CONSULTING ENGINEER

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



To Nikola Tesla on his Seventy-fifth Birthday, July 1, 1931.

It is a great pleasure and a privilege to join with many others of your friends and admirers in an expression of congratulation, on the seventy-fifth birthday of your long and useful life, your continued devotion therein to the advance of electrical science, and your noteworthy contributions thereto.

In my early student days you were in the full flight of your activity, and I was among those who drew inspiration from your researches and your contributions to engineering, as revealed in your lectures, your writings, and your inventions. It was my privilege to hear you and meet you on many occasions. In the early days referred to I repeated many of your experiments. When at the Westinghouse Electric Company I assisted in the manufacture of the Tesla Motor. And finally, it was my privilege to go to Niagara Falls with the first great installation there in which the Tesla principles formed so important a factor.

With renewed wishes for your good health, happiness and peace, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. B. Whitehead", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

J. B. Whitehead

Prof. Dr. J. Zenneck  
technische Hochschule  
München

M. u. n. c. h. e. n., den 17. Juni 1931.



Hochverehrter Herr Tesla!

Von Amerika kam die Kunde, daß Sie in kurzer Zeit Ihren 75. Geburtstag feiern. Lassen Sie mich vor allem Ihnen zu diesem Tag meine herzlichsten Glückwünsche aussprechen.

Als junger Assistent im Physikalischen Institut von Professor F. B r a u n - es mag im Jahre 1896 gewesen sein - traf ich in der Bibliothek des Instituts auf das Buch, in dem Herr Thomas C. M a r t i n Ihre Versuche beschrieben hat. Ich habe das Buch verschlungen, etwa wie einen spannenden Roman: es eröffnete mir eine neue physikalische Welt. Wenige Jahre später kam die drahtlose Telegraphie auf. Ich habe das Buch mir wieder geholt und Ihre Hochfrequenzversuche eifrig studiert. Es war mir klar, daß Ihre Pionierarbeit auf dem Hochfrequenzgebiet die beste Schule für denjenigen war, der sich mit drahtloser Telegraphie befassen wollte. Und noch viele Jahre nachher bin ich immer wieder zu dem Buch und zu an-

Инж. СЛАВКО БОКШАН  
Dipl. Ing. SLAVKO BOKSCHAN.

TELEPHONE 27-65

Београд - Belgrad, 19. јуна 1931. год.  
Мирочка 4.



НИКОЛИ ТЕСЛИ,  
ЊУЈОРК.

Наш славни песник, генијални Ђегош изрекао је велику мисао: "Из грмена великога лаву изићи тешко није - у великим народима генију се гњездо вије." Ђегош није мислио при томе, да мали народи не могу дати из своје средине генијалне људе, већ је помишљао на многе сметње и тешкоће, са којима се мали народи и вихови генији морају борити, да би у културном погледу могли стварати за корист целог човечанства. Сам Ђегош у свом генијалном стварању осетио је и искусио сву тежину своје мисли и не слутећи да ће Српски народ још у истом столећу дати човечанству највећег генија, који ће срушити све препреке, победити све тешкоће и однети пуну победу баш на оном пољу људске делатности, на коме су велики народи заузимали од увек привилегисан положај у свету.

Чувени енглески филозоф Карлајл изрекао је једном приликом да Словенству ништа не вреди што има 150 милиона људи, кад не може да да ни једног генија и убрзо је демантован: Русија је дала не само једног Достојевског, највећег и најдубљег књижевника свих времена, и великог књижевника и филозофа Толстоја, генијалне мислиоце и ствараоце, којима ни до данас нема равних код других народа, већ и великог генија на пољу науке Менделеејева, са којим је и поред свег настојања моћне немачке литературе увалудно покушавао да се сравни Немац Лотар Мајер, - а мали Српски народ, једно племе Југословенске нације, дало је свету већег генија, него што га је и један народ до сада дао, дао је Николу Теслу.

Моје становиште, које сам у својим предавањима пред скуповима Југословенских инжењера и у својој књизи изнео није резултат сентименталности нити националног одушевљења, већ дугогодишњег објективног испитивања, истраживања и проучавања факата и докумената.

Зато ми, г. Тесла дозволите, да Вам и приликом Вашег седамдесет-петог дана рођења изјавим, да је за мене ван сваке дискусије, да сте Ви својим револуционарним делима, која сте свету дали као потпуну и савршену целину, обогатили човечанство и духовно и материјално више него читаве генерације великих научника и проналазача свих народа у другој половини прошлог столећа.

Полифазни систем наизменичних струја, полифазни генератори, мотори и трансформатори и пренос електричне енергије на даљину Ваше је дело. Високи напони и струје високих фреквенција Ваше је дело. Радиотехника и цела величанствена наука и индустрија, који су дошли као последица Ваше су дело. Ваша од природе у дугогодишњој надчовечанској борби отета открића и изнуђене јој тајне, Ваше конструкције, Ваше машине и апарати, Ваше мисли и идеје преобразили су човечанство. Ваша историјска предавања у Њујорку, Лондону, Паризу, Филадельфији и Сен-Лују, Ваши патенти и научни списи изазвали су такав развој научне мисли и такав полет у науци и техници, да је потребно помишљати на дела Њутна и Фарадеја, да би се у историји могло наћи поређење, које би и нестручњацима могло дати бар приближан појам величине и утицаја Ваших радова.

Мени је јасно да ће Ваше дело сваким даном и у науци и у свету наћи све виднијег признања и поред читаве плејаде себичних и саможивих имитатора и организованих непријатеља и бићу срећан ако са своје стране и у странској литератури будем бар нешто допринео, да се истини пробије пут.

Желим Вам да Вам здравље омогући да још много година радите на славу нашег народа и на срећу човечанства.

*Инж. Славко Бокшан*

УНИВЕРСИТЕТ



Математички Институт

Београд, 16. јуна 1931



Николи Стели

Њујорк

Поштовани господине,

Скоро је извршен година како сам, као научни  
експериментатор, био први који сам имао, који је  
онда одјекнуло широм целог Српства. Пре триде-  
сет година, са помоћу сам сачинио, у предавању,  
одна једна техника, и то је, саопштено оу  
мојих младих професора са највећим признањем.  
А оу двадесет година овамо, ја та са своје китезје  
изговарам са истим или поштовоном са којим

Београд, 19. јуна 1931. год.



НИКОЛИ ТЕСЛИ,

Њујорк.

Кад се југословенски националиста окрене у недавну прошлост и осети сву дубину и страхоту понора из којег тек што му је изишао народ, обузме га накнадно страх и језа од страхоте, из које се могло и не изићи никада. Али тренутак два касније, кад се сети душевнога стања у коме се тада живело, човек се загреје и успламти, и дуго остане у тим светлим и топлим успоменама.

Шта ли је све потпиривало пламен националне наде, шта ли је све уздизало и доводило до усхићења, у коме ниједна жртва није била тешка? Било би много набрајати све у појединостима. Поред славне народне традиције, поред снова о дивној и срећној будућности у слободној држави, једно од најглавнијих таквих идеалисања била су маштања о узмасима нашега народа у материјалној и духовној култури.

Но у та идеалисања уносила се, понекад и сувише оштра, а понекад (са немоћи) и заједљива критика. Она је указивала на велику неписменост, на примитиван живот и општу заосталост - а циничне теорије о нижим расама са озбиљних немачких катедара требале су да отрезне и најзанесенијега. Али у тим најцрпнијим расположењима било је дозвољено сетити се Николе Тесле, па да се све те црне мисли одједном развеју, а лица да се озаре зорином светлости наде и поуздања. Тесла је био живи доказ оне огромне духовне снаге, свежине и дубине нашег расног генија, још успаваног и спутаног, који има да каже човечанству много својих речи од којих је једну од најзначајнијих казао већ кроз Теслу.

Књига професора Воке Станојевића приказивала је стручно Теслин научни и проналазачки рад, а Теслини чланци (преведени у Делу) о Змају и о Милошу Обилићу, откривали су његово национално васпитање о осећање. Даље се није истраживало, можда из потајног страха да се не обесвети. Прећутно смо се сложили да га држимо у извесној сенци. Идоли су увек лепши и чудотворнији кад су на извесној даљини и мало од ~~нај~~ *Белом*.

Велико народно дело, почето 1804, завршено је 1918. Сви који у њ узидаше ма и једну опеку могу бити поносити и срећни. Зато што је осветљавао и загревао душе неколико покољења, од којих је већа половина животом платила своја уверења и снова, Никола Тесла може се осећати и задовољан и срећан улога коју је одиграо у великој епохи свога народа. Али та улога није престала. Његов необични живот није велики само по огромним резултатима, него, можда, далеко више по светлом и узвишеном примеру, који ће се далеким покољењима истицати као најбољи васпитни узор и остати један од малог броја неразрушљивих народних идола - оно што је за Теслу и Његоша био, у младости, Милош Обилић.

"Е па дотле, а куда ћеш више!"

Никола Т. Петровић  
професор и књижевник





Милосрди Тесли.

Мож поздрав, удружен најбољим ос-  
тавованим и живосеним, упућен у об-  
вештајско скропних редака, најбољим  
србину свих времена, водите уред  
наше Тесли околико, кадико си  
порасла Нјеролова кула, кад си се соу  
ну подлежује франсоаду.

Београд, 19. VII.  
1931.

Урам Предикт.

Београд 15. јуна 1931.

Господине Месна,



Узвратио Вам је 75<sup>00</sup> динара за ма-  
бота и технички пројекат који ће Вам упути-  
ти писма, којима ће Бернатић Вам издати  
технички и технички пројекат.

Можете и ја сматратим да је доста и нај-  
боље задовољство, да Вам упутимо ово исто-  
мно писмо.

Ако посматрамо задовољство Електри-  
чне станице, видимо да је стока и то:

Са овим техничким пројектом - инжи-  
њерског пројекта трговине трговине стока. На осно-  
ву овог пројекта стока се године са ста-  
не.

А са овим техничким пројектом стока и са  
овим техничким пројектом стока и трговине стока,  
је на годишње трговине стока, трговине  
стока стока се трговине.

Господину Милошу Месну

Београд

НАРОДНИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
БЕОГРАД — НОВИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ

Београд, 17 јуна 1934



Поштомачу Николи Тесли

Бу-Горк.

Поштована Господине,

Кримилом Ваше сегангесит-  
нештогоднишине гашт ми је  
и тридружници се и реншавон-  
цима науке ио челога  
свега који те похитацион да  
Ваш млади своје неограничено  
дубине и рена Вашем делу  
и живицу.

Они Ваши сумарованици  
који поврх свега цене дух и  
разум, нилит се полично

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Paris, le 29 juin 1931

à rappeler dans la réponse

Ref. <sup>oo</sup>

Cher Monsieur Tesla,



Quand j'étais encore étudiant, j'éprouvais déjà la plus vive admiration pour votre génie si inventif. Depuis cette époque déjà lointaine, j'ai toujours cherché à mettre en évidence l'importance capitale de votre œuvre dans diverses publications consacrées aux origines de la Télégraphie sans Fil. Peut-être vous rappellerez-vous que j'ai eu l'honneur, quelques années avant la guerre, d'échanger avec vous une correspondance relative à votre rôle de précurseur, notamment en ce qui concerne la syntonisation des circuits à haute fréquence, l'usage des ondes entretenues, etc. ?

Je possède depuis fort longtemps un ouvrage de Gh. C. Martin exposant vos recherches antérieures à 1895. Sa lecture m'a permis de constater qu'en plus de vos travaux classiques sur les moteurs à champ tournant et sur les appareils pour la production et l'utilisation des courants à haute fréquence, l'Electrotechnique vous est redevable de nombreux dispositifs qui sont contenus en germe dans des brevets déposés par vous il y a plus de quarante ans.

Je me félicite vivement de l'occasion qui me permet de vous adresser mon respectueux hommage, et je vous prie d'agréer, Cher Monsieur Tesla, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus sincèrement dévoués.

J. Bethenois

## World Conference on Narcotic Education

NEW YORK BRANCH OF THE SECRETARIAT

578 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

July 6, 1931

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*Secretary General*  
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*Secretary*  
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*Treasurer*

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Mr. Kenneth Swezey  
159 Milton Street  
Brooklyn, New York



Dear Mr. Swezey:

I am just back from Europe and have your letter of May 29th. Thank you very much for allowing me to join in the testimonial to Nikola Tesla on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. I have known Mr. Tesla intimately for a third of a century and consider him the most remarkable man of my acquaintance, one of the most remarkable men of our age or any other age.

He has a cosmic mind that sweeps the universe and his intimate connections in thought with the phenomena of nature seem to have produced a kind of cosmic intuition. He can penetrate as far with sustained research and mathematical processes as anyone and then he can go far beyond with an intuition that seems almost infallible. To me, he seems like nature's favored son and the world will some day appreciate how many of nature's deepest secrets have been found and revealed by him.

I wish to pay my tribute also to that royal quality of Tesla's that nature breeds only in her best, namely: unfaltering loyalty. Whether it is loyalty to truth or loyalty to the laws of his country, or loyalty to a friend, Tesla stands always steadfast regardless of consequences.

I wish also to pay my tribute to that gentle thoughtful tenderness of Tesla which so often goes hand in hand with strength, which the world probably has not noticed in my friend.

Nikola Tesla is a great man, one of the greatest men of all time and is one of the very greatest benefactors of his race. He is also a good man and a dear and true friend. May he live to see many happy returns of the day that has been consecrated by his birth.

Sincerely yours,

Richmond P. Hobson, President  
International Narcotic Education Association

RPH:1

SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE ON NARCOTIC EDUCATION, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

May 11-15, 1931

PAUL M. LINCOLN  
DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
ITHACA, N. Y.

July 7, 1931

Mr. Nicola Tesla,  
8 West 40th St.,  
New York City.



My dear Mr. Tesla :-

Your seventy-fifth birthday, which occurs this month gives me - along with the rest of the world - occasion to pause and reflect upon the role that you have played in the development of the art and science of electricity as we know it today. I think it is not too much to say that it was your conception of the rotating magnetic field in 1888 that kept the alternating current system of Westinghouse from going into the discard along with hundreds of other ideas. It is that conception that has enabled the electric industry to attain the position it has today. Thank God for your imagination, an imagination that "bodies forth the forms of things unknown and gives to airy nothing a local habitation and a name".

Permit me to greet you on this your seventy-fifth birthday, and wish you many more years of happiness.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. M. Lincoln".

PML:KH

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18<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND ALLEGHENY AVENUE

PHILADELPHIA, PA. U.S.A. July 8, 1931.

Mr. Nikola Tesla,  
New York City.

IN YOUR REPLY  
REFER TO NO.



ALL AGREEMENTS ARE CONTINGENT UPON STRIKES, ACCIDENTS AND OTHER DELAYS UNAVOIDABLE OR BEYOND OUR CONTROL  
QUOTATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Dear Mr. Tesla:-

It gives me much pleasure to congratulate you, -  
not only on your seventh-fifth birthday, but also on your  
scientific work, the early part of which I was fortunate  
enough to witness.

Those were wonderful days in the early 90's in  
Pittsburg, but what strides have been made since!

Please again accept my very best wishes.

Sincerely,

ASM-T

ALBERT EINSTEIN

CAPUTH BEI POTSDAM. Juni 1931.

Sehr geehrter Herr Tesla!



Mit Freude vernehme ich, dass Sie Ihren 25. Geburtstag feiern, und dass Sie als erfolgreicher Pionier auf dem Gebiete der hochfrequenten Ströme die wunderbare Entwicklung dieses Gebietes der Technik haben erleben dürfen. Ich beglückwünsche Sie zu dem grossen Erfolge Ihres Lebenswerkes.

Albert Einstein.



The University of Chicago

Ryerson Physical Laboratory

July 8  
1931



My dear Mr. Tesla:

As one of the millions who have benefitted from the product of your inventive genius, may I add my word of congratulation to those of your other friends on the occasion of your seventy-fifth birthday. To men like yourself, who have learned first hand the secrets of nature and who have shown us how her laws may be applied in solving our everyday problems, we of the younger generation owe a debt that cannot be paid.

Your specific achievements are too well known to require recounting. Yet a man who has taught us to use alternating currents more effectively for driving electric motors is by that one achievement entitled to the enduring gratitude of mankind. Likewise the high frequency work and experiments on gaseous ionization that you have carried through are of ever increasing value.

Sincerely,

*Arthur H. Compton*

Arthur H. Compton

Professor Dr. Ing. Görge.  
Dresden - A. 22 Bernhardstr. 96.

Den 10. Juli 1931.



Herrn Dr. techn. h. c. Nikola Tesla,

Sehr geehrter Herr Tesla,

Als einer der ersten, die Ihre grundlegenden  
den Erfindungen auf dem Gebiete des Mehr-  
phasenmotors in Deutschland studiert und  
reiche Anregungen aus ihrem Geschöpf haben,  
schätze ich mich glücklich, Ihnen meine  
Glückwünsche zu Ihrem 75. Geburtstag dar-  
bringen zu können.

Nach der Erfindung der Transformatoren  
suchte man jahrelang vergeblich nach einem  
brauchbaren Wechselstrommotor, ohne den  
die Übertragung und Verteilung elektrischen  
Arbeits nur ein beschränktes Arbeits-  
gebiet hätte finden können. Da schlugen  
Sie, Herr Tesla, neue Wege ein, indem Sie

MIESSNER INVENTIONS, INC.  
18 MAIN STREET  
MILLBURN, N. J.

July 1, 1931



Dear Mr. Tesla:-

You probably will not remember at all a young man to whom your towering imagination and achievements have been so great a stimulus and inspiration. For every one like me who writes and tells you, there are ten thousand who feel the same but neglect to write. There must be a tremendous satisfaction in knowing that your own powerful light has reached out over the whole world to kindle new flames in countless thousands of young minds eager to carry on the trails you have blazed.

While I have only talked and corresponded with you on a few occasions, yet I am a disciple of your disciple, Fritz Lowenstein, now dead these ten years, who told me so much of you and your work.

A very happy birthday to you, sir, and may you live to enjoy many more.

Very truly yours,

*Bjorn J. Messner*

BJM:l

Houston,  
Texas.  
June 9 1931.

Dr Nikola Tesla.



Dear Sir,

Though I have never had the honor of your acquaintance your great contributions to electrical science are well known to me and have excited my admiration and I gladly join with your colleagues in greeting you on this occasion. May you continue for many years to enjoy the fruits of your labors and the sure renown confirmed to you by all experts in your field.

Your inventions the polyphase motor and the Tesla Coil were and will always be of outstanding practical importance and the highest theoretical interest.

Yours sincerely  
Harold A. Wilson.

PHONE:  
PRIMROSE HILL 4447.

30, Antrim Mansions,  
Haberstock Hill, N.M.



24 July 1931

To Nikola Tesla,  
on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday: —

To you, great and good friend,  
Nikola Tesla, I send my wishes  
for good health and happiness; may the  
works of your genius serve to raise higher  
and higher the level of our civilization,  
may the high ideal whose flame has  
shined you on become a beacon to the  
aspiring youth of all nations; while  
to those who know you will abide for  
ever the sense of that great quality,  
the fundamental Rhythms of spirit,  
which has been an animating motive  
of your wonderful accomplishment.

Arthur Lynch

TEL.  
POTTERS BAR 213.

ST. JOHN'S,  
DARKE'S LANE,  
POTTERS BAR.



England,  
July 1931

Dear Dr Tesla,

May I offer you my  
heartiest congratulations on your  
seventy-fifth birthday? The results  
of your researches, begun fifty  
years ago and culminating in the  
discovery of the transformation of  
electrical oscillations, have proved  
of inestimable value in electrical  
practice. The possibilities of your  
method of generating high potentials  
for the attack of atomic problems are  
still to be fully explored.

As a wireless worker



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Trenton, N. J., U. S. A.

July 28, 1931.



Dear Mr. Tesla:

I am glad that Mr. Swezey has written me and made it possible for me to write you a few lines. They come rather tardy because of my recent absence in Europe.

I think it was about 1892, when I had my first job with Queen & Company in Philadelphia, that I heard you lecture at the Franklin Institute. At that time, you showed your fascinating and remarkable series of experiments made with very high frequency currents. I was greatly thrilled as were many others in the audience. The impressions made on my mind on that occasion were quite lasting and when, years afterwards -- in August, 1916 to be exact -- I began to give consideration to the various electrical methods that might be employed for melting metal, my mind at once went back to those early demonstrations by you and the electric circuits which you described.

There was just one step to be taken to start melting metal by an entirely new method. This step was to transform the voltage down and the current up, using what is universally known as the "Tesla Oscillatory Current Circuit."

It has never been my good fortune to meet you personally as we never seem to be in the same city or place at the same time. I have, however, read most of your writings and am very familiar with your work; and I feel, in a sense, that I know you personally.

I send you my greetings and wish you many more fruitful years. Believe me, dear sir,

Cordially and sincerely yours,

*E. F. Northrup*

EFN/S

THEODORE STEBBINS  
34 GRAMERCY PARK  
NEW YORK

August 28, 1931.

My dear Mr. Tesla:

Under date of June 1st Mr. Swezey sent a letter to this address stating that it was proposed to send you a bound volume of greetings on your 75th birthday in July and giving me an opportunity to contribute. Two days earlier I had sailed for a European trip and have only just returned and received his letter. While this letter of mine is much too late for the time and purpose for which wanted, nevertheless I am moved to write you.

Speaking of your earlier inventions, everyone appreciates their very great value but I do not think the present generation of engineers can adequately appreciate the opportuneness to the industry at the time that the inventions were made. I feel qualified to speak from the standpoint.

My electrical work commenced in 1883; I am an Edison Pioneer, The American Institute of Electrical Engineers had only about three hundred members when I became a member; my life has been devoted to the industry and at the time of the appearance of your inventions this situation existed.

In these United States less than one hundred central stations supplied current for incandescent lights and a few motors by the "Edison System" but the direct current at 220 volts could not be transmitted much more than one mile without a prohibitive cost of copper.

At the same time some three thousand stations were in operation for street arc lighting, each with only one (important) customer, name the city, operating only at night, some not during moonlight hours, idle during the daylight hours, practically unable to furnish service for motors or incandescent, and crying for a greater use of the idle investment. The industry in a technical way was almost at a standstill.

In the midst of this intolerable situation your inventions came and had a magnified value by reason of their opportuneness. They seemed to open the gateway to the present growth of the business.

At that time I did not know you personally. In later years I had some association with you on an invention of a non-electrical character which gave me an opportunity to appreciate the breadth of your activities. Others can speak with more authority about your technical achievements. In this one sheet I attempt to speak only of an historical aspect.

With the highest regards, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

*Theodore Stebbins*







OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF ENGINEERING

1 July, 1931



To Nikola Tesla

On the Occasion of His Seventy-Fifth Birthday

Dear Dr. Tesla:

I am glad to have the opportunity of sending you my personal greetings on the occasion of your seventy-fifth birthday, and I wish to join to my own tribute of admiration for your unique career the congratulations of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where the contribution which your original genius has made for the benefit of mankind is fully appreciated.

With best wishes for your continued health and happiness, I am

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Bush".

Vice President

New York City  
July 10, 1931



Dear Mr. Tesla:

One of the most startling contributions to progress that have ever occurred, occurred in the year 1887, when you invented your system of multi-phase electric currents, which rendered possible the economical transmission of power over long distances, of which the first use was made in transmitting power derived from Niagara Falls.

This was an invention of the first order of merit in brilliancy and originality of conception, excellence of constructiveness and usefulness of result. Its value has been only dimly appreciated by most men, because the invention does not stand continually before our eyes, like the telephone and electric light; for it cannot be seen at all. It is not a machine or instrument (in the common use of those words) but a system, actually invisible of itself, that governs the method of design, construction and operation of the visible dynamos, motors, and conductors. Like the germ of life, we see not it, but only its manifestations.

On this, your seventy-fifth birthday, I am glad to contribute this personal appreciation of an inventive work which today has achieved universal significance.

Very sincerely yours,

*Bradley A. Fiske*

Rear Admiral, U.S.N. (Retired)



## Књига честитки поводом Теслиног 75. рођендана

Права ризница значајних признања генијалном научнику и проналазачу садржана је у овој јединственој књизи, богато укориченој, у кожном повезу и са златотиском, коју је Тесла до краја живота љубоморно чувао у свом сефу. То је књига само по својој форми, а заправо представља оригиналну, уникатну збирку писама која су му поводом 75. рођендана упутили његови савременици.

Поводом обележавања великог јубилеја, 150 година од рођења светског великана, Музеј Николе Тесле објављује овај својеврсни албум честитки као библиофилско издање и још један драгоцени увид у велико и искрено поштовање Теслиног доприноса светској науци.

На идеју да му одабране личности упуте честитке које ће се наћи у овој необичној колекцији, дошао је Кенет Свизи (Kenneth M. Svezey), новинар и писац, велики Теслин пријатељ и поштовалац. У својим млађим данима Свизи (1905-1972) је писао за New York Sun. У то време упознаје се са Николом Теслом и од тада велики део свог живота посвећује изучавању Теслиног дела и пропацирању значаја његових проналазака. Као уредник и аутор бројних публикација из области науке, врло често је писао о Тесли и његовом научном доприносу, основао је Tesla Society, организовао прославу 100-годишњице Теслиног рођења и успешно осмислио различите активности на пропацирању Теслиног имена. Захваљујући његовом ангажовању многи бродови и школе у САД добили су Теслино име. Био је и активни учесник у иницијативи да се у Међународном систему мера по Теслином имену назове јединица магнетне индукције и изда поштанска марка у знак сећања на генијалног научника и проналазача.

После Свизијеве смрти, Институт Смитсонијан преузео је његову богату архиву стварану од 1921. до 1972. године. У овој драгоценеј колекцији налазе се Теслини чланци, копије патената, исечци из штампе и фотографије, преписка између Свизија и Тесле, као и између Свизија и других личности, и материјал о историји електрицитета и радио индустрије. Из Одељења за електрицитет, где је чувана, Свизијева оставштина пренета је 1983. године у Архивски центар Националног музеја америчке историје у Вашингтону.

Из кореспонденције коју је Свизи водио са великим бројем научника, инжењера и представника великих корпорација око честитки које ће упутити Тесли за 75. рођендан, види се да је преписка започета још почетком 1931. године са идејом да се читава акција заврши до 10. јула 1931. године, датума Теслиног великог животног јубилеја.

Ова збирка оригиналних честитки, писаних руком или писаћом машином, насловљена је текстом: "Честитка Николи Тесли за његов седамдесет пети рођендан, 10. јула 1931".

Дуга је листа познатих имена, аутора ових честитки, који су као и Тесла значајним делима обележили своју епоху: Алберт Ајнштајн, др Б. А. Беренд, В. Х. Браг, Ли де Форест, Артур Морзе, проф. Џон Вајтхед, као и познати српски научници и ствараоци међу којима Милутин Миланковић, дипл. инг. Славко Бокшан, професор Никола Т. Петровић, Урош Предић, проф. др Драгомир Јовановић и проф. др Иван Ђаја.

Безброј објављених текстова о Николи Тесли, као и редови исписани у овој необичној књизи чији су аутори они који су високо ценили његово дело, потврђују несумњиву чињеницу да је реч о јединственом генију чија су величанствена и универзално вредна дела променила свет и у времену које тек долази остају незаобилазни темељ неког новог научног и технолошког доба.

Владимир Јеленковић  
Директор



## Book of greetings for Tesla's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday

A true treasury of recognitions to the ingenious scientist and inventor is contained in this unique book, with rich covers, leather-bound and with gold stamping, which Tesla jealously kept in his safe until he died. This is a book only in form, but actually it is an original, unique collection of letters addressed to him by his contemporaries on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. On the occasion of celebrating the great jubilee, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of this great man, the Museum of Nikola Tesla publishes this original album of greetings, as a collector's edition and one more precious insight into the grand and true respect for Tesla's contribution to world science.

Kenneth M. Swezey, a journalist and writer who was Tesla's great friend and admirer, came up with the idea that selected persons send him greetings, which would later be included in this unusual collection. At the beginning of his career, Swezey (1905-1972) wrote for the New York Sun. At that time he met Nikola Tesla and since that time he dedicated a great part of his life to studying Tesla's work and promoting the importance of his inventions. As an editor and author of many publications in the field of science, he wrote very often about Tesla and his contribution to science, he established the Tesla Society, organised the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tesla's birth and successfully managed many activities regarding the promotion of Tesla's name. Owing to his activities, many ships and schools in the United States were given Tesla's name. He actively participated in the initiative to give Tesla's name to the unit of magnetic induction in the International System of Measurements and the issuing of a postal stamp in the memory of this brilliant scientist and inventor.

After Swezey died, the Smithsonian Institute took over his rich archives created from 1921 until 1972. This precious collection contains Tesla's articles, copies of patents, excerpts from the press and photographs, correspondence between Swezey and Tesla and between Swezey and other persons, as well as material on the history of electricity and the radio industry. In 1983 the Division of Electricity, which had been holding the papers, transferred them to the Archives Center, National Museum of American History in Washington.

The correspondence that Swezey had with a large number of scientists, engineers and representatives of big corporations about the greetings that were to be sent to Tesla for his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday shows that this idea started in early 1931, seeing completion on July 10, 1931, Tesla's birthday.

This collection of original greetings, written both by hand and typewriter, is titled with the text: "To Nikola Tesla: Greeting his Seventy-fifth Anniversary, July 10, 1931".

The list of well-known names, the authors of these greetings, is long. They, like Tesla himself, marked their era with their significant work: Albert Einstein, B. A. Behrend, William Henry Bragg, Lee de Forest, Arthur H. Morse, John B. Whitehead as well as many famous Serbian scientists and creators, including Milutin Milankovic, Slavko Boksan, Nikola T. Petrovic, Uros Predic, Dragomir Jovanovic and Ivan Djaja.

There is a multitude of texts published about Nikola Tesla, including the lines written in this uncommon book whose authors highly appreciated his work – they confirm an undoubted fact that he was a unique genius whose magnificent and universally valuable works changed the world and remain an unavoidable base of a new scientific and technological era.

Vladimir Jelenkovic  
Director

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