Electrifying America: David E. Nye Pdf

The book is a comprehensive study of the role of electricity in shaping American culture and society. It examines how electricity has transformed industries and social institutions, and how it has influenced the way we think and live. The book covers a wide range of topics, from the early history of electricity to its impact on modern society. The author, David E. Nye, is a historian who has written extensively on the history of technology and culture. He is a professor at Brown University, where he teaches courses on the history of technology.

The book begins with a brief history of electricity, tracing its development from its discovery to the early 20th century. It then goes on to examine how electricity has been used in different industries, such as manufacturing, transportation, and communication. The book also looks at how electricity has been used to create new forms of entertainment, such as movies and television. It concludes with a discussion of the future of electricity, and how it is likely to continue to shape American culture and society.

Overall, the book provides a fascinating and detailed exploration of the role of electricity in American history. It is well-written and easy to read, and is likely to be of interest to anyone who is interested in the history of technology or American culture.

The book is available in both hardcover and electronic formats, and is highly recommended for anyone interested in the history of technology or American culture.
Energy and Civilization

David E. Nye 2019-04-23 How Americans adapted European royal illuminations for patriotic celebrations, spectacular expositions, and commercial culture. In American Illuminations, David Nye explains how they experimented with gas and electric light to create illuminated chaplines for brighter and more dynamic than those of Europe, and how these illuminations became symbols of innovation and the conquest of nature. Americans used gaslight and electricity in parades, expositions, advertising, elections, and political spectacles. In the 1880s, cities entered powerful arc lights on towers to create artificial moonlight. By the 1890s they adopted more versatile, commercial lighting that defined distinct zones of light and glamorized the city's nightlife, financial districts, department stores, theaters, and dance halls. Fire and Lighted Signs Disappeared into the Darkness. American illuminations also became integral parts of national political campaigns, presidential inaugurations, and victory celebrations after the Spanish-American War and World War I.

The Death of Expertise

Tom Nichols 2017-02-01 Technology and increasing levels of education have exposed people to more information than ever before. These second-guesses, however, have also helped to nurture a vast and complex digital machine that has stoked informed debates on any number of issues. Today, everyone knows everything, and only a quick trip through Wikipedia or Google scholar can make a person believe themselves to be an expert on just about anything. The problem is that today’s experts are not what they once were. As more and more people consume the same information, the power to make decisions or change the world has shifted from the old-guard experts to the masses who, with the internet, the emergence of a customer satisfaction model in higher education, and the transformation of the news industry into a 24-hour entertainment machine, among other reasons, the increasingly democratic dissemination of information, rather than producing an educated public, has instead created an army of ill-informed and angry citizens who denounce intellectual achievement. When ordinary citizens believe that no one knows more than anyone else, democratic institutions themselves are in danger of falling either to populism or to technocracy or, in the worst case, a combination of both. An update to the 2017Thomson hot, the paperback edition of The Death of Expertise provides a new framework to cover the alarming escalation of these trends in the aftermath of Donald Trump’s election. Judging from events on the ground since it first published, The Death of Expertise issues a warning about the stability and survival of modern democracy in the Information Age that is even more important today.