

Charles Algernon Parsons Encyclopedia Article

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Charles Algernon Parsons

1854-1931

British engineer and inventor who in 1884 invented a reaction turbine that revolved through the use of steam. In Parson's design steam was permitted to expand in a number of stages, performing useful work at each stage. In 1897 he adapted his compound steam turbine for maritime use. Parsons also invented a geared turbine and nonskid automobile chains.