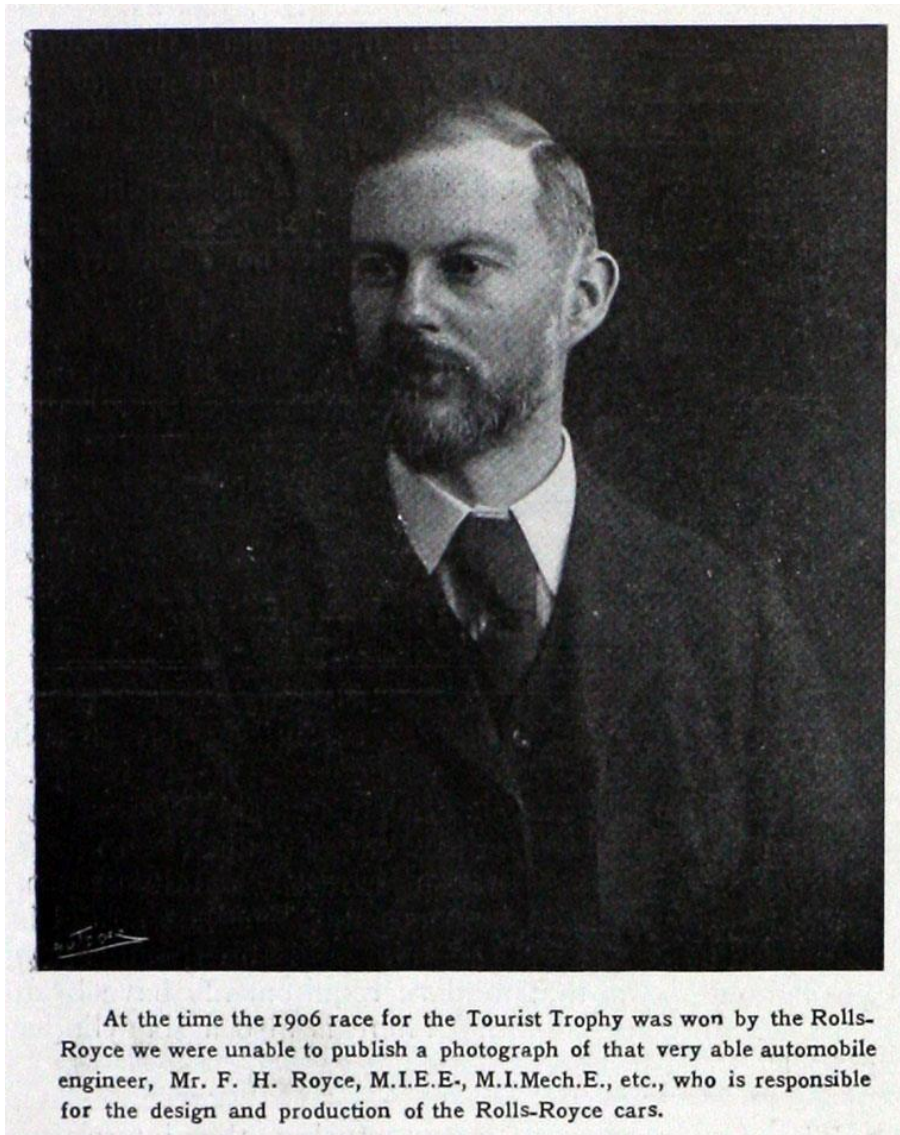


IN THE REAR-VIEW MIRROR

SIR HENRY ROYCE
CAREER AND MARRIAGE 1877-1897

The post-nominal letters, "M.I.E.E." and "M.I.Mech.E." in this caption from 'The Engineer' or perhaps 'The Autocar' in 1906 are of special interest. They refer to Royce's memberships of the Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. The original records dated 1897 relating to these memberships provide a succinct record of Royce's early career.



(A.)

THE

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Candidate advised of Election.	9/4/97
Recorded in Ledger.	
Recorded in List.	
L. H. S. advised.	

Institution of Electrical Engineers.

FOUNDED 1871. INCORPORATED 1883.

Frederick Henry Royce
of *F. H. Royce & Co. Ltd. Manchester*
being desirous of admission into THE INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS,

I recommend him, from personal knowledge, as a person in every respect worthy
of that distinction, as *member*

[Here specify
whether as
Foreign Member,
Member, Asso-
ciate, or Student.]

*He served as premium apprentice to Great
Northern Railway Peterboro' 1877.5 to 1881
Greenwood & Batley Leeds 1881 to 1882
Maxim Weston & Co
Lancashire Maxim Weston & Co } 1882 to 1884
Partners of F. H. Royce & Co Manchester 1884 to 1894
Managing director of F. H. Royce & Co Manchester 1894 to date*

[Here specify
distinctly the
qualifications of
the Candidate,
and if for full
Membership state
also under which
clause, (a), (b), or
(c), of No. 9 of the
Articles of Asso-
ciation he claims
to be qualified.
(See over leaf.)

On the above grounds, I beg leave to propose him to the Council as a proper
person to be admitted into the Institution, and in case of election he authorises
the Secretary to place his name on the Register of Members.

W. V. James Lawcus. Member.

Dated this _____ day of _____ 189 _____

We, the undersigned, concur in the above recommendation, being convinced
that *Frederick Henry Royce* is in
every respect a proper person to be admitted into the Institution.

A. H. Dorman. C. H. Dorman.

The Council, having considered the above recommendation, present
Frederick Henry Royce to be balloted
for as *Member* of THE INSTITUTION OF
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS.

Henry C. Mance
Chairman.

Dated this *25th* day of *March* 189 *7*.

[6.]

[SEE OVER.]

Date of Election *Apr. 8th 1897*

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Institution of Mechanical Engineers.
ESTABLISHED 1847.

Chairman
elected 1896 M
gk

PROPOSAL OF MEMBER, OR ASSOCIATE MEMBER, OR ASSOCIATE.

Name in full Frederick Henry Royce

Designation or Occupation Electrical & Mechanical Engineer

Business Address % J. H. Royce & Co Ltd Holme Chaucer
being 34 years of age,* and being desirous of admission into the INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, we, the undersigned proposer and seconder from our personal knowledge, and the three other signers from trustworthy information, propose and recommend him as a proper person to belong to the Institution.

Witness our hands, this 11 day of October 1897.

Five Members' or Associate Members' Signatures are required.

Proposed from personal knowledge by † J. H. Beckwith
(See Note.)

Seconded from personal knowledge by Thomas Bailey

Supported from trustworthy information by J. F. Herbert
B. N. Rowland
F. Rowe

Signature of Candidate J. H. Royce

This additional document below from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers provides another summary of Royce's career from 1877 to 1897.

Served premium apprenticeship to
Great Northern Railway (Loco Dept) ~~Leeds~~
Peterboro' from Sept 1877 to Nov 1880
Greenwood & Batley Leeds 1880 to 1881
Electric Lighting & Power Generating Co
afterwards named The Maxim
Weston Co 1881 to 1882 Transferred to
Lancashire Maxim Weston Co 1882 to 1884
Partner in J. H. Royce & Co 1884 to 1894
Managing director in J. H. Royce & Co Ltd
June 4 1894 to present date

Signature of Proposer J. H. Beckwith

William Martin Leonard Head	Man	25	Oil Extractor Wool	Norwich & London
Fanny Eliza	Wife	26		Coventry & Birmingham
Mary Royce	Mother-in-law	52		Coventry & Birmingham
Frederick H. Royce	Brother-in-law	18	Machine Fitter	Coventry & Birmingham

The 1881 Census showed Royce aged 18 as a Machine Fitter around the end of his time at the Great Northern Railway. He was living in the household of his sister, Fanny and her husband. His mother was also living with them.

1891 England Census for Frederick H Royce									
Lancashire - Moss Side - District 82									
			William C.	50	Son	5	23	10	Married Clerk
			Edith L.	40	Daughter	5	20		
			George H.	30	Son	5	19		Scholar
120	45	20	Frederick H. Royce	Head	5	28	6	1	Technical Engineer
			Mary	40	Wife	5	6		Technical Engineer
			Patience Dixon	Servant	5	15			Domestic

The 1891 Census showed Royce, Electrical Engineer, living with his widowed mother and they had a 15 year old domestic servant, Patience Dixon.

DIocese OF LONDON.

6th March 1893

APPEARED PERSONALLY, *Minnie Grace Punt* of the Parish of *S. Andrew Willesden* in the County of *Middlesex* a spinster of the age of *twenty one years and upwards* and prayed a Licence for the Solemnization of Matrimony in the Parish Church of *S. Andrew Willesden* aforesaid between her and *Frederick Henry Royce* of the Parish of *S. James Moss Side* in the County of *Lancashire* a Bachelor of the age of *twenty one years and upwards* and made Oath that she believeth that there is no Impediment of Kindred or Alliance, or of any other lawful cause, nor any Suit commenced in any Ecclesiastical Court to bar or hinder the Proceeding of the said matrimony, according to the tenor of such Licence. And she further made oath, that she the said *Apparator* hath had her usual Place of abode within the said Parish of *S. Andrew Willesden* for the space of Fifteen days last past.

Minnie Grace Punt.

On 6 March 1893 Minnie Grace Punt "made Oath that she believeth that there is no Impediment ... [to] hinder the Proceeding of the said matrimony"

Frederick Henry Royce and Minnie Grace Punt married on 16 March 1893.

They separated around 1912.

1893. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of *S. Andrew Willesden* in the County of *Middlesex*

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
104	March 16 1893	Frederick Henry Royce	50	Bachelor	Electrical Engineer	Moss side Lancashire	James Royce	Corn Dealer.
		Minnie Grace Punt	25	Spinster		20 Grosvenor Gardens	Alfred Punt Deceased	Deceased. Physician.

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by *George* or after *Edward W. Yates* by me, *Edw. W. Yates*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Frederick Henry Royce* and *Minnie Grace Punt* in the Presence of us, *Edw. W. Yates*



Mrs Minnie Royce at the wheel of the third Royce car with Mrs Smith as passenger. Photographed at Brae Cottage, the home of the Royces at Knutsford in 1904. [Tom Clarke, 'The Royce Cars' in Fasal and Goodman's 'The Edwardian Rolls-Royce']

[Acknowledgements: Assistance from Tom Clarke and records from Ancestry]

Compiled by David Neely,
Historical Consultant,
The Sir Henry Royce Foundation,
Australia, 2020.