

Who IS This HUDDY Fellow?

He Received His Amateur License at the Age of Ten
and Has Been Doing Things in Radio
Ever Since

A Short Biographical Sketch of
FRANKLIN SNOW HUDDY

Assistant to Chief Engineer, CeCo Manufacturing Company

FRANK HUDDY was born in Providence, R. I., some twenty-five years before he began his now-famous debate with Kendall Clough. It is doubtful if—back then in 1905—he ever dreamed that in June, 1930, his biography would appear in the "Men Who Have Made Radio" section of *Radio Industries*, but the idea must have surely taken root in his mind when, at the age of ten, he had a license to transmit and was operating his own station. His transmitter was the first one in the state—and probably in New England—to communicate directly with Europe. At the age of sixteen, he was writing for technical magazines.

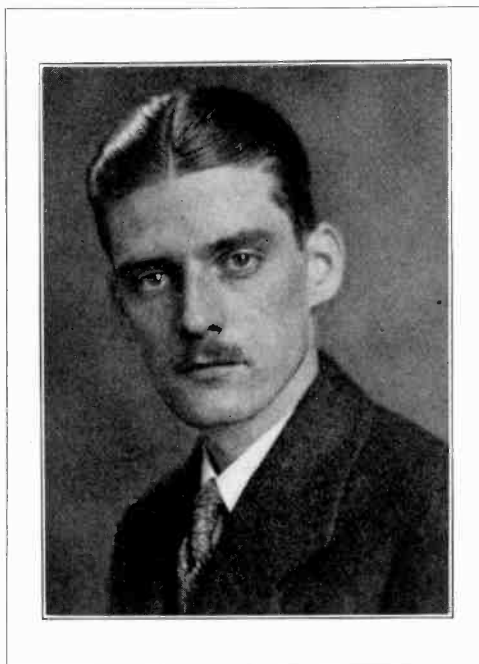
In 1923, he designed WILMP, Bridgeport, Mass., one of the most famous amateur stations in the world, and the first amateur station on the East Coast of America to have been heard in Australia—half-way 'round the globe.

FRANK went to England in '24. Having heard that, in Europe, the reception of American signals was impossible on the wave-lengths then employed, he took a comparatively crude set of his own design along and tried his luck. This set had only one tube; its coils were wound on a drinking tumbler and tied together with cotton thread. He went all over Europe listening for American signals, and—in spite of the fact that it was said to be impossible—picked up as many as fourteen American stations in one night from as far East as Florence, Italy.

On his return to Providence, he founded the Associated Radio Amateurs of Southern New England—the second club in the United States to own its own building, its own land, and its own station. It was the first club in which the members built everything—including the clubhouse and radio equipment—by themselves. Frank designed and constructed the transmitter, which has since turned out to be among those giving the loudest and best signals in the East.

In 1928, he graduated from a four year engineering course at Brown University, with the degree of B.Sc. Immediately following his Commencement, he went to England to study radio further, and while there built one

of the most powerful and effective amateur transmitters in Great Britain.



THIS English trip had several interesting sidelights. When he started, he wanted to be in communication with his folks, so he put up a station in his home that he was sure would send signals wherever he might go. On a preliminary test, this station was received in New Zealand, which assured him that the signals would be heard in England without difficulty. His receiving-set was a two-tube, short-wave outfit of his own design.

Since his mother, father and young lady friend were all operators, a schedule was agreed upon whereby, every day, his mother was to send to him at 5:15 P.M. for fifteen minutes; his father, at 7:15; and his young lady friend, at 10:30. He crossed on the Berengaria, and every night, all the way over, he listened in and learned

exactly what was going on at home. The messages were received perfectly during the entire trip, the signals actually getting louder as he approached England.

Throughout the British Isles, no matter where he happened to be located, he maintained these regular communications with his family. Oftentimes, when at a transmitting station, he was able to literally hold conversations with them.

On his return ocean trip, friends in England sent to him from one side and his folks from the other side.

IN America again, he went into the employ of the General Electric Company, where he worked on the testing of the largest transmitting tubes in the world, and designed the short-wave station W2XAF.

Leaving the General Electric Company, he went with CeCo in June, 1929, and was given the post of Development Engineer, in which capacity he developed their pentode. Afterwards, he was made Assistant to the Chief Engineer.

Frank Huddy is a profound student of Radio. Where most people find their recreation in games and sports, he is much happier when pondering over some new text

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on vacuum tubes or when engaged in highly mathematical computations.

His mind works quickly and logically. This has been amply illustrated during the last few months when he has been on the constant defensive. Bombarded daily with any number of inquiries, arguments and taunts relative to the pentode, his answers have been immediate, decisive and to the point.

That's the kind of a fellow Frank Huddy is.