

BOOKNOTES
BRIAN P. LAMB
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Jennet Conant

TUXEDO

670. Jennet Conant
Tuxedo Park: A Wall Street Tycoon and the Secret Palace of
Science that Changed the Course of World War II

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PARK

*A Wall Street Tycoon and the Secret
Palace of Science That Changed
the Course of World War II*

S I M O N & S C H U S T E R

New York London Toronto Sydney Singapore

My father
Theodore Richards
Conant

Truxed Park -
40 miles NW of NYC
Mansion of Loomis'
Tower House

Alfred Loomis - a private person
Wall Street tycoon
Mysterious

remote
private laboratory
shunned publicity
also somewhat inapproachable

gived two different worlds
no small talk
a lawyer in 1912
attention span of a child
90 ideas a minute
excelled at games. chess

b. Nov 7, 1887
Henry Stimson - cousin
of 20 yrs. older than Alfred
Loomis
father dies at 48 - not an
influence in son's life

First Book - Husband Steve Croft 4/25/11 a.m.

My great uncle William Richard's suicide
also his brother

My grand mother
Destroyed papers

My grandfather - James Conant
① played crucial role to build
atomic bomb
② Administered Manhattan project

Depression runs through
Richard and Conant family

Richard's "Brain Waves and Death" - post humorous
Loomis about a character like Loomis

Phillips Exeter Academy
Yale - math major

Henry Stimson -
Sec. of War for WH Taft

Yale Law School - cum laude 1912

Went Winthrop and Stimson law firm in NYC
at 24 mania Ellen Holman Farnsworth June 22, 1912
had two sons - Lee and Farney

Ellen's brother killed in French Foreign Legion in 1915

July 1917 - commissioned a Captain in Army
Stimson active duty at 50 - Lt. Col.

1918 sent Aberdeen - test ideas for new weapons

First invention Loomis Chronograph p 33

married Julia 1911 (Thorne mania Julia)

1919 - Loomis joins Thorne at Bonbright - T. was brother-in-law

Landon Kethum Thorne

Interest in selling Rural Electrification

conceived The Big Holding Company p 41 / Underwrite
Power Plants

Redesigned GE oscillator

1926 - bought Tower House in Trappes Park

Professor R.W. Woods - of Johns Hopkins - experiments with
supersonic death rays - field now known as ultra-sound
medical imaging today

Wood taught Loomis physics -

he didn't think wasp - his neighbors thought he
was eccentric or nuts

Marret A. Hobart III - grandson of McKinley's V.P.
ran day to day at Tufedo

Loomis obsessed with accurate time - precise

Oct 1929 - Loomis went into Treasuries before crash

By Christmas 34' Loomis quit Wall Street p87

Thorne buys Hilton Head

Loomis and wife begin to drift apart

gave his 3 sons 1 million each - Henry was 14

1930's - putting on the electrodes - testing of brain waves p110

Built Glass House by William Levey 1938

Then fell in love with Hobart's wife Marweth - 29
used mirror to signal coast was clear

Paulie Loomis - a big source

Richards - suicide right before book was published

Alfred hated the book

Richards - a drunk - depressed

Enrico Fermi - 1938 to Columbia

Loomis becomes interested in weaponry because of
Hettler and WWII

Compton wanted Loomis to look into microwave which
eventually became known as Radar



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April 4, 1945 - Divorce trial
Loomis lied to his sons about
other women

Marrid in Nevada - He was 57 - she 36
people turned their backs on him

prob Blind landing system in WW II because of Foran
our way or the highway vs. Not invented
D-Day - accompanied by 39 SCR 584
radar sets

M E W system - used against V-1

\$100 million spent on Foran systems

Help start Rand Corp. - an idea from Air Force
became a board member

Tuxedo Park became Graveyard of the Aristocracy

Bush Conant and General Leslie Groves - took steps
in 1942 to form Manhattan ~~Project~~ Project -
(Engineering District) a military lab by Jan, 1944

Foran's tried to have his wife Ellen committed permanently
She came back from war - fallout with his father -
Henry also had a fallout

Mr Bridge - Radar won the war; the atom bomb
ended it.

Rad Lab closes Dec 31, 1945

By 1943 6000 radars had been delivered to
military - 22,000 on order

Foran's organization 4000 people
Spent 80 million in federal funds

New MIT base lab opened Nov 11, 1940

By mid Dec 36 people - 30 physicists 3 guards 2 stockboys
Vee.

Military didn't like Loomis' operation

test successful for subs at 5 miles
some plans at 10 miles / performed well over water

Edward Bowler - didn't like being under

^{p234} Loomis' supervision - thought he stole Loren
from British GEE system - long range navigators

Bowler left MIT in 42 for WASH.

Cyclotron - a whole ^{new} way of tapping nuclear energy
Lawrence - a method of separating the isotopes

(1941) - German U-Boats sunk 328 merchant ships

Ernest Lawrence - If you tell me this is my job
(building the bomb) I'll do it. The real reason ^{p247}

FDR appoints Board to consider fission bomb

Bush, Conant, Stimson, Gen. Marshall and
V.P. Henry Wallace

Dec 7, 41 - Pearl Harbor

Lawrence wanted to separate U-235

son - Henry on Pennsylvania in Hawaii - an Emergen

In Feb alone 82 US merchant marine ships sunk

Summer of 42 - turning point of war CXBK -
experimental microwave AS Radar in operation
over Bay of Biscay.

By end of year Radar staff 2000 people
1 million a month in budget

Loomis died of a stroke August 11, 1975

Chap 8 discovery of fission by German scientists - 1939
June 12 German Blitzkrieg in France (Stimson 12)

NDRC - Bush ^{MIT} Jewett ^{Bell Labs} Compton ^{Harvard} Conant Loomis
Loomis heads up microwave committee

Chap 9 Tizard mission - British to U.S.

brought with the 1st resonant cavity magnetron
6 person team left Liverpool - landed in Nova Scotia - moved
Black box with radar to WASH. - Taffy Bowen
meeting at Tuskeo Park - they saw technology that would give
British an advantage over Germans p192
a new large central microwave lab in WASH.

Magnetron became focus of Loomis' whole being
Oct 14 announced to group in NYC - E. T. S. his intention
to build a ten centimeter air interception system p200
Lee DuBridge to run new lab - 1 1/2 years before Pearl Harbor
set the Lab at MIT 10,000 square feet.

→ Chap. 1

Ernest Lawrence - 1936 - first met - invented cyclotron
35 years old

two men became instant friends - went on to get
\$1.15 million Rockefeller grant

Sept 1, 1939 - Germany invades Poland

Nov 9 - Law. wins Nobel Prize for Physics

Loomis spends a lot of time in California - large Cyclotron
is being built by Law.

Law got 1.15 million from Rad/ 50,000 from Marble

Brups a home in Calif. accepts position at Rad Lab

Henry Stimson
James B. Conant
William Richards
Mr. Bush M. 1 Troop - Cavalry
Hilton Head

How important was Loomis' friendship with Stimson?

Ask about his Modesty

didn't take credit for anything

Hester forgot Loomis