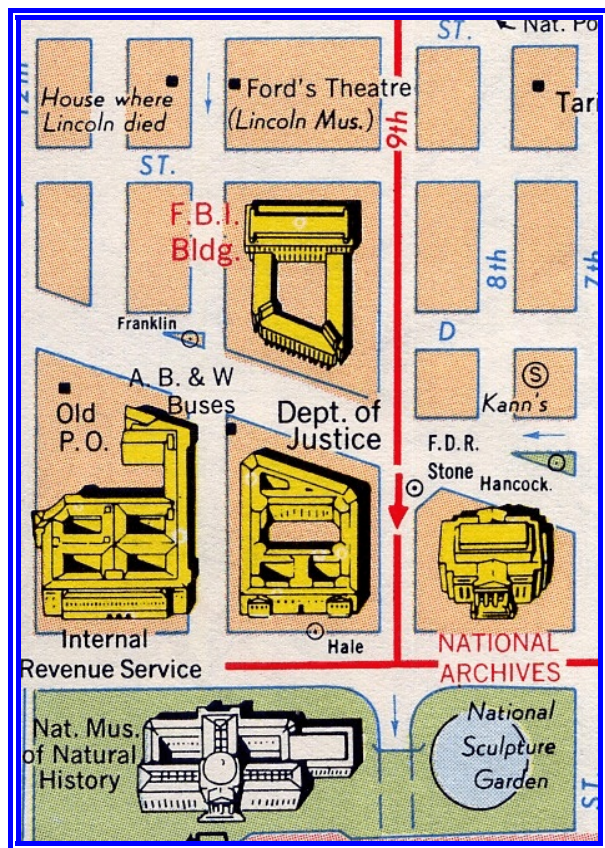


The Loomis Radio College issued (3YA) of 401-411 Ninth Street NW was a District of Columbia fixture in the twenties and thirties. So close to Ford's Theater, Loomis at 9th and D, founded and operated by the ever popular Ms Mary Texanna Loomis. Mary was a consummate pro, a member of the IRE, lecturer, wireless teacher and author.



The Loomis technical book of the time was conceded to be the best ever produced. "Radio Theory and Operating." By Ms Loomis, a reference text of 886 pages originally and 700 illustrations, very reasonably priced and the postage was paid. The text book used by Radio Schools, technical Colleges, universities, Dept. Of Commerce, Gov't schools and engineers. Placed in the public domain by Loomis Publishing Co Dept E.- 405- 9th Street NW Washington, DC.

By 1928 the Loomis technical theory book was in its 5th edition and amounted to 1006 pages.

Mary was last heard from in a Washington Post article 15 March 1931 entitled "Mary Loomis 'Bosses' Air Students to High Success." That article gave us some extra personal information about Loomis. She was very sports minded in her youth, fluent in many languages, swimming, horse back riding and strenuous exercise. She took voice lessons and became a good soprano. She was a Red Cross worker in WWI.

The depression probably played a big part to gobble up the The Loomis School and hard times were afoot in the 1930s, plus stiff competition from other area and regional radio/wireless training schools. National Radio Institute is believed to be the first wireless institution starting in 1914 with a paltry 4 students and WW I looming. Secondly the Loomis College. Then Capitol Radio Institute commenced in 1932 which were two of the major competitors, of which Capitol had 60 years of continuous service.

Baltimore was close by and had wireless and technical training too. The time lines are very close when Loomis College shut its doors. The school radio call (3YA) issued by the FRC to Loomis College was still in effect Spring 1934 per call book issues. By the fall of 1936 the Loomis issued call had been removed from all listings.

We know Mary lived a frugal life in a DC boarding home in the 1930 census. She would eventually make her way out west and expire at San Francisco in 1960. We await other information.