

Carl Kinsley, Pioneer In Radio Development

Carl Kinsley, 88, an electrical engineer and physicist who did pioneering work in radio and electrical magnetic testing of steel and oil products, died of a heart attack yesterday at his home at 1034 Beechwood lane, Falls Church.

Mr. Kinsley was born in Lansing, Mich., and grew up in Falls Church. He attended Oberlin College, receiving a bachelor of arts degree in 1893 and a master of arts degree in 1896. After gaining a degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University in 1894, he taught physics for five years at Washington University, St. Louis.

During this period he began experiments in wireless transmission, contributing to the development of radio at every stage.

In the earliest days of radio, he progressed on independent lines in this country before Marconi acquired his patents for wireless telegraphy. Mr. Kinsley installed America's first radio station, at Fire Island, N. Y., and played a large role in the development of the first commercial broadcasting.

After serving as an electrical expert in the War Department from 1899 to 1901, he taught at the University of Chicago for 18 years, rising to associate professor. His colleagues at the University of Chicago included scientists Robert A. Millikan and Albert A. Michelson.

Mr. Kinsley joined the U. S. Army as a major in the signal corps at the outbreak of World War I. Detailed to the General Staff, he was made chief of the military intelligence section for radio, telegraph and telephone operations, a post he held until 1919.

Turning to private consulting engineering, he developed a printing telegraph which sent 635 words a minute, and did development work on electric machines, photoelectric photometers, storage batteries, electrical discharge through gases, and in radio transmission.

He joined the U. S. Steel Corp. in 1931, where he

evolved magnetic methods of testing steel products, including means of locating areas of metal fatigue.

Upon his retirement in 1937, he returned to Falls Church. An ardent tennis player in his youth, Mr. Kinsley and his wife maintained a tennis court near their home for the young people of the neighborhood.

A contributor to many scientific journals, Mr. Kinsley was a fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an associate member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and belonged to the Institute of Radio Engineers, Sigma Xi, and the Cosmos Club.

He is survived by his wife, Prudence Ellis Kinsley; three daughters, Colony Parrott, of Boston Harbor, Mich., Stephanie Stevens, of Yucaipa, Calif., and Penelope Tosteson, of Santa Monica, Calif.; and a brother, William Kinsley Jr., Santa Monica.

Funeral services will be private.

