William Ittner Orr - W2HCE - W6SAI - *1919-2001* Bill was prolific electrical engineer & writer. He could cover a subject from A to Z and well satisfy the beginner as well as the advanced type. Mr. Orr over the years authored many fine publications. He wrote from the heart because he enjoyed doing it. Bill loved antenna and amplifier design, my personal library shows it.

Licensed in 1934 at age 15 as W2HCE in NYC, Orr went on to graduate in electrical engineering from the U of California-Berkley in the early 1940s. He went to work for Douglas Aircraft during World War II.

In Bill’s younger years, he was a well known Dx’er and DXCC Honor Roll member. He also was involved in Dxpeditions to various exotic locations, including St. Pierre & Miquelon, Monaco and other locales.

From the 40's to the 80s, Orr was a frequent contributor to QST. He authored dozens of articles, tips and pieces of correspondence, many of them dealing with tube type amplifiers. He also wrote the early days of Project Oscar. He constructed some of the amplifiers once used at ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW.

Orr enjoyed a personal relationship with Bill Eitel and Jack McCullough of EIMAC, the power tube folks and served for many years as an Eimac Engineer. Orr’s application notes for Eimac products were favorite reading within the amateur community. In later years, Orr penned columns for Ham Radio magazine and more recently, for CQ where he edited “Radio Fundamentals.”

As an ARRL member, Orr was best known for his voluminous publications for radio amateurs covering subjects from HF to VHF/UHF. They’re still easily found, including the reference gem, “The Radio Handbook,” by Editors & Engineers, written in five different languages.

Orr was also KH6ADR on Maui, Hawaii and operated there two or three times a year. Bill’s wife expired prior and he lived alone. William I. Orr W6SAI, of Menlo Park, CA expired in his sleep 24 January 2001, he was age 81. Pictured Bill’s card circa 1952. Partially scripted from arrl.org news.  W8SU 2007