

# The Budd Company

by Tom Endy

Though it was not as well-known as Briggs and Murray, the Budd Company of Philadelphia Pennsylvania was a supplier to the Ford Motor Company. They are mostly known in the Model A hobby for the production of the Budd cab used on the 1931 wide bed pickup trucks. The Budd cab has a solid steel roof and has been described as the first vehicle to have a solid roof top.

The Budd Company was founded by Edward G. Budd in 1912 and supplied the first all steel car bodies to the Dodge Brothers Car Company.

During the years of Model A production the Budd Company also supplied a number of steel panels to Ford including the side panels for the sedan delivery trucks.

The Budd Company was a major supplier to other industries and supplied many of the panels used in the construction of passenger trains.

During World War Two the Budd Company produced many items for the war industry. During the war Budd employed over 5,000 women in their factory, one of whom was my mother. I remember her telling me that she was an inspector and inspected manifold hardware for the B-24 bomber. That would make sense as the Ford Willow Run plant in Michigan built over 9,000 B-24's during the war.

Over the years the Budd Company was merged with other companies and eventually lost its identity. Today the Budd Company no longer exists.



**The Budd Mfg. Company was located at 2450 Hunting Park Ave. in Philadelphia.**



**The Budd Company building is considered an historic landmark in Philadelphia. At the present time the building is abandoned and in sad shape.**



**1931 Wide Bed Pickup with a Budd Cab**