

**Long Wave
Short Wave
News Spots
& Pictures**

MICROPHONE

THE ORIGINAL U.S. RADIO NEWSPAPER

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This and That
By Morris Hastings

THE PROGRAM schedule for next season, as announced in a recent issue of The MICROPHONE, shows clearly the strength and, more clearly still, the weakness of radio.

Its strength lies in its ability to foster characters such as AMOS 'n' ANDY, the GOLDBERGS, the personages of the "Roses and D r u m s" sketches, BILLY BATCH-ELOR—all of whom, it is thought, appear, many thousands of listeners do not care to be without.

At least, that's the way it seems to the sponsors of the various characters. And so, after a Summer's vacation, they return this Fall.

But popular as they may be now, they are bound like all highly persistent friends to wear out their welcome. Then what will the sponsors and radio do? For radio does not give evidence, except in rare instances, of developing any programs to take the places of the current favorites when they pass into disfavor.

Checking through the schedule again, I cannot find any indications of a new trend in radio programs either in respect to type or stars.

The one exception is that announced by NBC of a weekly hour musical show with music

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Mr. HASTINGS

Communications Commission Denies Attempting 'New Deal Censorship'

Biggest Football Schedule In History Of The Networks

Best Games Of Season to be Broadcast

At least 18 major college football games will be broadcast over the Columbia network and the outstanding games of the season will also be heard over the NBC networks, starting on Saturday, September 22.

The coming gridiron season will be the fullest yet broadcast over the air. Outstanding sectional, conference and inter-sectional games will go on the air, announced by such sports broadcasters as GRAHAM McNAMEE, TED HUSING, LES QUAILEY, FORD BOND, BILLY MUNDTY and JERRY HARRISON.

Although the NBC has not yet completed plans for the season, it is probable that the outstanding contests each Saturday will go on the air. The following games will be heard over the CBS, WABC network:

On September 22, over Station WABC, the contest between Manhattan College and St. Bonaventure will be broadcast, to be followed on Friday, September 28, by the West Virginia vs. Duquesne game, which will be played at

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Sore Throat Helps to Win An Audition

How it feels to become a national radio star overnight was told to The MICROPHONE in an exclusive interview with ROWENE WILLIAMS, winner of the recent Columbia nationwide audition for a radio star.

Miss WILLIAMS came from comparative obscurity in Chicago to win the leading role of the program, "Hollywood Hotel," which will be heard over the WABC network beginning October 3.

"No one will ever realize the thrill that ran through me when the judges awarded the contract to Number 10," said Miss Williams. "It was coincidental that I should ask the other contestants to lean against the wall while we were awaiting the verdict of the judges. When they announced me the winner, I was glad the wall was in back of me hereafter, or I would have hurt myself falling."

"How I won is still a mystery to me," said Miss Williams in the first interview given a radio newspaper. "Just two days before I left

Leading Lady



ROWENE WILLIAMS, Chicago girl, who won the nationwide audition for the leading lady in "Hollywood Hotel."

Chicago I contracted a severe throat infection. The illness also affected my tongue, which was as raw as a piece of beef. I went to a doctor in Chicago, but he didn't relieve me much. Although I hated to take the expense money, I had every hope the

(Continued on Page 15)

Political Favoritism Is Charged

By The MICROPHONE'S Special Washington Correspondent

Steady drum-fire of charges that the Communications Commission was preparing to clamp down censorship on the radio was expected to evoke a statement from the Commission definitely indicating what it intends to do.

The Commission has no authority in law to censor any one's opinions or statements of facts over the radio. It can penalize for misleading advertising and for obscene language.

Reiterated assertions by members of the commission that no censorship as the word is generally understood was in contemplation, have failed to subdue the attack.

HAMPSON GARY, chairman of the radio division of the Commission, in his first public utterance, disavowed any intention on the part of the commission to censor.

However, he spoke of the need for high ethics in radio broadcasting and served notice the Commission would tolerate no fake advertising.

Critics argue that the Commission having the power to license can show favoritism to broadcasters that in turn show favoritism to defenders of the "New Deal."

Senator SCHALL (R) of Minnesota, told The MICROPHONE'S spe-

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Labor Day Addresses

Two addresses to organized labor will be heard over the NBC networks on Labor Day, September 3.

WILLIAM GREEN, president of the American Federation of Labor, and FRANK MORRISON, secretary of the same organization, will speak to large gatherings in mid-Western cities.

GREEN will be heard from the City Auditorium at Wichita, Kansas, in a review of the labor developments during the past year. His address will reach the radio audience over the NBC-WFAP network at 1 P. M.

The second broadcast will occur when MORRISON addresses a labor meeting in Lakeside Park in the automobile city of Flint, Michigan.

This broadcast will be at 3 P. M. over the NBC-WJZ hookup.

News Flashes WEEKDAYS

- A.M.**
- 10.30 WFAP Network: WEEL WGY WSM WFLA WSB
 - WABC Network: WCAU WHAS WPG KMOX WBBM WCCO WJW
 - 10.45 WJZ Network: WBZ WHAM KDKA WLW WBAL
- P.M.**
- 6.30 WFAP Network: WEEL WGY WSM WFLA WSB
 - WABC Network: WCAU WHAS WPG KMOX WBBM WCCO WJW
 - 7.15 WJZ Network: WBZ WHAM KDKA WLW WBAL

SUNDAYS

- A.M.**
- 11.00 WFAP Network: WEEL WGY WSM WFLA WSB
 - WJZ Network: WBZ WHAM KDKA WLW WBAL
- P.M.**
- 11.00 WFAP Network: WEEL WGY WSM WFLA WSB
 - WJZ Network: WBZ WHAM KDKA WLW WBAL

[Important news is given over these stations, generally on the hour and half hour.]

Men's Singles Tennis Aired

Plans are now being made to broadcast the National Men's Singles tennis matches from Forest Hills, Long Island, from September 4 to 8.

A summary of each day's play will be broadcast over the CBS-WABC network. A 15-minute period at 5.45 P. M. on Tuesday, September 4, will be the opening broadcast. On Wednesday the account of the play will be broadcast at 6.45 P. M. and on Thursday at 5.45 P. M.

The semifinals and the finals will be described play-by-play from 3 to 4 P. M. on Friday, September 7, and at the same time on Saturday, September 8.

This year's tournament promises to be one of the most interesting in American tennis history. FRED PERRY of England, defending champion, leads a field that includes such nationally-known players as GEORGE LOTT, LESTER STOEFFEN, SYDNEY WOOD, FRANK SHIELDS, GREGORY MANGIN and BERKELEY BELL.

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Detroit Symphony
VICTOR KOLAR, conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will present BEETHOVEN'S First Symphony in C Minor as the highlight of the second Saturday night concert from the Century of Progress in Chicago on September 1 at 9 P. M.

Hollow Sounds And Distant Voices Made In NBC's 'Echo Chamber'

How Radio's Bugaboo Is Put to Work

Every known cloth, wood, and weed texture has been tested by NBC's experimental laboratory to eliminate that dreaded ghost of radio stations—the echo. Now, after many years of experiment, they have finally banished this bogeyman.

Satisfied with their success, they have returned to battle their ancient enemy, not with the idea of annihilating the echo, but to capture and incarcerate it for use in broadcasting programs.

A MICROPHONE reporter recently examined one of the three rooms designed for the echo's jail. It is a soundproof room with straight, bleak, sparkling walls of tile. The floor is solid concrete. A snap of the fingers sends the sound reverberating about the enclosure greatly magnified.

At one end of the elongated room are three bell-shaped loud speakers concealed behind a steel grating. Directly opposite these speakers, at the farther end of the chamber, are two microphones.

The horns are connected to a studio most used by dramatic productions. When a script calls for Mrs. GOLDBERG to yell down a dumbwaiter to Mrs. BLOOM, the sound of Mrs. GOLDBERG's yell is carried from her microphone to the echo chamber, where it bounces against the walls and is picked up by the echo chamber microphones.

These microphones carry the reverberated voice to the control room where it is discharged to your ears. All this takes place before you can blink an eyelid. The result is the actual sound of a voice traveling down a dumbwaiter.

There is reason for two microphones in the echo chamber. On the first microphone is broadcast part of the actual sound issuing from the studio.

The second microphone is the one picking up the bouncing echo. The echo is delayed a fraction of a second and then it is "mixed" through on—the normal sounds caught by the first microphone.

Delaying this sound is the masterpiece of the experimental department, which is under the direction of O. B. HANSON.

MR. HANSON devised the idea of an echo chamber more than a year ago when the NBC was located on Fifth Avenue. Upon moving to Radio City in New York, Mr. HANSON went to work and created three of these chambers. They are now ready for use in broadcasting hollow sounds heard in old tunnels and eerie noises in ancient castles.

Radio City Party to Present Guests

The Radio City Party, a new series, which will present as guest stars the outstanding personalities in radio, will begin on Saturday, September 15, over the NBC-WJZ network at 9 P. M.

JOHN B. KENNEDY, editor and radio commentator, will act as master of ceremonies and will conduct personal interviews.

The musical side of the program will be handled by an orchestra under the direction of FRANK BLACK, NBC music director.

Radio's Mental Gymnasium Conducted By Everett Smith

Putting Puzzles On the Air Is Very Puzzling

THE PUZZLE of how to present puzzles on the air puzzled me for some time. That was a real puzzle, indeed! The answer came on one of those rare mornings when the early bird caught the worm. A well-known radio artist was saying: "Hands on the hips, heels together, bending now at the—" There it was! Mental Gymnastics!

Puzzles of one sort or another always fascinated me, and for several years I have evolved puzzleistic features for newspapers and periodicals. My "Synonym Golf" went so far as to attract a book publisher.

This experience, coupled with membership in the National Puzzlers' League, and the American Cryptogram Association, which are holding a joint convention in Boston over Labor Day weekend, together with the widespread interest on all sides in cross-words and jig-saws, convinced me that puzzles were popular with people in all walks of life.

Then why not with radio listeners? There was not, so far as I knew, such a program on the air, although the late SAM LOYD, veteran puzzler, had at various times given out certain of his well-known brain twisters.

Brains versus Brawn! That was it! Mental alertness, comprehensive knowledge, keen judgment, sound reasoning, are the qualities most needed and most desired in business today—Nimblewits!

And so to equip our mental gymnasium—your own easy chair. Paper and pencil took the place of parallel bars, Indian clubs, and trapeze, by way of apparatus. The little ol' thinkin' cap became part of the gym suit. Deletions and transdeletions



EVERETT SMITH, author of the accompanying article, "Radio Nimblewits," himself is conductor of the only radio puzzle program consistently on the air.

—the cutting down of a word, such as "Startling," by one letter at a time, yet always forming a proper word—became a "Reducing Exercise." Transpositions—using, for example, the letters A E L S and T to form ten five-letter words (can you do it?) became a "Juggling Exercise."

Even lists of words of a certain classification were introduced as "warming-up" exercises. Such lists might, at first thought, prove very simple, but with the stopwatch timed on you, how many different kinds of trees could you name in just one minute? Ready? Go?

In a personal appearance before a Junior High School group, one lad listed 15 trees in the minute—one every four seconds! Asked to read his list, he began: "Apple, Pear, Peach, Plum, Cherry—" Good work! "Aw—his ol' man is a fruit peddler," grumbled a runner-up. Maybe. But Nimblewits, just the same.

With a credit of five

Popular With All Classes Of Listeners

points for each word, and a total of 100 meaning the "genius" class. Nimblewits wrote of "sluggish brains improving under the tutelage" and of "wits sharpened." Another fan thought the mental gymnastic tests "quite revealing," a friend's score of 45 looking rather small beside her 120. No wonder it made her rather proud of herself. How she made out the following week is not revealed.

Early meetings of the Radio Nimblewits took place on Sunday afternoons at 1.15 over WBZ, "usually during our dinner hour," commented another Nimblewit, who noticed that "paper and pencil are generally included in the set-up of the dining table."

Changes in schedule finally brought the program at 12 Noon. "I find that by slipping out just before the last hymn, I can get home from church in time to listen in," said another. As now presented at 11.30 on Sunday mornings, over WBZ and WBZA, mental gymnastics seem to compete with many church services. A noticeable increase in fan mail, however, suggests the possibility that a few Bible puzzles might well be injected into a sermon now and then.

The Cryptogram—aristocrat of puzzles—has proved extremely popular with Nimblewits, but here again the phonetic similarity of certain letters, when given over the air, presented another puzzle. At the suggestion of another member of the mental gymnastic class, however, numbers were substituted, and the problem solved.

Readers of THE MICROPHONE are doubtless familiar with my regular weekly column, so little need be said here about the actual types of mental teasers presented. I should dislike, however, to omit saying a word about that genial pal, "Fumble Wit," who gets punnier and punnier each week.

Aside from his pre-historic humor, however, he has several times been the means of saving me from mental embarrassment. For even Nimblewits, you know, sometimes Fumble.

Radio-Equipped Ships

Sailing the seas are 18,032 ships equipped with radio, the Bureau of International Telecommunications Union at Berne, Switzerland, reported recently.

STATION DIRECTORY
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Short Wave Is Good In Afternoon

By GEORGE LILLEY

Short wave dialing carried with it full enchantment a few evenings ago. The magic spectrums were in one of those captivating, fast becoming regular conditions when volume alone is no authoritative indication of the distance which a signal is traveling.

International lanes at 5 P. M. (all time is EST) offered programs that were absolutely beyond reproach in so far as technical quality of the transmissions were concerned. The three 25-meter stations from England, Germany and France were literally "pounding in."

At such a time when transmitters of Eastern Europe are floating through with unusually heavy signals, it becomes quite in order for those fans with the wanderlust complex to go exploring the weaker waves. There is no telling from where they may be emanating.

This was the case the other evening, and 5.40 P. M. found many dial twirlers playing with a rather obliterated voice on exactly 50 meters (6.00 megas.).

Now 50 meters is at this time of year a bit high in the wave band for real distant reception during daylight hours, but, as stated, propagation conditions were above par; and besides the strange radiation happened to be coming from a land where darkness had closed-in hours before.

At first nothing could be made out other than that a woman was talking in some Continental tongue. The speech carried through until 5.57 P. M., at which time signal strength had come up a few degrees and interference from nearby code stations became less troublesome.

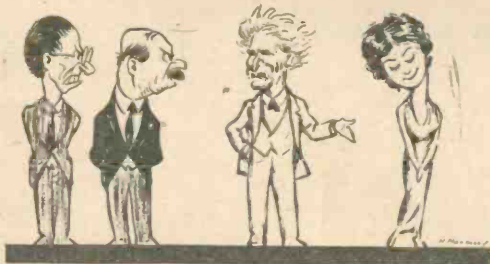
Then announcements in English: "Hello, hello! hello! Moscow calling!" The same calls were repeated in a few other languages. At 5.58½ P. M. a Soviet anthem wafted through the ether; with its conclusion, the Russian air voice signed-off for the day—2.01 A. M., Tuesday morning in Soviet capital.

Our station, of course, was that much sought-after RV59, high frequency relay unit of 100-kilowatt, long wave "Radio Moscow Trades Union." The latter transmitter, disseminating on 1724 meters, is the super-powered Russian outfit.

RV59 operates daily on 50

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Mark Twain's Introduction



SSIP GABRILOWITSCH, conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, recalls an introduction that his father-in-law, MARK TWAIN, once made of himself, CLARA CLEMENS and DAVID BISPHAM, the singer. Said TWAIN: "Mr. Bispham and Mr. Gabrielowitsch are known the world over. We also have a young singer, as yet not so widely known. But, although Miss Clemens is possibly less famous than Mr. Bispham and Mr. Gabrielowitsch, I am sure the audience will agree with me that she is decidedly prettier than either of the other two."

EVERY subscriber to or other purchaser of THE MICROPHONE is entitled to share its benefits with a friend. Write to Circulation Manager, THE MICROPHONE, No. 34 Court Square, Boston, Massachusetts, giving the names and addresses of those you'd like to become familiar with THE MICROPHONE. A sample copy will be sent promptly to each name given, without obligation.

Radio Lane

By Jimmy J. Leonard

NEW YORK is all agog because of the recent drive opened by five of the nation's best band leaders to purify the lyrics sung by broken-hearted wailers. Many other leaders and music school heads are backing up the lyric reformer's platform.

One group headed by ARTHUR CREMIN, director of the New York School of Music, claims that GUY LOMBARDO, CAB CALLOWAY and CLAUDE HOPKINS are undermining the mind of the nation's children by use of suggestive words. And JACK DENNY and DON BESTOR agree with him.

Personally, this section of your radio newspaper thinks the "reformers" a trifle soggy headed. The "drive" has all the earmarks of a "publicity campaign." I might ask anybody what it is they like

about GUY LOMBARDO's radio performance, and I'm sure nine times out of nine they will answer that it is his delightful tempo. Certainly no one would answer that it was his "suggestive" lyrics.

Nor do lyrics matter, anyhow. Few ever listen to the words of a song. Half of the listening singers are hummers, and if they break into a word it is usually a mumbled "moon," "June," or "love."

CAB CALLOWAY's lyrics are not exactly baby rhymes. His "Kickin' the Gong Around" is a "coke sniffin'" masterpiece, but, as is usually the case, "MINNIE" comes to no good end. I'm sure the song never incited the innocent to indulge in MINNIE's pastime.

If the "reformers" really wish something to reform why don't they go the limit in preventing children at the tender ages of from three to thirteen from singing the songs of adult love-lovers? Baby ROSE MARIE and her ilk should be given a spanking.

The people commercializing on the procoousness of these youngsters should be "reformed" into leaving the country. I am surprised at WILLIAM EARLE, of WHDH, for allowing little tots to sing love songs.

It doesn't speak too well for their parents, either. A drive against this practice would win a glad hand from both listeners and columnists.

DENNIS KING will enact favorite roles every Thursday eve. He was supposed to have started radio acting August 3, but contracts take time to make. HENDRICK WILLEM VAN LOON will appear on the "University of the Air" throughout the cold months. When the Prince and Princess KAYA of Japan called at Radio City they insisted upon hearing a rehearsal of the mystery thriller, K-7.

ROWENE WILLIAMS, "Hollywood Hotel" contest winner, certainly was not picked with ZIEGFELD's specifications of loveliness in view. She is a former opera singer, and she comes as near looking like an opera diva as possible.

She is a synthetic blond, with a beautiful set of teeth. She thought New York would be as hot as Chicago, and nearly froze to death. Although its time is still being withheld, the hour show, "Hollywood Hotel," will take the air on October 3.

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Undue Alarm



DRAWN by Ireland for the Columbus, Ohio, Dispatch, this cartoon, captioned "Reelin' Em In," is reprinted by Review of Reviews with this comment:

"Government licensing of radio stations places a powerful weapon—in effect: censorship over adverse criticism—in the hands of any political party in power."

Probably Review of Reviews will not agree with THE MICROPHONE that the ether waves belong to the public, and that the public has a right to control them through its duly elected or appointed representatives. Perhaps Review of Reviews feels that the people are unfit to govern themselves?

Private enterprise controls much in this country, but in the last analysis it does not and certainly should not control the ether waves.

THE MICROPHONE has plenty of faith in the ability of the American public to combat censorship with intelligence.

Producers Forgetting "Simple Technique"

By DICK TEMPLETON
 New York Correspondent

WITH program builders scurrying to line up their Fall menus — which they hope will be tempting — a word of advice seems called for. All right then, here it is "Lest we forget!"

And to amplify, further, what we really mean is: "Lest we forget in building programs that a show doesn't have to be terrifically complicated in order to entertain!"

With their wild rushes to dazzle the eyes of the yokels many of the lads responsible for programs have forgotten the meaning of the word "simplicity."

Yet the A. & P. Gypsies have gone along for quite a few years with a program aimed solely at pleasing the

ear instead of startling the wits out of listeners or of making them say "oh" and "aw."

Cities Service has done pretty well with an orchestra, a good soprano and a fine tenor. On the other hand another oil company is literally saying, "Look what we can pull out of the barrel!" with the aim centered on Europe and the result has been largely static.

Your correspondent, a bearded man in so far as radio goes, recalls an old WJZ program. SAM HERMAN played the xylophone, LOU RADERMAN the violin, ANDY SANDELA the guitar and saxophone. The Revelers sang. That show lasted four years, shifting from one sponsor to another. It was simple, but it was melody

and it lasted.

With JACK BENNY and his troupe shifting to another sponsor, marking BENNY's fourth practically successive sponsor, it is indication that a simple program that has humor in it is just about top in the comedy field.

Studiosity

By Les Troy

WE STARTED a story last week about the COMPINSKY Trio, distinguished players of chamber music. I'll repeat a bit for those who did not read the first part in last week's column.

The three COMPINSKYS were driving from their Summer home in upper New York State to Albany, where they were to play over a radio station. Being late, they drove fast, were arrested and had to pay a judge ten dollars. Then they explained who they were and why they were hurrying. The judge advised them to keep on hurrying and they might possibly reach the radio station in time.

They went so fast that their car oversteered and stopped in a burst of steam in front of a house five miles from

Albany. ALEX COMPINSKY, seeing an elderly lady on the lawn near the car, said, "Don't touch this car, madam. It's hot." Then the trio, grabbing their violin cases, commandeered a passing automobile and went on.

Meanwhile, worried about the "hot car," the lady summoned the fire department. Finding no fire, and being shown the car, the firemen told the lady that a "hot car" was what gangsters called a stolen auto.

The lady called the police and told them that two tough gangsters and their "moll" held up a passing motorist with machine guns under their arms and hurried away.

There was a reception for the COMPINSKYS when they returned for their car. They were once more taken to court. But everything was finally cleared up.

Royalty will be heard on the air on September 26 when KING GEORGE and Queen MARY of England participate in the launching of the world's largest ocean liner, "The Victoria." The broadcast will be relayed from the Clydebank shipyard to both the NBC and Columbia networks and will be broadcast in England over the British Broadcasting Corporation's stations.

The worst pun of the week comes from the Columbia studios in New York. WALTER B. PITKIN, now a radio commentator as well as a college professor, has three best-sellers on the market all at once. Aware of his success and amazed at the amount of material he can turn out in a short time (he wrote a book recently in three weeks) his admirers now call him "The Bottomless PIT-KIN."

Another writer of some note is turning to radio. J. P. McEVoy is going to write the sketches of the new "Hollywood Hotel" program which begins in October and features DICK POWELL and the audition winner, ROWENE WILLIAMS.

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Robison And His Buckaroos Began Their Careers In English Tour

Carson Is A Collector of Range Songs

At the microphone the thrilling Bar X Days and Nights series, featuring CARSON ROBISON and His Buckaroos, consisting of PEARL PICKENS and JOHN and BILE MITCHELL, with a cast of veteran radio actors, in songs and drama is typical of, as it is phrased, the wild and woolly West.

CARSON ROBISON, son of the Kansas prairies, is a king pin among authorities of folk songs of the old West, commonly designated as cowboy songs. His music library contains more than 500 such compositions, plus a sprinkling of hill-billy tunes, and among them are approximately 150 works from his own pen.

From his library, he selects the musical numbers for each Bar X Days and Nights broadcast. He constantly is searching for other old and authentic songs of the Western range. Each discovery is added to his library. Each discovery of merit becomes potential radio material.

The Bar X Days and Nights program is equally balanced with Western drama and music. Some of the dramatic narratives are woven around a song, especially the old story song, and some of the musical programs are selected as appropriate for a particular dramatic story.

Western Drama

As an example, "Lay Down Dogies," from CARSON's pen, is a Western story song around which has been woven a typical Bar X Days and Nights dramatic narrative.

It is the song story of a young man and his wife who migrated from the East to the West and settled on a ranch. The man subsequently was shot and paralyzed by a rustler, after which his comely wife managed the ranch and rode the range.

During the long nights she sang constantly, after the manner of the cowboy, to keep the range cattle quiet. Otherwise, the howls of coyotes or wolves, the clapping of thunder or the flash of lightning, or even the sharp report of a pistol shot may have caused them to stampee. The song outlines the story in skeleton form; the dramatic narrative based on it is embellished.

The narratives built around old story songs are usually fictional, while the other Bar X Days and Nights dramatic narratives, around which the musical programs are built, are either fictional or factual. Some of them are based on historical occurrences, as authenticated by research, and the others are brain children of their author. He is FINIS FARR, veteran radio continuity-writer.

CARSON ROBISON, for one thing, is scrupulously attentive to the dates at which songs were popular, in choosing them to illustrate any given dramatic sketch. If the drama is laid in the Nineties, he will not use a song of any other period to illustrate it.

Each song chosen will be taken from the collection of those which were popular in the Nineties. Each musical composition in his library contains the date when it was written, if ascertainable; the date when it was popu-

"Home, Home On The Range"—And Dressed For It



CARSON ROBISON and His Buckaroos—Left to right: CARSON ROBISON, PEARL PICKENS, JOHN MITCHELL and WILLIAM MITCHELL.

lar, and the dates, if more than once, when it was published. These latter dates are useful in checking copyrights.

Plays Own Compositions

CARSON ROBISON retains for the exclusive use of himself and the Buckaroos some of his own compositions. They never have been published. Among such compositions are "Texas Dan" and "Texas Home," two typical cowboy songs; "Oklahoma Charlie," and "Jed Turney's Gal," two story songs, and "Long, Long Way From Home," the theme song of the Bar X Days and Nights series.

CARSON wrote the last number just a short while before the premiere performance of the Bar X Days and Nights program. It represents his sentiment while witnessing a rodeo performance in the Madison Square Garden, New York.

CARSON organized his Buckaroos in February, 1932. He was obsessed with the idea that a good vocal quartet, including members who could play instrumental accompaniments, could make a hit in England as singers of Western songs.

The Buckaroos Begin

In April, 1932, after two months of rehearsing with the Buckaroos, they boarded an ocean liner for England, and soon thereafter were starred in several of England's fashionable music halls and hotels. Among the latter were the Hotel Berkeley, the Hotel Savoy and the Hotel Claridge. They also made some 80 records of cowboy songs. "I Was Born in Wyoming," "Going to the Barn Dance Tonight," and "Home on the Range," were their most popular English recordings.

CARSON and His Buckaroos stayed in England until the Fall of 1932, and the next Spring they began presenting the Bar X Days and Nights program. It first was broadcast over the WABC-Columbia network as a sustaining program, but after a few months was switched to another network as

a commercial program. During July, 1934, the program was reinstated on the WABC-Columbia network, this time as a sponsored production.

The Program

On the stroke of 9 P. M., EDST, each Thursday, CARSON and His Buckaroos crowd around a microphone in the Columbia studios in New York and sound off their theme song. CARSON himself wears a harmonica suspended from a contraption hooked over his head, and has both a Jew's-harp and guitar at his finger tips. He plays each instrument, in addition to the piano, and sings and whistles.

PEARL PICKENS and JOHN and BILL MITCHELL huddle around the microphone with their leader. Both JOHN and BILL, in addition to singing, play banjos, the Jew's harp and the harmonica, while PEARL relies entirely upon her rich contralto voice. She once studied for an operatic career in Europe.

CARSON was born in Chetopa, Kansas, and early learned many of the old Western songs. His father, once named the champion

cowboy fiddler of Kansas, was his tutor. When only 12, CARSON wrote his first song—a church hymn. During his youth he ran away from home and rode the range in both Kansas and Oklahoma.

A Real Westerner

The love of the soil and ranch life today is CARSON's most distinctive characteristic as a member of radioland. In preference to living in a fashionable Park Avenue penthouse, he owns and resides on a 144-acre farm near Poughkeepsie, in Pleasant Valley, New York. The farm now is stocked with about 20 cows, two riding ponies, about 500 chickens—and a couple of tractors.

CARSON lives in a rambling farmhouse which faces an artificial pond, and stands to the rear of the house. Each Fall he entertains at a barn dance for radio associates and his country neighbors.

His city friends always come dressed in outlandish farm costumes—and his country friends in formal attire.

Roxy's Show Will Present Ear Pictures

When ROXY and his gang come back to the air again over the WABC network beginning September 15 at 8.45 P. M. he will experiment with what he calls "ear pictures."

The new "Roxy Revue" will include a large concert orchestra, a mixed chorus, a male quartet and a dramatic cast. In addition guest soloists will appear on each program. Many of the guests are new to the air, results of extensive auditioning which ROXY has been carrying on for some time.

The "ear pictures" will be in the form of a new combined musical and dramatic technique. They will be musical presentations which, with the complements of sound effects and dialogue, will stimulate the listeners to form mental pictures similar to those created by elaborate scenic effects on a visible stage.

Easy informality and pleasant intimacy will be the keynote of the programs.

"There is too much emphasis on split-second timing in many radio programs," says Roxy. "we will try to get away from clock-consciousness and achieve more of the spontaneity which characterized the early days of broadcasting."

Mrs. Roosevelt Back on the Air

Mrs. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT will return to the air over the NBC-WJZ network on Tuesday, September 4, at 9.30 P. M.

The First Lady comes back to the microphone for a series of four broadcasts. She will be heard every Tuesday in September in a half-hour program in which she will share time with an orchestra.

Storybook Enemies Will Greet Oysters Over NBC

The WAERUS and the CARPENTER, those well known connoisseurs of the succulent bivalve, will informally welcome oysters back into circulation on Saturday, September 1, the first day of the first "R" month.

The program entitled "Oysters 'R' in Season" will be heard over an NBC-WJZ network at 4.15 P. M.

The debut of the younger set of the Lynnhaven, Blue Point and other well known families of Cape Cod and Chesapeake Bay will be broadcast from the NBC studios at Radio City. Those who prefer to do so will appear before the microphone in a cocktail, while others will affect a simple decolette a la half shell.

In presenting them, the WAERUS will explain to the CARPEN-

TER some of the eccentricities of the young shellbacks, and music by the NBC orchestra will drown their tears as they contemplate the nine "R" months in which they will be in the limelight.

A cast of well known NBC players and singers in holiday mood will portray the tribulations of the oysters in humorous sketches and topical songs dealing with the opening of the season. The program is written and arranged by FRANCIS WILSON, NBC staff writer.

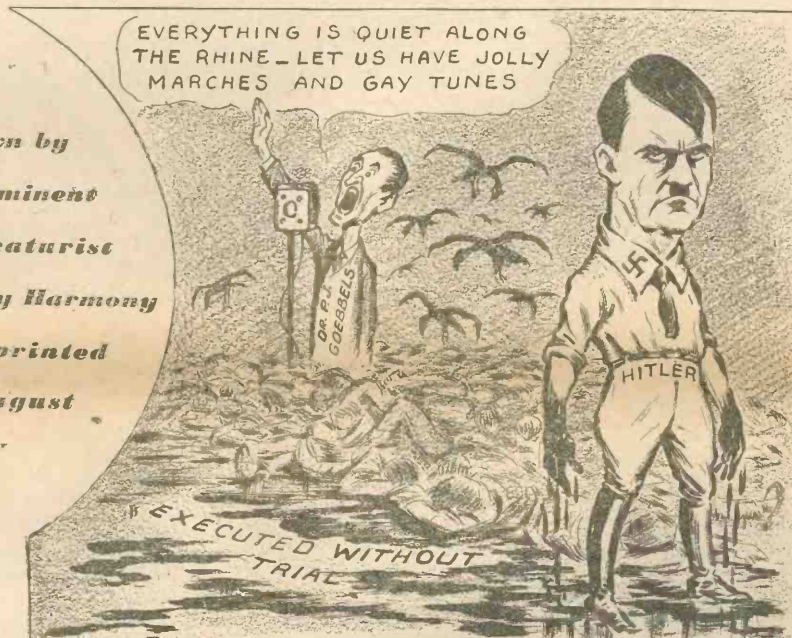
NOW

The Magazine That Has Something To Say — And Says It

Tells More In A Cartoon, Sometimes, Than

Many Writers Tell In Thousands Of Words

*Drawn by
the eminent
caricaturist
Henry Harmony
and printed
in August
NOW*



Q.—Powerful cartoon, isn't it? A.—Yes; it has been called the best cartoon dealing with the recent German madness. Almost always, you will find something outstanding in NOW; something to make you think. By the way, did you know that NOW became a quarterly with the August issue? The next issue will appear in the late Fall. Fifteen Cents the copy; subscription, 12 issues for \$1.50. Send cash, check or money order to the Circulation Manager, No. 34 Court Square, Boston, Mass.

The MICROPHONE, Inc.

Introducing

EACH Monday morning at 9.30 o'clock, when 'tis said, the collective buying ear of femininity is carefully, and candidly tuned to the best values for the week and the newer tips and fancies of fashion, one Jean Abbey, the voice of the Woman's Home Companion, holds sway on the WEEI wave length. Her material ranks with the best, bearing the stamp of approval of the woman's magazine with the largest world circulation.



JEAN ABBEY

Jean, whose bewitching radio manners are perhaps but a throwback to the historic lore of her native Salem which knows her as Marie Turner, identifies two salient features in her weekly offerings. The first is fashions—which means up to the minute highlights. The second is devoted strictly to the home, consisting chiefly of interesting and inexpensive suggestions for making the home more comfortable. The two emphasized points combine nicely with a rather general resume of nationally advertised products appearing in the magazine. Thus is the buyer's confidence established in an entertaining though strictly factual manner.

Rigged in the manner of a shopping tour for the audience, Miss Abbey rotates the mythical shopping trips. White's is vis-

ited one week, Jordan Marsh Company the next, Hovey's or Houghton's as the cycle dictates. The speaker's information is, of course, all authentically based on intimate information personally obtained at the aforementioned stores.

As concerns Jean Abbey's background, it is interesting to note that she specialized in clothes and costume designing during her tenure at the Massachusetts School of Art, whence she matriculated after Salem High School.

She has occupied sales promotion posts in department store work, has specialized in styling, and will be remembered by many as the author of the closely followed women's newspaper feature "Leaders In Fashion." Her radio work, therefore, while in its first year, is correctly ballasted with the weight of experience with which may properly be said to be blended a correct and pleasing microphone personality.

Because the advertising pages of the Women's Home Companion are guides to satisfaction and safety, it is Jean Abbey's obvious purpose to advocate and sponsor careful and intelligent buying.

Earle Nelson

Back On Air

Monday afternoon, September 10, at 3.30 o'clock, marks the return of Earl Nelson to the WEEI microphones when he is booked to appear on the "Stardom Express" program, new and much listened to broadcast feature from that point. For the past eighteen months Earl has been touring New England theatres on an itinerary that would make a travel agent blink.

A Mainstay From Maine On Four WEEI Programs

Boy Soprano Finds Baritone More Profitable

East Corinth, Maine, lends an ear to the blonde viking Dorr, who first answered to the name of Russell in that environment some 27 years ago—when his vocal talents were little more than healthy, guttural squawks. A far cry from his present brand of baritone on such WEEI program features as the Jenney Concert Hour, After Dinner Revue, Edison Salute and Studio Chorus broadcasts, they, nevertheless, must have hinted at quality as parental encouragement sent him to the local town hall on his 4th birthday to sing "Little George Washington Never Told A Lie."



RUSSELL DORR

He deserted the amateur singing ranks at the age of nine to accept a berth as boy soprano at Grace Episcopal Church, Manchester, New Hampshire, only to be stalemated within a year by an attack of scarlet fever with complications. Medical men despaired of his voice if not his complete future. A shock of blonde, matted hair six feet three inches above the floor now tops off his 230-pound frame work which gives the lie to the medics; also the splendid power to the Dorr voice.

When Russell reached high school age, the family moved to the Bay State, Boston's Allston section. He immediately found himself absorbing valuable voice instruction from Professor J. P. McVey, who directed him in the

local Church choir—at least until his voice started changing. Incidentally NBC's Jay Alden Edkins, like Dorr, a Massachusetts Atwater-Kent auditions winner, sang with the same group.

With the flair for vocal effort temporarily dormant, his mother, a New England Conservatory graduate, decided to foster his interest in music in another direction and proceeded to teach him the mysteries of the piano keyboard. It encouraged him to organize the local lads for orchestral work, with his own share of the symphonic result divided between the saxophone and clarinet. Between times he captured a track medal or two and snagged baseballs with some good Brighton High teams.

One final fling before gradu-

ation with the singing class resulted in his dismissal from the room for not singing on pitch and yet singing loud enough to throw the others off. It was then he decided to take up drawing and followed his high school prelude with three years at the Alandale Studios studying commercial art. His teachers had just predicted a bright future for him in this new field when he chanced the call of the sea and shipped out of Boston on a freighter to eventually wind up in Vancouver, B. C.

No more art study or school books when he returned so he mullied around on a few odd jobs with a side line consisting chiefly of jumping from one voice instructor to another. The voice germ had bitten him again and he started doing sustaining bits from local radio studios.

In 1932 he landed his first commercial broadcast program, the same year he began voice study with Madame Pieretto Bianco. His star has since been rapidly ascending with ample air work to keep him fully occupied and happy.

His present weaknesses are vegetable plates featuring raw carrots, along with a yen to trek to Italy in 1935 for the purpose of studying for concert and opera—also with Madame Bianco, who travels annually to the land of operatic luminaries and career-bound baritones. He undoubtedly has what it takes to carve out for himself a substantial future in the world of music. The public acceptance of his radio work says "amen" to that.

NEWS WEEI BRIEFS

The early Monday-evening offerings of the Bye family have been accorded such a happy reception that the seven o'clock period has been reserved for them through September 10th. There is real talent within the family as attested by the variety



of well-arranged programs of choice music from the best composers... Ho-hum, up anchor and pecking over the lee rail of

the good U. S. Line ship Washington, stood little Fran—Miss McLaughlin to Europeans—leaving with every lurch of the boat, luncheon companions, program sheets and pals either at the dock or WEEI studio wishing her a lot of deserved well as she scajants to sojourn, merely vacationing you know... And Carleton Dickerman puts the WEEI announcers back on a normal schedule by returning from vacation land at Troutdale, Me., where he walked, fished and gained five pounds weight for which he has absolutely no use... Note that the Edison Salute has switched to Thursday at seven o'clock and Sunday at six-thirty; also the time change on

Studio Chorus with Bobby Banks which is now to be heard from 7.00 to 7.15 on Wednesday and Friday—and for those who enjoy community singing an open invitation is extended to come to the studios and give voice to the happy gathering... An interesting educational bit will be the Tuesday evening program of the American Institute of Bankers at 9 o'clock. Silver ten-year-service pins are adorning the vests of the veteran Burton-Whitcomb combine... A couple of aces were



trumped at WEEI a few days back when bosses Burton and Whitcomb got themselves in the way of a party for working ten years with the Edison Company piloting and steering the broadcasting business. The way the thing was done up was more than less of a tip as to how the toilers appreciate the head men, a sentiment most graciously put into words by Big Chief "Uncle Joe" before he let 'em eat cake and unbane the gift packages... "Treasure Adventures of Donald

Ayers," a new Thursday series to be heard weekly at 5.15 o'clock gets under way on the 6th under the sponsorship of Bond Electric Corporation... Marcelle Poirier's soloing with the Teddy Bears on Monday evening After Dinner Revue programs is all to the merry say the voice critics smilingly who all predicted plenty of future for Marcelle on her initial microphone appearance... And Hawkins tipped off a Maine game warden to watch out for Whitman but the warden and Fred were disappointed when Vic produced his license... Hawkins is a Tattler... More about this on one of the programs according to Vic

Will wonders never cease—apparently not, since we have an affidavit verifying the appearance of Eby Rideout leaning wistfully on the stretch rail at "Gan-sett tearing tickets with the aplomb and fineness of a hardened track follower... Sibyl Morse is shipping in the last lot of vacation cards from the north country.



RAY KNIGHT As Billy Bachelor Returns to WHEATENAVILLE and Sta-WEEI-tion with JANET. PETER and PAN 6:45 - 7:00 MONDAY through FRIDAY

STARDOM EXPRESS

potpourri of better radio bits DRAMA MUSIC NOVELTY VOICE monday afternoon 3:30 Sta-WEEI-tion

The "Dream Singer"

MY ASSOCIATES in radio, due perhaps to the fact that I came to the air waves from the business field, credit me with being versatile. However, I doubt if the most complimentary of these companions would regard me as sufficiently capable or interesting to the degree of writing a newspaper column.

This is my first attempt at an autobiography. It is difficult to avoid the personal pronoun "I" in such an undertaking, so I launch this with a plea that personal exploitation be attributed to the assignment rather than egotism.

I have been singing as long as I can remember. I enjoy singing, and recall my surprise when I discovered as a youngster that other people did not object, but often invited me to sing. In those days a vocal career was remote from my thoughts. People invariably express surprise when they learn that my first appearance on the air took place only three years ago.

Indirectly, I presume that the World War played a part in my radio debut. Life was a colorful and gay adventure for me upon my return from Europe. The oil boom in Ranger, Texas, intrigued me in 1919 and I roughed it in the fields for months. The oil workers were flattering and encouraged me to sing for them.

Ranger was a boom town, which explains perhaps why I succeeded in becoming the leading—and only—advertising man in the place. I was made secretary and general manager of the Midwestern Advertising Co.—one of my accomplishments being publication of the town's first telephone advertising directory.

Tempted by the possibilities of scimmages in Mexico with the Villa forces, I became an officer with the 7th Cavalry. Fellow officers made me feel that my singing was welcome.

Upon my return to Paterson, N. J., where I now live, I took an active interest in American Legion affairs. My post decided to stage an air production on Armistice Day, 1930. I was assigned to produce as well as to appear in the production. It was broadcast over WODA, of Paterson, and I received my introduction to a microphone.

The program met with favorable response, and friends and acquaintances urged me to embrace radio as a career.

By Ralph Kirbery

(NBC "Dream Singer")

The American Legion program resulted in CBS granting me an audition. I went on WOR on August 31, 1931, and was signed by NBC

September 6, 1931. At this point, I cannot resist reporting that I shall celebrate my third anniversary on NBC next month.

It has been a happy three years, and I have never regretted that I abandoned the business of flour broker to take a gamble in finding favor with radio audiences. I am vitally interested in radio. I have been heard on more than 1000 programs, and every one of them has been of great importance to me. Evidence of this is found in the fact that I have kept an accurate recording of the dates, the sponsors and even the numbers I offered.

As NBC's "Dream Singer," I have made friends—sincere people who take an interest in my work and offer suggestions. I welcome these and have found scores of them helpful.

One lady in Nebraska has not missed one week during the three years without dropping me a line. Knowing that I am pleasing, making people happy, is one of the greatest pleasures I derive from my work.

I play golf and bridge, and am regarded as an addict of the former. However, I prefer hunting to either. Am not content with having just one dog, so I have a spaniel, police and pointer.

I am nursing the hope that I shall be able to hunt Kodiak

bear in Alaska some day. I play the piano, and don't care for "hot" or novelty songs. I do not care for low comedy on the air. I am rated as an expert rifle and revolver shot, and serve in the capacity of instructor in the use of firearms for several towns in New Jersey.

"Won't You Wait Until The Cows Come Home," is one of the earliest songs, I remember, explained perhaps by a boyhood romance I was experiencing at the time the song was popular.

I enjoy exercising, and have only one fear, that of not being properly prepared for a sudden program assignment.

I trust that I have not bored you to such a degree that you will not listen to my new program September 6. If you do I hope you will like it. If you don't like it, I shall be pleased to receive your criticism.



RALPH KIRBERRY, who turned from business to radio to become a baritone, and who begins a new program over NBC September 6.



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Radi Weekly

MICROPHONE



Programs For Week Ending September 7



Carolyn Rich, CBS Songstress