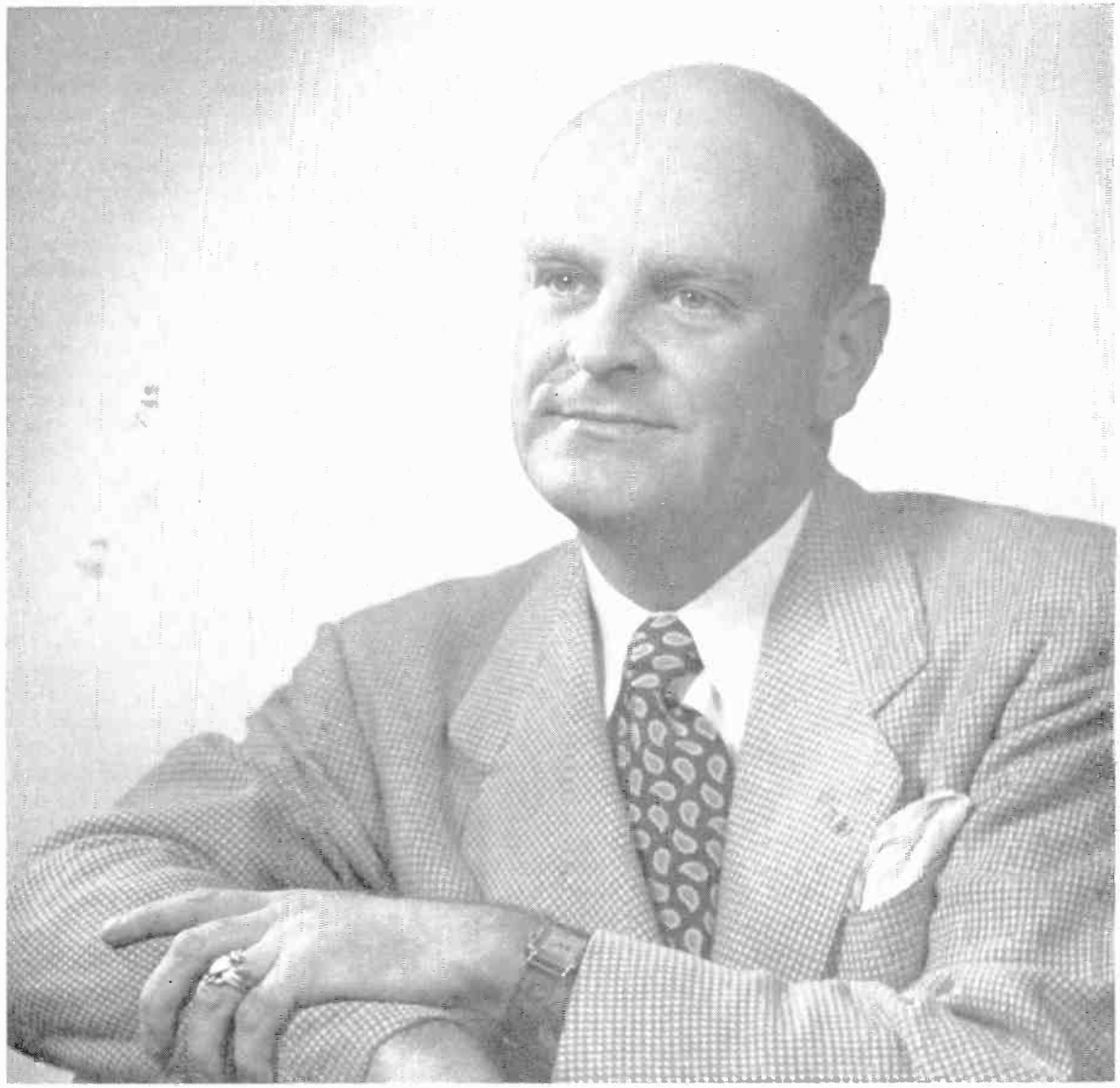


# WIBW



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December



December

Our Thirty-Third Issue

1947

The WIBW Round-Up Magazine is published by the WIBW Round-Up. G. W. "Doc" Embree, Editor  
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## Ad Libbing—by Doc

Uh Huh! I thought so! You folks like to peek at other people's mail, don't you? The comments on last month's letters are still coming in. Let's dig around here on my desk and see what we can find.

Here's a little note from a lady in

Great Bend, Kansas

Dear Doc,

I want to tell you how much we enjoyed our visit to WIBW. We were just finishing a trip that carried us nearly two thousand miles and we visited three radio stations. I must say, for that genuine friendliness, I'll take WIBW every time. I especially want to thank you and Don Hopkins for showing us around. We were so disappointed that we didn't get to see Edmund Denney as he is one of our favorites. We did see most of the rest of the gang and they were all so friendly. Believe me, our radio is set on WIBW from morning till night.

Mrs. M. B.

Thanks for those kind words. Those weren't company manners the boys and girls were wearing that day. They're always friendly and they mean every smile they turn your way.

Lee's Summit, Mo.

Doc —

I've aimed to write and tell you every year about Hilton's wedding anniversary. Guess he doesn't want it told or he would have had it in the Round-Up before now, but I think it should be printed.

It's the fifth of November. He got married the next day after the big corn husking contest that they attended in Marshall, Missouri. I'll never forget that. Hilton rode a horse in rain and mud all day and then went on from there to get married.

Mrs. W. C.

Jasper, Mo.

Dear Sir,

Your article, "Radio-It's Free" (October Round-Up) is so true I can't help writing you. It is an education. I have no car and I would not trade my radio for one of the best. My Zenith followed my five boys all over the world in World War II by way of short wave. It was such a comfort.

Oh how true "The richest man cannot buy for himself what the poorest man gets free from his radio!"

One Who Is A Radio Fan

That's about the size of the letters for this month. Next month we hope to devote a full page to the opinions of our readers.

I'll bet there's not one of you who doesn't have a few names of friends on your Christmas list whose gifts have you stymied. Let me make a suggestion. Why not give magazines? Any magazine makes a gift that is appreciated the year 'round and if your friend is a radio listener, and who isn't nowadays, you can be sure a "Round-Up" subscription will be a monthly reminder of your Christmas wishes, a reminder that is certain to bring happiness. There's the matter of economy, too. In spite of the fact that paper and printing costs have increased greatly, the "Round-Up" still costs only one dollar per year. As we did last year, when we receive your order, we hold the subscription until a few days before Christmas, then send your friend this magazine, along with a card, explaining that they are to receive a full year's subscription, with your compliments. All this service at no additional cost to you. Address your orders to "Round-Up," WIBW, Topeka, Kansas. Be sure to include your own name, as well as the names of the persons to whom you want the "Round-Up" sent. We'll do the rest.

Merry Christmas!

## On Our Cover Hilton Hodges

In case anyone ever asks you to write an autobiography, the easiest and best thing to do is to say "I'll tell him when he comes in." But the grumpy editors of this "Poor Man's Esquire" have set their feet down and so (and we'll make it brief) here's the low down on one Hilton Hodges.

The facts recorded in Nuckolls County, Nebraska Courthouse show a male child born on May 23, 1913 in Mount Clare; son of Fred N. and Ada B. Hodges. Fred's birthplace; Illinois. Ada's; Kansas. The young man spent nine years helping his dad sell prunes, kerosene (with potatoes on the spouts), dry goods, etc., before the family moved to the farm for two years. Meantime, there was another male child, Wayne. Anyway, the two young boys rode their pony to school, gathered eggs, read Capper's Weekly and heaved alfalfa to the hungriest gang of Oklahoma calves to ever leave the Panhandle. It was too much work for dad too, so we moved to Nelson for two years and then to Clay Center, Nebraska, where Fred and Ada both announced and Fred sang with the KMMJ Gospel Singers.

After high school, two years in Doane College and one year at the University of Minnesota, the 1933 depression moved in and forced our hero to quit school. He luckily landed a job with KMMJ—in the tire department, selling, mounting, counting, carrying and practically eating tires and tubes of all descriptions. When the tire department ceased to function, my boss and good friend, Mott Johnson, told me there was one job open—that of an announcer. Nothing had ever seemed so far-fetched to me as sitting there all by yourself and wondering if anyone ever

(Continued on Page 11)

## Coming Events

### BIRTHDAYS

Hoppi Corbin .....December 19  
Jerome DeBord .....January 2  
Bobbie Dick .....January 8  
Henry Peters .....January 13

### ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Wayne  
.....December 24  
Mr. and Mrs. Clark Wayne  
.....December 28  
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie McGinnis  
.....January 1

## Elmer Curtis —

POET LAUREATE

Unsuspected talent has a way of cropping up around a broadcasting station but probably the biggest surprise to all of us here at WIBW was the discovery that Elmer Curtis follows other pursuits than coyote hunting. To relieve the suspense, I'll tell you . . . Elmer writes poetry!

Elmer chooses his material from little homey instances and from such of his possessions as may fall in his line of vision when he feels a poetic mood approaching.

We are going to pass along what we consider Elmer's masterpiece. . . . We hope you like it. Entitled "My Model A", the poem was inspired by the jalousy that accompanies Elmer in the picture on page 8.

### MY MODEL "A"

By Elmer Curtis

My Model "A"—My Model "A",  
No worry for me on the price of hay.  
I feed you on good Phillips gas,  
And the same brand of Oil makes your innards last.

You take me o'er hill and dale,  
If I should say the word I know you'd sail.

If you had wings I bet you'd fly,  
And take me way up in the sky.  
But this I know is not so sound,  
Pug and Gene can fly, I'll take the ground.

In mud and slush, and snow and sleet,  
My Model "A" just can't be beat.  
With your fenders held fast with bailing wire,

When I say you run sixty—they call me a liar.

It's the truth, I have to check the files,  
To learn you've run three hundred thousand miles.

Yes, this Model "A" is here to stay,  
And as she runs I hope and pray,  
That Ford will build another "A".

## Its An Epidemic

There has been quite an outburst of "new car-itis" around WIBW. Miss Maudie and Dude Hank led off with a new Oldsmobile convertible, closely followed by Art Holbrook with a Studebaker convertible and Henry Peters with a Buick convertible. Edmund Denney blossomed out with a new Dodge, but as yet he is waiting delivery on a heater and defroster attachment.

There has also been some evidence

## Pie-Supper Time



One American tradition that carries on year after year is the good old-time pie-supper. Of course, they need a good auctioneer to do the spiling along about supper time, and that's where Colonel Combs enters the picture. Colonel, you know, is a graduate

auctioneer, and when he gives out with "sold" you can be sure that a top price has been bid. In the above picture, Colonel is auctioning a box at the Silver Lake 4-H Club pie supper. Gene Shipley holds the WIBW mike.

of vandalism concerning the new Buick radiator emblems. These emblems have a circular piece of chrome that the girls around town find attractive as bracelets. The day following Henry's purchase, the emblem was pried from his car and also from Ambrose Haley's Buick. Those emblems cost around forty dollars . . . pretty expensive bracelets.

## Too Much Information

One evening while Ole was busy on his Ole-Vox, a young pair of lads, attracted by the music, no doubt, ventured into Ole's basement. They listened to the music for a while and then, recognizing Ole, one of them whispered to the other. Interrupting Ole's rendition of "White Christmas" (with chimes), the larger of the two boys asked Ole if he would play a number on the air for their mother's thirty-fourth birthday the following week.

Ole told them he would be glad to play the number, but he didn't think their mother would appreciate his telling how old she was when he made the dedication.

"That's all right," said the younger boy." Our mother doesn't care if people know how old she is."

Ole took the lady's name and promptly forgot about the incident until a short time later when a timid knock announced the return of the two little fellows.

"Mother says don't you DARE tell how old she is on the air!"

## Lum and Abner On WIBW

Those lovable old characters from down Pine Ridge way, Lum and Abner are now daily features of WIBW's early evening schedule. The makers of Alka Seltzer present Lum and Abner each evening at 5:30.

# C.B.S. Notes

by Kathryn Young

THE BIGGEST SHOW IN TOWN

The Holiday Season is here again, and CBS stars join with me in hoping you will have a Merry Christmas and enjoy all the special Christmas programs and music they have prepared for you.



**Bob Hannon and Evelyn MacGregor**

Our roving cameraman caught Bob Hannon and Evelyn MacGregor choosing their favorite carols for the "American Melody Hour" program Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m.

Soon after Christmas the forces of radio are turned to help raise funds to fight infantile paralysis. In connection with the annual drive, Bill Johnstone, actor on "Lux Radio Theater," has just completed a short film feature with Margaret O'Brien, a veteran "Lux Radio Theater" performer, to be distributed nationally.

We just wonder how fellows like Dwight Weist ever get their Christmas shopping done. Dwight plays the part of Stan Burton five days a week on "The Second Mrs. Burton" besides being the regular announcer on "Inner Sanctum," "Big Town," and "Thin Man."

The creaking door on "Inner Sanctum" has a uniformed doorman these nights. Host Paul McGrath, appearing as an Air Forces officer in the Broadway hit, "Command Decision," does the broadcast in uniform, since he hasn't time to change clothes between the air show and his first stage entrance.

The "Old Gold Show," featuring comical Frank Morgan and the hilarious marital spats of "The Bickersons" (who are Don Ameche and Frances Langford) will soon be seen as well as heard by the U. S. military personnel abroad. Arrangements are being made to film a 30-minute movie feature of the program. Special announcements for the military audiences will be written into the script for announcer Marvin Miller. This is the first of a series of movie shorts of radio shows being prepared by the Army to increase its entertainment services for our military personnel overseas.



**Dorothy Shay**

In this pose, Dorothy Shay doesn't look like a hillbilly, does she? No wonder she's called "The Park Avenue Hillbilly!" Dorothy is featured on the Spike Jones show "Spotlight Revue" Friday nights. She gets her famous comedy ballads from the back hills below the Mason-Dixon Line and her clothes from Paris. Just before she joined Spike and his City Slickers on the West Coast, Dorothy returned from a six-weeks' shopping tour of Paris' swanky fall fashion showings. Must be gold in them thar hillbilly songs!

Fran Carlon, who plays the role of Lorelei Kilbourne, newspaper reporter, on "Big Town" thanks a slack period on Broadway for her success on the air. Fran had had wide experience in the theater but had never tried radio until

a slack season hit Broadway and she was out of a job. Since then, she has been steadily employed in radio. In addition to her role on "Big Town" every Tuesday night, she gives frequent performances on the Armstrong "Theater of Today" on Saturdays as well as other network shows.

The Mrs. half of the comedy-detective team, "Mr. and Mrs. North," Alice Frost, thought someone had played a trick on her the other night. The woodwork in her bedroom had been painted in the afternoon but was still sticky when Alice shut the door and went to bed. The next morning she tried and tried to get her bedroom door open and couldn't figure out what was wrong until it dawned on her the sticky paint had glued her door shut. Alice's loud shouts brought help and Alice made it to rehearsal on time.



**Cliff Arquette**

It seems there is enough confusion in the world today, but here is a picture of "Mrs. Wilson" of "The Dick Haymes Show." "Mrs. Wilson" is really Cliff Arquette, who originated the character some time ago. Cliff's father was an excellent character actor and taught Cliff the tricks of the trade.

Before we close the book on 1947, we want to say we hope you have enjoyed our shows during the past year and that you will keep tuned to 580 on your dial throughout the new year!

## The Man Behind The Man . . .

Have you ever stopped to think that the voices we do not hear over the microphone also make your radio the source of constant enjoyment that it is?

Indeed, those silent voices which have so much to do with the pleasurable quality of the stream of entertainment and information which flows hour by hour from your home receiver outnumber the voices you actually hear by two or more to one!

We refer proudly and frequently to the WIBW family. But how many folks who casually read those references call up before their minds' eye a picture composed exclusively of the announcers, musicians, actors or news reporters and commentators whose voices or instrumental performances they listen to from their favorite easy chair?

Yet, behind every such performer on whose name the bright glare of the public spotlight may play with varying brilliance there are at least two technical, administrative, production or executive experts of whose very existence most of us never hear—and without whose constant and painstaking efforts WIBW would not be able to go on pleasing and serving you thirty minutes.

They too, although hidden deep in the shadows of personal anonymity, are a part—and a vitally important part—of the WIBW family.

Every second that you are relaxing in careless ease listening to voices or music coming into your home with a purity of tone that is practically equivalent to having the musicians or speakers in the same room with you, between the microphone at which that program is originating and your receiving set the tireless precision of a highly trained staff of radio engineers nurses every note or syllable.

Their eyes play expertly across whole panels of dials and indicators. If one needle on one dial among the many flops erratically out of line—signalling to the scientific specialist that the volume of sound on that circuit is momentarily too great or too little to reach your home radio without distortion, or the tone too high or too low for the particular microphone to carry properly to your ears—nimble fingers dart out to adjust a knob or flick a key.

And all the listener has any occasion to know about it is that it is simply miraculous how radio can transmit

sounds through the air so faithfully that any of us can even recognize the voice of our personal friends hundreds of miles away!

It may strike anyone who has not actually sweated through the process with great surprise to know that for every minute any radio program is on the air anywhere from fifteen minutes to an hour is spent in laborious preparation. Continuity writers prepare scripts, weighing every word as they go—and then tear the whole thing to pieces for revision more often than not. Production assistants and the program director supervise every detail of each show and of the whole day's schedule to get just the balance of fun and seriousness, of music and talk that you, the listener, want. But who, outside of the business, ever hears of them?

The executives keep the whole operation running smoothly, the function of every department dovetailing neatly with that of every other and preserving good humored cooperation between scores of people marked by every kind of temperament from the coldy scientific to the somewhat excitable artistic. A harder job it would be difficult to hand any man. But even their names are rarely known to the general public.

Salesmen find the sponsors who make it possible for American radio listeners to get the best entertainment on earth absolutely free. When the tens of thousands of you write in every year asking for information or passing out praise or even complaints—it is due to the clerks and stenographers that your letters reach their proper destinations and that your replies get to you so promptly.

Yes, they all belong to the WIBW family, and each contributes his essential to the satisfaction that you get out of listening to WIBW, though you may never have heard even one of those voices.

## Radioaires Quartette On New Time

Lee Smith and the Radioaires, pictured on page seven in this issue of the Round-Up, are now heard daily at 5:45, Monday through Friday. You folks have been asking for more of the fine gospel quartette numbers, so don't fail to hear the Radioaires.



Unk Russell say . . . "When a man boasts dat his wife is dee best lookin' gal in town, hit's a hundred to one bet dat he has a cook . . . a maid and a housekeeper! An' sides dat . . . you don't catch a woman with a new baby wastin' much time in a beauty parlor! Guess you all got youre Christmas shopping done, done? Christmas is so near dat dee kids can already hear dee jingle of Santa's sleigh bells. Or maybe dat's dee head man of dee household countin' his money as he looks over dee long X-mas list.

You can't go to dee Drug store to buy a tube of toothpaste without it ain't all wrapped up in reindeers. Santa Claus comes and dumps all dee presents out on dee floor and leaves PA holdin' dee bag!

Here's a tip fo' this Christmas; there's one company making a watch an' a pencil combination. They is undecided if to call it a "watch-cil" or pen-atch."

Don't git dee idee dat people think you is so all-fired generous by dee amount of free advice you gives away! But they is one thing you can give away dat comes back to you all year! Dat's dee spirit of "good will toward men dat makes dee Xmas season a happy one. Iffen all dee people could just git dee idee in dere heads dat what is good fur one man is good fo' nuther.

At Christmas time dee worl' seems right,  
Dere's joy an' laughter, hearts is light,  
Folks spread a lot of cheer;  
Dee Christmas Spirit seems devine,  
But listen, wouldn't it be fine  
To keep it all dee year?  
Merry Xmas & Happy New Year.

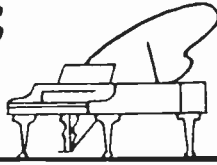
Bright Scholar—Teacher: "Do you know why the earth turns round the sun on its axis?"

Scholar: "Yes sir. Because it don't want to be roasted too much on one side."

"Roses is red  
Violets is blue  
Xmas is here—  
Where wuzz you?"



# Ramblings



Folks, we have a treat in store. Our own "OLE LIVGREN" has made a brand new Ole-Vox. This boy is really a genius. He conceives an idea nearly every week for another type of instrument combining all sorts of beautiful tones. He calls this one the "SUPER-OLE-VOX". Ten more tubes have been added which make a total of thirty-two . . . twenty new tones which produce sixty different effects . . . chimes . . . three speakers . . . brilliantly colored lights . . . and a brand new cabinet—all are a combination of this wonder SUPER-DUPER-invention. Be sure and drop OLE a card and let him know if you like it. He spent three long months working to produce it —

LITTLE ESTHER who lives next door to OLE said she thought several times burglars were trying to break in from the sound of funny squeaks and scrapings she heard during the night . . . but soon the tune of Doodle-De-Doo with chimes added told her that it was only OLE still at work on his new masterpiece . . .

Speaking of chimes . . . we have a door-bell chime. If you push it lightly it doesn't chime. It has to have a little force added to the pushing of the button. One night not long ago the SHIPLEYS drove by and seeing us in the living room decided to drop in for a call. GENE pushed the chime button lightly. We kept right on with our reading, not hearing the bell. Finally, they left. He treated me rather coolly the next day . . . until I learned the reason. Then we had a good laugh about the chime that didn't chime. Next time he promises to pound his fist.

DOC EMBREE sent RALPH RADISH downtown to get him some films. He gave him a dollar bill, saying he thought that would cover the charge. When RALPH came back, DOC said, "How much were the films?" RALPH answered, "Eighty cents—here's your change". After RALPH gave DOC the twenty cents change, DOC said, "Now, where's my dollar." "Oh, please excuse me" said RALPH, handing him the dollar, "I really didn't mean to keep it" . . . PLEASE!!!

MAUREEN and VIRGINIA LEE have birthdays coming up this month. They are asking the same favor this year as they did last—"Our birthdays are so close to Christmas, please have our party early so that it doesn't run too near holiday shopping time—after all, we want our share". Tsk, Tsk.

CHUCK WAYNE was looking for new furniture last month as the lady who had rented him her furnished house decided to take her things to another place. This month the landlord sold the property—so now CHUCK is looking for a house to put the furniture in—that he was looking for last month.

ART HOLBROOK has a beautiful new Studebaker convertible . . . HENRY PETERS has a new Buick convertible . . . HILTON HODGES sported a new Buick convertible in 1940 . . . ART a Packard convertible in 1941, thereby starting an epidemic for we'uns of 1947.

DON HOPKINS has a new pair of glasses . . . He used to be a professor in a high school . . . the glasses make him look very "professorish" as well as dignified and handsome . . .

Speaking of school teachers—during the teacher's convention here, two lovely schoolmarms visited GENE and RENE FOSTER of the RADIOAIRES.

AMBROSE HALEY and the MICCOLIS SISTERS have just finished making some new recordings, which may be ordered through them . . .

KATHRYN YOUNG, of our Public Relations Department at WIBW left us last month . . . she has decided to follow the housewife profession. We hated to lose her . . . the girls in our offices were guests at a special dinner given in KATHRYN'S honor by EDNA HANN, secretary to MR. LUDY . . .

ELMER CURTIS and family attended the big barbecue given a few weeks ago by the Round Up Club of Topeka . . . COL. COMBS is mailing out twice as many Planters Guides. He tells me the folks are sending them out as Christmas gifts . . . this is a good idea and, as a matter of suggestion, why not send a subscription to the ROUND UP MAGAZINE and one of HINT MONTHLY along, too. Also, you might like to give one of our staff

recordings as a gift. SHEP . . . EDMUND . . . DUDE . . . THE RADIOAIRES . . . HOLDENS . . . MAUDIE AND OLE . . . have records available now.

EZRA HAWKINS and the BAR NOTHIN' boys can be heard in a new program sponsored by Michigan Bulbs each morning Monday through Friday at 10:30 AM. EZRA . . . BOBBIE DICK . . . GLENN OSBORN . . . HEINIE HAYNES and RALPH RADISH are on the show . . . ORVILLE STRIMPLE one of our enginers, was in the Control Room during the SATURDAY NIGHT ROUND UP on which TIP SHARP of THE HOLDEN BOYS, sang the "Mule Skinner Blues". ORVILLE enjoyed the number and told me later, "Boy, that TIP was really SHARP tonight, wasn't he?" . . .

We took some of our entertainers out to WINTER VETERANS HOSPITAL not long ago to play and sing for the patients. They are such grand fellows it is a pleasure to entertain for them. They applauded greatly for BOBBIE, GLENN, VIRGINIA LEE, DOC AND ESTHER, MAUREEN, EDMUND, HEINIE, CHUCK AND CLARK, SHEP, EZRA, THE RADIOAIRES, and DUDE HANK. We will have another group going out there around Christmas time . . . By the way, CHRISTMAS! . . . say, it's just around the corner, isn't it? I'd better get to Woolworth's before closing time. MERRY CHRISTMAS, folks — I really mean it.

— Miss Maudie

Judge—The evidence shows, Mrs. Grizzly, that you threw a rolling pin at your husband.

Mrs.—It shows more than that; it shows I hit him.

Glenn Muncy—"Sorry to hear your engagement is broken off, old man."

Joe Brooks—"I'll get over it, I guess but the worst blow was when she returned my ring marked 'Glass'."

The modern girl's hair may look like a mop, but that doesn't worry her—she doesn't know what a mop looks like.

## TONGUE TWISTERS

Three gay geese on three green hills. Gray were the geese and green were the hills.

Theophilus Thistle thrust three thousand thistles through the thick of his thumb.

A crop of poppies in a copper coffee pot.



**THE RADIOAIRES**

**Ray Morse, Rene Foster, B. C. Kendricks, Lee Smith and Gene Foster**

# AROUND *the* STUDIOS

with Hilton

Ezra said to be sure and tell all of you that he wears size 16 shirts with a 33 sleeve in case you are planning to buy a Christmas present for him. He said things were pretty rough at the ranch these days and a used one would be all right. (What a way to start a column).

Saw Lambert Bartak in Omaha last week. He's working on the SUPREME SALAD WAFER program on an Omaha station and sent his best to Edmund and the WIBW gang and to all of you. He's married and still plays a fine bunch of accordian music. Edward North, son of Ted North of the famous North Brothers Shows, was in town last month. He is now Michael North of the movies. But he enjoyed coming home for a KU football game and seeing all of his old friends in Topeka. He said Uncle Abner is in Hollywood, appearing on many network programs in different character roles.

Here at WIBW last month, there was a sudden and startling rash of new automobiles. Maudie and Dude idled by in an Olds convertible, a few days later Art Holbrook slammed on the brakes and sauntered away from a Studebaker convertible and the very next day Henry Peters drove up, yawned, and stepped lightly from a Buick convertible. A birdie told another fellow that Edmund may have a new one soon. Hambones put a new crank in his Model-T.

Elmer Curtis, maintenance man of the saddle department of the Topeka Roundup Club, spent a busy week-end recently. The Roundup Club barbequed a beef, set up some tents and had a great party near Hoyt. Elmer and the big gang enjoyed all the food in the evening and slipped back in the morning for flapjacks, eggs and coffee. EH likes his food and according to him, it was the best feast in years.

One of our WIBW-FM announcers, Ed Doty, is planning to start a radio station of his own at Washburn Municipal University. It will be a low-powered station covering the campus but Ed is all set to rock the broadcasting industry. He will present programs from all the departments, play the music the students enjoy most—and best of all, will have a picnic doing it.

If you visited the American Royal, no doubt you saw Gene Shipley or one

of us in our booth. It was another wonderful show and we all enjoyed having a small part in it. Gene broadcast several programs from there, interviewing the young men and women who had brought stock to the show.

One of the highlights of the Fall season in Topeka is the State Teachers Convention. This year, dozens of them came to WIBW and we enjoyed meeting them. Jasper had several apples on hand and Art's ears were pointed at times, but seriously, they're a fine group of folks and are appreciated less than any group in the country.

You folks who are dog lovers will like this one. Chuck Wayne insists that Peggy, his Irish setter dog came to a full point down on Kansas Avenue the other day. Chuck says he looked around for a covey of quail, since Peggy had never been known to point unless there was quail around. The day was saved for Peggy when a man at whom she was pointing introduced himself as Bob White!

Jerome came around the other day with what looked to me like a legitimate gripe. He told me that he and Henry had been singing together for nineteen years last Armistice Day and he leafed through his copy of last month's Round-Up magazine and not one word

was said about their anniversary. They're a little late, fellows, but none the less sincere . . . congratulations from us all.

December is Christmas Party month, a 15-year-old custom at WIBW. We have a big party, exchange gifts and Santa Combs passes out the presents. Best of all, we get a free dinner and get to gossip about Mrs. So-and-So's new dress and "Wonder-where-he-got-that tie". With 75 folks working here, our party numbers more than 150, leaving the youngsters at home at that. We always have a fine time. (That shirt size is mine, too.)

Merry Christmas to you and yours, too!!

## Radio's Quickest Results

Radio is well known as the fastest medium of advertising, but we believe that WIBW set some kind of a record the other day.

One morning while Elmer Curtis was driving to the studios, Butch, his dog, jumped out of the car. Elmer was just a little pressed for time, so he drove on to the station, expecting to go back and get the dog later. Next morning "Butch" was still among the missing, so Elmer made an announcement to that effect in the closing minutes of the Shepherd's program.

Hearing a noise at the door, Elmer investigated. There stood "Butch," less than two minutes after the announcement was aired. Elmer swears the dog heard the announcement.



Elmer Curtis, of the Pink Ointment, Waterless Cleaner and Lee Noon News Curtisses, spends his afternoons chasing his greyhounds, who spend their afternoons chasing coyotes. Now Jasper will tell you that Elmer borrowed the coyote for the above picture . . . I wouldn't know. The car in the picture was Elmer's inspiration for his poetic masterpiece, "My Model A."



# The Voices You Hear Along the RFD

... by Gene Shipley ...

## WIRE vs. TAPE

"What is the difference between a Tape Recording, and a Wire Recording?" This question is asked so often by the folks we visit when we are making farm recordings, I know this same question must have been raised by many others, so I will try and explain the different methods we use at WIBW to make our "on the farm" interviews.

In the first place, there is little difference between any of the methods as far as the final result is concerned. In wire-recording the voice is impressed on a very small moving wire, and then the process is reversed for playing back. In tape-recording the voice is impressed magnetically on a moving tape. The tape in this case is a roll of very thin, tough paper about 1/4 inch wide, coated on one side with an extremely thin layer of metal. It is the metal coating that carries the voice impressions, just as the wire does on the wire-recorder. Electrical transcriptions are recordings made on large disks very similar to the well known phonograph record you use on the home record player. However, for radio use, large 16 inch discs are used and they are recorded and played back at a much slower speed. The reason for this is to be able to make a full 15 minute program on one disc, and it is also possible to get better quality of voice and music at the slower speed. The continuous rolls of wire and tape, used on these devices will reproduce a full 30 minute program if desired.

When we began making on-the-spot farm recordings early in 1945 a wire recorder was used altogether. It was the only device available at that time small enough and light enough to carry around with us, and we could also take it with us in the "Flying Rooster" About a year ago we began using a modified model of a commercial tape recorder. This particular machine we now use has been largely re-designed by the WIBW engineering department to make it more adaptable to our work, and better suited for broadcast. The model we now carry with us in the WIBW "Flying Rooster" is actually only about 20 inches long, 14 inches wide and 8 inches deep, weighs about 30 pounds and is encased in a stainless steel cabinet, not much larger than a portable radio. It was specially designed

for our use by the WIBW engineers. The machine we now use gives much better results for broadcast purposes than the earlier wire-recorder, because of the superior quality on both voice and music. Wire-recorders have also improved since the early models were first introduced, but the tape machine seems best adapted to our particular type of program. However, as far as the final result is concerned, any method of recording—wire, tape or transcription, is just about like the song that was such a rage a few years ago, "the music goes round and round, and comes out here." It all depends on how you want to use it.

"Do we save all the tape recordings we make on the farms?" That question is often asked, and the answer is yes, and no. We save them, but not as they were originally made "on the tape." Just as soon as the WIBW Flying Rooster gets in from a trip, the recorder is brought to the studio, and each interview is re-recorded. This is, it is taken off the tape and put on a transcription record for delayed broadcast. Each interview is numbered and a card is made giving a description of the length, location, time and date and a

short description of the subject matter. This card goes into a special farm transcription file. All these transcriptions are saved, but the original tapes are then erased, and used over again on the next trip.

Many interesting farm stories have come back to the WIBW studios in that little steel box, and we hope to bring you many more farm features in 1948.



"Now, Ozzie!" says Harriet to her husband, Ozzie Nelson, who simply will not tell her what he's bought her for Christmas. In real life, Ozzie and Harriet are as cute as they are on their CBS show, "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet."



Plenty of harmony here! The Carlsons, that's Dude Hank and Miss Maudie, work out a lot of their musical arrangements in their own home.



# Questions and Answers

Q: Where is Alice Joyce? Is she married and does she have any children?

A: Grand Island, Nebr. She is married to Leonard McEwen . . . no children.

Q: Who are the "Ranch Hands"?

A: Dude Hank, trumpet; Chuck Wayne, guitar; Miss Maudie, piano; Maureen, violin; Heinie, bass fiddle; Ole, accordian; Kenny, clarinet. Other members of the talent staff often substitute.

Q: Which one of the Wayne brothers plays the part of Jasper?

A: Chuck.

Q: Where are Al Clauser and his gang?

A: Fort Worth, Texas.

Q: Where is Don Austin?

A: Peoria, Illinois.

Q: Where can I buy a larger selection of recordings of WIBW entertainers?

A: New releases are being planned, but a lot depends upon the recording ruling passed down by Mr. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians.

Q: What kind of work does Glenn Osborn's wife do?

A: Ann Netta does secretarial work for the Santa Fe.

Q: I would like a recording of "Somewhere in Old Wyoming" with "Near You" on the back. Could you folks at WIBW make it for me?

A: We could, but the cost would be so great as to be inhibitive. You see, it is only through mass production that it is possible for us to bring you recordings of any type at a reasonable price. Regular phonograph records are like your "Round-Up" magazine. If we just had one magazine printed each month, it would cost in the neighborhood of five hundred dollars. Records go through a procedure something like this . . . First the "master" record is "cut," a process very similar to the making of home recordings, only much, much more accurately. From the initial acetate cut, metal records are made, and from these metal records, hundreds of additional records are "pressed." In other words, the recordings you buy are not the same as those you make in your own home; they are pressed and are made of much more

durable material. There is quite a lot more to it than meets first glance. Permission must be obtained from the copyright holder before a recording can be made of any musical composition, and this also adds to the cost.

Q: Does Ole still play his Ole-Vox?

A: I'll say he does. You know Ole lives next door and for the past few months he has been rebuilding the Ole-Vox. Sometimes in the middle of the night chills play hide and seek along my spinal chord, closely pursued by a shrill note from the Ole-Vox. He has promised, under threat of expulsion from the neighborhood to move the Ole-Vox to the radio station, and then we can all get some sleep and you folks can again enjoy his music.

Q: Where is Sonny Slater? Wayne Midkiff? Fairley Holden? Emory Martin? Lane Shaw?

A: Sonny is in Pattonburg, Mo., Wayne in Kentucky, Fairley in Knoxville, Tennessee, Emory in Renfro Valley, Kentucky and Lane is in Birmingham, Ala.

Q: When is Donna Lee Hopkins' birthday?

A: Donna Lee was born May 8, 1938.

Q: Are you going to continue the family group pictures in the "Round-Up"?

A: Yes. Bobbie Dick's family will be a feature of the January issue.

Q: Is Bobbie Dick's new baby a red-head?

A: Yes.

Q: Where can I get the calls Colonel Combs uses on the square dance tunes?

A: I wouldn't know. They were handed down to Colonel through his family. M.M. Cole, Chicago music publisher has a book of square dance tunes and calls that is possibly available through your local music dealer.

Q: Who is Hambones?

A: Homer Cunningham.

Q: Is Edmund Denney blind?

A: Yes.

Q: Do you really square dance on the Pleasant Valley show?

A: Sometimes.

Q: Where is Pleasant Valley?

A: We aren't trying to fool you. The Pleasant Valley show is produced in our own studios. Our Pleasant Valley is purely imaginary.

Q: Is Edmund Denney the same Edmund we used to hear from Clay Center, Nebraska about ten years ago?

A: He's the same one, all right. Edmund has been with WIBW for over ten years.

Q: I collect pictures of radio entertainers. Is there any way I could get the original pictures of those used in the "Round-Up?" I would be glad to pay you what they cost you.

A: Sorry. Those pictures cost on the average of five dollars each. I doubt that you would want to pay that much for them and besides, they're all pasted in my scrap book.

Q: I have every issue of the "Round-Up" since the very start. I notice some of the entertainers have many more pictures than others. Why is this?

A: Folks seem to be more interested in some of the fellows and girls than in others. My aim is to please the greatest number of you folks, so I include pictures of those most requested in your letters.

Keep your questions coming, folks. We'll answer them unless we just don't know the answers, or unless they're too personal. Please don't ask about the wages of the boys and girls or their religious beliefs. I've worked with them for several yeass and still don't feel that I know them well enough to ask questions of that nature. You've all been swell about enclosing stamped envelopes with questions you want answered by mail. We're always glad to hear from you.



We just have room enough for this picture of Virginia Lee you folks have been asking for.

**HILTON HODGES**

(Continued from Page 2)

listened. But it was a job, so I took it—and liked it. That was in 1935.

In 1936, I came to WIBW, close on the heels of Edmund, Ole, Carl Hunt, Jud Woods and a few others who had come down a few months before. Then followed six-and-a-half years of extremely pleasant work under Don Searle and our present grand boss, Ben Ludy. This work included, writing, special events, Roundup trips, and sports and was the finest experience any radio man could ever get. There are so many "special" occasions in those years that it would be an endless story to tell them all—but one stands out particularly. That was the National Cornhusking Contest at Marshall, Missouri in 1937. It rained all day and Elmer and I carried the portable transmitters on horses to broadcast the bang of the ears on the backboards and the miscellaneous noises. We didn't mind the electricity that flowed out through the rain into our trousers but my horse (who of course, I hadn't had a chance to meet) didn't care for it at all. But it was a good show—and the next day Dorothy and I got married in St. Louis. Well, it wasn't quite as fast as that. I had known her for six months.

When I went into the Navy in 1942, Dorothy went to Chicago and lived with her sister, who was in radio and is now on CBS. We traveled to Dallas, New Orleans, Olathe, St. Louis and Norman, with quick trips here and there on temporary duty. Being a little older than Mr. Forrestal thought suitable for combat flying, we were held in the States and I spent my days as a flight instructor.

After release in 1945, we returned to Topeka, bought a home (ouch!) and

were happy to come back with Ben Ludy and all the fine gang. And in the two years since, I have enjoyed a new and different job as sales service manager, which means traveling and handling some of the hundred odd jobs around a radio station that few folks know about. Now and then, a program for one of the buddies in the announcer's room; which is fun.

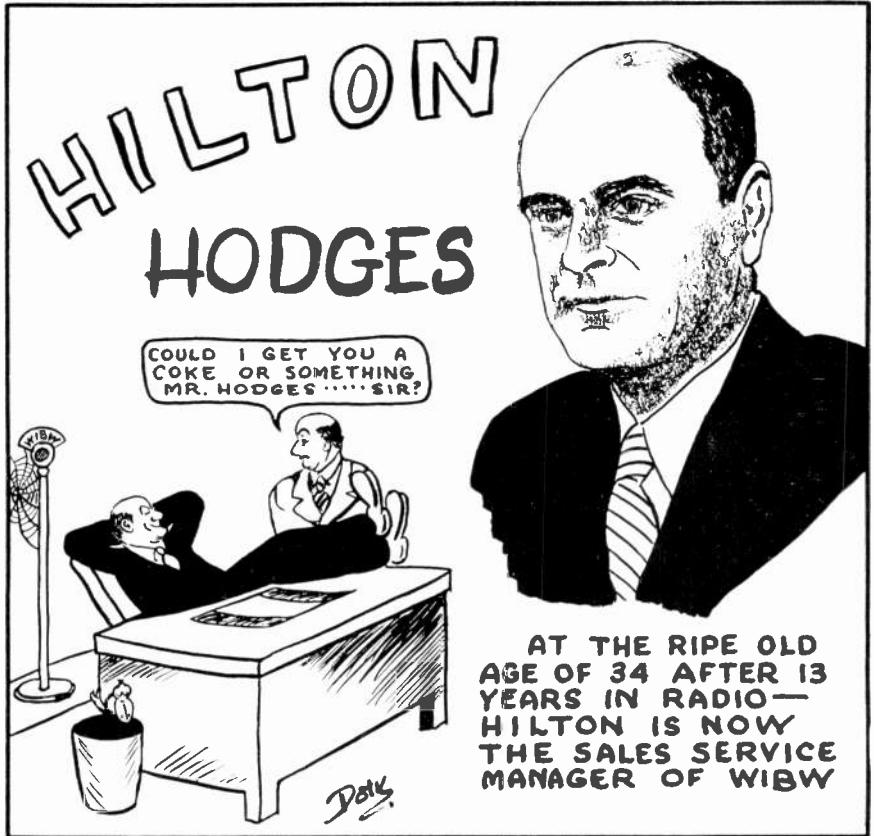
The usual paragraph about activities, includes Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Masons, American Legion, Amvets and Methodists.

My family luckily is still complete. Dad and Mother have a grocery store

in Clay Center and the other "male child", who was medically retired by the Army Air Forces and had another operation at Winter General Hospital last summer has met a fine nurse from Quinter, Kansas, married her and even found an apartment. Nothing wrong with that guy!

Radio in general, and WIBW in particular, gets into your blood. It's the people you meet and get to know like your own. I like it here.

But in case anyone asks you to write a story like this, the easiest and best thing to do is to say "I'll tell him when he comes in".



**WIBW PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

580 on Your Dial

Due to last minute program changes, WIBW cannot guarantee complete accuracy of this schedule.

Programs in heavy type are Studio Presentations.

**MORNING**

- 5:00—Daybreak Jamboree ..... Mon. thru Sat.
- 5:40—News ..... Mon. thru Sat.
- 6:00—Bobbie Dick ..... Mon. thru Sat.
- Sunday Morning Meeting ..... Sun.
- 6:15—To Be Announced (Peruna)..... Mon. thru Sat.
- 6:35—Farm Service News
- (Marysville Livestock) ..... Mon. thru Sat.
- 6:45—Hymn Time with Doc and Esther..Tues., Thurs., Sat.
- (Pierce Proprietaries) ..... Mon., Wed., Fri.
- 7:00—News (B. F. Goodrich)..... Mon., Wed., Fri.
- (Carey Salt) ..... Tues., Thurs., Sat.
- 7:15—Shepherd of the Hills ..... Tues., Thurs., Sat.
- (Nutrena Mills) ..... Mon., Wed., Fri.
- Radioaires ..... Sun.

- 7:30—Henry and Jerome (Wait-Cahill)..... Mon. thru Sat.
- Bethel Covenant Church ..... Sun.
- 7:45—Edmund Denney Time
- (Merchants Biscuit) ..... Mon. thru Sat
- 8:00—News (Omega Oil)..... Mon., Wed., Fri.
- (Dannen Mills) ..... Tues., Thurs., Fri
- Farmers Forum ..... Sun
- 8:05—Henry and Jerome..... Tues., Thurs., Sat.
- (Vicks) ..... Mon., Wed., Fri.
- 8:15—Hymn Time with Doc and Esther..... Mon. thru Fri.
- Capital Food Review ..... Sat
- Farm News ..... Sun
- 8:30—Henry's Exchange ..... Mon. thru Fri
- Kansas News ..... Sun.
- 8:45—Bobbie and Glenn ..... Sat
- Mr. Veteran ..... Sun.
- 9:00—Shepherd of the Hills ..... Mon. thru Sat
- Church of the Air..... Sun.
- 9:15—News ..... Mon. thru Sat
- 10:00—Warren Sweeney, News (Curtiss Candy)..... Sun.
- 10:05—Negro College Chorus..... Sun.
- 10:30—Bar Nothing Ranch (Michigan Bulbs) .. Mon. thru Fri.
- Adventures Club (W. A. Shaeffer Pen Co.)..... Sat.

August M. Flake,  
LeRoy, Kansas. Rt. 3

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Salt Lake City Tabernacle.....Sun  
10:45—Ambrose Haley and the Ozark Ramblers  
(Procter and Gamble).....Mon. thru Fri.  
11:00—Judy and Jane (Folger Coffee).....Mon. thru Fri.  
Theater of Today (Armstrong Cork Co.).....Sat.  
First Methodist Church.....Sun.  
11:15—Aunt Jenny's Stories (Lever Bros.).....Mon. thru Fri.  
11:30—Weather Bureau.....Mon. thru Sat.  
11:35—Dinner Hour.....Mon. thru Sat.

**AFTERNOON**

12:00—News (Lee Foods).....Mon. thru Sat.  
News.....Sun.  
12:15—Markets (DeKalb).....Mon. thru Sat.  
Rainbow Trail.....Sun.  
12:45—M. L. Nelson (Garst and Thomas).....Sun.  
1:00—Invitation to Learning.....Sun.  
1:30—Ernie Quigley, Sports.....Sun.  
2:00—Grain Markets.....Mon. thru Fri.  
CBS Symphony.....Sun.  
2:05—Kansas Round-Up.....Mon. thru Fri.  
2:30—Mary Lee Taylor (Pet Milk).....Sat.  
2:45—Kansas Roundup (Kolorbak).....Mon. thru Fri.  
3:00—To Be Announced.....Mon., Wed., Fri.  
Radioaires.....Tues., Thurs.  
Let's Pretend (Cream of Wheat).....Sat.  
3:25—NEWS (Groves Laboratories).....Mon. thru Sat.  
3:30—Second Mrs. Burton (General Foods).....Mon. thru Fri.  
Give and Take (Toni, Inc.).....Sat.  
Hour of Charm (Electric Companies'  
Adv. Program).....Sun.  
3:45—Ma Perkins (Procter and Gamble).....Mon. thru Fri.  
4:00—Big Sister (Procter and Gamble).....Mon. thru Fri.  
Treasury Dept. Guest Star.....Sat.  
Prudential Family Hour (Prudential Insurance).....Sun.  
4:15—The Guiding Light  
(Procter and Gamble).....Mon. thru Fri.  
4:30—County Fair (Borden Co.).....Sat.  
News.....Sun.  
4:45—Senator Arthur Capper.....Sun.  
5:00—Public Service.....Sat.  
Old Fashioned Revival Hour  
(Gospel Broadcasting Ass'n).....Sun.  
5:15—Grand Central Station (Pillsbury Mills).....Sat.  
5:30—Lum N' Abner (Alka Seltzer).....Mon. thru Fri.  
5:45—Radioaires.....Mon. thru Fri.  
News (Phillips 66).....Sat.

**EVENING**

6:00—NEWS (Butternut Coffee).....Mon., Wed., Fri.  
(Phillips 66).....Tues., Thurs.  
Man on the Farm (Quaker Oats).....Sat.  
Gene Autry Show (Wm. Wrigley, Jr.).....Sun.  
6:15—Songs of Bobbie Dick.....Mon. thru Fri.  
6:30—Rainbow Trail.....Mon., Wed., Fri.  
Piano Ramblings.....Tues.  
Twilight Serenade.....Thurs.  
Romance.....Sat.  
Blondie (Colgate).....Sun.

6:45—News.....Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.  
Olaf Soward's Viewpoint.....Thurs.  
7:00—Inner Sanctum (Emerson Drug Co.).....Mon.  
Big Town (Ironized Yeast).....Tues.  
American Melody Hour (The Bayer Co.).....Wed.  
F.B.I. In Peace and War (Lava).....Thurs.  
Baby Snooks (General Foods).....Fri.  
Dairyman's Roundtable.....Sat.  
Adventures of Sam Spade (Wildroot Co.).....Sun.  
7:15—News.....Sat.  
7:30—Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts (Lipton's Tea).....Mon.  
Mr. and Mrs. North (Colgate).....Tues.  
Dr. Christian (Chesbrough Mfg. Co.).....Wed.  
Mr. Keen; Tracer of Lost Persons  
(Whitehall Pharm. Co.).....Thurs.  
Adventures of The Thin Man (General Foods).....Fri.  
Vaughn Monroe (R. J. Reynolds).....Sat.  
Man Called X (General Motors, Frigidaire  
Division).....Sun.  
7:55—NEWS (Garst and Thomas).....Mon., Wed., Fri.  
(Ray Beers Clothing Co.).....Tues., Thurs., Sat.  
8:00—Lux Radio Theatre (Lever Bros.).....Mon.  
Pleasant Valley.....Tues.  
Rhapsody In Rhythm (Old Gold).....Wed.  
Dick Haymes Show (Auto-Lite).....Thurs.  
The Borden Program (Borden Co.).....Fri.  
Kansas Round-Up.....Sat.  
Meet Corliss Archer (Campbell Soup).....Sun.  
8:15—Kansas Roundup (Mantle Lamp).....Sat.  
8:30—Studio One.....Tues.  
Sweeney and March.....Wed.  
Crime Photographer (Anchor-Hocking).....Thurs.  
To Be Announced.....Fri.  
The New Tony Martin Show (Texas Co.).....Sun.  
8:45—Kansas Roundup (Flex-o-Glass).....Sat.  
9:00—My Friend Irma (Lever Bros.).....Mon.  
Public Service.....Wed.  
Readers Digest, Radio Editon (Hall Bros.).....Thurs.  
It Pays to Be Ignorant (Philip Morris).....Fri.  
Kansas Round-Up (Western Stationery).....Sat.  
Christopher Wells (Chrysler Corp.).....Sun.  
9:15—Emahizer Melodies (Emahizer-Spielman  
Furniture Co.).....Wed.  
9:30—Screen Guild Players (R. J. Reynolds).....Mon.  
Open Hearing.....Tues.  
Escape.....Wed.  
To Be Announced.....Thurs.  
Spotlight Revue (Coca Cola Co.).....Fri.  
Robert Q. Lewis Little Show.....Sun.  
10:00—NEWS (The Fleming Co.).....Mon. thru Sun.  
10:15—Variety Time.....Mon., Fri.  
Shopping At Bomgardners  
(Bomgardner's Furn. Co.).....Wed.  
**ERNIE QUIGLEY, SPORTS**.....Tues., Thurs.  
Emahizer Melodies  
(Emahizer-Spielman Furniture Co.).....Sun.  
10:30—Salute To FM.....Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sat.  
Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet  
(International Silver).....Sun.  
11:00—News.....Mon. thru Sun.  
12:00—News.....Mon. thru Sun.