

HARRISON, PUTHAM  
RFD 1  
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5-17-37

# Stand By

APRIL 10, 1937



ELSIE MAE EMERSON

The  
Manager  
Looks Ahead

•  
Way Back  
When

# Listeners' Mike

## Ernie's Solos

I heard Ernie Newton of the Hilltoppers sing Thursday and I sure did like him. When we heard him come on with the theme song, we couldn't imagine who the new voice belonged to.

But it sure proved to be swell singing. I could never tell his voice when he sang with the Hilltoppers, but now I can. Why can't we have more of his solos? . . . **Frances Cereosta**, Joliet, Ill.

## Gene and His Horse

Just a line to tell you that I went to see Gene Autry and his horse in person and I sure enjoyed him a lot. It seemed like old times seeing him again. In the screen play with Gene were Smiley Burnett and Max Terhune. Gene is a better singer every time I hear him. . . . **Mrs. Geo. Friedman**, Milwaukee, Wis.

## Long Commercials

Is it necessary for announcers to advertise products so much and so long before and after the programs? It gets so monotonous, such as the Oxydol and Dutch Cleanser programs. If the articles are as good as claimed to be, it doesn't look as though it would be necessary to spend half the time telling about them. . . . **Mrs. T. N. B.**, Robinson, Ill.

## Sit-Down Strike

I didn't think I'd get in on any sit-down strikes, but here I am sitting down to write and ask why we can't hear more of Rocky's delightful singing.

Thanks to Kathleen Whiting for the suggestion and here's hoping more of Rocky's fans write in so he'll soon have a program of his own again. . . . **Ethel Dresen**, Racine, Wis.

## Youngest Old-Timer

During the last hour of the Barn Dance celebration on its fifth birthday, all the old-timers were called on to sing, all except Georgie Goebel who really is an old-timer.

I was only 11 years old but I can still remember when he first came on the air. I remember thinking him a girl at first, because of his soprano voice. George has been on the air for almost six years. . . . **Arline Bauman**, Milwaukee, Wis.

## Sally Foster Fan

Can anything be done so that we could hear Sally Foster at least once in a while? I don't very often get a chance to listen on Saturday night, and when I do I hear her sing one song and that is all. Once a week surely isn't enough for a wonderful singer like she is.

I always listen to Ezra's little five-watter. She used to sing on that program at least once in a while, but it seems lately they have replaced her with Henry Burr. . . . **Alvin H. Strabing**, Hamilton, Mich.

## Arkie's Hint

We heard the transcribed program of WLS tribute to its little brother, KOY, Phoenix, on Homemakers' Hour. We enjoyed it a lot, but one thing we don't want to happen is for Mr. Butler to take Arkie's hint. We really don't think he needs a change in climate. His many fans don't even want him to consider leaving the Middle West. . . . **Elizabeth and Mary Alice Potts**, Hardinsburg, Ky.

## Rumors of Romance

We appoint "Seen Behind the Scene" to be Stand By's Walter Winchell to give us romantic tidbits about our artists. We can read everything else about them in Stand By. But do you think we like to have their marriages jump right out at us without knowing and enjoying their romances a little beforehand?

Once or twice "Behind the Scenes" told us that so and so was seen waiting for someone, and did we love it! "Seen Behind the Scenes" would jump to headline importance overnight. . . . **Romantic Family**, Peoria, Ill.

## Dissatisfied

I'm very sorry you don't edit as good a Stand By as you used to. It's getting worse every week. What's the matter with the song exchange?

Instead of having the Hilltoppers and Winnie, Lou and Sally, who are all terrible, on the air so much, why not have good entertainers such as the DeZurik Sisters, Christine, Henry and Pat, etc.?

I think the Hired Man is Henry or Merle Housh because turn the initials around and they are H. M. Well, I guess that's settled. . . . **Mrs. Alfred Tisher**, Oshkosh, Wis.

## Why? Why?

Why can't you give us a good picture of Merle Housh or Henry Hornsbuckle? Last year he did some singing and I must say we enjoyed it very, very much. Here's hoping we will get a song from him in the near future.

Why let the Girls of the Golden West drown out Red Foley's singing? . . . **Mrs. Dale E. Powers**, Chicago.

## Campfire Scene

I have just finished listening to one of the first barn dance shows I have heard in years. The boys and girls sure showed their ability in singing tonight. That campfire scene of the Old West was just wonderful. I was out there last year and in the evening we used to go out and build a fire and sing and play. I hope you will have that campfire scene more often. . . . **F. R. F.**, Madison, Wis.

## From A Winner

Imagine the thrill of being awakened from a sound sleep around midnight by telephone messages of kindly congratulations, both local and long distance.

Then try to imagine the real shock I realized of having nearly missed out, for dollars are not any too plentiful, and I had decided not to renew my subscription to Stand By another year. But the nearer time came for my last issue, the more I felt I couldn't give it up. So at the 11th hour, I sent in my renewal and entry for the dog-naming contest. With the result that now I can have Stand By for at least 500 years more. That's how much I enjoy it. . . . **Mrs. A. Pacey**, Brimfield, Ill.

## STAND BY

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**JULIAN T. BENTLEY**, Editor  
**Virginia Seeds**, Managing Editor  
April 10, 1937

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 9

STAND BY

# The Manager Looks Ahead

As Station Enters 14th Year of Broadcasting



Looking ahead into the future of radio is Glenn Snyder, station manager and, in his lighter moments, harmonica virtuoso.

The first barn dance music-makers were Chubby Parker, Tommy Dandurand and Jess Doolittle, with Tom Owens calling the square dances.



by GLENN SNYDER

I'M NOT an "old-timer" of WLS. As I understand it, before a man gains such distinction he has to be around the station at least 10 years like my friends Ralph Emerson, Bill O'Connor, George Biggar and that famous "Roll Along, Little Dogies" aggregation, the Maple City Four. And also, he should have been hanging his hat on 870 kilocycles in the days of five-seventh time division, the original Show Boat, Chubby Parker, Tony Wons, and even as long ago as Ford and Glenn, the "Lullaby Boys."

It was in 1930, a mere seven years ago, that Mr. Butler said to me, "Sit down at that desk and go to work!" I knew little about radio except as a listener. When Tom Rowe talked about frequencies, megacycles and microvolts, I tried to appear intelligent but kept my mouth shut. (And I still do!) And when I walked into the mail room and saw over 7,000 letters on the tables, I was astonished to learn that it was an average morning's delivery by the mailman. It

wasn't a birthday shower on Arkie.

Before long, I began to "catch on" and to understand something about WLS. Here was a station that had blazed a trail in friendly broadcasting—a station that sincerely tried to please its listeners—and that believed helpful service came first! When the cowbells and the dinnerbell rang out through the air, home folks tuned in to hear the entertainment they loved and the informational features that would help them plan their crops, market their livestock and lighten house work.

I will let others broadcast and write of the past history of our station. It is a record of which we are all proud. It speaks of many hundred thousands of dollars given by loyal listeners to help neighbors stricken by disaster; of thousands of less fortunate boys and girls who were made happier around Christmas by gifts of new radio receiving sets; of listeners who rallied to help throw out non-sensical year-round New York time in Chicagoland; of day in and day out market quotations, weather forecasts and news; of shut-ins whose lives

have been brightened by our programs; and of devotional broadcasts which have brought renewed courage and inspiration during days of discouragement.

Radio has gone a long ways since April 12, 1924, when WLS spread its antennae. Today, the best that the world has to offer is available to rich and poor—entertainment and talks from foreign nations; visits with our President and other officials; the biggest stars of stage and pictures; and public events of international, nationwide and local interest. Far from being a luxury, radio is now a necessity for all who wish to bring the whole world to their firesides.

We of the Prairie Farmer Station are proud of the part that WLS has played in the great development of radio and particularly in the day-by-day helpful service that radio gives to millions.

As we enter into our fourteenth year, we are still mindful of everything that has helped build this station's program into the everyday lives of countless families. We are re-dedicating ourselves to the first principles of helpful service and friendly entertainment.

A few weeks ago, Burrige D. Butler, our chief, told me that WLS must never forget that *service* is our first consideration. We must continue and even increase the time given to education, markets, and weather reports, other helpful farm and home features, programs for children, religious and inspirational broadcasts, and "special event" programs.

"Prairie Farmer Station WLS  
(Continued on page 12)



By JACK HOLDEN

**L**OUIE MARMER is not examining fiddle bows these days. Louie always had a habit of picking up a musician's bow and testing its strength by bending it. He did this with Emilo Silvestre's precious fiddle bow. The bow snapped and so did Emilio. Louie settled for 20 dollars and a repaired fiddle bow which Emilio claims is not at all the same.

Sunday evening at the Henry Burr's listening for an hour to Henry Sutherland tell of his experiences in France. Henry was the eighth man to set foot on French soil from the United States. He was a flying instructor. Worked with Quentin Roosevelt and Eddie Rickenbacker. Had the tail of his plane torn loose and crashed to the ground. Emerged from the splinters with a cut finger.

Seen from the piano bench on the stage last Saturday night: The spot light showing through Salty Holmes' jug makes it look like a silver balloon. Lily May wears high top shoes. Says she never saw a pair of shoes till she was fifteen. Grace Wilson at the mike. What a song personality. She still wows 'em. Boy! How they like her! That fellow up in the balcony will have a sore chin tomorrow. He's been resting it on the rail for an hour.

Tex Atchison will need a new fiddle bow before long. He's playing that hoedown tune so hard that the horse hairs are fairly flying in the air. Arkie starts to sing and Salty blows up a balloon under his nose. Look out Arkie! I knew that would happen. Arkie continues his song as though nothing had ever happened.

Slim Miller gets a laugh from the audience as he pulls twenty feet of watch chain out of his pocket revealing an over-sized timepiece. Lulu Belle blows up another balloon and Chick Hurt lights a match . . . blooie! Somebody throw Otto's hat in the audience. The spot light strikes Otto's bare cranium and it reminds me of a billiard ball over at the "Y". Winnie, Lou and Sally are wearing cute little new blue dresses tonight.

Merle Housh announces the "little" cowboy, George Goebel. Not little anymore, Merle. He's as tall as you are there at the center mike. That bald spot on Phil Kalar's head is a bit larger this year. (See Kelly, he has a new treatment.)

Candid cameras are quite the rage among radio artists these days. But engineer Andy Anderson has a new wrinkle. He calls it candid microphones. He experimented the other day. Red Foley was found sound asleep on the davenport in the back room. Andy moved a mike up to him. Then went in the control room and brought up the mike volume. The sound was like a world war bombardment—plus two riveters. It was a broadcast of Foley snoring.

The old Ad Libber couldn't dance today. The legs are a bit stiff. Got caught on the outside stairway of the Merchandise Mart yesterday and had to walk down 21 flights.

### Petite Organist

**T**HERE will be one surprised person when this issue of Stand By reaches the hands of Elsie Mae Emerson. Without the knowledge of the petite organist her picture found its way to the cover page of the mag-



Elsie Mae sings as well as she plays.

azine with the brief story of her life. (The names of the conspirators in this dire plot will not be disclosed.)

Falling asleep at night to the sweet strains of the popular Swiss instrument, the zither, played by her fa-

ther and mother, is one of Elsie Mae's earliest memories as a little girl up in Kaukauna, Wisconsin. She loved it, for like the other seven members of her family, Elsie Mae Look was a born musician. Every member of the family plays the piano. The guitar, the mandolin, and the violin were also favored instruments in the home. Elsie Mae's mother taught all kinds of stringed instruments.

At the age of three Elsie Mae amazed her family by sitting down to the piano and imitating a tune she had heard one of her elders play. From that time on until she began the study of music at five, she played by ear. She was so gifted and so full of music that her teacher had difficulty getting her attention fixed upon the notes, for Elsie Mae thought it was much more fun playing by ear.

During her girlhood days Elsie Mae was identified with everything musical her home town. She played for all school affairs, dancing classes, glee clubs, the orchestra, musicales, and operettas. On Sunday she played for the church and choir. On week nights, she was pianist at the local theatre. She studied voice, organ, piano and harmony at the Lawrence Conservatory of Music in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Then Elsie Mae came to Chicago to continue her study of music at the American Conservatory of Music and at the Columbia School of Music. Later she studied with Ralph Waldo Emerson, the man she was to marry.

Together, Elsie Mae and Ralph came to WLS in 1925 as alternate organists. During the years that have passed, listeners have thrilled to the music of these two artists.

Working together in their mutual interest of music, each realized that they had so much in common that life without the other would not be complete. One of the outstanding events of the station's early days was the wedding of Elsie Mae Look and Ralph Emerson which took place before the microphones in the Sherman Hotel on April 9, 1925.

Two sons have brought added happiness to the Emerson home. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Jr., "Skippy" was born on June 5, 1930, and little John Skinner Emerson, or Jackie, was born on Halloween, 1935.

According to Ralph, Elsie Mae is not only a fine musician but she is a splendid cook. In these modern days of bake shops, Elsie Mae bakes all the bread the family uses.

There is nothing that Elsie Mae enjoys quite so much as going swimming. She loves the great outdoors and though her home is in the heart of a great city, the farther away from civilization she can get, the happier she is.

She stands four feet, 11½ inches and tips the scales at just 100 pounds. She has brown eyes and softly waving auburn hair. She was born in Kaukauna, Wisconsin, November 18.

## Thirteen Candles on Hayloft Cake

**T**HIRTEEN candles will light the cake at the big birthday party in the Old Hayloft next Saturday night, April 10. It was on April 12, 1924, that WLS first went on the air, and the hayloft boys and girls will do their best to make this 13th anniversary a memorable one. The length of the barn dance will be extended for one hour, so the birthday celebration will last until one o'clock.

From 10:30 to 11:00 the "Ideal Barn Dance," planned by Stand By readers through the Old Hayloft column, will be featured.

Square dances will be given special attention during the anniversary program; and the NBC hour will feature the American Tamburitza Players from St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas. This unique organization of 10 musicians, directed by Professor E. Lester Pierce, will present "Drnz," a 16th century folk dance, which was the quadrille or square dance in its original form. The tamburitza is one of the oldest type of stringed instruments.

### "Musical Americana"

A special program of music of and about the American Negro will be presented over CBS in the "Musical Americana" program of Tuesday, April 13, at 9:30 p. m.

Such prominent Negro vocal stars as Clyde Barrie; Ruby Elzy, the soprano who played a lead role in the Gershwin folk opera, "Porgy and Bess," and Vivian Collier Douglas, the soprano who understudied Ann Brown in the part of Bess, will sing several selections from Gershwin's popular work.

### In the Air

Off the air to go up in the air was Announcer Herb Morrison when he signed off the Pokey and Arkie program at 7:45 a. m., March 31, to leave immediately for the Municipal Airport.

A little more than an hour later, he was flying over Chicago in one of the new 21-passenger flagships of the American Airlines. With two of these flagships in the air, the flight was one of the largest commercial group flights over a Metropolitan area.

Piloting the Flagship Missouri in which Herb was a passenger was Stan Gerding, whom listeners will remember for his story of flood relief trips to Louisville.

### Lily Pons Returns

Lily Pons, the diminutive coloratura opera, concert and film star, will return as the soloist of a new series of Wednesday evening programs with Andre Kostelanetz's Chorus and Orchestra on April 14.

On that occasion, and weekly thereafter at the same time, Miss Pons will be heard over the nationwide WABC-Columbia network from 8:00 to 8:30 p. m., CST in a program of operatic arias, famous ballads, and songs from many fields. Miss Pons will succeed Nino Martini, the popular Metropolitan Opera tenor featured during the current season, who will leave for film contracts in Hollywood.

### Help Youth

National Youth Week, April 12-17, will be observed on Homemakers' Hour Wednesday afternoon, April 14, when Major John L. Griffith, Commissioner of Athletics of the Big Ten Conference, will speak on "Help Youth Help Itself."

### Yankee to Court

The Connecticut Yankee is going to the court of Merry England. Rudy Vallee is off to see the coronation of King George VI and is carrying his variety hour with him.

Rudy will give two shows from London, May 6 and May 13. They will originate in the London studios of the British Broadcasting Corporation and will be sent by short-wave to the United States for rebroadcast. He will return to New York immediately after his second broadcast.

### Much Ado

Four months will be devoted by three NBC'ers to one 15-minute broadcast.

George Hicks, special events announcer, and Walter R. Brown and Marvin S. Adams, field engineers, leave this month for Ederbury Island in the Pacific. There on June 8 they will broadcast the longest total eclipse of the sun in 1,200 years. Ederbury Island is the only vantage point for satisfactory observation of this phenomenon.

The NBC representatives will not return to the United States until July.

### Hip, Hip!

Four tons of music lover, Horace the Hippo, of Jinja, Lake Victoria, Africa, will be saluted by the National Broadcasting Company, Tuesday, April 20, when a concert, specially arranged and broadcast for Horace's enjoyment, is short-waved to Africa. It is believed that this is the first program ever built for a hippopotamus.

The strange tale of Horace the Hippo first came to the attention of John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of programs, when he made a voyage to England in May, 1936. A fellow-passenger, E. G. Tidy of Mombasa, Kenya Colony, told Royal a half domesticated hippopotamus which was fond of music. It seems that every time W3XAL, NBC short-wave station at Bound Brook, N. J., was tuned in, Horace would roam the golf course of Jinja Club, evidently enjoying the music. He would even stand stock still at times to catch a particular refrain.

### First Lady Talks

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will launch a weekly radio series of intimate comment concerning the life of a "first lady," Wednesday, April 21, from 6:15 to 6:30 p. m. over the NBC-Blue network.

### Gracie's New Victim

Dick Foran, husky red-headed cowboy star of the movies, has been signed as vocalist for the new Monday night Burns and Allen series with Ray Noble's orchestra which begins Monday, April 12, at 7:00 p. m. over the NBC-Red network.

Now under contract to Warners, he has appeared in "Petrified Forest," "Dangerous," "Accent on Youth," and "Black Legion."

### National Park Program

From a plane flying over the rugged Rockies, the Trip to Our National Parks series will have its initial NBC broadcast on Sunday, April 25, at 1:00 p. m., CST.



Mr. and Mrs. Lavelle Carter, newest of the newlyweds. Verne Hassell and Lavelle were quietly married March 23.

# Feasts for the Spring Brides

by MARY WRIGHT

JUST as surely as April showers bring May flowers, winter romances bring spring brides and wedding breakfasts. Rules of etiquette have, in most instances, just grown from custom and consequently change from time to time. Of course the bride is anxious to see that all details of the wedding are planned correctly, but if she and her mother are at ease, everyone will be comfortable, which is more important than that every rule of etiquette is strictly observed.



Mrs. Wright

The type of menu selected will depend upon the time of day. A wedding breakfast is served up to 12:30 p. m.; a luncheon from 12:30 to 2:00, and dinner at 8:00 p. m. If refreshments are to be served between 2:00 or 6:00 p. m., or after 8:00 p. m., they are of the type served for an afternoon tea or reception. The wedding breakfast menu varies with the time of day. When served late, the menu resembles a luncheon menu although a salad is not necessarily served.

Knowing the general type of meal served at different hours of the day, the bride can plan as simple or elaborate a menu as she pleases. If most of the work must be done by members of the family, it is much wiser to serve a simple meal. After all, the memory of the wedding day should be a happy one for the whole family.

## Wedding Reception Menu

Served 2:00 to 6:00 p. m. or After 8:00 p. m.

- Fruit juice punch
- Coffee
- Individual ice cream molds
- Assorted fancy sandwiches
- Bride's cake
- Candies
- Nuts

Such refreshments are comparatively inexpensive, can carry out any color scheme and require much less work than even the simplest of breakfasts or luncheons. In families of moderate means, it is perhaps better to schedule the ceremony at the time of day that will permit this type of refreshments.

The wedding meal may be served buffet style to the guests with the exception of the bridal party, who should always be served at a table, preferably away from the rest of the crowd. The seating arrangement at

the bridal table is rather important, but most logical. At one end are the bride and groom, the bride seated on the right of the groom. On the side of the table to the left of the groom is, first, the maid of honor, next an usher, then a bridesmaid, usher, and so on, alternating men and women of the bridal party. Seated at the right of the bride will be the best man, next a bridesmaid, an usher, and so on around the table. At the other end of the table, a man should sit opposite the bride and a girl opposite the groom. Often sisters and brothers of the bride and groom are seated at the bridal table, even though they are not included in the bridal party.

## Seating Guests

If table service is planned for all, the remaining guests are seated at another table in this order. The bride's mother and father sit at opposite ends of the table as for an ordinary dinner. On the hostess's right and left, respectively, are seated the clergyman and the groom's father. On the host's right and left are the groom's mother and the

clergyman's wife. Between are seated relatives and close friends, alternating men and women, and of course, separating married couples.

For a small wedding all the guests are seated at one table. In this case, the bride's father sits on the end opposite the bride, and the groom's mother opposite the groom.

An elaborately iced wedding cake, surrounded by garlands or sprays of white flowers, is used as the centerpiece for the bride's table. The wedding cake may be decorated with a miniature bride and groom, or a wedding bell on top. This decoration is usually made on a stiff cover and is lifted off the cake before cutting. When the dessert is served, the wedding cake is placed before the bride, who cuts the first piece and shares it with the groom. Then the cake is given to each of the guests in turn to cut his own piece, or it may be removed from the table to be cut and served to each guest. If two sets of favors are placed in the cake, (Stand By, May 18, 1935) one set for the girls and one for the men, their respective sides should be marked around the lower edge of the cake.

The groom's cake, a dark fruit cake, is cut and placed in individual white boxes with the last initial of the bride and groom in gold intertwined on the cover as the only decoration. Each guest finds one of these at his place at the table or the boxes may be available at the door as the guests leave.

## AUNT EM'S BIRTHDAY PARTY



Aunt Em, celebrating her 81st birthday, congratulates newly-weds on Dinnerbell Time. Left to right: Dr. John Holland, Henry Burr, Mrs. Emma Van Alstyne Lanning (Aunt Em), Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Newlon, Prophetstown, Illinois, and Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Schrader, Princeton, Illinois. Both couples were married Easter Sunday.

## Old Hayloft

By THE HIRED MAN

MEMORIES galore around the old hayloft with the lucky 13th anniversary of the Prairie Farmer station. . . . You old-time listeners will probably get a thrill recalling the early days of radio and the folks you used to hear. . . . Perhaps there are some who care nothing about memories, but they mean much to us hayloft folks. . . . One reason is because radio was in its baby clothes when the National Barn Dance first took the air. . . . Each year has seen many changes and we are amused as we look back at some of the radio practices and ideas of years gone by—just as many folks 10, and maybe five, years hence will look back at 1937 and call these the "good old days." (Here I am reminiscing like Check Stafford.)

Where are they now? . . . Chubby Parker is a business man in Chicago. How the fans enjoyed his 5-string banjo and quaint songs! . . . Walter Peterson, who played the "double-barreled shotgun," is foreman of a Chicago auto equipment factory. You may be using a safety light that he invented. . . . Bradley Kincaid is with NBC in the East—on WGY, I believe. His sweet mountain songs live forever. . . . We haven't heard of Cecil and Esther Ward for a good while. . . . The first old-time fiddler, Tommy Dandurand, is in Chicago. . . . Rube Tronson still has a traveling band. . . . Pie Plant Pete is pleasing folks down Cleveland way. . . . Steve Cisler, who emceed in the hayloft for some time, is with a Nashville station. . . . Gene and Glenn are with WHO in Des Moines, while Ford Rush is at WGY, Schenectady. . . . George Hay, "The Solemn Old Judge," is with

WSM, but is off the air due to illness, I'm sorry to say. . . . Don Malin and Dud Richards are executives with Chicago business firms. They arranged programs and announced. . . . The Westerners are in New York with NBC, while Karl, Harty and Doc Hopkins of the Ridge Runners are with WJJD. . . . Bill Vickland is doing his usual good work at WMBD.

In the old hayloft several of the "pioneers" are still featured. . . . Most of them were mentioned in this column last week, and you'll hear them during the anniversary. . . . Good old Tom Corwine will be there, too. . . . He has probably barked and crowed more on the air than any living man! . . . Doggone it, Eddie Allan, if I didn't go and leave you out last week. . . . Thanks for "bawling me out" about it. . . . I've probably neglected to mention a few in the above paragraph, and hope they'll forgive me. . . . No ma'am, I didn't tell you that Lonnie Glosson, the "fox hound" wizard, is with WWVA in Wheeling. . . . Or that "Banjo Ben" (Reuben Benson) is an M. D. in Bremerton, Washington—or that Ole Yonson is occasionally making personal appearances. . . . And Spareribs, who could forget you? . . . Thousands of children enjoy your NBC stories.

Notes by the Hired Girl: Winnie, Lou and Sally all dressed for Easter in new frocks—and what thoughtful man gave Winnie that lovely corsage? . . . Lulu Belle has that dress most finessed that she is knitting.

????? . . . What's the anniversary program between 10:30 and 11:00 to be? . . . Who will we hear and what will they sing and play? . . . It's to be you listeners' "Ideal Barn Dance." . . . Hundreds have written to tell how they would arrange 30 minutes in the old hayloft and from all your programs the big one is being put together. . . . Don't fail to tune in to see how you like it! . . . Thanks a million for your most hearty cooperation.

## 3¢ Stamp Brings Generous Sample of



## Pure Sheep Manure In New Sanitary Stick Form

- Safe and Easy to use for potted plants, window boxes, ferns, shrubs and vegetable gardens.
- OVENE is produced from high quality sheep manure and is the natural food for all plants, containing abundant bacterial action which is so necessary to normal plant life.
- OVENE is free from dust, weed seed and objectionable odor.
- This fertilizer comes packed in small sticks of miscellaneous lengths (1" & 2") and is applied in elongated form by simply pushing full length into the soil. It can also be dissolved in water and used as a liquid fertilizer.
- For more information about OVENE, tune in Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during Homemakers' Hour over Station WLS.
- For a generous sample package containing enough sticks to fertilize 12 potted plants, simply send 3¢ in stamps and the name of your local dealer to OVENE, % Stand By, 1230 Washington Blvd., Chicago.
- OVENE is sold in convenient 10¢ packages at leading department, chain, drug, seed and hardware stores in Chicago and other Middle Western cities. See our display at Flower Show (Navy Pier, Chicago), April 3 to 11.

Mfg. by STOCKDALE FERTILIZER COMPANY, Morris, Illinois

**AGENTS UP TO 50 IN A WEEK**

Big cash profits for you; full or spare time. Over 250 household necessities—things people must buy. Proven fast sellers; steady repeaters, earnings very first day. FORD TUDOR SEDAN GIVEN YOU AS BONUS. I'll show you how to start at once; send you everything—Big Display Card, and quick cash plans. Details FREE—no obligation. Just send name on postcard. ALBERT MILLS 3807 Monmouth Ave., Cincinnati, O.

## LILY MAY



Recognized!

# FAMILY

by MARJORIE GIBSON

WHEN I started to prepare this week's column, it occurred to me that I hadn't asked a question for several weeks. So with notebook and pencil in hand, I made the rounds of the studio and got the following answers to this question: "How did you meet your wife?"

**Dr. Holland:** I met the future Mrs. Holland at an Epworth League Social at the M. E. Church in Evanston when she was a student at Northwestern University and I was a student at Garrett Biblical Institute.

**Rocky Racherbaumer:** I first met Marian in German class when we both attended Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, Illinois.

**Fred Palmer:** My wife and I were classmates in Worchester College in Worchester, Ohio.

**Chick Hurt:** Gladys and I met at a motorcycle club party.

**Glenn Welty:** My wife and I were born in Lincoln, Nebraska, but we didn't meet until we had both gone to Peoria, Illinois, to live.

**George Biggar:** I met my wife in the third grade in Brookings, South Dakota, but she wouldn't look at me seriously until after we had graduated from college.

**Buddy Gilmore:** I had just gone to Kalamazoo, Michigan, to play in an orchestra. One day I was hurrying along the street, and as I turned the corner, I collided with a young lady. She was a very pretty girl, so I was interested immediately. I didn't see her again for a week. Walked into a department store and there she was again. I married her a year and a half later.

**Henry Burr:** I first met Mrs. Burr when we both appeared on the same concert program in New York.

**John Baker:** I met Mary while working on the college paper at Purdue. I was her boss—then!

**Merle Housh:** She lived next door to my cousin, in Topeka, Kansas, so I went to see my cousin about every day. After six months of going to see my cousin, I got up courage to speak. Then I sent a note by my cousin asking her for a date. Then about a year later I married her.

Have you heard that: Announcer Ed Paul has taken up cooking? He started by frying sausages and hopes

to work up to biscuits and angel food cake. He's saving his pennies to buy a cook book.

**Did you ever hear of an Easter egg hunt in a railway station?** That's just what took place on Easter morning when the road show folks were having breakfast in the Union Station at Cincinnati. Larry Kurtze, manager of the show, mentioned casually that he knew where some colored Easter eggs could be found. That was all the encouragement needed. Lulu Belle and the rest raided Larry's suitcase and found Easter eggs enough for every member of the show. Larry's mother had thoughtfully packed them in his suitcase.

Two of the season's early vacationers, Virginia Seeds and John Brown, have returned. . . . Arthur Page spent Easter with his father and mother in Kansas City. Mary Wright with her husband and their little girl Eileen, spent Easter at Salem, Indiana, the home of Harry's father and mother. Max Wilson has resumed his place with the Hometowners' quartet. He lost considerable weight as a result of his tonsil and adenoid operation. However, Max enjoyed a good rest at his home in Washington Court House, Ohio. . . . Dean Reed who substituted for Max has returned to Lincoln, Nebraska, where he is a junior in the school of music at the State University. Dean is from Clay Center, Nebraska, where Tommy Tanner went to high school. . . . Incidentally, both Tommy and Dean won first place in the Nebraska state vocal contests when they were in high school. . . . I just had the pleasure of meeting a tiny visitor to the Little Theatre. She was 16-months old Jane Olive Bentley, daughter of Julian Bentley's only brother, David, Harvard, Illinois.

**Ben Manliel, Connersville, Indiana:** Frankie Moore and Cousin Emmy are both married but not to each other. Lily May is not a sister nor is she related to Cousin Emmy who made several guest appearances on the Barn Dance last summer. They are both Kentucky girls.

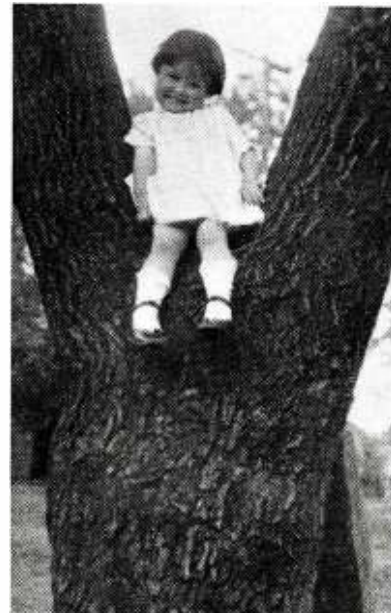
**Mrs. C. E., Streator, Illinois:** The girl seated next to Red Foley in the Family Album barn dance picture is Evelyn Overstake. The four girls at the rear of the stage are exhibition square dancers.

**Mrs. Eva Gaffney, Lake Fork, Illinois:** Cousin Tobias Tolliver and Susie Sharp from Bugtussle, Iowa, and regular visitors to the Old Hay-loft, are portrayed by Mr. and Mrs. Neil Schaffner.

"The Blue Eyed Boy" on WJJD is a number used by Karl Davis. The little orphan girl on the "Amos and Andy" show is played by Elinor Harriot. Lum and Abner—Chester Lauck and Norris Goff—are both married. Lum has two daughters, Shirley May and Nancy; and Abner has a son, Jerry. These are answers to questions from R. S., Oxford, Wisconsin, who thinks the Hired Man is Jolly Joe Kelly.

**Katherine Ashmore, Taylor, Missouri:** The Hoosier Hot Shots, all four, are married. Mac and Bob are working together on KFBC, Greenville, South Carolina. Bradley Kincaid is heard regularly on WGY, Schenectady. Karl and Harty appear on WJJD.

## UP A TREE



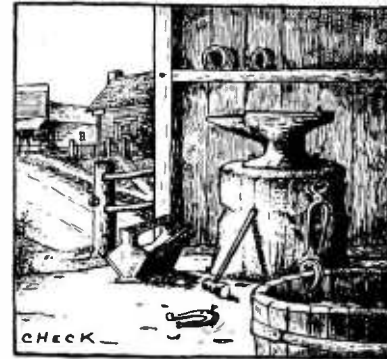
Such a tiny girl in such a big tree! But three-year-old Evelyn Overstake thought it was great fun to perch in the crotch of the big shade tree.

# The Dinner Bell RINGS

By ARTHUR C. PAGE

A THOUSAND memories were stirred as I visited my father and mother last week. The attic of the old house, as always, was full of those keep-sakes around which center the recollections of boyhood.

My father was a blacksmith for half a century, and still has a great many of the tools and the equipment of the trade. I brought home with me the big old anvil that he hammered on through all the years. It



has five holes in the bottom of it and is the same one that, year after year, woke up the town on Fourth of July morning, on election days and at other times when the exuberance of the occasion demanded a big noise.

### Temper

It was on this old anvil that my father used to sharpen up horseshoes long before daylight on sleety, icy mornings while I kept the fire in the forge and pulled on the old bellows pole. It was at this anvil that I learned to run around to the front with one end of a weld, the sparks flying like little stars, tap it lightly to knock off the scale and lay it in position while my father brought out the other end and with quick, accurate blows joined the two pieces together. It was here also that I learned to watch the colors run in tempering steel tools, and my father said, "Temper is very important, but it must be kept under control."

### Singing

My father sang at his work. It seemed to me when I was a small boy that he was always singing, and the harder he hammered the louder he sang. I suppose it would be against the rules if the workers in some of the big present-day factories should all

start singing; but don't you wish sometimes that more people could be happy in their work? I have never seen any substitute for the enthusiasm and the pride of doing a good job—the big, clean, hearty laugh that is associated with good health, good friendship and just plain joy of living and working.

### Slack Tub

The old blacksmith shop was a great deal more than just a place to shoe horses and fix wagons. Little girls would come sometimes, timidly to ask for a few of the bright, sharp-pointed horseshoe nails that made perfect nut picks, and the old smith always gave them a handful. A little boy would come occasionally with a tin pail to carry home a quart of water from the old slack tub—his mother wanted to use it for some skin trouble, and I found out years later that the iron compounds it contained eventually were recognized by the medical profession. If any boy or girl doesn't know what a slack tub is—well, it's the tub of water where the blacksmith cools red hot irons.

### Politics

In the old blacksmith shop I heard hot discussion on the question of inflation and deflation, changes in the value of money which brought good times or hard times. Many a political debate was conducted in the old shop, but the fire in the forge kept on sending up its sparks and the clang of the hammer on the anvil never slowed up.

Many a contract was signed in the old shop, and once I stood by, wide-eyed as a man was to sign a contract but could not read or write. I remember how my father wrote the man's name for him, and then placed his hand on the other man's hand in a sort of ritual of witnessing, while the other man made an X on the paper. It was after such an episode that my father said to me, "I would rather see you go to school than bring home a bright, new silver dollar every day."

### Tiny

Betty Olson, the four-foot eleven-inch "girl friend" of The Escorts, has to stand on a box in order to harmonize properly with her six-foot trio of tenors.

## Seen Behind the Scene

Al Boyd singing a duet with Joe Kelly on Joe's morning program. . . . After more than three weeks of coaxing and training, Bill Meredith finally has his mustache out to where it can be seen with the naked eye. . . . Rocky driving home from the Barn Dance in his new car. . . . Ralph Emerson on the stage of the Eighth Street Theatre playing an electric organ. . . . we don't see him down here very often. . . . he's usually at the studio. . . . Pat Buttram singing "Pennies from Heaven." . . . and in the middle of his song a shower of pennies comes down from the boxes on each side of the theatre. . . . It was a good stunt. . . . But when the pennies were all gathered and counted it was found that Pat had more than he started with. . . . which meant that some of the folks in the audience threw pennies too!

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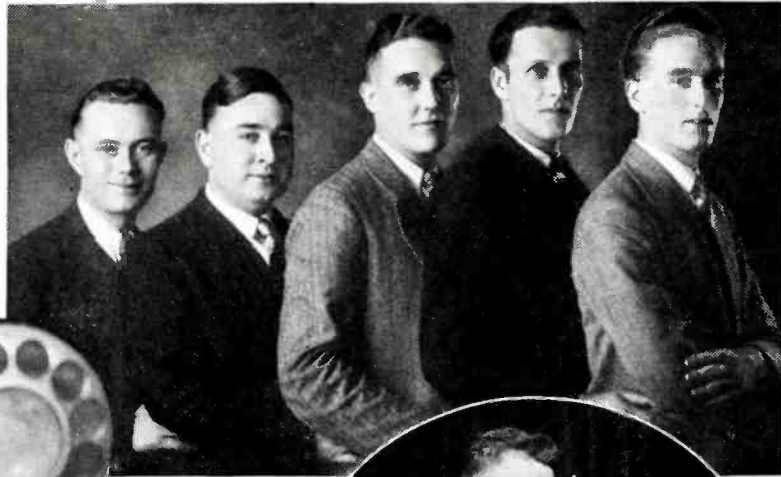
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In 1924, George Hay, the "Solemn Old Judge," blew on his railroad whistle to start the "WLS Unlimited" every night.



# 'Way Back When

The original Maple City Four sang sweet melodies. Pat Petterson, Dewey Kistler, Fritz Meissner, Art Janes and their accompanist, Reggie Peele. ↓



↑ The Kentucky Wonder Bean, Walter Peterson, entertained listeners with his "double-barrelled shotgun" guitar and harmonica.

E. H. Powell, Sam Guard and George Biggar helped conduct the first flood relief drive and listeners contributed \$216,000. →



< The Old Hayloft was the Sherman House and the boys and girls were: Fritz Meissner, Bradley Kincaid, Tom Corwine, Bob Hendry, Grace Wilson, Pat Petterson, Art Janes, Ed Goodreau, Elsie Mae, Guy Pulley, Gid Tanner and his Skillet Lickers, Esther and Cecil Ward, Walt Peterson, Lydia Parker, Tommy Dandurand, Rube Tronson, Chubby Parker, Bob Bender, Harold Safford, Ed Bill, Dud Richards.



# Notes from the MUSIC LIBRARY

By JOHN LAIR

HOW many Stand By readers have, in the attic or somewhere around the house, copies of the old cheap songsters that used to be sold around the country? If you have copies of Delaney's Songster, Wehman's Songster, or the Beadle's Singers' Library, they have a definite cash value and we can readily dispose of them for you. In fact, we would like to have complete sets of each series for our own library.

These books contain only the words to popular songs of the day. They generally sold at from five to 10 cents each and consequently had to be printed on cheap paper. Because they had such a low value at the time they were printed, very few people took the trouble to preserve them. Those not properly cared for did not last very long since the paper was of such an inferior grade.

The Beadle's Singers' Library series was issued in 1878 and 1879. There were 43 issues, numbered consecutively. Wehman's Songsters were next, being extensively circulated during the late eighties. I have never seen a complete set of these, so do not know just how many issues there were. The Delaney Songsters ran from 1890 to 1921 and there were 89 issues in all, each issue being numbered.

Look through your old books and papers and ask your friends to do the same thing and let's see if we can't dig up complete sets of these old songsters. We can assure you of a ready sale for any you find.

### SONG EXCHANGE

Virginia Chew, Reelsville, Indiana, has several hundred songs for exchange. She is anxious to get a copy of "Black Sheep."

Grace Bourquin, R. 3, Apple River, Illinois, wants to exchange songs. Her collection is made up principally of the songs heard over WLS.

Rovene Allen, R. 5, Marshall, Illinois, has a collection of more than 1,000 cowboy songs and sentimental ballads and hopes, through exchanging with other collectors, to get many more.

Margaret E. Barlow, R. 1, Palisade, Nebraska, has a collection of about 2,000 songs and offers to exchange with anyone. She wants the music for "The Fatal Wedding" and "Forgotten."

Eulalah Welt, Winslow, Illinois, says she is just starting out as a song collector and has the words to about 70 old-timers which she will exchange for others. She wants the words to "Snow Deer."

Esther E. Uhr, Swea City, Iowa, wants to become a member of the song exchange. She is looking for the words to "Clover Blossoms" and "Roundup in Cheyenne."

Geraldine Slesman, Box 162, Cornuna, Michigan, has a nice collection of 450 songs, both words and music. She wants "I Want to Be a Real Cowboy Girl."

### "What Does the Deep Sea Say?"

Requested by Millie Knapp and Mrs. Ed Johnson

Oh where is my sailor boy,  
Oh where is my sailor boy  
He sleeps in the bottom of the deep blue sea  
And can't come back to me.  
I stand on the shore, alone,  
And gaze at the misty blue;  
Deep sea, as you hold him to your breast  
Does he mention my name to you?

Chorus:

Oh, what does the deep sea say?  
Oh, what does the deep sea say?  
It moans and it groans and it splashes  
and foams  
And rolls on its weary way.

Oh, please tell me, deep blue sea,  
Is he sleeping peacefully?  
The winds from the north are blowing icy  
cold,

Please keep him warm for me.  
If only my grieving soul  
Some token or sign could find,  
If only the waves could show me where  
he sleeps  
I'd leave this world behind.

A beautiful rose, one day,  
I placed on the crest of a wave.  
I said "Take it, please, and let its petals fall  
Above his watery grave!"  
The driftwood I watched in vain;  
My rose ne'er came back again.  
So, waves, take another message to my love,  
Say I'll meet him above.

### "Baby's Gone to Sleep"

Several copies of this song were sent to us after we asked Stand By readers to help find it for Mrs. Mamie Hall. Mrs. Gladys Culvey and Julia G. Shandy both sent in the music for it also. It is from an old school song book called "Merry Songs."

There's a pair of little hands  
Laid to rest forever more,  
There's two pearly, dimpled cheeks  
Whose rich blossoming is o'er;  
Death has sealed two little eyes  
That will no more smile or weep,  
Tiny windows of the soul;  
Little baby's gone to sleep.

Chorus:

Angels bore him safely home  
So for him we shall not weep;  
Softly to the door-way come,  
Little baby's gone to sleep.

There's another bud removed  
E'er it felt the blight of sin,  
Through the door the angels make  
Darling baby has passed in;  
Far beyond the azure skies  
Where the tiny star-eyes peep,  
From all earth's sad doubt and fears,  
Little baby's gone to sleep.

He will wake in fairer lands  
Where the angel voices sing;  
There the floweret shall expand,  
There shall love perfection bring;  
He has reached the golden shore  
Through the river cold and deep,  
Angels bore him safely there;  
Little baby's gone to sleep.

### Lithuanian Broadcast

The colorful national music of Lithuania will be heard in an international program from Kaunas, the capital of the Baltic nation, and broadcast in the United States, Monday, April 12, from 2:00 to 3:00 p. m. over the NBC-Red network. Performers in the concert will be members of the National Opera, the National Conservatory and Radio-Kaunas.

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- The Gipsy's Warning
- Granny's Old Armchair

Song collectors will find these copies of the originals very interesting. The price is 25¢ per copy.

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(Above) To learn about Guatemala, John Baker (right) interviews Senor Octavio Barrios, Consul-General of Guatemala (School Time, March 4, 1937). (Below) Inside secrets of melody and rhythm are explained and demonstrated every Tuesday by Ralph Waldo Emerson, organist, with John Baker asking the questions.

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