

Special Souvenir Issue



Golden  
Anniversary

**GX / RADIO / 94**

*"Fifty years to remember"*



# ... The First Fifty Years

Early in the Spring of 1927, Mr. Dawson Richardson was requested by certain members of the council of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange to build a radio station. Though he had been broadcasting grain prices on a Winnipeg station, Mr. Richardson had had no experience in actual radio station construction or operation, nor was any mention made of cost or location. His instructions were simply to get busy and build a radio station!

His first task involved the ordeal of securing a broadcasting licence from Ottawa. In order to obtain it, a location had to be named. It was necessary to go outside of Manitoba because at that time radio broadcasting in that province was the monopoly of the provincial government and they weren't interested in allowing additional facilities. Looking at a map, it seemed to Mr. Richardson that Yorkton, Saskatchewan would be a natural spot from which to broadcast a marketing service to farming communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

He first contacted the Yorkton Board of Trade to see if they were radio-minded, and received a reply by telegram. The reply indicated that a delegation, headed by Mr. Carl Stewart (the Mayor at the time), would arrive in Winnipeg in a few days to discuss the matter further. Though Mr. Richardson had left Winnipeg in search of a transmitter when the delegation arrived, apparently they left a very good impression with the parties they interviewed. It was mandatory at that time that the secretary, and certain other members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange council, apply in person to the Deputy Minister of Marine in Ottawa in order to secure the licence. This was done and once the licence was obtained the group proceeded to Montreal and purchased the transmitter from the Canadian Marconi Company. This original transmitter, by the way, is still on display in the office of Chief Engineer Harry Kerr.

Following these events, Mr. Richardson and two members of the Grain Exchange, came to Yorkton and a suitable transmitter site was allotted to them in park property adjoining the City Water Works, in the vicinity of Laurier and King Street. From this point on it was simply a matter of erecting the transmitter building which was done in a very expeditious manner by James Logan and constructing the antenna tower which was handled by the Dominion Bridge Company.

Upon completion of these projects the transmitter arrived from the Marconi Company and was installed under the supervision of Mr. S. M. Finlayson, who later became General Manager of that company.

In the summer of 1927, after a period of testing, the station was ready to operate and Art Miles was appointed engineer. C.J.G.X. was to broadcast on a frequency of 1240 kilohertz at a power of 250 watts. Along with the transmitting equipment, a first-rate studio was set up in the Collacott Block, and put in charge of Mel Poulter. Everything was ready for the official opening on August 19th, 1927. This auspicious event was attended by a group of Winnipeg Grain Exchange members, headed by the late Dr. Robert McGill, who gave the Opening Address. The broadcast program was preceded by a banquet at the Balmoral Hotel, set up by the late Frank Bruner noted for his sumptuous catering ability, and members of City Council, the Board of Trade, prominent farmers, businessmen and other dignitaries were present.

The daily broadcasting schedule inaugurated at that time, was confined to local talent, of which there seemed to be considerable available - including Will T. Moore's band. The best in recorded libraries available at that time were also used, together with the Winnipeg grain and livestock market reports. Church services were broadcast on Sundays.

C.J.G.X. was originally established as a service and goodwill medium of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange - as a result, advertising of any type was not solicited and rarely accepted for a number of years.



DAWSON RICHARDSON — FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE YORKTON BROADCASTING CO. LTD.

In tribute to C.J.G.X.  
celebrating 50 years of service  
to the people of Yorkton

**MILLIKEN, RUSNAK and BALACKO**

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS AND NOTARIES PUBLIC  
CROLL BLOCK — 7-11 BROADWAY ST. WEST  
YORKTON, SASKATCHEWAN



CJGX GOES ON THE AIR — 1927

In 1928, in order to broaden the service and facilitate the broadcasting of more complete reports from the Winnipeg markets, the station was connected by remote control to studios in the Winnipeg Grain Exchange building. The Market Quotation network consisting of a group of four Manitoba and Saskatchewan stations was inaugurated and C.J.G.X. was the key station. For many years it was one of the oldest privately operated networks in existence in Canada, giving twice-daily market service to farmers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. During the seven years of its operation by

the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, it was the policy of C.J.G.X. not to engage in any form of propaganda or marketing methods. With the establishment of Government controlled grain marketing, ownership of the station was assumed by Dawson Richardson. This was the year 1934. Following a change of wave length and power in 1936, the operation of C.J.G.X. was then taken over by James Richardson & Sons, and was run in conjunction with their stations in Winnipeg and Regina. While the station opened in 1927 it had had its ups and downs, and it was not until a reorganization took place in 1939 that it really got



**LOGAN** CHEV  
OLDS LTD.

Salutes C.J.G.X.  
for 50 years  
of excellence  
in the  
broadcasting  
industry



*"Home of Better Deals"*

CHEVROLET — OLDSMOBILE  
CADILLAC — CHEVROLET TRUCKS  
IW WARRANTY

settled on a firm foundation. When the Bennett government was in power, and Mr. Hector Charlesworth was head of the Canadian Radio Commission, a special committee of the Yorkton & District Board of Trade set out to try and give the Yorkton station increased power and better frequency. At this time permission was also granted to move the Yorkton studios to Winnipeg. When the Liberal government came into power in 1935, the CBC with Mr. L. W. Brockington at its head, replaced the former Radio Commission. They toured Canada, meeting in various centres, including Regina, and it was at this time the Board of Trade committee from Yorkton placed before them the necessity, as they saw it, of reestablishing CJGX to one thousand watts of power in order to adequately serve the north-eastern section of Saskatchewan and western Manitoba. The Yorkton committee received a very attentive hearing in Regina - it was later discovered that the policy of the Radio Corporation was to establish high-powered stations at various points across Canada. As a result, with this policy in force, they did not favour the granting of further licences for increased power. It soon became evident that there was a need for the establishment of what were known as secondary stations specializing in local coverage. When the Yorkton Board of Trade committee, headed by Art Chapman, heard of this, they again endeavoured to have a station established at Yorkton.



ARTHUR MILLS — A MAN OF VISION AND DEDICATION

and other surrounding communities, joined with Mr. Chapman, and went to Winnipeg to interview Mr. Brockington - the chairman of the Corporation. The committee met with its first real success. Mr. Wynne, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Chapman and Mr. Spice went to Ottawa and met the Board of Governors, and, after a very lengthy interview, they left Ottawa satisfied they would get the increase in power. Later Mr. Brockington asked the members of the same delegation to meet in in Winnipeg - which they did. At this meeting, the Yorkton delegation promised Mr. Brockington the station would be operated by a company known as the Yorkton Broadcasting Company Limited and shares would be made available to the Yorkton & District Board of Trade and numerous other businessmen and residents for the day.

In 1939 the power of CJGX was restored to one thousand watts, and improvements were made in the general operation of the station. Most of the progress to this time would not have been possible without the wholehearted co-operation of such Yorktonites as A. C. Stewart, R.C.M.P. Art Chapman, Art Mills, R. C. Spice, James Logan, Mayor Peaker and many other pioneers of vision. The Yorkton radio station was reborn and began to develop in a more organized fashion. A. Leslie Garside was appointed Manager; Clinton Godwin was appointed Program Director and announcer; Bill Woodfield was the staff announcer; T. B. Pickersgill was an Agricultural reporter; Evelyn Sadler did the women's features; Rita Picard was the secretary to the manager; George Titus was the first commercial representative and A. A. Chapman was the Yorkton representative. Kerry Pedley wrote continuity; Art Mills was the Chief Technician; Bill Horvack was his assistant; Leslie Ham was the



A.A. CHAPMAN — AN EARLY FRIEND.

The Board of Trade committee then set out to gain the support of the various centres around Yorkton. Robert Barbour, who was Mayor at the time, S. N. Wynne, President of the Yorkton & District Board of Trade, Alderman R. C. Spice and A. C. Stewart, together with representatives from Melville, Canora, Kamsack



F.K. TULLY — PRESIDENT OF YORKTON BROADCASTING UNTIL 1966.

Accountant; Cyril F. Green was the Public Relations director.

Throughout this entire colourful and exciting era, no one was more involved in the original development and operation of the station than Mr. F.K. Tully who succeeded Dawson Richardson as President of the Company, and remained in that position for many years.

During the dark days of the 40's CJGX devoted many hours to the war effort. Dispensing information and instructions to people of the area and collecting money and other necessities on such programs as Bundles for Britain, and Milk for Britain.

Following World War II a new transmitter building was constructed, and the facilities were moved to the eastern outskirts of Yorkton, at what is now the junction of highways No. 9 and No. 10. Programming originated

from studios designed and constructed by Chester E. Beechill and were located on the second floor of the Smith and Mackay block on East Broadway. These studios were to be destroyed by fire in 1957, and as a result, many valuable pictures, documents and items of historic value were lost. For a short time, following the fire, the CJGX staff operated under emergency conditions from a temporary installation in the Dr. Brass auditorium. They then moved to our present studios located in the Tower Building on Second Avenue.

1957 marks the date of application and permission to increase power to ten thousand watts, during daylight hours, and a new more powerful transmitter was located at our present site seven miles east of Yorkton. In the fall of 1965, CJGX was allowed to remain at ten thousand watts both day and night. This required the erection of three additional towers, and the construction of an extensive ground system. The installation proved to be another successful milestone in our colorful history as it allowed people throughout our area to receive a consistently strong signal from 940 at all hours of the day.

In 1966, Mr. F. K. Tully and Mr. L. Ham indicated their desire to sever their long and interesting association with the Yorkton Broadcasting Company, and the ownership was assumed by senior staff members of the day. It is interesting to note that two of these senior staff members, Mr. G. Gallagher and Mr. E. Laurence, were born, raised and educated in Yorkton, and though they are now also the sole owners of two additional radio stations in Regina, they look upon CJGX with fond memories because it was here they began their broadcasting careers as junior announcers in 1948.



AN EARLY RADIO BROADCAST — FROM THE STAGE OF YORKTON'S OLD CITY HALL, WITH THE BAND DIRECTED BY PROFESSOR GEORGE!

# SWAN RIVER MANITOBA

Salutes CJGX Radio  
on its  
50th Anniversary

SWAN RIVER DAYS

1st ANNUAL  
TRACTOR  
PULL

June 24th  
1977

June 22, 23, 24  
& 25, 1977

A special  
welcome to  
our Saskatchewan  
neighbors

MANITOBA  
TEAM ROPING  
COMPETITION

June 25th  
1977

75TH ANNIVERSARY of the Swan River Fair,  
Northwest Roundup and Rodeo July 28, 29 and 30

See You There!

# Nostalgia:

## CJGX goes 'on the air'

As we looked back through our files we found the following account which was written by Fred Coucher on the occasion of the formal opening of radio station CJGX, August 19, 1927.

"Little dishes of fruit salad. Two 'mikes' hanging in the air ready to catch the least sound. Girls in white ready for the rush. Outside the door a rustling and a murmur of conversation. Ivan Beadle enters and makes for the piano. A march. The throng enters and finds itself seats. The dinner is on. Clatter of spoons. Chatter of conversation. Matter of seeing who is there. Dawson Richardson seeks a chair after all are seated. Finds one. Gets up and finds another. Art Chapman digs into his salad. Art Blackwell checking up the guests. Members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange radiating goodfellowship. Mel Poulter looking a trifle worried. Sam Wynn, Harold Gleason and Wilson Graham in a battle of almonds. W. R. Bawlf teasing Tom Garry, our estimable member. The 'mikes' hanging in the air wondering what it's all about. J. M. Clark and D. R. Ball hold forth about some serious matter. Rattle of soup spoons against dishes. Fred Moritz wondering if he will get any. S. K. Finlayson looking over the apparatus. Mine Host Frank Brunner bearing the cares of the world on his shoulder. Morris Rotstein and Charlie Beck the Elder conversing in a spritely manner. Mr.

Rait of Winnipeg looks the crowd over. W.D. Neil alone in his glory at the corner of the tables, says nothing but saws wood. Cumberland Reid, separated from the rest of the grain men, looks relieved. Doc Irving seeking the salt cellar and getting it. Councillor Barbour looking as though he was enjoying himself. Girls dashing to and fro with empty soup bowls and full plates of chicken. A spoon drops. Wonder if the people, if any, who heard the clatter, are hungry. Ernie Crosthwaite arguing about some subject. Dr. Magill, speaker of the evening, looking cheerful and happy between W. Horsfield and Campbell McLachlan. Reeve Russell of Saltcoats ruminates about the crops. Harold Purvis chatting away, probably of chickens and flowers. George Killam, almost hidden beneath a bunch of asters. V. R. Smith in jovial vein, as is Charlie Atkin, estimable C.P.R. agent. Alf Friday laughs at some joke. Bert Smith examines his roll with the eye of an expert. And the regular guests of the hotel eating in the lobby. Pretty good, eh! Councillors Logan and Hamilton discussing - what? Ivan Beadle as close to the piano as possible. And J. Roberts Wood, baritone, Doc Patrick and Doc Laird forget the trials of the day. G. K. Stone not thinking of banking. Jack Ross wasting no time. The pie appears. Messrs. Lehman and Hardin discussing reaper-threshers, no

doubt. Dave Cowan and Doc Watchler hard at it. General Ross and Bill Snell indulging in heated conversation. C. J. Dunning waiting for the speeches. Dawson Richardson up again, Joe Duncan carefree now that the worries of the fair are over. Charlie Beck, Jr., gazes across the table at Charlie Beck, Sr. Dunc McNeill pondering some weighty matter. George Leeson sitting where he can make a good getaway. Bill Dunlop holds down an end of one table. Tom Jenkins in jolly mood. And Councillor Milne. A burst of laughter from the corner where sits the councillors. Rounds of applause as well-known citizen re-enters. Pretty good, eh? The 'mikes' all set for the talking. Bernard Horn gets his

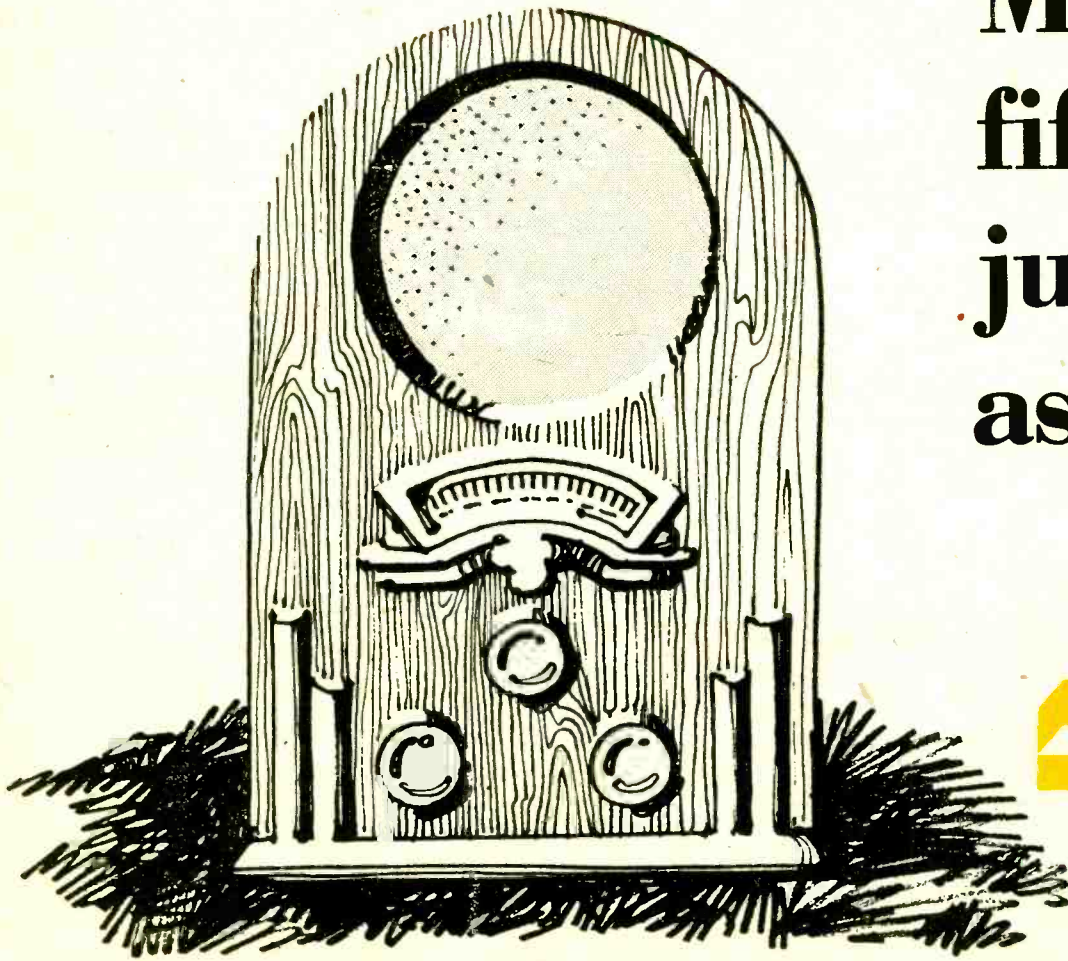
notebook and pencil. W. A. Boland listening. Doctor Magill on his feet: 'the Grain Exchange—not fight the Pool—same facilities—world markets—top prices—rye, wheat, potatoes—Ireland—rice—China—education and information-entertainment—no difference Pool methods and ours—same system—I thank you.' Mayor Stewart talks: 'Bible texts—Moses, Adam and Eve—glad to be here—Yorkton on map—citizens pleased.' A wire from Winnipeg. Everything on the air. Everyone getting up at once. The studio the next objective. A long program but excellent. Mel Poulter's voice. 'CJGX now signing off until 8.30 a.m. Goodnight, everybody.' — J.C.R.



THE FORTIES . . . STUDIO "A"

**CJGX has come a long way  
in the last half century.**

**May the next  
fifty years be  
just as exciting  
as the first fifty.**



The First Canadian Bank

**Bank of Montreal**



20 YEARS AGO



10 YEARS AGO



THE FORTIES . . . STUDIO "B"

## Happy Anniversary

from a friend along  
the way . . .



## The Yorkton Hotel

14 Second Ave. Phone 783-2421

- 43 comfortable rooms
- TV (color), radios, phones
- Carpeted throughout
- Class 'A' restaurant
- Sample and meeting rooms
- Sauna Bath
- Central location
- Ample free guest parking
- Commercial, family rates

Aug. 17, 1927

## Opening Program

Program under director of Ivan Beadle, Mus. B., F.N.C.M.

Artists: Mrs. D. Pink, Mrs. R.A. Patrick, Mrs. E. Walker, Miss K. Hemsworth, Messrs. B.W. Wallace, E. A. Crosthwaite, Chas. Orchard, Odd Bentsen, A.N.C.M.; Cornell Moberg, Levi Reaman, Fred Preston and Ivan Beadle.

Broadcasting Orchestra: violins, Odd Bentsen, Levi Reaman; Cello, Charles Orchard; trumpet and E flat saxophone, Cornell Moberg; drums, Fred Preston; piano, Ivan Beadle.

1. — O Canada.
2. — Orchestra.
3. — Chas. Orchard: Vocal Solos.
4. — Levi Reaman: Violin Solos.
5. — Mrs. D. Pink: Vocal Solos.
6. — C. Moberg: Trumpet.
7. — Ernest Crosthwaite: Vocal Solos.
8. — Ivan Beadle: Piano Solos.
9. — Miss K. Hemsworth: Vocal Solos.
10. — Mesdames, D. Pink and E. Walker and Messrs. E. A. Crosthwaite and C. Orchard, quartette.
11. — Odd Bentsen: Violin Solos.
12. — Mrs. R. A. Patrick: Vocal Solos.
13. — Orchestra.
14. — B. W. Wallace: Vocal Solos.
15. — Vocal Duets.

## CONGRATULATIONS

and  
BEST WISHES FOR  
CONTINUED SUCCESS

to  
**CJGX**

from

**HOLIDAY INN**  
Yorkton, Sask.



Enjoy a weekend  
in our new facilities

**HOLIDAY BEACH**

## Congratulations to CJGX

*As pioneers of radio broadcasting in the prairie provinces and owners of Radio Station CJGX from 1936 to 1940, we welcome this opportunity to congratulate the station on its fiftieth anniversary.*

*Our affiliated companies, and in particular the Pioneer Grain Company, Limited and Richardson Securities of Canada, join us in wishing all possible success to CJGX in its second half century.*



**JAMES RICHARDSON & SONS, LIMITED**  
ESTABLISHED 1857

# Here's our award-winning



**DOUG SHERWIN**  
Farm Director

One of the older and better known broadcasters, Doug has been with CJGX Radio for 20 years. Born in the Tonkin district, he is currently running the home farm in that area, in addition to keeping GX listeners informed of the latest agricultural information. Doug and his wife Lenore have two girls and two boys, and when he finds the time he enjoys fishing, hunting, carpentry and gardening.



**CARL WORTH**  
News Director

Carl's commitment to make local people as much a part of the newsroom as the staff itself, keeps him on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A young man with lots of experience, he has been with GX radio since 1974, but lays claim to a total of 10 years in the broadcasting industry.



**BARRY BURNS**  
Sports Director

Barry lived in Sydney, Australia for three years prior to moving to Yorkton with his wife Catherine in 1974. Though he travels thousands of miles a year, broadcasting junior hockey and other sporting events of interest to GX listeners, he finds time to be an enthusiastic member of the Yorkton Kinsmen Club and a Director of the Parkland Society for Aid to the Mentally Handicapped.



**DAVE HARRISON**  
Program Manager

Dave's broadcasting career started in Winnipeg. His programming skills range from music to promotion, and his bright sparkling on-air personality is enjoyed by everyone. Dave and his wife are proud of their family of one English sheepdog, and his hobbies include off-the-road vehicles and model railroading.



**GARY LAURENCE**  
Announcer

Though born in Edmonton, Gary was raised and educated in Yorkton. Starting his broadcasting career as a part-timer, he joined the GX Funtimers permanently in 1973. He is an avid skier and sailor, and he and his wife Gerry have one daughter - Myra.



**MEL MACK**  
CJGX Melville

Born and educated in Winnipeg, he gained a wealth of broadcasting experience in stations from Ontario to British Columbia, prior to taking over the announcing duties at CJGX Melville.



**GAYLE BOYARSKI**  
CJGX Melville

Born in the rail city, she graduated from Melville Comprehensive in 1972. Following her employment in Regina she returned to Melville in 1973 as receptionist-secretary at our GX Melville studios. Gayle and her husband Roy reside in Melville.



**VALERIE YARIWON**  
Creative Writer

A product of Insinger, Saskatchewan, she began her broadcasting career in 1971 at Thompson, Manitoba, as a television switcher and later a traffic manager. Val enjoys cooking, liquid embroidery and badminton, and joined GX radio in 1975 as a writer.



**JERRY STEEN**  
Announcer

Broadcasting seems to be his family tradition. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1972 and worked at stations in Ontario and Winnipeg, prior to returning to classes to study accounting. The urge to be a broadcaster won out and he gave up his studies to exercise his wit and personality as the GX Wake-Up Man from 6 to 9 a.m.



**TOM McMAHON**  
News

20 years old and still single, Tom says his days are numbered. Originally from Teulon, Manitoba, he came to CJGX as host of the evening show, from a radio station in Winnipeg. He is known around the studios as the Rockin' Rookie! Tom recently joined the GX news team.



**TIM TWARDOCHELB**  
Melville Sports

Time started with a Weekly Recreation Report on CJGX in 1969. His involvement and understanding of the rail cities sports scene soon made it mandatory that he appear on a more regular basis - and as a result, he has been featured on the Melville Scoreboard since 1970. Born in Southey, Saskatchewan, he is the Director of Recreation & Parks for the City of Melville.



**CINDY PELLIS**  
Creative Writer

A former Calgarian, Cindy came to GX radio from Mount Royal College where she studied broadcasting. Her personal interests include skiing, cooking and her fiance - whom she plans to wed during GX's anniversary year.

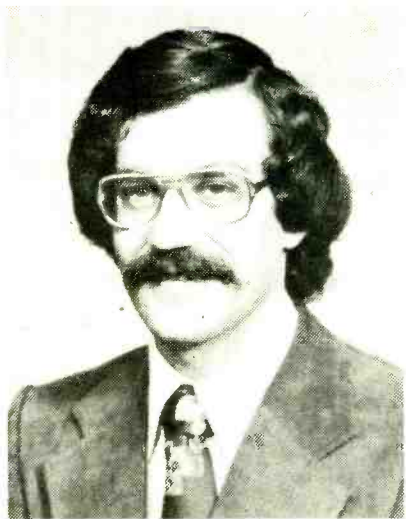
# CJGX staff . . .



**JEAN COLERIDGE**

**Office Manager**

Born, raised and educated in Regina, Jean has been with CJGX for the past 15 years and is probably one of the most capable women broadcasters in Western Canada. Her experience covers all facets of the industry. Jean and her husband Al, have two sons. She enjoys snowmobiling, camping and travelling.



**BARRY PRATT**

**Sales Manager**

Another dedicated broadcaster, he joined CJGX radio as an all-night DJ in 1967. His enthusiasm and ability led to his present position as Sales Manager. Barry and his wife Val have one son. He enjoys all outdoor sports such as hunting, fishing and skiing, and when he isn't flying he is using his talent to assist the Boy Scouts organization.



**WAYNE DILLABOUGH**

**Sales Representative**

After a varied sales career of retail clothing, automobile sales and automotive parts, Wayne joined the sales force of CJGX in 1975 — travelling a rural territory. Married with four children, Wayne still finds time to work with Boy Scouts and other civic projects.



**LYLE WALSH**

**Sales Representative**

You can take the boy out of the country - but you can't take the country out of the boy! Lyle began his broadcast sales career at CFMQ Regina, but returned to Yorkton to join CJGX Radio in 1976. Born and educated in the Yorkton area, he is a farmer at heart, but intends to make radio his career.



**KAREN CHURKO**

**Receptionist**

Karen is a former farmerette, born and raised in the Willowbrook area. She graduated from the Yorkton Regional High School in 1975 and joined the CJGX Funtimers shortly thereafter.



**LESTER FINK**

**Accountant**

Born and raised in Regina, Les and his family have been living in Yorkton for the past four years. The man who keeps the numbers together is also an avid sports fan and enjoys football, bowling, golf, fishing and hockey.



**ANDY BYBLOW**

**Sales Representative**

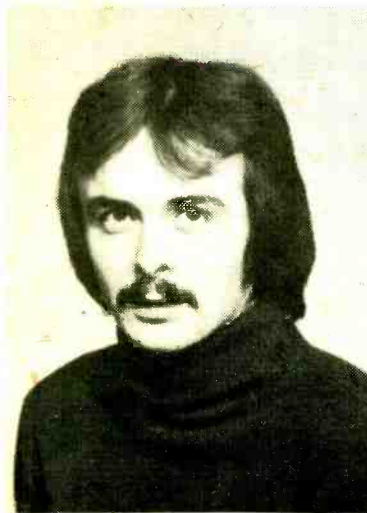
Born at Springside, Andy graduated from Yorkton Collegiate in 1952, returning to the west from Toronto in 1962. Andy's varied sales background includes everything from paint and wallpaper to life insurance. He joined CJGX radio in 1972 and he and his wife Sylvia live in Melville with their two sons Darryl and Ashley.



**PAT ENRIGHT**

**Sales Representative**

After serving five years with the RCAF, 2½ years in Esterhazy, Pat and his wife and two boys took up residence in Yorkton. With seven years sales experience at CJGX, Pat still finds time to fish the many lakes in the province and explore the wilderness trails, as well as working with the Yorkton Terrier Hockey Club.



**SCOTT MILLER**

**News**

Born in Saskatoon, Scott began his broadcasting career in Rosetown, following two years at the University of Saskatchewan. He started with the CJGX Programming Department in February 1976, and later transferred to News and Information. His enthusiasm as a CJGX 94 newshound is contagious.



**MARILYN JOHNSON**

**Traffic Clerk**

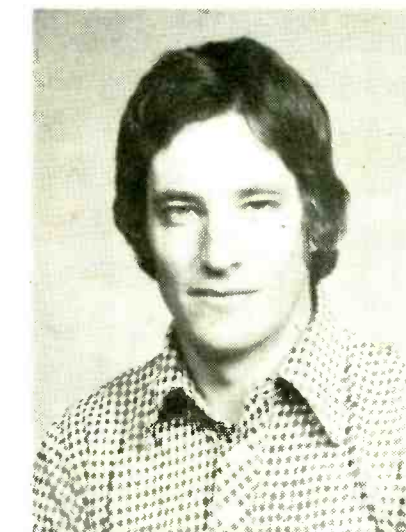
Marilyn is the gal who keeps our program schedule in order. Her personal interests include sports, sewing and farm life. She is proud to have been born and raised in the Foam Lake area.



**HARRY KERR**

**Chief Engineer**

Born and raised in the Shoal Lake, Manitoba area, he completed his radio college training and started his career at a Regina radio station in 1952. His extensive background covers television, FM, AM and numerous other forms of broadcast electronics. Harry and his wife Audrey have one daughter and three sons. Celebrating 25 years of broadcasting, he is a member of the CAB Quarter-Century Club and has been keeping CJGX Radio "on the air" for over 13 years.



**RICHARD HENRY BURRITT**

**Announcer**

Born in Edmonton, "Uncle Dick" as he is known, attended Fanshawe College for two years, then began his broadcasting career in Brooks, Alberta, as morning DJ and salesman. Richard came to CJGX from Ontario, where he was on the air from 6 p.m. to midnight. He enjoys music, swimming and bike riding, and his ambition is to own his own radio station.

# Glancing back — from GX files



**LES GARSIDE .....**

Possibly his greatest stint was his broadcast of the visit to Melville of the late King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on June 3rd, 1939. His choice of words, descriptive commentary and fine voice made him do about as fine a job as any commentator did anywhere during the Royal Visit.

**WILL T. MOORE .....**

Bill Moore loved show business and radio .....He was constantly training young musicians, or band or orchestra work.....or preparing a skit of some kind or other. He did it all just to keep Yorkton radio station on the air!



**THE LATE BOB PRIESTLY .....**

He was a lovable old veteran, whose wide newspaper experience and knowledge of sport made him a very capable announcer.

**KEN MAYHEW .....**

Late editor of the Yorkton Enterprise in 1952. Did a weekly broadcast of news from 1939 to 1945. Also took part in the Enterprise Empty Stocking Fund each Christmas.....conducted a series of broadcasts for Bundles for Britain.



**JACK SHORTREED .....**

Took over as manager in 1952..... had been associated with CJGX since 1945. He replaced Art Mills who was retiring as manager.

**NEIL LEROY .....**

He was here in the darkest days of the Depression. He loved to get up to the radio studio in the Bowman Block and tell his listeners he was broadcasting from the heart of everything in downtown Yorkton!

**ART MILLS .....**

The man who made the station tick....his kindly sober concrete ways maintained the equilibrium of CJGX through both serene and choppy seas.



**MEL POULTER .....**

The first announcer at CJGX.

**SYD COLLIER .....**

Known to his listeners as "The Early Bird" he watched over the station in the early days and provided most of the live talent himself by presiding at the piano keyboard.

**KEN PARTON .....**

Ken succeeded Bob Priestley.....it was during Ken's regime the station celebrated its 20th Anniversary.

Then there was little chap named **RON CAMERON** who, quietly and without fanfare, arrived and departed in much the same manner.



POPULAR PIONEERS — THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WERE UNEQUALLED ...



THE FIRST GENERATION OF "GX FUNTIMERS"



## YORKTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Extends congratulations to —

**CJGX RADIO 940**  
on the occasion of their  
**50th Anniversary**

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICE  
IS LOCATED AT 131 BROADWAY ST. EAST

### 1976-77 CHAMBER EXECUTIVE

President: Phil Swan	Special Events: Barry Neill
Vice-President: Barrie Hodgson	Transportation & Communication: Peter Eftoda
Vice-President: Ed Laurence	Membership: Don Quart & Don Low
Vice-President: Bjorn Thorsrud	Social: Bjorn Thorsrud
Industry & Community Development: Bob Graham	Agriculture: John Miller
Building: August Boryski	Past President: Brent Logan
Public Affairs: Rose Mills	Manager: Ruth Shaw
Tourist & Convention: Norman Vance	Secretary: Elnore Schultz



# Golden Moments at GX Radio

The Singing Evangelist, Rev. Peter Olson, his wife and son Nathaniel, had an impressive young man as a guest vocalist on one occasion...he sang magnificently. His name at that time didn't mean very much but he continued to sing his way to fame... it was George Beverley Shea.

Mart Kenney and his Western Gentlemen played for a dance in a hangar at the Yorkton Airport. CJGX did a remote broadcast and announcer Norm Runtz enjoyed meeting such famous personalities of the day as Mart Kenney, Norma Lock, Wally Koster and others.

Lorne Harasen recalls being the last to broadcast out of the old studios in the Smith-Mackay building. The place caught fire while he

was doing his Saturday night shift... he escaped out the back fire stairs, promptly hailed a cab and went home to bed. However, he had left his coat, hat and rubbers in the studios. Firemen and police spent many anxious moments crawling all over the place looking for him, until someone contacted his boarding house and found he was at home fast asleep!

Dave Adams recalls many Golden Moments during his tenure with CJGX. Beginning as a part-time reporter in Swan River, and ending up as News Director, he was a jack of all trades. He believes his greatest honour was broadcasting two Canadian Briers in the Ernie Richardson era...and his recollections include everything from putting Epsom Salts in a morning announcer's coffee, to being honoured with the Life Membership in the Anti-TB league for participation in nine years of ACT Amateur Shows.

Don and Gloria Slade recall the Letter Box Program at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. People would come up to see the announcers, to be interviewed, to perform, and to send messages home. One of their favourite characters used to come up with the message that he had some cords of wood ready to be picked up...but he'd also remind people to bring their own bottles. What do you suppose he was selling??

Jack Henderson recalls a heart-warming story...A woman about to

be married send a plea to the manager of the station that the big day was Saturday, and the church found out that the pipe-organ had broken down and couldn't be repaired in time for the wedding. The anxious bride was wondering if the station could play the record Here Comes The Bride at 2 p.m., Oh Promise Me at 2.20 p.m., and the suitable bride's music at 2.30 p.m. The manager agreed, and the announcer was given the instructions... the big day came and went. About three weeks later a letter came from the bride and groom, thanked CJGX for helping to make their big day a success!



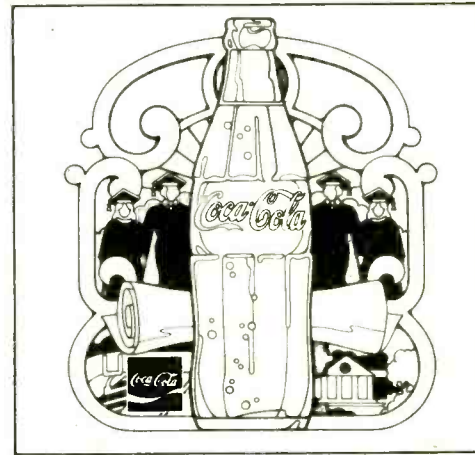
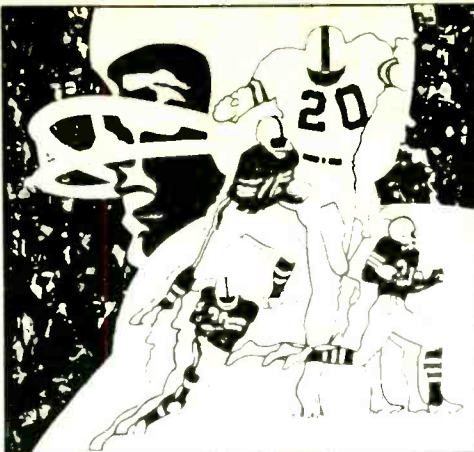
MR. PERSONALITY DAVE ADAMS



LORNE HARASEN — HE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE "FOREMAN" OF A FOOTBALL TEAM.



KATE AITKEN — ONE OF CANADIAN BROADCASTING'S FIRST NATIONALLY FAMOUS RADIO PERSONALITIES WITH YORKTON DIGNITARIES.



**Coke** adds life to...

*anniversary celebrations*

# Golden Memories of Radio



*"The Ranch House Revelries Gang"*

REMEMBER THESE RADIO STARS... WITH "WHEATSTALK WILLIE" AND "BOVINE BILL"



HOW ABOUT THESE?



CAN YOU NAME THIS HAPPY GROUP?

"We listened to The Shadow in 1947 on a battery radio in Steelman... my husband was a CN section man and I was a housewife and substitute teacher...like The Shadow, Steelman with once a week passenger service, store, pool hall, garage, elevators, etc., has all but gone out of existence."

"My first time to hear the radio was in 1932, the year I came to Canada from Poland...I felt scared but the radio kept me company. I still like to listen to CJGX as you can work and listen at the same time."

"It was not until 1939 that our

family got our first radio...we were given a radio by some relatives a few years earlier, but we couldn't afford to buy batteries for it...later when I moved to my own farm I got a better radio from a farmer in exchange for some seed oats...."

"We were married in 1927, and one of the first things we bought was a radio... it was a huge monster, and was big enough to accommodate two large "B" batteries. It had to sit on a stand, usually made with a skirt around the shelf to hide the wet battery which wasn't particularly pretty, and generally managed to leak onto the shelf, eventually rotting



CURLING... CORRINNE JORDAN — KATE AITKEN

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR LONG ASSOCIATION TOGETHER

**FRANK CLEMENT & SONS LTD.**



- CHEVROLET
- PONTIAC
- OLDSMOBILE
- BUICK
- GMC TRUCKS
- CHEVROLET TRUCKS
- SHELL DEALER

"Service is our business" — Tel. 773-2121  
411 Main Street N. Russell, Man.

**Hearty Congratulations**  
TO

**CJGX RADIO — YORKTON**

.....On Fifty Years of Service and Friendly Co-operation to all Communities in Eastern Saskatchewan and Western Manitoba.



**TOWN OF RUSSELL**

D. A. Kinney, Mayor — G. W. Brad, Secretary

**RUSSELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Julien Fradette, President — E.C. Sanderson, Secretary

SERVING THE BANNER COUNTY OF MANITOBA SINCE 1881  
Home of the Beef & Barley Festival (Thanksgiving Weekend)

the wood. I can remember how upset we would get when our batteries gradually faded and finally went dead just when you wanted to hear something really special. I remember the Lindberg kidnapping case, and how the men all gathered around to hear the exciting prize fights."

My father brought home our first radio in the 1920's.....I can't remember the exact date as I was just a small girl. This radio had one headphone only, and there was something wrong with it because if anyone in the room walked across the floor, or touched the table, the radio would fade out! That didn't appeal to the children of the family so my father didn't keep this touchy radio very long, but soon brought home a better one. The second radio had two headphones and wasn't

affected by the people in the room, like the first one, most of the listening was done by the adults in the family, of course, but I do remember being allowed to hear the voice of Santa Clause, and what a thrill that was for a small child! Then came the happy day when my father brought home a radio with a loud speaker mounted on top. Now the whole family could enjoy the programs. In those days you had to buy a licence to listen to the radio....."

"My fondest memories....way back in 1928 when I was about six years old. My parents couldn't afford a radio of our own, but a bachelor neighbour whose first name was Walt, had one. It was a battery operated radio and had one of those "horn" speakers. My parents would bundle my brother and I up in the

wintertime and pull us on a toboggan to the neighbour's to listen to the programs, and the news and the music on the radio. When Walt was away, my brother and I would sneak into the house and listen . . . of course this was a forbidden adventure which we enjoyed . . . Radio informed us that war had been declared with all the terrible news that follows. VE day was another memorable day announced on the radio . . . VJ day finally came too. That announcement was really a highlight, because it meant the fellow I was destined to marry would be home from active service in the

Canadian Army. The biggest highlight of all is still listening to CJGX, to the news, the weather, the markets, and all the wonderful programs..... congratulations to CJGX on your 50 Year Golden Anniversary.....may you have many more!"

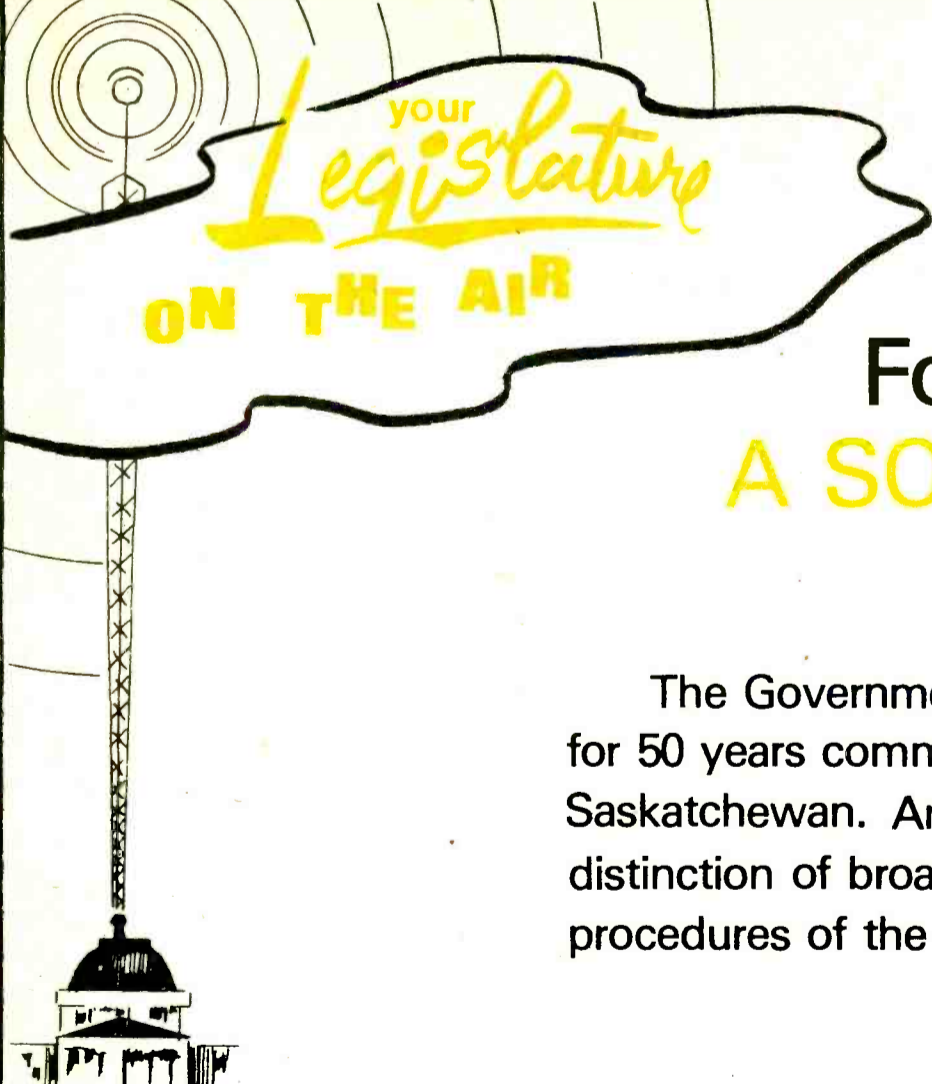
"In 1927, we heard that Charles Lindberg had made a non-stop New York to Paris flight. I was 12 years old at that time. I remember when the Lindberg kidnapping took place.....I was working for \$5.00 per month. Everyone wanted to listen and people would go for miles to hear the news as not all people had radios...."



THE ROTARY 'BUNDLES FOR BRITAIN' SHOW — LIVE — WITH ART GELLERT AND HIS ORCHESTRA. THE ANNOUNCER IS THE LATE BILL CLARK.




GX RADIO HAS ALWAYS BEEN "PEOPLE, TALKING TO PEOPLE" ... WITH JIM KEILBACK, LORNE HARASEN, DR. MIKE YAHOLNITSKY AND ART MCEWAN



**For 50 Years  
A SOUND CITIZEN**

The Government of Saskatchewan congratulates CJGX for 50 years communications service to the people of Eastern Saskatchewan. Among CJGX's many achievements is the distinction of broadcasting, for many, many years, the procedures of the Saskatchewan Legislature.

**GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN**



# ACT-CJGX Amateur Shows: entertainment, and funds for TB

by Wm. Stubbings & Al Laurence

From a chance meeting of a group of commercial travellers and Dr. Geo. Ferguson of the Saskatchewan Anti-T.B. League, on a train in 1933, this fruitful association began.

The League needed funds to carry out its program of prevention and treatment of tuberculosis, and the Associated Canadian Travellers were looking for a worthwhile project to hold them together and make their organization grow.

In 1934, the A.C.T. began selling Christmas Seals, and holding fund raising raffles and dances to raise money and publicize the T.B. program.

In 1939, again at a chance meeting in a hotel at Nipawin during a blizzard, a group of travellers, including Bill Hart of CKBI in Prince Albert, were discussing new and better ways of raising funds for T.B. Bill Hart suggested radio might help. So, after several planning sessions were held, the radio shows were launched.

During the winter of 1944, the Yorkton A.C.T. club enlisted the help of CJGX Radio (dial 1460) in staging Search for Talent shows, similar to the ones at P.A. So, a trial show was held in the "Cave", which was in the basement of the Patrick Block on Third Ave., about where the Bank of Nova Scotia now stands. This was on March 2, 1945, at 7.30 p.m., with a hall show first, and the balance broadcast over CJGX from 9.15 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The air time was donated by the Radio Station, as were all future broadcasts of the shows, as their contribution towards the fight against T.B. The contestant raising the most money was awarded a \$5 war savings certificate, and the response from the audience was overwhelming.

Some of the A.C.T. members who were on this first show were Al Laurence, Art Abbs, Wilf Hutton, Adam Schappert, Gus Royal, and John Hayden, who announced this first show and many more over the next few years.

The first of many country shows to come was held in Sturgis on March 24, with the A.C.T. crew getting stuck in the snow on the way up and having to go the rest of the way by



WHO DUNNIT??

team. The road blew in and they had to stay overnight at Stenen.

Seven shows were held that first spring, along with a grand finale at the Roxy Theatre in Yorkton on June 10, 1945. This first season raised a total of \$10,000 and the A.C.T.-CJGX Amateur Shows were on their way.

The hall show would usually start at 8 p.m., with contestants and audience coming from miles around to take part in the evening's events. There would be from 12 to 38 contestants, who would each have a turn on stage during the hall show.

As they performed, the A.C.T. workers, aided by the persuasive voices of the announcers, would go through the crowd taking donations on the contestants. Then, at 10 p.m., the show would go on the air with a mighty cheer.

As the evening progressed, and the phone calls started coming in from all points in the broadcast area, the contestants with the most money pledged were called more often, until about 1 a.m., the show would wind

up with the bookkeeper tallying the pledges and announcing the top contestants.

The most money raised on one show was at the grand finale in Yorkton on Dec. 12, 1953, with \$3100 being realized. The largest regular show was in Rama on Nov. 2, 1946, raising \$2476.38, with Buchanan coming a close second at \$2259.05 on Nov. 5, 1949.

Two weeks later, the pledges received to date would be totalled, and the winning contestants would receive cheques for \$12, \$8, \$5, for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Later on, this was increased to \$30, \$20, \$10, and the first place contestant was invited to compete at the wind-up of the year's shows, which was the Grand Finale, held in Yorkton.

Winners at this show received \$75, \$50, \$25, for the top 3 money raisers, plus a \$50 award to the contestant selected by the judges to have the most talent.

Grain pledges were first accepted at the Goodeve show on Nov. 9, 1953, with N.J. Malinowski donating 10 bushels of barley. This was the

first of thousands of bushels of grain to be donated to help in the cause.

The first taped show was held in Macnutt on Friday, Nov. 27, 1953, due to phone lines being needed on Saturday. The hall show was taped on Friday, and then broadcast on the air the following evening.

The next year, the Rhein and Calder shows were done the same way.

The shows carried on for 24 years, finally coming to a close at Endeavour on Nov. 23, 1968. Much can be said for the benefits these shows provided: a chance for local talent to be heard; entertainment for the home and air audiences; hope for those stricken by the diseases, in that the funds raised would find new methods of cure and prevention; a large listening audience for the radio station; a worthy cause for the Yorkton A.C.T.

During those 24 years there were over 300 amateur shows, with some 6000 groups of contestants performing on them. Funds raised from these shows, and other projects, enabled the Yorkton club to turn over \$170,000 to the Saskatchewan Anti-T.B. League, winning the Eilers Trophy 14 times for raising the most money per member.



AMATEURS?? WHO SAID GEORGE WASN'T MUSICAL?

## Happy 50th, CJGX

*Congratulations . . . to the  
best in sound from the best  
in travel . . .*



### Shepherd Adamson Travel

31 Second Ave. N. in Yorkton

Phone 783-9443

## THANKS for 50 great years . . .

(NOW THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT)



Compliments of

## EASTEND SERVICE

and

## EASTEND MOTEL

Broadway E., Yorkton

—Free TV and Radio—Fully modern—Kitchenettes  
—Commercial rates—Full line of Groceries and Meats