

• • • Jack Joy, production manager of KFVB, has decided that a coat of tan would assist in his work, so he spends three afternoons at the beach, acquiring color and no doubt getting inspiration for his "Four Moods" program from long inward communings, while lying in the sun.

• • • Auntie McKasser (KHJ), the old and sturdy pal, the love-seared, noble soul who makes the world a better place each week with helpful hints and heart administrations for her little housewives, is none other and not only the versatile Elvia Allman. The stuff is written by Dick Creedon, a retired farmer. Several weeks ago a gentleman of the old school complained that Auntie was not the sort of female he wished his children to associate with. Consequently Auntie is given a bath and careful scrutiny now before being given the privilege of the microphone. It's very trying for the old gal, but all in the interests of democracy.

• • • Max Peacock, KROW's jovial and rotund young announcer, will join the ranks of Oakland benedicts shortly. He is to be married August 10 to Wanda Nelson at the First Presbyterian Church in Oakland. Miss Nelson heard Max's voice on the air, admired his air personality, met him through friends, and they shortly became engaged. The young couple will motor through Southern California on their honeymoon.

• • • Caltana Christoph is said to have one of the most unusual names in radio—or any place else, for that matter. Her mother was determined to get her an unusual name and used two states for sources, California and Montana, the first and last syllables respectively. Miss Christoph was born in Montana while her sisters had first seen the light in California. The reason for the choice of such an unusual name was the fact that Caltana was born on Friday, the 13th.

• • • "Exceptionally strong signals of excellent modulation" were received in Germany from W2XAF, Schenectady, during the short-wave broadcast of the Schmeling-Stribling title fight. The report, which was given in German from the ringside in Cleveland, was relayed to all stations of the Reichs Rundfunk Gesellschaft, which cooperated

with NBC in the transatlantic program. Innumerable fans in the Fatherland were rewarded for an all-night vigil by hearing at dawn that Max had established himself as a great champion.

• • • When Irene Beasley, then a "schoolmarm" in a small town in Mississippi, first sang on the radio it was to help exploit a song she had written herself. And it was Art Gillham, then of Memphis, who introduced her to the microphone and taught her to overcome the stage fright which had formerly kept her from singing in public. She never saw Gillham again until he came to WABC to sing several months ago. Incidentally it was Dale Wimbrow, then the only Southerner at WABC, who secured Irene a Columbia audition two years ago. Now the roster of WABC's artists from Dixie has swelled considerably, with such representatives as Miss Beasley, Wimbrow, the three Boswell sisters—Connie, Martha, and Vet—Announcer Louis Dean and Kate Smith, "Songbird of the South."

• • • What he declares to have been one of the most wonderful orchestras he has ever directed is described by Emil Hilb, guest orchestra director of KNX, Hollywood, was a 65-piece symphony made up of German prisoners during the war.

Hilb himself was captured by the British and for two years was in a prison camp where he selected from his 72,000 fellow prisoners, this unusual orchestra. For two years Hilb was personal orchestra director to the Crown Prince of Germany.

• • • Eva De Vol, KPO's stellar coloratura soprano, has returned to the KPO microphone after a two weeks vacation period on the Russian River. The silver-voiced diminutive star, by the excellence of her singing, has demonstrated that a two-weeks' outing in the California sunshine does much to add its golden quality to performance.

• • • Giuseppe Creatore, "Svengali of the Baton," will direct his orchestra, including the famous saxophone octet, in a series of six concerts during the Interwoven program starting July 24. During this period Billy Jones and Ernie Hare will be on their annual vacation. The Interwoven Pair will resume their Friday evening offerings of tunes and tomfoolery on September 4.