

## LOS ANGELES

By RALPH WILK

At a dinner party given by NBC to celebrate his 10th anniversary on radio for Standard Brands, Edgar Bergen was given a Lincoln automobile by Standard Brands and one of newest television receivers by NBC and J. Walter Thompson. Jack Benny was emcee.

NBC's Rudy Vallee has finished his book on radio and hopes to have it on the shelves of the booksellers by April.

"Backgrounds For Living" has been selected by the National Association of Broadcasters as outstanding in the field of radio programs sponsored by retailers throughout the United States.

Pat Campbell, Don Lee station relations chief, hosted a party for managers of Don Lee affiliates at the Bohemian Club in San Francisco, January 8th, as the NAB convention got under way. Campbell, a member of the National Association of Broadcasters resolutions committee, is representing the Don Lee net and Station KHJ.

William Henry and his wife, Grace Durkin, former actress, celebrated their 12th wedding anniversary on January 14th by appearing on the "Bride and Groom" show over KECA and the ABC network. Married on Nov. 14, 1936, the couple have observed their anniversary each year since.

Betty Hutton will be guest star on the Lucky Strike "Hit Parade" for six weeks, beginning in February. Andy Russell will continue to emcee the show.

### Plan Glenn Miller Salute On Hires Show Premiere

Premiere on CBS Sunday, Jan. 26 of the Hires' show, "Here's To Ya" will be a tribute to the late Glenn Miller. Not only will tunes formerly identified with Miller, such as "Moonlight Serenade" and "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," be featured, but three ex-members of his band will be in the Hires' ensemble. They are Bill Conway, vocal arranger for the Hires Hands; Trigger Alpert, bass fiddler, and Bernie Previn, trumpeter.



### Notes From An Aisle Seat. . . !

• • • When Bing Crosby winds up his air series in July, he'll take off with Bill Morrow for Europe to line up some recordings with outstanding talent on the continent. It may interest Der Bingle to know that altho' Maurice Chevalier (whom he prob'ly has in mind for one of the spots) has been cleared of any collaboration charges, he's been barred for two years from French radio work as punishment for making broadcasts for the Nazis during the occupation. . . . Tony Martin has the inside track for the spot vacated by Sinatra. However, Tony is holding out for more than a mere fill-in deal until June, and wants a fall contract as well. . . . Frank Munn, off the air for a year and a half due to ill health, has definitely retired from radio. He's made over a million bucks and retires to his big estate at Merrick, L. I. . . . Raymond Swing, whose failing health also caused temporary retirement, comes back to ABC Feb. 2nd with a once-weekly 15-minute session. . . . Lot of revived interest in Alfred Hitchcock's suspense dramas for the air, with the film director as narrator. . . . Bert Gordon, the Mad Russian, not coming back as a regular on the Eddie Cantor show, but will make a series of guest shots with him. . . . Toscanini returns to NBC Symphony Feb. 9th after a six-week absence. . . . N. Y. Post's Vic Riesel says he met a man in Atlanta, Ga., today who didn't claim to be governor.

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• • • THOUGHTS WHILE DIALING: The Henry Morgan show could use a good vocalist, male or femme, to give it balance. . . . It's a shame Monica Lewis didn't get the spot on the Milton Berle ainer. She was great in the audition platter. Most surprised of all about the switch to an unknown guy groaner were Milton Berle and Ray Bloch. . . . Most upset person before a broadcast—Anna Sosenko, Hilde's mentor, who always turns out to be the most pleased after the show is over. . . . To our way of thinking, Paul Whiteman has always worn the most becoming double chin in town. . . . Ten years ago, Groucho Marx pulled the greatest gag line on the beauties of Calif. Said G. M. to his NBC audience: "On a clear day you can see Madeleine Carroll."

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• • • Ex-Governor Arnall will be on "Info. Please" next week (providing, he says, he gets out of the state alive). . . . Ben Grauer set for the announcing chores on the N. Y. end of the Chesterfield Supper Club. . . . News services cutting down on their staffs. Some are even letting office boys go. . . . Add look-alikes: Isabel Gibbs and Jill Warren. . . . Al Barker will prob'ly have his newest legit play, "Beating of Wings," published in book form before it hits B'way. . . . That contestant who won Ralph Edwards' entire "Truth or Consequences" show for an evening, wound up by packing the program with his relatives all of whom won sizable amounts of cash last Sat. nite. . . . The Leiber Lombardos expect their image in March. . . . Sam Pierce now producing the Dick Haymes show. . . . Johnny Olsen and his "Ladies Be Seated" ainer to New England in Feb. for March of Dimes. . . . Joe Louis is backing Leonard Read in his proposed B'way musical. . . . It's a boy at the Ward Byrons. Pop is producer-writer of the Perry Como show.

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• • • OUR HAT'S OFF DEP'T: Otto Kruger and Jessie Royce Landis' artful pretending in the new click, "Little A." . . . J. Dorsey's rhythms at the Hotel Penn, especially Dee Parker's thrushing. . . . Johnny Desmond's Victorch disc, "I'll Close My Eyes." . . . Thelma Carpenter's socko performance at Loew's State. . . . Herbie Fields' Victor platter of Kermit Goell's "A Huggin' and a Chalkin'." . . . Larry Marvin, ex-GI, boosted to starring spot in Bill Miller's Embassy show. . . . Al Shanky's ork at the Biltmore. . . . NBC's sparkling comedy, "Life of Riley." . . . Marie Greene's warbling with the Chittisons Sat.

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