

# Radio Talent New York

By JERRY LESSER

I WAS very disappointed in LUCY MONROE, who sang the national anthem preceding the LOUIS-BAER right broadcast. Wasn't very nice of her to stray from the notes of the song just to hit a high C. . . . Radio folk are still talking about the swell acting job turned out by ROSALINE GREENE as that "nasty so-and-so" on RIKEL KENT'S *Dodworth* series. I can remember when ROSALINE was probably the busiest of radio's femmes, and she should be again this season. . . . HENRY GLADSTONE takes time out from his announcing chores at WHN to do air warden duty in Douglaston and spend a little time at ARTHUR O'KEEFE'S in Little Neck. . . . That story about ARTIE AUERBACH and his gun brought a sequel. BILL ROUSSEAU, director of *Famous Jury Trials* and *Bright Horizons*, needed a prop shotgun for a sequence on his show. He wrapped it in newspapers, but the muzzle stuck out. When he reached NBC, not only was he not asked for his pass, but not one of the guards took interest in the shotgun. Efficiency?

YOUR columnist will do a guest spot for the British-American Ambulance

## Chicago

By SAM HONIGBERG

AFRA here has under consideration an appeal from local producers who want to join the ranks of that organization. . . . The reason the piano-playing DON ARTISTE gets around on so many shows daily is that this assumed name is used by three different pianists working for the same sponsor. . . . JIMMY PALMER, Bobby Byrne's baritone, was married last week. . . . GORDON VANDOVER is back to normal health and has rejoined the Tom, Dick and Harry trio. . . . RAY AND GENE JONES (Ray is the local AFRA boss) spent a couple of weeks in Mexico City. Gene is still there painting. . . . CHUCK BERNARD, heard on WBBM shows, enlisted in the navy. . . . BOB ATCHER and BONNIE BLUE EYES resumed their old spot on WBBM's *Farm Service* last week. . . . ED ALLEN is engaged in civilian defense work in Elmwood Park. . . . WGN is shopping for a Latin singer to work every other Thursday on the *Americans at the Ramparts* show which is dedicated to South America once each fortnight. . . . JOHN HARRINGTON is vacationing in Florida. His news broadcasts are being handled by TODD HUNTER.

CHARLOTTE MANSON signed a "no marriage clause" contract. She has the leading character in the *Stepmother*

## Hollywood

By SAM ABBOTT

MICHAEL RAFFETTO, Paul of NBC's *One Man's Family*, has finished his first movie, *Today I Hang*. . . . RANDY BLAKE, emcee of *Homefolks Jamboree*, heard daily over KNX, has added "Uncle Henry and His Original Kentucky Mountaineers" to the jamboree cast. . . . HORACE HEIDT, AL PEARCE and MEREDITH WILLSON will stage a "Greater San Francisco" meeting in Hollywood January 20 on the *Treasure Chest* broadcast. . . . SHIRLEY CLAIRE, 12-year-old coloratura heard on the *Inglewood Park Concert* program over KNX, has been signed by MGM. . . .

CHET LAUCK (Lum of Lum and Abner) recently bought a terrier pup, Rhode Island, as a playmate for his Saint Bernard, Texas. . . . *Gang Busters* programs are being filmed for release to 8,500 theaters the early part of April. New *Gang Busters* films will be presented in "chapter plays" of two reels each. . . . GINNY SIMMS will give a 15-minute program during the 30-minute lunch time at the Lockheed Aircraft plant February 2. . . . ROGER PRYOR, director and emcee for the *Screen Guild Theater*, has volunteered for active duty with the U. S. Navy Air Corps as a flying instructor. . . . KNOX MANNING, KNX newscaster, has been appointed a mem-

ber of the National Radio News Council for the 1942 Fight Infantile Paralysis Campaign and the President's Diamond Jubilee Birthday Celebration. . . . ORSON WELLES, heard on the *Lady Esther* broadcasts, has started work on his third motion picture for RKO. Title is *Journey Into Fear*. . . . PENNY SINGLETON, star of *Blondie* over CBS, is the composer of the baby song used in the Columbia picture *Blondie's Blessed Event*.

Corps' *Friendship Bridge* on WMCA on Thursday, January 22. Hope you'll all be listenin'. . . . After hearing a recent CBS *Workshop* drama, a movie talent scout became interested in one of the small boy characters on the show and called CBS to obtain information about the artist. The scout's excitement took a sudden nose dive when he learned that the "boy" voice belonged to 22-year-old DOLORES GILLEN, who plays regularly in radio dramatizations.

WILLIAM LYNN, who plays *The Timid Soul* over WOR, has such faith in the script that he turned down the role of Mr. Meek recently. . . . *Are You a Missing Heir?* has awarded nearly \$800,000 to missing heirs since the program's inception two years ago. . . . *Elery Queen* and Columbia Pictures have made a tie-up for joint promotion of the new radio series and the latest motion picture, *A Close Call for Elery Queen*, fifth in the series, which will be released January 29. . . . OSSY RENARDY, 21-year-old Viennese violinist, wants so much to become an American that he has even decided to play an American violin at his concerts in preference to his \$25,000 Strad.

show. . . . JIMMY JAMES, WLS comic, became the father of a son, James Thomas. . . . CAPT. MICHAEL FIELDING landed a sponsor for his Monday thru Saturday news commentaries over WIND. California Wine Company now paying the bill. . . . Newcomers to the *Stepmother* show, incidentally, are DICK WELLS, announcer, and FRANK BERRENS. . . . They are not blaming the show for this change of mind, but the fact remains that JANE WEBB, veteran of the *Tom Mix* serial, will not continue her studies in chemistry as she had originally planned, but will switch to criminal law and abnormal psychology when she enters Northwestern University. . . . DONALD MCGIBENY, news analyst, returned on WBBM Friday (16) for Morris B. Sachs, sponsor of Sunday's *Sachs Amateur Hour* on WENR. . . . ROBERT K. ADAMS, MARY PATTON and RALPH CAMARGO joined the *Flying Patrol* cast. . . . New on the *Secret City* show are ARTHUR PETERSON, FERN PERSONS and SEYMOUR YOUNG. . . . KEN GRIFFIN, ROSEMARY GARBELL, SID ELLSTROM, HAZEL DOPHEIDE, BETTY HANNAH and DICK HOLLAND landed assignments on *Aulhor's Playhouse* Sunday (18) when *Never in This World* was repeated. . . . JACK ELLIOTT is now handling NANCY MARTIN and MARY PAXTON, radio warblers.

ROSS WJAS Maestro

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 17.—After a few weeks as WJAS staff band, Joey Sims is back on the ballroom circuit and Mickey Ross is back at station. One rumor has it that change was caused by Sims' declining to imitate style of Baron Elliott, former station musician, whose music resembles Guy Lombardo's.

Beghold WARM P'gram Chief

SCRANTON, Pa., Jan. 17.—Kenneth Beghold has been appointed program director of WARM. He resigned his position as program director at WBAX, Wilkes-Barre.

# WABC, WEAJ, WJZ, WOR Lead N. Y. Stations in '41 Publicity

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—WABC, WEAJ, WJZ and WOR, in the order named, lead 10 New York stations in a survey of publicity breaks gained during the past year in the eight metropolitan dailies, the newspaper *PM* and *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle*. Following the first four stations, in order, come WMCA, WHN, WNEW, WQXR, WEVD and WINS.

Grand total of combined feature and column mentions obtained in the past year by WABC is 12,247, as against 11,139 for WEAJ, 9,295 for WJZ and 6,221 for WOR. WMCA obtained 4,073 mentions; WHN, 1,704; WNEW 1,545; WQXR, 1,349; WEVD, 919, and WINS, 849.

Comparison between 1941 and 1940 indicates that WABC, WEAJ, WMCA and WNEW received more publicity in '41 than during the previous year. WMCA obtained 625 more mentions, WNEW 16 more and WHN 16 more.

Standing of the stations with comparative breakdowns showing the number of column and feature mentions as well as the grand total, is given in the chart below, together with a comparison with stations' publicity records the preceding year.

## N. Y. Stations' Publicity Breaks

(December 22, 1940, to December 21, 1941)

STATION	F	C	GT	GT in 1940
WABC	10,123	2,124	12,247	11,614
WEAJ	9,699	1,440	11,139	10,505
WJZ	7,929	1,366	9,295	9,669
WOR	4,829	1,392	6,221	6,446
WMCA	2,851	1,222	4,073	3,448
WHN	1,371	333	1,704	1,688
WNEW	1,211	334	1,545	1,342
WQXR	1,111	238	1,349	1,704
WEVD	833	86	919	1,074
WINS	536	313	849	845

Note: At heads of above columns, "F" indicates feature or highlight boxes; "C" indicates column mentions, and "GT" the grand total.

# Wartime Radio Code Elicits Approval of Chains, Stations

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Announcement of a censorship code for the broadcasting industry, putting a clamp on certain types of quiz shows and musical request shows which might be used by enemy agents to broadcast military information, elicited statements of approval and cooperation by radio chains and stations. Industry has already been observing some of the provisions of the code. Chief provisions, effective February 1, are that chains and stations discontinue broadcasts of quiz shows originating remotely, including Man-in-the-Street interviews, interviews at train and airport terminals, etc. Angle is that the participants are few and cannot be thoroughly investigated. In studio quiz shows, where audience numbers less than 50, stations are asked to take special pains to see that nobody can be assured of participation.

Musical request shows are banned because they offer a means whereby enemy agents can send code messages. Stations are also asked to refuse lost and found announcements sent in by telephone or telegraph, and to process all news, even the news agency copy will be edited at the source. Weather broadcasts, of course, are banned, except those issued for radio by the Weather Bureau.

Commenting on the code, National Broadcasting Company's program director, Clarence L. Menser, stated, "We do not anticipate the censorship code will cancel any of the quiz programs now on NBC. Instructions have been issued to producers, announcers and emcees on these shows to veer away from all subjects which the government regard as tabooed." He added that no difficulty was anticipated, but vigilance would not be relaxed. He pointed out that NBC has had a self-imposed censorship.

Columbia Broadcasting System declared it regarded the code as both "reasonable and intelligent."

Mutual Broadcasting System's General Manager Fred Weber stated, "The Mutual Broadcasting System is confident that our affiliated and member stations will recognize the practicability and soundness of the newly issued government radio censorship instructions, and will comply with them in all their programs which are transmitted to the network." He added that MBS and its stations have imposed voluntary regulations applying to musical request, quiz and audience-participation programs.

Alfred J. McCosker, WOR president, stated the code revealed "sound judgment and a practical knowledge of radio operation." He pointed out that the instructions coincide with voluntary precautions imposed by WOR-Mutual.

Other stations reacted similarly. WNEW, for instance, two weeks ago ceased using requests on Stan Shaw's *Millman's Matinee* program. Telegrams continued to come, but were not acknowledged, and therefore dwindled.

Then about four days before the issuance of the censorship code, Station Manager Bernice Judis removed the machines which were used while the program was a request show.

# Bacher Leaves WGN; Political Speeches Annoy

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—Col. Robert R. McCormick, publisher of *The Chicago Tribune* and WGN boss, parted company with William A. Bacher, the station's production and program chief, following Saturday night's (10) *Theater of the Air* operetta broadcast. Tho Bacher was expected to leave at the close of the operetta series (end of March), last week's action was unexpected. Bacher came in from the West Coast almost two years ago and was hired by McCormick personally. He was looked upon as McCormick's assistant and took instructions only from the colonel.

Nothing official is being released on his departure. The report is that Bacher wanted to leave before the end of the operetta term to show the trade that he can quite the post of his own accord if he so desires. Bacher, supposedly, was displeased with the colonel's insistence on appearing on the operetta show with political speeches that were not in keeping with the musical theme of the program. The climax came when Bacher aired his views before the colonel; the latter telling him to consider himself a former member of the WGN staff. Bacher never had a long-term contract, working on a week-to-week basis. He left for New York early this week and has yet to announce his future plans.

The production duties on *Theater of the Air* for the remainder of the season will be handled by Joe Ainley, producer of *The First Nighter*, who was engaged to succeed Bacher on this series. WGN announces that a new program director is being selected.

## Engineers Buy Bonds

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 17.—Omaha Chapter, Association of Radio Technicians, No. 1221, voted to buy four \$100 Defense Bonds with the money in the union treasury and to ask all employers to deduct 5 per cent from their pay for the duration to be used in buying Defense Stamps. Radio engineers are on jobs at KOIL and KOWH, Omaha; KFAB and KFOR, Lincoln, and KMMJ, Grand Island, Neb.