



PHIL SPITALNY AND HIS ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA, with Evelyn of the "magic violin" seated in center of front row. Since this picture was taken, several additions have been made to the organization, which is a unique body, according to the accompanying story.

Thirty Five Girls With No Secrets

By Evelyn Bigsby

Sunday, 7 p. m.
NBC-KFI

ONE MAN, who thinks one woman can be difficult, should change places with Phil Spitalny, director of thirty-five girls in the "Hour of Charm" orchestra. One man, who blows his top when the little lady picks up a bargain sale dress, should see Spitalny's ladies spend (as did the Charmers recently), a cool \$18,000 on one set of evening dresses.

But wait, gentlemen. Don't pity Phil Spitalny. He likes his work and he's making a fair-sized pile of money in it. "It's easier to handle thirty-five women than one," he remarked knowingly the other day

while your Radio Life reporter was watching the orchestra play before the cameras at Universal City. "With one woman, it's a personal matter," he continued. "With thirty-five, it's commercial."

Rugged-faced Spitalny, who came to America from Odessa, Russia, when he was nine, won't tell his age but says he has been in the entertainment business since he was eight years old, has hit upon something unique and certainly money-making in his all-girl orchestra enterprise. While maestros with male music-makers have seen the draft knock irreparable holes in their organizations, Spitalny has rolled on unworried with an abundance of expert material at hand—in fact, he's

increased the number of girls in his orchestra.

Excel Men

Commenting on the superiority of women musicians over men, he continued: "Girls are loyal. They never come late to rehearsal. They don't drink as much as men. They take more pride in their success than men."

The orchestra, which has been in operation for eleven years, still has five of its charter members: Evelyn of the "magic violin," who is also assistant manager; Velma, first trombonist; Jenny, assistant concert mistress; Maria, trumpet player; and Grace, guitarist.

Smart Spitalny has handed the government of the girls over to the girls themselves. They have a committee of five which passes on important matters and which decides whether or not the girls may date. "They know where a girl's going to eat and who with," said Spitalny. "Everybody knows where everybody is tonight."

Own Stock

Each girl owns stock in the enterprise, her number of shares being commensurate with her position. For example, Evelyn owns four shares, the drummer has three; at the end of the year the stockholders cut their

(Please turn to Page 26)