## Illustrated Press <br> THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB <br> SINCE 1975

## 10 GREAT RADIO SHOWS

From Radio LoG Magazine,cirea 1929, we present a fine article titled, "Ten Great Radio Shows". Among the shows considered in the Top Ten listings are LUX RADIO THEATER, which was a brand new show at the time, and BURNS \& ALLEN, already popular radio performers.

The article fills our center pages this month, so open up to page eight for the "Ten Great Radio Shows.

APRIL COLUNS:Hy Deley-page three.
Jim Snyder-page four.
Form-page six.
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCENENT-Be sure to read this month's Trivia colum by Bob Davis and Chuck Seeley for an important announcement. "Say Who Was That Masked Man? ${ }^{\text {" }}$ appears on page five.


Yes, the swelling voice of Dick Powell is heard in a new and mmasually fine ${ }^{\text {program. Dick heada an all-star cest of entertainerss in }}$ a program juxa five weeks old todey...and a very huty joungrear it is!

## MEMORIES

 RETURNS!MEMORIES, the Old Time Radio Club's popular magazine has at last returned and all members should have received copies by now. MEMORIES,Vol. 4. \#\#1, features articles on the two great creations of Fran Striker-THE LONE RANGER and THE GREFN HORNET.

New MEMORIES Editor Ed Frost has done a cormendable job on his first time out and should be proud.

Any Mermers who have not received the new MEMORIES should contact Pete Bellanca at the address on page two.

## TAPE LIBRARY NEWS

The club's Tape Library has a new librarian as of the new month. All Tape Library requests should now be sent to Norm Giesler at his address. listed on page two.

Norm promises that the new listing of tapes in the club library will be sent out to members sometime in May. The new list will contain ratings for many of the tapes and will be updated regularly.

## POPULAR RADIO STARS

Due to a lack of new material, we were able to conclude the reprinting of the Washington Service Bureau's booklet of POPULAR RADIO STARS in this issue.

Thanks again to mamber George Klos for sending us xeroxes of this booklet and also for the xeroxes of the Radio Log Magazine that gave us the article, "Ten Great Radio Shows".


THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:
Club dues are $\$ 13.00$ per yr. from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Members recieve a membership card, library lists, a monthly newsletter (The Illustrated Press), a semiannual magazine (Memories), and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the club for $\$ 2.00$ per year. These members have all the privileges of regular members but do not recieve the publications. A junior membership is available to persons 15 years of age or younger who do not live in the household of a regular member. This member. ship is $\$ 6.00$ per year and includes all the benefits of a regular membership. Regular membership dues are as follows:if you join in Jan. dues are $\$ 13.00$ for the year; Feb., \$12.00; March \$11.00;April \$10.00; May \$9.00; June \$8.00; July \$7.00; Aug., $\$ 6.00 ;$ Sept., $\$ 5.00 ; 0 c t ., \$ 4.00 ;$ Nov.,\$3.00; and Dec., \$2.00. The numbers after your name on the address label are the month and Jear your renewal is due. Reminder notes will be sent. Your renewal should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. Please be certain to notify us if you change your address.

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## CLUB ADDRESSES: Please use the correct address for the business you have in mind. Return library materials to the library addresses. <br> TAPE LIBRARY:Norm Giesler <br> 312 Meadowlawn Road Cheoktowaga, N.Y. 14225 <br> (716) 684-3174 <br> REFERENCE LIBRARY: Pete Bellanca <br> 1620 Ferry Road Grand Island,N.Y. 14072 <br> (716) 773-2485

LETTERS ETC. FOR THE ILLUSTRATED
PRESS: Kean Crowe
200 Woodward Drive
West Seneca, New York 14224 (716) 674-6123

CLUB DUES: Dom Parisi
38 Ardmore Place Buffalo New York 14213 (716) 884-2004

OTHER BUSINESS:OTRC

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\text { P.O.Box } 119
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Kenmore, N.Y. 14217
COLUMNISTS: Jerry Collins
56 Christen Court
Lancester,N.Y. 14086
Hy Daley
437 South Center
Corry, Pennsylvania
16407
Chuck Seeley
294 Victoria Blvd.
Kenmore,N.Y. 14217
Jim Snyder
517 North Hamilton St.
Saginaw, Michigan 48602
DEADLINE: for IP \#46-May 12th. for IP \#47-June 9th.

BACK ISSUES:All are $\$ 1.00$ each. postpaid, except where noted. Out-of-print issues can be borrowed from the Referense Library.
MEMORIES:Vol. 1 \#1 ( $\$ 2.00$ ) \#3,\#4, \#5;Vol. 2 \#1.\#4 (\$2.00); Vol. 4 \#1.
IP:\#3 (with SHADOW script), \#5A (RH AC/OTRC Special \#1), \#8 ( $50 \alpha$ ), \#10 (with part one of LUX RADIO THEATER LOg), 414 ( $50 \nless$ ), \#15 ( $50 \nless$ ), \#16,\#17,\#16, RHAC/OTRC Special \#2,\#19,\#20,\#21,\#23,\#24,\#25,\#26, \#27, \#28 (RHAC/OTRC Special \#3), \#29, \#30, \#31,\#32 (\$2.00), \#33, \#34, \#37,\#38, \#39, \#40, \#41, \#42,\#43,\#44, \#45.


## HY DALEY

This past semester I've been teaching americen humor (261) to a group of 11 th and 12 th graders who have been brought up on Steve Martin, Bill Cosby,George Carlin, and Richard Pryor. Sure, they've seen Bob Hope and Edgar Bergen and they remember Jack Benny and Groucho Marx. But Jack Carson? Judy Canova? Joe Penner? Fred Allen? Wasn't he the coach of the Red Sox? Well, being a OTR Ireak, I had to set these kids straight on just who the best comedians of the 20th century werel

I played a Jack Benny show, a Jack Carson show, a Judy Canova show, a Fibber McGee and Molly, and an Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy show. Here's what they had to say about these folks:

Cindy Brown, senior: "I really liked Edgar Bergen's Mortimer Snerd. I liked the line when he was at the carnival and he looked in a mirror in the funhouse and he thought he looked better than in real lifel ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ Botsy Ross (no kiddin'), junior: "I think Edgar Bergen was so successful because he gave the dummies personalities of their own. And it really sounded like there were two people talking instead of one. Charlie, Mortimer, and Effie are real people. Effie was vivacious in that she loved men and everything to do with them."

Joyce Nutt, Junior: "Charlie gets hurt easily;he acts like a child, but he is lovable. He has a personality that makes you feel for him. I guess you could call Effie a 'dirty old lady'. She believes every man should be married whether he likes it or not."

Jim Nichols, senior:"Mortimer is not playing with a full deck! And Charlie-people try to be nice to him, but he'd turn around and tell them to get lost. And for how old Effie is, she has a lot of spunkI I also liked Fibber McGee and Molly because of the way they worked together as a TEAM; they would crack each other up all the
time."
Ted Williams (another no kiddin'), junior: "Hoptimer is a dumb dunam, but he's SO dumb you have to laugh at him."

Dannette Hyer, junior: "Charlie is funny, but also brash. He says things that most people wouldn't say to others, but he thinks nothing of $1 t .{ }^{\prime \prime}$

You might have noted something among these comments-most of them had to do with Edgar Bergen and his characters. Most of the class :elt, of all the comedy shows I played for them; Charlie, Mortimer, and Effie were the best.

Probably Bergen's comedy did
appeal to the teenagers of the 30 s , 40 s , and the 50 s more than the others used in my classes. Maybe someone reading this colum may have access to a poll taken during the Golden age that would either refute or agree with this assumption.

Anyway, Charlie, Mortimer, and Effie will live forever as long as those of us in OTR can let others hear them once again.

In the past, I've traded for reels containing TV material or film sound tracks, but I've never been thrilied by the quality of sound. Since I've been collecting 16 mm prints,however, I've found that the sound recorded from a 16mm projector is much better than TV sound. I have no idea why. But for anyone interested in collecting TV programs from the 508 and 60 or movie sound tracks, drop a letter and a SASE and I'll send you a list of what I have. TV shows I have come across include: The Rebel, Dennis the Menace, Date With An Angel, Cisco Kid, Dupont Cavalcade of America, Ford theater, Colobrity imeater. Big Valley. Fedic, and Kre \& Xrs, Korth.

Question of the month:Has the Sears Radio Theater really produced a good western?



Perry Mason
2:15 P. M.


Cherfite Wild


There are a number of bizarre events in the history of radio, and one of these concerns radio station KTNT (Know The Naked Truth) in Muscatine, Iowa, and its owner, Norman Baker. Mr. Baker had a background in vaudeville and, then later, in buniness. He started up atation KTIT in November of 1925 to promote his mail order enterprises. Over his atation, he promoted his mail order house,his restaurents, his ragarine, and the Baker Institute, which was his 'hospital', which had the motto of "Cancer is Curable". His hospital was medical quackery in the extrome. He gave medical talks on his station in which he claimed cures for appendicitis, goiter, and cancer "without radium, x-ray, or the knife". His treatment for appendicitis,for example, was to put a hot water bottle and "penetrating oil" in the area of the pain, and then the appendicitis would munkink itself ${ }^{m}$ in a few hours.

In 1930, the American Medical Association (Baker said that "AMA" stood for the Namateur Meatcutters of America" and that "M. D." meant more dough".), the Muscatine Journal, and the state of Iowa began to investigate and to try to convince the Pederal Radio Cormission not to renew that station's license. Bakor then started a series of memonstrations" and testimonials. on the evening of May 10,1930, on the hill where KTNT was located, 32,000 people showed up for the first of these demonstrations. Three patients were introduced. The first two told of what wonderful care they received in the Baker Institute, and how they were cured. The third was used for a demonstration. He was an old man and, when he came forward, he had a bandage around his head. The bandage was taken off,his scalp was cut deoply (and a rather foul smell came from it), and thes he leaned forward to show his skull. Mr. Mandus Johnson was then pronounced cured of cancer. Baker then said, on his atation, "You doctors of Huscatine all the time
hollering about deaths. One of you doctors got 11 deaths credited to you, more than I got with the thousands of patients. I counted them from the records of the courthouse. Why don't you cure your people instead of planting them in the graveyard? ${ }^{\text {m }}$ Then, turning his attention to the Attoumey General for the State of Iowa, John Fletcher, he said, "He is too damn cowardly to come in and see if we are curing cancer at the Baker Institutel He is too cowardly to do itl I say Fletcher is one of the biggest cowards that ever drew breath in the State of Iowal"

On his station, he discussed the "horrors of vaccination" and told people that they were foolish to insist on tubercular tested milk. He stormed against one Muscatine school principal because she sent a child hame, during a scarlett fever epidemic, because he was not vaccinated and was considored a carrier.

He was anxious to get into political campaigns also. During the campaign of 1928, he sought, and obtained, money from the Democratic National Conmittee to broadcast their political programs for Al Smith. Then he notified the Republican organization that, "I am going on the air with about one houris talk each night ofter their (Democratic) talk is over and will do all I can to break down this campaign." After this sequence of events got underway, the Democratic National Committee was obviously disturbed and cancelled their contract with his atation. Baker thought this to be a compliment to the influence of his atation.

The Federal Radio Commission was reluctant to revoke his license on the basis of his broadcast content, because the Radio Act of 1927 specifically said that the Commission could not "censor" broadcasting, and they didn't know how to interpret this provision. He also had a strong spokesman in Iowa Senator Smith Brookhapt who, in retum, received extensive airtime on KTNT.

In September of 9930 ,the
State of Iowa took him to court for practicing medicine without a license, and won the auit against h1m. It was a deciaion that went all the way to the state Supreme Court, where it was upheld. He solved that problem by leasing the Baker Institute to a licensed doctor, and continued business as usual. In March of 1931, the Federal Radio Cormission decided to deny a
renewal to station KTNT．That sho－ uld have been the end of Baker＇s broadcasting，but it wasn＇t．

Baker now moved to Texas and built station XBRNT on the Mexican side of the border．Concerned about this，and other radio related problems between the United States and Mexico，the North and Central American Regional Radio Conference was held in July of 1933 in Mexico City．There was much diaagreement at the conference，and，al though some issues were settled，nothing was done about XEST，and so，in october of that year，the station started up with night time programming aimed at Iowa and points in between． Trying to counter this，Congr－ ess put section $325-\mathrm{b}$ into the 1934 Communication Aot，forbidding broad－ casters from using studios，romote lines，or recording apparatus on the U．S．side of the border to be broadcast from Mexican（or Canadian） stations．He was putting his talks on records in Texas and sending them across the border to his sta－ tion，so it seemed that they had him．Criminal proceedings were taken against Baker on this issue in 1937，but the U．S．Supreme Court questioned the constitutionality of Section $325-b$ ，so he was fres to go on．They then took him to court in 1940 on Federal charges of decep－ tion with mailed advertiaing matter． This time they wore successful and Baker was sent off to prison for four years．XEatr was turned over to a trusted friend and continued to operate until 1944 when the Mexican government refused to re－ new its license．


Question．．．What would happen if they held a war and nobody show－ ed up？Answer．．．There would be no war．Question．．．What would happen if we held a trivia type contest and nobody entered？Answer．．．The
answer is obvious．．．
This will be the last＂Say．
Who．．．＂column，due to a camplete lack of interest on your part． True，we did have problems with dead－ lines，but it wasn＇t all that bad． Praise，we would have loved．Criti－ olsm，we could have lived with and leamed from．But apathy is down－ right intolerable．

We could have let the contest run for another couple of months and then just lot it die a natural death，but why bothor．The lack of response to the contest is an embar－ rassment to us and it ahould be to you．The output of any publication of this sort is only as good as its input．

I could go on about this but I won＇t drag it out，besides I be－ lieve Chuck will have some things to say alsc．

Like the old song says，＂You
Made Me What I Am Today＂．．．．GONE！
Here are the answers to Trivia Quiz \＃3 that appeared in the Feb．IPs
1）Dorothy Shay was＂The Park Ave－ nue Hillbiliy＂．
2）Mras．Hudson．
3）Spike Jones led Mre City Slickors＂．
4）The Perfect Song introduced Arios \＆Ally each week．
5）The inimitable Lenny Ross．
6）John Roid was the man behind the mask．
7）Herploy Proctor（of Proctor and Gamble）．
8） 221 B．Baker Street．
9）stiva loocy said Howdy，Bub＂．
10）Sliging Sam，The Barbasoi Man．
11 ）MTSTER DTSTRICT AHIDUR MY．
12）Sonator Benvregerd claghorn．
13）EYe（OUR MISS BROOKS）．Axden． 14）Font Randell．
15）Shady Line Avenue．
This is Chuck Seeloy typing．
Jerry Collins was the sole ontrant for Quiz \＃3 in the Pebruary IP（縡3）．He had 14 of 15 correct and wins the ceramic radio and script booklet．

Answers to Quiz 舡，that was in the March IP，will be printed next month．As of this writing， there are no ontries for Quiz 斯． So．
I agree with Bob．There＇s no sense prolonging this thing if only one or two people are interested． The deadine problem was corrected to allow for the IP＇s late mailing， but that doeen＇t seem to have made a difference．

Too bad．
（（）No prize was awarded for Quiz \＃2 since no entry arrived in time．－Ed．l


March 16,1980

## Hello Kean,

This letter is to serve two purposes-First, to compliment you and the OTRC for doing aine job with the Illustrated Press. of all the olub publications I've sean, aoning from all over the country, Taprs always tums out to be the Fiet interesting. As one of the editors of Collector's Corner (which is rum almost like a club itagelf, although it's more like a business venture), it always intrigues me to see what other publieaticns are talking ebout, how they're doing it, and that others are saying shout it. I am bored by publioaticas that do nothing but print an article or two about on old radio atar, then possibly print what happened at the last club meeting. The Illustrated Press is always raging with red-hot controversy. Sometimes the issues argued over are trivial and/or menial, but thej always attract attention, and interest. Large portions of your issues are taken up by letters which are always interesting-many I don't agree with, some oven anger me, but the fact that they cause a reaction of any type certainly says something. I am an extremely busy person, but the fact that $I$ feel compelled to write jou,is further proof of how strongly I feel. Secondly, I'd like to also direct my compliments to Jim Snyder for one of the better regular OTR colums I've seen. In his February colum, he mentions problems with his Sony equipment. I would like to offer a few of my experiences with this equipment, and the only solution I found so far.

Presently, I do not use any Sony reel equipment for regular duplicating or mastering. I own a very old and battered Sony TC-280 which, except for tension problems, still works fine and I use occaisionally for listening. I also own one of those rotten things called a TC-377, which has not worked in three or four jears. It worked fairly well up until the guarantee
expired, then was plagued with problems of a mechanical nature. These machines are simply not rugged and not designed for the kind of abuse we put them through for OTR purposes. My solution? Don't waste $\$ 75-100$ to get the thing fixed. Buy a 3motor solenoid operated unit. I repair and maintain my equipment myself, and for parts alone, the old 377 would have cost me around $\$ 80$ to fix, just in new springs and levers and things (if I could ever FIND the parts!).

I purchased all TEAC equipment, and my oldest one-now over three years old,still works fine. I recently purchased one of the new TEAC models... an "X-10", which has all the basic features, pitch control and dual capatan, plus there are no relays inside,so oxcept for the heads wearing out, there's virtually nothing that can go wrong with it. Jim mentions the Radio Shack reel machine. I worked for that company a wile back, and as far as I'm concerned, there's no equipment RS makes I'd consider anything above junk. If you need to buy equipment, just check the pages of Stereo Revieu, Audio,or Hi gh Fidelity. They offer equipment reviews plus the ads of many mail order equipment dealers. I've bought nearly everything by mail, usually at least $1 / 3$ of $\hat{f}$ the list price. Sorvice is usually fast-within 10 days-and ordering over the phone is easy...easier if you have a charge card.

As far as what to do with your old 377, I find it makes an excellent conversation piece. It works well as a door atop, and I've heard good comments from those who have used it as a boat anchor, although the flimsy press-board cabinet tends to rot after a few weeks! Again, great job jou're doing with IP...I don't care who the editor is....both you and Chuck Seeley have done equally well.

## Sincerly, Bob Burnham

(() Many thanks for all the compliments, Bob. The consensus seems to be that mankind is teriffic at creating technical wonders, but lousy at fixing them up when they go bad.

I may be prejudiced, but I feel Jim Snyder's colum is uneqivocably the best in OTR pubs. And I think the former editor of the IP would agree with me.

Speaking of such things, I'm still in need of columists, articles and/or letters. Writel -KFG))

'íaPE LIBKAKY:
LIBFARY RATES: 2400' reel-\$1. 25 per month; $1800^{1}$ reel $-\$ 1.00$ per month; $1200^{\prime}$ reel- $\$ .75$ per month; cassette4.50 per month. Postage must be included with all orders and here are the rates:for the USA and APO$50 \phi$ for one reel, $25 \phi$ for each additional reel; $25 \not \subset$ for each cassette. For Canada: $\$ 1.25$ for one reel, $75 \varnothing$ for each additional reel; $75 \not \subset$ for each cassette. All tapes to Canada are mailed first class.


JACK BENNY SHOW--7:00 P. M.

> Sareh Churchill, a etrais daughter of British statasiman Winston Churchill, with bo a special guest on the Jack Benny Program tonight. Miss Churchill recently appeared in "The Philadelphis Story" here in Rochester.
> She'll be greeted by Benny and the whole gang: Mary Livingstone, Phil Harris, Rochester, Dennis Day and Don Wilson. Listen in!

TAPESPONDENTS:Send in your wants and we'll run them here for at least two months.

NEWIBill Moorman, 347 Pegasus Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457. Bill is offering, to the highest bidder, two items. First is a collection of 150 reels of old radio shows. The reels have an assorted selection of programs with FIBBER MCGEE \& MOLLY and SUSPENSB the most prevalent. If interested you can send for a complete list of shows before making a bid. Bill is also selling a 1977 Akai reel-to-reel recorder which is in verry good to excellent condition. The two items are to be sold seperately to the highest bidders. Deadline for bids is May ist, 1980.

KEFERENCE LIBRAGY: A reference library exists for members. Hembers should have received a library list of materials with their membership. Only two items can be borrowed at one time, for a one month period. Please use the proper designations for materials to be borrowed. when ordering books include $\$ 1.00$ to cover rental, postage, and packaging. Please include $\$ .50$ for other items. If you wish to contribute to the library the OTKC will copy materials and return theoriginals to you. bee aadress on page 2 .

6


Rudy Vallee

YYOUR broad armchair alongside the loudspeaker gives dependable promise of becoming more popular during the coming months. Radio's fare, aweetened by the addition of a bang-up crop of new shows to the network schedules during the past season, promises delectable attractions to the dial twisters.

Perennial favorites, such as Rudy Valleo's Varietics, Burns and Allen, Paul Whitemans Music Hall, Roses and Drums, which carry the messages respectively of Fleischmann's Yeast, White Owl Cigars, Kraft Cheese and Union Central Life Insarance continue to maintain and build listener acchaim

Leading the parade of the host of new programs to the aire waves five comparative neweomers have won a definite niche in radio's hall of fame. The Lux Radio Theatre, The Swift (Sigmund Romberg) Program, Mary Pickford and Company, the Chase and Sanborn Opera Guild, and the not quite so new (Joe Penner) Baker's Broadeasts have achieved deservedly large and loyal followings.

The Lux Radio Theatre is surely a leader among the new programs. For the first time the great names of the stage and screen have been brought to the microphones to do the best dramatic material. Such plays as "Seventh Heaven," "Smilin' Through," and "The Barker" have been enacted by such grand players as Miriam Hopkins, Jane Cowl, Walter Huston, and other favorites from Hollywood and the Broad-


Helen Jepson way stage.
To say that the Lux Radio Theatre productions have literally lifted radio dramatics by the bootstraps would hardly be embroidering the facts. This sponsor has secured the radio rights to the greatest atage material of the century and with intelligent direction has mado Sunday afternoon liatening a real adventure.

Sigmund Romberg and Billy Phelps are giving us mighty smooth and diveraified entertainment these Saturday nights.


Robert
Armbruster Swift and Company are being richly rewarded for their enterprise in wooing Romberg to the airlanes. The famed Hungarian composer, who has written 64 complete opertttas and is still going strong, not content with providirg fine musical direction, offers new selections of his composition regularly, Billy Phelps (some folks say Professor William Lyon Phelps) has a way of bobbing up each week with a most interesting batch of thoughts neatly told.

Long one of the most dependable full hour entertainments, Chase and Sanborn commenced last December to offer condensed grand opera in English on Sunday nights. This series, which clicked impressively from the start, is under the direction of Deems Taylor, vcrsatile commentator, composer, and critic. Wilfred Pelletier (Metropolitan Opera)
conducts. The greatest of living operatic atars supported by able young native singers fill the casts of the Chase and Sanborn Opera Guild presentations.

That grand opera is really interesting


Deems
Taylor entertainment rather than education has never been very widely accepted in this country. Joe Doakes has always figured that it was something for the seufed shirts. It's better than an even money bet that this Opera Guild series staged by the coffee folk is going to help change that misconception. The Sunday night Opera Guild listening is certainly easy on the ears, and, as we have suspected, the librettos of the operas are really great yarns when told expertly in plain English. The singing is, of course, superb, with such artists as Thomas, Martinelli, Rethberg, Bentonelli, and others singing the great rolen.

Most sought after of Hollywood's great names by the broadcasters had been Mary Pickford. Finally won over by Royal


Desserts, "America's Sweetheart" has done more than auccessfully bridge the gap between movie and radio. Mary has
 earefully studied the arts of the microphone and her voice is one of the most agreeable that is wafted along the kilocycles. She bas chosen her plays admirably and periormed her roles in faultless fashion.
Joo Penrer, your favorite duck alesman, provides great fun with his chortling comedy on Sunday nights. The atar of the Bakers' Broadcast has come along mighty fast to win his place at the top of radio's funnymen. Clean cut humor, atways in good taste, delivered ingeniously, has eamed Joe the devotion of youngsters from four to eighty-four. Folks have dubbed Penner "The Charlie Chaplin of Radio." Perhaps he will win that place. Certajn he has made a sure start.
Ozzie Nelson who provides the tuneful melodies on the Bakers' Broadcasts has one of the sweetest bands on the net-

# RADIO SHOWS 

works. Ozzie gets capable assistance from pretty Harriet Hilliard in the song assignments.
Roses and Drums first made its debut on the air with the avowed intention to paint a bistory of the country. When the episodes reached the Civil War in chronological gerial interest mounted in spectacular fashion. The Union Central people were petitioned by a loyal audience to continue the Civil War episoder and as a result the action has been laid in the 1861-64 period ever since. A faithful historical presentation as well as an attractive romantic interest is evident in this dramatic program which enjoys a very large following both in the North and the South. A brilliant cast which includes Helen Claire, John Griggs, Guy Bates Post, and others under capable
 direction has placed this program among the headline attractione of the air.
Paul Whiteman, the not-so-rotund-sny-more, has been

## Buy These Produets

(Their sponsors give ynu Rentio's Best Network Enlerlalament, sags Twher-Inner)

LUX TOILET SOAP (Radio Theatre)
UNION CGNTRAL LIFE INSURANCE (Roses and Drumis)
BAKERS' SPECIALS (Balsers' Broadeastm- Joc Penner)
cilase and saniborn's Coffee (Opera Guitd) ROYAL DESSERTS (Mary l'ickford)
Willte owl cigars (liurns and allem)
fletscilimanns yeast (Iluoly Valter)
Knart ciliese (Paul whiteman) JOIINS-MANTILIE PRODUCTS (Fheyl Gilhons) SWIFT PRODUCTS (SiEnund Romberg)
dubbed many times Dean of Modern American Music-King of Jazz, etc. His Kraft Music Hall programs are always a rich adventure. Paul hac a great knack of making hot tunes sound hotter, rich music sound richer. Surrounded by a troupe of young singing stars-Ramona, Johnny Hauser, the King's Men, Peggy Healy, Johnny Mercer, Bob Lawrence, and others, Whiteman puts on a broadly versatile show.

Helen Jepzon, the Kraft Music Hall's own lyric soprano, who won her way to the lush roster of the Metropolitan Opera, offers one of radio's richest thrills when ghe sings for Whiteman. Even if Paul Whiteman's superb musi-


Helen Claire sical circus didn't merit your dialing La Jepson's two singing spots on this program each Thursday night would make this full hour one of the most welcome.
Although Gracio Allen is seemingly little disturbed over her long lost brother at this stage her rolligking and eerie
comedy continues to climb to dizzier heights. Gcorge Burns and Gracie Allen are just about the most consistently great comedy team on the air. For four years their popularity has built up without sign of letdown. Fundamentally their fun is the same eack week but it certainly is a tribute to George Burns (one of the few comics to write his own scripts) that Gracie's mad mental detours never tire.
When these radio orchids are spread about we cannot help but give Boblie Dolan a great big bouquet. Bobby, you know, waves his baton over his General


Mary Pickford Cigar orchestra while Burns and Allen pause for breath on this Wednesday evening show. Bobby stepped into a tough spot at the beginning of this year having displaced a big name band in the set-up which had been intact for four years. At first tonk of fan mail poured in giving the sponsor the very devil for letting the big name band go. This mail rapidly dwindled as Bobby Dolan got his chance to show the tuners-in his
 melodies. Now the great bulk of the mail on the program breaks down into two categories-one faction of writers ask that the program be expanded to a full hour so Gracie can have more time for zanyesque comedy-the other faction wants more time so Dolan can turn out more of his engaging music each week. No doubt about it-Dolan has showed real ability in winning the praise of the radio audience.
Thers are a host of other programs that descive your attention but space here is too short to cover them completely. Floyd Gibbons and Walter Winchell top the news commentators with their flair for serving exciting stuff in showmanlike fashion. Gibbons has done a particularly workmanlike job of stirring the public interest in the efforts of the Federal Housing Administration to better conditions in the building industries.
Appropriately carrying the banner of the dominant single lactor in this industry, Johns-Manville, Gibbons has been turning all the tremendous geal and power of his abilities on his task. Essentially a crusader, Gibbons is never happier than when he has a big job to lick. The internationally famous news hawk and speed spieler has been steaming along in great style.
If you happen to live within dialing range of WOR I'd like you to share with me my newest discovery. On Tuesday nights WOR carrien Kops' Brothers' "Affairs of Roland." Roland is a baritone, and Harry Stockwell is Roland and his voice is really excellent The continuity on this show is much


Ozzie Nelson more interesting than most and the commercial tic-in-the product is Sensation (Calipygian) Corsetis nothing less than ingenious.

# POPULAR RADIO STARS 

Briet Biographical Sketches of More Than One Hundred of the Best Known Actors, Musicians, Commentators

## PART TWO <br> CONCLUSION <br> The <br> Washington Service Bureau <br> 1013 Thirteenth Street <br> Washington. D. C. <br> Faederick M. Kerby Director

Price 15 Cents

and Other Stars of Radio Programs

## By

## CHARLES E. DONALDSON

Booklet 213

KING. WAYNE-Orchestra Leader.
Born in Savannah, Ill., February 18, 1901, and educated Valparciso University, Indiana. Worked his way through college
 LAUCK, CHESTER-(See "Lum and Abner".)
LEVANT, OSCAR-Quiz Program.
 widely copied. Unmarried.

 shortly after graduation, the orchestra developed an enviable
reputation and obtained engagements at many large hotels. In shortly after graduation, the orchestra developed an enviable

 University of North Carolina, which he attended, did not have Born in Rocky Mount, N. C., in 1906. He had no intention of
becoming an orchestra leader until 1927, when finding that the Early in 1938 he left Goodman and organized his own orchestra.
One year loter he made a motion picture, "Some Like It Hot."
Divorced from Elhel Fawcett. best drummers in the country while with Benny Goodman.
Early in 1938 he left Goodman and organized his own orchestra. joined Red Nichols' orchestra. He has since played in other
bands, and attained considerable recognition as one of the
 Born Chicago, 1909; attended Bowen High School, and gradis married to Dorothy Penelope Jones, who formerly appecred on
the screen as Dorothy Janis. They have two children.

 orchestra in Chicago. At the request of the ownera of the
Aragon ballroom. Chicago, he formed his own orchestra, and



and has dark brown hair and eyes. He is married now to
Donnie Boone. ney, and they wo a network for the first time on March 3,
parker's" went on
1929. He is 5 feet, 8 inches tall; weighs about 160 pounds lege. After gradualing irom college he married Sophia Mecor-
ney, and they went to New York. "Sunday Evening at Seth went to Phillips Andover Academy and later to Bowdoin Col-
lege. After graduating from college he married Sophia Mecor-



## LORD, PHILLIPS H.-Producer, Writer. Actor.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { phonist. He also has } \\
& 158 \text { pounds. Married }
\end{aligned}
$$

phonist. He also has a sister who sings. He is tall and weighs

 At the age of 12 he directed a concert for the local mothers
club and in 1920 he organized his band. He does not play the



## 

 almost from the beginning of his radio series, which was orig. to Jack Benny, she accompanied him on tour and occasionally LIVINGSTONE. MARY (Mrs. lack Benny-Comedienne. result of newspaper work. Married Alice Huston; two children. radio oorrespondents galleries of Congress. First radio appear-ance over WOL, Washington. D. C., in October, 1937, as a dents' Assn., official acciediting agency tor admission to the
radio oorrespondents galleries of Congress. First radio appear-

 LEWIS, FULTON, Jr.-News Commentotor. actress, and has a daughter.
"Information Please."


## MURROW, EDWARD R.-News Commentator,

| Borm in Greensboro, N. C. Moved to the state of Washington |
| :--- |




 October, 1935, and in May 1937, he went to London to take charge of the European Bureau.

NIESEN, GERTRUDE-Singer. Russian and Swedish parents. She attended Brooklyn Heights


 is only 5 feet $41 / 2$ inches tall. Her hair is reddish-brown. She
is single. is single.

He wri. WALTER-Singer, Comedian, Mospital after a stroke findantile paralysis, and entered it in a contest conducted by
 that he went to New York as soon as he recovered. Then he
became an entertainer. rather than a writer. After performing


 Bobs, and and has two young sons. His home is in Greenwich,
Sta
 phonograph records. She is divorced from David Hose, a com
poser. mos d 'osot pundg uroif peoionip of eus spiovel qddibouoyd

 Paul Ash's orchestra, and later was featured with Benny Davis Born Butte, Mont., August 22, 1916, and made her debut at the

## PROFESSOR QUIZ-(See Craig Earl.)

 Blurt," a 'low-pressure"' salesman. in 1935, where his program has been aponso character, "Elme popular ever since. Pearce brought his "Gong" to New York business. At 15. Al played in an orchestra at the San Francisco
World's Fair. In 1929 he turned to radio with his brother Cal,

 PEARCE, ALLeeds. Einstein is 6 feet tall, weighs 198 pounds and has brown
hair and eyes. "嘪 Boston as a joke and got 1.200 votes. He has been married
twice, and has one child by his first wife and one by his ing job, but left it for comedy. He once ran for mayor of on the programs of Eddie Cantor, Jimmy Durante, Al lolson and
others. He graduated from high school and took an advertisMay 6, 1903. His dialect has been heard weighs 155 pounds.

 Follies." Eight subsequent years in vaudeville and musical



His earliest ambition was to become a minister. Later, during
his college days, he wanted to be a lawyer. Then he decided
he would rether become cun actor. From the stage he went

 А Аب़um s! ROBINSON, EDWARD G--Actor. and many other films. appeared Town." "Gone With the Wind," "Buck Benny Rides Again." he Jack Benny's brusque valet. His home is in Oakland, Calif.
He is a Negro, and has played a number of screen roles. He
 route to the west coast. born in a covered wagon when Ripley's gramdparents were en Christmas Day, 1893, in Santa Rosa, Calif. His mother was drew several each week. Finally, he took to traveling in eacrich

 series of drawings, illustraung codd, fantastic and almost incred created his first "Believe It or Not" carloon and began his famous While working on the New York Evening Globe in 1921 Ripley RIPLEY, ROBERT L_-Writer, Corroonist Actor. His first show, "Tom and Betty," was performed at Pittsburgh
stations WCAE and KDKA. then, though it always provoked laughter among his friends.
 school, he appeared in numerous school dramatic productions,
 parents he took voice and piano lessons, which have since been
 HIGGS, TOMMY-Ventriloquist, Comedian. band, David Blackenhom. her first husband, who died. She divoreed her second hus-
band, David Blackenhom.
 in 1933, and since then ahe has worked for a aponsor. Her


luss, then moved his wife and infant daughter to Geneva "just
before things began to happen." He speaks French, German and Italion.

SHORE, DINAH-Vocalist. radio career with a weekly appearance on "Chamber Music Society of Lower Basin Street." Her infectious voice and pecular style of singing won favorable attention from the public almost from the first time she sang. and before long she was
making phonograph records that were popular. Then she was engaged to sing on Eddie Cantor's program. Dinah, now in her early twenties, is a native of Winchester, Tenn. She has been SDM Y Y oustanding in sports, and also graduated from Vanderbilt University with a B.A. degree.

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SKELTON. RED (Richard)-Comediam. in aricine show.
 peared on the radio in Rudy Vallee's program in 1937, and
later with Avalon. He now heads his own program. He was born in Vincennes, Ind., July 18, 1913, and is the son of a

 Edna helps to write her husband's scripts.

SMITH. KATE-Singer, Mistress of Ceremonies. Born in Greenville, Va., May I, 1909; her childhood was spent
in Washington, D. C. To please her tamily. she entered a nursing school after completing a high school course, but a first World War, while still in pigtails, she made frequent trips to nearby training camps to sing for doughboys. She played
 broadcasting over the Columbia system in April. 1931. She is
into films, first gaining a foothold as a gangster, and later staring in more refined roles. The "Big Town" series, in which
Robinson as the editor of "The Illustrated Press" smashes all kinds of rackets, was started in the fall of 1937.

ROSS. LANNY (Lancelat Patrick Ross)-Tenor, Actor. -alas Born in Seattle. Wash., January 19, 1906. His father, Douglas was a noted Shakespearian actor and his mother was an accomplished musician and accompanist for Pavlowa. He qraduated from Yale with the degree B.A., and from Columbia niversity Law School wis expenses by singing in radio broadcasts. He ie married to Olive White. Ross is 6 feet $11 / 2$ inches tall; weighs SANDERSON, JULLA Uulia Sackett)-Singer, Comedienne. Born in Springtield, Mass., August 22, 1887. At the age of
15 she went to New York and became a chorus girl. Her first great chance came when Charles Frohman heard her sing and decided to star her. She starred in "Sunshine Girl," "Girl from
Utah," "Sybil," "Rambler Rose," "The Canary," "Tangerine," "No, No Nanette," "Queen High", and "Oh Kay." She maried "Tod" Sloan, a jockey, in 1907. Her second husband was L.
Comdr. Bradiord Barnette, 1917; and she married her third husComdr. Bradiord Barnette, 1917, and she married her third were
band. Frank Crumit, July 1, 1927. They met when both were playing in "Tangerine" in 1922. They have appeared together ever since. They retired from the stage in 1928, but shortly
afterwards returned to radio.
was Born in New York, May 23, 1911, and from the time he was
11 he began to haunt vaudeville houses on Broadway. He had to save carefully to buy his first aaxophone. and when he had enough he got it and five free lessons. That was the only instruction Artie ever had on a reed instrument. At the age
of 19 , he joined lrving Aoronson's band, touring through the Middle West. He was divorced from Lana Tumer, the film actress, and is now married to Elizabeth Jane Kern. daughter
of the composer, Jerome Kern. of the composer, Jerome Kern.
 at Geneva. Rapids, la. In 1925 he obtained employment in the Paris office of the Chicago Tribune, being transferred in 1926 to the European staff, where he remained until 1932, covering he served Universal Service as Berlin correspondent, and occahe served Universal Service as Berlin correspondent, and occa-
sionally he broadcast. He remained in Vienna until the Ansch-





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