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Affiliated With
The Old Time Radio
Network

THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New member processing--\$5.00 plus club membership of \$17.50 per year from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Members receive a tape listing, library listing, monthly news letter, the Illustrated Press, the yearly Memories Publications and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the club for \$5.00 per year. These members have all the privileges of the regular members but do not receive the publications. A junior membership is available to persons 12 yrs of age & younger who do not live with a regular member. This membership is \$13.00 per year and includes all the benefits of regular membership. Regular membership are as follows: If you join in Jan- Mar \$17.50-- Apr- Jun \$14.00-- July-Sept \$10-- Oct- Dec \$7.00. All renewals should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. Please be sure to notify us if you change your address.

OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIPS are now available. Annual memberships are \$29.75. Publications will be airmailed.

The Old Time Radio Club meets the first of every month on Monday evening from August to June at 393 George Urban Blvd. Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225. Anyone interested in the Golden Age of Radio is welcome. Meeting start at 7:30 P.M.

CLUB ADDRESS:

Old Time Radio Club
P.O. Box 426
Lancaster, N.Y. 14086

DEADLINE FOR THE I.P.-10th of each month prior to publication

CLUB OFFICERS:

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Lancaster, N.Y. 14086
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Membership Renewals, Change of Address,
Mailing of Publications
Pete Bellanca
1620 Ferry Rd.
Grand Island, N.Y. 14072
(716) 773-2485

Membership Inquiries, & OTR Network
Related Items
Richard Olday
100 Harvey Dr.
Lancaster, NY. 14086
(716) 684-1604

TAPE LIBRARIES:

Cassettes: Jim Aprile
85 Hyledge Dr.
Amherst, N.Y. 14226
(716) 837-7747

Reel to REELS 1-850
Marty Braun
10905 Howe Rd.
Clarence, N.Y. 14031
(716) 759-8793

Reel to REELS 85I & UP
Tom Harris
9565 Weherle Dr.
Clarence, N.Y. 14031
(716) 759-8401

TAPE LIBRARY RATES: All reels and video cassettes-- \$1.85 per month; cassettes and records-- \$.85 per month. Rates include postage and handling.

CANADIAN BRANCH: Rental rates are the same as above, but in Canadian funds.

A REVIEW OF

LIFE AS A THIRD BANANA thru the GOLDEN YEARS OF RADIO and BEYOND

by

ROBERT C. BRUCE

At a recent meeting of the OTRC, I was volunteered by Dick Olday to listen to this book on tape and tell our readers about it.

If you did not attend the recent Friends of Old Time Radio Convention in Newark you might say who the hell is Robert C. Bruce and why should I go out and buy this double cassette book on tape?

I always referred to actors like Mr. Bruce as a character actor (i.e. an actor whose face or voice you would know, but whose name you would be unfamiliar with). Actors who might fall in this category are Parley Baer, Howard McNeer, Terry Bergman, Paul Frees, or Marvin Miller. If I said the above played Chester and Doc on Gunsmoke, Pasquale on Life with Luigi (later the voice of Fred Flintstone) and John Beresforth Tipton and Michael Anthony on TV's the Millionaire a bell might go off in your mind.

Robert C. Bruce, during his fifty years in radio, television and pictures narrated over 500 pictures, and acted in over 4000 radio and television broadcasts out of New York and Hollywood. In his life as a "third Banana" thru the Golden Years of Radio and Beyond, he describes the unusual, humorous, exciting and dangerous experiences of a lifetime of show business—stage, radio, television and pictures as he worked with top stars as Lionel Barrymore, Bing Crosby, Phil Harris, Walter Brennan, Chil Wills, Mel Blanc, Claudette Colbert, Gene Autrey, Roy Rogers, Joan Blondell, Basil Rathbone, Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor, Alan Ladd, June Allyson etc.

The star would be the 1st or "top" banana; his sidekick would be the "2nd" banana; and the other actors would be the "character" actors or the "3rd" banana. This book on tape will also tell you what a cattle call is and I don't mean "get along little doggie." If you liked WIXIE WONDERLAND by Dick Osgood, you'll like LIFE AS A THIRD BANANA thru the GOLDEN YEARS OF RADIO and BEYOND by ROBERT C. BRUCE.

FRANK C. BONCORE

William Conrad was only voice of Matt Dillon on radio 'Gunsmoke'

By EUGENIE PETERSON

Keynote Rider

Q. Tell me if William Conrad was the original voice of the radio Lone Ranger.

— *M.T., Mission Hills, Calif.*

A. Conrad never voiced the Ranger, but he was the original and only voice of Matt Dillon on the radio "Gunsmoke." (When the TV show was being cast, Conrad was considered too hefty to play the marshal, John Wayne was offered the part but turned it down. He did suggest a young actor for the role, James Arness.) Radio's original Lone Ranger back in 1933 was Jack Deeds. He was replaced by George Seaton (who later would be a top movie director). Then came Earl Graser, who was the Ranger until he was killed in an auto accident in 1941. He was replaced by Bruce Beemer, who had been the show's announcer. Beemer was the Ranger to the end of the radio series in 1955.

Those of us who know better know that the "Ranger" character first appeared on WEBR Radio in 1929 on a series called "Covered Wagon Days." He was played by John Barrett, a Buffalo N.Y. lawyer. The mysterious Jack Deeds may have been Lee Trent. William Conrad did play the voice of the Lone Ranger in the Television cartoon series.

and those are
JUST THE FACTS MA'AM

FCB

THE DEALERS' CORNER
by
FRANK C. BONCORE

EDWARD J CARR of CASSETTES NOW/ REELS ALSO 216 SHANORE STREET, BOYERTOWN PENNSYLVANIA, 19502, has a new supplement out. Those of you who have read Ed's catalog or supplements know that Ed's supplements are not exactly in numerical order as is the case in this one; in fact one has to flip the pages over since the backside is upside down from the front side, however Ed's quality of cassettes or reels is second to none. As I have stated in the past, Ed Carr wrote the book on quality cassettes and reels.

Science fiction fans would be interested to know that Ed has ten (count em 10) reels of X MINUS ONE in the best quality sound around. These are upgrades from the X Minus One shows now in circulation. Please take careful note that some shows have the endings clipped but the opening and the entire show content is there.

Continuing on Science fiction fans also note that Ed has DANTRO THE PLANET MAN a series from around 1950. Each episode is about 12 minutes long. Please note that Episodes #1 and #4 are missing. They are listed as:

Reel UK 2106 episode 2-18
Reel UK 2107 episode 19-34
Reel UK 2108 episode 35-50
Reel UK 2109 episode 51 to 66
Reel UK 2110 episode 67 to 78
the above shows are from discs and all of Eds reels are also available on cassette.

- REEL UK 2242 THEATER 5
- 1L ECHO OF MADDNESS
- THE GOOD SAMRITAN
- THE CAPTIVE SPIRIT
- THE MAN WHO LOVED JELLY ROLLS
- 2L THE SACRIFICE
- THE CITY MANAGER
- THE CONTRACT MAKER
- THE TALKERS
- 1R FINDERS CAN BE LOSERS
- FOG
- CONGRADULATIONS MR MAYOR
- WEAPONS AT HAND
- 2R BANG BANG YOUR DEAD

Note: Each show is about 20-22 minutes

COMEDY REEL #222 has 6 DUFFY'S TAVERN SHOWS, 2 BABY SNOOKS SHOWS, 6-15 min KUKLA, FRAN & OLLIE SHOWS which were simulcast on Television, and one THIS IS BROADWAY show.

Reels UK 2251, 2243, 2249, 2245, 2246, 2247, are 1800 ft 1/2 track MILTON BERLE SHOWS.

It is not too often that Frank Bork, Eldery Librarian, Emrtitus, opens his wallet but he just might make George Washington blink because Reels 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2220, 2211, 2212, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2213 and 2214 are 1800ft 1/2 track RED SKELTON SHOWS.

If you are a BING CROSBY fan like Ed Wanat, reels 2115, 2116 2117, 2118, 2119 are 1800ft 1/2 track reels of BING CROSBY.

The Judge might want to know that reels 2067 and 2066 are 1800 ft 1/2 track and contain TERRY AND THE PIRATES. Reel 2068 is also 1800ft 1/2 track and has 7 TERRY AND THE PIRATES shows and 5 HOP HARRIGAN SHOWS.

- REEL 224 TOM MIX
- The Women in Gray 04-22-47
- Mystery of the Flying city 08-14-46
- THE SEA HOUND
- In the Hut of the VOODOO Queen 09-02-46
- 1800 ft TERRY & THE PIRATES
- CAPT BLAZED SAVED 03-31-43
- HOP HARRIGAN
- PARACHUTE INTO AUSTRALIA 04-01-43
- DICK TRACY
- ON TCOT BROKEN WINDOW 09-18-46
- ON TCOT COUNTERFIET GRAVE 09-23-47
- JACK ARMSTRONG
- MYSTERY OF THE MAN OF THE ICE 02-06-46
- MYSTERY OF THE DEVIL'S CASTLE 09-19-46'
- TERRY & THE PIRATES
- CAPT BLAZE 02-19-42
- BAPON VON KRELL 07-06-42

XX

GARY & LADONNA KRAMER of GREAT AMERICAN RADIO, P.O. BOX 504, GENESEE, MICHIGAN, 48437, phone (313) 686-5973 or if you a yuppie FAX (313) 686-1878, is having their First Annual White Sale. Buy 20 cassettes and receive 2 free ones. Here are some of the many listed in their most recent flyer:

VISA OR MASTERCARD ACCEPTED. 6601, 6602, 6603, 6604 6605, 6606
all ADVENTURERS CLUB

6607, 6608, 6609, 6610, 6611, 6612, ALL BOSTON BLACKIE

6628 up to and including 6707 THE GREAT GILDERSLEEVE

6752, 6753, 6754 MR. & MRS. NORTH

6764 to 6788 ALL SPEED GIBSON OF THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE. This set consists of 25 cassettes (4) episodes per cassette from episode #1 to episode 100. Follow Speed Gibson and friends as they wing their way through the Far East in search of the Octopus Gang.

2651 to 2672 THE FALCON

2609 to 2634 BOX 13 starring Alan Ladd

As always be sure to mention that your heard about this in the I.P.

THE DEALER'S CORNER (cont)
ATTENTION YUPPIES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BOB & DEBBIE BURNHAM of BRC PRODUCTIONS
P.O. BOX 2645, LIVONIA, MI 48151,
now have an On-Line Electronic Store.
Use you computer & modern to dial
GATEWAY ON LINE (313) 291-5571.
After logging in select the letter O
from the main menu, then BRC Productions
As a guest of the system, you will have
30 minutes to browse, and place your
order. Those who become regular users
of the GATEWAY receive a special
discount from BRC Productions.
That's FAX DATA VOICEMAIL
(313) 721- 6070.

VISA and Mastercard also accepted.

Listed on the latest flyer are:

5669, 5670, 5671, 5672, 5673 5674
all THE CHASE dated from 01-11-53 to
03-29-53

5637, 5638, 5639, 5640, 5641, 5642
DRAGNET from 06-10-49 to 09-08-49
these are the early shows starring
Jack Webb as Sgt Joe Friday and
Barton Yarborough as Sgt Ben Romero

5651, 5652, 5653, 5654, 5655, 5656, 5657,
5658, 5659, 5660, 5661, 5662,
all HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL

2013, 2014, 2015, 2016
all DUFFY'S TAVERN

and 32 cassettes of JACK BENNY from
01-04-48 to 04-09-50

other shows listed are OUR MISS BROOKS,
THE FALCON, LUX RADIO THEATER ESCAPE,
GUNSMOKE, ROCKY JORDAN, and SUSPENCE.

and for amateurs are some new
releases from SHOKUS VIDEO such as
312 GAME SHOW PROGRAM #8
484 ONE STEP BEYOND
486 YOU ASKED FOR IT

XX
PCB



TONIGHT
"Time Killer"
Starring Mando Kramer, with F.G. Marshall, host. Able to place himself into any period of time, past or present, a professor of parapsychology attends a man in a New York speakeasy in December 1933, but doesn't know whether or not he will survive.

MONDAY-SUNDAY

11:30 PM **93** **WBEN**

Private Lives

**DEANNA
DURBIN**



Read—"The Private Life of Deanna Durbin" whose heavenly voice has captured the hearts of millions. Photoplay for December—out now.

Two-Minute Stories



NOT QUITE A CHRISTIAN

WHAT has always amused me about this story is that my father, who told it to me, insisted that old Prince Ivan Hassanoff considered himself a perfectly good Christian, for he belonged to the Orthodox Russian Church, though of Tatar, therefore Moslem, ancestry—which may explain it all.

He lived in an ancient stone castle, somewhere in Central Asia, that had been built by his hard-riding, hard-fighting ancestors. A feudal place it was; and if, occasionally, his behavior—chiefly toward rich traders and pretty young girls—was just as feudal, the Czar's government would close a tolerant eye, since the man was powerful.

When he was about to die—he was then eighty—he sent, quite properly, for the priest. The latter came and spoke of confession, penance, absolution.

But the prince shook his head. Oh, yes—he admitted—he had been guilty of various and numerous sins.

"But," he went on, and he was serious, "confess? No, no. I am who I am. A gentleman of quality. Surely the Lord will make an exception in my case."

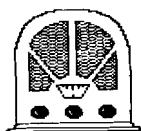
The priest argued—unsuccessfully. Finally, seeing that Hassanoff was dying, he begged: "At least, do one thing."

"What?"
"Forgive your enemies."
The old aristocrat seemed puzzled.

"Why," he said, "I have no enemies."
"You—" stammered the priest, familiar with the other's reputation, "you have no . . ."

"Not a one. You see," said the prince, "I killed them all."

So he died, with a childlike and happy smile on his wrinkled yellowish features.
—Achmed Abdullah.



OTR

The Cassette Library

HERE ARE MORE NEW ADDITIONS
TO OUR LIBRARY

NO	SID	CATEGORY	TITLE
1647	A	DRAMA	TEXACO STAR THEATRE: EACH WISH MY HEART W/ MARY ASTOR
1647	B	DRAMA	TEXACO STAR THEATRE: TOMORROW AND TOMORROW W/ FRED. MARCH
1648	A	DRAMA	TEXACO STAR THEATRE: LEND ME YOUR EYES W/ HERBERT MARSHALL
1648	B	DRAMA	TEXACO STAR THEATRE: YOUR HONOR W/ JOHN BARRYMORE
1649	A	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: ED. CANTOR WANTS TO RACE JACK BENNY'S MAXWELL
1649	B	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: EDDIE CANTOR-LAST SHOW OF HIS TEXACO SERVICE
1650	A	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: EDDIE CANTOR-WORRIED GURBY WANTS A RAISE...
1650	B	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: EDDIE CANTOR & GANG TALK FOOTBALL
1651	A	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: 3rd E.CANTOR SHOW IN SERIES-ALL ABOUT ADVERT.
1651	B	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: 4TH E.CANTOR SHOW IN SERIES;"THE MISSING SHOW"
1652	A	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: E.CANTOR & GANG WANT TO PUT TEX TOWN ON THE MAP
1652	B	COMEDY	TEXACO TOWN: E.CANTOR HAS TROUBLE WITH "Female Element"
1653	A	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: GOES ON PICNIC WITH MISS PIPER.
1653	B	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: INTEREST IN MISS P. CRITICISED.
1654	A	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: (Hal Perry) FAMILY CHRISTMAS
1654	B	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: THE COOKING WEDDING
1655	A	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: (Hal Perry) NEW HAT SHOP
1655	B	COMEDY	GREAT GILDERSLEEVE: (Hal Perry) GRAND OPENING
1656	A	DRAMA	ESCAPE: EARTH ABIDES
1656	B	DRAMA	ESCAPE: EARTH ABIDES
1657	A	ADVENTURE	MARK TRAIL: THE WHITE CANE
1657	B	ADVENTURE	MARK TRAIL: PURSE STRINGS OF DANGER
1658	A	VARIETY	NASH-KALVINATOR SHOWROOM: W/ Lou Melto
1658	B	VARIETY	NASH-KALVINATOR SHOWROOM: W/ Andrew Sisters
1659	A	POLICE	DRAGNET: SHOPLIFTING LADIES GOITS
1659	B	POLICE	DRAGNET: MOTORIST SHOOTS TRAFFIC COP
1660	A	POLICE	MR. MOTO: THE VICTIM
1660	B	POLICE	MR. MOTO: SABOTAGE
1661	A	POLICE	CRIME DOES NOT PAY: BETWEEN THE DARK AND THE DAYLIGHT #32
1661	B	POLICE	CRIME DOES NOT PAY: BETWEEN THE DARK AND THE DAYLIGHT #32
1662	A	POLICE	RICHARD DIAMOND: EDDIE GARRET, TOUGH KID
1662	B	POLICE	RICHARD DIAMOND: HARRY BAKER KILLS WIFE W/ Dick Powell
1663	A	POLICE	RICHARD DIAMOND: "THE HANK BURTON CASE" W/ Dick Powell
1663	B	POLICE	RICHARD DIAMOND: "THE BEARS FACE" W/DICK POWELL, ED BEBEY
1664	A	POLICE	JOHNNY DOLLAR(5 Part Serial):FLIGHT & MATTER 1/30-2/03/56
1664	B	POLICE	JOHNNY DOLLAR(5 Part Serial):FLIGHT & MATTER 1/30-2/03/56
1665	A	POLICE	JOHNNY DOLLAR(5 Part Serial):DIAMOND MATTER 11/07-11/11/56
1665	B	POLICE	JOHNNY DOLLAR(5 Part Serial):DIAMOND MATTER 11/07-11/11/56
1666	A	POLICE	MERCULE POIROT: CASE OF THE CARELESS VICTIM
1666	B	POLICE	MURDER BY EXPERTS: CONSPIRACY
1667	A	POLICE	NICK CARTER: THE MISSING STREET
1667	B	POLICE	NICK CARTER: EXPLODED ALIBI
1668	A	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: QUICKSILVER
1668	B	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: THE BROKEN SPUR
1669	A	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: THE TRAP
1669	B	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: BLIND JUSTICE
1670	A	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: HANGING BY A THREAD
1670	B	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: ROOM 114
1671	A	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: THE LUCKY DOLLAR
1671	B	POLICE	TALES OF THE TEXAS RANGERS: THE CACTUS FEAR



My all time favorite radio show has always been SHERLOCK HOLMES. The ultimate Holmes is of course Basil Rathbone and Dr. Watson beyond a doubt has to be Nigel Bruce. I have dozens of Sherlock Holmes cassettes in my collection with a good many actors playing Holmes & Watson. Some good and some not so good ranging from Rathbone & Bruce, Gielgud-Richardson Hobbs & Shelly and four or five more I can't think of right now. I also have a fair size collection of Holmes Video's including the Rathbone- Bruce movies thanks to "The Dragon Lady" (our over worked Editor, Linda). She made me write that, over worked I mean. Linda has a great collection of Holmes stories read by Charles Fuller. This man does a great job using different voices for each character, twelve stories in all. Linda loans me all these tapes and videos, no strings attached. Well maybe just a little string. I have to go and push her car to the corner gas station about tree or four times a year, when she runs out of gas. She's very thirsty you know.

I also collect Sherlock Holmes books and have about forty books. I was first attracted to Sherlock Holmes stories by radio programs, sponsored by Petri Wine and also Four Way Cold Tablets. I couldn't wait each week to hear the story. I do remember my mother always seemed to have baked a tray of cookies on Sherlock Holmes night. I would have a cup of cocoa and my step father have a cup of hot coffee (he wouldn't let me drink coffee until I was fourteen years old). Dad and I would sit there dunking cookies and listening to Holmes & Dr. Watson solve another crime.

I can't remember if I got Dad listening to Holmes or if he got me listening to the Holmes stories. Dad and I liked the mystery and detective stories best of all. My mother and my sister didn't, but when it came to Sherlock Holmes, well. Dad tuned to the proper station on our Zenith radio and no one dared change the station while Sherlock Holmes was on. At the Clubs last meeting the Dragon Lady loaned me the cassettes I have before mentioned. Listening to them got me to think about the old radio shows when I was a kid. They sure were good times then. After supper I had to help with the dishes and do a couple of chores, then my homework for school. After that a whole night of great radio shows and stories. My mother or father didn't have to check the ratings to approve them because they were all in good taste, no bad language or excessive violence, just good entertainment.

A couple of guys down here at the lake I play golf with also like to listen to old radio shows. When ever we get together after a round of golf we of course talk about our game, but the conversation always turns to old time radio, and our favorite shows. We down cups of coffee while enjoying our memories of radio days. I loan my cassettes to them but I just can't seem to convince them to join the radio club. I don't know if I should keep on loaning them my cassettes or just stop and say to join the club. Or just hope for the best, that they will join our old time radio club. Well, what do you guys think, what should I do? If any of you have run into this problem, how about writing an article about it for the I.P Thanks.

Back to Sherlock Holmes.' Sherlock Holmes has always been my hero. But not everyone feels Holmes is a hero, now take that EVIL Prof. Boncore for one. He thinks Holmes was the villain in the stories. A few months back I loaned the Prof. my copy of "The Final Problem" to listen to. That's the story where Holmes and Prof Moriarty fight and go over the falls of Rachenback, Switzerland. Well was Prof Boncore ever happy when he thought Prof. Moriarty had killed Sherlock Holmes. The next month I loaned him "The Empty House", wow what a face on him, you couldn't even talk to him for over a month when he found out that Homes had finished off Prof. Moriarty instead. I walked into

the meeting "Hi Prof" I said cheer fully. "Ah Shut Up" was his reply. What the heck is the trouble with you Prof. I asked? Whats the trouble, you know daro well what the trouble is that rotten Sherlock Holmes thats what, They should put him in jail and throw away the key. Why do you say that I asked? Why? because he's a no good killer thats why. He killed a poo, kind innocent man. What innocent man I asked? What innocent man, he repeated mocking me. An innocent wonderful school teacher thats who he almost screamed at me. Prof. Moriarty a kind, gentle math teacher the poor man. I thought Prof Boncore was going to cry he looked so bad. Oh boy that really corks me I said. Well here I can prove Holmes was a crook he told me. Just look at this, and he hd a stack of papers. Here's just one time Holmes was in the cahoots with "The Woman", Irene Adler in the story "A Scandal IN Bohemia: to rip off the King of Scandinavia. If you would just read a little between the lines you would see that. He never got the picture back he promised the King he would. But then instead he took the Kings ring and an extra large fee plus the picture of Adler that she had left.

Well Prof Boncore did his home work all right but tow and two is still four not three and a quarter the way he has it figured out. He's just a hopeless cause I guess.

Well thats it for now. Till next time good listening.

Francis Edward Bork

MEMBER PROFILE

This will be (I hope) the start of a new series for the I.P. Newsletter. I would like to see club members write an article about how they became intergsted in OTR. How long collecting, number of shows in their collections, favorite show or shows and so on.

I can recall how I got started. In 1963 while waiting to be called into my dentist office, I was looking thru an old magazine (the name of the magazine escapes me), when I came across an ad that went something like this---"Old Time Radio Shows on Tape. All the old Classics Fom Long Ago. Remember The Shadow, Jack Benny, The Lone Ranger, and other shows? Now you can listen to them again. Huge catalog listing over 5000 shows is only \$2.00 Write to....."

I mailed my \$2.00, received my catalog and received the surprise of my life. There, on page after page, were listed thousands of OTR SHOWS! I didn't know which ones to order first. (BY the way, I think my first reels were ordered from Radio Yesteryear). All I could think about were the many days and nights that my brother and I sat in front of our old floor model and became lost in a radio episode--- Jack Armstrong, Tom Mix, and all the rest. I was hooked!

I ordered reels. Then I ordered more reels. My collection started to grow over the years. Later on I put out my own little catalog. As small as it was, I started trading with other collectors. Within five years I had a great collection!

Then it happened! I was gathering shows so fast I didn't have time to listen to most of them. "Hold It-Back Off", I told myself, "Slow down!". All trading stopped. The task of listening to and grading the shows was at hand. Poor shows were weeded out, reels were re-dubbed, and my reels (the ones with good sounding shows) were re-sorted and listed in a new catalog. This was my first major task. I now had the shows I wanted in the best possible sound I wanted. Mynext major effort came about two years ago. Yep- you guessed it!

All my favorite shows were recorded onto cassettes! Today the job is completed. On hundreds of cassettes are hundreds of my favorite OTR shows. Now I enjoy the shows while driving my car. Some reels were sold, some donated to the club and others I still have along with a couple of reel-to-reel recorders.

I retired from GTE IN 1987. I was an accountant in the advertising divison. In addition to OTR I enjoy photography and collecting old photographs, especially Civil War/ I'm married have three children and four grand children. My favorite show? "The Shadow" followed by "The Lone Ranger" and "Suspense".

Thats it! Now its your turn. How about an article telling us how you got started in this hobby.

"Say Goo nite, Gracie"

"Good nite Gracie"

Dom Parisi

THE SHADOW

COPYRIGHT:
STREET & SMITH

MAY 15, 1938

by WALTER GIBSON

THE HAND SMASHING MYSTERY NOVEL

CHAPTER XVII CRIME'S ZERO HOUR

Maude Revelle was at her best, the next afternoon. She had expected that the guests at the cocktail party might regard her as an outsider; instead, they received her like an old friend.

That was partly because she came with Lamont Cranston; but Maude's own conduct was an added factor.

Most of Maude's society notions had been gained from watching movies but she had profited a lot from the process. Moreover, she had an aptitude for imitating other persons without having them realize it.

That was one reason why Pinky had liked her. She seemed "classy" as he put it; but she talked his own language. He had never realized that her conversation was unnatural. Nor did the guests as the Rothmorton party suspect that Maude was not of their own ilk.

There were times when Maude used slangy terms; and once in a while, she didn't grasp what others talked about. But they accepted her slang expressions as quips; and Maude was wise enough to preserve silence, when she found herself beyond her depth.

There was one girl at the party that Maude liked the moment she saw her. The girl was a slender brunette, whose smile was as friendly as her eyes. She admired the tasteful way in which Maude was dressed; and that pleased Maude more than ever.

The two were not introduced at first, because most of the persons at the party were already acquainted. When Maude finally met the brunette, she was pleased until she heard the latter's name.

The girl that Maude liked so well was Beth Jondran.

As the party progressed, Maude learned that Beth's father was a very important man in the oil business. She also found out that Beth was driving into the city alone, in her roadster. The car happened to be parked just outside the window; it was the only roadster in the driveway.

Maude had no trouble learning THE LICENSE NUMBER. Gloomily, she scribbled it on a bit of paper, tucked it into her cigarette case. With it, she marked the time at which Beth intended to leave; namely quarter past six. Beth wanted to meet some friends at seven; but they wouldn't wait for her if she was late.

That fact also bothered Maude; for it fixed everything nicely, in accordance with Pinky's plans. Maude was hoping desperately that something might happen to prevent Beth's capture.

For her own part, she saw no other way to manage it; whether right or wrong, she had to go through with Pinky's orders.

It was nearly six o'clock, when Beth suddenly approached Maude and handed her an envelope. The deed was timely, for Maude had reached the point where she knew she would have to call Ondrey and give him the news for Pinky.

"I've been carrying this for the last ten minutes," laughed Beth. Mr. Cranston gave it to men for you. He found that he had to leave unexpectedly. I'm terribly forgetful at times. So much so, that I can never remember where I place the car keys. That's why I always leave them in the car, whenever I know its safe."

Maude was opening the envelope. Dusk had gathered, it was gloomy in the corner where the two girls were. Beth turned on a floor lamp. She was starting away, when Maude halted her.

With the envelope only partly opened, Maude forgot about it to express something to Beth.

"You know Miss Jondran," she said, "there's one thing I wouldn't ever do. That's double-cross any one."

Beth smiled sympathetically. She didn't quite understand; but she saw that Maude was badly troubled.

"I mean, any one like Mr. Cranston," Maude continued. "Or any one as well as you are Miss Jondran. But sometimes---well, there are things you can't tell a person."

Beth looked at the note, then asked: "You mean something you cannot tell Mr. Cranston?"

"That's it," returned Maude. "That is, in a way. What I mean is, if a fellow doesn't know some thing he ought to know, but if you've promised some one else that you won't tell him----"

Her voice broke. Maude was choking when she added:

"What I mean is, a real guy like Mr. Cranston ought to be treated right. And so should you. Miss Jondran."

"I don't quite understand," soothed Beth. "But Maude-- I know you won't mind my calling you Maude I feel that real persons can trust each other. That often solves life's problems. But I feel, too, that each person must be allowed to do what he or she thinks is best."

"You do?" blurted Maude. "Would you trust me to do that, Beth? After only meeting me once?"

"Certainly! One meeting is enough."

"Gee, you're swell!"

"Why not open the envelope?" asked Beth. "It seems to have brought up your problem. Perhaps it will solve it."

Maude didn't think it would, but she did not say so. She decided to do as Beth suggested. Maude needed a few minutes to get the choke out of her voice. Beth left her; a few moments later, Maude was reading Cranston's message.

Maude's eyes were a bit teardimmed. She couldn't believe the words that blurred in front of her. When she had wiped her eyes, she read them again. They were amazing; but real. They were so utterly incredible that Maude stood motionless.

Slowly, Maude came to life, a grim smile showing on her face. She crumpled the message, not observing that its words were fading from view. Hurrying out to

a little hallway, she reached the telephone.

She called the Bubble Club. Ondrey answered, his voice impatient, worried. He'd had three calls from Pinkey; the big-shot was still awaiting news from Maude.

"Tell him to keep his shirt on!" snapped Maude. "Here's the dope he wants. The dame is leaving here in about ten minutes. She's driving a roadster, and she's going to be alone. Here---take down the license number/"

Ondrey recorded the number as Maude gave it.

"When she gets to town," added Maude. "she'll leave the car in a parking lot on Sixtieth Street, right next to the Zenith Apartments. From there, she always takes a cab. So it ought to be easy to grab her."

"But remember; tell Pinkey there's to be no rough stuff. He's not going to know where I am, tonight, and if I hear this dame gets hurt, it's going to go bad with Pinkey! He and I made a deal: tell him to remember it."

A few minutes later, Maude was on her way to the front door, wearing her hat and coat. Beth met her, asked if she intended to go into New York.

"You can come with me, Maude," suggested Beth. "I'm leaving in just a few minutes."

"Thanks Beth," returned Maude. "But I can't wait. Not even one minute."

Maude's smile told much to Beth, even though it didn't give the details. Beth's tone was sweet when she asked softly:

"The message solved everything?"

Maude nodded, happily. She gave Beth's hand a squeeze, then hurried out into the darkness.

Meanwhile, Maude's message had reached its destination. In the hideout, Pinkey repeated the details to Slick and Bugs, chiefly for the latter's benefit.

"It's your job, Bugs," said Pinkey. "Get up there to the parking lot and grab that doll in a hurry. And remember: no rough stuff. We ain't taking chances on Maude making trouble."

"Take that dame down to Ondrey's. Let him look out for her. The office is a good place for him to keep her; and Ondrey has enough sense to make her know we won't hurt her."

"Tell him to give her a feed, if she's hungry; and if he hears from Maude, to let her know that everything's being done in style. Dames are soft to handle, if you kid 'em right."

Bugs left the hideout. There was a thug in the hall; he rounded for the fellow to come along. Pinkey and Slick heard the hoodlum follow him. A few minutes later, Pinkey and Slick stole out of the lair.

On their way through the alley Pinkey undertoned remarks regarding their next step.

"We'll handle it together," he declared. "Only this time, I'll spill my real moniker; but you're still Bill Quaine. The more we tell old Jondran, the better, provided we keep that part of the story straight."

They had neared a parked car. Slick gave a sudden shift; a quick exclamation .

"What's up?" snapped Pinkey. Slick turned a flashlight toward a wall beside the alley. The glow showed nothing more than bricks.

"It was like some guy nudged me!"

"There's nobody here," rasped Pinkey. "Better take a look around though. There's one guy we don't want to meet. That's the Shadow!"

Pinkey was stepping toward the car when Slick flashed the light back into the alleyway. He saw something; made a pounce. Pinkey scrambled from the car in time to hear the thud of a slugging gun; the clatter of a person in the alley.

Pinkey's own flashlight beamed; his gun was leveled, but he lowered it a moment later when he saw the face of Slick Thurley. Stepping out to meet the big-shot, Slick beckened.

"Douce your glim, Pinkey," suggested Slick, "We won't need it. I fixed the snooper!"

Slick led the way back, turning his flashlight on a huddled man whose hat was bashed over his eyes. The fellow lay facedownward, his shoulders so hunched that Slick found it difficult to turn the flashlight on his features.

Even then, he managed only a partial view of the man's profile and Pinkey saw no more than the fellow's chin.

"He ain't the Shadow," assured Slick. "Maybe he's some snooper the Shadow sent here; but even that ain't likely. I'd say he was just a guy that showed up where he wasn't wanted."

"Yeah!" agreed Pinkey. "He probably saw Bugs and the crew sneaking out of here, and thought he'd find out where they came from. Leave him lay, Slick. We're in a hurry. What's more, we're never coming back to this hidout."

A few minutes after Pinkey and his companion had driven away, there was a stir from the inner reaches of the alley. A flashlight glimmered; the tiny torch was the Shadow's. The beam reached the slugged man who lay in the alley-- a relic of the brief fight staged by Slick Thurley.

The huddled form was senseless. Who the man was; how he had come here, were questions that did not seem to trouble the Shadow. He simply extinguished his flashlight, lifted the victim from the cobble stones and carried the man across his shoulders.

Soft mockery came from the Shadow's lips, as he lugged the senseless burden from the alleyway. That tone was tinged with prophecy one that crooks would not have liked, if they had heard it.

Both Pinkey Findlen and Slick Thurley were later to regret this brief episode in which they had figured.

The Shadow knew!!

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

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*** RADIO ROUNDUP ***

BY Chuck Juzek

Old Time Radio brimmed over with an unending plethora of heroes to whose colorful adventures and thrilling exploits we gave our undivided attention. Every conceivable type of heroic drama was represented for our listening pleasure.

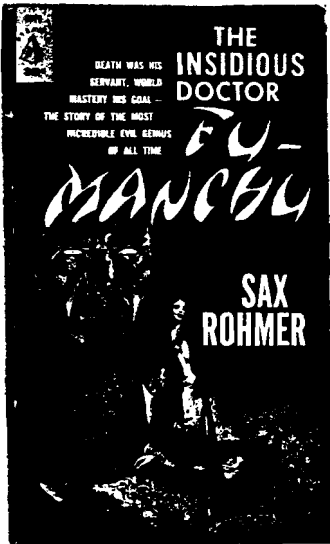
There were costumed superheroes, masked crimefighters, detectives, investigators, cops, cowboys, magicians, aviators, futuristic space heroes, jungle heroes, sea adventurers, etc., etc. all dedicated to fighting crime and providing us with the escape adventure that kept our ears and imaginations magnetically glued to the talking boxes. Even some heroines had their own programs, like The Lady in Blue, Maisie, Candy Matson and Miss Pinkerton. And this before the days of women's lib.

It should come as no surprise then that even the villain and master criminal would have secured sufficient fame or infamy to command a radio show of his own. The one who comes immediately to mind is that master criminal and evil, Oriental genius, the insidious Dr. Fu Manchu.

Chris Steinbrunner and Otto Penzler, in their excellent tome ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYSTERY AND DETECTION (McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1976), describe the good Dr. this way: "Fu Manchu is the ultimate villain, a Chinese master criminal of untold wealth, intellect, and occult powers whose goal is world conquest. He is a diabolical fiend who ruthlessly seeks to become emperor of the world. In addition to possessing degrees from three European universities, he has vast knowledge of the occult and of secrets of chemistry, medicine, and physics unknown to Western man. A master of the black arts, he also commands the tongs of Asia and is a master of the secret sects of the East -- Dacoits, Hashishin, Phansigars, and Thugs.

Tall, lean and feline, with high shoulders, an expansive brow, and a face like Satan, Fu Manchu generally wears a yellow robe or a black one with a silver peacock embroidered on the front. He wears a black cap on his smooth, close-shaven skull. Often portrayed with what is now known as a "Fu Manchu moustache", he is in fact clean-shaven so as not to interfere with his disguises -- he is a master of disguise. His eyes are his most notable physical features: long, magnetic, and true cat-green -- so piercing and compelling that their gaze is often sensed even before his presence is made known."

The satanic doctor made his radio debut in 1929 and produced murder and mayhem on the air, off and on, until September of 1940. The 1st of his radio adventures was on the old Collier Hour in a series of 12 chapter serials running from 1929-30. Next, a new series of Fu Manchu 1/2 hour radio dramas was launched by CBS in 1932 and ran till 1933. John C. Daly played the evil Dr. Fu. Sax Rohmer himself was on hand for the opener.



The last and most exciting series of broadcasts was THE SHADOW OF FU-MANCHU, which ran for 77 chapters as a 3 times a week, 15 minute serialization from Sept. 1939 to Sept. 1940 and was syndicated by Radio Attractions. The plots remained virtually word for word faithful to Sax Rohmer's books beginning with THE INSIDIOUS DOCTOR FU MANCHU. Hanley Stafford played Sir Denis Nayland Smith, Special Inspector of Scotland Yard's Criminal Investigation Division, while Gale Gordon took the role of Dr. James Petrie.

The 1st episode of THE SHADOW OF FU MANCHU went somewhat like this, as the announcer's voice eerily boomed: "London at midnight, a great city wrapped in a heavy shroud of dense, yellow fog...street lights weird as elfin lamps glow mistily like something fashioned in a dream. The murmur of creeping traffic low, hushed, mysterious. Behind an ancient wall surrounding an unkept lawn, a vast gloomy old mansion crouches like an evil beast of prey, a wall concealed in heavy tapestries, magnificently figured in golden dragons...the floor carpeted with rich, deep piled Chinese rugs. At a huge dragon-leg table covered with scintillating globes, tubes and instruments unknown to Western science, sits that master scientist, that Prince of Evil...Dr. Fu Manchu."

Garbed in a heavy, yellow silk gown, he leans over the ornate table as he addresses his assistant, the beautiful, Eurasian Káramanèh, held slave in his power. Through long, narrow eyes that glow with a green light, he inquires of the whereabouts of Nayland Smith and Dr. Petrie, and decides it is time to put his devilish plan into action by disposing of the reknown British statesman, Dr. Crighton Davey.

Nayland Smith, secretly back from Burma, had uncovered Fu Manchu's insidious plan to eliminate or abduct England's famous scientists, inventors and political leaders who have acquired knowledge of the perfidious awakening of the East, by engineering their death or transport to the headquarters of the Black Poppy Society, a secret organization of criminals located in the interior of China.

While investigating the death chamber of the first victim, Smith and Dr. Petrie encounter The Zayat Kiss, a deadly poisonous "insect" from Burma which feeds on a rare species of orchid and brings death to all who touch the orchid. Apparently, under the control of the Dacoits, The Zayat, attracted to stationary saturated with the orchid smell sent to the intended victim, is then recalled by a piercing, wailing cry.

Káramanèh delivers another such letter to Dr. Petrie instructing him to give it to Nayland Smith, but at the same time warns him not to linger about. Nayland, realizing its significance and that he is next on the list decides to allow themselves to be followed back to their Baker St. quarters. Preparing dummies in their beds, they sit quietly in the dark corners of the room to await developments.

Nayland explains that Fu Manchu is probably the most malignant personality existing in the world today. A diabolical madman with unlimited power, one of those ingenious people born once every 3 or 4 generations, who had the ability to change the course of human history, who might have revolutionized science, but chose the path of evil instead.

Suddenly, a Dacoit lets a Zayat into the room through an open window. It moves incredibly fast and chaos ensues. Shouts and gun shots ring out, but Nayland manages to kill the awful creature which turns out to be a deadly, giant, venomous, red centipede. Petrie wonders why the the beautifully exotic Káramanèh would have warned him of danger. Nayland offers that she must have taken a fancy to him.

Further episodes involved a virtual arsenal of death dealing devices devised by the devilish doctor ranging from poisonous snakes, a killing green mist, a ghastly fungus whose spores brought death, paralyzing flowers of silence, a fiery hand, a strange force that brings on a most horrible, coughing death, a deadly, plague-like disease, etc., etc.

Throughout, Nayland and Petrie find themselves in dire straits, caught, drugged, threatened, outwitted, tortured, locked in a room filled with ravenously hungry rats and more often than not saved from certain death by the lovely Káramanèh, who eventually becomes Petrie's wife.

There is no doubt that Fu Manchu was probably the most effective villain to come out of juvenile radio. Some 40 odd episodes of his evincibly deadly adventures remain available to O.T.R. fans and collectors on open reel or cassettes. A radio log (provided by courtesy of Ray Stanich) is reproduced below. A SASE will also bring you a complete listing of all his available radio logs. Write to Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, New York, 11201.

Radio Log of: THE SHADOW OF FU MANCHU

Chapter	Date(s)	Chapter title
1	-- 5/08/39 -----	The Insidious Dr. Fu Manchu
2&3	-- 5/10,12/39 --	The Zayat Kiss
4&5	-- 5/15,17/39 --	Clue of the Pigtail
6&7	-- 5/19,22/39 --	Redcoat
8&9	-- 5/24,26/39 --	The Green Mist
10&11	-- 5/29,31/39 --	The Curse of Siva
12&13	-- 602/05/39 --	Káramanèh
14&15	-- 6/07,09/39 --	Andaman - Second!
16&17	-- 6/12,14/39 --	The Golden Flask
18&19	-- 6/16,19/39 --	The Spores of Death
20&21	-- 6/21,23/39 --	The Knocking on the Door
22	-- 6/26/39 -----	The Traveller from Tibet
23	-- 6/28/39 -----	The Flower of Silence
24	-- 6/30/39 -----	The Si-Fan Move
25	-- 7/03/39 -----	Zarmi of the Joy-Shop
26	-- 7/05/39 -----	Tulun-Nur Chest
27	-- 7/07/39 -----	The 3 Golden Pomegranates
28	-- 7/10/39 -----	A Midnight Summons
29	-- 7/12/39 -----	The Cry of a Nighthawk
30	-- 7/14/39 -----	Under the Elms
31	-- 7/17/39 -----	Enter Mr. Abel Slattin
32	-- 7/19/39 -----	The Climber
33	-- 7/21/39 -----	The White Peacock
34	-- 7/24/39 -----	Dark Eyes Look into Mine
35	-- 7/26/39 -----	The Coughing Horror
36	-- 7/28/39 -----	The Questing Hands
37	-- 7/31/39 -----	The Silver Buddha
38	-- 8/02/39 -----	The Bells
39	-- 8/04/39 -----	The 6 Gates of Joyful Wisdom
40	-- 8/07/39 -----	The Purple Shadow

The first 21 chapters follow the novel THE INSIDIOUS DR. FU MANCHU very closely, literally word for word. Chapters 22 through 27 continue the exploits found in THE HAND OF FU MANCHU, while Chapters 28 through 39 relate the storyline in THE RETURN OF FU MANCHU. A new adventure is begun with Chapter 40 which serializes events from THE BRIDE OF FU MANCHU. Pity that the remaining chapters (41 to 77) have not become available to hobbyist. Perhaps someday they may resurface to entertain us once again.

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What have the four years which have shattered the health of more than one predecessor done to the chief of the New Deal? A little more than a decade ago doctors shook their heads over Mr. Roosevelt. How do they feel about him today? What is his weight, his general physical tone today compared with what it was when he arrived in the capital in March of 1933? Without lessening your enjoyment of the highly interesting and revealing article in Liberty next Wednesday, we can tell you that today the President is in the best of health. How he has gained it; what he does to keep fit; what exercise he takes; his methods of relaxing from the almost overpowering cares of his high office are questions which are answered fully and frankly in the article itself next week.



Vox Pop

MANY A POLITICIAN DID GO TO COLLEGE

CHICAGO, ILL.—Mr. Stribling's article in January 2 Liberty on the low caliber of most of our politicians is very good, but I do not agree with his idea of a cure. He contends that a college education for politicians would make them honest.

Check over any list of aldermen or congressmen, and you will find that 75 per cent of them are lawyers—all college graduates. True, it isn't the high-grade lawyer, as a rule, that goes into politics, but the failures with only a gift of gab and willing to be machine-controlled.

Honesty and character aren't acquired with a college degree. Arouse people to demand men respected in their communities and most of the evil will be eliminated.—David Somers.

Rising Stars



Tyrone Power woke to find himself famous.

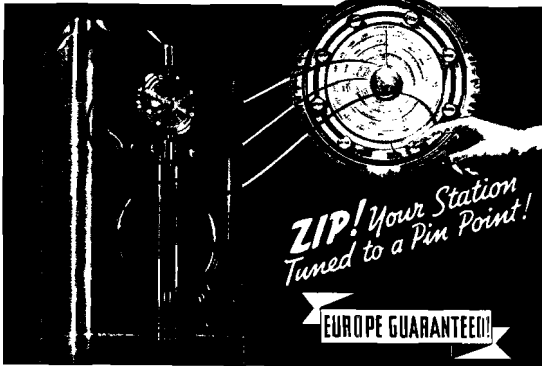


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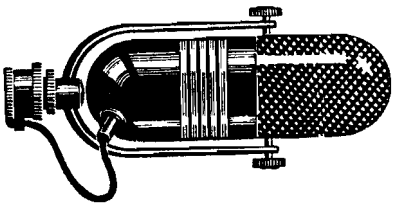
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