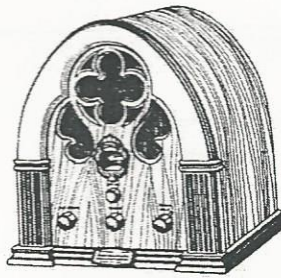


The Old Time Radio Club

# The ILLUSTRATED

Number 415



Established 1975

# PRESS

December 2013

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# The Illustrated Press

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Club Membership: \$18.00 per year from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Members receive a media library listing and a monthly newsletter. Memberships are as follows: If you join January-March, \$18.00; April-June, \$14.00; July-September, \$10.00; October-December, \$7.00. All renewals should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues of the newsletter. Please be sure to notify us if you have a change of address. The Old Time Radio Club meets on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. during the months of September through June at St. Aloysius School Hall, Cleveland Drive and Century Road, Cheektowaga, NY. There is no meeting during the month of July and a Club picnic in August.

Anyone interested in the Golden Age of Radio is welcome. The Old Time Radio is affiliated with the Old Time Radio Network.

### CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

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Lancaster, NY 14086



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**Editor's Two Cents**

Hello again, to all our members, in an update on Jerry Collins, I can only say he is still in rehab, and we all wish him a complete speedy recovery. Rich Simpson conducted the meeting and looked pretty well in his new pacemaker. Our Fibber McGee trivia quiz went well and a Dragnet quiz is all set for this month. My thanks again go out to my assistant Rich Leroux for doing a splendid job of mailing out the newsletters. On behalf of myself and staff, I wish everyone a great Christmas and an enjoyable holiday season to all. It's gotten a little cooler now. I'm still doing my walking as long as weather permits. My DVD disc of 417 Whistler shows works fine. I'm up to show #39 and the quality is extremely good. This month's IP contains the third installment of Peter Bellanca's L'il Abner. I can't help recall that when I delivered The Buffalo Evening News many years ago, the first thing I did before delivering was to read about Dogpatch and all its colorful characters. The artwork was second to none. We also continue with Frank Bork's story on the Infamous "Tokyo Rose". This issue has the conclusion of World War 2 on the Radio. Hopefully we never experience a war again of that magnitude. AMEN.

## Dragnet Trivia Quiz:

It's time for the annual trivia quiz. This one deals with "Dum De Dum Dum" Dragnet. Ans next month.

1. True or False. Did the line "Just the facts Maam" ever appear in a Dragnet episode?
2. Why did Friday have badge number 714
3. What one aspect was different on Dragnet to any other crime dramas?
4. What was an APB and a 211?
5. Who were the show's 2 announcers?
6. Who created Dragnet?
7. Who were Joe Friday's four partners on Radio?
8. What three cigarettes sponsored Dragnet
9. What instrument was Webb quite adept at.?
10. What classic film noir did Webb star in ?
11. Who was Webb married to?



## The Origin of Tokyo Rose

By Frank Bork Part 3

Iva's portion of the 75 minute show only lasted twenty minutes a day. She spent the rest of her time on her original job, typing for the Domei News Agency. She spent every minute she could scavenging for Black-Market food and medicine for her "POW" friends. During her 20 minute time broadcasting Iva would play mostly English dance music and some light classics, because she reasoned that these songs would not make the American Service men homesick. A small amount of her time allotted she would read messages from the POWs and play some jazz tunes. Her part of the show's theme song was chosen by Iva. It was "Strike up the Band", the battle song of her Alma Mater, UCLA. However, things were starting to change for the worse, as the tide of the war continued to turn against Japan. Iva's ongoing pro-American stance began to cause problems with her co-workers. She resigned from the Domei News Agency after Filipe d'Aquino, whom she was now dating, became embroiled in a fight, because of something she had said. She took up a position at the Danish Embassy and received a portion of her salary in luxury items from the Embassy's diplomatic rations. She later traded on the Black Market for more food for her POWs. As for the "Zero Hour" team, Major Cousens had suffered a heart attack and was taken off the air, as was Ince, who was removed for insubordination. Reyes had been declared a "friendly alien", following Japan's annexation of the Philippines. This left Iva, who carried on rewriting Major Cousen's old scripts to keep the feel of subversive elements of the show.

Despite the upheaval in the "Zero Hour" team, the show was seen as a success by the Japanese army. This was based on reports they received from the neutral Portuguese and Swedish Embassies in Japan, that the American forces were following the broadcasts of Tokyo Rose. However, nobody at Radio Tokyo knew who Tokyo Rose was or for that matter, if there was a real Tokyo Rose. Nevertheless, Japanese officials were happy the enemy was listening.

### Orphan Ann was not Tokyo Rose:

Post war interviews with servicemen revealed some interesting disparities in just who was Tokyo Rose. Their descriptions of the content of the shows, suggest they were listening to Orphan Ann, but their descriptions of the voice seem to point more towards Foumy Saisho's Madam Tojo or Ruth Hayakawa's Nightingale of Nanking, certainly not Iva's somewhat unprofessional (as she had no formal training) or delivery style. While many of those interviewed recall listening to and enjoying the "Zero Hour", they also recalled being especially fond of a Sunday program hosted by a female Japanese DJ, whom they knew as Tokyo Rose. Iva, American Captain Ince, Australian Major Cousens never worked on Sundays. Ruth Hayakawa substituted for Iva and Philippine Lieutenant Reyes substituted for Major Cousens. By January 1944, twelve more Allied POWs arrived at the prison camp, and more new programs were begun. They were "Missing Men", "Saturday Jamboree", "The Postman Called", "War on War", "The Australian Hour", "The Civilian Air Program", and "From One American to the Other". All had the same style and general format as the "Zero Hour". In

December 1944 "Zero Hour" was shortened to 60 minutes. The program was now considered NHK's Front Line Section and controlled directly by Major Tsuneishi. George Mitsushio was news analysis section chief, with Kenkichi Oki in charge of the actual broadcasts, which were mostly propaganda. Late in 1944, Iva was paid at Radio Tokyo about 150 yen a month, about \$7.00 in US currency. On April 19<sup>th</sup> 1945 Iva married Felipe Acquino, a Portuguese citizen of Japanese-Portuguese ancestry. The marriage was registered with the Portuguese Consulate in Tokyo, however, Iva did not renounce her American citizenship.

### **The End of the War:**

By now Iva and Felipe were married and living together, following Iva's conversion to Catholicism. Iva avoided going to work at Radio Tokyo as much as possible. After being threatened by the Kempeitai Police, but by then the writing was on the wall and within three months, she was cheering as Emperor Hirohito broadcast Japan's unconditional surrender.

### **The Hunt for Tokyo Rose:**

Following the Japanese surrender September 1st 1945, the search began for Japanese military leaders and others who may have committed war crimes. The military took the lead in this, with the press joining in the hunt, often following but sometimes beating the military in tracking down the suspects. Two of these reporters, Henry Brundidge, from *Cosmopolitan* and Clark Lee from *INS* set out to find Tokyo Rose, unaware that no such person existed, and the name was

created by American troops. The US Office of War Information had even reported, after a brief investigation, that there is no Tokyo Rose. The name was strictly a GI invention. The name has applied to at least 2 liltng Japanese voices on Japanese radio. Government monitors listing 24 hours a day have never heard the words Tokyo Rose over a Japanese-controlled far east radio program. Undeterred, Brundidge and Lee continued to investigate and offered \$250.00 for information leading to Tokyo Rose. A Nissel worker for Radio Tokyo, Leslie Nakashima told them of Iva. Clark Lee promptly released the name of Iva Lkuko Toguri d'Aquino as Tokyo Rose to the public. Although they both knew that Iva was offered by the Portuguese consulate in Tokyo to send with a Portuguese citizenship to any city in Portugal. Iva refused, she would only go home to America. Upon meeting Iva, Brundige and Lee offered her \$2000 for which they later reneged on paying, for exclusive rights to interview her as the one and only "Tokyo Rose". At this point Iva told them that she used the name "Orphan Ann" and not "Tokyo Rose". They told her "Tokyo Rose" sounded more like the girl next door. She agreed with them. However, not only did Brundidge's editor at *Cosmopolitan* reject the story, he also refused to authorize the \$2000 payment. The only way Brundidge could avoid paying the money out of his own pocket was to void the contract. Brundidge presented Clark Lee's comprehensive notes to the Army Counter Intelligence Corps Commander Elliot Thorpe, claiming that Iva should be arrested for treason and the notes contained her confession. At the same time, he arranged for Iva to hold a joint press conference with a complete staff of

journalists, thus nullifying his own exclusive contract and saving \$2000. Unaware of Brundidge and Lee's double-dealing, both Iva and the press corps agreed, and the conference was held at the Yokohama Bund Hotel. Iva also gave interviews to "Yank" and the "Pacific Stars and Stripes" and even recorded a mock "Orhan Ann" broadcast for the newsreels. Ignorant of the brewing trouble (news that "Tokyo Rose" was an American citizen, who intended to return home to California, had set the Gold Star Mothers with angry protest). Iva was under the impression that "Tokyo Rose" was a GI's sweetheart, as "Orphan Ann" was intended to be. Under the miss-guided impression that she was now a radio celebrity, she signed autographs and posed for pictures as "Tokyo Rose". Iva was taken into custody on October 17, 1945, and upon her arrival at the 8<sup>th</sup> Army HQ Brigade, was informed that she was under arrest, although no warrant had been issued and no charges were filed. ....  
Continued in next month's IP.



Iva Toguri D'Aquino mug shot, Sugamo Prison - March 7, 1946.

### Longest Running Old Time Radio Shows

By Tom Cherre

They say if a TV shows last two years or more, it's a hit. With radio shows it was somewhat similar. Of course there were far fewer networks than TV has today. Here is a little synopsis of the good, the great, and the really great shows. The thriller show "Lights Out" was one of the most innovative shows on the air. It made great use of its sound effects. These sound effects created images so vivid that NBC would only air it after midnight so as not to frighten young listeners. The creaking door opening intro was especially classic. "Lights Out" had a memorable 5 year run. Abbott and Costello parlayed their guest appearances on Kate Smith's Show and the Chase and Sanborn Show into their own comedy show giving us their classic comedy routines each week for 6 years. They continued on Saturday morning for another 3 years. Other show I liked and enjoy listening to today are "Life of Riley", "Our Miss Brooks", and "Phil Harris-Alice Faye", which all had respectful runs of 8 years each. Another favorite was "Life with Luigi" starring J. Carroll Nash portraying the loveable Luigi Basco. His antics living in Chicago entertained us all. Stories involving his language classes, the Pizza Palace, Pasquale and Rosa were unforgettable. Luigi ran for 5 years. Red Skelton so popular on TV had an 11 run on radio. It was in 1941 when Raleigh cigarettes offered to sponsor him on a network program. It was then he brought all his colorful characters to life on radio including Clem Kadiddlehopper, San Fernando Red, Mean Little Kid. To be continued next month. Part 2

# The Illustrated Press

## LI'L ABNER - PART 3

The strip contained many interesting reoccurring second banana characters, some of which are listed below.

Marryin' Sam: A traveling preacher who specializes in two dollar weddings and made most of his money on Sadie Hawkins Day. He was reportedly modeled after New York City Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. Devious to a fault he would use any deception to collect his two-dollar fee. The men of Dogpatch had little use for him and considered him a tool of the women folk. In the 1956 Broadway musical and 1959 film adaptation, he was played by actor Stubby Kaye.

Moonshine McSwine: In a deliberate parody of glamour magazines Capp had the beautiful but unwashed McSwine usually shown smoking a corncob pipe and lounging among the pigs in their stys. Moonbeam along with other



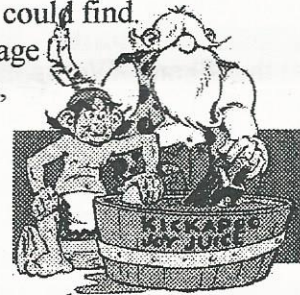
characters in the strip was often used as nose art on World War II and Korean War fighters and bombers. Captain William T. Whisner a World War II fighter pilot ace and Distinguished Service Cross recipient had Moonbeam on his Mustang P-51D bomber escort fighter. Capp's wife Catherine was used as the caricature for McSwine, less the pigs and dirt.

Available Jones: Dogpatch's entrepreneur was always available for a price and his availability had many sidelines. Anything you needed would be provided including baby sitting, dry babies were five cents, other kinds were ten cents. His most popular request was for his cousin, Stupefyin' Jones.

Stupefyin' Jones: She was so drop-dead gorgeous that any male who glimpsed her froze petrified in his tracks, stupefied. Well-proportioned actress Julie Newmar became legendary for playing Jones in the 1956 Broadway musical without uttering a single line and reprised the role in the 1959 movie.

Hairless Joe and Lonesome Polecat: Lonesome Polecat of the Fried Dog Indian tribe and Hairless Joe, his shaggy longhaired, club-wielding partner lived in a cave and produced the notorious *Kickapoo Joy Juice*. The *Juice* was a powerful drink that supposedly could melt rivets off a battleship. It was brewed in a wooden tub and its ingredients often included whole animals, kerosene, horseshoes or any other ingredient that they could find.

The Monarch Beverage Company of Atlanta, Georgia produces Kickapoo Joy Juice today as a carbonated citrus flavored soft drink sold mainly in their Asian markets.



Earthquake McGoon: He was based on real life wrestler Man Mountain Dean. McGoon called himself "the world's dirtiest wrassler" and was the filthiest resident of Skonk Hollow, a lawless community adjacent to Dogpatch. For some unknown reason he became one of the lead characters in *Cream*

of *Wheat* print ads in the 1940's.



Wolf Gal: She was another shapely beauty who was raised by wolves and preferred to live among them. Naive Dogpatchers

would be enticed to become dinner for her predatory wolf pack. In the 1950's she was merchandised with her own comic book, doll, hand puppet and Halloween mask.

Evil Eye Fleegle: based on a real-life Damon Runyon like boxing trainer named Benjamin "Evil Eye" Finkle. He was famous for his "hex" and was well known in New York City boxing circles during the 1930's and 1940's. The zoot suited Fleegle character was from Brooklyn NY and could emit a caustic ray from his eyes called a "whammy" that could knock men senseless. His double "whammy" could knock down a tall building and his "Quadruple whammy" could melt a battleship. He was merchandised with a battery operated lapel pin that when a string was pulled a light (whammy) could be directed at whomever you wanted.

Big Barnsmell: Barnsmell was the inside man at the Skonk Works, a ramshackle factory located just outside of Dogpatch. With his cousin Barney Barnsmell, the outside man, they produced "skonk oil" by grinding dead skunks and old shoes, which they brewed in a still. It was never explained what the oil was used for but the fumes were toxic. The term "Skonk Works" is used today in engineering and technical fields to describe a group within an organization given a high degree of autonomy and unrestricted by established protocols while working on advanced or secret projects. The Lockheed Martin's Skonk Works is a prime example of this.

Soft-Hearted John: Dogpatch's greedy, thoroughly evil hearted grocer who joyfully swindled and starved his customers. He had a nephew who sometimes ran the store in his absence named Soft-Headed John.

Senator Jack S. Phogbound: Phogbound was a pot-bellied corrupt, blowhard with a fondness for political pork and often wears a coonskin cap to impress the residents of Dogpatch. The senator was Capp's parody of a blustering anti-New Deal Dixiecrat whose campaign slogan was, "Thar's no Jack S. like *our* Jack S!"

Salomey: The Yokums' pet pig was the last female of the species "Hammus Alabammus." They were famous for their unique, indescribably delicious flavor of juicy ham. Unscrupulous sportsmen, hog breeders and connoisseurs of "ecstasy sauce," a gourmet delicacy that required "Hammus Alabammus" as a major ingredient, frequently targeted her. Her name was a pun on salami and Salome.

Other reoccurring characters included, Appassionata Von Climax, Boyless Bailey, Battling McNoodnik, Flash Boredom, Global McBlimp, Gloria Van Welbilt, Hopeful Mudd, Hopeless and Soapless, J. Sweetbody Goodpants, Jinx Rasputinburg, Joan L. Sullivan, Joe Btfsplk, Mayor Dan'l Dawgmeat, Mickey Looney, Nightmare Alice, One-Fault Jones, Priceless and Liceless, Princess Minihahaskirt, Rock Hustler, Romeo McHaystack, Rotten Ralphie, Skelton McCloset, Slobberlips McJab, The Widder Fruitful and Tobacco Rhoda,



Daisy Mae finally married Abner in 1952. Abner proposed to Daisy Mae to emulate the marriage of Fearless Fosdick to longtime fiancée Prudence Pimpleton. Fosdick's marriage to Pimpleton is a dream sequence that actually never takes



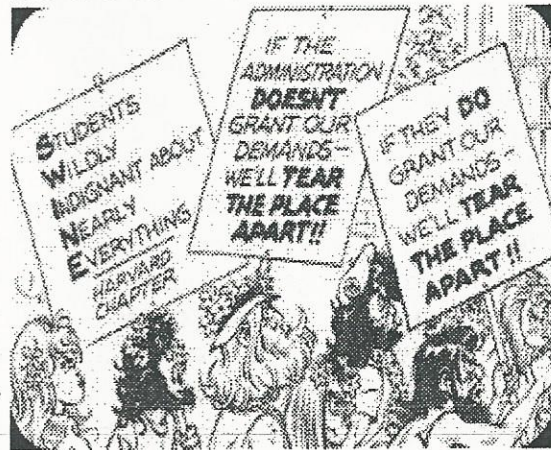
place, but that doesn't help Abner. His wedding does take place. It's a national media sensation and the wedded couple along with Marryin' Sam made the cover of the March 31, 1952 issue of *Life Magazine*. Once married they became the typical Dogpatch family with Daisy Mae doing all the work while Abner does nothing whatsoever. One year after the marriage they had a baby boy named Honest Abe and his first words were "po'k chop" which became his favorite food. He was the only character in the strip that aged.

With Abner married Capp felt that the strip needed a bachelor and introduced Tiny, Abner's seven foot, fifteen year old brother. Tiny first made his appearance in September 1954, when a relative who had been raising him reminded Mammy that she'd given birth to a second child while visiting her 15 years earlier. The relative explained that she would have dropped him off sooner, but waited until she happened to be in the neighborhood.

With attitudes and mores beginning to change in the 1960's the strip became less relevant and began to lose favor with the public. Capp also changed politically from being left of center to right of center.

Capp lived in Cambridge Massachusetts, home of Harvard University and began to satirize various student political groups at the school. This was the era of the Vietnam War protests and protesters appeared in the strip as S.W.I.N.E., *Students Wildly Indignant about Nearly Everything*. Many newspapers asked and received censored versions of the strip. He summed up his feeling for the protestors with this quote, "Today's younger generation is no worse than my own. We were just as ignorant and repulsive as they are, but nobody listened to us." This was not the first time his satire got him in trouble and his strips censored. In one of his parodies the U.S. Senate needed

one vote to pass a bill to broadcast Congressional sessions on the radio. Senator Phogbound of Dogpatch held the deciding vote and demanded two million dollars to



build Phogbound University, "to be known as P.U." He got his money and one senator replied, "It isn't as though it were my money—it's just taxpayers' money." Many editors pulled the strip or had it altered. Another time Abner was in Venice, Italy innocently helping the last of the Borgias bottle, "Borgia Poison" and names the concoction Peppi-Borgia. Slogans used to sell it were, "Peppi-Borgia hits the spot, puts you six feet deep and that's a lot." Another slogan was, "the pause that petrifies." United Features was so fearful of lawsuits that they had the word "Peppi" blocked out. His spoof of the comic strip *Mary Worth* by the Mary Worm character also got the sequence dropped by many newspapers. He lampooned Joan Baez, as Joanie Phoanie, a left wing radical and agitator, who sang revolutionary songs like "Molotov Cocktails for Two" while traveling in a limo and charging outrageous fees to poor orphans. Baez took Capp to court in 1967 to have Joanie Phoanie removed from the strip. She lost the case.

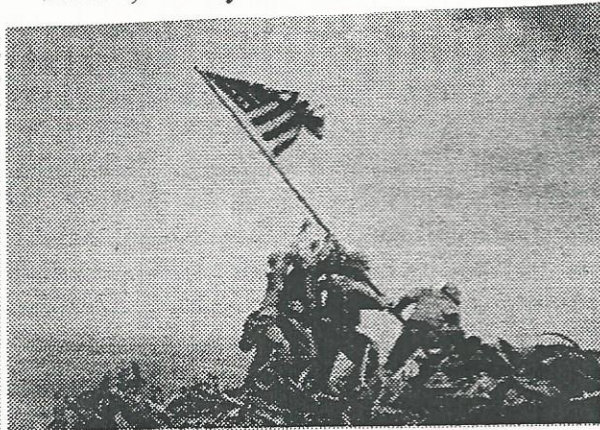
Capp employed numerous assistants to help with the tremendous workload of turning out six dailies, a Sunday strip, comic books, promotional and public service material, specialty work and advertising contracts. Some of his assistances

included Andy Amato, Harvey Curtis, Walter Johnson and from 1954 to 1961 Frank Frazetta.

CONTINUED IN NEXT MONTH'S IP

## WORLD War 2 on the Radio Part 4 by Tom Cherre

It was 1945 and the end was in sight, at least in Europe. D-Day was over, and the Battle of the Bulge was finally done.. Bob Hope became ever more popular as he brought his road show to France. With Jerry Colona and a bevy of cuties, he made life a bit more bearable for the troops. Some of the toughest fighting, and I know Frank Bork will agree with me, was the island fighting in the Pacific, notably Iwo Jima.



Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima, by Joe Rosenthal / The Associated Press

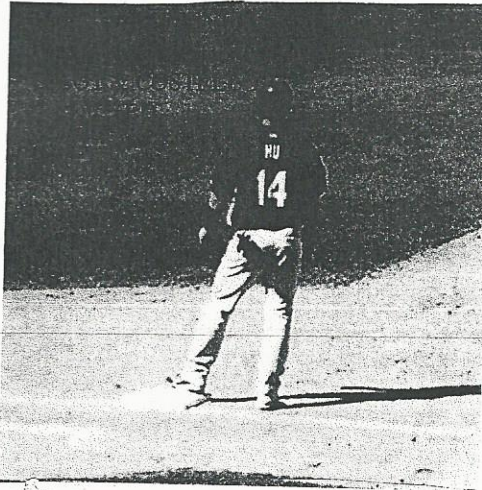
In 1945 a new radio show went on the air. It was a big favorite for the female audience. It was called "Queen for a Day". Bess Myerson, first Jewish girl won the Miss America Contest. She experienced a taste of anti-Semitic incidents. This is surprising because at this time Edward R. Murrow was giving on the scene news of the death camp

tragedies. President Roosevelt passed away in April. Arthur Godfrey gained huge acclaim as he broadcasted the funeral of the president. All radio stations cancelled all commercials for several days. Though the war was winding down rationing was still in effect. It wasn't till September 15 that rationing of gasoline ended. The top speed limit of 35mph came to an end. I myself doubt whether that rule was ever strictly enforced. And even shoe rationing ended. Many people had soles and heels repaired or just kept putting cardboard in their shoes due to the rubber and leather shortage. The year ended with Irving Berlin's classic "White Christmas" being sung by Bing Crosby. Frank Sinatra sang his big hit "Nancy With the Laughing Face" on the Ginny Simms Show. Other highlights that year were House Party debuted with Art Linkletter. Superman encounters Batman and Robin for the first time on Mutual radio. Incidentally a famous editor for an Old Time Radio Club was born in 1945. Guess Who? Automobiles also came back into production again. Many more inventions came about. The slinky came about. Tupperware made the scene. Ball point pens, frozen foods, and something called the computer was invented. The main thing is the war ended and peace was achieved for the time being. Oh Yes! Another new invention was on the horizon, one that would change the world," I betcha" as Fibber's little Teeney would say. That invention of course, was the television, or some say "Idiot Box".



### Hu's On First.

Dan Marafino gave me this picture and asked me to put it in the news letter. I'd also like to give you the lowdown on the Abbott and Costello routine.



It took about 70 years, but it finally happened ..... **Hu's on first.**

"Who's on First" is descended from turn of the century burlesque sketches that used play on words and names. Some examples are "The Baker Scene" (the shop is located on Watt Street) and "Who Dyed" (the owner is named Who). In a 1930 movie *Cracked Nuts* Bert Wheeler and Bob Woolsey examine a map with a dialogue of "What is next to Which" These are real towns with the actual names of What and Which. In the early 1930s a "Baseball Routine" had become a standard. Bud's wife recalls Abbott performing the routine with another comedian before ever teaming up with Costello. Abbott and Costello joined up with Kate Smith in February of 1938. It was on a March show of the same year that it was first performed on live radio. Abbott and Costello performed this sketch many times on radio, often changing the wording a wee bit. The "Who's on First" routine, is without a doubt the most famous comedy gag in radio history. The video

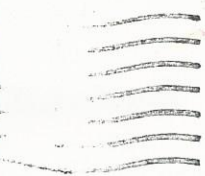
is enshrined for all to see in Cooperstown's Baseball Hall of Fame, and is run continuously throughout the day. I still laugh when I hear it.



### Update on Pres. Jerry Collins:

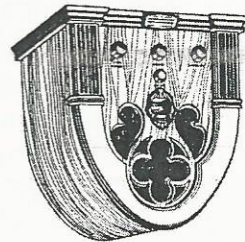
I recently had a phone conversation with Jerry the other night. He is convalescing at his daughter's house. He told me he still has a little infection in his knee. His spirits sounded good and after the knee is done he should be able to bounce in and out of the car. We're probably talking a few more months, but Jerry seemed determined to get back on his feet. He may prolong the shoulder surgery, as the doctors say less surgery is better. I told him all the faithful in the club wish him well and hope he returns very soon. Once again Jerry **Godspeed!**





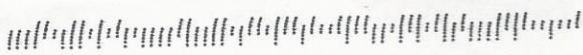
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 Alice Faye-The Lone Ranger-Life of Riley-  
 a Mystery-Lights Out-Great Gildersleeve-Inner  
 Amos 'n' Andy-Edgar Bergen & Charlie  
 Blackie-Gang Busters-Lux Radio Theatre-  
 First Nighter-Have Gun, Will Travel-  
 Perkins-The Big Story-Nero Wolfe-  
 Central Station-The Goldbergs-Meet  
 Attorney-Mr. & Mrs. North-Aldrich  
 Mr. Keen, Tracer of Lost Persons-  
 Green Hornet-Captain Midnight-  
 Hit Parade-Sherlock Holmes-March  
 Dimension X-The Third Man-Abbott  
 Let's Pretend-The Thin Man-Voyage  
 Novak, For Hire-Texaco Star Theatre-  
 Crime Club-Gunsmoke-George Burns and Gracie Allen-Grand Ole Opry-Hobby Lobby-Frontier  
 Gentleman-Red Skelton-The Whistler-Sergeant Preston-Casey Crime Photographer-Lum and Abner

Man's  
 Family Duffy's Tavern-Phil Harris &  
 Crime Doctor-Man Called X-I Love  
 Sanctuary-Quiz Kids-Bing Crosby-  
 McCarthy-Our Miss Brooks-Boston  
 Johnny Dollar-Baby Snooks-  
 Railroad Hour-Blondie-Ma  
 FBI in Peace & War-Grand  
 Cortiss Archer-Mr. District  
 Family-Adventures by Morse-  
 Al Jolson-Screen Guild Theater-  
 Superman-Breakfast Club-Your  
 of Time-Can You Top This-  
 Costello-It Pays to Be Ignorant-  
 of the Scarlet Queen-Vox Pop-Pat  
 The Bickersons-Life With Luigi-The

**Season's Greetings**  
**from**  
**THE OLD TIME**  
**RADIO CLUB**