



Illustrated Press

NUMBER 26

AUGUST 1978

RENFREW TONIGHT!

World's First Radio Preview

IMPORTANT NEWS! PG.11

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TAPE RAFFLE SEPT. 11:

Two reels of Scotch 212 1800' tape will be raffled off at the club's September 11 meeting. To participate, write your name and address on a 3" by 5" card and send it with \$1.00 to TAPE RAFFLE, OTRCOB, P.O. Box 119, Kenmore, NY 14217. You can send as many entries as you like, but all must be received by September 11 to be included in this drawing.



BUCK ROGERS
tonight at 7.15
over WGR

There is Buck Rogers in the twenty-fifth century! The same thrilling character that thousands already know. Wild adventure. Imagination. Thrills. The world 500 years from now! Sponsored by Kellogg of Battle Creek.

3/3/36 Utica Observer Dispatch



Hear the high-spot thrills from

"THE DRIVERLESS DOG SLED"

"THE GREAT SLAVE MYSTERY"

"SMUGGLERS' JUSTICE"

"PIRACY ON THE HIGH SEAS"

"THE LOST WONDER VALLEY OF GOLD"

WIBX

every

TUES., FRI., SAT.

6:45 P.M.

11/25/32 Utica Observer Dispatch

CLUB ADDRESSES: Please use the correct address for the business you have in mind. Please return library materials to the library address.

TAPE LIBRARY, 38 Ardmore Place, Buffalo, NY 14213

Librarian Dom Parisi (884-2004)

REFERENCE LIBRARY, 1620 Ferry Road, Grand Island, NY 14072. Librarian Pete Bellanca (773-2485)

All other business: OTRCOB, P.O. Box 119, Kenmore, NY 14217.

MOVING?



MEMBERSHIP INFO: Club dues are \$10 and cover membership from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Members receive a membership card, library lists, the monthly newsletter, and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the OTRCOB for \$2 per year. These members have all the privileges of regular members but do not receive the newsletter. 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 membership is \$6 per year and includes all the benefits of a regular membership.

LET US KNOW!

Regular membership dues are as follows: If you join in Jan. or Feb., dues are \$10 for the year; March and April, \$9; May, \$8; June, \$7; July, \$6; August, \$5; Sept., \$4; Oct., \$3; Nov., \$2; and Dec., \$1. An 'X' in the small box to the left of the address label on the back page of the IP indicates that your membership has expired. A reminder note will also be sent. Your renewal should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. When renewing or sending in an address change, please include the month that is printed on the address label.

BACK ISSUES: The following are all available for \$1 each postpaid, except where noted. If an issue isn't listed, it's out-of-print and can be borrowed from the Reference Library.

Memories Vol. 1, #2, #3, #4, #5 Vol. 2, #1, #3, #4 Vol. 3, #1

The Illustrated Press #3, 6/76 w/SHADOW script; #4, 8/76 w/American Heritage reprint; #5A, 11/76 combination issue with Radio Historical Association of Colorado; #8, 2/77 50¢; #10, 4/77 w/part 1 of LUX RADIO THEATER log; #14, 8/77 50¢; #15, 9/77 50¢; #16, 10/77; #17, 11/77; #18, 12/77; **RHAC/OTRCOB Special** #3, 12/77; #19, 1/78; #20, 2/78; #21, 3/78; #23, 5/78; #24, 6/78; #25, 7/78; #26, 8/78;

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new OTRCOB members:

Gene R. Bradford, 21707 Rosedale, St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48080

Bob Burchett, 2330 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206

Harry Gardiner, Garvin Heights, Winona, Minnesota 55987

Henry R. Hinkel, 254 Florida Ave., Amsterdam, New York 12010

Kenneth E. Jones, P.O. Box 533, Rim Forest, California 92378

Roger C. Paulson, P.O. Box 4, Needham, Massachusetts 02192

DEADLINES: September IP : August 21
October IP : September 18
November IP : October 16
RHAC/OTRCOB Special #3 : September 1

ATTENTION LOCAL MEMBERS: The next OTRCOB meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 PM, at St. Matthew's Church, 1182 Seneca St.

The Illustrated Press is the monthly newsletter of the Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo. Contents, except where noted, are copyright (c) 1978 by the OTRCOB. All rights are hereby assigned to the contributors. Send all contributions, comments, etc. to the editor, Chuck Seeley, at Box 119, Kenmore, New York 14217.



JIM SNYDER

RATING THE OTR DEALERS....

In my column last April, I mentioned a commercial source of OTR tapes and highly recommended The Radio Vault, Box 9032, Wyoming, Michigan 49509. I also mentioned that I had dealt with several other dealers. Immediately, I received several letters asking me to discuss the others, and I guess that might be a good idea. I will speak only of those outfits with which I have dealt in the last year, and my own experiences with them. I hasten to point out that my dealings may not be typical, and may be different from your own. I have dealt with reels only on this, although some of these places offer cassettes. Each of these organizations was sent a copy of the first draft of this column and was invited to send a rebuttal for publication.

The first is the American Radio Heritage Institute, P.O. Box W, Culver City, California 90230. Regular reels, with only 3 hours of programming, are \$17.50! No, that is not a misprint, that is their price. Custom reels are \$7.50 an hour. I ordered four hours from them and, while no ratings are listed in their catalog, I found all four shows to be of "good" sound quality, no better. Their delivery was quite slow. Their complete catalog costs a non-refundable \$10.00. An awfully expensive outlet. I did on one occasion have to write a complaint, and the "memo" I received as an answer made it sound like I was dealing with an outfit at least as big as General Motors.

Stuart Weiss, 136-49 Jewel Avenue, Flushing, NY 11367 offers the best prices, but there are some drawbacks. His is a custom taping operation at \$3.50 an hour, with bonus shows frequently added to orders at no charge. The problem is that many shows are in poor sound, and they aren't rated in the catalog. Therefore you have to list alternates so that he can make satisfactory tapes for you. Although he only sends out good shows, it is a little haphazard trying to make out an order with what you want, and alternates. I was told in 1975 that supplements would be sent, but I have received none in three years. He says that you should write about other selections he might have that aren't listed. Last fall, such a request took three-and-a-half months and two letters before a reply was received. Certainly there is inconvenience here, but the price is right and I have found Stuart to be scrupulously honest and fair in his dealings, and he will see to it that you are satisfied. Tapes are sent much faster than answers to letters.

From the Old Radio Warehouse, 5 Valley View Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710, I ordered a regular (not custom) tape of 6 hours for \$7.50. There was no sound rating for the tape, but overall the sound was excellent. It took about a month to receive the tape.

Next is BRC OTR Distributors, 17173 Westbrook, Livonia, Michigan 48152. They charge \$7.75 for regular 6 hour tapes and \$4.00 an hour for custom taping. Again, I have ordered only one tape from them and found their sound ratings to be pretty much the same as my own would be. There was to be a few days delay in delivery and so they sent a postcard advising me of this. The tape arrived the day after the postcard, and only two weeks after I sent in the order.

HILL-BILLIES
THREATENED HIS LIFE
IF THE OPERATION
FAILED!



Hear
this thrilling
true story tonight in

DOCTORS WHO DARED

presented by
the makers of SARAKA

WIBX 7:15 P. M.

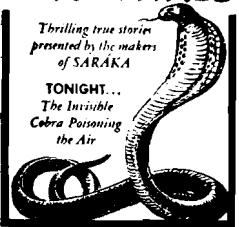
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

DON'T MISS

DOCTORS WHO DARED

Thrilling true stories
presented by the makers
of SARAKA

TONIGHT...
The Invisible
Cobra Poisoning
the Air



WIBX-7:15 P. M.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Golden Age Radio, P.O. Box 25215, Portland, Oregon 97225 charges \$10 per reel, whether 1200' or 1800', and \$7.50 per hour on custom taping. Their grading appears accurate and they put in extra comments to indicate where sound problems can be expected. My first order was received just four days after I mailed it, and the second was eleven days. That short a period of time for the order to get to them, for them to make up the tapes, and for me to receive them. Michigan to Oregon, and back. WOW!

McCoy's Recording Inc., P.O. Box 1069, Richland, Washington 99352. I have found McCoy's grading generally accurate, perhaps just a little higher than I would make, but sound ratings are debatable. Return time on tapes was three weeks the first time, and seven the second. I know of one other commercial distributor who uses some recordings from McCoy for their own collection. One negative note: I ordered two LUX RADIO THEATER shows with titles that are American and the shows turned out to be South African in origin. This is obvious in the recording and should certainly be listed that way in their catalog. It is careless to leave that out. Prices: \$10 for a regular 6 hour tape and custom reels at \$6 an hour.

Radio Reruns, P.O. Box 724, Redmond, Washington 98052 charges \$10 for a regular 6 hour tape, and \$8 an hour for custom taping. It took about a month for delivery from Washington to Michigan. There are no sound ratings and, while the limited amount of material I received was good or better, one show definitely should have been rated because of drop-outs throughout the show.

Without question, my worst experience with commercial suppliers was with Majestic Reruns, P.O. Box 13128, Sacramento, California 95813. This is a long and sad story. I ordered one custom and one regular reel (quarter track 1800' reel is \$7.50 and custom reels are 15% higher). Many programs are not rated. I received my tapes a full two months after ordering. The regular reel was almost total "drop-ins" (my term for the opposite of "drop-outs"). Every five or ten seconds, one or two words would come through, but that was all. I sent the reel back for replacement or refund. On the custom reel I ordered five shows. Two were not rated in the catalog and my own personal rating for them was good to poor. They rated the third show "G" and it was so bad I had to discard it completely, which was also true of the fourth show that they rated G/VG. They rated the final selection VG and my rating was good-minus.

After another two months, the replacement reel arrived. We were now four months from the original order. This was a regular tape that was not rated in the catalog, but on the slip that was enclosed with the tape each program was rated separately at VG, with notes added that two shows ran slow and seven had cross-talk. On this reel the best show would actually be a good-minus. I had to throw out three as completely hopeless because they were so slow and full of bad drop-outs. The entire right track was recorded at such a low volume that I had to re-record it at full volume (with all the hum that gives) and then record it a second time at very high volume in order to get something that could be heard. It did work, but caused an awful lot of noise. As if that weren't enough, the tape ran out, cutting the ending off one story. I could accept that if only the signature was missing, but the actual ending of the story was missing so I don't know how it came out. Please remember that this was their second time on this tape. I have found what I received from this outfit terribly slow and completely unacceptable. It is certainly possible for things to go wrong on an order, but that can't excuse horrible sound ratings and chopping the end off of programs. When this happens in trading it can be excused. When you are paying for this material it can't.

....AND THE DEALERS REPLY:

AMERICAN RADIO HERITAGE INSTITUTE (Sandy Kramer): "We are sorry that you experienced any delays in receiving your merchandise. We attempt to process orders within seven to ten days from date of receipt.

"Our records indicate that your order of 12/23/76 was shipped on 12/29/76. Your order of 12/15/77 was shipped 12/20/77. Your order of 1/6/78 was shipped on 1/23/78. Your order of 4/28/78 was shipped on

5/19/78. Needless to say, we cannot assume responsibility for any Postal Service delays. Delays are sometimes inevitable due to the fact that we handle merchandise for several different companies, and your orders must sometimes be drop-shipped from other locations.

"With regard to the cost of our products, we feel we should mention that we are a professional enterprise; a full-time organization devoted to the preservation (and dissemination) of materials relating to American radio. And of course, no one is likely to accuse us of price-gouging when one takes into consideration the costs of production, professional salaries, shipping, etc. Further, as you mention in your article, there are alternative sources for the materials which we provide. I can appreciate the fact that radio hobbyists, as we might call them, might be somewhat wary (initially) of our prices. But we cater to a variety of segments of the public, including educational institutions, foreign commercial enterprises, etc.

"I hope that this letter has made more clear our policy positions. Thank you again for allowing us to preview your article."

STUART WEISS: "I'd like to make a few comments rather than a rebuttal. This is more of an explanation.

"First of all, I never told you or anybody that I was making a new catalog to replace my old one. There isn't enough time in my day to start such a project. What I did say is that I was coming out with an additional catalog (actually a new supplement). This new supplement was to have many new things, plus new (good sounding) copies of other things that may have been listed in my older pages. Anyway, I was to do this in 1976, but have since uncovered many, many transcriptions that I've since copied some, sold them, got others, etc., and as I keep doing this I find that it's taken up all the time I needed to start my new catalog pages. This plus the fact that I have run out of room in my apartment and have been looking to buy a house. Between my regular job, my family, looking for a house, etc., it leaves me with 4 or 5 hours a night for taping. It leaves me very little time to answer anybody's letters.

"I give priority to people who have sent orders. Unfortunately if I have to answer a letter, I must put it in a pile 'til I can find time.

"You must also understand that this is a hobby and not a business. I am not getting rich from all this. Any money I make goes back into the hobby such as either fixing my tape equipment, buying equipment, buying tape, transcriptions, etc. Just how much can one person do with so little time? I think I try damn hard with the little time I have. I try and I feel I do succeed in keeping everyone happy. I do my best to please!!!

"I'm glad you complained that it took so long for me to answer your letter. I would have felt bad if you complained my orders took so long. Now with the possibilities of buying a house and moving, I don't dare start a catalog. I'll have a new address before long if things work out right. Anyway, thanks for thinking of me."

OLD RADIO WAREHOUSE (Joe Webb): "Allow me to compliment you on a fine article on sellers of OTR. I'm not saying this because I was rated well, but because you were thorough (in light of obvious economic constraints --you can't order 20 reels from every seller and then compare), you were honest, but you claimed the opinions as your own. When you were not satisfied with a dealer, you gave a reason and the means for that dealer to improve that particular facet of service.

"May I say that this article was a far cry from the Illustrated Press' reputation as always full of "put-downs." You fulfilled the requisites for a true review or criticism: short summary, good points, bad points, opinion, suggestions....and your article is so much the better for it.

"But I of course have had some experience with your writing before in Airwaves in response to one of my editorials. It's nice to know that there are thinking collectors out there."

BRC OTR DISTRIBUTORS (Bob Burnham): "Just a belated word to thank you for sending me a copy of your article for publication in the IP. I think it highly commendable you took the time and expense to mail out

advance copies of the article, and wish Mr. Seeley himself had as much consideration and was as courteous as yourself.

"I'm glad you found our service to be satisfactory, and if there is anything further I can help you with in your collecting, please let me know."

GOLDEN AGE RADIO (Rex Bills): "An interesting report. Custom recording by me is not just run from deck to deck, but through an equalizer and fine adjusted for speed for the best possible copy (often a better copy than is on the master reel)."

MCCOY'S RECORDING (Pat McCoy): "We issued supplement 10 in mid-March and for several months after releasing a new supplement we get a rush of orders and fall behind by about one month. We hope to get caught up within the next two weeks. We have yet to figure out a way to get our new listings to all of our customers at the same time without running into a rush of orders all at the same time. We have considered putting a note in the supplements to the effect that we will be behind in orders for several months after releasing a supplement, but figured then customers would hold off ordering and if enough of them did that then we would still be in the same predicament---only just a little later."

"I keep a record of every customer as to where he stands for a bonus reel, so even if an order was lost in the mail a customer would at no time lose out on his bonus reel."

RADIO RERUNS: No reply.

CAVEAT EMPTOR!

MAJESTIC RERUNS: No reply.

+++++
RHAC/OTRCOB SPECIAL #3: The deadline for the third Radio Historical Association of Colorado/OTRCOB combination publication is September 1. Submissions must be in to either Chuck Seeley or John Lloyd by that date. Contact Chuck via the club address or John Lloyd at 2667 East 99th Avenue, Thornton, Colorado 80229. Everybody is welcome to contribute to this innovative joint publication, including members of all OTR clubs and editors of OTR fanzines. We'd like to have a representative piece from each club and fanzine to make this Special the best yet. You're all invited.

PLUGS: The North American Radio Archives is compiling a special 80 page issue of NARA News, the club's excellent quarterly publication, to celebrate the club's 5th anniversary this fall. This special issue can be ordered for \$2.00 per copy from NARA, 3051 South Jessica, Tucson, Arizona 85730. Orders must be received by September 15....The Golden Radio Buffs of Maryland will hold its 7th annual Golden Mike Awards Banquet on October 21 in Baltimore, Maryland. Among the winners of this

Central New Yorkers...hear THE SOUNDS OF YESTERDAY every Friday at 8:05 PM on WRVO (FM) 89.9, Oswego.

year's awards is Lon Clark, radio's Nick Carter. For more info, write P.O. Box 8564, Parkville, MD, or contact Ernest Rethschulte at 301-661-5008.... Jay Hickerson's OTR convention will be held on October 7 at Bridgeport, CT with many OTR stars in attendance. Contact Jay at Box C, Orange, CT 06477, or 203-795-6261....



Nostalgia Radio News

DOUBLE-R-RADIO publishes the information-packed 28-30+ page NOSTALGIA RADIO NEWS each month with:

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The special Nostalgia Radio News issue devoted to Edgar Bergen is still available at \$2.00 per copy postpaid from MRN, P.O. Box 2214, Syracuse, NY 13220....A couple years back in Memories we ran a fiction serial titled "The Jack Armstrong Murder" that dealt with characters of OTR. The author of that serial, Woody Smith, has produced a sequel to it concerning characters from pulp magazines. The sequel, "The Talons of Won Chang", is one of three pulp-style adventure stories to be found in WNYPCS Tales, the annual publication of the Western New York Popular Culture Society. WNYPCS Tales is \$1.50 per copy postpaid from Richard Hurst, Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society, 25 Nottingham Court, Buffalo, NY 14216. Also, sample copies of the WNYPCS' monthly newsletter, It's Not Just Nostalgia, are available at 50 cents each. A year's subscription to INJUN (12 issues and the annual) is \$7.50 for non-Erie County residents. Lots of good reading....

THE CANADIAN MEETING - JUNE 6, 1978



Our kind hosts, Rosemary and Dick Simpson.



Various members working on Rosemary Simpson's superb baked goods.



Jerry Collins standing at left, Lee Dunbar in the center.



From left: Tom Pawlak, Frank Matesic, and Dom Parisi, our over-worked and usually unrecognized treasurer and tape librarian.

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growing like a
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Then . . .

Please tell us what we're doing that's
making us grow like a weed!

TAPESPENDENTS: Send in your wants, catalogs, etc. and we'll run them here for two consecutive months.

Corb Resco, 815 Greenwood Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306-- Looking for tapes of/info on the short-lived series RESULTS, INC. starring Lloyd Nolan. Also LONE RANGER episodes in which dates are mentioned, and GREEN HORNET episodes containing references to Dan Reid.

Rev. Frank Burger, P.O. Box 951, Battle Creek, Michigan 49016-- Looking for Milton Berle's radio show, BEULAH, SISTERS OF THE SKILLET, HALLS OF IVY, EASY ACES, BURNS & ALLEN, AMOS & ANDY, RICHARD LITTLE IN WASHINGTON, THE JIMMY STEWART ROAST, RICHARD LITTLE IN ENGLAND, and the ABC-TV series THE KOPYKATS.

Gene R. Bradford, 21707 Rosedale, St. Clair Shores, Michigan 48080-- Looking for TOM MIX RALSTON STRAIGHTSHOOTER shows.

Dennis Carey, 250 Sumner Place, Buffalo, NY 14211-- Movie pressbooks for sale, all original release, very good condition: "The Third Man" w/Orson Welles, 36 pgs., \$12; "The Fabulous Dorseys" 36 pgs., 1 ad cut, \$12; "Abbott & Costello Meet Capt. Kidd" 10 pgs., 1 ad cut, \$5; "Hollywood Canteen" w/all-star Warner Bros. cast, book & ad section are separate units totalling 40 pgs., 3 ads cut, all articles in main book complete, \$20; "Horn Blows At Midnight" w/Jack Benny, 24 pgs., \$10; "Orchestra Wives" w/Glenn Miller Orch., 36 pgs., near mint, \$15.

Collector, who chooses to remain anonymous, has access to network line copies of the CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER from Oct.-Nov. 1977 to date. Excellent sound. Also has line copies of the CBS 50th Anniversary show and Kraft's 75th Anniversary. Will trade for high quality OTR. Lack of time prevents immediate response. Send all inquiries to Chuck Seeley, 294 Victoria Blvd., Kermore, NY 14217 for forwarding.

Ward Erwin, Box 422, Polk City, Florida 33868-- Looking for anything with BOB & RAY. Generous trade offers.

Dick Olday, 100 Harvey Drive, Lancaster, NY 14086-- Has new catalog out listing 526 cassettes. Will also dub on cassettes from extensive collection of OTR records for trades, etc.

Bert Rollinson, c/o Luckway Motor Homes Ltd., 20 Main St. North, Waterdown, Ontario, Canada LOR 2H0-- Needs episode #259 of CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT, that's the final episode of the Ivan Shark adventure that surfaced a few years ago. Bert needs it for air play.

Jim Snyder, 517 North Hamilton St., Saginaw, Michigan 48602-- Looking for any LUX RADIO THEATER shows he doesn't have. Will trade two for one to get them and has a couple hundred to choose from.

Don Stribling, 995 Nevada, Dubuque, Iowa 52001-- Looking for shows and program logs of shows written, directed, or produced by Norman Corwin, such as COLUMBIA WORKSHOP, CBS RADIO WORKSHOP, COLUMBIA PRESENTS CORWIN, 26 BY CORWIN, etc.

John Wells, RD #1, Chittenango, NY 13037-- Looking for JACK BENNY SHOW of 6/20/48 and PHIL HARRIS & ALICE FAYE shows from Fitch, Rexall, and RCA. Also looking for any Benny TV shows in Super 8 Sound. Also looking for radio version of the Bob Hope movie, "Where There's Life."

OLD AUGUST: Aug. 3, 1951: TALES OF TOMORROW debuts on ABC-TV.

Aug. 3, 1958: Submarine "Nautilus" becomes the first ship to cross the North Pole under the Arctic ice.

Aug. 5, 1949: John Wayne and Ward Bond star in "Fort Apache" on SCREEN DIRECTOR'S PLAYHOUSE.

Aug. 6, 1930: Judge Joseph Crater vanishes, last seen in New York City.

Aug. 9, 1974: Richard Nixon becomes first American president to resign.

Aug. 14, 1945: The Empire of Japan surrenders; World War Two ends.

Aug. 19, 1929: AMOS 'N' ANDY debuts on NBC Red for Pepsodent.
 Aug. 25, 1944: Paris is liberated.
 Aug. 26, 1974: Charles Lindbergh dies in Hawaii.
 Aug. 28, 1922: Station WEAF airs the first commercial in broadcasting history.

**The
CRYSTAL
EGG**



RADIO SKETCHES

&

INFO-BITS



HY DALEY

In the last month I have listened to 432 chapters of AUNT MARY. I've been through one custody trial, one divorce, one near murder, three almost weddings, and now Bill must find Mario so that he can get his job back in the Wakefield Bank, but Mario is living with Anna in Chicago and won't return to Wakefield and his wife Carla (who is pregnant!)(but Mario doesn't know it!) because he thinks Bill was running around with Carla (he wasn't) and Bill has lost his job because Ben, his ex-father-in-law, hates him and is on the bank board. Confused? Had enough? Maybe you have, but I still have almost 200 chapters to go in this SAGA OF AUNT MARY from our 300 discs! Ears don't fail me now...

Raymond Burr--now there's a nifty name and a nifty radio star. Radio star, says he? Sure, besides being TV's Perry Mason and Ironside, Raymond Burr was the star of a really great western yarn of the "Last Frontier" (as Howard Fast calls it), FORT LARAMIE, with the cavalry looking out for sodbusters and prairie dogs on the Indian infested plains. Burr plays a hard-boiled cavalry officer who understands savage barbarians, crazed generals, stray buffalo, and OTR fanzine publishers. What I like about the show is that the same army personnel appears in each show. One is played by Vic Perrin, a common voice on GUNSMOKE. I've also come across Burr in several SUSPENSE plays, and I seem to remember him as the dumb cop in some Private Detective series.

Went to a record convention
 in early April. Never saw one before+
 so I thought I'd take some of my re-+
 cords and go. With a bunch of selec-+
 ted 16" discs held tightly under my +
 grimy little arm, I and my two +
 boys walked into the convention +
 hall of the Butler, PA Holiday Inn +
 and saw tables upon tables of dudes +
 dealing LPs and 45 rpms. And Elvis +
 goodies. And Elvis records (SUN re-+
 cords framed on velvet). People +
 came up to me and asked me what +
 those funny records were that I was +
 carrying around.

Have Brush Will Travel

Wire Hy Daley

664-7477

"They're records--isn't this a record convention?" says I.
 "What do you play THOSE things on anyway?"

I found virtually NO ONE there who had ever seen such URO's (Un-identified Round Objects). To be truthful I did pick up a few names of folks who are into 16" discs. I guess the next time I go to a RECORD convention I'll just have to take along my rare Jack Scott records or my Elvis or my....

Gee, Judy Canova is a funny lady. I picked up several reels of her wartime Pepsodent shows and found her humor gentle, yet pointed if you happen to be a city slicker snob who usually gets dusted off by seemingly dumb country hayseeds like Judy. Mel Blanc does some of his funniest voices as he portrays Pedro and Sylvester, a sputtering human being.

Got the latest NARA magazine. WOW! What a great bunch of articles, especially one about RADIO TRAITORS during World War II. I never realized the USA had so many talent traitors on the air for the Axis and the Japanese.

The NARA News also had a neat picture of this obscure OTR group in upper Pennsylvania somewhere....

LIBRARY USE AND INVENTORY...by Bill Gore

Our OTR tape library is a significant benefit of one's membership in our club.

Although I have no source for the actual statistics, I believe it is reasonable to speculate that a rather large portion of the membership has at some time or another used the facility. Equally valid, I suspect, is the supposition that a material percentage of the membership would qualify as regular users. ((The tape library does see very heavy use. -CAS))

Dom Parisi has volunteered his services as tape librarian. This is a generous contribution of time and effort and untold other odds and ends.

It is my opinion that a much larger OTR tape library would greatly benefit the OTRCOB through increased membership and subsequent increased library size in a somewhat pyramidal or circular spiral.

It is my challenge to the membership that we who use the library facility immediately donate one reel each in the next month. Dom Parisi will be glad to give us a report on the success of the drive, with Chuck Seeley seeing to publication of the same in the IP in a month or two thereafter.

Let's not let ourselves down!

((Remember, members may borrow one reel free of charge for each reel they donate to the tape library. -CAS))

CHANGE THE NAME!.....by Ethan Edwards

I have one large complaint with the OTRCOB: its name.

I realize the club was founded and formed in Buffalo, and the name must have been perfectly natural to those founding members. However, times change, and I've been told that the out-of-town membership far outnumbers the local Buffalo membership at present. ((True. -CAS))

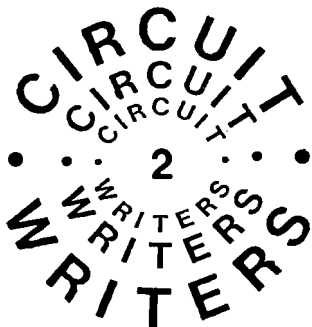
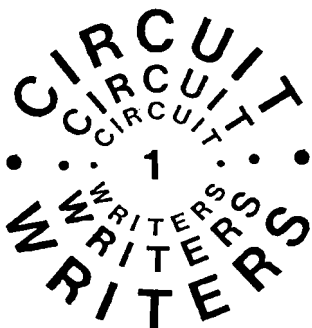
But I do not propose changing the club's name simply because now more non-Buffalonians belong than Buffalonians, but because the name suggests a small local group instead of the national organization that we truly are.

It seems to me that having the club identified with one city, or even one state, may cost us potential new members. I repeat, I have nothing at all against Buffalo. I would suggest a name change to reflect our national membership if we were the OTR Club of Peoria, or Seattle, or Atlanta, or any city. A localized title suggests regionality, and that can hurt a national club.

Unfortunately, I have no good suggestions for a name to replace the OTRCOB. I do think the replacement should have OTR in it, for obvious reasons, and should somehow reflect our national status.

I hope none of the local Buffalo members take offence at this suggestion. I am thinking only of the club.

((Interesting idea, and not the first time it's been brought up. It would be nice to hear from the members on this. Should the club's name be changed for the reasons brought out above? If so, what should it be changed to? -CAS))



CENSUS OF WARTIME RADIO LISTENING

YOUR answers are needed to these four simple questions. Please help by filling out this card with the station call letters and mailing it today.

1. What radio stations do you and your family listen to **REGULARLY AT NIGHT After Dark?**



2. Which **ONE** of these stations do you listen to **MOST AT NIGHT After Dark?**

3. What radio stations do you and your family listen to **REGULARLY During Daylight Hours?**



4. Which **ONE** of these stations do you listen to **MOST During Daylight Hours?**

(Your name and address if you wish, but it's not necessary)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

30-679-3-R

Fill in and mail to: War Rel. Adm., Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C.

CENSUS OF WARTIME RADIO LISTENING

WE NEED YOUR ANSWERS
TO FOUR SIMPLE QUESTIONS —

War-time conditions require, immediately, complete information on the radio stations people listen to in every county of the United States.

You and your family can be of real assistance in this important survey by answering the questions on the return postcard attached. No postage is required — no signature necessary. We know we can count on your cooperation.

Kenneth Ellsworth

Director

BAD NEWS DEPARTMENT: The Postal Service has dealt us a foul blow with the latest postage increase. This latest price rise swallowed up a good deal of this year's postage budget. Paper and printing costs have also jumped, destroying the budget even further. The combination of these increases has put us in kind of a bind.

The logical solution to this problem is to raise the club dues, but we'd really like to avoid that. Chances are that a dues raise would lose us more members than we'd gain, leaving us in a vicious spiral. A dues increase does not seem the best answer.

Therefore, instead of raising the dues, we've reluctantly been forced to suspend publication of Memories. The magazine is by far our largest expense; it now costs a third more to mail an issue of Memories than it did before this latest postage increase. Adding in the other expense increases, it now costs a little over \$400 per year to print and mail 4 issues of the magazine.

To make up, in at least a small way, for the suspension of Memories, we're adding 4 more pages to the IP, beginning this issue. Also, a very special "extra" will be going out to each member in the near future. We want it to be a surprise, so suffice it to say that this item has never been offered by any OTR club or dealer.

Again, the act of suspending Memories is a reluctant act (and none more reluctant than your editor, I assure you), but very necessary at this point. Our efforts at raising cash via raffles, ads, etc. have been less than smashing.

There is an option to suspending Memories. We could offer the magazine to members on a subscription basis. This would work out to a dollar an issue and we would need 75 subscriptions to break even. If 75 members sent in \$3 each now, we could come out with the three remaining issues of Memories for this year.

We'd like to hear some reactions on this. If this subscription plan doesn't meet with your approval, material scheduled for upcoming Memories will be incorporated into the IP. But please let us know your feelings in any case. Also, please note the new dues schedule on page 2; this method will make future budgeting much more accurate. And the last issue of Memories sent out was Volume 3, #1. Be sure you've got it.

Radio Mania



March 10, 1931 Utica Observer Dispatch

radio show sometime during the Thirties. Will Murray, editor of Duende, a magazine devoted to the study of the pulps, has unearthed some new information on the Doc Savage show.

The show was apparently broadcast nationwide from September, 1934 to March, 1935. Lester Dent definitely wrote scripts #11-23, and very likely #1-10 as well. Interestingly, Dent, in his factory-like fiction producing manner, cranked out scripts #11-24 in three days in the spring of 1934. Still not known are the cast and network (if any).

Most OTR hobbyists are familiar with THE AVENGER, the weak SHADOW imitator. The Avenger was another Street & Smith pulp magazine, and the character was altered to unrecognizability for airplay. Since the same is true for The Shadow (another Street & Smith pulp), it's not unreasonable to assume that Doc Savage may have been rather drastically emasculated in his transition to the airwaves. It may be just as well that none of the Man of Bronze's radio shows have survived.

Duende #2, with extensive articles on Doc Savage and The Shadow, is \$2.00 per copy from Will Murray, 334 E. Squantum St., North Quincy, MA 02171. Highly recommended if you're a pulp fan.

REVIEWS: The following are the opinions of the reviewer. Comments welcome.

SPERDVAC Bulletin, July, 1978, edited by Bernie Evans. Monthly newsletter of SPERDVAC, P.O. Box 1587, Hollywood, CA 90028.

The Bulletin is devoted mainly to SPERDVAC club news and information. The most exciting news this time is the announcement of the establishment of an Archives Library, in which all shows are to be recorded directly from discs. This allows the shows to be as free from sound defects as you're going to get. (A press release just received from SPERDVAC announces that the Archives Library will be made available to the general public, but no further details on that aspect are given.) Other features in this issue include a review of Irving Fang's Those Radio Commentators, Joe Crawford's "World of OTR" column, reports on SPERDVAC's Board and membership meetings, and other items. And Les Tremayne will be the guest speaker at the club's August 12 meeting.

MEMBERS' FORUM: From Frank Amico, 246 Vernon Ave., Paterson, N.J. 07503--- At a recent comic book convention, I had the opportunity of meeting Mr. John Belfi, who once illustrated the "Straight Arrow" daily comic strip. After explaining my interest in radio, he informed me that he occasionally appeared on the program to talk about his work on the strip. (Anyone have any dates of these shows?) I also was lucky enough to buy two original pages from the strip (which were then autographed) and a page from the "Steve Canyon" strip doing a joke on the Arthur Godfrey radio show!

DOC SAVAGE: Some readers may be familiar with Doc Savage, the Man of Bronze. This pulp magazine hero of heroes was created by Lester Dent (writing under the Street & Smith "house name" of Kenneth Robeson). It is estimated that Dent wrote 165 of the 182 Doc Savage pulp novels. It's been known for quite a time that there was also a Doc Savage

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NARA News Vol. 6, #1, edited by Al Inkster. Quarterly publication of the North American Radio Archives. Membership info from S. & G. Bland, P.O. Box 11962, Reno, NV 89510.

The NARA News is always interesting reading and this issue is no exception. Dentist John Sheridan contributes an article outlining his novel use of OTR to distract patients from the digging, scraping, drilling, and downright pain that most of us associate with the dentist's chair. Roger Hill gives a tribute to Ted Lewis, along with photos and other Lewis memorabilia contributed by Mrs. Lewis. Jack French appears with part 1 of a very interesting article on radio traitors of the Second World War. Fran Striker's rules for writing THE LONE RANGER are given, which are somewhat similar to Lester Dent's "masterplot" for pulp novels. There's a good piece on radio-related comic books by Roger Hill. And there's much more. A fine issue. -CAS

Return With Us Now July, 1978, edited by John Lloyd. Monthly newsletter of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado. Membership info from John Lloyd, 2667 East 99th Ave., Thornton, CO 80229.

This issue marks the third anniversary of the RHAC. Included among the fine reading this time: a very good article by Mary Jessen recollecting her experiences in the audiences of such shows as YOUR HIT PARADE and LUX RADIO THEATER; more reprints from Time magazine of the Forties; an overview of actresses appearing on SUSPENSE by Scott McCoy; a history of the RHAC; an article on the soap operas by Jim Vaughan; three very funny cartoons about OTR; program logs of THE WHISTLER and MURDER AT MIDNIGHT; and lots more. Good reading. -CAS

National Radio Trader Vol. 2, #3, edited by Phil Cole. Published quarterly, \$6.50 per year from NRT, P.O. Box 1147, Mt. Vernon, WA 98273.

This is a better deal than ever with the newly reduced subscription price. The NRT's reason for being is the classified ad section, and there are plenty of ads to keep collectors satisfied. Other features include a very funny editorial by Phil Cole, another column by Frank Bresee, this time about Groucho Marx, and a news column by yours truly. I enjoy the NRT quite a bit, and really wish it were a bi-monthly publication. -CAS

Nostalgia Radio News, July, 1978, edited by Al Rockford & Don Richardson. \$7.50 for 12 monthly is-

LAST TIMES TODAY — 2 FEATURES

GARY COOPER in "The Virginian" WALTER HUSTON Also "Woman Wanted" with Maureen O'Sullivan and Joel McCrea

A Star-Studded Musical Romance of Radioland!

Adolph Zukor presents

The Big BROADCAST of 1936

A dashing musical comedy packed jam full of gallivanting gals and the men who man the mikes

Jack Oakie
George Burns
Gracie Allen
Lyda Roberti
Wendy Barrie
Henry Wadsworth

A musical jamboree spiced with the biggest bunch of specialties ever collected for one picture

Bing Crosby
Amos 'n' Andy
Ethel Merman
Ray Noble and his
Mary Boland
Charlie Ruggles
Bill Robinson

A Paramount Picture
Directed by Norman Taurog

DICK BETTS
EXTRA — IN PERSON
Fro-Joy Novelty Organist
Featuring the World's
Smallest Organ Console

SAT. - MON. - TUES.

BROADWAY
THEATRE

10/35

sues from NRN, P.O. Box 2214, Syracuse, NY 13220.

This is another publication that's always interesting reading. While smaller than previous issues (due to health and equipment problems; they'll be back full-size next time), all the regular features are present. The continuing CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER log does July & August, 1977; advance listings for same; the Radio then/now picture section; Rod Phillips' column, continuing the beginnings of broadcasting; another excellent column by Charlie Stumpf, this time discussing INNER SANCTUM; and, of course, many listings for OTR being broadcast are all in this issue. Good stuff. -CAS

Under Western Skies #2, April, 1978, edited by Linda & Ron Downey. Published quarterly, \$5.00 per year from the Downeys, 13759 60th Street North, Clearwater, Florida 33520.

This issue is worth having solely for the magnificent color back cover featuring Roy Rogers astride a rearing Trigger. The issue is devoted to Dale Evans and Roy Rogers, with a thorough article and extensive filmography by Bill Dover. Shorter features in this issue are a question/answer column and reviews of films available for home viewing. UWS is an excellent magazine, equal in quality to the Downey's wonderful World of Yesterday publication. -CAS

On The Air Vol. 6, #4, bi-monthly newsletter of the Golden Radio Buffs of Maryland. Membership info from David Easter, 106 King Charles Circle, Baltimore, Maryland 21237.

I'm glad to see this go bi-monthly because it's more interesting and enjoyable reading, with items of general interest mixed in with club info. The highlight this issue is an article on baritone John Charles Thomas by Cam Donocour. There's also a short review of GUNSMOKE, a quiz, and more. -CAS

Milwaukee Area Radio Enthusiasts Newsletter #15, edited by Ken Pabst. Membership info from MARE, 4442 North 77th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218.

I've seen only a couple of these newsletters and they've been quite impressive. This issue has club info, an article on video recording, a piece on the Pacific Pioneer Broadcasters' honoring of Dennis Day, and a long, very well done article on AMOS 'N' ANDY. No authors' names are given, but a line in the indicia credits Ken Pabst with writing the newsletter. He certainly does well and displays considerable talent. I'll be looking forward to seeing more from MARE. -CAS

The Reproducer, Vol. 5, #7, monthly newsletter of the Southwest Vintage Radio & Phonograph Society, edited by Glen Zook. Membership info from SVRPS, P.O. Box 19406, Dallas, Texas 75219.

The name of the club tells you their primary interest. If you're into this hobby this would seem to be the club to join. A good deal of each issue of The Reproducer is devoted to technical information concerning old radios and phonographs. This issue has some of the aforementioned technical info, classifieds, and info on the Society's 1978 Convention. -CAS

Collectors' Classified #38, July 1978. Published monthly. \$2.50 per year from Rosalie & William Margolin, P.O. Box 347, Holbrook, MA 02343.

It's just what it's titled: twenty-odd pages of classified ads for just about any type of collectible. There are ads for beer cans, comics, OTR (not many ads), books, sports memorabilia, magazines, toys, records, coins, stamps, S&H Green Stamps (!), pulps, license plates, wrestling items, thimbles, postcards, buttons, ad nauseum. Page size is 7" by 8½", with ads printed unreduced. Subscribers receive a bewildering array of Bonus Free Ads, Free Ads, and Bonus Ad Coupons. (Or a reduction in the subscription price if you don't take the free ads. Or something.) Sample copies are 25¢. -CAS



Sean Herscott
in "THE
MUSIC MASTER"

TONIGHT

9 P. M.

Eastern Daylight Saving Time

WIBX

LUX RADIO

THEATRE

a famous star in a famous play—an hour of humor and pathos in radio's outstanding dramatic program.

/4/36 Utica +
Bserver Dispatch +
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OBITUARIES: Charles Carroll, age unreported, died June 5--- Carroll portrayed Jack Vernon on THE O'NEILLS and Dr. Truman "Tubby" Scott on VALLIANT LADY.

Cal Clifford, 74, died July 10--- Clifford was a veteran trumpeter who played with jazz orchestras led by Paul Whiteman, Stan Kenton, Tommy Dorsey, Russ Morgan, and Matty Melneck.

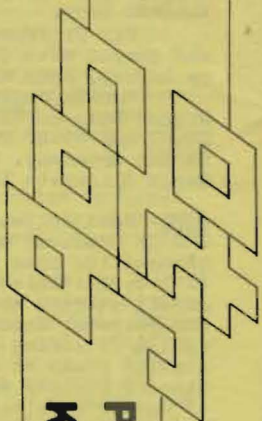
Marion Sweet (Gaines), 62, died July 17--- Marion Sweet was the Dragon Lady on TERRY & THE PIRATES, and was also a regular on MY TRUE STORY and RIGHT TO HAPPINESS and VOICE OF AMERICA. She also appeared on TV and Broadway. In 1974 she produced the Radio Nostalgia Cruise on the Queen Elizabeth II.

NEWS: Most collectors are familiar with the CHICAGO RADIO THEATRE. The CRT is produced by the All-Media Dramatic Workshop, which has recently changed its name to the National Radio Theatre of Chicago. The NRTOC (I love initiales) is presently adapting a series of F. Scott Fitzgerald stories to be broadcast by NPR. The series is underwritten by the National Endowment for the Humanities....Station WDGY-AM in Minneapolis is airing a series of live shows from a local nightclub. The station plans to syndicate the series. Remotes return!....The Frank Sinatra Society of America is holding its first Frank Sinatra Convention at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas in the late spring or early summer of 1979....A new weekly comedy series will debut on CBC Radio this fall. It's called SUSSEX PLACE and involves itself with the Canadian federal political scene. Scripts are by Marian Waldman....Putnam will publish George Burns' new book The Third Time Around. It's a sequel to Living It Up....This fall on CBS-TV you can see the NEW POPEYE HOUR, produced by animation mediocre merchants Hanna-Barbera. Jack Mercer plays the spinach-chewing salt and Daws Butler (from THE STAN FREBERG SHOW and countless cartoons and voiceovers) is Wimpy. Mae Questel, who was Olive Oyl on the POPEYE THE SAILOR radio show, tried out for the role of Olive in the new series, but lost out to new-comer Marilyn Schreffler. Also, you won't see Popeye throwing any of his famous punches on the new series. Violence, y'know. For all we know, Popeye may not even be tattooed this time out....George J. Arkedis, Vice President of the CBS Radio Division and General Manager of the CBS Radio Network since 1966, resigned his position on June 16, in view of his impending retirement in September. Arkedis has been with CBS for 32 years, his career spanning administrative, sales, and affiliate relations positions in radio and TV. Richard M. Brescia, another CBS Radio VP, has been appointed to succeed Arkedis. Brescia began his broadcasting career in 1958 and joined CBS in 1967....And yet another CBS VP: Frank Miller has been named VP, Programs, for CBS Radio. For the record, the President of the CBS Radio Division is Sam Cook Digges, and the President of the CBS/Broadcast Group is Gene F. Jankowski....I wouldn't mind being a CBS VP....WHAT'S HAPPENING is a CBS News series aimed at the female audience. The series, anchored by Stephani Shelton, has received a Certificate of Commendation from the American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT)(I don't believe this). WHAT'S HAPPENING is broadcast on the CBS Network Monday through Saturday.... -CAS



Thanks to Jim Snyder for taking more time and trouble and expense than usual for his column this month. The result of his labors is an extremely interesting and helpful article. Next month we'll have a follow-up of sorts written by Frank Waibel and, hopefully, more responses from the dealers discussed....Thanks also to friends Bob Bindig, Brad Becker, and Kean Crowe for the donation of OTR newspaper pages from various dates and localities....And let us not forget to thank John Otto, able host of WGR-AM's phone-in show, EXTENSION 55, for having your editor and Bob Davis on for two nights in a row, battling the listeners with show biz trivia. It was great, great fun to

do....A few months back, the Indiana Recording Club sent us a batch of material about their club and it seems very impressive. I'd especially like to see more of their newsletter, The Tape Squeal, but they haven't sent any lately. Are you out there, IRC?....Next issue: the results & answers to last month's trivia contest....Keep in touch. Be seeing you.



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KENMORE NY 14217**

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