



Club to Change Name

MEMORIES Returns!

OCT. 10 (IPNS): Memories, the magazine of the OTRCOB, will return in January, 1979. It will be published twice a year. The 8½" by 11" format will remain, with page count increased to 30 pages.

All members who responded to the \$3.00 subscription offer will have their money returned. Our sincere thanks to all those who sent in for subscriptions to Memories. Your sup-

OCT. 10 (IPNS): The Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo will become known as THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB effective January 1, 1979.

The name change was decided on at the club's October 10 meeting. The name, THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB, was the unanimous choice.

The reason for the name change is to help enhance the club's national image. The change is not being made until January 1 to allow time for the club to change logos, headings, address stamps, etc. -30-

port is greatly appreciated. The editors hope that you are as happy as we are about the magazine's return. -30-

Sears Radio Theater

SEPT. 27 (CBS): As many OTR collectors already know, a new radio dramatic series will debut on the CBS Radio Network in February of 1979. The series will be sponsored by Sears, Roebuck and Company.

Sam Cook Digges, President, CBS Radio Division, said: "SEARS RADIO THEATER will premier February 5 with a series of original one-hour radio plays, produced on a Hollywood soundstage and aired on the Network five nights a week following the 7:00 PM CBS NEWS ON THE HOUR. Each evening will be devoted to a different genre, with a celebrity host introducing a star-studded cast."

Gar Ingraham, Sears Vice President for Retail Sales, said: "The response from every actress and actor we've spoken with--from stage, TV, and film--has been enthusiastic. They really want to do radio drama. In fact, we have already signed Vincent Price and Andy Griffith for two of the five host roles and have verbal commitments from several other big names."

The executive producer of the series is renowned radio actor/writer/producer/director Elliot Lewis, probably best known to collectors from his role as Frankie Remley on the PHIL HARRIS/ALICE FAYE SHOW. Lewis will be working with such writers as Norman Corwin, Arch Oboler, and Fletcher Markel.

Production will begin in a Paramount soundstage early in November. There will be 26 weeks of first-run shows, and 26 weeks of repeats. -30-

IP/information pages

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. (877-2387)

MEMBERSHIP INFO: Club dues are \$10 and cover membership from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Members receive a membership card, library lists, the Illustrated Press (monthly newsletter), Memories (semi-annual magazine), and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the club for \$2 per year. These members have all the privileges of regular members but do not receive the publications. A junior membership is available to persons 15 years of age or younger who do not live in the household of a regular member. This membership is \$6 per year and includes all the benefits of a regular membership.

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 next to the address box 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. Please be certain to notify us if you change your address.

COLUMNISTS' ADDRESSES: Jerry Collins, 56 Christen Ct., Lancaster, NY 14086

Hy Daley, 437 South Center, Corry, PA 16407

Stu Mann, 44 Ganson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Jim Snyder, 517 North Hamilton St., Saginaw, Michigan 48602

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, #1 (\$2), #2, #3, #4, #5 Vol. 2, #1, #3, #4

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 #2, 12/77; #19, 1/78; #20, 2/78; #21, 3/78; #23, 5/78; #24, 6/78; #25, 7/78; #26, 8/78; #27, 9/78; #28 (RHAC/OTRCOB Special #3), 10/78; #29, 11/78;

DEADLINES: December IP : Nov. 20

January IP : Dec. 18

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new OTRCOB members.

Howard Brenner, P.O. Box 4099, Rochester, NY 14610

Ivan J. Hoffman, 15 Belmont St., Hull MA 02045

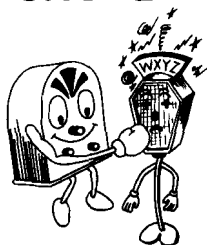
William Paul Klementowski, 141 Richardson Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205

Hyman Koster, Two Park Ave., Room 1416, New York, NY 10016

Mike Lammi, P.O. Box 4115, Bartonville, Illinois 61607 (cont. to page 6)

The Illustrated Press is the monthly newsletter of the Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo. Contents, except where noted, are copyright © 1978 by the OTRCOB. All rights are hereby assigned to the contributors. Editor: Chuck Seeley; Production Manager: Millie Dunworth; Graphics Co-ordinator: Corb Besco. Send all contributions, comments, etc. to the editor at P.O. Box 119, Kenmore, New York 14217. PRINTED IN U.S.A.

PUNCHLINES FROM THE PAST



STU MANN

Welcome to Punchlines from the Past.
Look for a laugh and a laugh will find you...
Well, on to some punchlines.

We always hear of the Jack Benny/Fred Allen feud, but some of the greatest verbal duels were between W.C. Fields and Charlie McCarthy, as in the following:

Fields: "To be perfectly frank with you, Edgar, I've never trusted either of you."

Charlie: "What do you mean by that crack? I want you to know that Bergen is just as honest as you, you crook, you."

F: "That tips off the whole thing. You'd better come out of the sun, Charles, before you get unglued."

C: "Do you mind if I stand in the shade of your nose?"

F: "Quite, you termite flophouse."

Sometimes, for variety, they would get Don Ameche introduced into the conversation!

Don: "You shouldn't always be fighting with Charlie, Bill."

F: "You're talking to a new Fields, Dom...I'm full of the spirit of friendship....every night..."

C: "Here I am, Mr. Fields!"

F: "Well, well, Charlie McCarthy, my little pal.

I've missed you. Been carrying the torch for you."

C: "I can see it on your nose."

F: "Bright little ripper. That a new paint job he has there, Edgar?"

C: "If I had a wick on me, I'd stick it in your mouth and rent you out as an alcohol lamp."

D: "Charlie, Charlie, Bill didn't come here to argue. He's a new Fields."

C: "So I've got new fields to conquer..."

F: "Is it true your father was a gateleg table?"

C: "If it is, your father was under it!"

The Goldbergs were funny, and so we laughed, but many times there seemed to be a message somewhere, something like this:

Molly: (calling up the dumb-waiter shaft) "Oohoo, oohoo, Mrs. Bloom! Is your Mikey home from cheddar yet? No? I suppose day must be playing marbles togedder. Yesterday day had soch a fight and today day'er friends again. I tink it would be datter far you and, and far me if day would stay mad. Mrs. Bloom, you should hear my Rosie playing. She'll be vome in de woid. I don't even got to ask her to practice....Oy, dere's mine bell wots ringing. It must be Sammy...."

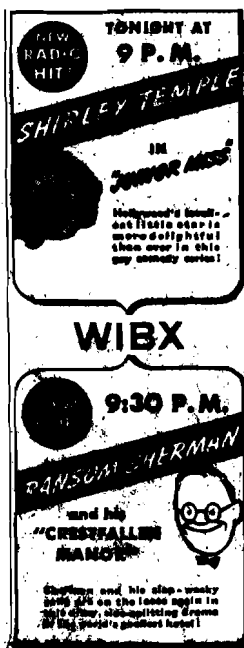
Sammy: "Hello, Mum!"

M: "Vat's de matter so late, Sammy? Let me look on your hands. Playing marbles, ha? For vat is your fadder slaving for vat I'm esking you? A marble shooter you'll gonma be? A beautiful business for a Jewish boy!"

S: "What's the matter with the marble business? Didn't Uncle Morantz pay a thousand dollars just to get his name on a piece of marble?"

M: "Don't emser me back! If not I'll telly your papa so soon he'll come home! Go wash yourself and take de violin! No vonder is a saying dat in America de parends obey de children."

Here's a Punchline from the Past sent to me from John Wells. I'll pass it on to you! THE JACK BENNY SHOW, Jack talking with Mr. Kitzel-Kitzel: "I'm taking mine wife to see 'Niagara'."
Jack: "The falls or the movie?"



+ 3/11/42, Utica
+ Observer-Dispatch

Kitzel: "The movie, with Marilyn Monroe." (sighs)

Jack: "Oh, you like Marilyn Monroe, huh? But why are you taking your wife?"

Kitzel: "To show her why we don't get along."

Here's one that sounds like more truth than fiction: Road Sign--
"Main Highway Open For Traffic While Detour Is Being Re-paved."

While Bob Hope's humor was not really objectionable, and even seems mild today, it was spicy for the era of radio comedy. In one sketch before troops, Hope courted a girl in the park, a bit more bashful than usual:

Hope: "Some park."

Girl: "Some park."

Hope: "Some grass."

Girl: "Some grass."

Hope: "Some dew."

Girl: "I don't!"

P.S.: The P.T.A. groups over the country forgave him.

One last Punchline in keeping with the coming season. THE FRED ALLEN SHOW, Allen's Alley: Allen and the good Senator Claghorn--

Allen: "How are you going to spend Thanksgiving?"

Claghorn: "With my kinfolks, son. What a day....We start out with a Memphis Martini....That's a tall glass of pure corn liquor with a wad of cotton in it....A Boll Weevil is riding the cotton. Then comes Alligator Chowder....A whole alligator simmering in swamp water...."

Allen: "Yum-yum! Do you have turkey with the meal?"

Claghorn: "Mock turkey, son. That's a raccoon, stuffed with grits and Magnolia buds....then we stand and give thanks....thanks for not being born in the North, that is!"

If you've heard any good ones and would like to pass them on as John Wells did, so that I can pass them on to the rest of the club, jot them down on a piece of paper, along with who said them, and send them to me, Stu Mann, at 44 Ganson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120.

Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving, and Good Listening!

1978 OTRcon Report.....

by Jerry Collins

Once again, the Collins family made their annual trip to Connecticut for Jay Hickerson's Friends of Old Time Radio Convention. This time my son Michael joined my wife and I at the convention.

Expecting a much larger crowd than last year, the Holiday Inn in Bridgeport was chosen as the site for the con. The predictions were correct as close to 200 people attended the dinner, with many more people attending the morning and afternoon sessions.

In addition to myself and my son Mike, the OTRCOB was well represented by Frank Amico, Ed Carr, Bruce Rittenhouse, Mitch Weisberg, Orval Garloff, Lee Dunbar, and Chuck Seeley. Such other well-known collectors as Jay Hickerson, Joe Webb, Stu Weiss, Gary Dudash, Don Richardson, and Al Rockford were also in attendance.

As the crowds have grown, so has the convention....Early registrants were greeted by dealers selling tapes, records, books, The Shadow magazines, pictures, and other trivia items.

As the day advanced, we rushed between movies and sound effects, acting, trivia, and teaching workshops. We were also treated to a marvelous Shakespearian reading by Raymond Edward Johnson, as well as a panel discussion on the Golden Days of Radio conducted by some of the great stars of that period.

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



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NOSTALGIA RADIO NEWS...over 5 years...and still growing!!!

Alice Reinhart (**LIFE CAN BE BEAUTIFUL**), Betty Wragge (**PEPPER YOUNG'S FAMILY**), Grace Matthews (**THE SHADOW**), Lee Stanley (**SUSPENSE**), Blair A. Walliser (director-**CHANDU THE MAGICIAN**), Rosa Rio (radio's greatest organist), and finally two of radio's finest sound effects men, Ed Blainey and Bob Prescott.

After a cocktail hour and dinner, we were treated to two radio shows performed live: **FRONT PAGE FARRELL** and **DAVID HARDING, COUNTERSPY**. Earlier we had heard an episode from **THE ROMANCE OF HELEN TRENT**, as well as a very stirring tribute to Bret Morrison done by Grace Matthews (Margo Lane) and Court Benson.

With that, another fine day of radio had come to an end. Hopefully, our memories will hold us till next October.

((Your editor had a great time at the con. If you're an OTR collector, the OTRcom is the place to be....We hope to have some pictures of the event next issue. --CAS))

By mid-day, the stars began coming in. The list was enormous, including such personalities as Lee Allman (**THE GREEN HORNET**), George Ansbro (announcer-**YOUNG WIDDER BROWN**), Ira Ahgley (director-**GRAND CENTRAL STATION**), Jackson Beck (Narrator-**SUPERMAN**), Court Benson (Narrator-**TENNESSEE JED**), Bob Dixon (announcer-**LIFE CAN BE BEAUTIFUL**), Raymond Edward Johnson (**INNER SANCTUM**), Evie Juster (**JUST PLAIN BILL**),

Otranagrams 2: results

Congratulations to winner Jim Snyder. Jim chose the cassette recorder as his prize. Special thanks to contest co-ordinator Corb Besco. Answers to the quiz in last issue: 1) **AL PEARCE AND HIS GANG** 2) Santos Ortega 3) **Ernsttime Wade** 4) **STRAIGHT ARROW** 5) Pansy Nussbaum 6) **MISTER DISTRICT ATTORNEY** 7) **ARMSTRONG OF THE SBI** 8) **DAVID HARDING, COUNTERSPY**. The first letters of these answers are re-arranged to form: Sam Spade.

Due to the Canadian mail embargo that sort of smuck up on us, our Canadian members did not receive the last issue and, therefore, were not able to participate in the contest. If the Canadian mail strike and embargo have been lifted by next issue's deadline, we'll have another contest, with the portable 8-track player as prize. Yet another contest is scheduled for January for club members, hopefully by then all this postal foolishness will be settled.

In any event, all Canadian members will receive all of their issues as soon as the ponies are allowed to cross the border again, whenever this may be. And we won't hold any contests until that time.

IP/ip

NEW MEMBERS (cont.):

George Lippman, 10011 Lewis St., Broomfield, Colorado 80020
Evan MacBride, P.O. Box 13128, Sacramento, California 95813
David McCain, 3029 Lille Drive, Marrero, Louisiana 70072
Pat McGee, 8538 Casaba Ave., Canoga Park, California 91306
Stuart Schneider, 208 E. Broadway, New York, NY 10002
Mel Simons, 635 Weld St., West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132

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

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

Larry Adamson, 207 Patrick Ave., Franklin, Tenn. 37064-- Looking for tapes/info of any kind on the following: Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Gene Austin, Grand Ole Opry, Country music shows of any type. Have catalog of material, will furnish and work out trade for shows.

Corb Besco, 815 Greenwood Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306-- Looking for the GANGBUSTERS show that features Forrest Turner, Public Enemy. Ed Garr, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512-- 16 blank reels, virgin mixed 1800' and 1200' Supertape and Realistic \$35 postpaid, or will trade value for value for Radio Guides, Tune In, Radio Mirror magazines 1930 to 1950 or will buy separate. 1-215-367-9114.

Collector, preferring 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 show. Will trade for high quality OTR. Lack of time prevents immediate response. Send all inquiries to Chuck Seeley, 294 Victoria Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217 for forwarding. Include postage.

Sol Feldman, 119 Pooler Ave., DeKalb, Illinois 60115-- Looking for logs of CAVALCADE OF AMERICA and COLUMBIA WORKSHOP.

Bill Gore, 9443 Angleridge Rd., Dallas, Texas 75238-- Looking for anything with the Andrews Sisters and BUSTER BROWN programs.

Stuart Mann, 44 Ganson St., North Tonawanda, NY 14120-- Looking for PARDON MY BLOOPERS and BLONDIE.

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.

TAPE LIBRARY: Volunteers are in the process of rating the sound quality of each reel and cassette in the club Tape Library. The rated contents of these tapes will be listed here until all have been graded, at which time an entirely new Tape Library list will be issued. What follows are tapes that have been graded thus far.

R-46 (1800')

R-46 (cont.)

Mystery House

"The Thirsty Death" w/Bela Lugosi
& John Carradine 1944, E

One Man's Family

"Father Barbour & the Eaves-
dropping Episode" Bk. 71, Chap.
10, NBC, E

IP/ip

R-46 (cont.)

Mystery in the Air
"Queen of Spades" 9/11/47, NBC,
w/Peter Lorre, w/Camel comm., E
Philip Morris Playhouse
"Murder Needs An Artist" w/Vin-
cent Price, CBS, 5/6/49, E
True Detective Mysteries
"Strange Deaths in a French
Town" 1/1/50, w/O'Henry comm., E
Tales of the Foreign Service
"The Death & Re-birth of an Amer-
ican Embassy" NBC, E
Mysterious Traveler
"The Man the Insects Hated" MBS, E
Americans All, Immigrants All
"Germans in the U.S." CBS, 1938,
VG-E
Those Sensational Years
"Who Really Discovered the North
Pole?" 7/30/47, VG-E
Medical File
"Epidemic" E
The Lineup
"Bootleggers" E
Thirty Minutes To Go
"A US Agent is Missing in Algiers"
E

R-62 (1800')

Melody Ranch (all E, AFRS)
"Fire on Will Hasting's Ranch"
"Red Meadows"
"Billy Drew"
"The Vanishing Gang"
"Charlie Clayton & Clem Carter"
"Gene Retires" (last show)
Roy Rogers (all E, AFRS)
"Diamond Smuggling in Mexico"
"Upside Down Liberty Stamp"
"Tornado" w/Bill Conrad
"\$50,000 Jewel Fraud"
"The Adopted Daughter"
"Missing Atomic Scientist"

R-63 (1200')

Kate Smith Hour
"Christmas Eve Show" w/Aldrich
Family & Jackie Gleason, VG
Kilery Queen
"Adventure of the World Series
Crime" AFRS, no end credits, fair
"Adventure of Nick the Knife"
8/1/45, AFRS, VG
Phil Harris & Alice Faye (Rexall)
"Willie Gives the Girls A Chemis-
try Set" 11/14/48, VG
"Phyllis Has A Boyfriend" 10/17/48, VG
"The Flying Saucers" 3/26/50, VG

R-63 (cont.)

Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy
w/Don Ameche, 12/3/44, VG
Blondie
"Driving With the Dithers"
no opening titles, w/Super-
suds comm., good

R-64 (1800')

Suspense
"Salvage" w/Van Johnson, Auto-
lite, 4/6/50, VG
"The Name of the Beast" 4/11/46
w/Vincent Price, Roma Wine, VG
"Murder Through the Looking
Glass" 3/17/49, w/Gregory Peck,
Autolite, VG
"The Day I Cried" 6/30/49,
w/J. Cotten, Autolite, G-VG
"Last Confession" 9/15/49, G-VG
w/Dorothy McGuire, Autolite
"For Love or Money" 12/8/49,
w/Mickey Rooney, Autolite, VG
"Black Angel" 1/24/48, AFRS,
w/June Havoc, 1 hour, E
"Wet Saturday" 6/24/42, AFRS, E
"The Defense Rests" 3/9/44,
w/Alan Ladd, Roma Wine, E
"Blood Sacrifice" 3/3/50,
w/J. Cotten, Autolite, E
"The One Way Ride to Nowhere"
1/6/44, w/Alan Ladd, Roma Wine,
VG

R-65 (1200')

Lux Radio Theater
"Tale of Two Cities" w/Ronald
Colman & Heather Angel, G-VG
"Great Expectations" w/Rock
Hudson, Lux comms, VG-E
"Jolson Sings Again" w/Al
Jolson, VG
Adam & Eve Skit
w/Mae West, E
Five Minute Mysteries
"My Pal Patsy" E
"Death Calls At Dinner" E
Chase & Sanborn Hour
w/Frances Langford, Spike Jones
& Wm. Frawley, 7/15/45, E
Date With Judy
"Never Tell A Lie" surface
noise, no end credits, VG



IP/ip

R-99 (1800')

Inner Sanctum (AFRS)

"Crazy Ghost" low, x-talk, G

"Stardust" low, VG

"Cemetery Gardner" low, VG

"Killer Aunt" w/Agnes Moorehead, low, VG

"Graveyard Hitchhiker" w/Agnes Moorehead, low, VG

"Half My Future" low, VG

"Honeymoon of Murder" E

"Terror By Night" w/Agnes Moorehead, E

"Change of Identity" light x-talk, VG

"The Razor's Edge" E

"The Dead Walk At Night" VG

"Death For Sale" w/Boris Karloff VG

C-35 Amos & Andy (AFRS)

"The Laundry Business" E

"The Get Acquainted Club" E

C-29 Mystery Theater (Inspector Mark Saber of the Homicide Squad)

"The Tell-tale Tie" w/comms., surface noise, fair-good Boston Blackie

"Building Construction & Crime" clipped intro, VG

C-30 Mr. District Attorney

"Murderous Good Samaritan" VG, light bleedthrough

The Fat Man (Australian)

"Murder Makes A Broken Heart" VG

C-31 Boston Blackie

"Charity Murders" E

Charlie Chan

"Curious Ride of the Sea-switch" VG

C-34 Mysterious Traveler

"Man the Insects Mated" end credits cut, VG-E

"If You Believe" intro cut, E

Thanks to Bill Gore, Dick Olday, and Jim Snyder for their donations.

CLEARING THE AIRWAVES: This column has been resurrected in the hope of helping our readers with research and questions about OTR and the hobby's related fields. If you can shed light on the questions to follow, please contact the questioners.

From Larry Adamson, 207 Patrick Ave., Franklin, Tenn. 37064-- "I would appreciate any help, references, contacts, etc. that you could supply me with concerning an interest in OTR dealing with country music; also Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, and Gene Austin. Do you know of anyone that I could contact that might be of help and interested in trading? If you do, I would really appreciate such information. As a recent member of the club I have enjoyed such very much."

From Bob Angus, RFD #1, Canaan, Connecticut 06018-- "I wonder if anybody out there can help me with some information--and perhaps some examples--of early Jack Webb shows. A series called PAT NOVAK FOR HIRE started locally in San Francisco in 1946, then went network in 1949. A companion series called JOHNNY MADERO, PIER 23 ran during the summer of 1947. My questions:

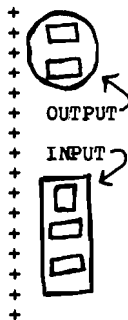
- 1) How many local NOVAK shows were there altogether--the ones starring Webb and John Galbraith?
- 2) When Webb left for Hollywood later that season, he was replaced by Bob Morris. How many Morris shows were there?
- 3) How many MADERO shows were there?
- 4) How many NOVAK shows in the ABC series starring Webb and Raymond Burr?
- 5) Does anyone have examples of these for trade--particularly MADERO, the local NOVAKS with Webb and Galbraith, and later with Morris?

AFN in Frankfurt and FEN in Tokyo regularly rerun the ABC NOVAKS, but I've never seen any of the local shows in trading lists."

From George Hobson, 452 Golden Valley Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129-- "On page 3 of IP #25 is a 1950 ad for a Webster wire recorder. I have an old one which has a tag on the case with the following info: MODEL 80-1, RMA 375, SERIAL NO. 11988, VOLTS 105-120, CYCLES 60, WATTS 65. I also acquired three spools of wire to play on it, but the machine had no power

IP/ip

cord. I finally used an ordinary extension cord with a small end on it which plugged into the hole which had the standard two-pronged receptacle. After playing the used spools which contained a teacher and small or young children talking and singing I was surprised at the response from these. There are two other receptacles for input and output (pictured at right, the best sketch your editor can do). I would like to know what they are called and where to get plugs to fit them. They are quite different from each other and are not standard. The top of the slot openings are flared and so look larger than they are. The machine played so well through its own speaker that I would like to see how it performs with recording and playing through an external speaker. Any help on this would be appreciated." ((Despite the appearance in the crude sketch, all the slots are the same dimensions. --Ed.))



OTR bumper stickers:

neighbors, now you too can own a genuine Old Time Radio bumper sticker! These 15" by 3" black & white gems are \$1 for one, \$1.50 for two, or \$2 for three, all postpaid! "Honk if you love Old Time Radio!" it says, with a picture of an old time radio. Get 'em from Chuck Seeley, 294 Victoria Blvd., Kenmore, NY 14217. This is class stuff. Order now!

That's right,
friends and

STUFF FOR SALE:

Brad C. Becker
818 Elmwood Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14222

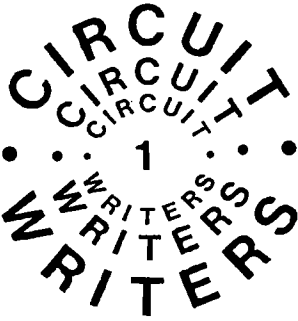
Recently, a friend and I cleaned out an entire attic-full of magazines dating back to the late Thirties and ranging up through the early Fifties; the following are just a few samples of what we found.....

LIBERTY, May '42...Ginger Rogers article//Aug. 15 '42...Striptease Ann Corio, Pride of the Yankees(review)//WOMAN'S DAY #1, 1937...Pictorial review of movie "Charlie Chan on Broadway"//MOTION PICTURE, May '45...Alan Ladd cover & feature, Fred Allen interview, etc.//MODERN SCREEN, Sept. '47...Gene Tierney cover & feature, Glenn Ford life story, Maureen O'Hara, etc.//all near mint-mint condition: \$3.00 each, plus .25 postage per mag.

TRUE STORY, Nov.'37...Marlene Dietrich//TS, Sept.'38...Deanna Durbin//TS, Jan.'38...Jessica Dragonette, Bette Davis & Henry Fonda: missing back cover//TS, Dec.'38...~~"Molly & Me" by Fibber McGee~~//all good \$4each + .25g.

TS, Jan'39...Jane Withers//TS, Oct'38...Story of Charlie McCarthy by Edgar Bergen//TS, May'39...20th Ann. issue w/Jeanette Macdonald//TS, Jn'39...Hope Whitehouse cover, Brenda Frazier//TS, J1'39...Fredric March//TS, March'39...Joan Blondell//TS, Aug'42...Lum and Abner//TS, Jn'42...Sammy Kaye//TS, March'43...Fred Allen//TS, Feb'43...Betty Winkler (Joyce Jordan, M.D.)//TS, Dec'42...Jimmie Fidler//TS, Apr'42...Dinah Shore//TS, May'42...Ted Steele//TS, Sept'42...Kay Kyser//TS, Oct'43...Bob Hawk//TS, Sept'43...Fred Waring//TS, May'43...Woody Herman//TS, Jn'43...Lucille Manners//TS, Oct'42...Gladys Swarthout//TS, Jan'43...Helen Mencken//TS, Apr'43...Intro. Radio's "Young Dr. Malone" (Alan Bunce)//TS, Sept'41...Jimmy Dorsey//TS, Nov. '41... "Life with Benny" by Mary Livingstone, Eddie Cantor, "Myrt & Marge"//TS, Dec, Jan, Feb, '41-'42...three partserial, "Radio Love" (Love behind the microphone!)//all are excellent condition and \$3.00 each plus .25 postage (serial issues: all three for 7.50 postpaid).

send money orders only, please. -Thanks!



During the time in which I have been making master tapes from the original ET's, I have found a number of different types.

Some of the programs from the earliest days of radio were on Edison cylinders (such as early AMOS & ANDY). In the late Twenties, as programming began serving more than one station, live shows were put on discs for later broadcasts.

First, programming was put on thick acetate discs, some of which were solid and then a sandwich-type deal with coating on each side of a cardboard center (Wafer I). These were quite prone to breakage, scratches, and, in the case of Wafer I's, the sur-

faces would peel away in extreme moisture and temperature changes.

Soon, aluminum and glass discs were developed by coating them with some kind of vinyl. The glass discs were superior (still highly breakable but better than acetate) to the aluminum discs (Wafer II). Again, under heat and moisture (age, too), the aluminum disc would crack and peel. I've had several come apart as I recorded them, looking like an impossible jigsaw puzzle.

In the Forties and Fifties, the discs were less susceptible to scratches and breakage (but they still do both). A new little item comes to light with these discs---a little heat, such as direct sunlight, will cause these discs to warp into nice wavy patterns that are impossible to play or fix (so far). I do have a few ideas I want to try on discs we unearthed in this condition.

In 30-odd years, not only did the overall quality of materials used in discs improve the sound, but they also became lighter and thinner.

Due to WWII "Destroy this disc upon completion of broadcast" or "Return this disc to the owner listed below" commands printed on the records and dust sleeves, and the general garbage-canning of upteen thousands of discs by stations that are now Top 40, C&W, easy listening, or news, and those that have just disintegrated with age, discs are really hard to come by. Until a few years ago, even if someone did see these gems, they wouldn't dream how important these "BIG" records really were, and so many were lost forever....

While I have been recording, fighting with cracks, chips, scratches, spots of paint, dirt, warps, and other assorted travesties, I have discovered other oddities: Some discs are 33 1/3 and some are 78 rpm OR EVEN A COMBINATION of the two! Some are recorded from the outside, while SOME ARE RECORDED FROM THE INSIDE!

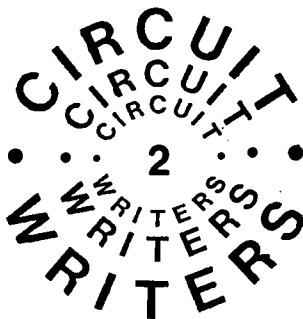
Oddly enough, some of the recordings are in very good shape and I love doing these (helps quiet the nerves I developed from doing "THOSE OTHERS").

TAPING AND AUDITORY RECALL...by Bill Gore

Our hobby is not only pleasurable, it is also, of course, educational. Further, it can be an aid in the fight against a common learning disability--poor auditory recall.

Needless to say, I was very distraught upon being informed by my son's teacher and counselor that he was afflicted with poor auditory recall. Although not an educator, the suggested remedial steps of the experts seemed less than adequate. I took the initiative and set forth with my plan.

Perhaps TV, with an over-reliance on visual stimuli, caused or aggravated the situation. No more TV, or at least very



little, for the boy. Perhaps we should exercise the "weak muscle" to develop it. A reel-to-reel and plenty of OTR tapes went to the boy's room. He'd listen every night. Now, several years later, he's apparently "cured." He learned to listen and thus gained auditory recall.

The results were prompt, but we've kept up the program somewhat. As he matured, his programs changed from such as LET'S PRETEND to the ADVENTURES OF OZZIE AND HARRIET to SPRED GIESON and I LOVE A MYSTERY, etc. Do youth a favor. Give them OTR. They'll love it and benefit otherwise, as well.



FORUM

article. I particularly enjoyed the honey remarks about trading buddies.

My major criticisms are two-fold: I almost got sea-sick from listening to my copy of MIS because of the amount of volume flux (I realize there must have been cost considerations but can't help feel that a bit better quality control would not have added that much to the expense in terms of either time or money), and secondly I was surprised at the choice of content.

"Segments on Presley, STAR TREK, and even Groucho (the excerpts were non-radio) hardly seem typical of what OTR collectors cherish. If the stuff were rare there might be some justification but...I hate to sound bitchy but it was a glorious opportunity that was lost (a bit melodramatic, I must admit). I'm also fearful, considering the time it took to put out, that the next effort may be a long time coming.

"Some suggestions: Have the various OTR segments divided into half-hour periods and farm them out to different members, including those like myself who are in the "boonies" (yes, I volunteer). Give these section editors some guidelines, e.g. a particular topic, or to use rare material, or to give listeners an idea of the state of OTR in the locale by playing lead-ins to the OTR programs in a particular location or in presenting excerpts from a show unique to the area (e.g. CHICAGO RADIO THEATER).

"Anyhow, once again, thanks for the attempt. Hope you do try again."

From Henriette Klawans, 3900 Lake Shore Drive, #23K, Chicago, Ill. 60613--

"MEMORIES IN SOUND arrived in a few days. Strangely enough, postal service seemed to improve during the strike threat. The tape was a great idea. I'd like to see it repeated periodically. I really enjoyed most of the material, particularly the STAR TREK interviews and the Elvis tribute, although I'm not a fan of either one. Unfortunately on my tape the "live" material was very difficult to understand. Stu Mann was the best, Chuck Seeley not quite as good, My Daley required two listenings to understand, and Richard Simpson I couldn't understand at all. If there's another MIS-- and I certainly hope there will be--I'd like to contribute something."

From Steven Hiss, 2337 Archer Rd. #401, Gainesville, Florida 32608--

"Finally finished listening to MIS, Volume 1. This was a fine ambitious idea and Stu Mann should be complimented.

"I would prefer less swipes from complete works. The Groucho section wet our whistle and left our mouths dry. Couldn't understand why the STAR TREK piece and music were included at all. The personal comments by members is a good idea.

"I have a suggestion for future MIS. The DAK Tape Corporation will provide any number of duplicates from non-copyrighted material for the price of the tape plus ten cents."

From Ed Carr, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512-- "The whole idea to do a recorded version of Memories was great. I enjoyed everything about it, but I have one complaint. Wait now, please do not get the wrong idea. I will not pull apart the show, the effort, or the people behind it. My complaint is with the tape.

"My copy had fades, in and out, and that detracted from being able to really sit back and listen. Yes, I know it was free, and the club is trying to get more interest generated in the club and OTR as a whole, and can't afford Maxell or such. Let me make a suggestion: Don't change the format. Keep everything the same; it's good. But if people are really interested in OTR and the club, let them send their own tape to have it recorded on. Oh, but people wouldn't do that, it's an added expense. Well, I can't refute that. Remember, I'm only making a suggestion. Do the master on a good brand of tape and hopefully the copies will be just as good.

"For you people reading this who'll say, 'Oh, nuts,' or something to that effect, can't someone do anything without someone complaining about it, and it's free? I don't blame you, but I feel as a member of the club I should be able to offer my own suggestions and hope they are taken as they are meant to be: comments intended to be helpful."

From Jim Snyder, 517 North Hamilton St., Saginaw, Michigan 48602--

"I belong to the American Numismatic Association, and I found the enclosed in their Sept. magazine. Thought it unusual that a coin publication would have something of OTR interest. ((See next page. --CAS))

"Finally listened to MIS and found it to be exceptional. I had expected the usual anthology format but instead found Stu's approach to be new, interesting, entertaining, and very well done.

"Regarding the matter of tape quality in the library: There is indeed some bad stuff there. Why not set up

Above courtesy Gene Bradford* a sound screening committee to rate them ++++++ and/or weed out undesirable tapes? Ideally that should be people located somewhere near Dom, but it could also include out-of-towners. Tapes could be sent to them to check. A group should be easy to find as that would give them a chance to copy that tape if they wanted it without having to pay the usual rental charge."

((If nothing else, MEMORIES IN SOUND brought forth potential contributors for a second edition, contributors who weren't around when the call went out for the first edition. Ed Carr's suggestion of having interested members send in tape to be used for their copy of MIS strikes me as being a good idea, since the club can't afford a large outlay of cash for high quality tape. MIS editor Stu Mann will no doubt take all the comments under advisement....A sound screening group for the Tape Library is another good idea. It would certainly go faster that way than by depending on library users to rate them as they go along. If you'd like to be put on the list to receive library tapes for grading, send your name and address to Dom Parisi at the address given on page 2. You'll have to take potluck as to tapes received, though. Please listen to ALL the programs on a tape COMPLETELY and grade shows as it was done on the reels listed on pages 7 and 8 of this issue (E, VG, etc.). Please note any defects the show has (x-talk, etc.), and return a list of the graded shows when you return the tape. Okay? --CAS))



exonumia notebook

by David E. Schenkman
and H. Joseph Levine

Major Bowes Award Medal



"Around and around she goes and where she stops nobody knows." So goes the Wheel of Fortune, spun for eleven years (1935-1946) by Major Edward Bowes. Over two-hundred thousand potential Crosbys, Astaires, Fitzgeralds and Holidays vied for the opportunity to be signed out by The Wheel as one of the chosen.

If you are over forty, the chances are that you remember listening to Major Bowes Original Amateur Hour and the "genial, slightly unctuous voice" of its Master of Ceremonies. The "Amateur Hour" was one of the most popular radio programs of its day with an audience estimated upwards of forty million listeners. A popular part of the program was the Major's injection of bits of homespun philosophy and an occasional poem that was highly sentimental and moral in tone.

I'm sure that Elsie Hampton remembers all of this for she was the recipient of the 51mm gilded award medal pictured above. Although the medal is not dated, we know for certain that it was awarded in either 1935 or 1936. It was during those two years only that the program was sponsored by Chase and Sanborn.—H.J.L.

The Numismatist 9/78

.....
● time job, but well worth it.

● "Over the years I've seen complaints about
● how some newsletters aren't very good (I've
● had a few concerning ours). I would like to
● take a minute to let a lot of people know
● that it takes a great deal of time to put out

.....
a newsletter. Newsletters are done by people who usually work during the day and do a newsletter in their spare time, usually spend a lot of their own money on it, receive little help from people who really could help a lot, and receive criticism from people who expect something along the lines of Time or Newsweek.

"I saluted the newsletter editors in our newsletter with the dedication to them, and wanted to tell your readers about it. You and the others are doing a great job, Chuck, and I look forward to getting back to editing our newsletter next year after I complete my term as President of the RHAC.

"Keep up the fine work and I'll keep in close contact."

((Aw, shucks....You do pretty fine work yourself, John. We're both fortunate in having the fine contributors we do....John Lloyd is the newly elected prez of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado; the RHAC/OTRCOB combinations were all his idea. Congratulations, prez. --CAS))

From Alf Walle, P.O. Box 43, Pippa Passes, Kentucky 41844-- "Marcy and I have recently organized a non-profit educational corporation dedicated primarily to advancing OTR. It's the Center for Communication and Society Studies, and we're incorporated in the state of Ohio and accepted as a non-profit institution by the federal government.

From John Lloyd,
2667 E. 99th Ave.,
Thornton, CO 80229--

"I got your issue of the combination newsletter in the mail the other day and you sure did a fine job.

"I think that we did a good job this year and have had some nice comments on it. I was especially happy to dedicate our version to all of the newsletter editors.

"We certainly had great cooperation from the other clubs and newsletter editors, and I am looking forward to next year's issue already. I think we can give our readers a better publication each year.

"It was a lot of fun. I figured that typing, mimeographing, arranging pages, folding, stapling, stamping, addressing, and mailing took about 50 hours for this newsletter. It is almost like a full

"In order to maintain this status, the Center has a year to demonstrate that it can, in actual fact, operate as a publicly supported non-profit educational institution. OTRCOB members can help us by showing a willingness to dupe shows (onto tape which we will provide) and donating such services to the Center.

"Everybody would profit from such donations. The donor would be able to claim a legitimate tax deduction since the Center operates under section 170c of the tax code. Upon the receipt of a donation request, I will forward tape and a receipt form which will be filled out and returned to me. I will then sign it and return the receipt (proof of donation) which can be used for IRS purposes.

"Although the actual cost to the individual is small, he or she may claim the usual market price of such items as the amount of the contribution. That comes to about \$8 to \$10 a reel (and possibly more for custom duping and/or rare shows). Remember, the contribution is not the cost to the individual, but the fair market price (which can be proven via the ads which appear in OTR publications and catalogs). I will be happy to forward tape and forms to people upon request. The archive will stick with the standard 4 track, 3 3/4 ips format simply because it will make everything easier for all concerned.

"What's to be done with the collection? Possibilities are (1) re-lease programming to public radio stations, (2) produce a SOUNDS OF YESTERDAY type program for radio stations, (3) using edited segments and commentary to produce documentaries on OTR, and (4) make OTR available to the blind and infirm, etc. Of course, the archive will be available to scholars interested in researching and promoting OTR. In general, the Center wants to involve the public in its projects and that means OTR hobbyists and collectors as well as those who are not yet involved.

"Who chooses what shows will be donated? Ideally, collectors would send a copy of their catalogs and allow the Center to make a decision regarding what was most needed. Naturally, a collector might not want to donate a particularly rare show or shows and he could so state this. Ideally, the Center would like to get more or less long runs of specific shows, although mixed reels would not be taboo. If a collector didn't have a catalog, he could write stating what he did have and wanted to donate.

"The Center for Communication and Society Studies is located at 408 West Liberty Street, Ashland, Ohio 44805

"I would greatly appreciate any advice and/or aid you can give in regard to this project."

From Chuck Blaskower, 311 E. Maple St., Apt. 8, Glendale, CA 91205--

"Thanks for noting in the Sept. IP (#27) that I was looking for a GANGBUSTERS show called "The Cat Burglar." A fellow member in Iowa wrote that he had found it, but it turned out to be an FBI IN PEACE & WAR show with a similar title. However, he did put me in touch with a radio group in Iowa who would do the show for me if I wrote a suspense type script, similar to the GANGBUSTERS.

"I wrote the script up and the people were very impressed with it. I asked for special sound effects that any decent radio studio could do, if they were concerned about doing a good job for you. To make a long story short, they took \$250 of my money down and performed the show. They failed in the most miserable manner possible. They completely ignored my request that special attention be given the sound effects and indeed drowned out most sound effects with music, both in the background and during the actual commission of the crimes.

"In other words, the people in Iowa took my money and didn't care if I was happy or not. I'm very upset about this. I will pay anyone who will put on my radio show (called CRIME WAVE) and not cheat me. It will entail a cast of 8 young women and 4 to 6 men. I'm totally prepared to pay a decent price for a crew of people to act out my play, and not cheat me, especially in the sound effects department, as did these Iowa people. CRIME WAVE is a half-hour police crime drama. If anyone's interested, call me collect at (213) 240-3280 for further details."

((Your editor has heard the show in question. The story is indeed exciting and fast-paced. However, several of the actors appear to be reading their lines with little feeling. The music is good but too intrusive. It's potentially a fine show, so if you think you can help Chuck, call him at the number given above. --CAS))

From Jerry Collins, 56 Christen Court, Lancaster, NY 14086-- "Just a comment on the rating of the OTR dealers. I wish to thank as well as congratulate Jim Snyder and Frank Waibel on their jobs of rating OTR dealers. I have both purchased and rented tapes from some of the companies mentioned. I have rented close to two dozen tapes from the Old Radio Warehouse (\$2/reel) and have been extremely pleased with the quality of the tape and waiting time (one week).

"I also agree with the excellent rating given to Satellite Broadcasting. I strongly disagree with the poor rating given by Mr. Waibel to AM Treasures. I have purchased more than a dozen reels from Gary Dudash and have found him to be very fair in his pricing and very prompt in his service (one week). I would rate the quality of his shows as being excellent or near excellent in all cases. He also has one of the largest catalogs I have ever seen. I have met Mr. Dudash in person and have found him to be an expert in his field and a good businessman."

From Gene Bradford, 21707 Rosedale, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080--

"...It has been my limited experience that most OTR dealers are fair in most regards and, so far as I personally am concerned, a necessity to the hobby. What annoys me most is that a company called Radio Yesteryear can take advantage of a beginner by charging the exorbitant sum of \$12 per hour when everyone else in the business is charging much less. Their product is very good to excellent but the price is way out of line. No one likes to be cheated, but what else is a beginner to think when he finds out the normal going price for the product he has spent hard-earned money for? Without going into the ramifications of price-gouging, monopolizing, consumer rights, etc., it would seem to me that a big company like that would encourage collecting with a fair price on all their products (not just records, but also tapes).

"No one out there was listening when I advertised for TOM MIX RALSTON STRAIGHTSHOOTER programs. Come on gang, I know someone out there has 'em. Why not share your good fortune? I would."

From Howard Brenner, Mar-Bren Sound, P.O. Box 4099, Rochester, NY 14610--

"Just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the latest issue of the IP, especially the continuing series on rating the dealers.

"I would certainly welcome the opportunity to present the views of a major dealer. Should you or any of your members have any questions, comments, criticisms, or suggestions, I would be delighted to address myself to them.

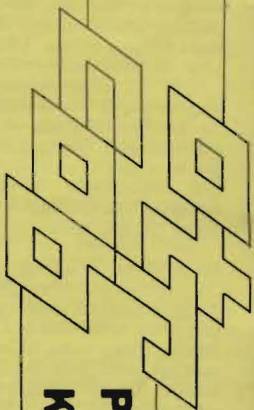
"Meanwhile, if there is any way in which Mar-Bren or I might be of service to the club, please let me know."

From Frank Amico, 246 Vernon Avenue, Paterson, NJ 07503-- "I recently received MEMORIES IN SOUND and although I expected it to be more OTR oriented I still enjoyed it. Sound quality varied from the club news, which could hardly be understood, to excellent when material was taken off records.

"Jeff Wayne's "War of the Worlds" is a good but not great album. It lacks the pure blending of music and dialog that was achieved so masterfully by Rick Wakeman in his "Journey to the Center of the Earth" album (if you never heard it, buy it). All in all, "War of the Worlds" does have its moments. Side four alone is worth buying the album just to hear Julie Covington of ROCK POLLIES fame sing again, although the full range of her talents are not exposed in this record. Songs like "Brave New World" and "Forever Autumn" are also very well done."

Many thanks to everyone who wrote in....Next issue the reviews and obits return, I PROMISE!....Corb Besco joins the staff officially this month. Corb has plenty of good ideas & the talent to see them through. Right now, he's working on a new mailing page lay-out to reflect the name change....Just had a call from Chuck Blaskower (see page 14). Says he'll pay \$1500 for CRIME WAVE to be done the way he wants it. The man is extremely serious about this and intends CRIME WAVE as a pilot for a potential series. Be sure to call him if you can help....Adios. --CAS





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KENMORE NY 14217**

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EXPIRATION OF YOUR ORDER TO
SHIP. THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF
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