

ILLUSTRATED PRESS

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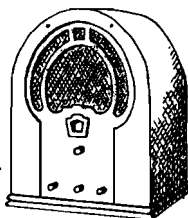
THE BIG SHOW



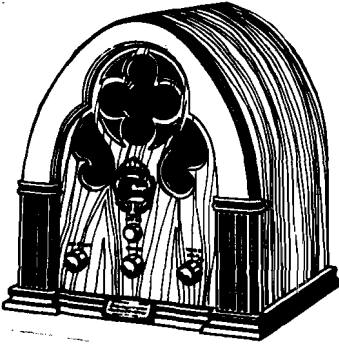
"The Big Show," a lavish 90-minute weekly variety program, was launched on November 4, 1950. With Tallulah Bankhead as hostess and Meredith Willson as musical director, it featured the biggest stars in show business. In this picture are, left to right, George Sanders, Portland Hoffa, Groucho Marx, Fred Allen, and Tallulah.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

THE OLD TIME



RADIO CLUB



THE OLD TIME RADIO CLUB
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Club dues are \$17.50 per yr. from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Members receive a tape listing, library lists, a monthly newsletter (The Illustrated Press), an annual magazine (Memories), and various special items. Additional family members living in the same household as a regular member may join the club for \$5.00 per year. These members have all the privileges of 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 \$10.00 per year and includes all the benefits of a regular membership. Regular membership dues are as follows: if you join in Jan. dues are \$17.50 for the year; Feb., \$17.50; March \$15.00; April \$14.00; May \$13.00; June \$12.00; July \$11.00; Aug., \$9.00; Sept. \$8.00; Oct. \$7.00; Nov. \$6.00; and Dec. \$5.00. The numbers after your name on the address label are the month and year your renewal is due. Reminder notes will be sent. Your renewal should be sent in as soon as possible to avoid missing issues. Please be certain to notify us if you change your address.

OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIPS are now available. Annual dues are \$29.50. Publications will be air mailed.

THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS is the monthly newsletter of The Old Time Radio Club headquartered in Buffalo, N.Y. Contents except where noted, are copyright © 1983 by the OTRC. All rights are hereby assigned to the contributors. Editor: Richard A. Olday; Assistant Editor: Jerry Collins; Production Assistance: Arlene Olday; Production Manager; Millie Dunworth
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CLUB ADDRESSES: Please use the correct address for the business you have in mind. Return library materials to the library addresses.

CLUB DUES:
 Jerry Collins
 56 Christen Ct.
 Lancaster, N.Y. 14086
 (716) 683-6199

ILLUSTRATED PRESS (letters, columns etc.) & OTHER CLUB BUSINESS:
 Richard Olday
 100 Harvey Drive
 Lancaster, N.Y. 14086
 (716) 684-1604

REFERENCE LIBRARY:
 Pete Bellanca
 1620 Ferry Road
 Grand Island, N.Y. 14072
 (716) 773-2485

TAPE LIBRARY
 Francis Edward Bork
 7 Heritage Drive
 Lancaster, N.Y. 14086
 (716) 683-3555

BACK ISSUES: All MEMORIES and IPs are \$1.00 each, postpaid. Out of print issues may be borrowed from the reference library.
 Dominic Parisi
 38 Ardmore Pl.
 Buffalo, NY 14213

The Old Time Radio Club meets the second Monday of the month (September through June) at 393 George Urban Boulevard, Cheektowaga, New York. Anyone interested in the "Golden Age of Radio" is welcome to attend and observe or participate. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR IP # 99 - December 10
 #100 - January 12
 #101 - February 11

ADVERTISING RATES FOR MEMORIES

\$30.00 for a full page
 \$20.00 for a half page
 \$12.00 for a quarter page

SPECIAL: OTR Club members may take 50% off these rates.

Advertising Deadline - September 15th

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE TAPE LIBRARY AND CLUB DUES.

Cover Design by Eileen Curtin

The CRYSTAL EGG



HY DALEY

The summer of '84 was full of hot days, white houses, and OTR crackling through the air. I had a partner this summer while painting. He is only 20 and hadn't heard any radio. Now, after 3 months, he likes some and hates some. We listened to Barry Craig, Confidential Investigator, starring William Gargon, Luke Slaughter of Tombstone, Suspense, Jimmy Durante (1947-48), The Shadow (1932), Columbia Workshop, Adventures of Frank Race, Hall of Fantasy, New Edgar Bergen Hour (1956), Hopalong Cassidy, Have Gun Will Travel, (1960), Captain Midnight (1939-40), Gun-smoke (1954), Broadway is My Beat, etc and etc. It was indeed a good summer of listening.

JACK OAKIE COLLEGE-3 The guests Judy Garland and Jack Benny made the one show I've heard memorable. OBSESSION-3 Vincent Price's paranoia was super.

ARCH OBLER'S PLAYS-3 I've heard 10 shows from 1945; grizzly stuff. OFFICIAL DETECTIVE-2 Lightweight. O'HENRY'S PLAYHOUSE-2 Only heard one show - Mrs. Parkin's Rooming House.

OLD GOLD SHOW-2 Dick Powell starred in the four 1934 episodes I heard.

OLD GOLD COMEDY THEATER-3 Jack Oakie and Stu Irwin starred in "Room Service" in 1934.

ONAR, WIZARD OF PERSIA-2 Boring serial in Chandu style.

ON SAFARI-2 South African jungle show. Routine.

ON WITH THE SHOW-2 USO extravaganza ONE MAN'S FAMILY-2 OK Drama.

ONE NIGHT STAND-2 Jumpin Jive with Charlie Spivak.

ON STAGE-2 Interesting drama from Kathy & Elliot Lewis

ORDER IN THE COURT-2 1953 episodes were average courtroom fare.

IN MEMORY

I doubt that she listened to that many radio shows. She probably knew little of the history of radio.

She was, however, the woman behind the scenes. She was always one of the key individuals behind the Christmas party. Dolores always worked very closely with Rosemary Simpson in organizing our annual summer picnic. Everything was always so well organized at our monthly meetings at the Wanat's. We can usually be certain that Dolores was responsible for this.

Every successful man has a good woman behind him. Dolores was such a woman. Ed Wanat has one of the finest collection of Big Band Music in the United States. He is also known throughout the World for his collection of Bing Crosby recordings.

Ed Wanat would have never achieved these honors without the patience and support of his wife Dolores. One look at Ed's basement and you can understand the meaning of these words.

After a long illness, Dolores Wanat left us on November 11, 1984. We will all miss her dearly.



OTRC Wishes All Our Members



Season's Greetings





TUNE-IN

By: Jeffrey Muller

"CURRENT RADIO OF THE PAST"

It has been over five years since the introduction of the Sears Radio Theatre and four years since the thing ended. The CBS Mystery Theatre has been off the air since 1982 and many other contemporary radio shows have come and gone. Why must this happen? With all that junk on television today, why can't a present day radio dramatic series be supported? Well with the case of the Mutual Radio Theatre it was a game of not getting the advertising support. I would think advertisers would jump at such a chance. Just think radio commercials are so much cheaper to produce than television ones. An advertiser could get creative without spending a lot of money to produce such a commercial. I thought radio drama was in a middle of a rebirth with many new shows during the mid to later seventies. However, the sudden rebirth was dead before it really got a chance. It is not just the fault of the networks, it is also the fault of certain people who have the resources to do something about it. Take for instance, Himan Brown, the producer of the now defunct CBS Mystery Theatre. When that wonderful show was cancelled by the network he had promised to bring it back. He had come up with a few viable ideas to save the show. He tried to get another network to pick it up but none would come forward to pick it up. He also tried to get it on NPR with no avail, he even offered to work for a nominal fee. Of course this was not where he was at fault, he was at fault with his idea of syndication. The idea was great because he had hundreds of pre-recorded programs to run through syndication. I do not know how hard he tried but the show is still off the air to this day. The only attempt with current dramatic radio today is National Public Radio. Over the last couple of years they've come up with many shows such as: Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back, Earplay, and some BBC shows. I remember reading about a show with War Games in this publication, I wonder what happened to it?

Just a side note, I attended this years Friends of Old Time Radio Convention and I really enjoyed it. This was the fourth one that I have attended and thought it was one of the best that I have been to. In my opinion, I thought that Frank Nelson and Veola Vonn were the hit of the

whole convention. The presentation was electrifying and really exciting. I think Jay and the others put together another top notch convention, thank a lot to all. I cannot wait till next year. Till next time, pleasant....dreams.

* * * * *

Radio-TV

The Great Peary

Frog-voiced Hal Peary played Gildersleeve on the *Fibber McGee and Molly* show until his hyena laugh was as well known as Joe Penner's duck. Then, with the McGees' permission, he took the character to his own show, *The Great Gildersleeve*, an NBC feature for nine years.

Last fortnight Peary switched over to CBS with *The Hal Peary Show* (Wednesday, 9-9:30 p.m. EST). Gildersleeve, a character owned body and soul by NBC, was left behind, and the part taken over by Willard Waterman. So perfectly has Waterman imitated the voice and manner of Peary that many a listener, imagining that Peary had been shunted to one side, protested the "injustice." Actually, Peary carried his old formula along with him to the new show. It is that of a pretentious bumpkin who winds up as the butt of every joke.

On the new program, sponsored by a shampoo manufacturer, Peary plays the hapless manager of a radio program. The show he manages is always under fire due to Hal's lack of simple tact. The chief problem so far, and one that in each program he fails to solve to his or anyone else's satisfaction, is how to promote civic crusades without stepping on the toes of rivals within his own station, or those of the station's forthright owner.

Vanishing Symphonics

It is no secret that 10 years ago, prior to the war, the major networks carried two to three times as much serious music as they do today.

Last week the Columbia Broadcasting System gave up its live Sunday broadcast of the popular New York Philharmonic Orchestra. Instead, the network will record a weekday concert and air it Sunday afternoon (1-2:30 p.m. EST).

This, on the heels of the shift of the CBS Symphonette from 4:30 p.m. Sunday to the late hour of 10:30 p.m., plus the switch of the NBC Symphony from Saturday night to Monday night, has good music lovers worried.

Jobless Long-Hairs. To *Variety*, "bible" of the entertainment field, the "situation is fraught with wider implications than is apparently realized. A lot of long-hair musicians may find themselves out of work, replaced by pop players. A classical audience may find itself deprived of programs.

"But a deeper motive is discerned by some industries in all the above—a move by stations and webs to cut down on their musicians quota, classical or pop, altogether."

Reason: new stress on variety shows. Significantly, *Escape*, a suspense melodrama, replaces the live Philharmonic broadcast, starting Oct. 22.

letters



None of us should be surprised to find yet another of SPERDVAC's minions (Clyde Bengé) using our "letter to the editor" column in the IP to find fault with our printing of the facts of SPERDVAC's corruption and deception.

The truth of the matter is that SPERDVAC's officers have misused the funds of that organization and abused the trust of their members. Thoreau once wrote: "It takes two to speak the truth - one to speak, and another to hear". Obviously, neither Msssr. Bengé nor Gassman want the truth of these deeds spoken so that of course no one can hear them. We certainly do not agree that the suppression of these truths would be positive or benefit the hobby in any way. Nor should we be persuaded that informing others in the hobby (incl. SPERDVAC members) of these actions we are in any way being destructive of ideals which are in any way worthwhile to the hobby in general. To date, we have not been informed of any legitimate business transacted that benefited members of SPERDVAC or the hobby when that organizations funds were used to send the privileged few to the OTR Convention in Newark. If Mr. Lynes, Bengé et al wish to have fun, let them spend their own money, not their members money. "We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done." -- Longfellow.

For those of us who are (or as in my case have been) members of SPERDVAC there can be no doubt that Mr. Bengé is a lieutenant in the clique that runs the organization at SPERDVAC. When he states that he does not speak for the club that may be true insofar as the members are concerned; however, Mr. Bengé's opinions are rooted in the inner circle of select few. As a frequent visitor to the OTR convention he informed me some time ago that "the club" paid his expenses and that uncirculated ILAM shows were purchased in the infamous Chicago spree. On the basis of this I would question his integrity as expressed in the Oct. IP. His

opinions concerning "commercialization", "team concept" and "health of the hobby" are matters which separate SPERDVAC from the rest of the hobby; they are ill conceived and self-serving. Lowell wrote: "The foolish and the dead alone never change their opinion."

Mr. Bengé's remarks (Nay, cheap shot) concerning Mr. Snyder's "writing" must seem ridiculous to even him when you consider that The Friends of Old Time Radio recently bestowed upon Mr. Snyder the highest award in the hobby for just such "writing". Since the majority of the hobby does not agree with Mr. Bengé on this point we must assume his self-righteous nonsense on the other matters are equally absurd. As for my own efforts mentioned by Clyde, I am amazed that he found it of interest since he apparently does not recognize a "satire" from a "fantasy". But let's have it your way Clyde: Let's Pretend there was no misuse of SPERDVAC funds. Let's Pretend there was no abuse of SPERDVAC member's trust. This is Clyde's fantasy, not mine. To sum it all up; Victor ilugo wrote "I had rather be hissed for a good verse than applauded for a bad one". End Chapter Three---

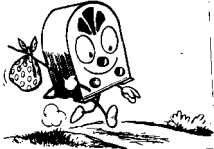
Gene Bradford
19706 Elizabeth
St. Clair Shore, Mich. 48080

Thanks for rushing & putting my letter in the #96 copy of ILLUSTRATED PRESS. But the gremlins were there. I live at 1807½ Burgundy (the wine) St. and the zip code is 70116. Not as in the mag. Please put a change in the next issue of IP, in case the post office returns letters, and they WILL. OTR lives!

John A. Barber
1807½ Burgundy St.
New Orleans, LA. 70116



Wireless Wanderings



JIM SNYDER

In the past years I have conducted a couple of contests for the members of the OTRC. These have been interesting, and I have learned a great deal about old time radio and about making up quizzes from doing them. My goal with these contests was to get as much participation as possible, so I decided to use the "matching test" format which I thought might encourage people to at least make a guess. The first one of these had twenty-two entries, and I was delighted with the participation. I tried to make this first matching quiz not too difficult so that it wouldn't discourage people from entering, but still I had to try to narrow the field. One of the items in that first quiz was "Jack Benny" and he had to be matched with "Polly," his parrot. Many, however, picked the answer "David Daniel Kaminsky" (the real name of Danny Kaye). I guess they remembered that Jack's real name started with a "K" (Joseph Kubelsky) and so that helped narrow the field.

I soon discovered that although I wanted everyone to have a chance at the prize (only one was offered in that contest), only the so-called "experts" really had a chance to win. We had to go through a number of tie-breakers to get it narrowed down to the final two contestants. This was when I first discovered the difficulty I could have in inventing my questions. I would be thinking along one track, and others would think in others. One question I asked, as I recall, was about the Blue Network. The answer I was looking for was ABC, which is what the Blue Network turned into. Both contestants, however, answered NBC, which is where the Blue Network started, so of course, their answer was probably more correct than mine. I also asked a question about Myron Wallace (now Mike Wallace of TV's SIXTY MINUTES). Both of the finalists, without being aware that the other one was doing so, called Mike's office at CBS in New York and talked

to his secretary. She hunted up the answer in the files and gave it to them. It was that event that showed me the difficulty of winning one of these contests for the beginner, who doesn't have a great deal of background information and a great number of reference books.

In spite of these problems we conducted another contest of the same sort, two years ago. Since I couldn't think of a better way of including everyone in having a chance at winning, I increased the number of prizes to five. I was only kidding myself. It still seemed to be a contest only for the experts. We had only twelve people enter this one, with only eight giving completely correct sets of answers. I had misgivings, as I felt that I made the first set of questions too difficult, and that would seem to be born out by the lack of participation. Ultimately, with this contest, we had to go through a series of three tie-breakers to get all of our five prizes properly doled out.

Once again contestants came up with right answers I wasn't looking for. In the initial contest, which appeared in the IP, contestants were to match the "Breakfast Club" with "Aunt Fanny." Well, two people matched it with "Fibber McGee," an answer I hadn't thought of, but that was entirely correct since Jim Jordan appeared as a regular in the early months of the show. In the first tie breaker there was a matching contest to fill in blank spaces in the titles of shows. One of these was "Fibber McGee and ?." The answer from the second column was simple and obvious: "Molly," right? Right! But two people matched it with "Company." Now for some reason that rang a bell, but I couldn't find that title in any of my references. So, I wrote to one of the entrants and asked him if he could back himself up. He immediately sent me a list of dates and a couple days later a tape arrived with two of the shows. He was correct. It was from the long period when Marian Jordan (Molly) was ill and didn't appear, so they temporarily changed the name to "Fibber McGee and Company." The second tie breaker brought a protest. I was to meet with the club in Buffalo a week after I received the results of the second tie-breaker, and since there were only two now competing for first place, and they both lived in Buffalo, I immediately sent them an explanation of what was wrong with their answers and included the third tie-breaker. I asked them to bring their results to the meeting in one week. The day before I was to

leave I received a protest from one of the two, Joe O'Donnell, about one of the things I had marked wrong. On that question I had wanted them to match David Sarnoff with NBC. Joe had matched Sarnoff with Radio Liberty and he explained his justification for having done so. While I agreed that there was a minor connection there, I didn't feel it was of sufficient importance to accept that as an answer. Anyway, I decided I had better call Joe and see if he had more information than I did. I called information in Buffalo and got Joe's phone number. I dialed the number and when a kid answered I asked for Mr. O'Donnell. He came on the line and I started explaining the problem. After a few moments Mr. O'Donnell said, "What in the hell are you talking about?" I then discovered it was the wrong Joe O'Donnell. Well, since I already had that guy on the line I got him to look in the phone book, but alas, the right Joe was not listed. When I met Joe at the meeting two days later, he agreed to accept my position and both he and Bob Davis turned in their answers for the third tie-breaker. This finally gave us a winner, and frankly, under the circumstances of the protest, I was somewhat relieved that it was Joe.

As I said in the beginning, I have learned a great deal from these contests, but it has disturbed me that really the only ones who have had a real chance of winning were the so called experts.

Now, we are going to have another contest, but this time I have revised it so that everyone will have an equal chance. The people who know nothing about Old time radio will have no less (no more) of a chance of winning than the world's greatest expert. We have over thirty prizes; more prizes than people who have ever entered before. Some of the prizes are: a TV, dealer's gift certificate so that you can get your choice of reels or cassettes from their catalogs, cassette players, AM/FM digital clock radio, Tom Mix watch, OTR reference books, and so on. All the prizes will be given away, so if we have fewer entrants than prizes, then we will double up on the prizes.

Full details on the contest will be given in the February ILLUSTRATED PRESS. It will begin with a matching quiz, but I promise to make this one easy. If we have the same number of entrants this time, as in the past, you would win a prize (or two) even if you have

every answer wrong, so please give it a whirl. After that first one, no further knowledge will be necessary. EVERYONE will have an equal chance at first place, whether they are a novice or expert. I won't tell you how, at this time, but I think you will find it fun. You will have to enter your answers to that first quiz to find out, though. There are a couple of rules: you must have a mailing address in the United States (APO's included) or Canada, and your dues in the OTRC must be paid up for the new year. Husband, wife, and kids can all enter separately if each is a member or "family member" or "junior member." Even our editor and his wife, who have always disqualified themselves in the past, are required to each enter this time. They have no better or worse chance than anyone else. I will see to that.

Finally, I should also mention that no club funds have ever been used in one of these contests. The prizes come from outside sources, and not from your dues money. Get those pencils sharpened up for February.

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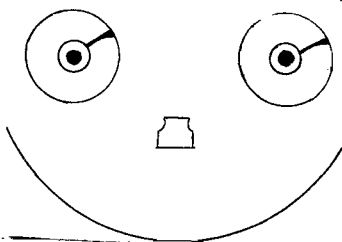
REFERENCE LIBRARY: A reference library exists for members. Members should have received a library list of materials with their membership. Only two items can be borrowed at one time, for a one month period. Please use the proper designations for materials to be borrowed. When ordering books include \$2.00 to cover rental, postage, and packaging. Please include \$1.00 for other items. If you wish to contribute to the library the OTRC will copy materials and return the originals to you. See address on page 2.

APRIL 19, 1950

Press Agent's Dream

The city of Hot Springs, N. Mex. (pop. 8,000), has changed its name legally and officially to "Truth or Consequences."

A press agent's dream came true when the city council voted 54 to 1 to take the name of Ralph Edwards' stunt show on NBC (Sat. 8:30 p.m. EST). The postmark of the city will be changed; merchants will advertise themselves as located in "Truth or Consequences," and the natives will brace themselves for the jokes and puns of tourists. In gratitude, Ralph Edwards and his ensemble marked the 10th anniversary of the show by broadcasting from "Truth or Consequences."



REEL-LY SPEAKING

R-266 1800'
BARRY CRAIG CONF. INVES.
The blonde in the river caba
The corpse and the PARROT
The license renewal case
The unsolvable crime
Murder Island
The Case of the Pearl necklace
The puppet
The Judge and the cahmp
The case of the Spencer heir
The case of the George Washington
Diary
The case of the microfilm in the
fishtank
The case of the 25 Dollars

R-267 1800'
THE LONE RANGER
Squint Eye
Incident on the River
Border Intrigue
The Herd Stealers
Murder on the Plains
Man on the Ridge
Ambush
The Glory Road
Trail of Blood
The Right Side
The Law's Deputy
The Looting of Lawrenceville

R-268 1800'
DRAGNET
Big Game tonight
U.S. Mail truck robbery
Extortion by a Police Officer
The stolen babies
The choloroform murder
The charity bunko racket
The Ken Gorman Abduction
Trilogy
The man in the Freight Car
The Restaurant Robbery
The Jewelry Salesman holdup
The body in the vacant lot

R-269 1800' THE WHISTLER
Murder will shout
Return of the Innocent
Meet Mr. Death
The Master's tree
Accident according to plan
Escape to danger
Murder is blind
Death pays a visit
Blueprin

Blueprint for suicide
Death Watch
Deadly Innocent
High of Escape

R-270 1800' HAVE GUN, WILL TRAVEL
Wiley Dawson
Billy Bedlow
Mrs. Flackard
Jimmy Howard
Jeremy Thompson
Jim Ellis
Colonel Tolaver
Fishing with Heyboy
Father O'Toole
The Bounty hunter
Fisk Fibber

R-271 1800' DRAGNET
Jewelry Salesman is robbed
Obscene books at Gorman High School
Florence Abbott missing
Assault by a Police man
Apartment arson
Escapees from San Quenton
Rose Baker disappears
The Big Streetcar
The abandoned baby
Business opportunity racket
Body in the elevator
The safe burglaries

R272 1800' ALIEN WORLDS
The Sun Stealers Part 2
The Night Riders of Kalimar Part 1
The Nighy riders of Kalimar Part 2
The Resurrectionists of Lethie Part 1
The Resurrectionists of Lethie Part 2
The Keeper of Eight Part 1
The Keeper of Eight Part 2
The I S A Conspiracy Part 1
The I S A Conspiracy Part 2
The I S A Conspiracy Part 3
The Sun Stealers Part 1

R-273 1800' ALIEN WORLDS
The Starsmith Project Part 1
The Starsmith Project Part 2
The Kilerherthy War
Time Clash
Death Song
The Infinity Factor
Earthlight Part 1
Earthlight Part 2
The Madonna's of Zanaibar Alpha Part 1
The Madonna's of Zanzibar Alpha Part 2
The Himalayan Parallel
The Making of Star Wars for Radio

R-274 1200' LUX RADIO THEATER
Wonderman-Danny Kaye & Virginia Mayo
3/25/46
Casablanca-Alan Ladd 1/24/44
Christmas in July-Dick Powell 6/26/44
Leave her to Heaven-Gene Tierney
3/17/47

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



R-275 - 1800' GUNSMOKE
 Good Girl Bad Company
 The Coward
 Trouble in Kansas
 Brush at Elkader
 The Choice
 The Second Choice
 The Preacher
 Dutch George
 Amy's Good Deed
 Sunny Afternoon
 Land Deal
 Scared Kid

R-276 1800" PHILLIP MARLOW
 The Grim Hunter
 The Dancing Hand
 The Name to Remember
 The Heat Wave
 The Cloak of Kei Mya-Mya
 Night Tide
 The Ebony Link
 The Busy Body
 The Key Man
 The Dude from Manhattan
 The Indian Giver
 The Lady Killer

R-277 1800' PHILLIP MARLOW
 The Bum's Rush
 The Rustin Hickory
 The Baton Sinister
 The Fatted Calf
 The Tale of the Mermaid
 The Open Window
 Birds on the Wing
 The Kid on the Corner
 The Torch Carriers
 The Covered Bride
 Bid for Freedom
 The Hair pin turn

R-278 1800' THE WHISTLER
 A Pattern for Terror
 Let George do it
 Summer Thunder
 The man who Came to Murder
 What makes a murderer
 X Marks a Murderer
 Phone Call from Death
 Sing a Song of Murder
 The Man Who Died Twice
 Death Laughs Last
 House on Sycamore Road
 Final Return

R-279 -
 Mysterious Traveler-Behind Locked Door
 Burns & Allen 10/29/42
 Luma & Abner
 The Shadow-The Man Who Lived Twice
 The Shadow - The House that Death Built
 Interview - Eddie Firestone Jr.
 That Brewster Boy
 Quite Please-The Thing on the 4th Floor
 Little Cask of Amontillado-Peter Lorre
 The Shadow - Death Rides High
 Lets Pretend - The Brave Little Tailor
 7/12/47

I'll keep my column short this time because of the lists of members who have donated reels and tapes to the club library. Also 2 records. Now that's something different because the library has less than a dozen records. That's the good news, now the bad news. There are still members who have failed to return reels and cassettes. One of these members has had three reels for 8 months and does not even answer my letters. Within the next few months, I'll list the missing reels and cassettes, so another member can either donate a copy or lend me a copy so I can copy it and put it back in our library.

Here's the names to those members who were kind enough to donate reels and cassettes to our library
 Two records also.

Phil Scott - 2 reels
 Dick Olday - 4 cassettes
 Hy Daley - 5 reels
 Chris Wong - 11 cassettes
 Craig England - 6 reels
 Jack Mandik - 18 cassettes
 Gray Cramer 15 cassettes
 A. M. Treasures 6 reels, 6 cassettes.
 B.R.C. Productions - 2 records
 18 cassettes

John Furman - 63 cassettes
 Thom Salome - 11 reels
 Stuart Weiss - 20 Cassettes
 Joe Webb-Nostalgia Warehouse - 6 reels
 Ron Barnet-Echos of the Past - 20 reels
 Franks Boncore & Bork - 5 reels

Thanks guys. Members like you have made our club the best here is.
 Till next time - good listening

Francis Edward Bork
 (((Due to the large amount of new acquisitions to our tape library, I will not be printing these listings in the I.P. However, our club will be issuing an updated tape catalog in the spring. Ed.)))



Harold for Pathfinder

... This one had a happy ending—she finally murders her husband.

THE 1984 CONVENTION

Our trip to the convention started at the Buffalo Airport when we boarded the People Express (AKA Communists Airlines) plane for Newark. It was going to be a smooth ride until two nerds sat in the seats ahead of us. One of them slid his suitcase under his seat and right onto Maureen's toes. It must have been his lucky day, Maureen had taken her Dramine and was only semi-conscious and only mildly protested. After an hour flight we arrived at Newark. The Newark Airport is like a Midas Muffler Shop without the lifts for cars.

I called the Hotel to have the courtesy van pick us up. It is just across the street from the airport. However, the street is a 12 lane highway. To my surprise, it arrived promptly. I believe the driver was a reject from the Indy 500. He took off like a flash and immediately headed for the Terminal. The ride was alike one I had in Florida, the Momba at Busch Gardens. Fifteen minutes later we arrived at the Holiday Inn.

On my way to check in I was greeted by two men with big smiles on their faces. Maureen asked who they were. I introduced her to Joe Webb and Tom Salome, two dealers who remembered me from last year.

The clerk at the counter had a wide grin until I requested a second key for Maureen. It took two hours and several trips back to the front desk to produce it.

Our room was on the 9th floor. It was class, simply beautiful with an absolute breathtaking view overlooking the scenic junkyard next door. Later that afternoon there was an explosion in the junkyard which was Maureen's highlight of the day.

After unpacking, we went down for lunch. Did you ever see a menu at the Holiday Inn? You wouldn't believe how they could describe a hamburger. The bottom line is it costs you \$5.25.

Now I couldn't wait to get into the dealers room and give them all a chance to get their hooks into my wallet...Wow, did they! My suitcase weighed 75 pounds when I left the hotel and it was filled with tapes, enough to last me to next years convention. The girl at the check in counter at the airport almost snapped her back when she attempted to lift it for her examination.

Our old friend Jim Snyder was also in the dealers room making them

an offer they could refuse. Join the OTRC or renew and he would go away. He was also promoting his latest upcoming contest which he claims is so easy that Even Chuck Seely and Bob Davis could win a prize if they would enter.

Another old friend, Gene Bradford was there but this year he had no buttons.

That evening we had a nice dinner and Jay Hickerson had this trivia contest which no one can win and we sang old commercials. Jay's wife also sang a few songs. She has a lovely voice but next year, Karen, please don't scream into the microphone just let the amplifier do its job.

Saturday, Raymond Edward Johnson was on hand to do his reading. Dick Osgood was also on hand. I have heard Dick talk several times and each time I am amazed at what he says, I wish he would do a lot more. For those of you who never heard him speak, pick up a copy of his book WIXIE WONDERLAND the history of WXYZ Detroit.

I would like to point out something to Walt Mitchell and his cohort, Mary Lou Wallace. Frank Nelson and his wife Veola Vonn were the stars who the people came to see perform that afternoon. I don't think it was right for you to interrupt them the way you did.

That evening we were treated to a presentation of Grand Central Station and the annual awards presentation.

Now the convention is over. I urge every true OTR fan to make plans to attend the next OTR Convention, October 11 and 12, 1985 in Newark.

A personal note to Jay Hickerson. THANKS once again to you and your gang for doing one hell of a great job.

Frank C. Boncore

It's an ill wind...

As Arturo Toscanini conducted his 1946 broadcast version of Verdi's *La Traviata*, RCA engineers made recordings of it. So did many an enterprising amateur with a home-recording set.

Perfectionist Toscanini, irked by a minor fluff in a tenor aria, vetoed issuance of the RCA version, but the "amateurs" started printing copies and selling them for as much as \$60. Last summer in Europe, Toscanini turned on a radio, heard a black-market version of his own *Traviata*, laughed and revoked his veto. RCA Victor released *Traviata* last week (two 12" LPs or thirteen 45s).

OCTOBER 17, 1951

THE LIBRARY GROWS

Our library has been increased due to the generosity of several dealers at the recent OTR convention in Newark, all of whom are members of the OTRC. Their generosity has increased our library by 112 cassettes, 43 reels and two records.

At this time I would like to say a little bit about each one and thank them on behalf of all the members of our Club.

A very special thanks to Gary Cramer of Nostalgia Central, Box 195, Mt. Morris Michigan 48458. Gary is a terrific guy and generously donated 15 cassettes to our library. Gary also sells blank tapes. He can also be reached at Blank Tape & Supplies, M&K Recording 8496 W. Saginaw, Mt. Morris, Mich.

Moving on lets all thank A M Treasures P.O.Box 192, Babylon, NY 11702 for their generous donation of 6 reels and 6 cassettes to the club. I have purchased reels from them in the past and they were all of excellent quality and I would recommend highly that other club members to likewise.

B R C Productions, P O Box 39522 Redford, Mich. 48239-0522 donated 2 records and 18 cassettes. They are the publishers of a Technical Guide to Collecting Old Time Radio Programs for \$7.50 postpaid.

John Furman, Box 132, Balston Lake, NY 12019 donated 63 cassettes. Last year I bought 100 cassettes from him. Only 97 were good. When I saw him this year at the convention he replaced the 3 defective ones. John has anything and everything and is one of the nicest guys one could ever want to meet. He has been a member of our club for years. John will start taking orders again in January.

Thom Salome, 354-22nd St. Brooklyn NY 11215 donated 11 reels. You name it, Thom has it and if he doesn't have it, he'll find it. Stuart Jay Weiss, 33 Von Braun Ave., Staten Island, NY 10312 donated 20 cassettes to the library. At the convention Stu had a sign over his table that said "Quality Cassettes" and that what they were. I can personally attest to that.

Joe Webb of Nostalgia Warehouse Inc. P O Box 268 Glen Cove, New York 11542 donated 6 reels to our library.

Last but not least, Ron Barnett of Echos of the Past, Box 9593 Alexandria, Virginia, 22304 will donate 20 reels to the library. He said he wanted to give us something "unique" so our Officers will

be going through his catalogue to pick out our next additions to the library. Ron's reels have been some of the best available. His table is the first one I always go to at the convention.

Now, Frank Bork, our librarian, will be updating our tape catalog and the Club will issue a new update in the spring.

These dealers have supported our club and I now urge club members to contact them for their latest catalogues and support them. I also urge other dealers to contact Frank Bork to support our library.

Frank C. Boncore

* * * * *

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A FIELD REPORTER

You can! Just write an article on a place, event, show, etc., dealing with old time radio that you think others would like to read. The article must be typewritten. Include a black and white photograph (no color, please).

Any magazine or newspaper articles or cartoons of interest, or a L.O.C. would also be welcome.

Golden Airways

To the thousands of young actors, writers and directors now studying with a hopeful eye on big-time television, a new stimulus was offered last fortnight. In New York, publisher Wallace A. Ross presented the first extensive study of TV salaries, based on a survey of going rates from unknown bit players to top stars. Some samples:

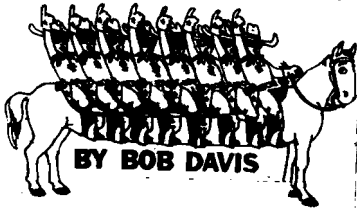
- • "Name" actors, on a one-hour sponsored dramatic show, get \$500-\$1,000 a performance.
 - • Featured, but non-name, players: \$250-\$300.
 - • Bit players: \$50-\$100.
 - • Writers, currently in short supply in TV, do almost as well as actors. For an original one-hour drama or a good adaption from a book or short story, a writer can count on \$300, and may get as high as \$700. For half-hour programs, the rate drops to \$200-\$500.
 - • The program director's pay runs about the same as the writer's—up to \$750 for an hour, \$500 for half an hour.
- Hardly anybody performs free in television any more, added Ross, and the pay rates are rising steadily.

MAY 31, 1950

TAPE LIBRARY RATES: 2400' reel-\$1.50 per month; 1800' reel-\$1.25 per month; 1200' reel-\$1.00 per month; cassette and records-.50 per month. Postage must be included with all orders and here are the rates: For the USA and AP0-60¢ for one reel, 35¢ for each additional reel; 35¢ for each cassette and record. For Canada: \$1.35 for one reel, 85¢ for each additional reel; 85¢ for each cassette and record. All tapes to Canada are mailed first class.

SAY!

WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN ?



I used to watch the radio!
 Yes...watch the radio!
 Back in those early years of my life there was a light that shone brightly. It was only about an inch square and had a yellowish tinge to it that I remember to this day.

That square inch of light contained a picture that was bigger than Cinemascope, with colors more vivid than Technicolor, and had more depth than any 3-D movie. This one inch magical screen was the light behind the station indicator dial on the old console radio that entertained my family and me for years.

The Shadow, Green Hornet, Superman, and Captain Midnight all brought adventure into my life via that small screen.

Arch Obler and Raymond lived behind that light - laying in wait to scare me silly each week with their stories. Each week I came back and each week they scared me... I loved it!

Charlie McCarthy, Our Miss Brooks, and Jack Benny were all old friends that made me laugh with their sometimes inane antics. It never registered with me that Charlie McCarthy was not a real live person. The idea of a ventriloquist on radio seemed too far fetched. To tell the truth, it still does. Anyway...they all lived behind the light also.

Every light in the room would be turned off and the radio light would be the only thing illuminating the area. The eerie shadows caused by it would only serve to enhance many stories by turning the familiar objects in the room into foreboding and exotic "things". The light was somewhat dim but it was more than enough.

I'd lay on the rug and get deeply involved in the story. My eyes rarely left that small light and after a few moments the light was no longer there. A metamorphosis had taken place without any warning!

I was no longer in the familiar surrounding of my home. Now I was riding in the Black Beauty with The Green Hornet and Kato--about to crack down on evil-doers. Or I was standing in front of an ominous looking door that was slowly creaking open. The terrors of the nether world lay behind that door and I was anxious to enter!

The show would end and once again the light would revert back into a radio dial, only to change magically when the next show came on. The funny thing about all this is that it only occurred after dark.

The daytime shows like Archie Andrews, Let's Pretend, or The Buster Brown Gang were somewhat different. Maybe it was because the light on the old console radio wasn't as vivid in the daylight and it wasn't the sole focal point in the room. I assume that it was something like that. The involvement with the story would be there but no where as deep as when that little light was shining in the dark...a portal into the wonderful world that old time radio was.

I've tried to recapture that old involvement and have had moderate success. Watching the bouncing lights of a tape deck in a darkened room doesn't quite hack it. If I could just get my hands on that old console radio once again I know that everything would be the same.

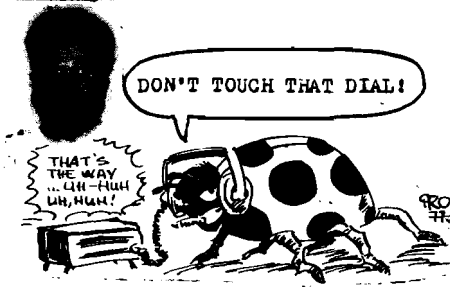
Thomas Wolfe once said in effect that you can never return home. Well, in this case, I think I could.

Television has it's points, both good and bad but a night of watching it can never compare to a night of watching the radio!

See ya next time.



PHIL BAKER (supported by Beetle and Bottle, Hal Kemp's Orchestra, and the Seven G's) is to be heard each Sunday night. Young & Rubicam produced this show for That Good Gulf Gasoline and Oil.



JERRY COLLINS

Once Again it is time to delve into the days of radio's past.

I could not have been more than eight years old when I listened to my first SHADOW episode. Some thirty-five years later it is still one of my favorite shows. During this time I have listened to more than four hundred shows.

A common trait in many of the SHADOW episodes, especially in the early Orson Welles shows is the existence of some of the most diabolical and insidious plots ever developed for radio.

I have attempted to select some of the most treacherous of the nearly 700 SHADOW shows broadcast on the radio.

In MURDER ON APPROVAL Dr. Gregor Callanza develops a disease of epidemic proportion. With the assistance of the American doctor Nicholas Harris they attempt to kill a complete unit of the American army.

THE SILENT AVENGER is an excellent indictment of war, in this case World War I. Joe Brecker has been convicted and sentenced to the electric chair for murder. Joe's younger brother, Danny, a skilled sniper from World War I, has gone insane because of the war. As a final act before his execution, Joe convinces Danny that all those people involved in the conviction must also be executed.

Keezy, a demented prison guard, executes visitors to the death house in GUEST OF DEATH.

Barry Vinton was a millionaire sportsman and big game hunter. In DEATH FROM THE DEEP Vinton became bored, had a submarine constructed and then attacked commercial ships, killing people like a hunter killing wild animals.

In THE SHADOW RETURNS, Dr. Vladloff is involved in a plot in which stolen jewelry is surgically implanted in the arms and legs of innocent sailors and smuggled into the United States

Professor Sudortassla and Graham Harper devise a new art form in

DEATH IS AN ART. Innocent people like Pencil John are killed and then injected with a chemical that leads to a calcification of the human body resulting in a granite like consistency. With the process complete perfectly detailed statues are produced.

A similar plot is used in HORROR IN WAX. Dr. Phanoes smuggled aliens into the United States by injecting them with a chemical that turned them into wax figures. For a substantial fee they were returned to normal with a restorative injection. They were also blackmailed in return for future restorative shots.

In HYPNOTIC DEATH Dr. Darmer has men in his employ marry unsuspecting young women. They are then insured for a sizeable sum of money. Through hypnosis Darmer kills them, collecting their insurance money.

A very contemporary topic is death with in THE BRIDE OF DEATH. A religious cult worshipping a god called The Ancient One kidnapped young girls from a neighboring fishing village, some to be used for human sacrifice. When Rev. Colby complained, his church is blown up killing Colby as well as ten members of his congregation.

In POISON DEATH Gerber, the chief chemist of the Sanitation Department, attempts to blackmail the city out of \$500,000 by poisoning the water supply.

One of the most famous SHADOW episodes was THE VOICE OF DEATH. In the show Arthur Wittington, a crazed former medical student, exchanged the vocal chords of kittens and vicious killer dogs. This way he is able to kill unsuspecting intruders. He also attempted to remove Margot Lane's vocal chords and attempted to replace them with those of a kitten.

THE WALKING CORPSE contained every imaginable technique of horror. Voodoo, religious cults, mass murder, hypnosis and people returning from the dead are all part of the story.

There is little enjoyment in CARNIVAL OF DEATH. Toretaliate against John Norcross for the accidental death of his family, Pop Wright kidnapped people from the Fun House, kills them and adds them to the passenger list on the abandoned subway train where his family perished.

In BLIND BEGGARS DIE Singing Jim is beaten to death as part of a plot by Spike Grogan and Marty Nelson to force the local beggars to pay protection money.

One of the most frightening stories was THE TERRIBLE LEGEND OF CROWNSHIELD CASTLE. The ghost strikes at night and kills "her" victims by breaking their necks.

In THE CAVERNS OF DEATH a class of seventeen students are kidnapped after apparently falling into a bottomless pit. They are then forced to work as slave laborers in a diamond mine.

Lamont Cranston thinks he is in for an enjoyable weekend at his alma mater. Instead he is almost killed in DEATH UNDER THE CHAPEL. Professor Kalina is fired from his teaching job on the day prior to Cranston's arrival. In retaliation Kalina plans to blow up the chapel during the graduation ceremony.

Where does one stop. As I am typing I am listening to MURDER AT DEAD MAN'S INN. On a dark stormy night Lamont and Margot visit a haunted inn. Within five minutes they find a body with a bullet hole in the head, a man hanging from the ceiling and they talk to a man with a knife in his chest. It's time to stop!

Until next month "Goodnight all."

Editor's DESK



As another year draws to a close, I find myself looking forward to next year rather than looking back over the past year. This is not because the past year was not a good one, in fact our membership is up and our treasury is in good shape, but because I'm looking forward to our 10th birthday celebration. We will have special "goodies" throughout the year to celebrate. Don't forget our first special, which is a 10% discount on your 1985 dues, as the offer expires midnight December 31, 1984. Please note that 1984 members will not receive any IP issues after January unless they renew by February 1.

I hope all of you will "stay tuned" to join us in your year long celebration! Arlene and I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and THE BEST OF NEW YEARS!!:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

WANTED: I Love a Mystery: The Stairway to the Sun; The Thing That Cries in the Night; Bury your Dead, Arizona. Star Wars. Oscar Broadcast of 1940 (1939 winners). N.B.C.'s Salute to 50 Years of great N.B.C. comedians hosted by Johnny Carson last Thanksgiving. Rusty Wolfe
1625 North Gunbarrel Rd.
Chatanooga, Tenn. 37421

Interested in trading radio shows. Henry Placke
553 Manor Circle
Schaumbur, Ill. 60194

Kavin J. Catalfu
PSC Box 5918
APO NY, NY 09286

WANTED: Cassette or open reel tapes of THE BLACK HOOD" radio serial of the 1940's. Also, I would like to know if any of the following shows survived and are available: The Spider, The Phantom Detective, Blackhawk, The Web, Pete Rice, and Bill Barnes Air adventurer. Can anyone help?

Chuck Juzek
57 Hutton Avenue
Nanuet, NY 10954

FOR SALE: Radio premiums-Lone Ranger Tom Mix, Capt. Midnight and Roy Rogers rings, Lone Ranger Frontier Town, "One Man's Family Looks at Life" book, Bobby Benson Cereal bowl, plus many more. Send for free sales list.

F. E. Gabryelski
61 Lincoln Ave.
Clifton, NJ 07011
Ph: (201) 772-3254

WANTED: A copy of, plus any information on SKY'S THE LIMIT, a Naval Reserve aviation program from Chicago on 2/7/43, over CBS-WBBM, Chicago.

Darrell Anderson
17254 LK. Desire Dr. No.
Renton, Wash 98055

WANTED: Sports shows. Not the Dizzy Dean show but full baseball, football, basketball or hockey games from the 40's or 50's.

John Lloyd
2667 E. 99th Avenue
Thornton, Co. 80229

Tapespondents is a free service to all members. Please send your ads to the Illustrated Press.



Wishing You
A MERRY CHRISTMAS




**Here's to a sleighful of happiness
this Christmas. May you enjoy
its many pleasures and treasures.**

**Christmas
Joy**



Wishing you
a Holiday
filled with
good times,
good friends
and
good feelings.

Richard Alday
Albino Alday



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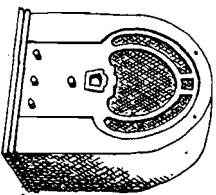
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100 HARVEY DRIVE



RADIO CLUB

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