Old Time Radio DIGEST

No.80

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Old Time Radio

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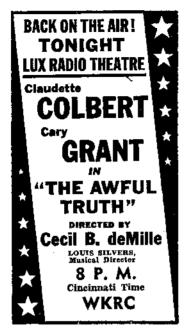
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The Soap Opera: Good Drama or Just Washboard Weepers?

by Jack Rothwell

In early October of 1993 numerous old-time radio fans were saddened to learn of the death of actress Fran Carlon. Although many of us have fond memories of her performances as Lorelei Kilbourne, society editor of the Illustrated Press on "Big Town," she is likely to be best remembered by millions of radio and TV soap opera fans. Clearly, she belongs in a soap opera "Hall of Fame." The following summary of some of her many roles in the radio daytime serials illustrates my point.

For many years she played Irene Galway on "Our Gal Sunday," perhaps the most famous of the many Frank and Anne Hummert productions. Peter and Irene Galway were Sunday's close friends who lived in the estate bordering her Black Swan Hall. As Bunny Mitchell on "The Story of Mary Marlin," she tried to steal the heart of Mary's husband, Joe. Fran portrayed Helene Hudson on "Lora Lawton," Ruth Lardner on "Girl Alone," and Sylvia on "A Woman of America." Like many others, she spent some time in good old Rushville Center, where as Zenith Sambrini she experienced the homespun philosophy of "Ma Perkins." She was both Eileen Moran and Patty Moran on "Today's Children." In "Kitty Keene, Incorporated" she was Kitty, female detective, another Procter & Gamble soapy heroine. As Sally Dunlap, secretary to attorney Terry Regan (Jim Ameche), she held a more traditional female job on "Attorney-At-Law." In 1938, Fran starred with Olan Soule in the drama "Joan and Kermit." And the list goes on and on.

Her TV work included the role of Portia on "Portia Faces Life," and a six-year stint as Julia Burke on "As The World Turns."

This death of another well-known soap performer has reminded me to express some sincere praise for these old-time radio dramas (but note that my favorable comments do not refer to today's TV "sex" operas). Frankly, one major reason for my affection for the old scaps is that my Mom was a devoted listener. I still recall the joy on her face as she completed her daily household chores with one ear "glued" to the old tabletop radio (a Phileo, I think). As any "good guy" soap character would have said. "What was good enough for Mom is good enough for me." Now that I have revealed my emotional (and

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Fran Carlon

"soapy") reason for liking the old serials, let's move on to a more rational analysis of the matter.

Many of the most ardent old-time radio fans often laugh at the melodrama in the daytime soaps. In fact, story lines packed with seemingly endless streams of heartbreaks, divorces, diseases, amnesia attacks, deaths, and any and all sorts of human tragedies leads many radio lovers to express ridicule and scorn (real overreactions, in my opinion). Despite the scoffers, the sheer longevity of these shows was remarkable.

To a great degree, the very same plots that the critics condemn so strongly are actually what made the soaps so popular. The characters were fiction, but the crises they faced were very real to many listeners. For the soap lovers, believability came from surrounding imaginary people

and towns with real, everyday problems - and yes, often in a very melodramatic manner. Obviously, many detractors conclude that if a performance is melodramatic, it is trash. However, despite this somewhat highbrow judgement by the "experts," the simple fact is that many people did (and still do) enjoy the melodramatic approach used by many of the old soaps.

The fact that soaps never seemed to offer a permanent solution kept the daytime listener even more interested. The crises, conflicts, and troubles were never-ending.

Moreover, the characters aged and grew, they matured, married, had children and sometimes were "killed off." Faithful listeners followed the day-to-day problems of the imaginary characters so closely that over the years they became "real."

They loved the "good and suffering"

characters and despised the "evil" ones. The nighttime dramatic shows, in direct contrast with the scaps, almost always required a conclusion at the end of the thirty-minute or sixty-minute time slot.

Another reason for the popularity of the radio soaps was that the creators and writers recognized that the actors were performing for a vast female audience. Most of these fans were housewives and outside of the mainstream of the nation's work force. It was felt that these female listeners were much more receptive than men to the story lines and characters, because they were used to coping with emotional and very personal problems in their own lives and in the lives of their relatives, neighbors and friends.

On the other hand, the male audience (and most prime-time listenera) tended to demand that the creators of the evening dramatic series provide them with very strong heroes who could cope with all problems, solve all mysteries, and apprehend all "bad guys" by the end of each week's broadcast (truly unbelievable achievements). Philip Marlowe always caught the crooks before the last commercial. as did the Saint, Nero Wolfe, Ellery Queen, Sam Spade, and many others. Therefore, it is ironic that, in general, most prime-time listeners considered the scaps to be inferior entertainment with farfetched story lines, yet these same listeners happily and unquestioningly accepted the weekly, totally repetitive nature of the evening drama series, even those unrealistic shows that were filled with glaring weaknesses (such as the artificial hero characters and their often outlandish lives and accomplishments).

These significant problems with the prime-time drama series were spelled out in 1963 by actor George C. Scott when he praised the radio soaps by noting that "... the sense of



fune in to this thrilling, new, fast-moving radio drama...portraying the life of courageous Portia Blake...a beautiful widow...the mother of a 9-year-old boy...a woman lawyer... who fights to gain her place in a man's world!

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growth and continuity has never been developed in broadcast series at all . . . except, interestingly enough, in the old radio scap operas." How truel Unlike the heroes in many of the prime-time drama series, Helen Trent, Young Dr. Malone, Mary Marlin, Stella Dallas and other soap characters struggled, faced everyday problems, and learned to cope with disappointment. Thus, although flawed in many ways, the old soaps provided some sense of realism about their characters. Such realism was lacking in most of the weekly prime-time drama shows.

Obviously, one would have to exaggerate beyond reason to argue that the radio soaps were genuinely realistic. Thank goodness that most of us have not, and will not, suffer the never-ending problems and tragedies of most soap characters and their families (not even in a

lifetime). Nevertheless, it is evident that the soap fans surely felt that those personal, drawn-out dramas tended to focus much closer to the way many people lived their everyday lives, in contrast with the weekly prime-time dramas, where the unrealistic heroes almost never displayed any true-to-life vulnerability.

So, come on all you soap scoffers. Lighten up! Whip out a few of those soan cassettes that you have hidden away in your collections. For those of you who are not as yet prepared to listen to the sufferings of the scap characters, try to stick to December playdates, because even the soap families tended to forget their troubles during the Christmas season. Enjoy an hour or so of life in Rushville Center with "Ma Perkins," especially when she entertained family and friends at a holiday gathering. On the other hand, if you really want to get involved, then sympathize with Portia as she faces life. Discover the fact that for twenty-two years "Just Plain Bill" was not only a great guy, but also a darn good barber. For the mere price of a haircut (and sometimes a good old-fashioned shave), he offered all kinds of free homespun philosophy and acted as a sympathetic sounding board for the pains and heartaches of his many customers. Listen closely to the tape and you might be shocked to learn that "John's Other Wife" was not another real wife at all, but was actually his secretary (regardless of all those Fred Allen skits that indicated otherwise). If the voice of Hiram Brown's creation, "Joyce Jordon," sounds familiar to you, that's because Ann Shepherd (Betty on Jack Armstrong) played the woman doctor. A few episodes of "Stepmother" will provide that it's not easy to raise another woman's kids. From the beginning of her marriage, poor Kay encountered open warfare from her stepdaughter, and soon new husband, John, started

fooling around with another woman. Wow! It's no wonder this one lasted for only four years, because by that time Kay was probably ready for an insane asylum.

That's enough of these little
"teasers." Find out how good many
of the daytime serials really were by
listening to some episodes of shows
such as "Pepper Young's Family,"
"Wendy Warren and the News,"
"Valiant Lady," "Road of Life,"
"Backstage Wife," "Lorenzo Jones,"
"Stelia Dallas," "Young Dr. Malone,"
and several others. After all, I
suspect that many of you had Moms
who were just as hooked on the soaps
as mine was. To repeat: "What was
good enough for our Moms is surely
good enough for us."

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Richland Man to Begin Giving Wealth of Radio History to WSU

by Annette Cary Herald Staff Writer

Pat McCoy has a vision of himself, tooling over the back roads of America in a motor home, eyes on the road and ears turned to the antics of Lum & Abner.

That's good and bad news for the fans of the kind of pre-TV radio that meant gathering the family in the living room and giving full attention to every twist of Suspense and every quip of George Burns.

The bad news is the Richland man - who's been featured several times in the Herald since the 1970s - is thinking of retirement and gradually getting rid of one of the most extensive and eclectic collections of old-time radio shows in the nation. It's a collection he advertises and duplicates for not much more than the price of a new tape.

The good news is he's turning the collection over to the Edward R. Murrow School of Communications at Washington State University.

He's already sent the school the first shipment of tapes — reels one through 292, plus the complete run of Superman, Zero Hour and CBS Mystery Theater.

He plans to keep donating the tapes at the rate of about \$50,000 worth a year.

It'll take him a while to be rid of the collection at that pace. He has 6,000 rccl-to-reel tapes — or 30,000 hours of radio entertainment stored in his basement.

The collection recently was valued at \$750,000 by an appraiser who said the value was not just in the quantity, but also in the top quality of the recordings McCoy collected — making deals to trade three tapes to collect one top-quality one.

Despite efforts to shrink his collection, McCoy can't resist acquiring more tapes. While he's giving away about 600 a year, he's collecting about 250 a year.

Stacked on his pool table, waiting to be catalogued, are copies of Johnny Dollar, all the Watergate hearings broadcast on CBS, and the complete run, in order, of Mindwebs.

Much of what he owns is in a mishmash. Tapes he's found may include six hours of a handful of episodes from several different series that appealed to a particular listener.

The shows survived through the efforts of dedicated private collectors in the '50s and '60s, once reel-to-reel recorders became available for home use. Some captured the last few programs off the air. Others taped the earlier surviving recordings from the original transcription records.

Broadcasting started in the '20s, but little from before 1935 was saved. By 1940, recording technology advanced, radio stations and networks routinely began to make disc recordings, allowing live shows to be broadcast in later time zones. Syndicated shows were distributed on record to radio stations, and survived in large numbers.

All it took to make a coy was a second reel-to-reel recorder. For radio collectors, copyright has seldom been a problem: Dramatic radio was all but forgotten by the '60s, and most producers allowed copyrights to lapse.

What started as a hobby became a business in the early '70s. He started putting out catalogs and selling duplicates of his collection.

The most popular tapes remain the top-rated shows of an earlier era: Jack Benny, Lum & Abner, and the Charlie McCarthy Show.

Fewer and fewer people have the

reel-to-reel machines to play the tapes, however, and finding machines is a problem for McCoy, too

He's got 30 Pioneer players, some of which run 16 hours a day copying ordered tapes, but most of which he saves to cannibalize for parts no longer available.

He'll be donating a few machines to WSU each year to make sure the school does not end up with a collection of tapes and no way to play them.

He's working to copy some of the collection onto cassette tapes, which make up a growing part of his mostly mail-order business. But he estimates he'll save only one-hundredth of his collection that way before he gives it to WSU.

There's just too much of it.
So he picks out his favorites to
copy — like the comedies featuring
Phil Harris and Alice Fay spun off
from the Jack Benny Show. He tries
to record what sells. And he tries to
record genres, like all the detective
shows of the '50s and '60s, or the
Westerns from back in the days when
Gunsmoke started with a young
lawman named Mark Dillon.

The cassettes will come in handy when he's traveling the nation.

He's not the only motor-home traveler who enjoys hearing the oldtime radio shows, he figures. When he pulls off the road after a hard day of listening, he plans to set up a table and set out his wares.

As mentioned in Supplement 14 and the preceding article, we are donating our reel-to-reel collection to Washington State University. The first donation included the complete CBS Mystery Theater collection and reels 1 through 291 in our catalog. The following reels were retained and are still available: 5, 18, 19, 26, 31, 45, 48, 51, 56, 57, 80, 77, 78, 99, 114, 121, 130, 140, 146, 152, 167, 171, 190, 199, 201, 202, 207, 208, 209, 216, 227, 235, 260-269, 282, 283, 288, 289.

The next batch to leave 12/31/96

will be reels 292-900, with the following exceptions: 327, 328, 329, 338-342, 352, 372-375, 390, 398, 400, 401, 402, 419, 420, 436, 439-485, 534, 562, 593-595, 613-615, 632, 645, 648, 680, 681, 692-695, 700, 714, 736-739, 748-751, 771.

These will be kept for at least one more year. Please check to see if there are any gems that you may have missed in the past. Remember, once they are gone, they are gone.

A personal note: I must admit that giving up this collection is harder than losing a good dog. They are old friends.

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The Cutting Edge by The Scifi Guy

A review of new and recent scifi, horror, and fantasy radio and commercially released audio dramas

This begins what I hope to make a recurring column highlighting recent "cutting edge" scifi, horror, and fantasy radio and direct-to-cassette drama productions. Having established myself as the foremost collector and distributor of old radio drama within these genre's, and having noticed the almost complete absence of printed news in regards to present day radio productions, I have decided to try to broaden the OTR collecting hobby's knowledge of these productions.

Most collectors are under the impression that radio drama in the U.S. stopped. for all intents and purposes, in the late 1950's. While this may be true, as far as the total number of dramas produced per year is concerned, it fails to recognize that, as far as horror and sciff are concerned, the market simply became more focused, instead of networks producing dozens of new dramas per week involving the whole range of straight drama, detective, comedy, soap operas, variety shows, kids adventures, murder mystery, suspense, scifi and horror, producers of radio drama(many of them beginning as private non-network sponsored drama outfits) started in the 1960's to put out a much higher percentage of their work in the form of tenser, more attention graphing, suspenseful dramas. The addition of the visual medium brought to us by television relegated much of the straight drama, comedy, and such to the scrap heap, Straight dramas and soap operas are much more character driven and often relied upon the charisma and name recognition of the "stars" the networks fought so hungrily with each other over, to perform in them. The visual medium only magnified the inherent dependance these types of dramas had on big name actors. Comedy flourished with the advent of television, enabling the audience to finally see the rubber faced antics of their most beloved comics. Television was, also, a welcome addition to kids adventures(their short attention spans more effectively riveted by cartoons and such); variety shows(mighty hard to picture Fred Astair dancing on the radio); and detective shows(i don't care what anybody says.....a car chase or a qualight on the radio just sounds stupid).

Sciff and fantasy stories, on the other hand, have <u>always been</u> the theater of the mind. Readers of these genre's have <u>always</u> had to rely on their imaginations to visualize the more fantastical elements of the stories. In many cases, the subjects of these stories simply don't exist in the real world(aliens, other worlds, space battles, etc.).

Horror has traditionally been the domain of the "campfire story". Once again, elements of the stories often had no parallels in the real world(vampires, werewolves, ghosts, and ghoulies). Atmosphere is everything in a horror tale. Those experienced listeners out there should be able to recall numerous instances of horror stories where a story starts out with the suspicion that something supernatural caused a death only to find out in the end that the killer was a jealous lover(shows like The Inner Sanctum were notorious for this). To lovers of the supernatural this sort of story line would normally be considered a rip-off, but, what makes those stories so good is the listener's imagination as they try picture the nature of the supernatural entity that may have caused the dilema. We've all seen lousy horror and sciff movies with cheap special effects and monster "suits", but, your imagination knows no budget constraints.

All one has to do is scan the tables at an OTR convention to realize that scifl and horror stories have a lot of listener appeal. Often, one will find anywhere from 25 to 50% of a dealer's offerings at conventions coming from the scifl or horror shows. Ask

anyone on the street what the most memorable radio broadcast of all time was and you will more than likely be told: The War of the Worlds! I think this fact is even more important when one takes into account that of the, roughly, 200-300 thousand hours worth of radio drama produced in this country, only about one thousand of it was science fiction and about two thousand of it was horror. That's it. That's all there was.

All of this goes to illustrate my next observation: virtually every commercially released drama to come out in the last 2 decades has been scifi or horror. Some the most memorable dramas I've ever heard have been from direct-to-cassatte companies, in this and succeeding columns I will try to bring some of these to light.

Most of us in this hobby are into it because we like the audio drama format. Part of my reason for writing this column is to broaden the awareness amongst us that audio drama is still being produced, but, it has just switched the medium in which it is delivered. There are several dozen drama groups and companies, as well as major book publishers, who are producing fully dramatized audio plays, all over the country. and marketing them on cassette or getting them played on local radio stations. Let's face it folks: This is the 90's. Everything is based on money. If there was any to be made broadcasting dramas over the air.....don't you think somebody would be doing it? Yeah, there's a little to be made, but, what a hassle! First you have to convince a station to play it, then a acquire sponsor, then a decent time slot, not to mention a good script department who can pump out a decent story at least once a week, then actors(who usually like to be paid), etc. If you start to add up all of the people that you have to satisfy in order to get something on the air, it's incredible that anything ever got made!!! Then if you're not in a decent time slot.....what good is show if nobody hears it? With commercially released stuff, dramatists can take all the time they want. do stories about anything they want, and sell them to exactly the sort of people they want to reach. I have always maintained that the most likely future for new audio dramas is through direct marketing on cassettes or CD's. For one thing, the sound quality would be as perfect as you can get and free of all the problems inherent with taping shows off the air/clipped intros and closings, radio noise, mono broadcasts of stereo shows, etc.). For another, every tape purchased would be of master copy quality with no multi-generational sound quality degradation. As far as the older stuff is concerned, many series have been and are in the process of being electronically "cleaned up", offering better sound than anything in any OTR collector's archives(even those who did or have the first generation recording from the original discs), and then offered to the public at a reasonable price in those bookshelf binders we've been seeing so much of in recent years.

As a side note: there are plenty of stations rebroadcasting the old stuff and there are even plans in the works for a cable TV OTR station which you would subscribe to through your phone company and have it play through your television while a new breed of silent commercial(say....the just the Pepsi symbol appearing on your screen for half an hour). This would be a windfall for advertisers would be able to use the entire broadcast day, not just the commercial breaks, to hawk their products. And if you don't want to watch them: just turn the brightness down on your television. Another benefit would be that only people who like audio drama would be subscribing to the station in the first place, therefore, guaranteeing what sort of customer the adverts will be viewed by.

Alright, so much for my musings and opinions here's what's new: Broadcast stuff:

Jim French, of Tower Theater, Crisis, Harry Nile, and Dameron fame, is apparently still producing new dramas in his home state of Washington. They consist of a syndicated series called <u>Imagination Theater</u>, which started out with rebroadcasts of Crisis and Harry Nile episodes, but, which is becoming increasingly laden with <u>new</u> stories, almost all of which are scifl and horror. I understand that he produces about one or two new stories per month and performs all or many of them live at theaters in or near Seattle. This show can be found under a variety names in different markets.

The only alternate name I know of is the KIRO Mystery Theater. To the best of my knowledge there appear to be 40 or 50 new stories produced so far. Collectors either love his stuff or hate it due to the atmosphere the show has(a lot of collectors hate anything made after the 1950's because they prefer the limited sound range and less complicated plots of the earlier shows). One big plus is that his wife dosen't appear in every episode anymore(her voice cracked terribly). Jim French also markets his shows on fairly pricy cassettes.

In 1995 Wisconsin Public Radio broadcast a 16x30min. serialized dramatization of <u>Bram Stoker's Dracula</u>. In fantastic stereo, this version of the oft told tale proves to be the most thorough rendering of this classic work. Many aspects of the book that have never, or only lightly, been touched upon, are fully realized. This production by Massachuset's drama company: Big Radio represents an ambitious beginning for a first attempt at radio drama. It's hard enough to come up with one decent half hour story, leastwise, an 8 hour multi-part entry. The company is also offering the story in an 8 cassette bookshelf binder for \$39.95. Call

Nearly simultaneously, the CBC did a rebroadcast of a 12x30 minute <u>BBC</u> production of <u>Dracula</u>. My sources in England have no knowledge of the BBC doing a multi-part of that length of the story. The opening credits clearly state the origin as being British, however. This production, like all classic stories done by the BBC, has incredibly good casting in regards the tone of the actors voices. Nobody does a classic old story like the BBC(those cool british accents!). This story is circulating, slightly, amongst collectors.

On this note, let's look at some recent BBC productions:

The Hobbit / The Lord of the Rings(BBC ~ 1987-88) ~ Personally, I can't begin any critique of radio drama without first stating that these 2 productions are <u>best</u> examples of radio drama ever produced! A bold claim to be sure and one which may be attributable to my British born 4th grade teacher having read all 4 books to the class over the course of the year. I had never paid more attention in school, before or since!

This version is not to be confused with the 1975 version by "The Mind's Eye", out of California, which was privately funded and produced. Apparently aimed at a younger audience, their version concentrated more on the character's relations with each other and the "cutesy" parts of the story rather than the darker more foreboding plot. In fact, whole sub-plots were deleted.

The BBC must have used every character actor at their disposal to enact this sprawling epic. Full orchestral accompaniment, great casting, fully realized battle sequences(not an easy thing to do on the radio), atmospheric, and an unbelievably thorough rendering of <u>all</u> aspects of the story. I found myself unable to stop popping cassettes into my player "til the wee hours of the morn"!

If you've never heard this production(or even if you have) I strongly recommend that you read the books. The author, J.R.R.Tolkien, invented the story over the course of a decade to entertain his children, and it wasn't until much later that he set it on paper. Like C.S. Lewis, Tolkien was a reknowned religious theologian and supposedly based much of the story on lessons from the bible. There are several dozen main characters and about 30 unique locals and settings in the story, as well 4 or 5 new races of creatures with well defined habits and appearances that are probably difficult to completely picture without having read about them. Both of these productions are readily available from a variety of major distributors such as the Wireless catalog. The Hobbit ~ 8x30m. The Lord of the Rings ~ 26x30m.

Independence Day U.K.(BBC ~ 1996) ~ This production represents a landmark, and a trend that I hope will continue, in radio drama in that it was written and coproduced by 20th Century Fox. Broadcast a few months before the opening of the movie in England as a promotional concept, the story portrays the events that took place overseas during the alien invasion. Produced in surround sound and employing sound effects used to make the movie, it is a rousing adventure which, at some points,



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sounds like Armageddon is going on in your speakers. Wonderful visions of the river Thames boiling away and a boxing match between an alien and a human are just some of the highlights as story focus's on the efforts to get the Royal Family out of London. It's only drawback is that it ends before we kick the aliens asses(they didn't want to give away the ending to the movie). 60m available everywhere.

The Great Subterranean Adventure (BBC ~ 1996) ~ The BBC now farm out all or most of their new drama production to independant drama outfits. For the most part they do not produce their own dramas anymore. This story, part of the new breed of BBC sponsored drama is another 90m BBC radio movie length production that truly does have all of the elements one would expect from a Hollywood flick. A wealthy financier has funded a large and costly <u>underground amusement park</u>. His son, whom he let manage the day-to-day affairs, cut corners during construction and failed to fill in some adjacent mine shafts. An underground stream starts flooding the park during a dignitary's visit and soon all hell breaks loose. Lot's of suspense and character developement as those we love to hate...die, and those we love...live. Great, action packed stuff! 90m

The Quatermass Memoirs ~ a 5 part dramatization, narrated by the writer of the original classic BBC television drama from the 50's. The story revolves around a writer coming to see, the now retired, Professor Quatermass in order to write his memoirs. He eventually recounts the 3 Quatermass stories. Sound clips from the rare original TV, not the movie remakes, stories highlight his tale. The narration explores the mindset of the writer and the people at the time each story was broadcast. A thoroughly enjoyable retrospective/drama about a landmark British dramatic series that few in this country are aware of. The impact the original stories was close to that of our War of the Worlds broadcast. 100m total

<u>Salem's Lot</u> ~ Stephen King's early novel about a town full of vampires. Very well done and, for some, easier to understand than the movie. Not quite as horrific as the book. 5x30m

The Gibson ~ This 5 part story gets off to a confusing start as it flicks back and forth between brief scenes from ancient history to the present in the first 2 episodes. To fully enjoy this excellent story you need to know this: Long ago, something of unimaginable power has been buried under a hillside near a small English village, two factions have been vying for control of it ever since. One wants to keep it hidden and the other thinks they can control it if they set it free. This story is perfect for those who love conspiracy theories, the mysteries of folks like the Templar Knights (Masons), and astrology. The whole story builds to a cresendo with lots of plot twists and curious occurances. A complicated story, yet, one that you can listen to again and again while gaining new insights.....perfect for Hollywood. \$x30m

2004 ~ It's England in the year 2004, and the "Peace Party" has just been elected to a controlling majority on the platform of eliminating crime within a year. They begin by walling off selected towns and designating them as prisons, but, when they decide to make even the most minor of offenses worthy of life in prison, that's people start to get worried. Great, prophetic, sciff in the British tradition of forecasting a gloomy future for mankind ~ 60m

Deep Station Emerald ~ The British radio version of the movie "Leviathan". The stories are unrelated, but the settings, characterization, and story line are very similar. The story is about an undersea mining operation that discovers "cold fusion" taking place naturally. Oil companies and the government don't want it explored due to the radical changes in the world economy that would result. A very slick production, with frequent use of the "s" word, that will keep you on the edge of your Lazyboy. 90m

Commercial Releases:

SLAN (1993) ~ From the classic award winning book by author A.E.Van Vogt(my favorite childhood author). Give this company credit for big you-know-whats for attempting, as their first production, a relatively forgotten book from 30 years ago!!!

To be fair, many regard the book as the best all round scifl book ever written, but, it's hardly a book title that comes easily to most people's lips. The story is set in the _____ century, years after a war of extermination occured against a race of human mutants called the Slan. General knowledge of the origins of the Slan, who were telepathic genetic supermen, has been lost and the police state actively pursues and kills any survivors. Enter our hero, young Jommy , who is the son of the former leader of the Slan. We follow him as he hides out from the authorities until he is old enough to follow his father's wishes: Find the other Slan and discover their origins. This a thoroughly modern production with very strong character voices and an excellent sound track. Amazingly, all aspects of the original story are touched upon as the tempo builds to the final showdown. A classic tale of deflance against brutal authoritarian regime written at the time of our own major time of uncertainty, the 1960's. Slick packaging and a great buy at \$12.50 for the 2x90m cassette set.

Metropolis(1995) ~ Based upon the the book by German author Thea Von Harbou and

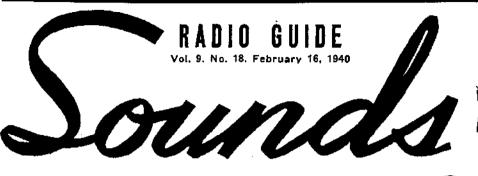
Metropolis (1995) ~ Based upon the the book by German author i hea von narbou and the subsequent 1926 classic silent film by the same name, this is Ziggurat's second production. The writing style of this book and their close adherence to it make this a very hard story to follow. Essentially, the story is about the future city of Metropolis which was designed and is run by the leader, John Fraterson. In this aspect, the story is about the dehumanization of man by the increasingly automated society they live in. Eventually the people revolt against the "machine". The more prominent plot, however, is the crush that Freder, the leader's son has for a beautiful rebel leader, Maria. The story culminates in the destruction of the city.

Eastern Europeans love to debate to finer points of philosophy and politics and this story is no exception. Overall I found, that by today's standards, there was very little "hard" science fiction in the story, much more exploration of the social implications of their technology, and way too much emphasis on the love story. The acting, production, and sound track are as good as the best I've ever heard, however. I'll be the first to admit that I prefer "nuts and bolts" or hard science fiction over the other types....so I might not be the best judge. I suspect that lovers of straight drama, and those who find books like War and Peace and writers like Gogol entertaining would be in heaven with this production. Summed up, this is very <u>literary</u> piece of drama, but, listener's tastes in entertainment will be the deciding factor in one's enjoyment of it. 2x90m

Dr. Dimension ~ I found this comedic science fiction saga to be a welcome and refreshing addition to my collection. It's the story of 1940's scientist / inventor, Demetrios Demopoulos's efforts to create either a space ship or a time machine(his equations say it could go either way). He ends up with both and on it's trial run, zips out of control, halfway across the universe, with him and his two assistants: a captain of the University football team, who hasn't one a game, and Diane Derry a voluptuous, but, niave girl with a great cleavage. They encounter two races engaging in a never ending intergalactic war: the Pisons and the Prudes. The Pisons believe that everyone should have easy access to a slot machine and power their spaceships with garlic and olive oil. The Prudes believe that all types of fun are to be punished by death and engage in reproduction only under the direst circumstances. That all you really need to know as all of the rest of the story is filled with plot twists, humor, and sexual inuendo about Diane's breasts.

Written by two moderately known SF authors, David Bischoff and John DeChancie I was suprised to find the <u>book</u> on my shelf. Nice character casting, very well scripted and easy to follow as well as having great production, I found nothing wanting with this release other than it's lack of seriousness or the fact that there are no chapter breaks in the story, It's just 6 hours of non-stop fun, albeit, somewhat on the sophomoric side. A great buy that I think almost everyone would enjoy. 4x60-90m

Anyone interested in letting me know about other stories of interest or in obtaining the above titles can send or call me at: Gordon R. Payton "The Scifi Guy" 119 E. Cuthbert Blvd, Bldg. "O" #3 Westmont, N.J. 08108 609~858~4401



The man who makes rain and boof-beats on the air treats you to a hilarious sketch of radio as it works inside the studios

GUESS Mister Sweet is about the only guy in the organization that doesn't blow off steam when I do things wrong. He just sort of looks at me sorry and says: Sounds, if you're going to amount to anything in radio, you've got to use your head. Radio has a great future, he says. Let's hear the rain effect.

Then I turn on the rain-machine and he says, sadlike: Listen, Sounds! I want a rainstorm. I don't want it to sound like piddling against the wind.

So I dump another scoop of barley in the rain-machine and turn the handle and the barley pours down on the piece of tin. And Mister Sweet says: Sounds, do you know what that sounds like? I say: Rain. And he says: Nuts! It sounds like barley dumped on a piece of tin. What do you think the sponsor will say?

That's all anybody wants to know. What do you think the sponsor will say? Having auditions for sponsors is what stunted my growth. This is the way auditions are fixed:

The salesman goes and sees Mr. Wise: he's the advertising agent for Sweet Wheat Mush. He says: Look, Mr. Wise. I know you've got confidence in me, and I want you to believe me when I say Sweet Wheat Mush ought to be on the air, and we've got just the program for you. Mr. Wise says: What is it? And the salesman says: Look! It's a humdinger! It's a wow! It'll lay you in the aisle.

Mr. Wise says: Sure, but what is it?



BY HIMSFIF

And the salesman says: The biggest thing we've ever had up our sleeve. Crossley rating in the upper brackets. We've got all the oil-companies fighting for it, but I said: No! Nothing doing! It's a natural for Sweet Wheat Mush and nobody but Sweet Wheat Mush is going to get it.

Sure, sure, Mr. Wise says. But what's the idea?

The salesman says: Well, Mr. Wise, I'm not going to tell you the idea. I'm going to ask you to have confidence in me and let me put on the audition with out telling you a thing about it. It's a surprise and I don't want to spoil the punch by telling you ahead of time.

Wise says: I suppose you've got

Charlie McCarthy tied up?

And the salesman says: Mr. Wise, I want you to believe me when I tell you if we had Charlie McCarthy and Orson Welles doing an original script by Dorothy Parker with music by Noel Coward it wouldn't touch this idea. Do I get a chance to show you the audition?

They talk some more and don't say anything, and then Wise says: Okay, lad. Put on your audition. But don't pull another dud. Remember the time you made me listen to the Laramie Cowboy Four telling how they ate Sweet Wheat Mush every morning before they rode the range.

So all the salesman says is: Leave it to me. Just leave it to me.

Then he goes to the head of the sales department and tells him the . Sweet Wheat Mush folks want an audition; they don't care what it is as long as it sells mush.

The head of the sales department has a conference with the station-manager, and the station-manager has a conference with the program-director, and the program-director presses a buzzer and in comes the production-manager, and the program-director tells the production-manager, because the production-manager isn't allowed to talk to a salesman or vice versa.

The production-manager says: How about the Laramie Cowboy Four, and everybody jumps up and begins pounding the desk and the production-manager says: Well, I only meant . . .! And the station-manager says: For God's sake, give!

So he gets three ideas for "westerns," and the lad who's buying dinners for Little Lolly Lee, the Sweet Singer of Radio, suggests Little Lolly Lee and the organ in a program of old-fashioned songs to be called "Twilight Reveries." And that doesn't click, because twilight is a bad slant for breakfast food. So the production-manager tells the department they're a lot of nitwits and can't he get any cooperation from anybody, and then he sets up an audition of the Laramie Four and changes their names to the Voices of the Wheat Fields.

Mr. Wise listens to the audition and gets mad and then goes to sleep after the first song and makes up his mind to stick to outdoor advertising.

Mr. Sweet's the director in charge of dramatic production. He isn't like the brass hats; he takes an interest in me. Says I've got to have ambition to get places and just wait till we have television; then you watch where radio drama goes.

HE SAYS: Understand this, Sounds. When television comes in, talent auditions will be different than they are now. You won't be herding a bunch of nitwits into a studio and piping their voices downstairs to the conference room. No, you'll be watching for faces

with looks and faces with character. And believe you me, when you have a baby crying in some man's family show it'll not be a forty-year-old fatfaced dame crying into a hunk of cotton-batting.

And another thing. You'll not be able to crash television without you've got something behind you besides a broad beam. Like take the gal who came up for an audition last Friday. Mr. Sweet said to her friendly:

Have you had any stage experience?

And she said: Unh unh.

Mr. Sweet said: Any radio experience?

And she said: Unh unh.

So he says: Well, I suppose at one time you played a lead in your highschool dramatic club?

And all she says is: Unh unh.

So Mr. Sweet said: Jeepers creepers, then what in the hell are you doing here wanting a audition?

And she said: Well, my boy friend says I have a elegant speaking voice. Especially on the telephone.

That'll all be out, Mr. Sweet says, when television comes in. And more than that. These people who have idiocyn, who have screwy habits when they're broadcasting—they'll be out, too. Like the gal who always held her script in one hand and scratched her neck with the other hand while she was at the mike. And like Nelson Eddy, who holds onto his ear while he's singing so he can hear himself better—there isn't going to be any of that.

Well, that's the kind of talking Mr. Sweet dishes out to, what he says, guide me on my way. Then two minutes later he'll be looking like he had cramps from eating chow-mein, and he'll say: Sounds, these horses' hoofs sound like they're running on a cement sidewalk. The horses are supposed to be running on the range and I don't mean the kitchen range. Soft ground! Get it? You'd hardly hear the hoofbeats. And if you can't get a soft sound

out of cocoanut shells, go out and buy a couple of water-closet plungers.

That's the kind of thing that gets me in radio. I'll be down on my hands and knees on the studio floor, beating hell out of a couple of water-closet plungers, and some pretty girl comes up to the studio window and looks at me and laughs. But it's worse when Mr. Sweet says: Don't beat them on the floor; beat them on your chest.

Mr. Sweet says: You think you've got troubles, Sounds. Well, you should have my troubles. Females writing dramas that stink. Don't know as much about writing radio dialog as Shakespeare knew about writing for Hollywood.

Then I ask Mr. Sweet when we're going to have television, and he says: Well, Sounds, it's just like I've been saying for the past fifteen years: It'll be another five years before television really gets here.

That shows you how reasonable Mr. Sweet is. I only saw him get real mad at me once. That was the time he called me into the sound-effects room and said: What do you think of that, Sounds?

It was a great big thing, about six foot by four foot with a million iron wheels in it. And iron arms coming out of it. It looked like a Rube Goldberg invention. So I said: What is it? And he said: Don't ask questions. Help me set it up in the studio and then you can go in the hall and listen to the loudspeaker and tell me what you think.

So we set it up and Mr. Sweet plugged three electric plugs into electric outlets and I went out in the hall and listened. It sounded swell. Then Mr. Sweet came out and said: There you are, Sounds. What's it sound like?

I said: It sounds like a riveting-gun on a steel girder.

And he said: That's what you call art, Son. That's what it's meant to be. The noise of a riveting-gun. That contraption cost seventy-six dollars to build.

Well, the story isn't finished. The next day I said: Look, Mr. Sweet, I've got a sound-effect I'd like you to listen to. Would you go out in the hall and I'll set it up in the studio. So he says: I'm glad to see you using some initiative, Sounds. And he went out in the hall and I turned on the effect. And then I went out to him and he said: That's perfect. That sounds even more like a riveting-gun than my invention. How'd you do it?

And I said: I rented a riveting-gun for fifty cents and worked it against a piece of steel girder.

Well, that was the time he got mad. He called me a dirty little so-and-so and said a lot of things about my mother and left my father out of it altogether and I said: What's wrong?

And he said: Wrong! How in blazes do you expect me to get requisitions to build sound-effects if you go doing things like that. What are you trying to do: make a fool of the department?

Then he was sorry and patied me on the back and said: Sounds, don't forget the sound-effects department has a responsibility. Why, where do you think radio drama would be without soundeffects. In fact, where would radio be without sound-effects?

I got a sneaking hunch he's right there. But then, take the directors. They say: It's the production staff that makes radio. Without directors to build the programs and time them and rehearse them, there'd be no radio.

And the announcers say: Oh, yes? Well, you directors can do all the building and timing and rehearsing you want. But it's the announcer who puts the program on the air and don't you ever forget.

And the musicians and singers and actors give the whole kaboodle the laugh and say: I suppose you bohunks think there'd be programs to announce or direct without artists.

AND all the time there's a acrewball standing in the background with a

dirty laugh on his face. He's the technician. The technician says: When you guys get all through talking you can just get an earful of this: The technician is the beginning and the middle and the end. We put you on the air and we take you off the air and without us on the controls there'd be no air. And what's more, we can make Annie Glutz sound like a canary and we can make Lawrence Tibbett smell.

Well, since the time I pulled the riveting-gun stunt, I've did what I was told to do and haven't done any experimenting. But believe me, I could save the department a lot of money. Like what's the use of getting a complicated piece of machinery to make a noise like a grass fire when I can get

just as good an effect by yanking off about three yards of wrapping-paper and rumpling it around at the mike.

And Mr. Sweet says: Don't you start in, Sounds. That's the trouble with radio. Everybody trying to save money. If they'd really save, I wouldn't say. But they argue whether they'll pay a staff artist four dollars extra to air two extra programs in a week and then they'll turn right around and pay some Hollywood glamour gal four thousand dollars to read ten lines in a dramu. And they may be good on the films but they're lousy on radio, where you can't see them.

Sometimes I get discouraged. Sometimes I think I'd be better off in the stock-and-bond business.





RADIO Juide

Writer's Plight

The plight of the radio-writer is the plight of every lone wolf. He is at the mercy of stronger, better-organized adversaries. Since the beginning of broadcasting, he has been the creator of programs which brought fame or fortune to others than himself.

Musicians were forced to organize to win themselves a place of respect in the radio pictures. Likewise, the radio artists. But the writer is still anybody's doormat.

We know of one case where a writer was invited to submit ideas for a new program series to one of the greatest advertising agencies. He submitted script after script, devoted three months to working on plans dictated by the agency, and was then kicked out the door without even a thank you. We know of a man who submitted a new show, was told that his idea wasn't wanted, and then heard his program on the air one week later. It had been stolen lock, stock, and barrel.

Surely it is time for a new deal for the writers. Surely both networks and agencies together can do something to encourage those creative minds which alone are able to make our entertainment either better or worse.

That Rainy Day

The Gulf Screen Actors Guild program is a remarkable show. It is also a remarkable instance of charity. For the actors don't get paid. That opening program in which Jack Benny made love to Joan Crawford, Reginald Gardiner clowned, and Judy Garland sang was done for free. And every program since.

This doesn't mean that Gulf doesn't pay handsomely for its parade of great

names. It does, but the money goes into the treasury of the Motion Picture Relief Fund. And the money is \$10,000 a week. The actors are contributing their time for nothing as their part in building up the Motion Picture Relief



1939's Forgotten Man is the Radio-Writer

Fund so it can take care of all the demands upon it.

Already, ground has been broken for a hospital which will give free service to indigent old-timers in the motion-picture business. An old actors home may be built. We believe that those who listen to these Gulf programs will be glad to know that though the broadcasts may mean only a pleasant half-hour to us, they mean renewed health and a fresh start in life for others.

Ears Across the Sea

We are getting our feet wet in the aerial war already being waged by democracies and dictatorships. For instance, NBC's short-wave transmitter W3XL recently observed its eighteenth month of sending American news and music to the 5,000,000 German receiving sets equipped with short-wave circuits. Slowly, replies are trickling in.

"You succeed in giving us news of what happens in Europe before Europe gives it," one said.

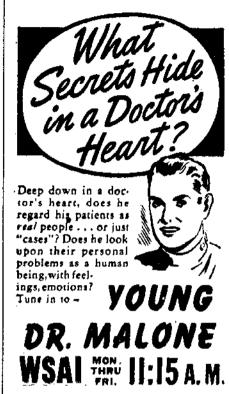
Another said: "Already a small group of listeners has formed which meets regularly and listens."

Another: "I have seldom heard so much truth about the fate of the Jews as in your broadcast. We do not hear such manly words about humanity here."

Herr Hitler's people's radios are two-tubers and are supposed to hear only German stations, but reports reach us that they can also pick up English news broadcasts. This is contrary to Herr Hitler's plans. American news and English news is truthful news, which is embarrassing no end to the Nazis.

We hope that German and Italian listeners tune more and more often to our American stations, for as William Penn put it, "The usefullest truths are plainest; and while we keep to them, our differences cannot rise high."

March 4, 1939







"Before TV, people got sound from radio, but they had to think up their own pictures."

Classified Ads

WANTED TO BUY: Cassettes in the following categories: comedy, general, concert music, musical variety, light music, comedy talk programs, daytime concert music. Would appreciate sending me your catalogs and list of what you have available. Send your replies and information to Mr. Richard Browskie, 10 Reid Street, Amsterdam, New York 12010.

WANTED: Videos of "The Tomorrow" TV show hosted by Tom Snyder in the 1970's Interviewing radio stars such as Edgar Bergen and others. I have the audio tapes of them. Will buy or trade. Contact Rob Cohen, 763 Oaksedge Dr., Gahanna, OH 43230, (614) 478-2755.

WANTED ON CASSETTE: Shows with Basil Rathbone. Will trade or buy. Also trade Lux Radio, suspense, others. Bob Minerley, 2 Silvia Pl., North Arlington, NJ 07032.

For Sale: Boxed set of six tapes from Stephen King's Night Shift. Original Price: \$34.95. My Price: \$12.00 postpaid. Five sets available. Phil Nelson, 221 Scioto, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

WANTED: Radio collectibles, premiums, autographs, magazines, scripts. Soaps on cassettes. Bradley George, 2177 S. 62nd St., West Allis, WI 53219–1426.

WANTED: Today's radio station advertising logos, pins, buttons, mugs. Francis Rylance, 1088A Chiefs Dr., Robins AFB, GA 31098

New club based in Seattle invites you to membership. Growing 700 cassette library, printed materials and newsletter. For information write Mike Sprague, Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound, 9936 N.E. 197 St., Bothwell, WA 98011

The Art of Audiotape Recording/Collecting. Special report includes maintenance tips, multirecorder hookup diagram. \$3.00 plus SASE. C. Huck, 4S230 River Ad., Warrenville, IL 60555

Amos 'N Andy Collectibles. Photo illustrated list sent for a LSASE to: Nostalgic Americana, Aram H. Azadian, Sr., 3087 El Monte Way, Fresno. CA 93721, (209) 237–8748.

WANTED ON CASSETTE: Cavalcade of America for sale or trade. I have about 600 to trade; also other programs. Contact Bill Yunick, 1241 Peaceable St., Ballston Spa, New York 12020 WANTED: Any information concerning the series "The Shadow of Fu-Manchu." Scripts, magazine Xerox's, East of West coast schedule copies... ANYTHING! Will pay reasonable price. Thanks. Jeff Hagerty, 423 S.E. 6th St., Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH LARGE
COLLECTIONS ON CASSETTE TO TRADE
MYSTERY SHOWS. Wanted: Richard Diamond,
Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar, Suspense. Also
scare shows Creeking Door, Inner Sanctum,
Obsession, many more. Send me your
catalogue. I will do the same. Write soon to
Beth Holman, 16705 Craigmere Drive.
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130

WANTED ON CASSETTE: Scary shows. Lights Out, The Haunting, Hernil Cave, The Key, The Clock, Inner Sanctum, Mysterious Traveler, and any others you have. Send listing and I will do the same. Beth Holman, 16705 Craigmere Dr., Middleburg Hts., Ohio 44130. Write soon!

NOW AVAILABLE FROM NARA: OTR Source-List of over 100 clubs, pubs, dealers, archives, etc. Includes postal and e-mail addresses. NARA members, \$2.00; non-members, \$3.00. Remit in cash or stamps (no checks) to Jack French, 5137 Richardson Dr., Fairfax, VA 22032

WANTED ON CASSETTE: The following Broadway's My Beat Shows: 47/51; 8/12/51; 8/19/51; 12/1/51; 12/29/51. Gene Dench, 53 Faraday St., Hyde Park, MA 02136

MOVIE "B" WESTERN BOOK - GENE AUTRY TO JOHN WAYNE. Send large S.A.S.E. for list, plus other movie Western items. Mario DeMarco, 152 Maple, W. Boylston, MA 01583

MOON RIVER PROGRAMS WANTED: I have a modest collection and would like to have more shows broadcast on WLW Radio from 1930's to 1960's. Write me with your list. R.L. Hawks, 355 Animosa Drive, Durango, CO 81301-3702

WANTED: Programs featuring Walt Disney. Especially anything regional or "esoteric." Paul Anderson, 3136 S. 3200 W., SLC, UT 84119 (801) 967–3955

FOR SALE: The Big Broadcast: 1920-1950" book by Buxton and Owen. Avon edition. \$20.00 plus P&H. Paul Anderson, 3136 S. 3200 W., SLC, UT 84119 (801) 967-3955

FOR SALE: 200+ reels as one lot. Best per reel offer. 100's of Suspense, Lone Ranger, lots of Shadow, Johnny Dollar, Gunsmoke. Wide variety. I'm transferring my OTR collection to cassette, so my old reels are very available. All Hubin, 3656 Midland Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (612) 429–3510

Have 488 archival quality sound Cavalcade of America shows. Will buy or trade for more. Murry Schantzen. 207-B Lynn Ct., N. Aurora, IL 60542

RADIO SHOWS ON CASSETTE, also radio/tv related material. Catalog \$1, Phil Kiernan, 30235 Cupeno Lane, Temecula, CA 92592

FOR SALE: Walter Winchell signed, cancelled personal check. Guaranteed authentic. \$40.00 ppd. Chris Ferrante, 26 Deming Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033 (860) 633~0580

WANTED: NBC, CBS, and ABC Network newscasts from the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. Will generously compensate. George F. Miller, 9733 S. 51st Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453

WANTED FOR TRADE: OTR "sit coms" on 60 minute cassettes. Mail me your catalog and I will send mine. To: Joe Barrow, 7345 Honey Dale Dr., Northfield Ctr., OH 44067–2611 (216–467–9204).

WANTED: 16" transcriptions, for cash or trade. Joe Salerno, Box 1487, Bellaire, Texas 77402.

WANTED: Radio Transcription Discs. Any type, any subject. Gilbert Smith, 248 South 36th St., San Diego, CA 92113-1613

WANTED TO BUY: Red Ryder broadcasts on cassette. Contact Jerry Nicolay, 1401 Suburban Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57103.

WANTED: Amos & Andy radio program items, puzzles & stand-ups. Bob Morgan, 4005 Pitman Rd., College Park, GA 30349.

WANTED: OTR programs: Mandrake The Magician; Pat Novak For Hire; Children's Serials of the 1930s and 1940s; Johnny Modern; Pler 23; Jeff Regan. Will buy or trade. W. F. Frier, 2951 Fairhill Dr., Jackson MS 39212–2822

Radio books, parts wanted prior 1950 from radio repair shops. Send price list. Richards, Box 1542-D, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT ITEMS wanted. DeWayne Natl, P.O. Box 555, Cleburne, TX 76031

Want these Lux shows: Red River, Alice in Wonderland, Paradine Case, Kent Coscarelly. 2173 Willester Ave., San Jose, Calif. 95124

RADIO ITEMS BEFORE 1935, sets, speakers, tubes, parts, literature & advertising. Schneider, 9511-23 Sunrise Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44133

WANTED: To hear from anyone with Baby Snooks programs. Buy, self or trade. Will buy or exchange catalogs. Eynn Wagar, Box 202 B.C.A., St. Cloud, MN 56301

OLD RADIO SHOWS on cassettes. Rare Big Bands and Vocalists too! The absolute best quality. Free catalog. 2732-R Queensboro Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15226

Tom Monroe, 2055 Elmwood, Lakewood, Ohio 44107./{216} 226-8189 Cassette and reel, mystery, adventure, sci-fi, westerns, drama, some comedy.

Mary Sayer, 801 8th St. F5, Sioux City, IA 51105. Looking for any infor on "Uncle" Jim Harkin, Fred Allen's manager.

Wanted: Juvenite adventure serials, Mysterious Traveler, Gangbusters, Fred Allen, 2000 + . Cassettes only. Ken Weigel, 7011 Lennox Ave. #126, Van Nuys, CA

Nelson Eddy and Bing Crosby Research; send data Box 724, Redmond, WA 98073-0724

Old-time Matinee Serials & Westerns on VHS Videocassette! Tom Mix, Buck Jones, Zorro, etc. Free list! Send S.A.S.E.-Series, P.O. Box 173 P. Bovertown, PA 19512.

Wanted: 1st Nightbeat program (2-6-50) as well as one where William Conrad appears. Victor Padilla, Jr. 104 Marcy Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211.

Wanted: Trade or buy Torn Corbett and other SF cassettes. Mark Skullerud, 20110 21st Ave. NW, Seattle, Wash, 98177

WANTED: 16" RADIO transcription recordings. All types.—Paul Scriven, 238 West State Street, Niles, OH 44446. my40441

RADIO TRANSCRIPTION DISCS wanted, Any size, speed. — Box 724H, Redmond, WA 98052.

EDWARD HAMILTON, 933 Naismith, Pl., Topeka, KS 66606 wants CBS Radio Mystery Theater; prefers cassettes...

ALLAN SHERRY, 5410 Netherland Ave., Riverdale, NY 10471 is trying to locate the last date for Prescott Robinson on the air plus any other information about him.

THOMAS HEATHWOOD, 22 Broadlawn Pk., Chestnut Hill, MA 02167 looking for Portia Faces Life, especially July 1948 and April 1949.

ROBERT SHEPHERD, 129 Highfields Rd., Abington, MA 02351 wants to know: who was the arrouncer for Suspense after Larry Thor and also during Bill Robson's era as producer. Harry Goldman, RR6, Box 181, Glens Falls, NY 12801 wants Kraft Music Hall of 12-11-47 (Al Jolson) Jack Benny "The Bee", Fiorello LaGuardia tribute to Nikola Tesla over WNYC on Jan. 10, 1943.

WANTED: Kid Shows, Serials, Big Band Remotes, Transcription Recordings on Reel to Reel only please. Write to Wally Stall, 8408 N.W. 101, Oklahoma City, OK 73132.

Phil Evans, Box 136 Downtown Station, Bakersfield, CA 93302-0136. Looking for any info in the Candlelight Hour Broadcast from NYC in 1931.

WANTED: Masterpiece Radio Theater, other multipart NPR or BBC dramas. Buy or trade cassettes. Howard Lewis, 132 Hutchin Hill Rd., Shady, NY 12409

Don Berhent, 807 Glenhurst Rd., Witwick, OH 44094. The Shadow and movie serials. Books on both also.

Frank Tomaselli, 29-10 Donna Ct., Staten Island, NY 10314 is looking for 11 AM from 1939-1944; also Fred Allen's Town Hall Tonight.

Torn Heathwood, 22 Broadlawn Pl., Chestnut Hill, MA 02167. Shadow programs between 1941-44. Has supplement to his catalog for a S.A.S.E.

Chuck Juzek, 57 Hutton Ave., Nanuet, NY 10954. Green Hornet episode where Reid reveals himself to his father as the Hornet around 1943. Need log from 1936-40.

Oldtime Radio-Show Collector's Association (ORCA) is actively seeking members. You can remain loyal to your own local club and still belong. Write Reg Hubert, 45 Barry St., Sudburg, Ontario, Canada P3B 3H6.

Wanted: "We The People" Broadcast 1-13-50 and any Lum and Abner shows prior to 1941. Willing to trade for anything in my catalog. Steve Ferrante, Box 153, Oakland Mills, PA 17076.

Jim Blythe, 941 Redding Rd., Asheboro, NC 27203. Wants Lum and Abner, Magic Island, Jerry at Fair Oaks.

Van Christo, 91 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116. Looking for Goldberg's Episode which was called "The Hannukah Bush."

Ronald Waite, 578 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT 06511, Interested in Jack Benny.

Bob Proctor, Box 362, Saline, MI 48176. Wants Horatio Hornblower shows with Michael Redgrave. Wanted. Copies of owner's manual for AKAI reel recorders, Models 1722W and GX-215D. Reproduced coles acceptable. Willing to pay reasonable price. Jack Palmer, 145 North 21st Street. Battle Creek, MI 49015

Wanted To Buy: Jack Benny's Christmas Shopping Shows from 12-8-46, 12-18-49, and 12-2-51. Must have perfect sound. Thanks. John Moran, 6351 Beck Road, Canton, MI 48187

Spiros Koliopoutos, 149 Autumn Ridge Drive, Montgomery, IL 60538. Interested in news bulletins on radio such as Pearl Harbor, Hindenburg Disaster; also broadcast before and during WWII.

WANTEDTO BUY: Books and magazines about OTR programs, performers and stations 1920–1948 and RADIO DIGEST, WHAT'S ON THE AIR, VARIETY RADIO ANNUAL, 1937, 1938, 1939. Luther F. Sies, 101 West 23 Street, New York, NY 10011.

Large Collection — Open Reel — VG-EX sound. Wil trade for nice sound. Catalog available. Jim Blythe, 941 Redding Rd., Asheborg, NC 27203

Want the following Abbott & Costello Shows: All 1945; April 05–26; May 03–17–24–31; June 14–21; October 04–11–18–25; November 08–15–22–29; December 13–27. Phil Evans, Box 10507, Stockdale Station, Bakersfield, CA 93389–0507.

Allan Ropchan, 8923 84th Avenue, Edmonton Alta, Canada T6C1E3 (403) 466–2761. Have 2500 Reels of OTR for Trading.

George Olsen, Craven Community College, Box 885, New Bern, NC 28563. Wants We The People 11/25/37 and Hobby 9/20/39.

WANTED: Sergeant Preston LP records and VHS videos. Write Lee Weber, 468 E. Metz Rd., Columbiana, Ohio 44408

WANTED: Sergeant Preston or Challenge of Yukon tages. Also records and videos. Cick Weber, 468 E. Metz Rd., Columbiana, Ohio 44408

Vintage broadcasts, reliving radio's past. Free flyers. 42 Bowling Green, Staten Island, NY 10314.

Trade Fibber McGee and Molly Cassettes VG/EX only. Offer 110 shows. Exchange list. Bill Oliver, 516 Third St. North East, Massillon, Ohio 44646.

Coming up on its 50th anniversary, CARE is looking for any relevant radio material from October '45 onward. Wanted: any programs or commercials mentioning CARE and/or CARE packages. Also, if you received or sent a CARE package, we'd like to hear from you. Contact: Scott Thigpen, CARE, 151 Ellis St., Atlanta, GA 30303. (404) 681-2552.

WANTED ON CASSETTE: Basil Rathbone, Your Hollywood Parade 12/8/37, The Circle 1939, Duffy's Tavern 6/6/44, Which Is Which 10/26/44, Columbia Masterworks: Robin Hood, Treasure Island, Peter & The Wolf, Murder of Lidice, Great Themes in Poetry, Little Jesus, Night Before Christmas, Spike Jones Show, Scotland Yard, Tales of Fatima, Monitor Radio, Dinosaurs 1965, end any other radio programs and memorabilia with Basil Rathbone. Reply to: Bob Minerley, 2 Silvia, North Arlington, NJ 07032

Collector buys original tickets from live network radio and television broadcasts pre-1970. Reply to: Tickets, OTR, 1078 Cross Country Drive, Worthington, Ohio 43235.

WANTED ON CASSETTE TAPE: Eddie Cantor Show (40). I will trade those for more or trade from my 3,300 other shows. Send a list and I will too. I also need Lux (177). Cavalcade of America (246). Please write soon to Beth Holman, 16705 Cralgmere Dr., Middleburg Heights, OH 44130.

WANTED: (Cassette or Reel) Copies of That Other Generation program hosted by Rudy Vallee (a series of shows). State price and condition. Luther F. Sies, 101 West 23 Street, New York, NY 10011.

WANTED: Kid Shows, Serials, Big Band Remotes, Transcription Recordings on Reel to Reel only please. Write to Wally Stall, 8408 N.W. 101 Oklahoma City, OK 73132.

Wanted: 1950 Summer Replacement Show "Somebody Knows" by Jack Johnstone. (8 show run) Dick Olday, 100 Harvey Dr., Lancaster, NY 14080.

GILBERT HUEY, 90 W. Triple Tree Dr., Carrollton, GA 30017 is writing an article on Flash Gordon and needs much information on the radio and ty show.

Pam Nemec, 1424 Heatherton Dr., Naperville, #L 60563 is looking for program listings of old radio stations of the 30's and 40's especially WDZ, KMMJ, KMA, KFNF and KFEQ.

WANTED: Aldrich Family radio programs on cassettes, as well as information. Kenneth Barker, 874 27th Street East, Owen Sound, ON N4K 6P3

WILLIAM OSOVSKY, 2501 by St., Chattanocga, TN 37404. Collector of Ralston Tom Mix premiums, green 20 Grand Ale bottles with neck and paper labels intact. Octagon soap premium kites. Alaga syrup fins.

Would like: Mysterious Traveler, Whistler, Pat Novak For Hire on cassette. I have a lot to trade. Write to: Victor D. Padilla, Jr., 104 Marcy Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211

Wanted: Amos and Andy, Roy Rogers, and Gurismoke. Will buy or have shows to trade in X Minus One, Dimension X, Sqt. Preston, Captain Midnight, Suspense, Escape, others. Phil Nelson, 221 Scioto, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

WANTED: The Adventures of Frank Merriwell. Herb Brandenburg, 4114 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45212.

WANTED: Aldrich Family, Ozzie & Harriet In VG/ EX sound. Comedy nut; have thousands to trade. Still looking for Baby Snooks. Will buy/ sell, but prefer to trade. Write Lynn Wagar, B.C.A., 43 Joymar Dr., St. Cloud, MN 56301– 9460.

WANTED TO BUY: Cassettes in the following categories: comedy, general, concert music, musical variety, light music, comedy talk programs, daytime concert music. Would appreciate sending me your catalogs and list of what you have available. Send your replies and information to Mr. Richard Browskie, 10 Reld St., Amsterdam, NY 12010

MISSING DAUGHTER MATTER: Looking to contact Bob Bailey's daughter about possible "Johnny Dollar" article. Frank Dattilo, 3350 Wiscasset Road, Dearborn, MI 48120 (313) 271–8339.

WANTED: STRANGE AS IT SEEMS, CBS rackonetwork program. Will meet your price for a copy of the specific episode dramatizing the Cahuenga Pass Treasure legend. Probably broadcast in November of December of 1939. Call collect. Joshua Alper (818) 789–5875.

WANTED: NBC RADIO MONITOR. I would like to buy some copies of the NBC weekend show, Monitor '55 thru Monitor '65. Warren Gerbe, 46–21 Colden Street, Flushing, New York 11355.

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C00483 03/16/51 Archie's Fashion Lecture 03/23/51 Culture Comes To Duffy's Tayerti w/Arthur Treacher

C00484 03/30/51 Archie Throws A Block Party

04/06/51 The Singing Detective w/Rudy Vallee

□ C00485 04/13/51 The New Floor Show

w/"Slapsie" Maxie Rosenbloom

04/20/51 Archie The Lion Tamer

☐ C00486 04/27/51 Archie's Books Don't Balance (Repeat Script Of 01/07/48)

05/04/51 It's Latin Night At Duffy's Tayern

C00487 10/05/51 Archie Throws Party For Columnists

10/12/51 Duffy Wants To Sell The Tavern w/Boris Karloff

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C00744 02/06/49 Working In The Stockroom

02/13/49 Stretch, Basketball Star

□ C00745 02/20/49 Le Frog

02/27/49 Away Basketball Game

□ C00746 03/06/49 Faculty Dance, Beauty Shop

03/13/49 Revolt of the Cafeteria

☐ C00747 03/20/49 Mix Up Over Poetry

03/27/49 Clay City High Wants Miss Brooks

☐ C00748 04/03/49 April Fool

04/10/49 Mr. Conklin's Wake Up Plan

C00749 04/24/49 Problem Over Clothes

05/01/49 Grudge Match, Walter, Stretch

@ C00750 05/15/49 Friday The 13th

05/22/49 Peanuts, The Great Dane

☐ C00751 05/29/49 Why Is Everybody Arguing

06/05/49 Key To The School

□ C00752 06/12/49 Wishing Well School Dance

06/19/49 Taxidermy

© C00753 07/03/49 Planning The 4th At Eagle Springs

07/10/49 Telegram For Mrs. Davis

HOPALONG CASSIDY

□ C01420 # | Dead Man's Hand

2 The Rainmaker Of Eagle Nest Mountain

□ C01421 # 3 The Coltsville Terror

4 The Mystery Of Skull Valley

C01422 # 5 Renegades Of The San Rafael

6 The Phantom Bandito

□ C01423 # 7 Murder On The Trail

8 Hopov Takes A Chance

□ C01424 # 9 The Voice Of The Dead

10 Ten Strike Gold

☐ C01425 # 11 Red Rock Mesa

12 The Empty Saddle

□ C01426 # 13 The Failure

14 The Bandits Of Ridge Creek

C01427 # 15 Killers Of Sandy Gulch

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☐ C01428 # 17 Covote's Creed

18 Builets For Ballots

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□ C01430 # 21 Range War

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□ C01432 # 25 The Medicine Man

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□ C01433 # 28 Hoppy Sees Red

29 Hoppy And The School Marm

□ C01434 # 30 The King Of Cinnabar

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☐ C01435 # 32 Blood Money

34 The Whistling Ghosts

C01436 # 39 Hoppy And The Iron Horse

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@ C03245 07/05/48 # 55 Wahine, Tahiti 07/19/48 # 56 As Long As I Live

☐ C03246 07/26/48 # 57 The Man Who Stole A Planet 08/02/48 # 58 It Is Later Than You Think

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08/16/48 # 60 Presto-Chango, I'm Sure

[] C03248 08/23/48 #61 Three Thousand Words 09/06/48 # 63 The Third Man's Story

□ C03249 09/13/48 # 64 Symphony In D Minor (Last show on MUTUAL)

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1	□ C03259	02/20/49	# 87	Where Do You Get Your Ideas?
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	нор н	ARRIG	AN,	
	□ C00684	08/01/47	#1260	Paul Conroy Arrives
				Hop & Tenk Take Flight
				Cargo Breaks Loose
		08/06/4 7	#1263	Hop Told Of Accident
	C C00685	08/07/47	#1264	Safe Landing
2				Mechanic Dead
Ţ	G	08/11/47	#1266	Hop & Tank Arrested
7	П			Flop & Tank Released (rehearsal)

□ C03250 09/26/48 # 66 Light The Lamp For Me

08/05/47	#1262	Cargo Breaks Loose
0 8/06/47	#1263	Hop Told Of Accident
85 08/07/47	#1264	Safe Landing
08/08/47	#1265	Mechanic Dead
08/11/47	#1266	Hop & Tank Arrested
09/12/47	#1267	Hop & Tank Released (rehearsal)
	08/06/47 585 08/07/47 08/08/47 08/11/47	08/06/47 #1263 585 08/07/47 #1264 08/08/47 #1265 08/11/47 #1266

□ C00686 08/12/47 #1267 Hop & Tank Released 08/13/47 #1268 Plane Crash Likely О 08/14/47 #1269 Cargo Strap Found 08/15/47 #1270 Japanese Plane Seen

☐ C00687 08/18/47 #1271 Unable To Locate Wreckage 08/19/47 #1272 Ambushed П 0 08/20/47 #1273 Ghost Plane Seen 08/21/47 #1274 Paul Answers Phone

☐ C00688 08/22/47 #1275 Inspector's Request 08/25/47 #1276 Flying Toward Ghost Plane

08/26/47 #1277 Craig Guilty П П 08/27/47 #1278 THE CHANNEL WING PLANE **Emergency Landing**

☐ C00689 08/28/47 #1279 Boy Missing

п

m

08/29/47 #1280 Held At Gunpoint 09/01/47 #1281 Envelope Contents Important 09/02/47 #1282 Chris Found ☐ C00690 09/03/47 #1283 Important Papers Missing 09/04/47 #1284 (MISSING)

09/05/47 #1285 Gail Kidnapped

Chase LaPanterra ☐ C00691 09/09/47 #1287 Gail's Bracelet Found 09/10/47 #1288 Police Find Abandoned Car.

09/11/47 #1289 LaPanterra Escapes By Plane

09/08/47 #1286 Hop & Tank

09/12/47 #1290 Leaving For Abandoned City ☐ C00692 09/15/47 #1291 Soup Drugged 09/16/47 #1292 Tied Up In Old House 09/17/47 #1293 Escape - Chris Missing 09/18/47 #1294 Chris Can't Swim

☐ C00693 09/19/47 #1295 Plane Out Of Control 09/22/47 #1296 Avoiding The Attack 09/23/47 #1297 Lost Mayan City Spotted 09/24/47 #1298 Strange Sound Heard

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C00698 10/16/47 #1314 Tank Wins Fight 10/17/47 #1315 Dixie's Horse Stolen

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