

PRAIRIE  
FARMER'S

*New*

NAMED SOON  
See Pg. 3

# Weekly

MARCH 16  
1935

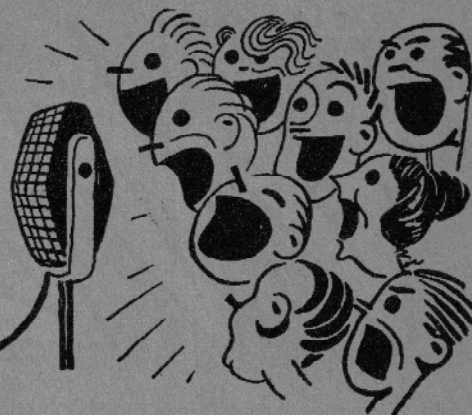
No Hill  
Billies

Programs



RALPH WALDO EMERSON - Page. 12

# LISTENERS' MIKE



## Goodie! Fight!

I challenge Mrs. E. E. Christiansen, Oral, S. Dak., to mortal combat! She objects to cowboy songs sounding like opera. I think the operatic tendency should be commended instead of criticized. As for the chummy, pleasant talking and laughing on the programs, I like it. Mrs. Christiansen might smile with them and benefit. People have varied tastes and in spite of preferring "ballads" to "blues," I do not think "blues" lovers are morons—entirely. . . . A program consisting of old songs (Dorothy Bollom) would be monotonous. Variety is the spice, etc.—Clara Louise Brand, Elmhurst, Ill.

• • •

## Cut It Out

. . . I think they ought to cut out all the jazz music on Saturday nights and have old-time music. . . —Frank Kean, Louisa, Va.

• • •

## O. K., Let's

. . . Let's have more of the old-time songs and ballads with old-time music. . . —Mrs. Art Poitras, Rolla, N. D.

• • •



## Slapper

I just finished listening to the "Be Kind to Announcers Program." . . . I never listened to such a rotten program in my life. I have always liked your programs, but when those "so and so's" got up there and made a fool of themselves asking Wyn Orr questions, it was too much. I could have slapped them all if they had been in my reach. . . —Rose Ringbauer, Hampshire, Ill.

Listeners, this is your page. Your letters concerning the magazine, the programs, or other letters, will be welcome. Please hold your "scripts" to one hundred words. Address "Listeners' Mike."

## Tearful Laughter

. . . When the "Be Kind to Announcers" program was on today I laughed until I cried. . . —Mrs. Ella C. Hansgen, Georgetown, Ill.

• • •

*Neighbors, neighbors! Please! This department is compelled to run up the white flag as far as letters on Anna Carr's criticism of Pat Buttram are concerned. We're snowed under. There are too many crackling good letters to make any fair selection so we'll just have to declare a truce. We warned Listener Carr that Pat's friends would be other than pleased by her letter. And by the hundreds they proved we were right.*

*Yours faithfully, Mike.*

• • •

## Why Can't He?

. . . Why can't an announcer wait until a piece is played before he starts to talk? . . . Can't something be done about this? I have been appointed by a committee to write this letter. . . —J. C. Robertson, Huron, S. Dak.

*Listener Robertson's plaint is referred to program builders.*

• • •

## Let 'Em Roar

Let the howlers howl, the growlers growl;

Let the prowlers prowl and the gee-gaws go it.

Behind barn dance night there's plenty of light,

For the show is all right, and you know it.

The shows are first-class in variety and presentation. The folks that squawk don't appreciate good talent. Let 'em roar, but give us more fine entertainment. . . —O. W. Wing, Withee, Wis.

## Mother's Problem

I would like to ask what other mothers of young children think about some of the radio programs that are being put out especially for children under twelve years old. My little son has become addicted to two or three highly dramatic programs which feature a constant round of warfare, kidnaping, intrigue and constant apprehension of disaster. He sits with his ear glued to the loud-speaker, his face showing every sign of extreme emotion, gasps and catches his breath when the hero narrowly escapes assassination, and begins gnawing at his fingernails when the heroine is captured by the villainous conspirators.

Is this good radio, or am I too old-fashioned? If I brutally turn off the radio and tell him he can't listen, he feels that he is being deprived of something that other little boys and girls talk about in school, and he has been left out of it by a cruel mother.

This is a real problem, because I am trying to do the best I know how for my little son. I would like to know what other mothers and fathers think about this kind of programs for children.—Mrs. I. Damater, DuPage county, Ill.

• • •

## Ugh! And How

. . . Have read the Weekly from cover to cover. I enjoy listening to the barn dance and . . . also enjoy Chief Waldo.—Luella Anderson, Sioux Pass, Mont.

## The New WLS Weekly

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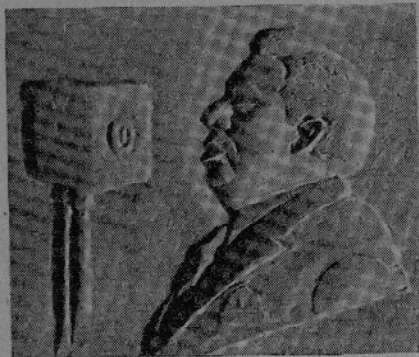
Application for entry as second-class matter is pending.

JULIAN T. BENTLEY, Editor

VOLUME 1

NUMBER 5

March 16, 1935



Eddie Dean is a lad who has more than one string to his bow. Not only is he a fiddler and guitarist but he has a flair for sculpture and wood carving. Above is Eddie's conception of Henry Burr, tenor, on the air. Eddie carved the plaque in soft yellow pine.

Enjoying one of the longest theatrical runs in Chicago history, the National Barn Dance tonight (Saturday, March 16) will enter its fourth consecutive year at the Eighth Street Theatre. The Hayloft gang has played two shows every Saturday night at the theatre since March 19, 1932. The Barn Dance was moved to the theatre because home studios were unable to cope with the huge crowds which stood in line every Saturday night. The theatre venture was more or less of an experiment and many a radio columnist wagged his head pessimistically when it was undertaken.

H. L. Mencken, famous writer and critic, engaged in such animated discussion with William Lundell, NBC interviewer, before broadcasting from the NBC studios the other night that he almost missed his cue to go on the air. The Baltimore sage was discussing the Civil War and the strategy of such generals as Lee, Pickett, Longstreet and Grant. He had just concluded that "all generals don't die in bed," when the announcer's light flashed he was "on."

Young folks of today are thinkers, and want to be doers as well, according to Dr. Mabelle Blake, president of Chicago Teachers' College, who has often been heard in radio discussions. Parents should seek to understand rather than criticize their growing boys and girls, says Dr. Blake.

"Industrial changes of the past few years have affected greatly the youth of the country. Youth wants to take an active part in the new world. Asked how they might do this, here are some of their comments: 'We must keep in touch with the changing conditions by reading;' 'We must have frequent discussion groups;' 'Know what people in other countries are doing;' 'Have contacts with organizations in our communities'."

# FLASHES

Carver • Record • Prize  
Judges • Possum • Ruth

Sound effects men are clever fellows, but there are some sounds they can't simulate by mechanical means. One of them is that of an Indian war dance. So when the new program, Red Trails, opened over an NBC network recently, a dozen members of the cast actually pranced around in a circle to the tom tom of a kettle drum.

Sounds of high debate have been heard from the office where the judges are trying to decide on a name for the new weekly. The list of entries has been narrowed down to a mere handful but these are all so good that the decision is still very difficult. The judges, Arthur Page, Arthur Stowe and Julian Bentley, say they'll not be hurried in such an important task but they hope to have the name chosen in another week or two.

Slim Miller is fond of hunting, which absorbing hobby he enjoyed to the full on the afternoon of March 3. While visiting those popular friends of his, the Wrights, at their farm in McHenry county, Illinois, Slim bagged a possum.

Simultaneously with the discharge of his rifle, an idea flashed through his mind. Just what that idea was came to light the following morning during the broadcast of Tiny Stowe's morning Minstrel Show. Eddie (Possum) Dean was being introduced as end-man when Slim slipped into the studio, and before Eddie's amazed eyes he thrust the bulky, hairy form of the possum. Eddie's eyes opened, his jaw dropped, for as Slim said, at last two possums had come face to face.

Evidence of the popularity of Dr. John W. Holland, radio pastor, was given when Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Butler, Bloomington, Illinois, named their first-born son for him. The newcomer's name is John Wesley Butler. The small boy's aunt wrote: "If only he is like you in all his ways, Dr. Holland."

"Wonderful program, please thank Ruth Etting," British broadcasting officials cabled NBC after Miss Etting inaugurated the International Week-end series of NBC broadcasts which are short-waved to England. The popular songstress is a great favorite in the British Isles although she never has visited there. Her phonograph recordings, which are best sellers on the other side of the Atlantic, have introduced her to thousands of British listeners.

Carlyle Stevens, youthful announcer whose voice is heard on the Columbia Broadcasting System network, has been given the first annual "BBDO Award for Good Announcing." This was announced by Roy S. Durstine, vice-president and general manager of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn, Inc., advertising firm.

Stevens will receive a cash award as well as an appropriately engraved stop-watch.

In offering the award several months ago, Mr. Durstine described good announcing as "sincerity, accurate diction, naturalness, persuasiveness, lack of mannerisms and an absence of those curious inflections which belong to an unknown language in a world which doesn't exist."

News of a municipal judge election in Los Angeles recently recalled pleasant memories for John Lair and Hartford Connecticut Taylor of the Cumberland Ridge Runners.

Judge Ben B. Lindsay defeated Miss Ida Mae Adams, prominent woman attorney, in a superior court election.

Miss Adams was a teacher of both John and Hardie in Mt. Vernon, Kentucky, years ago. They recall her as an unusually capable, sympathetic and understanding instructor.

Hartie said he started going to school to her when he was little more than two years old, attending her "babies' kindergarten." Her fondness for Hartie was evidenced by the fact that she corresponded with him for years after he left school.

"She did give me an awful licking one time, though," said Hartie.

Despite cross examination, Hartie refused to say what he had done to merit such punishment. "I needed it, though," he grinned.

# FANFARE

SINCE a week ago, a number of unusual and more than ordinarily interesting inquiries have poured into our Fanfare Office. By the way, each batch which an over-worked, yet always smiling mail girl, Emma Heltmann, transports into our bustling menage, brings comments which are both well received and honestly critical. You fire the queries and we'll do our level best to satisfy your requirements.

We are told that Bradley Kincaid is working out of WEAJ, New York; that Ellen Rose Dickey is heard over Station WAAT, Jersey City.

Thanks to Miss Lula B. Scott of Rutland, Illinois, for the many fine constructive criticisms, mailed during the past several years. A constant listener, an understanding friend, Miss Scott has aided practically every member of WLS with suggestions and material since this station first won her support. To Miss Scott, this writer's appreciation—and the thanks of every member of the staff.

Mrs. William Arthur of Detroit asks, as her first question to Fanfare, when the Dean Brothers, Eddie and Jimmie, first started on the air, and from what broadcasting station? Eddie and Jimmie started harmonizing from station WNAX, Yankton, South Dakota, six years ago.

Without doubt Ted Du Moulin, the popular manager of the studio orchestra, is one of the most prominent cellists in the country. How he manages to find time to rehearse and play his all-too-infrequent solo selections is a source of wonder to everyone who knows him. As well as his duties at the studio, Ted is a member of the



Ted DuMoulin

Little Symphony of Chicago and also of the Chicago String Quartet.

It is interesting to note Ted is one of those rare persons, a native born Chicagoan. When he was just 14, he traveled as cello soloist with such splendid companies as toured with Mary Garden and Cyrena Van Gordon. When but 18, he was cellist with the St. Louis Symphony where he stayed for three years. He became a member of the Chicago Symphony at the age of 21 and it was not long before he was selected as cello soloist with this internationally famous musical organization. His musical knowledge and finesse are excelled only by his personal popularity.

Q. and A

TED

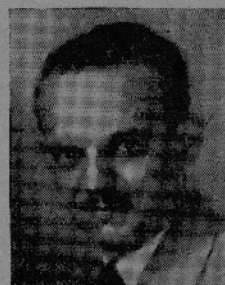
BRAD

OSCAR

BETTY

FIDDLER

By WYN ORR



Many thanks to Mrs. H. Denton of Madisonville, Kentucky, for her statement that there is only one thing wrong with Fanfare in the WLS Weekly," and that is that there is not enough Fanfare. Mrs. Denton wants to know who are the young ladies appearing with the WLS Merry-Go-Round Show, through Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. Those are the Kasper Sisters, known on the stage as the Hayloft Trio. They came to WLS from station KMBC, Kansas City, which also has given us the Westerners and Arkie during the past few years.

Announcer Howard Chamberlain has recently been host to his father and mother who were visiting him from their home in Rochester, Ind.

Karl Davis of the Cumberland Ridge Runners recently entertained his brother Bill, who is a Prairie Farmer Fieldman with headquarters in Washington, Indiana. Bill Davis, besides being a popular paper representative, is known throughout the middle west as a clever colored-face entertainer. He works under the pseudonym "Pancake," and judging from the manner in which he causes his audiences to turn over in the aisles, he is well-named.

Nine-year-old Robert Eric Raney of Monon, Indiana, is curious about the identity of the trumpeter who each day ushers in our Fanfare Period on the air. Robert wonders if it is the same man who bugles for the Death Valley Days programs. Fanfare Trumpeter is Oscar Tengblad of the WLS Orchestra. He who blows the Death Valley Days trumpet call through your loud-speakers is not Oscar, but a musician in the New York Studios of the NBC.

From Mrs. L. Keeber of Mount Pleasant, Michigan, comes a request for the name of the young lady who plays Betty in the Betty and Bob program heard through this station. Betty is Beatrice Churchill. Was born December 21, 1910, at Lakeport, California. Is five feet, two inches tall. Weighs 118 lbs. Has brown hair and eyes. Lives in Evanston.

Writing from Piqua, Ohio, Mrs. William Huber, Jr., asks, who was the young lady who appeared on Today's Kitchen Program February 23, and discussed the baking of cherry pies? That was Miss Inez Todnem of Marshall, Minnesota, who had just won the National Cherry Pie Baking Contest held in Chicago. Mrs. Mary Wright, who aided in judging the luscious morsels ambitious bakers had submitted for judgment, brought her out to appear on the Kitchen Program. If you heard her, you'll agree her air-personality is quite as promising as her cherry pies are winners.

Another Ohioan, Thelma Rush of Bridgeport, asks about Lulu Belle's real name. The Belle of the Barn Dance was christened Myrtle Cooper, but because of intervention on the part of a pastor and one Skyland Scotty, she now responds to questions addressed to Mrs. Scott Wiseman.

Did you know that Herman Felber, Jr., conductor of the WLS Orchestra, is an expert manufacturer of violins. His opinion, as an authority upon the instruments, is sought by musicians throughout the country.

Lois Baninger of Fish Creek, Wisconsin, asks three questions which phrase the inquiries in many minds. Here are the answers: Arkie is not heard so frequently on the air because he is playing with the WLS Merry-Go-Round Show. Martha Crane married Ray Caris, broker of Chicago. Louise Massey, the lovely-featured, charming-voiced singer of sweet songs is 28; weighs 140 pounds; stands five-feet-five; has large dark brown eyes; olive complexion; black, natural wavy hair. She is the happy wife of Milt Mabie, bass player of the Westerners.

Another seven days will pass ere we are privileged to be among you reading friends again, but in the meantime, don't forget to pour your letters in. We'll be happy to receive them. Time to be closing our column, so we'll be on our way . . . got a broadcast to get ready. G'bye, and thanks for reading.

# Songs of ERIN

Two voices  
from the "Ould  
Sod," Grace Wil-  
son and Bill O'-  
Connor.



## Ezra Revives "Down Went McGinty" Among Wealth of Irish Songs

By  
GEORGE  
BIGGAR

"OUL D Erin," the inspiration of hundreds of songs, will be honored tonight (Saturday, March 16,) between 8:30 and 9:30 on the WLS-NBC National Barn Dance when St. Patrick's eve is fittingly observed.

William O'Connor, pioneer Irish tenor of radio, will be highlighted in two numbers, "A Little Bit of Heaven" and in a medley of "Ireland Must Be Heaven" and "Come Back to Erin." Toe tickling Irish jigs and reels are scheduled as music for the square dancing.

Grace Wilson, "The Girl with a Million Friends," plans to sing an old popular song with an Irish flavor, "The Grass is Always Greener."

How many of you real old-timers remember "Down Went McGinty?" Uncle Ezra has found that old tune in the old music chest, and will sing it, along with the Hoosier Hot Shots. And here's something else. Bridget O'Flynn is to be in the old hayloft in person to sing "Only an Irishman's Dream." Just between you and us, "Bridget" is none other than Nora Barrett, Uncle Ezra's (Pat Barrett) real life partner.

Two favorites of the Barn Dance crew are returning tonight to take part in the program during the evening from the Eighth Street Theatre. Thousands of you will be happy to welcome the Arkansas Woodchopper and Tom Corwine home again after a tour of theatres on personal appearances. Arkie's old-time songs, square dance calling and infectious laughter are always popular with hayloft listeners, while Tom Corwine is a whole barnyard in himself. For years he has been one of the best known imitators before the public.

Our new Vocational Guidance series, to be heard every Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:30, promises to be of much value, particularly to



boys and girls in their senior year of high school. Prominent men and women who are qualified to make suggestions regarding life professions and vocations are being invited to appear from week to week on these programs. High school principals throughout the Middle West have been notified of these messages, so that they may relay the information to their students. Arthur C. Page has been busy arranging this helpful piece of radio service.

That versatile group from New Mexico, the Westerners and Louise Massey, will be missed by listeners during the next two weeks. They are leaving for New York to spend several days making phonograph records of many of their western popular songs and instrumental numbers. This

all means that a new ranch crew has been engaged to work on "Rhythm Range" during the Westerners' absence. Be sure to listen in at 9 o'clock each morning to the new musical ranchers.

Are you listening to Pa and Ma Smithers? If not, tune them in at 1:15 p. m. daily except Saturday and Sunday. The first several days' episodes in the lives of this lovable old couple have evoked much interest among their new radio friends. Numerous are the predicaments that Pa Smithers is sure to encounter, and we'll wager that Ma will be kept plenty busy with her lesser half.

The recent return of Anne Williams to the microphone during a brief visit to Chicago brought memories to many of her old radio friends. Before going to New York, where she is stylist for a large concern, Anne had charge of several women's programs every week. It is one of the fine things of radio that one can renew so many old friendships through just one appearance before the "mike."

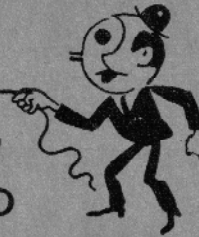
Middle West radio friends of the Cumberland Ridge Runners, who have been missing their famous Coon Creek Social on Thursday nights, are much interested in their new daytime programs, presented by John Lair with Vincent Pelletier as special announcer.

"Ramblin' Red" Foley is the featured singer in this new series. These new broadcasts are on the air at 9:45 a. m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and at 11:00 a. m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. As soon as the time is open, we hope to resume the very popular Coon Creek Social.



# THE LATCH STRING

By



**"CHECK"  
STAFFORD**

**H**OWDY, folks: Well, here we are again—and its still another week nearer to the good old Springtime—tulips, Easter, sassafras tea, and fishing.

Funny, isn't it—how the winter we dreaded last fall as a long, cold period, stretching ahead for months, has almost passed and now, come to think of it, it wasn't so long after all.

Radio mail is interesting and many odd stories are to be found in the letters. Here's one from Mrs. Raymond Zahn of La Crosse, Indiana, that brings back echoes of the great Chicago railroad and stockyards strike of 1894, in which the yards were tied up for several weeks. Militia were used to quell riots and much loss by fire was suffered.

Two years ago, the Zahn family purchased at an auction an ornamental tie rack, with a Texas steer horn its chief decoration. Later, their children removed the horn from the fancy work covered board and found a letter inside. It read:

*Chicago, March 19, 1896.*

*Know Ye—who ever opens this horn, that it is a souvenir of the strike of 1894—and was picked up at the Union Stock yards while in performance of duty as a soldier. Fancy needle work was done by Miss Olive Hawks Dunton, now my intended wife.—Charles Line, (Age 25), Sergeant, Company G, 2nd Regiment Infantry, I. N. G.*

It's nearly 40 years ago since patient hands did that fancy work and the letter was placed in its strange hiding place. Wonder if those good folks are in the land of the living? Incidentally, Charles S. Naden, veteran mailing room head here, tells us he has some very vivid memories of that strike period, as he too was on duty as a member of Company A, 2nd Illinois National Guard.

Loyal to radio? Yes, thousands and thousands of listeners have, day after day, for years, kept their dials set on their favorite stations and programs, and in so doing have made some remarkable records.

One such example is Miss Helen Parse, 18, of Jewett, Illinois, who, since she was nine, has missed scarcely a single Barn Dance program. This loyal listener says, "I recall quite well the two weddings performed in the studios. And how well I recall the rooster crow and the Checkerboard morning program with those old timers, Pie Plant Pete, The Three Hired Men, Charley Stookey, Dynamite Jim, Chubby Parker and many others. Memories—yes, pleasant ones," says Miss Parse. "But whether of yesterday, or today—we love them all, and truly, our radio from 6 a. m. opening to 3 p. m. sign off brings us worthwhile, enjoyable programs."

From Athens, Michigan, Mrs. Deo. L. Eitniear writes her appreciation of radio, especially helpful since over a year ago, when she suffered an attack of infantile paralysis. She has been encouraged each day, in her fight to overcome housework obstacles and the care of two children with practically no use of her left arm and hand.

This patient, brave mother says, "Believe me those cheery program and kindly voices have meant more than you will ever know to us all, and your efforts have not been in vain."

Here are a few of the stickler questions asked us since the last issue:

How come radio stations don't have a Swap Program giving folks a chance to find out what others want to trade off?

Only have a small spot in which to set out berries, and wonder which is the best—red or black? Will they bear the first year?

What does Jim Poole mean by "pea vine" cattle—are they really some new kind?

Just what difference—if any—is there between what they call sour land, and marginal land?

How soon this Spring about—will mushrooms (the kind good to eat) come up in the fields and woods? And where would be a good place to pick them?

Is there such thing as getting seed corn of a kind that chinch bugs don't bother, and if so, is it expensive?

Who was the singer (about 2 weeks ago today) I think about 10 o'clock, who sang some kind of a sad song? What was it and where can I get it?

Just a young lad he was, attired in lumberjack, overalls and rather tattered hat. With his treasured guitar

under his arm, he asked for an audition.

"Mister, I come all the way from Missouri and folks at home say I'm mighty good at playin'. I'd like to go on the radio."

Totally lacking in necessary experience, but with the urge that gives youth triumph, this boy had traveled nearly 500 miles to find that success takes time and practice in the world of music or radio.

Fortified with verbal encouragement and "eats money," the aspiring Ozarker turned rather sadly away, just another of the thousands who annually trek to the great city, as to Hollywood, to meet disappointment. He shook hands and said: "Mister, you-all have done all you can. I'm much obliged to you."

His lip trembled slightly, but he said: "I'm goin' to keep a-tryin'."

Of such are future topnotchers made, we thought, and we had witnessed another of life's little dramas.

## Town Crier

Alexander Woolcott, author, playwright, raconteur and, as the "Town Crier," conductor of one of the most popular and provocative periods on the air, usually baffles his interviewers. He doesn't like to be interviewed. For those listeners who know that Woolcott is a celebrated wit, a boon companion of great personalities, a host at famous Sunday breakfasts, a champion croquet player, and a lot of other intimate details—but who do not know where he was born, went to school, worked and played, this history has been compiled.

Alexander Woolcott was born in Phalanx, N. J., January 19, 1887. After wading through his nursery library, reading everything from Nietzsche to Lewis Carroll, he went to Philadelphia to Central High School.

From Philadelphia, Woolcott proceeded to Clinton, N. Y., to acquire a Ph. D. degree from Hamilton College in 1909. He was dramatic critic of the New York Times from 1914 to 1922, when he went to the New York Herald. Three years later his drama criticisms popped up in the New York World.

By 1928 Woolcott's talent for injecting his own enthusiasms into the imaginations of his readers brought him into the pages of the Saturday Evening Post, Collier's, newspaper syndicates and books.

In 1930, Woolcott made his air debut in the New York studios of the Columbia Broadcasting System, conducting a chatty literary column called "The Early Bookworm." In October, 1934, he launched his current CBS series, heard every Sunday from 6:00 to 6:30 p. m. CST.

# No Hill Billies

Ballads Are  
Still Written,  
Says John Lair

in  
Radio

**H**ILL billies in radio? They ain't no sich thing.

Mountaineers and folk from the hill country, maybe, but no hill billies.

That's the startling statement of John Lair, impressario of the Cumberland Ridge Runners and a national authority on folk music and lore.

"Tin Pan Alley hung this name on certain types of music and entertainers," says John, "and it may well be that Tin Pan Alley will kill them off, too, as far as popularity goes.

"The term 'hill billy' has come to be associated with a manner of singing rather than with the songs themselves. You could take a number like 'Home On the Range' or 'Old Folks at Home' and nasalize it in what has come to be known as 'hill billy' style.

"The fact is that if a radio microphone actually could pick up a real hill billy singing back in the hill country of the south, most listeners probably would tune out. The typical mountaineer who has never been out of the hills sings because he likes to. He's not too much concerned with how it sounds.

"Many of the songs which we call folk or traditional songs really were published years ago. I have traced several to original prints but as the generations went by and the songs were handed down, many of the words were changed to fit local conditions.

"In the cases of old English ballads which are still sung in the hill country, I have found that in general the older the song, the less the singer knows about the words and their real meaning.

"If you ask a typical back-country mountaineer what he means by knights and ladies mentioned in some of the old ballads, the chances are he'll say, 'I don't know. That's the way the song goes.'

"Thus it is easy to see how the songs are changed and local words and characters substituted."

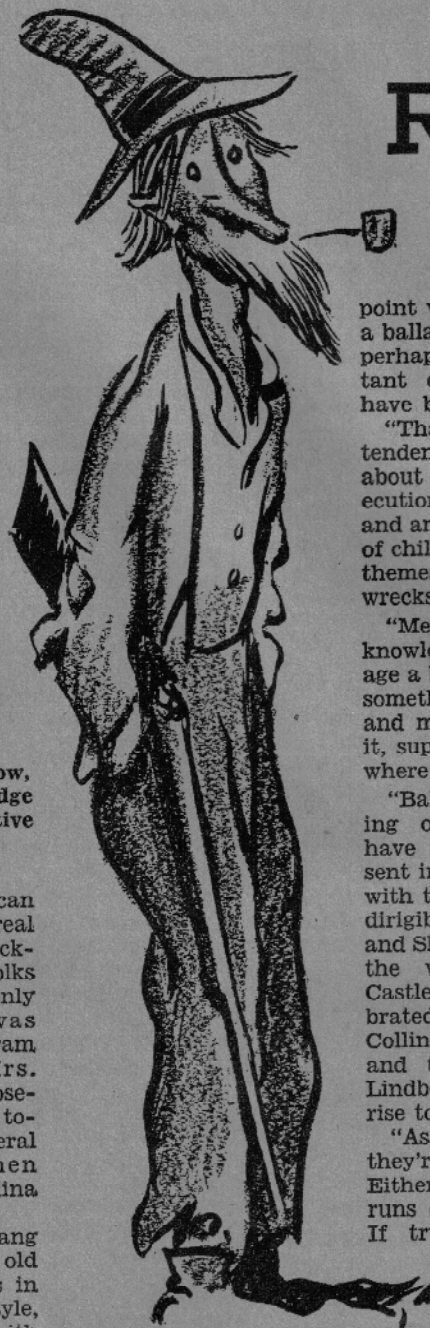


**John Lair; below, Cumberland Ridge Runners, native Kentuckians.**

John says he can recall hearing real 'hill billy' or back-country hill folks on the radio only once. That was during a program on which Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared, together with several elderly women from the Carolina mountains.

The women sang a number of old English ballads in true ballad style, sad, nasal and with a peculiar lift or wail at the end of a line of verse. The ballads had been brought across the water a century and a half or more ago.

Asked why it appears that the songs of the hill folks are so often sad, John said, "It takes important events to stir an old-fashioned mountaineer to the



point where he will compose a ballad. And, unfortunately, perhaps, most of the important events in their lives have been tragic.

"That accounts for the tendency to write ballads about feuds, hangings, executions, prisons, shootings and ambushes. The deaths of children also were favorite themes, as are train and ship wrecks and mine explosions.

"Mere lack of specific knowledge does not discourage a ballad writer. He hears something about an event and makes up a song about it, supplying his own details where necessary.

"Ballad writing is still going on today. Already I have received several songs sent in by persons who dealt with the recent wreck of the dirigible Macon. The Akron and Shenandoah crashes and the wreck of the Morro Castle also were duly celebrated in ballads while Floyd Collins trapped in the cave and the kidnaping of the Lindbergh baby each gave rise to a wealth of sad songs.

"As for love songs, well, they're generally sad, too. Either the loved one dies or runs off with someone else. If true love runs smooth and the happy pair gets (To page 12)



# ... LISTENING IN WITH

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

to

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

870 k.c. 50,000 Watts

Sunday, March 17

8:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon, CST

8:00—Romelle Fay plays the organ in 30 friendly minutes announced by Howard Chamberlain.

8:30—Lois and Reuben Bergstrom in heart songs. (Willard Tablet Co.)

The beautifully blended voices of the Bergstroms bring you a program of unusual sentiment and harmony.

8:45—News broadcast with summary of week end world-wide news brought by Trans-Radio Press through Julian Bentley.

This is the earliest regular Sunday news broadcast in the Middle West.

9:00—Vocational Guidance series—a new group of programs for the older boys and girls.

9:30—WLS Little Brown Church of the Air—Dr. John W. Holland, pastor. Hymns by Little Brown Church Singers and Henry Burr, tenor, assisted by WLS Orchestra and Romelle Fay, organist.

10:15—Y.M.C.A. Hotel Chorus, directed by Jack Homier, in a program of varied numbers arranged for 16 trained male voices.

10:45—Better Speech Institute from NBC Studios.

11:00—Choral Program.

11:15—Phil Kalar in popular songs, with WLS Orchestra. (Evans Fur Co.)

Phil presents a wide variety of songs, from modern love songs to the dashing measures of the "Rogue Song."

11:30—(Monday Livestock Estimate) Verne, Lee and Mary. (Community Motors)

11:45—Canary Musicale. (Justrite Co.)

12:00 noon—WENR programs until 6:30 p. m.

Sunday Evening, March 17

6:30 to 8:00 p. m. CST

6:30—Bakers' Broadcast featuring Joe Penner. (Standard Brands NBC.)

7:00—An Hour with the General Motors Symphony. (NBC.)

Monday, March 18 to Friday, March 22

Sat. Eve. Mar. 16

7:00 to Midnight CST

7:00—Cumberland Ridge Runners and John Lair in "Mountain Memories." (Big Yank)

7:15—Westerners and Louise Massey in Range Program. (Pathfinder)

7:30—Keystone Barn Dance Party featuring Lulu Belle and other Barn Dance entertainers. (Keystone Steel and Wire Co.)

8:00—RCA Radio City Party on NBC.

8:30—National Barn Dance NBC Hour with Uncle Ezra, Hoosier Hot Shots, Maple City Four, Cumberland Ridge Runners, Westerners, Lulu Belle, Verne, Lee and Mary, Spareribs and other Hayloft favorites, with Joe Kelly as master of ceremonies. (Alka-Seltzer) Irish songs and tunes are featured in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

9:30—Gillette Hayloft Party. Gillette Bears, Cousin Toby, Henry Burr, tenor, Hoosier Sod Busters and Ralph Emerson, organist. (Gillette Tire Co.)

10:00—Ferris Barn Dance Jubilee. Otto and His Tune Twisters, Flannery Sisters, Spareribs, Grace Wilson, Eddie Allen.

10:45—Prairie Farmer - WLS National Barn Dance continues until midnight with varied features. Jack Holden, Joe Kelly and Arthur (Tiny) Stowe, masters of ceremonies.

This night is the Third Anniversary of the National Barn Dance in the Eighth Street Theatre. It opened before audiences on March 19, 1932.

6:00 a. m. to 3:00 p. m. CST

6:00—Smile-A-While with Joe Kelly—Daily—Cumberland Ridge Runners in old-time melodies. Mon., Wed., Fri.—Flannery Sisters in harmony songs. Tues., Thurs.—Linda Parker in mountain songs.

6:20 - 6:30—Daily—Service features; including temperature reports, Chicago, Indianapolis and E. St. Louis Livestock Estimates, Weather Forecast, Retailers' Produce Reporter, Day's WLS Artists' Bookings.

6:45—Pat Buttram's Radio School for Beginners Jes' Startin'—featuring Pat and the Oshkosh Overall Boys. (Oshkosh Overall Co.)

It's fun to start the day with the Cumberland Ridge Runners, Joe Kelly, Pat Buttram and the other folks of the Smile-A-While Crew.

7:00—News broadcast with up-to-the-minute local and world-wide news brought by Trans-Radio Press—Julian Bentley.

7:10—Cumberland Ridge Runners.

7:15—Prairie Farmer Bulletin Board—items of wide variety and interest from rural correspondents, "Check" Stafford.

7:30—Jolly Joe and his Pet Pals—Joe Kelly has his morning conference with his "Palsy Walsies."

7:45—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Jimmie and Eddie Dean in songs of today and yesterday. (Gardner Nursery)

Tues., Thurs., Sat.—Fairy Tales and other Stories. Spareribs (Malcolm Claire) tells stories in "deep south" dialect, assisted by Ralph Emerson, organist.

8:00—Morning Devotions conducted by Jack Holden, assisted by Rangers quartet and Ralph Emerson. Sat.—Dr. Holland gives review of Sunday School lesson.

8:15—Hoosier Sod Busters; WLS Artists' Bookings; Weather Forecast; Temperature Report.

8:30—Ford Rush, baritone, in popular songs, with Ralph Emerson. Ten-second drama. Conducted for Sears' Chicago Retail Stores by Marquis Smith.



# WLS DAILY PROGRAMS

8:45—Morning Minstrels with WLS Rangers, "Spareribs" Claire, "Possum" and "Porkchops" Dean, Arthur (Tiny) Stowe, interlocutor. (Olson Rug Co.)

9:00—Chicago and Indianapolis Livestock Receipts; Chicago Hog Market Flash.

9:00—Otto and His Tune Twisters and assisting artists. (Peruna and Kolor-Bak)

While the Westerners and Louise Massey are making a phonograph recording trip to New York, you will enjoy this new crew on Rhythm Range.

9:30—Today's Children — Dramatic serial adventures of a family. (NBC)

9:45—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Cumberland Ridge Runners, featuring Red Foley. (Crazy Crystals)

Tues., Thurs., Sat.—"The Clinic of the Air," with Dr. Copeland. (Cream of Nujol.)

10:00—Tower Topics by Sue Roberts, Songs by Bill O'Connor, tenor, assisted by John Brown, pianist. (Sears' Mail Order.)

10:15—Jim Poole in mid-morning Chicago cattle, hog and sheep market direct from Union Stock Yards. (Chicago Livestock Exchange.)

10:20—Butter, egg, dressed veal, live and dressed poultry quotations.

10:25—News broadcast. Mid-morning bulletins by Julian Bentley.

10:30—Today's Kitchen with WLS Rangers Five, Sophia Germanich, soprano; John Brown, pianist, and Ralph Emerson, organist, Jack Holden and Howard Chamberlain, Produce Reporter, The Old Story Teller, Mrs. Mary Wright, home advisor, in talks on menus, food and household economy. Special guest speakers.

11:00—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Aunt Abbie Jones, a serial story built around the lovable character of Aunt Abbie and her home town neighbors.

Tues., Thurs.—Cumberland Ridge Runners, featuring Red Foley. (Crazy Crystals)

11:15—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Food talks by Josephine Gibson. (Heinz NBC)

Tues.—Hoosier Sod Busters and Flannery Sisters.

Thurs.—Modern Treasure Hunters. (Numismatic)

11:30—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Cornhuskers Band and Choreboy in popular rhythmic melodies and ballads.

Tues., Thurs.—Dean Bros. (Willard Tablet Co.)

11:45—Weather forecast, fruit and vegetable market. Artists' bookings.

11:55—News broadcast of mid-day reports—Julian Bentley.

## Afternoon (Daily ex. Sat. & Sun.)

12:00 noon to 3:00 p. m. CST

12:00—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Virginia Lee and Sunbeam—a serial love story featuring Virginia Lee (Northwestern Yeast.)

Tues.—Flannery Sisters in harmonies; James H. Murphy in livestock feeding talk at 12:10.

Thurs.—Jung Garden Corner with orchestral melodies. (Jung Seed Co.)

## DINNERBELL PROGRAMS

12:15 to 1:00 p. m. CST

Dinnerbell Time brings the music and songs of various favorites, together with live farm news for Mid-West folks.

12:15—Prairie Farmer Dinnerbell Program, conducted by Arthur C. Page. Varied music, farm news, talks and service features. Jim Poole's closing livestock market at 12:30; Dr. Holland's devotional thoughts.

Monday—Orchestra, Sophia Germanich, Dean Bros. C. V. Gregory, Editor of Prairie Farmer, in "Parade of the Week."

Tuesday—Ralph Waldo Emerson, organist, Hoosier Sod Busters, WLS Rangers, Sophia Germanich.

Wednesday—Orchestra, German Band, Flannery Sisters, Sophia Germanich.

Thursday—Ralph Emerson, Otto and His Tune Twisters, Orchestra, Sophia Germanich.

Friday—Orchestra, Flannery Sisters, Red Foley, Sophia Germanich.

1:00—"Pa and Ma Smithers"—our new rural sketch.

1:15—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Henry Burr, tenor and famous recording artist, assisted by orchestra.

Tues., Thurs.—Phil Kalar, baritone, accompanied by Ralph Emerson, in popular songs. (Evans Fur Co.)

1:30—Closing Grain Market on Board of Trade by F. C. Bisson of U. S. Department of Agriculture.

1:35—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Herman Felber, Jr., violin solos.

Tues., Thurs.—Howard Black and Reggie Cross, Hoosier Sod Busters.

1:45—Homemakers' Hour. (See following schedule of daily features.)

Planned to appeal primarily to women living in both rural and urban homes, Homemakers' Hour brings a wide variety and well-balanced program of features of general home interest.

## Daily Homemakers' Schedule

### Monday, March 18

1:45 to 3:00 p. m. CST

1:45 - 2:15—Orchestra; George Simons, tenor; Wyn Orr in Fanfare, Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.

2:15 - 2:30—Flannery Sisters, Orchestra, Florence Ray.

2:30 - 2:50—Dr. Maybelle Blake in "Child Psychology"; Dr. John W. Holland, and Orchestra.

2:50 - 3:00—Orchestra, Flannery Sisters.

### Tuesday, March 19

1:45 - 2:15—Ralph Emerson, Otto and His Tune Twisters, Wyn Orr in Fanfare; Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.

2:15 - 2:30—Ralph Emerson, John Brown and Bill O'Connor.

2:30 - 2:50—"Little Dramas from Life," by Mrs. Blanche Chenoweth.

2:50 - 3:00—Ralph Emerson, John Brown and Bill O'Connor.

### Wednesday, March 20

1:45 - 2:15—Orchestra, George Simons, tenor; Wyn Orr in Fanfare; Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.

2:15 - 2:30—Orchestra, Grace Wilson, contralto; and Florence Ray.

2:30 - 2:50—R. T. Van Tress, garden talk; Mrs. Mary Wright, WLS home adviser; orchestra.

2:50 - 3:00—Orchestra and Grace Wilson.

### Thursday, March 21

1:45 - 2:15—Orchestra, John Brown and Grace Wilson; Wyn Orr in Fanfare; Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.

2:15 - 2:30—Ralph Emerson, John Brown and Ford Rush, baritone.

2:30 - 2:50—WLS Little Home Theater.

2:50 - 3:00—Orchestra, John Brown and Ford Rush.

# TUNE IN WLS

Every **SUNDAY**  
at **11:45 A.M.**

for the Famous  
**JUSTRITE**

Canary Bird Programs

Sponsored by the Justrite Company, makers of scientifically prepared pet foods in the familiar alternating yellow and black striped containers on sale everywhere.

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## Earliest Tomato

**15 JUNG'S WAYAHEAD.** Big Red Fruits, ripe as early as July 4th. Regular price 15c per pkt., but to introduce Jung's Quality Seeds, will send a trial pkt. of this Tomato, and Carrot, Lettuce, Onion, Radish, Superb Asters, Everlastings, Garden Pinks, Giant Sweet Peas, and Fancy Zinnias, 10 pkts. In all, if you will enclose 10c, in Canada 20c.

**FREE** Our beautiful colored catalog filled with bargains in Seeds, Plants, and Shrubs. Coupon for Rare Premiums enclosed in each catalog.  
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## WLS BOOK OF HYMNS

A choice collection of hymns used in the Little Brown Church and in Morning Devotions.

Send 25 cents in coin, addressing "Book of Hymns," WLS, Chicago.

## The NEW WLS Family Album for 1935

... has been called the most beautiful of all the Albums. More than 100 pictures of your friends here at WLS—a wonderful keepsake, and also a reminder of many happy hours.

Send 50 cents (Canada 60 cents) Address Family Album, WLS Chicago

### Friday, March 22

- 1:45 - 2:15—Orchestra, George Simons, tenor; Wyn Orr in Fanfare; Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.
- 2:15 - 2:30—Vibrant Strings, John Brown, Evelyn Overstake, contralto.
- 2:30 - 2:50—H. D. Edgren, "Parties and Games." Orchestra.
- 2:50 - 3:00—Orchestra, Evelyn Overstake and John Brown.

### Saturday, March 23

- 1:45 - 2:15—Rangers Five, Ralph Emerson, Wyn Orr in Fanfare; Mrs. Helen Joyce in food talk.
- 2:15 - 2:30—Verne, Lee and Mary; Ralph Emerson and Hoosier Sod Busters.
- 2:30 - 2:50—Interview of WLS personality by Wyn Orr.
- 2:50 - 3:00—Ralph Emerson; Verne Lee and Mary; George Goebel.

### Sat. Morning, March 23

- 6:00 to 9:00—See daily schedule of morning features.
- 9:30—George Goebel, "The Little Cowboy" in western and old-time songs.
- 9:45—"The Clinic of the Air" with Dr. Royal Copeland. (Cream of Nujol.)
- 10:00—Sears Junior Roundup, conducted by Sue Roberts.
- 10:15—Geo. C. Biggar in WLS program news.
- 10:20—Butter, egg, dressed veal, live and dressed poultry quotations.
- 10:25—Julian Bentley in up-to-the minute world-wide news.
- 10:30—Today's Kitchen. (See daily schedule.)
- 11:00—Cumberland Ridge Runners, featuring Red Foley. (Crazy Crystals)
- 11:15—Hoosier Hot Shots in instrumental and vocal novelties.
- 11:30—"Be Kind to Announcers." Fifteen minutes of fun and foolishness with Joe Kelly, Jack Holden, Howard Chamberlain and Pat Buttram.
- 11:45—Weather report; fruit and vegetable markets; artists' bookings.
- 11:55—News; Julian Bentley.

### 12:00 noon to 3:00 p. m. CST

- 12:00—Otto and His Tune Twisters in sweet and lively novelties.
- 12:15—Poultry Service Time; Ralph Emerson, organist; Skyland Scotty, Dean Brothers, Bill Denny, "The Poultry Man." Thirty minutes.
- 12:45—Weekly Livestock Market Review by Jim Clark of the Chicago Producers' Commission Association.

12:55—Grain Market Quotations by F. C. Bisson of U. S. Department of Agriculture.

1:00—Merry-Go-Round — Forty-five minutes of rollicking fun and entertainment with Jack Holden as Conductor and Ralph Emerson as Chief Engineer. Cumberland Ridge Runners and Linda Parker, Ramblin' Red Foley; Eddie Allen, Pat Buttram; Flannery Sisters; John Brown, Hoosier Hot Shots; Evelyn Overstake, Lulu Belle and Skyland Scotty.

1:45—Homemakers' Hour. See Special Daily Schedule.)

3:00—Sign Off for WENR.

## EVENING PROGRAMS

### Monday, March 18

7:00 to 8:30 p. m. CST

- 7:00—Jan Garber's Supper Club (Northwestern Yeast.) (NBC)
- 7:30—Care Free Carnival. (Crazy Crystals.) (NBC)
- 8:00—Sinclair Minstrels. (Sinclair Oil Refining.) (NBC)

### Tuesday, March 19

- 7:00—Eno Crime Clues. (NBC)
- 7:30—Lawrence Tibbett. (Packard Motors.) (NBC)
- 8:00—Grace Moore. (Vicks Products.) (NBC)

### Wednesday, March 20

- 7:00—Penthouse Party. (Eno Salts.) (NBC)
- 7:30—Lanny Ross's Log Cabin Orchestra. (General Foods.) (NBC)
- 8:00—Twenty Thousand Years in Sing Sing. (Sloan's Liniment.) (NBC)

### Thursday, March 21

- 7:00—College Prom. (Kellogg Company.) (NBC)
- 7:15—WLS Rangers and Wm. Vickland.
- 7:30—"Red Trails." (American Tobacco Co.)
- 8:00—"Death Valley Days." (Pacific Coast Borax.) (NBC)

### Friday, March 22

- 7:00—Irene Rich. (Welch's Grape Juice.) (NBC)
- 7:15—WLS Rangers.
- 7:30—The Intimate Revue. (Bromo-Seltzer.) (NBC)
- 8:00—Beatrice Lillie. (Borden's Products.) (NBC)

# AN OPEN MIKE

NAME • MAJOR  
LASSES • REMINISCENCE

By TINY STOWE



MAY I come in? Played hookey on you last week, but if you could have seen the stack of letters—50,000 of them—the judges selecting the name for this new baby of ours had to go through, you wouldn't even have expected an issue last week, let alone this chatter into "An Open Mike." But we've got the pile down to a half dozen names now, so you can expect a brand new dress on said baby any day now. You're all invited to the christening, too.

How many of you folks remember Jack Major, the handsome young chap from Paducah, Kentucky, who broke so many hearts while singing and whistling on records and over the air? Jack is now conducting "The Looking Glass" in KFRC out on the Pacific Coast. Jack is sending out a post card to all his friends, asking for stories and poems that might be of interest, so send what you have along to him. He will appreciate it, I know.

Curt Poulton, guitar-picking Adonis of the Vagabonds—a mountain-ballad singing trio that recently dissolved—took Bradley Kincaid's place on the NBC Red Network in a 15-minute show heard out of Schenectady every Saturday morning when Bradley went on the road for theatre dates. It is Curt's first venture as a "single" and he is having a grand time in a program called "Me and My Guitar." Dean Upson, who owns the name "The Vagabonds," is in Chicago now organizing a new trio to replace the old unit. Herald Goodman, third member of the act, is doing a radio and stage turn with his wife. Such are the changes to be expected in this game of radio.

Zeke Clemens and his Bronco Busters, with Texas Ruby Owens yodeling in grand style, are doing a morning program from WHO now. Tune in some morning and get an earful of a girl yodler who sounds like a man. The Des Moines station is really doing a grand job with Barn Dance acts now.

"Lasses" White and "Honey" Wilds, two of the grandest minstrel men in radio, will not be with WSM next year, according to reliable information. They will be in Chicago some

time this spring, discussing a possible hookup with Columbia to produce a minstrel show—and it will be a good one if they do. Speaking of minstrel shows, tune in some morning with us on the Morning Minstrels and let Spareribs Claire, Possum and Porkchops Dean, and the Rangers show you how it should be done.

Oh, ah! Look at this! "Dear Mr. Tiny Stowe: You asked for it, now take your medicine like a man. Don't forget, there's a whole lot more connected with a new baby than just 'Gurgles.' I ought to know, I raised two."—Mrs. H. Wolf.

## Reminiscence

Do you remember the day, Ben Bolt, When WLS was still a young colt?  
When Grace Wilson always brought home the bacon,  
And Hiram and Henry's "Ford," never stopped shakin'?

When Elsie and Ralph, gazed into the skies And he changed his tunes, to sweet lullabies?  
While on Bradley Kincaid the Star Dust fell Little Charley Stookey, sold chickens "in the shell?"

Who was it said, "Homer, pull the big Switch?"  
The days when Anne Williams, taught us all how to stitch?  
Who were the two "cooks" who would always surprise  
All the Dear Ladies, with "baked ham" and "pies?"

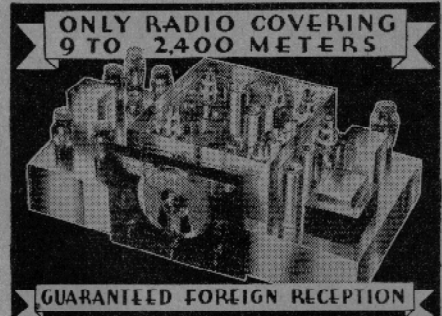
Paul Rader would tell us all how to be good?  
How well I remember the day, Ben Bolt, When WLS was still a young colt.

—(Mrs.) Harriette Wolf, 2104 N. Damen Ave. Chicago.

Thanks very much, Mrs. Wolf. But please explain one thing—why the drawing of the three calves in the center of your letter? Incidentally, any of you folks who know the answer to the question Mrs. Wolf asks should write in and let us know about it.

It seems like old times to have Les Fox in the same organization again. It was a real pleasure to work with Les for more than two years while he was Commercial Manager of WSM in Nashville and his record and reputation in the radio business during his many years at Wichita, Kansas, and at WMCA, New York, and WGAR, Cleveland, speak for themselves where Les is concerned. Only one trouble with Les—he is a "southpaw" when it comes to playing golf.

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**50 Advanced 1935 Features**... and 16 tubes make this Super radio today's most powerful long-distance receiver. FREE 36-page 1935 catalog pictures a complete line of beautiful de luxe consoles and chassis in four colors.

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Order before the big price advance... NOW... while you can take advantage of Midwest's sensational values... no middlemen's profits to pay. You save 30% to 50%... you get 30 days' FREE trial... as little as \$5.00 puts a Midwest radio in your home. Send coupon for FREE catalog!

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**MAIL COUPON TODAY!** FOR FREE MINIATURE DIAL... FREE 30-DAY TRIAL OFFER... FREE CATALOG

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Dept. 228-A, CINCINNATI, O.  
Without obligation on my part send me your new FREE 1935-36 catalog, FREE Miniature Dial, and complete details of your liberal 30-day FREE trial offer. This is NOT an order.

User-Agents Make Easy Extra Money  
Check Here for Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Check here, if interested in Midwest World-Wide Battery Radio.  
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## MAN ON COVER

Ralph Waldo Emerson, the youngest of five who had to "build up" the piano stool with encyclopedias, celebrated his 11th anniversary in radio on February 2.

Ralph's musical career began with a private teacher and continued through college and conservatory into the professional world. His career as a comedian, like Topsy, "just grewed," but it's as professional as his musicianship.

The age of ten found Ralph fully launched on his professional career. He held the enviable position of pianist in an ice cream parlor in Liberal, Kansas. The job had its drawbacks, though. When a sufficient number of customers had been lured in by his music, Ralph hastily donned a white apron and took orders for "sodies" and "sarsaparillies."

Ralph studied piano at the Toledo Conservatory of Music, organ with Dean Whitehouse at Washburn college and voice with Septimus Barbour.

He has played in more than 300 churches and over 100 theatres besides his 11 years in radio. For two and a half years he was master of the world's largest pipe organ. He was chosen for the position at the Chicago Stadium from among 417 applicants.

### A. E. F. Musician

The world war found Ralph enlist in the field artillery. His talents as an entertainer, however, caused his transfer to the Sunshine Players. With sad-eyed Buster Keaton in charge of production and Ralph baton-ing a 10-piece orchestra, the Players toured Southern France, brightening army life for their buddies.

After the war Ralph opened an organ studio in Chicago. It was from his studio that he sent out his first radio concerts. Among his talented pupils was Elsie Mae Look. Ralph took a great interest in Miss Look. Result: They were married before radio microphones. Elsie has appeared frequently on station organ programs and as a singer. They have two sons, Skippy, five, and John, five months, both future organists.

Ralph is the composer of "Land of Lullaby Dreams," "At the End of the Sunset Trail," "There's No One Just Like You," and countless instrumental and organ compositions.

He is a master of improvisation. Give Ralph a script and tell him what is wanted in a dramatic program, and your production man's worries are over. With a few bars of music, Ralph can enhance the mood, the setting or the character of the dramatic lines.

A good example of this art may be heard any morning during Spare-ribs' Fairy Tales. Ralph takes a copy of the script and as Spareribs reads, Ralph supplies a background of all types of music, and effects, from a



Ralph and Skippy

raging storm scene, with wind, lightning and thunder, to the tiniest squeak of a mouse. He has a whole galaxy of effects at his finger tips on the keyboard.

As for Ralph's comedy work, well, just ask any listener who has heard him as Big Chief Waldo of the Losta Tootha Tribe; the "Mrs." in 10-second dramas with Ford Rush, or the Old Story Teller. The first, says Ralph, was self-developed, the second is "for the fun of it" and the third is self-inflicted.



"Put spats on a rustic warbler and bring you've got a crooner."

## No Hill Billies

(Continued from page 7)

married, the ballad writer doesn't seem to think that worthy of notice and he just forgets about it.

"To hear a real, honest to goodness mountaineer singing is rather difficult. You'd just about have to sneak up on him as he sits singing in a hollow or in a cabin doorway at sundown.

"The citizen of the hills sings because he likes to. He may not sing beautifully but he sings sincerely and he sings loudly.

"I once saw a Kentucky mountaineer's band advertised down there as having the world's loudest 'Yee-hooer'."

## Mexico Rising

"Manana," the lazy word which means "never do today what you can put off until tomorrow," has for years been associated with Old Mexico. Floyd Keepers, recently returned from a trip though Old Mexico, declares that the word from now on should be interpreted as meaning "the coming land of tomorrow."

"I saw more new buildings going up in Mexico City than I have seen in Chicago in five years," says Keepers. "Mexico is coming fast. The new educational system now in effect is banishing illiteracy. Children throughout the country who a decade ago would have been doomed to grow up without education, are now learning the three R's, including a required course in English."

The richness of Mexican resources and the stirring new ambition which is evident among the people, have led Mr. Keepers to declare that he believes the next few decades will see Old Mexico taking a place in the lead of national development.

## "Shep"

"Shep" seems to have been a favorite name for the family dog a generation ago, according to telephone calls received after one of Red Foley's songs the other morning. Red had just sung about "Old Dog Shep," and a number of persons called to say they, too, had played with a dog Shep when they were young.

## Chore Boy

Announcer Howard Chamberlain, the sincere-voiced Chore Boy, won two Atwater Kent vocal auditions for singing before seriously launching himself on a radio career.

## ARKIE ANKLES IN

Two weeks ago, you will remember it was reported that the Arkansas Woodchopper's automobile stalled while he was traveling to Hazard, Kentucky. The following is Arkie's account of his attempts to get assistance.

BY ARKIE

The car sputtered and then went dead. Here we were sitting out on a road high on a Kentucky hillside, with a dead engine. However, the outlook wasn't so bad. Up ahead about a quarter of a mile I could see a very nice looking house. It was all painted white, and looked as if the occupants might enjoy all the conveniences of life. So I started to hike up there. About half way there, I met a man. He asked me where I was going, and I replied that I was going to use their 'phone. "Well," said the man, "I reckon that the nearest 'phone from here is about five miles. You'd better hitch into the village. I think there's one there."

So I started into the village. I'd walked about a mile, when another man in a car picked me up and took me on into the village of Horse Branch—good old Horse Branch, Kay Y. By this time it was about seven a. m. I went into a restaurant and asked the proprietor if I could use his 'phone.

"My friend," said he, "there is not a 'phone in this village, otherwise, I would gladly let you use it."

I asked him how I could get in touch with the next big town, so that someone could come and get my car.

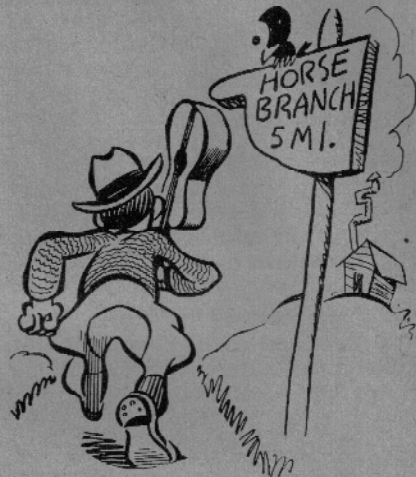
"Well," he thought for a moment, "well, you might find the station master and have him send a telegram for you."

And, I asked, where will I find the station master?

"Well, you see, we only have two trains a day through here, and they don't interfere with a man's work much, so the station master drives the school hack. I reckon you'll find him at the school house in about two hours."

So I waited. I waited until 9:15, then I found the station master, got my telegram sent, and in the course of time my car fixed.

And the moral to this story is—Don't go into the hills of Kentucky without a portable radio station.



## Horse Judge

A dashing chap was John Lair, Cumberland Ridge Runners maestro, when attired in doe skin riding breeches, gay coat and shiny boots, he flourished his whip as judge of fancy horses at county fairs. John won considerable fame as a winner of horse judging contests also, and he still can do a fancy job of knotting a prize winner's mane and tail.



A large, responsible, successful, 45-year-old company makes this surprising offer to honest and ambitious men. Let us start you in this permanent, big-paying business which you own and control for yourself. Invest no capital in merchandise! Complete stock of more than 170 quality products for farm and city homes furnished on credit. You pay when goods are sold. Become an authorized McConnon Dealer. Big Value Combination Deals and fast selling Specials for quick sales and profits. Excellent opportunity for a good living and extra money to save each week. Those first to write will be given first consideration. Write McConnon & Company, "The House of Friendly Service", Desk 87CD, Winona, Minnesota.

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Through an ingenious system of indicating chords you play the bass the "SHORTHAND WAY." The "SHORTHAND WAY" is the NEW, quick way to learn the piano keyboard—it unfolds the mystery of the keyboard and makes piano study real fun because you learn by actually playing popular songs.

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Explains a marvelous scientific treatment which is bringing amazing relief. People everywhere tell of astonishing results obtained. Many report having given up hope until this treatment brought definite relief from stomach misery.

No matter how long you have suffered, or what you have tried in the past—

### RELIEF AFTER 25 YEARS

I suffered with ulcers of the stomach for 25 years. I lost weight until I was down to 89 pounds. Had just about given up hope of getting relief when I heard about your treatment. I have been using it now for three weeks and eat and sleep like I haven't done for years. Have gained 11 pounds—feel like a new man.  
Chas. F. Blaine



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If you suffer from STOMACH OR DUODENAL ULCERS, POOR DIGESTION, ACID DYSPEPSIA, SOUR STOMACH, GAS-SINESS, HEARTBURN, CONSTIPATION, BAD BREATH, SLEEPLESSNESS OR HEADACHES, DUE TO EXCESS ACID, this wonderful booklet contains priceless information for you.

Just send your name and address in a letter, or on a postal card, and this wonderful booklet about stomach trouble will be sent to you absolutely FREE.

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## Gray Hair

Cheat You



Now Comb Away Gray This Easy Way

GRAY hair is risky. It screams: "You are getting old!" To end gray hair handicaps all you now have to do is comb it once a day for several days with a few drops of Kolor-Bak sprinkled on your comb, and afterwards regularly once or twice a week to keep your hair looking nice. Kolor-Bak is a solution for artificially coloring gray hair that imparts color and charm and abolishes gray hair worries. Grayness disappears within a week or two and users report the change is so gradual and so perfect that their friends forget they ever had a gray hair and no one knew they did a thing to it.

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Will you test Kolor-Bak without risking a single cent? Then, go to your drug or department store today and get a bottle of Kolor-Bak. Test it under our guarantee that it must make you look 10 years younger and far more attractive or we will pay back your money.

FREE Buy a bottle of Kolor-Bak today and send top flap of carton to United Remedies, Dept. W-5 544 So. Wells St., Chicago—and receive FREE AND POSTPAID a 50c box of KUBAK Shampoo.

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Acne and other skin irritations improve greatly when SKINEZOL is used. Send \$1.00—use one week and then if not satisfied your dollar will be refunded.

SKINEZOL is a salve that contains no harmful ingredients.

SOUTHERN LABORATORIES  
Ada Oklahoma

## TRIBUTE

You never hear him praise himself nor reprove another—yet he has a way of expressing himself in a language that is universally understood. He works with his hands and yet you never hear them, but merely the expression of their skill. Seldom do you hear his name mentioned yet his assistance is as much a part of a program as any voice you may hear.

There are few programs, including the Saturday night coast-to-coast show where you do not hear his able assistance, sometimes sustaining for a few seconds the whole hour's show. He does not ask for the spotlight and seldom does he get it. Yet he deserves our sincerest praise.

You never hear him praise himself  
Or talk about another.  
For he's a gentleman thro' and thro'  
As anyone will discover.

His hands portray poetic mood,  
Of love, and life and laughter  
And you have but to hear him play  
To know he is the master.

He is the soul of many acts  
The backbone of the show  
He fills in, too, when seconds count  
And when the time gets low.

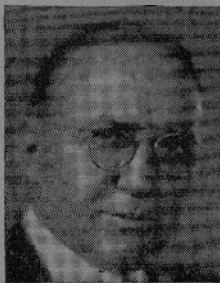
If you listen you may hear someone say—"Thank you, John Brown."

—An Observer.

• • •

## "13" and the Doc

The mythical hoodoo, associated with the number 13 does not affect Dr. John W. Holland. For 13 years he has written a column for 13 different farm magazines.



Dr. Holland

In addition to his regular magazine work during this period, he has written and published two books which enjoyed wide sale, one being "Mother's

Thimble", the other "Life's Pay Checks." The presses are now turning out Dr. Holland's third book, "The Ears Of Midas." Besides all this literary activity, he has found time to write hundreds of sermonettes, poems and radio talks, as well as filling many speaking and lecture engagements.

• • •

Don Ameche, leading man in so many NBC Shows heard over WLS, originally intended to be an attorney, but after his first stage performance in little theatre work gave up law for the show business.

## HOMEMAKERS' CORNER

By MRS. MARY WRIGHT

Let's have a party. All the excuse in the world for a gay St. Patrick's party because we can let cares fly out the window when Irish jollification reigns. Irish jokes and games and the



Mrs. Mary Wright

hilarity which accompanies them make elaborate decorations and food unnecessary so this can be one of the most inexpensive kind of parties to give. It is the food and table in which we homemakers are most interested, (train your husbands to help with or take charge of the games) so the color scheme claims first attention. For the table, green and white, and for the food, green and yellow, are traditional. Green and yellow are the colors of the Irish flag.

If you are making place cards, paste green shamrock stickers in one corner of some of them—harps on others, pipes on some, and pigs on still others. All of these are symbolic of Ireland.

For the centerpiece, a blarney stone on a plateau mirror would be most appropriate. To make the blarney stone, wash any stone of an appropriate size, put daubs of paste here and there over the stone, and sprinkle tiny bits of green crepe paper on the paste. If you can prepare the stone just before your guests arrive, use chopped parsley. This is to represent moss, and of course, the parsley would be most realistic. The place cards may be attached to the blarney stone with narrow strips of green paper and on the back of each place card, should be written an Irish joke.

### A "Wishing Well"

Another idea for a centerpiece, if you can spend more time on it is a "Wishing-Well" to represent St. Patrick's Well, an historic spot in Ireland. It is possible to buy crepe paper, designed to look like stone. If you are mechanically minded, you can make a windlass for the wishing well—and at the close of the meal ask each guest to make a wish and then draw out of the well, either a favor or a fortune.

For your menu, green food is easy to plan. A well shaped green pepper, cut in slices, makes an ideal shamrock. Stuffed with cottage cheese (plain or flavored with chopped olives

or pineapple) chilled, and sliced, you have a very attractive shamrock salad. Or you may use thin slices of green pepper as a garnish for fish or chicken salad to give the shamrock a place of honor on the menu.

Cloverleaf rolls may be rechristened shamrock rolls for the occasion. For dessert, angel food cake with part of the center cut out and filled with pineapple Bavarian cream, makes a very appropriate dessert if the filling is colored green.

And should you want to use sandwiches to introduce green, mix equal parts of chopped olives and a pickle relish with a small amount of very stiff mayonnaise so it is of a good spreading consistency. Garnish the edge of these open faced sandwiches with finely chopped parsley or pickle.

### What! Orange?

An orange gelatine salad made with grated carrots and pineapple molded in small ring molds and the center filled with green snow after unmolding makes an appropriate salad or dessert. The green snow is made of a green gelatine and pineapple juice, whipped just as it starts to congeal.

Other foods which are suitable for St. Patrick's day are green timbale cases, green and yellow pinwheel or checkerboard cookies, green mayonnaise, green candies, green mint ice, or chocolate ice cream served with a fluffy mint sauce.

Here is the recipe for a delicious mint sauce to serve over chocolate ice cream, or a chocolate pudding of any kind. If you are not fond of peppermint flavoring, it may be omitted.

#### Marshmallow Mint Sauce

½ cup sugar	Green coloring
¼ cup water	1 drop oil of peppermint
8 marshmallows	1 egg white

Boil sugar and water to a thin syrup (230 degrees F.), not quite thick enough to spin a thread, and add marshmallows, cut in small pieces. Let stand two minutes, pressing marshmallows under syrup, using back of spoon. Add gradually to beaten egg white and beat until cool. Add oil of peppermint and color green.

• • •

The Old Kitchen Kettle of Today's Kitchen Program brings you the advice of sages. It's message today:

"A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong; which is but saying, in other words, he is wiser today than he was yesterday."

## FLOWER FAN

Through two glass doors, a few steps along a tiled walk, and you are in the midst of tropical foliage, with banana blossoms overhead and a busy fountain splattering close by. Rubber trees, coffee shrubs, big mysterious looking ginkgo palms, and long trailing vines that live on air, are all around you. You are only a hundred feet away from a busy boulevard, in the Garfield Park Conservatory.



When you come to Chicago during the winter season, you must see the Garfield Park Conservatory. If you come during the summer or early autumn you will find other hours of pleasure in the out-of-door gardens and the great water-lily pools which have made this Chicago park one



of the beauty spots of the United States. At various seasons, flower shows in the Conservatory feature the newest creations in the world of floriculture. In the autumn, chrysanthemums; at another time, orchids or lilies. Right now the saucy beauty of the crocus, the gentle grace of the jonquil, and the smiling narcissus; a little later, tulips.

The genius behind the magnificence of these great botanical gardens is a quiet gentleman you would be proud to know, Mr. R. T. Van Tress, gardener supreme.

Mr. Van Tress was graduated from the University of Illinois in Floriculture. Immediately after graduation, he accepted the position of Superintendent of the Morton Arboretum, located about 12 miles west of Chicago. From this position, he went to his present position as Chief horticulturist of the Garfield Park Conservatory, which position he has held for nearly nine years. His specialty is the designing of flower gardens,

## TUNING SUGGESTIONS

Sunday, March 17

P.M.—CST

- 1:00 Immortal Dramas. NBC
- 2:00 New York Symphony. CBS
- 4:00 Schumann-Heink. NBC
- 6:00 Alexander Woollcott. CBS

Monday, March 18

- 6:45 Uncle Ezra (also Wed., Fri.). NBC
- Boake Carter (nightly ex. Sat., Sun.). CBS
- 7:30 Carefree Carnival. NBC
- 8:00 Sinclair Minstrels. NBC

Tuesday, March 19

- 7:30 Lawrence Tibbett. NBC
- 9:00 Walter O'Keefe. CBS
- Beauty Box Revue. NBC

Wednesday, March 20

- 7:00 Lucrezia Bori. CBS
- Mark Hellinger. NBC
- 8:00 Fred Allen's Town Hall. NBC

Thursday, March 21

- 7:00 Rudie Vallee. NBC
- 7:30 Red Trails. NBC
- 8:00 Capt. Henry's Showboat. NBC
- Walter O'Keefe. CBS
- 9:00 Paul Whiteman's Music Hall. NBC

Friday, March 22

- 8:00 March of Time. CBS
- Beatrice Lillie. NBC

Saturday, March 23

- 7:00 Sigmund Romberg, Wm. Lyon Phelps. NBC
- 8:30- 9:30 National Barn Dance
- 10:00-11:00

Eddie Allen, crowned monarch of harmonica players, is proudly wearing a medal which was recently awarded to him in recognition of 25 years service with the Burlington Railroad.

# GIVEN AWAY!

**WLS**  
Homemakers' Hour  
**2:45 P.M.**  
Mon. Wed. Fri.

Each week, Chappel Brothers, Inc., of Rockford, Ill., give away to users of

**KEN-L-BISKITS**

The "Golden Cakes of Energy" in a "Most Unusual News" Contest

GENUINE SUNBEAM ELECTRIC

# 3 MIXMASTERS

STRAWBERRY PLANTS

- NEW Varieties
- for WLS Family

Long known as headquarters for the latest and finest in strawberry plants, Keith announces 2 new varieties.

**BANNER KING!** A new spring variety; hardy and thrifty plants yielding large, firm, sweet berries for delicious eating, for canning, preserves or jams.

**GEM!** New everbearing plants; gives 3 crops per year—the first 60 days after Spring planting. Big luscious berries.

Write for free color catalog showing these and other famous Keith varieties at money-saving prices.

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Amazingly rich in Iodine, Iron, Calcium and other food minerals, which land foods lack. Comes in handy Shaker for table use, sprinkles on salads, in soups, tomato juice, etc. Builds resistance to mineral deficiency diseases. At leading Drug & Health Food Stores.

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Cold-Chasing Resistance  
Against Bad Winter Colds**

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A Shave a Day  
for 60 Days



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MADE  
ESPECIALLY  
FOR USE WITH  
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for Only—

**15¢**  
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We want every man to test Saf-T-Shav—to learn what real shaving comfort is like—shaving without brush, lather or greasy preparations. Saf-T-Shav is the last word in shaving cream. It is offered to you after months of careful analysis and preparation in the laboratories of the Hamlins Wizard Oil Company—known to WLS listeners for its Hamlins Wizardroyal (Wizard Oil).

Saf-T-Shav takes the fight out of tough whiskers.

Saf-T-Shav makes shaving a pleasure.

Saf-T-Shav is a two-purpose cream—you don't need a face lotion after shaving.

Saf-T-Shav is greaseless, brushless, quick-acting and soothing.

Saf-T-Shav is everything you've always wanted in a shaving cream.

Men! Don't pass up this amazing offer! Act today!

And, now, a word to the ladies. Want to give your husband or son something he'll really appreciate? Then clip this coupon and send for your tube of Saf-T-Shav today!

SAF-T-SHAV IS SOLD IN DRUG STORES

*Hamlins* **SAF-T-SHAV** *Brushless*

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**MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY**

Hamlins Wizard Oil Co.,  
230 W. Huron St.,  
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This coupon is worth 35¢ to you. Enclose 15¢ and receive, postpaid, the full-sized 50¢ tube of SAF-T-SHAV (only one tube to an individual).

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(This Offer Expires April 1, 1935)