

RADIO DIAL

SUMMER-1971

IN THIS ISSUE:

THE TRUTH ABOUT UNCLE DON CARNEY...C. INGERSOLL
STATE & LOCAL CHAPTERS FOR RHSA.....ROGER HILL
I CAN REMEMBER.....LEONA R. INGERSOLL
RADIO TAPE SWAPPERS COLUMN.....RHSA
IN THIS CORNER.....DYAL TURNER
RADIO WAY BACK WHEN.....LAUD SPEEKER
RADIO TRIVIA.....ROBERT D. TETZLOFF
PROGRAM SCHEDULES OF THE PAST.....RHSA

AND MANY MORE FEATURES

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THE TRUTH ABOUT UNCLE DON CARNEY

BY: CHARLES W. INGERSOLL

Through the years much has been said and written about radio's Uncle Don Carney (Howard Rice). Uncle Don was accused of making a bad statement at the end of one of his-children's programs years ago. We recently read where one person claims to have been in the radio studio the night it happened. The story alleges that Uncle Don signed off his broadcast one night and then, thinking he was off the air, said, "I guess that'll hold the little bastards." Supposedly this went out over the air and Uncle Don was taken off the air for a period of time. NONE OF IT IS TRUE...even though you can find people today who swear they heard it and even though there is a recording of so called "on-the-air mistakes" that alleges to be this infamous Uncle Don fluff. IT SIMPLY NEVER HAPPENED. A columnist in Baltimore, where Uncle Don was not heard, made up the story to fill space on an otherwise dull news day. And it just grew and grew.

HOW DO I KNOW IT DIDN'T HAPPEN? In 1943 while serving in the Army in San Francisco I had the pleasure of meeting Uncle Don. I had spent the afternoon shopping downtown San Francisco, and as it was nearing mealtime I dropped in at the Mayflower Doughnut Shop on Market Street. I started a conversation with the man sitting next to me and after visiting a while he introduced himself as Uncle Don Carney. Of course the first thing that flashed into my mind was the 'fluff' he was supposedly to have made. I asked him and he said there was no truth to it.

Stories of this sort were started on several other radio announcers. Back in the mid twenties a young announcer from WGN-Chicago was transferred to station WEBC in Duluth, Minnesota. His name was Tom Coates and he had the children's show "Uncle Tommy". Then in the mid thirties, radio's Henry Morgan was hired at WEBC and he was accused of making the same error. Neither men were guilty.

Members who are interested in reading more about Uncle Don can do so by reading from the following books on radio: RADIO'S GOLDEN AGE - By Frank Buxton and Bill Owen - Pages 365-366. PICTORIAL HISTORY OF RADIO - By Irving Settel. Page 67. A TOWER IN BABEL -By Erik Barnouw. Page 240. SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE & EXAMINER - April 26, 1970

We do not say this incident didn't happen! IT DID! And we urge you to read (on another page of this issue) "The Fall Of A Hero".

A biography of "Uncle Don" Carney by Bill Treadwell titled Head, Heart, and Heel can be secured at most book stores and in libraries. The book is published by Mayfair Books of New York.

MEMBER JOSEPH SMITH, 92 Brunswick Avenue, Bloomsbury, N.J. 08804 is interested in securing tape copies of SUSPENSE, ESCAPE, X-1 THE SEALED BOOK and other mystery and horror shows. Joseph is a beginning collector and would like to hear from other members with the same interests.

MEMBER STEPHEN LEWIS who lives at 66 Constance Lane, Bristol CONN. 06010 is also interested in Detective & Mystery shows.

REMEMBER THE OLD RADIO DANCE BANDS? MONMOUTH-EVERGREEN RECORD COMPANY HAVE JUST RELEASED TWO L.P. ALBUMS OF JACK HYLTON & AMBROSE ORCHESTRAS. SEE M-E AD.

I CAN REMEMBER

BY: LEONA INGERSOLL

During the late 1920s radio had many contests. Sponsors like Lucky Strike Cigarettes awarded a flat fifty tin of Luckies for guessing three leading hit songs of the week -- Packard Motor Company gave 12 autos for the best answer to a question given on the Packard Hour -- Radio Guide magazine gave cash prizes on their "Radio Guide Court Of Honor" for best handwriting and slogan entries.

My Charles entered a contest once. He didn't win such a fabulous prize as a Packard automobile but he did win a cash prize of \$1.00 on a childrens show back in the late 20s.

Tommy Coates who had been a staff announcer for WGN in Chicago was hired by WEBC in Duluth as a staff announcer, and had many 'special' programs. I can remember he read a chapter-a-day of a novel every afternoon. He also had two programs for children that I will explain later.

WEBC in the late 20s operated low power and was very hard to pull in on our old battery set even though we lived but 75 airline miles from Duluth. There was much fading and was almost impossible to get during the afternoon hours.

But, lets get back to Tommy Coates. His programs for children were heard daily along about 5:00 PM. -- On Sunday he read the funnies to a little girl named Jeanie (probably done by Tommy). The contest? Children were invited to draw a picture of how they thought Uncle Tommy and little Jeanie looked while he was reading the funnies to her. Charles, being quite an artist at that time, worked for hours drawing his entry and for a small boy the picture was BEAUTIFUL. IT JUST HAD TO BE A WINNER! It showed Uncle Tommy, with Jeanie sitting on his lap before an open fireplace with a collie dog sleeping on a scatter rug. The picture was carefully folded and mailed....THEN....the long wait of two weeks to find out who won the \$1.00 prize. Finally the Sunday arrived when the winner was to be announced. As I said before...the station was hard to get and this day was no exception. Thru the fading we barely heard Uncle Tommy say "The winner of the drawing contest is little Charles Ingersoll of McGregor, Minn." Charles jumped with joy - a whole dollar prize! Funny, a dollar doesn't mean much to children these days, but my Charles made good use of his "check" that arrived a few days later from WEBC.

NEXT ISSUE -- I will tell about the terrible time we had listening to the Dempsey-Tunney prize fight in 1927. The announcers were Graham McNamee and Phillips Carlin. The date was September 22, 1927

COLLECTORS! NOSTALGIST'S! MUSIC LOVER'S! "THOSE WONDERFUL 30s"
The stars of RADIO, the GREAT BANDS, the GREAT VOCALISTS and the ORIGINAL PERFORMANCES that MADE THEM FAMOUS! Guy Lombardo, Bing Crosby, Andrews Sisters, Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor, Boswell Sisters, Dorsey Brothers, Mills Brothers, Kate Smith, Rudy Vallee, Fred Waring and MANY MANY MORE. A two record album...with beautiful album cover. Cost per album \$6.95 plus 45¢ for postage and handling. Mail your orders to: RADIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, Box 190, Cloquet Minnesota, 55720. Please send check or money order (NO cash). Allow four weeks for delivery. This is such a popular item that the demand is so great that the record company is behind in orders. GET YOUR COPY OF "THOSE WONDERFUL THIRTIES" TODAY!

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+++RADIO WAY BACK WHEN++++
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BY: LAUD SPEEKER, JR.

I was 10 years of age when I lived in Anderson, Indiana. The year was 1927 and radio was fast becoming a source of family entertainment. My father (who was a Civil Engineer) bought one of the best radio sets available. It was a Freshman Masterpiece. It was a 6 tube one control set and cost in the neighborhood of \$80.00. The Freshman Masterpiece was manufactured by Charles Freshman Co., in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. It was a console model and added a beautiful touch to our household furnishings.

Anderson boasted of a radio station...WBHU on 1360 Kc. with a power of 10 watts. They were on the air only a few hours a day. Programs consisted of grain markets, weather and occasionally some local talent. There was no regular program schedule. One just tuned...hoping they would be on the air. When conditions were good we were able to pull in WOWO in Fort Wayne and WFEM in Indianapolis. These stations were on more hours than the Anderson station.

We moved from Anderson in the summer of 1927 to a small community near the city of Chicago (Crete). Crete was the first location of WLS. Our Illinois location gave us a chance to tune to more high powered stations in the Chicago area. At that time there were 36 stations in Chicago.

Some of the artists I remember were: Senorita Bernice Ozmun who told bed time stories to the children on WIEG in Chicago. Other Chicago area artist were: Frank Lucas who was the champion barn dance caller, Marcella, who chatted and sang over WJJD (The Mooseheart station), Little Joe Warner, the dialectician on WCFL and the lovable Aunt Minnie who had a Homemaker's Program on WLS. We also listened to Sam 'n' Henry on WGN. Occasionally we were able to pull in WDAF in Kansas City and listen to Joe Sanders' Night Hawk Frolic.

The fall of 1927 we moved again, to southwestern Minnesota. Our nearest station was KGDE in the small town of Barrett. The station was owned and operated by Mr. Charles Jaren, a druggist in Barrett. WCCO was the most powerful station in Minneapolis and we could get it quite good during the daylight hours. I can remember Officer Mulchaney who would broadcast the traffic problems on a downtown street corner each Friday afternoon. Also at WCCO were Mildred Simons giving the market reports, Clelland Card and his wife, Tena & Tim, and the organ recitals by Hugo Goodwin. In 1927 E.H. Gammons replaced H.A. Bellows as WCCO station head. Mr. Gammons held this position for many years...until CBS bought WCCO in the late 30s.

I am not the radio listener that I used to be neither have I fallen prey to Television....but I often wish that radio would return again and create the lost art of "word pictures". Many of the educational FM stations occasionally bring back some of the old programs but not nearly as often and usually without the interesting commercials that made the program possible. We lost a lot when radio died in the early 50s.

I hope that I have brought back a few happy memories in this column and in a future issue of RADIO DIAL I will write my memories of the 1930s.

"THOSE WONDERFUL THIRTIES" The Stars of Hollywood's Golden Era and original performances. Hear Kenny Baker, Bobby Breen, Judy Garland, Louis Armstrong, Deanna Durbin and many many more. Album is a two record album. Has beautiful cover. Finest fidelity. Hear the old stars of the silver screen. Price of each album \$6.95 plus 45¢ postage and handling. Allow four weeks for delivery. Send orders to RHSA, Box 190, Cloquet, Minn. 55720. Please send money order or personal check. DO NOT SEND CASH!

G.M. Staebell, 5102 Arrowhead Drive, Monona, Wis. 53716 would like to swap tapes. He's interested in Club Matinee, Death Valley Days, Don Winslow of the Navy, Abie's Irish Rose and others. WRITE!

TAPE SWAPERS

Frank Lemanski, 191 Main Street
So. Meriden, CONN. 06450

Bernard Feitelberg, 53 Favre Street
Mattapan, MASS. 02126

Robert Witte, 194 Wyndcliff Road,
Scarsdale, N. Y. 10583

Donald S. Fellow, 705 E. Chandler Ave.,
Evansville, IND. 47713

W. L. Patton, 8 Jack Frost Lane,
Baltimore, MD. 21204

Philip Callan, 194 Liberty Street,
Meriden, CONN. 06450

J. J. Jankowski, 82 Inwood Road,
Port Washington, N. Y. 11050

Kate Lee, Rural Route #1
Lake Village, IND. 46349

Ed Johnson, 643 Van Buren Avenue,
Elizabeth, N. J. 07201

Milton Fierst, 1432 Lunt Avenue
Chicago, ILL. 60626, APT # 1N.

Arthur C. Zucker, 31 Devon Road,
Great Neck, N. Y. 11023

M. L. Meyerhoffer 2525 Hermitage Way
Louisville, KY. 40222.

Does anyone know of the whereabouts of LITTLE JACK LITTLE, the singer-pianist who sang over radio as far back as 1925. He also made records. I recall hearing him on station WDAY in Fargo, N. D. in the 1920's. Don't know if he was playing directly from the station, or if records were being played at the time. I also collect his records, and any information on Mr. Little will be most welcome. ED SUNDE, 6100 3rd Avenue S. Minneapolis, Minn. 55419.

WANTED: Transcriptions...including the Army and Navy discs..of old western swing bands. Also some popular. I have transcriptions to trade. Write Lloyd L. Amos, 1101 "W" Avenue, LeGrande, ORE. 97850.

WHO WAS PAPA AND MAMA HUSH ON RADIO?

Member Frank Lemanski, 191 Main St. So. Meriden, CONN. 06450 would like to hear from members who have information about CURLY BRADLEY. If he is still living, Frank would like to get his address. He is also interested in hearing from anyone interested in the old western radio stars...also would like information on Jack Holden who played TOM MIX. Drop Frank a line!

WHO WAS MR. AND MRS. HUSH on radio????

Member Kate Lee, RR #1 Lake Village Indiana, 46349 says she has several tape copies of an old radio show that mentions MR. & MRS. HUSH.

COMEDY SHOWS such as AMOS & ANDY, JOE PENNER, FRED ALLEN, BERGEN AND MacCARTHY, MEL BLANC, etc. The above list is what I would like to secure. I have over 8000 records from 1930-1960 including dance, swing, jazz and military bands, C/W & comedy. SID ROSEN, 1 Replin Rd #210, Toronto 19, ONTARIO CANADA.

WANTED: Shadow and Tom Mix radio premiums. For collector, so make it reasonable. BENNETT, 650 West End Ave. New York, N. Y. 10025.

A man was tuning in on his short wave radio when he got a sudden twinge of pain in his back.

"I believe I'm getting lumbago," he exclaimed.

"What's the use," answered his wife.

"You won't understand a word they say."

Earl S. Grow, 16260 Keller Drive Brookfield, WISC. 53005 would like to swap radio tapes.

Copies of RADIO DIAL are now being preserved by the library at Oregon State Historical Society in Portland.

Anyone know where TOM ROE who was WLS engineer during Frarie Farmer days is? Would also like to hear from anyone that remember WLS when it was owned by Sears Roebuck. GEORGE NELSON, 9951 So. Claremont, Chicago, ILL. 60645.

READ THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ILLEGAL SELLING OF RADIO PROGRAMS! ON ANOTHER PAGE OF THIS ISSUE...BY MEMBER LAWRENCE E. NAIR.

ANNUAL DUES IN RHSA ARE NOW \$5.00

SATURDAY NIGHT ON WLS

Saturday night October 17, 1936 CST

- 6:00 - Tall Story Club
- 6:30 - Red Foley & Music Makers
- 7:00 - Prairie Ramblers
- 7:30 - Barn Dance Party
- 8:00 - National Barn Dance
- 9:00 - Barn Dance Frolic
- 9:15 - The Old Music Shop
- 9:30 - Barn Dance Jamboree
- 10:00 - Barn Dance Party

JIMMY SCRIBNER, who did the JOHNSON FAMILY show, is now living in Greenville, S. C., where he is in the business of construction and selling of mobile homes. He is still just as fast at doing all the voices of the Johnson Family show as he was during his best years on the air on the Mutual Net.

Is CURLY BRADLEY who played Tom Mix on radio still living? Write: Frank Lemanski, 191 Main Street So. Meriden Conn. 06450.

ROUND ROBINS----4 track only! Pick a category (Sci-Fi, Westerns, Drama etc.) Sound quality is our first priority. Write for details to: MOEN, 275 Estates Street, Livermore, Calif. 94550.

Member R.J. LeJava, 570 W. Main St. Hyannis, Mass. 02601 is looking for the "ARCHIE ANDREWS" show that has the "Whiffenpoof Song".

1931 NEWS NOTE=====

Paul Whiteman and his orchestra have returned to the NBC chain for an early evening hour. Under the title "Allied Quality Paint Group," this very popular ensemble will be featured each Tuesday at 8 P. M., E. S. T over the blue network.

Remember these names? Gus Van, Vernon Dalhart, Mabel Wayne, Norton Downey, Bobby Breen, Deanna Durbin, Henry Burr, Harry Frankel and Art Van Harvey.

+++++
++ OLD RADIO ANNOUNCERS 1927 ++
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Remember any of them?

Gene Rouse.....WJJD.....Chicago Ill.
Kolin Hager....WGY....Schenectady N.Y.
Quin Ryan.....WGN.....Chicago Ill.
Billy Knight...WLL.....St.Louis MO.
Gayle Grubb...KFAB.....Lincoln Neb.
Robt. Glass...KRLD.....Dallas Tex.
Lester Palmer..WOW.....Omaha Nebr.
Troy S Miller..WRHM..Minneapolis Minn.
Lamdin Kay....WSB.....Atlanta Ga.
Earl Reineke...WDAY.....Fargo N. D.

I would like to know if the "Legend of Al Jolson" narrated by Walter Winchell is from radio, TV, or a record? Also would like names of those who have good copies of the TV series about the western stars. The program was titled "They Went That-away". Program was recently on N.E.T. stations. DARRELL ANDERSON, 17254 Lake Desire Dr. N. Renton, Wash. 98055.

LETS TRADE OLD RADIO PROGRAMS!!!!!!!!!!!!
You send me your lists and I'll send you mine. Also, I have a pet project; I am a magician and I am presently looking for any pictorial or factual radio stories and interviews concerning magicians and mindreading. These can be plots involving magic such as on SUSPENSE or LONE RANGER, guest appearances, etc. I am especially looking for the Howard Thurston broadcasts of the 1930s. I will give you double time back in trade from my lists for every item you send me; 30 minutes for 15 minutes etc. Write me: GARY C. DUDASH, 110 Montgomery Avenue North Babylon, N.Y. 11704.

HELP! HELP! I am looking for copies of Hal Peary Show, Hannibal Cobb, Harold Teen, House Of Glass, Houseboat Hannah, Howie Wing, Little Abner, Little Italy, Also looking for relatively uncirculated programs for trade. I have over 3500 programs for trade. JAY HICKERSON, #6 Kozak Court, North Haven, CONN. 06473

ANYONE? Do you have a picture of the old "I LOVE A MYSTERY" cast? Write to: James L. Morrison, 16716 Magnolia BLVD. Encino, Calif. 91316.

SUNDAY NIGHT on W L W

Sunday Night Oct. 11, 1936 C.S.T

- 6:00 - Jack Benny Show (NBC)
- 6:30 - Waltzing Through Europe
- 6:45 - Sunset Dreams with Mirin Sist.
- 7:00 - Goodwill Court (NBC)
- 8:00 - Walter Winchell (NBC)
- 8:15 - Whiteman's Variety (NBC)
- 9:00 - News - Edwin C. Hill (NBC)
- 9:30 - Unsolved Mysteries Drama
- 10:00 - Paul Sullivan & the news.
- 10:15 - Old Fashined Girl
- 10:30 - Little Jack Little (NBC)
- 11:00 - Organ & Poems (Moon River?)
- 11:30 - Dance Orchestra
- 12:00 - Johnny Lewis Orchestra

DON MARIS P.O. BOX 2513 NORMAN OKLA. 73069 recently informed RNSA that he has started an club called "THE RADIO PRESERVATION CLUB". We urge members to drop DON a line. He will send you complete details.

1931 NEWS NOTE:.....
"Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," heard over WEAF and associates at 10 PM EST. Mondays, may be heard also at 10 PM over far Western stations.

WANTED:--Any and all radio premiums and boxtop giveaways. Single items or entire collections purchased. Send descriptive list and price for prompt reply. L. BROWN, 6763 Hollywood Blvd., HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. 90028.

AMARAL HAS MOVED! Member DAVID AMARAL can now be reached at 38553 Logan Dr. Fremont, Calif. 94536.

LOOK! LOOK! -- 213 reels - 2000 plus old radio shows. Send 25¢ for my huge catalogue! You'll be happy you did!
PAT McCOY, 1228 Lincoln Drive, Pasco California. 99301

READ MOUTH-EVERGREEN AD THIS ISSUE!!

ORCHESTRA LEADER BEN POLLACK

TAKES OWN LIFE.....
Palm Springs, Calif. (RDNS) 6/8/71
Ben Pollack 67, former Dixieland jazz drummer who was known as the "Father of Swing" committed suicide by hanging himself in the bathroom of his home, June 8, 1971.

A spokesman for the San Bernardino County coroner's office said at least two notes of despondency over financial and marital problems were near the body discovered by a neighbor.
He moved to Palm Springs five or six years ago after operating a Sunset Strip restaurant in Los Angeles.
Pollack and his sister, Esther Mendelson of Miami, Fla., were partners in "Easy Street North," a downtown Palm Springs night club, the spokesman said.
Mr. Pollack and his band made many recordings during the 20s and 30s. A large collection can be found at the RNSA recording studio.

HELP WANTED! HELP WANTED!

Radio Historical Society would like to have information about the whereabouts of the following people. NORMA VARDEN, DON CARNEY, AL PEARCE, HELEN O'CONNEL, JIMMY WALLINGTON, PORTLAND HOFFA and GENE ARNOLD. We would also like to hear from anyone who belongs to the AL BOWLY Fan Club. Al was vocalist with the RAY NOBLE ORCHESTRA. The club is headquartered in England.

LEROY BREMMER, RADIO PIONEER, DIES AT 71.....

Atlantic City -- (RDNS) Leroy Bremmer co-owner of radio station WLDB here and a radio pioneer, died June 15th. He was 71.

Mr. Bremmer had owned the station here with his wife, Dorothy since 1955. He was the inventor of an automatic system of tuning used in broadcast receivers.

Mr. Bremmer was born in Iowa Falls, Ia. As a radio engineer he helped to establish stations in Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio, and Los Angeles, California. Before coming to Atlantic City, he worked for the United Nations at Lake Success, N. Y., where the world organization maintained headquarters before moving to New York City.

RNSA ANNUAL DUES ARE NOW \$5.00.

JACK HYLTON

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

FROM MONMOUTH-EVERGREEN...ANOTHER HIT RECORDING. TURN BACK THE PAGES OF TIME BY SLIPPING THIS RECORDING ON YOUR TURNTABLE. IT HAS TWELVE BIG HITS OF THE 30s.

THE KING'S HORSES 1930
THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS 1930
I MAY BE WRONG 1930
JACK O' LANTERNS 1930
PAINTING THE CLOUDS WITH SUN-
SHINE 1929
GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART 1931

HANDSOME GIGOLO 1930
WITH A SONG IN MY HEART 1930
MY SUNSHINE IS YOU 1931
YOU ARE MY HEART'S DELIGHT 1930
BODY AND SOUL 1930
LITTLE WHITE LIES 1930

This recording is done in high fidelity STEREO and the sound is SUPERB! Price is \$5.98 postpaid. Send check or money order to:

MONMOUTH EVERGREEN RECORDS
1697 BROADWAY
DEPT. "R"
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.
10019

NEWS BITS::::: Member Ed Evers of Chicago surprised us with a visit in June. He was visiting friends in the Aitkin area and stopped to visit my mother. I had the chance to visit with him at my mothers home. Great guy! He has asked us to inform other members that he has ceased trading for the summer also that he has changed his address to: P.O. Box 42784, Evergreen Park, Ill. 60642. He plans to start trading in the fall. ::::: Our youngest member to date is Dave Netz, 4620 North 150 St. Brookfield, Wisc. 53005. Dave is 13 years of age...very interested in old radio shows but as yet he has no tape recorder. RHSA is always glad to welcome young fellows that have radio as a hobby.::::: Member Arthur W. Thompson, 1500 Webster Street, Baltimore, MD. 21230 says: "Please remove my name from the tape swapping list. Due to many heavy work schedules in the spring and summer I am unable to spend as much time as I would like recording. I will inform you when I am again able to participate". ::::: We have been informed that Jim O'Neal (not a member) was in Cloquet recently and tried to get in touch with us. Lets hear from you Jim. ::::: If YOU enjoy the old orchestras of the 30's and 40's be sure and notice the two ads in this issue...JACK HYLTON and his orchestra and AMBROSE and his orchestra. Also, take notice of the ad "Those Wonderful 30's"...the stars of radio. All collectors of radio nostalgia should have them in their library of sound....tell a friend about R.H.S.A!

THE FALL OF A HERO BY ROSENBAUM

The following article is printed with the permission of Mr. Arthur Rosenbaum. Mr. Rosenbaum is Sports Editor for the San Francisco Chronicle and Examiner. This article was published by the San Francisco papers April 26th 1970.

In sport, the French have a word for it - repechage. It means "another chance," and is a device often used in round-robin competitions where a single loss does not knock out the competitor. Repechage came to mind the other day when it was learned that Jack Keough, a former radio broadcaster, had died in San Francisco at the age of 65. Most of you never heard of Jack Keough, but no matter. His case is a minor classic as an example of changing folkways. He was guilty of an unpardonable sin for which he received a life sentence. The irony is that today, in these looser times, it is possible to spell out Jack Keough's sin in a family newspaper without a hint of censorship.

In the late 20's eyewitnesses will testify, Keough was this area's No. 1 man in talk-radio. His voice was mellifluous, his tone sincere, his words knowledgeable. Remember, too, that this was long before television and in the earliest days of public radio. Kids made their own crystal sets the way they take cars apart now. Some radios had horns attached, like the old gramophone.

Keough was big. "Studio Variety" was the theme and his voice was heard often. His two major stints were baseball--he broadcast the old baseball Seals' games from the 15th and Valencia streets Recreation Park, and he conducted a beddy-bye time for children in which he was known as "Big Brother".

One day after a particularly engrossing bed-time story for the tots which had obviously pleased him, he said, "Well, I guess that will hold the little bastards."

It was said with a certain sense of pride and love. He had, he thought, done a good job that night.

One problem. He thought he had signed off, but either he or the engineer did not press the button that killed the microphone. The damning sentence got on the air.

Another problem. "Big Brother" was so popular that the audience included more adults than children. The children alone might not have known what Big Brother had said, but the pious parents did. The town was in an uproar. The station, KPO, couldn't handle the phone calls and letters of protest.

Keough's name was --- if one may leap forward to modern language--- --a four letter word. Naturally he had to be fired from his kiddie show, but eventually, he was also ruled off as baseball sportscaster.

Continued on
next page

STATE AND LOCAL CHAPTERS

BY: ROGER HILL

The idea of a local chapter is based on similar ideas existing in the past and now in organizations. I am a member of the American Medical Technologists Association for example and we have state societies in each state in the U. S. plus Canada. Our California group is called simply California State Society of American Medical Technologists. Years ago, EC (Entertaining Comics), who used to have all those delightful gory comics hated so much by Dr. Wertham, had local chapters throughout the country which included a little certificate, membership card, button, etc. I am not saying we should have all such accoutrements, but these are two of the past and present such groups. It is my impression now that membership (and non-membership) in a revival of interest in old radio programs has reached such a point that local or state chapters of the RADIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA would be a desirable arrangement. Such chapters would perform several hoped for functions.

(1) Keep each other informed on what is happening in the area of taping, collecting, etc.

(2) Provide support for an organization which has the only legitimate claim to even a semi-professional nature i.e., The RHSA. Such support to be in the form of articles for publication, and other pertinent information.

(3) Unify a great many divergent splinter groups, thereby creating strength through unity.

(4) More effectively spread the credo of the RHSA--i.e., to disapprove and discourage selling of old radio programs.

The reason for not selling old radio programs has reached a point of more than legality and copyrights. Several people who have transcriptions, tapes or access to such are expressing their unwillingness to release this material for the enjoyment of others since they do not want it to be sold or take a chance in being involved later in legal suits. Mr. Carlton E. Morse is one such person. Mr. Robert Bloch is another. Mr. Bert Gould is another. All of these people have been connected in one way or another with old radio. All have material which could contribute to the enjoyment of many tape collectors. All would like to be and appreciated all over again by younger folks for their past artistry. But all refuse to release any material which may be sold or otherwise involved in profit-seeking ventures.

All of us who collect and enjoy listening to old radio would like to acquire at least a few more programs in excellent sound. Needless to say, I think too many of us have material in poor, unlistenable condition. Many of us enjoy sharing at least certain programs with other collectors just simply because our hobby and interests are to be shared and enjoyed by others. Some of us have a true appreciation and respect for both the living and dead producers-writers-directors-actors, etc. who were once responsible for what we now receive so much pleasure from. These collectors would not wish to hurt the feelings of these people by SELLING their works like so much POTTAGE. A few collectors have even become dedicated to the biographical research involving a program series or specific personality. And here I think specifically of member Jay Hickerson who has been researching Suspense, Neade Frierson III (continued next page)

STATE & LOCAL CHAPTERS -CONTINUED-

who has contributed much to our knowledge of the Science-Fiction programs and Al Vesik who has dedicated himself to collecting Bing Crosby material. Such men are to be greatly respected and assisted when ever possible.

In short, the selling of programs by a few may help them defray somewhat their expenses in this hobby, but it is harming many of us who believe a hobby is a hobby and not a business. Webster says a hobby is a favorite occupation pursued for amusement, not an avocation!

To continue on with the functions of increased strength and effectiveness through chapters supporting the RHSA.

(5) Preserve and promote trading integrity.

(6) Act with concerted effort to acquire uncirculated, lost, stored or otherwise untaped material of old radio. How many people have transcriptions but NO turntable to play them while a few miles away, there is a tape hobbyist who has a turntable but no transcriptions!

(7) Assist each other with tape problems and growth of tape libraries.

There are many other functions which local or state chapters could provide but suffice it to say for now that the time has come for us to begin acting with more unity and less selfishness. The size of a collection is less important than the dedication of the collector. A dedicated sincere individual will seek out worthwhile material and if given 20 hours on credit, will soon repay twenty-times over in what he is able to unearth for other collectors.

In addition to the local/state chapter idea, I also think it is time for us to more fully support not only Charles Ingersoll but the ideals and aims of the RADIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA through its publication. We need a larger, slicker magazine with a more permanent editorial staff willing to lift some of the effort from Mr. Ingersoll's shoulders. For quite some time now, Charlie has assembled, edited and mailed the RADIO DIAL with no help. RHSA members might care to send in ideas along these lines of new, expanded RADIO DIAL magazine and state/local chapters to: ROGER W. HILL, 1231 GROVE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. ZIP-94117. I will read your letters and pass the information on to Charlie for publication in the next issue of RADIO DIAL.

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DEATHS

Franklyn MacCormack, veteran Chicago (WGN) radio personality died of an apparent heart attack suffered while doing his all-night radio show Saturday June 12th.

Mr. MacCormack, who was in his 60's, was well known for his readings of poetry.

He had suffered a heart attack about nine months ago and was hospitalized for a short time. Mr. MacCormack served as host of the "All Night Showcase" on WGN radio for twelve years and in recent years also hosted a half-hour show "The Magic Of Music" during the period immediately preceding the midnight-to-dawn program.

A native of Waterloo, Iowa, Mr. MacCormack began his work in radio in the 1930's, doing dramatic roles and later working as an announcer. During the mid-30's he teamed with Wayne King in a series of combining readings of poetry with King's background music.

The poetry reading to music was still part of the routine on Mr. MacCormack's radio shows.

He also published a book of verse and made two concert appearances reading poetry at the Chicago Civic Opera House.

Survivors include his widow, Barbara, who was his secretary prior to their marriage in 1961.

Mr. MacCormack was an Honorary member of Radio Historical Society of America.

This issue of RADIO DIAL will reach members late. Due to many set-back's and a severe case of Summer Flu this issue is about thirty days late. Our next issue (Autumn) will be bigger and a lot better with many new features and stories about old radio days. We urge members to send in their memories about old radio days. They make very interesting reading.

RADIO TRIVIA

BY: BOB TETZLOFF *****

The Fred Allen Show debuted on October 32, 1932 and was called The Limit Hour. It had many names in years to follow including Town Hall Tonight and the Texaco Star Theater. Take a trip down memory lane and answer these questions if you can.

1. Fred played a Chinese Detective who used to say, "He has a lewclewer." What was the characters name?
2. Allen's Alley was the most popular segment of the show. Name just four of the many residents along the famous alley.
3. What was Fred Allens theme song?
4. Who answered the knock on the door with "Howdy Bub"?
5. Who opened his Allen's Alley door with "W-e-e-e-lel, how do ye do"?
6. O.K. you answered question No. 2 correctly, you hope. I'll name the following people and you can tell me what character they played on Allen's Alley--
a. Parker Fennelly; b. Minerva Pious; c. Kenny Delmar; d. Péter Donald; e. Alan Reed; f. Chas. Cantor.

ANSWERS AT BOTTOM OF PAGE.

As we go to press we received word that Bill Thompson of the Fibber & Mollie Show had pass-away at the age of 58. We will run a story on Bill in next issue. He was RHSA Member.

- ANSWERS TO RADIO TRIVIA.
1. One Long Pan
 2. Titus Moody, Mrs Pansy Nussbaum, Senator Beuregard Claghorn, Ajax Cassidy, Faldstaff Openshaw, Socrates Mulligan, Senator Bloat, John Doe, etc.
 3. Smile Darn Ya Smile.
 4. Titus Moody.
 5. Ajax Cassidy
 6. a. Titus Moody; b. Mrs. Nussbaum; c. Senator Claghorn; d. Ajax Cassidy; e. Faldstaff Openshaw, Socrates Mulligan.