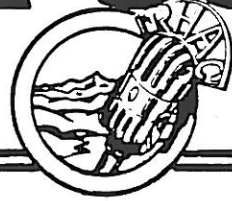


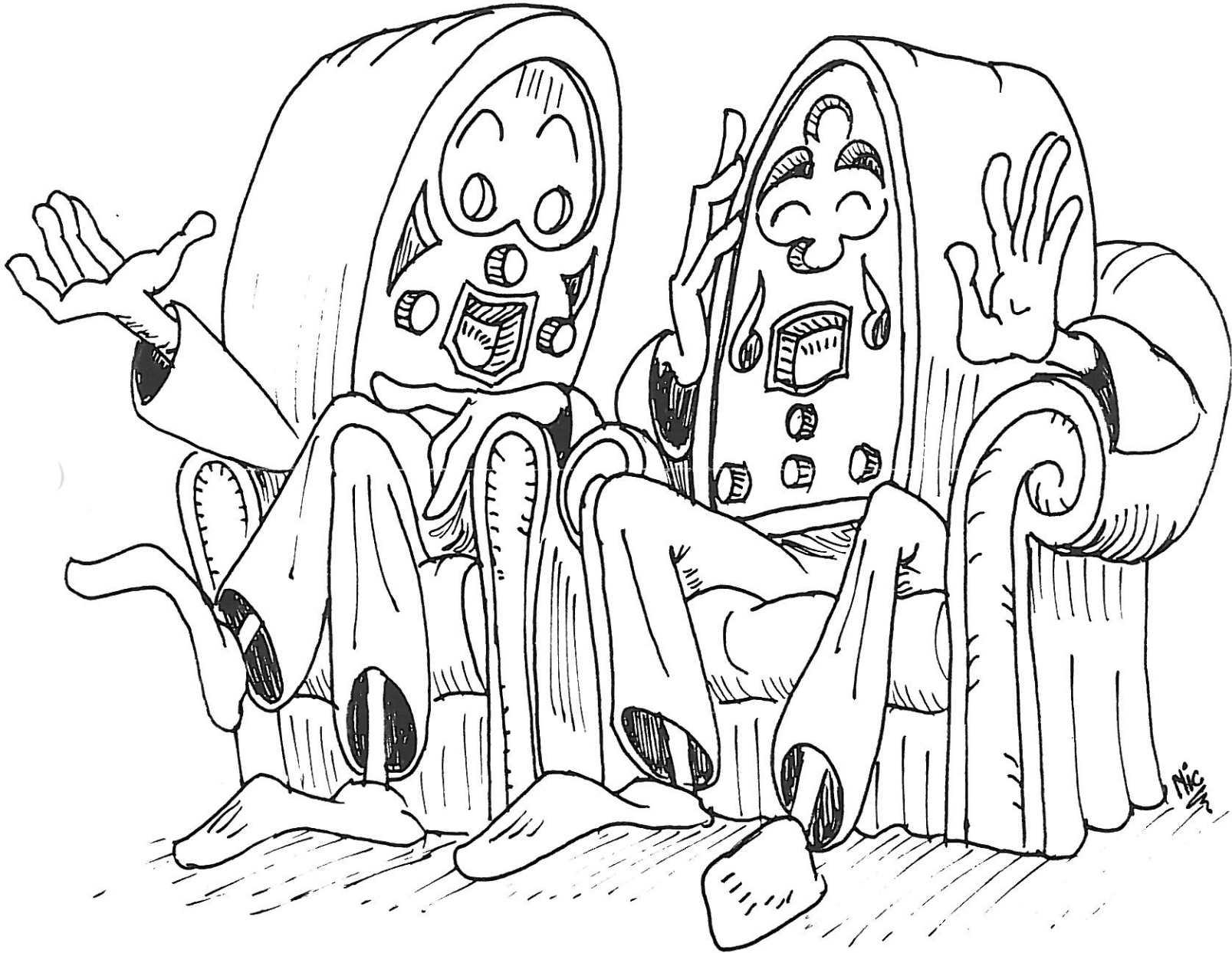
# RETURN WITH US NOW...

The Radio Historical  
Association of Colorado



VOLUME 9, NUMBER 2

AUGUST 1983



Heard on the BING CROSBY SHOW (1-22-53)

BING CROSBY: And incidentally: What was all that racket you were making in the kitchen last night?

BOB HOPE: I was having more fun. I was running a stack of your records through the garbage disposal!

AUGUST MEETING

The August meeting of the R.H.A.C. will be held at 7:30 pm on August 18th. The club will continue to meet at the CHURCH of the MASTER - 5152 East 17th Ave.. It is located between Forest and Fairfax Streets just south of 17th. Please use the Filbert Street entrance. Again it is thru the generosity of the Church of the Master and Guy Albright that we continue to meet here.

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JOHN DUNNING'S OTR SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST - KNUS - 710 AM  
SATURDAY'S 4 to 6 pm:

AUGUST 6

SCREEN GUILD THEATRE "For Me and My Gal" Judy Garland. 03-22-43  
COWBOY MATINEE. THE LONE RANGER:"End of the Trail" 11-01-54  
WELCOME TRAVELERS. 04-12-53

AUGUST 13

LUX RADIO THEATRE. "A Man To Remember" Bob Burns. 12-04-39  
COWBOY MATINEE. THE CISCO KID:"Ghost Town Gazette" C. 1949

AUGUST 20

HUMPHREY BOGART PRESENTS. Audition:"The Dead Man" 08-17-49  
ACADEMY AWARD THEATRE. "Kitty Foyle" w/ Ginger Rogers 04-09-46  
COWBOY MATINEE. HOPALONG CASSIDY: "Apaches Don't Need Guns" 1949.

AUGUST 27

JOHNNY DOLLAR "The Frisco Fire Matter" 04-05-59  
ACADEMY AWARD THEATRE. "The Life of Louis Pastuer" 04-13-46  
COWBOY MATINEE. RED RYDER: "The Hacienda Kid" 09-06-46

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SUNDAY'S 11 to 2:00 pm 710 KNUS

AUGUST 7

THE JACK BENNY PROGRAM "Bound for Home on the Train" 01-25-48  
GUNSMOKE "The Preacher" 11-13-55  
THE WORLD'S GREATEST NOVELS. "Wuthering Heights" part 2 01-09-48  
INTERVIEW: Sheldon Leonard

AUGUST 14 - COLORADO SHOW

LUX RADIO THEATRE. "Silver Dollar" The Tabor's. 60min 04-03-39  
FRONTIER FIGHTERS. "The Rush To Colorado" early syn. show C.1935  
THE WORLD'S GREAT NOVELS "Wuthering Heights" part 3 01-16-48  
INTERVIEW: Hal Kanter - wrote for many Hollywood comedians

AUGUST 21

INFORMATION PLEASE. Guest is Ben Bernie 1939  
DESTINATION FREEDOM. "Negro Cinderella" Lena Horne 06-12-49  
THE WORLD'S GREAT NOVELS. "Wuthering Heights" conc. 01-23-48

AUGUST 28

ESCAPE. "Operation Fleur de Lis" 07-14-48  
DESTINATION FREEDOM. "The Trumpet Talks" Louis Armstrong 07-31-49  
CRIME CLASSICS. "If A Body Need A Body, Just Call Burke and Hare"

First of 4 shows by Morton Fine and David Friedkin. 12-02-53

RETURN WITH US NOW is the official publication of the Radio Historical Association of Colorado, Inc., a non-profit corporation. The cost of a membership is \$15.00 per year, and allows the member full use of the clubs resources.

For further information contact one of the following:

PRESIDENT: John Lloyd-2667 E. 99th Ave., Thornton, CO 80229- 451-7890  
VICE PRESIDENT: John Adams-2811 Valentia St., Denver, CO 80231- 755-9185  
TREASURER and  
TAPE LIBRARIAN: John Misrala-7213 Roxbury Pl., Littleton, CO 80123 - 979-0755  
SECRETARY: Reid Hansen-1205 Carr, Lakewood, CO 80215- 232-8068  
BLANK TAPE SALES: Barrett Benson-P.O. Box 1690, Arvada, CO 80001- 422-6442  
EDITOR: John Callor-P.O. Box 1109, Westminster, CO 80030- 429-4639

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The RHAC would like to welcome the following new members:

Jeff Heuss 6945 Mikado Ln. Colorado Springs, CO 80919 7-84  
Armand DiFilippo 1825 South Rosewood St., Philadelphia, PA 19145 7-84  
Hotch Alipounarian 1310 12th St. North Bergen, NJ 07047 8-84

From last month please correct the spelling of new member Jim Huska. We hope that the new members will ask questions and take advantage of the clubs many resources. If any of the officers or any other members can help you out in any way, just drop us a line.

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We would like to thank the following for renewing with the RHAC for another fun filled and exciting year:

John Callor P.O. Box 1109, Westminster, CO 80030 6-84

\*\*\*\*\*

Please take note of the following changes of address:

Charles Barton 190 E. Geddes Ave., Littleton, CO 80122  
Dave Tysver 554 Shannon Way, Lawrenceville, GA 30245

\*\*\*\*\*

THANK'S TO VIR JAMES

We would like to thank Mr. Vir James who was our guest speaker at the July meeting. It was a very informative and totally enjoyable evening. Mr. James spoke about his experiences with his first radio sets, as well as his first radio station.

Mr. James founded radio station KVHR in Salida, Co. as well as KLVC in Leadville, Co.. Mr. James has donated to the RHAC a copy of the Collier's magazine with a very interesting article about his station KVHR. It will be copied and made available to the membership soon.

Mr. James is a member of several engineering organizations and is on the U.S. Metric Board. He has worked from coast to coast and boarder to boarder and we wish him continued good health and success.

Again, thanks to Vir James for making our meeting a great one and hope to hear from him again soon. Mr. James will be receiving a copy of Return With Us Now and is an honorary member of the RHAC.

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ELECTIONS

Now is the time to start thinking who you would like to see as candidates for officers in the RHAC. Elections of officers will be at the September meeting. More information to follow.

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GUEST SPEAKER AT AUGUST MEETING

Come one and all to the AUGUST meeting of the RHAC to hear...Mr.Old Time Radio, John Dunning. John has been with us for many years and promises a very intersting and informative meeting. Our thanks to John for taking time from his busy schedule to join us at this meeting.

We hope to see everyone at the August meeting.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

The December meeting of the RHAC will be a dinner meeting at the Heratige Square Opera House. The play is "The Drunkard" and tickets are \$17.25 per person and is on December 10th with dinner at 4:15 pm followed by show at 7:00 pm.

Just get in touch with John Migrala 7213 Roxbury Pl. Littleton, CO 80123 979-0755. Reservations should be made by the November meeting with all moneys also due at the November meeting.

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NEW LOGS

The RHAC has the following new logs available for purchase:

The Green Hornet 4 pgs @ 40 cents Favorite Story 2 pgs @ 30 cents  
Halls of Fantasy 1 pg @ 25 cents Green Valley Line 1 pg @ 25 cents

Send orders to :

John Migrala 7213 Roxbury Pl. Littleton, CO 80123

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IN FOUND MEMORY OF. . . .

Although space does not permit a full article, we feel that the passing of the following people needs mention.

HARRY JAMES- Born March 15, 1916 in Albany, GA.. The Harry James Band was at it's height in the mid 1940's. The James band launched the career of many famous singers and musicians, including Frank Sinatra, Dick Haymes, Helen Forest and Connie Haines. James died at the age of 67.

MARY LIVINGSTON- Wife of Jack Benny and clerk at The May Company for many years on the Jack Benny Program passed away at the age of 77. It is to bad that the passing of a piece of Americana is allowed to leave this world with so little fan fare.

ERNEST CHAPPALL- Narrator and writer of the clasic show QUIET PLEASE is dead at the age of 80. He was also spokesman for Pall Mall cigarettes for 27 years. He was a charter member of AFRA and AFTRA.

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## WALT DISNEY AND RADIO

### Part 4

Some wondered why Walt failed to call his film Song of the South simply "Uncle Remus." Again, Walt was looking for a new kind of entertainment form. In interviews given at the time the film was released, Disney indicated that he planned to make most of his films a blend of live-action and animation from that time on. Although some liberal reviewers and organizations found it offensive in its presentation of the Negro, protest was not widespread. Only when Civil Rights became a major concern of the entire United States during the 1960's did the studio consider withdrawing it. A recent reissue reportedly was one of the company's most successful, however. Movie making and timing are closely tied to success since audience moods constantly change. In a radio promo for the film, we hear that another favorite folktale (even popular in literature classes) has been given magical life with a Disney treatment of the story, music, and eye-appealing color. Music flows through 90 of the film's 95 minutes, including the Academy Award winning Best Song of 1946, "Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah." The song was featured on countless radio programs, but I include SONGS BY SINATRA as an example (12-25-46). Walt had scored another success. No great story is complete until it has been immortalized by the Disney touch.

One might ask what Christmas time would be like without a Disney production on the radio. One series was becoming almost as popular as Barrymore's "A Christmas Carol," namely, Daddy Higgins telling Baby Snooks the story of "Pinocchio." Fanny Brice had secured her own half hour show on CBS after a dozen years or so in various radio formats, including THE ZIEGFELD FOLLIES OF THE AIR on which she "uncorked Snooks for the nation," to quote John Dun-

ning. Beginning in December, 1944, Hanley Stafford, Snooks' long-suffering "Daddy," began to tell Snooks the Disney-like version of "Pinocchio." This presentation was part of CBS's SCREEN GUILD THEATER holiday schedule from 1944 to 1950--ending only then because the show left the air in May, 1951. This has to be the longest-running repeat of any Disney material, although Walt's first screen classic Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was presented often on nearly every major radio program. In a sense the Disney story and music take a back seat to the antics of Snooks and the stack-blowing of Daddy, but perhaps a popular story would live on in spite of how it was presented. At least two of these shows have survived in very good sound. Elsewhere in this series I have noted the effective use of narrators to tell the Disney story rather than an attempted duplication for radio of the film version. This SCREEN GUILD THEATER holiday show must rank as one of the earliest and most popular of such presentations, judging from the repeats--six in a row. Baby Snooks and "Pinocchio" are a half hour of great fun--great radio!

THE SCREEN GUILD THEATER also came through with a production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs for Christmas in 1946 (12-26-46). Two years earlier the program had presented the show but in a February time-slot. Jane Powell was again obtained from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to sing the lead. The youthful Miss Powell lent a lovely lyric soprano voice and a youthful exuberance to the role which she created rather often on the nation's air waves. Disney's story was a perfect match for her rising popularity.

In a rather different vein, Donald Duck was allowed to visit the NBC STORY SHOP in a program entitled "Donald Duck's Vacation Adventures" (8-23-47). Storyteller Craig McDonald welcomed Clarence Nash, who was introduced to the listeners as the voice of Donald Duck. The program borrowed liberally from Walt's new film Fun and Fancy Free. Donald went on vacation from the work he did on the film, yet he succeeded in battling 10,000 Indians, a giant from Happy Valley, and other adversaries. The story incorporated a number of songs from the movie but in a different situation. The program is a bit of fun as well as a good promotion for the motion picture.

On another front, Walt's artistry was

promoted through his music. THE FRED WAR-ING SHOW was a weekly night-time series sponsored by General Electric. The exceptionally long career of Waring and his group was due to a large and distinctive orchestral sound and renowned vocal groups. On August 28, 1947, the show presented a program honoring Disney's Fantasia. Rather than a unique presentation because of Disney music, the program is typical of many programs which were aired over the years made up of music from the Disney studio--illustrating the hold Walt possessed on many fronts. He was popular, and his music was popular.

On September 8, 1947, the ABC Radio Network aired a most unusual program. Taking an almost unpalatable subject--a dull 1,000 page report prepared by seven economists entitled "America's Needs and Resources" and dressing it up as half entertainment--an hour documentary entitled "1960? Jiminy Cricket" was taken on. Through music and utilizing characters from the Disney studio, Jiminy Cricket was the host and narrator who described the future America for Donald Duck and the Seven Dwarfs. That would mean that Clarence Nash and Cliff Edwards were the interpreters in a role Jiminy would assume later on Walt's television show. Before the climax of the show when the chorus and a full orchestra presented "Can This Be Paradise?", a number of real concerns were addressed: mandate-conscious politicians, the effects of the war-time baby boom, strikes, wars, government spending, and natural resources.

Fun and Fancy Free, released on September 27, 1947, was a Disney production which utilized big-name personalities, in this case, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy. On a fun-filled broadcast of THE CHARLIE MCCARTHY SHOW (9-21-47), less than a week preceding the film's release, Walt joined the radio cast along with Donald Duck (Clarence Nash) in plugging the film. It doesn't take long for things to get started. When Charlie says he can do for Walt what he did for Bergen, Walt retorts, "Oh, no. I want to keep my hair!" Walt then brings on Donald Duck, and we hear one of the magical moments of radio, reminiscent of the Charlie McCarthy/W.C. Fields feuds. This time Charlie and The Duck quibble about whose role was best. Charlie tells Donald that his best role would be in a casserole, and the fight is on. Ercil Twing, representing a film dis-

tributor, is checking on the film's "pop-corn appeal," and on this pretense Edgar Bergen agrees to tell the story of "Happy Valley." Charlie reminds him to tell it, not to "ham it." When a giant steals the Singing Harp, the valley isn't happy any more. Three poor farmers--Charlie, Donald, and Ray Noble--trade their cow in for some beans, but not before some "udder" nonsense about the cow not being in the "moo'd." The beans grow into the beanstalk, and we enter into the world of the giant. After some adventures (during which Donald has about three words to say: two "oh's" and an alarm word), the three get the giant's saw and scramble down just in time to cut the huge stalk. The giant comes crashing down as the skit ends. The vocalist on the program is none other than Anita Gordon who was also in the film as the voice of the Magic Singing Harp. Mortimer Snerd is also his usual appealingly stupid self. He has been frightened by one of the characters in the film. It turns out to be himself. Well, the film has high "pop corn appeal" and the promotion is over. Of course, we know that the Disney studio has been true to form in plugging the picture, but Bergen and his wooden friends are also benefitted since his ratings were consistently among the leaders of radio because of such great radio entertainment. This also meant that at least two shows were aired as vehicles to publicize Fun and Fancy Free.

THE NBC UNIVERSITY THEATRE OF THE AIR aired 60-minute adaptations of modern novels tied to college-supervised home-study courses. During intermission time a well-known critic or author talked about the writer whose work was being presented. John Dunning notes that radio drama was seldom better than this. My notes tell me that Walt Disney guested on this prestigious program on October 13, 1947, but that date doesn't check out since it is before the program came to radio. I am also at a loss to tell what production was presented. Perhaps one of you who read this article can inform me of the facts in the case.

A popular breakfast show called HI, JINX! featured Tex McCrary and Jinx Falkenburg who talked about current events, discussed controversial subjects (at least for this period of time), and brought in guests. One such guest was Walt Disney on November 4, 1947. This time around no upcoming release was in the offing at the

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

|                 |  |       |
|-----------------|--|-------|
| <u>REEL 348</u> | <u>JOHN DUNNING INTERVIEWS</u>                         | 1200' |
| 1L              | 4-17-83 Marvin Miller                                  |       |
| 2L              | 5-1-83 Elliott Lewis                                   |       |
|                 | 5-8-83 Jerry Devine                                    |       |
| 1R              | 5-15-83 Ray Bradbury                                   |       |
| 2R              | 5-22-83 The Big Story Award Winners On Denver Post     |       |
| <u>REEL 349</u> | <u>MISCELLANEOUS SHOWS</u>                             | 1200' |
| 1L              | 12-6-50 THE BIG STORY: Denver Post Story               |       |
|                 | 9-18-48 GRAND CENTRAL STATION: Too Young To Understand |       |
| 2L              | 1-21-46 THE FAT MAN: The 19th Pearl                    |       |
|                 | 7-8-46 THE FAT MAN: The Black Angel                    |       |
| 1R              | AFRS PETE KELLY'S BLUES: Altar Boy Murdered            |       |
|                 | 2-20-51 PETE KELLY'S BLUES: Dutch Courtney             |       |
| 2R              | 9-30-45 TOMMY DORSEY ORCHESTRA: One Night Stand        |       |
|                 | 9-9-44 EDDIE CONDON ORCHESTRA: Town Hall Concert       |       |
| <u>REEL 350</u> | <u>PHIL HARRIS-ALICE FAYE SHOW</u>                     | 1200' |
| 1L              | 10-3-48 First Show For Rexall                          |       |
|                 | 10-10-48 Frankie Signs The Contract                    |       |
| 2L              | 10-17-48 Phyllis' Boyfriend                            |       |
|                 | 10-24-48 Frankie Buys Beef                             |       |
| 1R              | 10-31-48 Politics                                      |       |
|                 | 11-7-48 Willie's New Job                               |       |
| 2R              | 11-14-48 The Boys Create A Drug                        |       |
|                 | 12-5-48 Frankie's Aunt                                 |       |
| <u>REEL 351</u> | <u>THE ANDREWS SISTERS</u>                             | 1200' |
| 1L              | 12-5-45 GUEST: Xavier Cugat                            |       |
|                 | 12-12-45 GUEST: George Jessel                          |       |
| 2L              | 12-19-45 GUEST: Ray Noble                              |       |
|                 | 1-9-46 GUEST: Al Pearce                                |       |
| 1R              | 1-23-46 GUEST: Eddie Duchin                            |       |
|                 | 1-30-46 GUEST: Hoagy Carmichael                        |       |
| 2R              | 2-20-46 GUEST: The Charioteers                         |       |
|                 | 2-27-46 GUEST: Gene Austin                             |       |

## RHAC TAPE LIBRARY

|                 |  |       |
|-----------------|--|-------|
| <u>REEL 352</u> | <u>CAMEL CARAVAN/YOUR HIT PARADE/BANDS</u>   | 1200' |
| 1L              | 11-16-37 CAMEL CARAVAN: Double Feature Show  |       |
| 2L              | 10-31-38 CAMEL CARAVAN: With Eddie Cantor<br>6-25-55 YOUR HIT PARADE: 1st - Cherry Pink              |       |
| 1R              | 10-2-42 CAMEL CARAVAN: With Xavier Cugat, Connie Boswell   |       |
| 2R              | 4-10-44 COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA: My Ideal<br>6-16-44 LIONEL HAMPTON ORCHESTRA: I'll Get By             |       |
| <br>            |  |       |
| <u>REEL 353</u> | <u>ADVENTURES OF FRANK MERRIWELL</u>   | 1200' |
| 1L              | 10-6-46 The Riddle Of The Wrong Answer<br>11-20-48 The Senior Dinner                                 |       |
| 2L              | 6-26-48 The Unreasonable Aunt<br>10-23-48 Mystery Of The Missing Records                             |       |
| 1R              | 11-6-48 The Doubtful Alibi<br>5-22-48 The Mystery Of The Iron Door                                   |       |
| 2R              | 8-9-47 The Riddle Of The Dry Well<br>12-13-47 The Harris Heirlooms                                   |       |
| <br>            |  |       |
| <u>REEL 354</u> | <u>CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER</u>  | 1200' |
| 1L              | 2-6-47 The Gray Kitten<br>3-6-47 The Mysterious Lodger   |       |
| 2L              | 8-29-46 The Red Raincoat<br>1-16-47 The Surprising Corpse  |       |
| 1R              | 3-20-47 The Demon Miner<br>4-13-50 The Disappearance Of Mr. Gazell                                   |       |
| 2R              | 4-24-47 The Gentle Strangler<br>1-3-54 Road Angel  |       |
| <br>            |  |       |
| <u>REEL 355</u> | <u>COUNTERSPY</u>  | 1200' |
| 1L              | 4-4-50 The Case Of The Magic Murder<br>4-11-50 The Case Of The Mile High Murders                     |       |
| 2L              | 4-13-50 The Case Of The Hoodlum's Hero<br>4-18-50 The Case Of The Fabulous Formula                   |       |
| 1R              | 4-20-50 More Facts In The Case Of The Fabulous Formula<br>4-27-50 The Case Of The Murdered Confessor |       |
| 2R              | 5-2-50 The Case Of The Soaring Saucer<br>5-4-50 The Case Of The Crystalline Double Cross             |       |



Disney studio, although one had been released shortly before this time.

About a month later Walt was given a Happy Birthday salute on THE FRED WARING show (12-5-47). Besides some interesting chatter about the 120 appearances of Mickey Mouse in cartoon, that Mickey's voice changed when Walt had his tonsils out, that Edgar Bergen had talked face to face with a giant, and that Roy Rogers was soon to cavort with cartoon characters, we hear some of the Disney music: "Full of Fun and Fancy Free" and "In My Favorite Dreams" from Walt's latest feature Fun and Fancy Free, "Brazil" which was featured in Saludos Amigos, "Uncle Remus" as well as "Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah" from Song of the South, and the ever popular "When You Wish Upon a Star" from Pinocchio. Although Walt is listed in my sources as having made a personal appearance, he does not appear.

During this time there was a salute to Mickey Mouse on radio, reminiscent of THIS IS YOUR LIFE, but since the credits are missing, I am unable to say on which program. Whenever the program was aired, it would have been one of the few to trace the life and time of a mythical character. It's interesting to note that some of the beginnings of Mr. Mouse are shrouded

in mystery. He begins and gains popularity, but somehow in a rather unaccountable way. At the same time one must reflect that Mickey Mouse has touched all of us in one way or another.

At least twice before SCREEN GUILD THEATER had presented special broadcasts featuring Disney material. The third occasion was a charming one. Little Margaret O'Brien joined Uncle Jimmy Durante to tell and hear the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Margaret is wide-eyed even on radio while Jimmy is her perfect foil. These famous personalities are a drawing card in and of themselves, and it is from them that we gain enjoyment. We are carefully told the story of "Snow White" but almost second-handedly. Mary Jane Smith does the singing for us, but there is little of the Disney magic, although little Margaret is a match for charm. Snow White is no longer recognizable as the girl we met through the Disney classic. The show (6-7-48) is still entertaining, but in a different way.

Walt added two feature films to his roster late in the year 1948: Melody Time premiered August 31, and So Dear To My Heart was released for the Christmas holidays. (TO BE CONTINUED) -Reid G. Hansen

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**CREDITS:** This month's cover was drawn by Dave Nichol who has done covers for us in the past. Additional cover layout was done by Reid Hansen, including the transcription from the BING CROSBY SHOW. The radios seem to be fairly chuckling!

The continuing article on "Walt Disney and Radio" was written by Reid Hansen who is indebted to John Dunning for background information on various radio programs, to David R. Smith of the Walt Disney Archives for program chronology, and to THE DISNEY POSTER BOOK published by Harmony Books and THE DISNEY FILMS by Leonard Maltin for helpful information.

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**SPECIAL NOTE:**

Our congratulations to MUSIC AND THE SPOKEN WORD featuring the Salt Lake Mormon Tabernacle Choir for beginning their 55th Year of continuous broadcasting. The radio program is heard weekly on KOA in Denver each Sunday morning at 5:30 am.

**WILLY 'N' ETHEL**



"DO I LIKE MY JOB!? I'D BETTER LIKE IT!! IT COST ME 80 THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF PLASTIC SURGERY"

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