

Stand By

JANUARY 4, 1936



TOMMY ROWE

Someone
Cares!

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Features

SOMEONE CARES!

Good Neighbors Give
15,000 Children Joy



"SAY, if you're Santa Claus, where's your whiskers?" inquired little Russell Kneale, at the Country Home for Convalescent Children, near West Chicago.

Russell is one of the crippled boys in the boys' ward at this home. He came from Gary, Indiana. Arthur Page and the writer had just delivered a brand new Christmas Neighbors Club radio. John Page, his son, installed the radio. My father was along, too, on this happy Christmas morning visit. We took a photographer with us so that you Christmas Club members might see a picture of the happy boys and their new radio. I learned on that visit just how Santa Claus must feel, thanks to the nearly 10,000 WLS neighbors who made all of this possible.

Miss Elizabeth Johnston, superintendent, had met us at the door to express the gratification of the Home that we had made a new radio available to them. She escorted us to the boys' ward where there are a number of bed patients.

They Needed It

"Here's where the radio's to be put, because me and another boy had the idea of writing for it and we sure need it," spoke up Alex Chalko, Whiting, Indiana.

John had the radio working within five minutes and in came WLS with a program featuring Winnie, Lou and Sally with Howard Chamberlain.

We called Eddie Allan at the studio and he gave the facts about this incident to Howard, who helped dedicate the new radio for the Convalescent Children's Home on the air.

I wish you might have been with us to have seen the happiness that fairly radiated from the faces of these "shut-in" boys. You would have been prouder than ever that you had a part in this wonderful work.

By
George
Biggar

Above, this group in the boys' ward at the Country Home for Convalescent Children stopped dialing only long enough for a picture; at right, three residents of St. Joseph's Bohemian Orphanage found it a happy Christmas.



If it had been possible for us to have personally delivered the more than 110 radios into all the orphanages, children's wards in hospitals, crippled children's homes and similar institutions throughout Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan, we are sure we would have seen the joy of the boys in the Convalescent Children's Home duplicated many times in every single one of them. It is simply impossible for us to convey to you the happiness brought by these Christmas Neighbors' Club radios, as exemplified in the institutions visited.

I had an opportunity also to visit the St. Joseph Bohemian Orphanage, near Lisle, Illinois, on Christmas Day. The Rev. Anselm J. Fleisig, O.S.B., gathered the third and fourth grade boys and girls around their new radio so that we might get a picture. Father Fleisig wanted us to express the thanks of that fine institution to you radio listeners.

Jack Holden and Harold Safford delivered a radio the day before Christmas to the children's ward of the Mary Thompson Women's and Children's Hospital, not far from our

studios. They had a similar story to tell—a story of the inexpressible happiness of the bed-ridden boys and girls because of this Christmas radio. They had not had a radio before that.

Dave Thompson, Prairie Farmer's Indiana editor, visited the Indianapolis Orphans' Home on December 24. Here is his report: "The radio was attached to a light plug near the Christmas tree. The children were gathered around before the men had it all fixed up. There was a real look of expectancy on the children's faces.

"When they hooked it up, without either aerial or ground, a twist of the dials brought in a station where someone was singing 'Come to the Church in the Wildwood.'" The children listened a little while and one of them said: 'Get Jingle Bells!' and several others piped up, 'Yes, get Jingle Bells!' So the matron turned the dial past one or two stations and very soon brought in 'Jingle Bells'. The children immediately started

singing with the radio. This radio is being placed in the reception room, where it is needed most of all, for it is during the first two or three weeks after they come to the orphanage that they need the most cheer."

And so the story goes—a story of year around radio happiness for underprivileged boys and girls, made possible because of the generosity and the thoughtfulness of nearly 10,000 WLS listeners. As this

was written, we had received nearly \$3,400 and had delivered radios to over 110 boys' and girls' institutions. It is estimated that over 15,000 children will be served by these radios.

The Christmas Neighbor Club radios were shipped or otherwise placed in institutions for boys and girls from Southern Indiana and Illinois to Northern Wisconsin and Michigan. Dozens of creeds and nationalities were served, including homes and hospitals supported by states or counties; Lutheran, Methodist, Catholic, Baptist, Jewish, and colored orphanages and hospitals; and others supported by lodges and veterans' organizations. The Wisconsin School for the Blind, Janesville, was served, and also a number of institutions supported by private contributions.

The Mamre Moravian Church, Watertown, Wisconsin, has requested a radio for their orphanage at Nunapitsinghak, Bethel P. O., Alaska. We are determining the feasibility of carrying out this request and will do it, if possible.

Our other WLS Yuletide project was the Christmas (To page 13)

Fanfare



Reporter Starts New Year Right

By MARJORIE GIBSON

GREETINGS, everyone, and Happy New Year! We're going to start the new year right by devoting all our space to your questions today.

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"Where were the Hoosier Sod Busters born and how old are they?" queries Bill Stafford of Vincennes, Indiana. Reggie Cross was born in Chicago on April 27, 1911. Howard Black was born in Morris, Illinois, on February 4, 1911.

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Mrs. Vida Maxwell of Lake City, Michigan, asks these questions. "Does Jack Holden play a part in Uncle Ezra's show?" No. Jack announces the Station EZRA program but he does not take part in it.

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"What has become of the Big Brother Club formerly heard over WBBM?" . . . queries Mrs. Harry Westberg of Chicago. This program has been discontinued. Willie Botts, who wrote, directed and appeared on the program, has been on the National Barn Dance for the past two months as a negro character. His partner on the barn dance show is Possum Tuttle, one of the end men on the Morning Minstrel show heard daily at 8:45. Did you know that Willy Botts is Vance McCune, father of Possum Tuttle who is Vance McCune, Jr.?

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"Who is Sally Foster heard on Uncle Ezra's Station EZRA show and the Alka Seltzer barn dance?" inquires Ruth Riske of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Sally is a young lady from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who has been appearing for the past two years with the Badger State Barn Dance. She yodels, sings hillbilly songs and ballads and plays the git-tar.

Answering a couple of questions for Helen Kobb of Mishawaka, Indiana. Possum Tuttle of the Morning Minstrels is played by Vance McCune, Jr. Skyland Scotty's real name is Scott Wiseman.

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Answering several questions for Mrs. J. B. Smith of Chicago concerning Charles Lyon, NBC announcer: Charles Lyon is 32 years old. He was born in Detroit on March 1, 1903. Yes, he is married. He was an announcer at WTAM before coming to NBC in Chicago. Started out to be a dentist, but after one year at the University of Michigan, convinced his mother he was born to the stage. In Hollywood played juvenile leads in Cameo comedies. Left and signed ship's articles as able seaman. Later became assistant to Stuart Walker in Cincinnati and got to Broadway playing in "The Poor Nut."

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"What part does Dorothy Day McDonald play in the 'Betty and Bob' show and in the 'Aunt Abby Jones' skit? And is Bess Johnson who portrays the part of Fran in 'Today's Children' the same Bess Johnson heard as Lady Esther?" These questions are from a name-shy Chicago listener. Dorothy Day McDonald plays incidental parts but no regular character in the "Betty and Bob" skit. In the "Aunt Abby Jones" sketch which is no longer on the air, Dorothy was Angie Weaver and Mrs. Martin, the gossip neighbor lady. Yes, Bess Johnson who plays "Fran" in "Today's Children," is also heard as Lady Esther.

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"How many couples have been married over the WLS microphones?" queries Nellie Smith of Broadlands, Illinois. Two couples. First Elsie Mae Look and Ralph Waldo Emerson said "I do" over the microphone and later Mae Oliver and Trulan Wilder were married on the air.

"What is the theme song of "Today's Children" broadcast from NBC each morning at 9:30?" asks Audrey Lember of Bourbon, Indiana. It is "Aphrodite."

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Mrs. H. Hartog of Chicago, asks, "What part does Dorothy Day McDonald play in 'Painted Dreams'? And is Paul Nettinga any relation to Professor Nettinga of Hope College in Holland, Michigan?" Dorothy Day McDonald has played numerous incidental characters in the WGN "Painted Dreams" sketch, but she has never played a regular character in the show. However, Dorothy's daughter, Jean, used to be heard on "Painted Dreams" as Tony. Jean is the little girl who appears with Georgie Goebel and Bill Vickland on the Malt-O'Meal program each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:30 a. m.

Professor Nettinga who is president of the Western Theology Seminary which is located near the campus of Hope College, is the father of Paul Nettinga, first tenor with the Hometowns' quartet. Paul, by the way, is a graduate of Hope College.

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Fancier

Johnny Green, Jack Benny's music major domo, has a collection of 147 pipes of all shapes and designs from all parts of the world, yet he always smokes an old French briar that he bought for a dollar when he was a freshman at Harvard.

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CEREMONY



A NEW STUDY of Hotan Tonka, Indian story teller, as he demonstrates part of an Ojibway tribal ceremony.

KNITTING KNOWS NO SEASON

AFTER the enthusiastic response to the suggestions for the dull after-Christmas period received last week I concentrated on more things to do when the holiday excitement has died down. So many girls at the station knit, dull season or no, that I decided to do a little investigating about that occupation. It **MUST** be a pleasant pastime when so many knit so constantly. Even if you have never gone in for knitting I really believe that one hour of "knitting one, perling two" would turn you into a dyed-in-the-wool knitter . . . you, in your turn, converting others to a fascinating task that reaps so many rewards. It seems to work that way.

After deciding that this might be interesting to you, I went around to various instructors to find out what, if any, new trends were taking place in the knitting fashion world. There are plenty! Right now, I found, is the time when most women take to knitting seriously. They begin working on Spring ensembles—lovely pastels, pale natural cream colors, dead whites for suits and frocks.

Any yarn you buy now should be light, cool and perhaps silky. The newest yarn (best knitted with large needles) is a soft nubby cotton with a rayon thread running through it. The nub, as you have probably guessed, is a firm knot that appears occasionally in the yarn. After the dress is knitted, this knot gives it a tweedy look, while the rayon thread makes it look silken. The frock knitted in this glorious new cotton is divinely light in weight and very interesting looking. But . . . take great care when you knit dresses in this yarn. Cotton is not so sympathetic to stretching as woolens. The blocking afterwards will not affect it sufficiently if it is not "knit to fit."

Another favorite, much in demand is String. When you get right down to it, it is a pretty

grand thing for sports dresses. The homespun look is very effective when it combines neutral shades with a study color. Incidentally, although one of the most attractive, it is one of the least expensive.

The Spring book on knitted fashions comes out about January 15. I understand that it dwells at great length on shirtwaist styles. This is the newest fashion for knits. There's a movement away from high necklines. The later models have V's and low square lines. Sometimes these are filled in with matching or contrasting silk ascot or triangular scarfs. Accessories are very important with the newer knitted frocks. With the coming of lighter colors this would naturally be true. Bright color is needed to pep up white and cream colors and is needed for Spring feeling. Patent leather belts, hand bags and buttons in gay colors **DO** add much to a pastel frock. If your frock is made of rough string, here's an idea for smaller accessories. Natural accents for such a dress are cork, wooden or leather touches. They match the string in spirit and harmony. In color they are very interesting.

As far as colors are concerned, they follow the fashion-trend set by Parisian designs. You have a marvelous opportunity to use your own imagination this year, however. One of the most famous fashion magazines recently illustrated what is being done with the combinations of different shades to make them more individual, and more unusual. For example . . . a lot of shell pink for accent on a darkish green ensemble; bright blue and white with black; vivid red with brown (perhaps a little yellow with this). You can see how far you can go . . . and, in 1936 go as far as you like. It's going to be a colorful year.

Here's happy knitting!

—Shari.



How To Use That New Waffle Iron

"GOODY! Let's have waffles for lunch tonight," was probably the exclamation of joy from both Junior and Daddy, as they removed the gay wrappings from the waffle iron Santa had left under the Christmas tree.

If Santa was thoughtful in leaving directions for the care of the long-wanted iron, Mother, no doubt promised them immediately. But if not, she may still be waiting for specific instruction for treating it before she ventures to use it.

Just in case . . . follow these directions and your iron will serve you well. Never wash the grids of the iron. Heat the waffle iron, closed for 8 to 10 minutes, or until it reaches baking temperature. Then grease thoroughly with any salad oil and bake a waffle. Discard this waffle. This is all the preliminary treatment your new waffle iron needs and it is now ready to bake your waffles forever more without being greased again.

Use Care with Water

When you have finished baking, leave the iron open while it is cooling to prevent discoloration of the grids. Brush the grids before putting away. Should you use too much batter so that it runs over the sides as it bakes, you may use a damp cloth on the outside of the iron but be careful not to get the electrical connection or the grids wet.

The recipe used with an electric waffle iron should call for more fat than does one baked in an iron over a gas or coal range. At least three tablespoons of fat to a cup of flour should be used.

Should Be Hot

Another possible cause of waffles sticking is baking it before the iron is sufficiently hot. If your iron does not have a heat indicator, you may test the grids with a drop of water as you do the pancake griddle. When the iron is hot enough for baking, a drop of water will form a perfect ball and dance around.

Waffle batter which is too thick

By
**MARY
WRIGHT**

makes a thick, bready waffle. Add more milk if you want a more crisp waffle. If you follow these instructions, I'm sure you'll always have success.

This recipe has been a favorite in our family for many years:

WAFFLES

1 1/2 c. all purpose flour or 1 1/2 c. pastry flour	1/2 tsp. salt
3 tsp. baking powder	1 c. milk
	4 tbsp. fat (melted)
	2 eggs

Sift flour once before measuring and sift again with baking powder and salt. Beat eggs, add fat and milk and add this mixture to the dry ingredients, beating to make a smooth batter. If you like, you may beat the egg whites separately and fold into batter just before baking.

After you have satisfied your family with waffle breakfasts, luncheons and Sunday night suppers, serving them with pork sausages, bacon, frizzled ham, creamed chicken, maple syrup or drizzled honey, and steaming cups of fragrant coffee, then you are just ready to start on your adventures with your waffle iron.

From the long list of novelty waffles, including cheese waffles, shortcake waffles, corn waffles and ginger bread waffles, here is another favorite, which I have used many years.

CHOCOLATE NUT WAFFLES

1/2 c. butter	1/4 tsp. salt
1 c. sugar	1 tsp. baking powder
2 eggs	2 squares melted chocolate
1/2 c. milk	1 c. nut meats.
1 1/2 c. all purpose flour or 1 1/2 c. pastry flour	

Cream butter and sugar. Add slightly beaten eggs. Sift dry ingredients together and add alternately with milk to first mixture. Add melted chocolate and nuts. Bake in hot waffle iron.

This is a delicate waffle and care is needed to remove it from the iron. Cut the sections and remove them individually. One section topped with ice cream or whipped cream makes a delicious dessert for either luncheon or dinner.

Both Santa Claus and the family will be happy if you keep that waffle iron in a convenient place so it can and will be used frequently.

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Handy

There are something over 100 ash trays scattered around Sigmund Romberg's New York apartment. The famous composer smokes constantly while he is working, and he may decide to work in any part of the house, preparing scores for his Tuesday night Swift Studio Party broadcasts over NBC.

Buttram Butts In

I wuz walkin' along Michigan Boulevard this week an' I noticed a stature thar an' I went out to see who it wuz uv an' it wuz uv Andrew Jackson. I wuz jest thinkin' . . . when they unveiled that stature there wuz five thousand people that see it. A politician er two talked fer a couple uv hours about it . . . fer a day er two a big fuss wuz made over it . . . an' since then there ain't a dozen people noticed it.

I got a letter frum James Knott down in Winston county . . . he sez that there's a new fad jest hit down there where somebody sends ye a letter and ye scratch off the top name an' send 'im a dollar er somethin'. I think it's called a chain letter.

(Ad Lisp) Holden pulled another boner th' other day. He bought a ice cream cone an' when he'd et all th' cream he tuck th' cone back an' thanked th' lady fer th' use uv th' cup . . . anybody but a lunkhead knows that they're made outta pasteboard an' ye kin jest throw 'em away.

Yourn til ye exchange yer Xmas (Short fer Christmas) presents,

Pat Buttram.

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BEARIN' DOWN



Buddy Gilmore of the Tune Twisters really "bears down" on every note as he works through a tricky guitar passage. The picture was snapped as Buddy was on the air.

Man on the Cover

GIVE Tommy Rowe a cigar, a collection of wires, tubes, sockets, soldering irons, radio apparatus and a broadcasting problem that looks impossible and he's happy.

Hanging from the lodge pole of the Rowe tepee are (or should be) the scalps of dozens of tough assignments which Tommy as Chief Engineer and his able assistants have whipped.

He's directed broadcasts from all manner of places—from the bottom of Lake Michigan and from mile-high airplanes for three-way communication; from state fairs; the tops of tall buildings and towers at A Century of Progress; from the world's busiest corner—State and Madison Streets—at noon; from national and state corn husking contests, utilizing mobile transmitters and pack "transceivers" and from a variety of other spots. Listeners will recall the spectacular manner in which the opening of the second year of A Century of Progress was broadcast. Grace Wilson, the Hoosier Hot



Tommy in a characteristic mood.

Shots, Bill Cline and Engineer Bill Anderson staged a broadcast from a huge passenger plane far above the Fair. Grace's piano accompaniment came from John Brown on the stage of the Eighth Street Theatre. This seeming miracle was accomplished by shortwave radio.

Got "Fever" Early

Tommy was born on Chicago's west side in 1902. At 11, he had succumbed to radio fever and had become a full fledged "ham," as the amateurs call one another. He operated the first amateur station on the west side, thus further exposing himself to the fever from which he never has recovered. Lights burn in the Rowe menage into the wee sma' hours as Tommy talks with other hams around the world. Mrs. Rowe may scold about

Tommy's irregular hours but she doesn't convince anyone, because she's such an enthusiastic fan herself. Under Tommy's supervision she has learned how to operate his equipment.

At 17, Tommy went to sea as junior operator aboard the S. S. Admiral Evans. He received plenty of seasoning experiences that first trip. The second night out with the Admiral Evans 300 miles north of San Francisco, the craft became disabled off the rocks at Eureka. Tommy, being the junior "sparks" on board, was standing the long "graveyard watch" and had to send the SOS.

He Was Careful

"And believe me," says Tommy, "that was the most careful brass pounding for three dots, three dashes and three more dots you ever heard. However, I was being careful just for the sake of the crew. I was so seasick myself I was afraid the ship *wouldn't* go down."

After four years on the high seas, Tommy decided that he needed a good first mate for his voyage through life. He thought of Mae Winold, that little girl next door at home. (Thought of her! He'd been thinking of her ever since they were children together.) He talked over the idea with Mae and she agreed to sign "ship's articles." She came to New York where she and Tommy were married.

He's Mike Shy

Tommy came to WLS in 1924, the year the station started and has been here ever since. You've heard him on the air only a few times (it takes three announcers and a sound effects man to drag him up to a mike to talk) but his skillful work and that of his fellow engineers, Bill Anderson, Charles Nehlsen, Jimmy Daugherty and Herbie Wyers, are reflected in every broadcast.

Tommy and Mae have four children, Betty Jane, 11, Tommy, eight, Dickie, five, Rita Mae, four. Tommy's five feet, seven, weighs 160, has blue eyes and brown hair, and six cigars in his vest pocket.

Musical Store

Each Saturday night at 7:00 o'clock, the strains of that good old hoedown, "The Old Hen Cackled," open another informal program from Henry Hornsbuckle's Conkey Feed Store. Henry's genial character of the old storekeeper introduces the Prairie Ramblers and Patsy Montana, who stop in at his store on the way down to the old barn dance for a little music, entertainment and good-natured fun.

Square dance numbers, ensemble songs, solos from Patsy and Henry, and gags are liberally dispersed with 'phone calls inquiring about Conkey's Supplement and Poultry Book.

An Ill Wind

No longer will listeners hear hoarse howls from the throat of NBC's old wind machine, for a new and better piece of apparatus has been conceived and executed under the watchful eye of Ray Kelly, chief sound technician. The old hurricane maker, after six years of faithful service, is being relegated to the little museum of the sound effects department where all good noise producers ultimately go.

A Mother's Christmas Prayer

My lovely children, scattered far and wide.
My heart goes out to you at Christmastide:
A thousand sacred memories crowd my heart,
I pray for you as one, yet each apart.
You are my jewels, and while bells a-ring
Make music wild, and little children sing,
Within the sanctuary of your mother's love
I carry you in prayer to God above.
Sweet Mary, in the stable long ago,
Found out the truth all human mothers know:
No sin could smirch one child, not for one day,
If praying mothers only had their way.

I wish that you were here about me as of old,
And we could live again those days of gold;
But now, I see you in your places set
The burdens you have borne, the trials you've met,
And in this lonely house from which you've gone,
My heart is praying God will help you on,
I could not make life different if I would,
And yet, I pray that God will keep you good.
At Christmas time, all mother's hearts are one,
As when Sweet Mary kissed her Holy Son,
So bear with me, my children, Christmas Day
Is time when Christian mothers kneel and pray.

—John W. Holland.

Polly Jenkins and Her Plowboys

(Polly, Uncle Dan and Buster)

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The Latch String

By CHECK STAFFORD

HOWDY, folks. Now that the New Year is well under way, how many of your resolutions have you broken? Or did you make any?

We only made a couple of resolutions. One: that we would get up the nerve to positively go to the dentist and have that long postponed dental work done, and the other was that we would learn how to put on a new typewriter ribbon, single handed.

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During the holidays, with the schools being closed for vacation, we had quite a number of children and young folks as visitors to our Little Theatre studios. In talking with one bright lad, of 12, we asked him what nationality he was and he said: "American, but my daddy came from Russia and my mamma lived in France when she was a little girl." The little fellow told us he wanted to be a radio engineer when he grew up, but, he said, "I may have to work and help our family, 'cause my Daddy is sick a whole lot. You see he was in the war in France and got hurt." Brave little boy. Many children now seem to have old folks' heads on their youthful shoulders.

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While boarding a train the other day, an old lady with her arms full of bundles was jostled by the hurrying passengers and several packages fell to the platform. Fully a dozen men rushed past her before one young man stopped and picked the bundles up and helped her aboard the train. We are confident that fellow had a good mother and was from a good home.

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We just wonder what is more forlorn and dejected looking than these Christmas trees one sees sticking up out of the garbage can or on the alley ash pile. Some bright chap, who could think up some scheme whereby these trees could be used or turned to profit, could make a fortune. As it is, we can think of nothing more useless than these abandoned trees, once so gay, cheery and admired.

We were just now talking with Bill Vickland who is on the mend from his illness. He has been in the hospital and the nurse brought the receiver to his bedside. Bill wants to thank the many friends who sent him Christmas cards and cheery letters. Their messages were particularly welcome when he was ill.

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Eddie Allan's face, naturally a rosy hue, is redder than usual due to the fact that during the holidays he acted several times as Old Santa and kept forgetting to use cold cream as a base for his make-up. No joking though, Eddie does make a dandy Santa Claus and that twinkle in his eyes helps him in his part as jolly old St. Nicholas.

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Seems like our news this issue, just will drift into Yuletide channels. We are still enjoying apples, the gift of W. H. Steele, a radio friend at Pewaukee, Wisconsin. They were the old fashioned Belleflower variety and and we all pronounced them mighty fine.

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The other morning a lady 'phoned us, asking if Jolly Joe Kelly might know of someone who had a puppy to give away. We learned that Joe had no give-away dogs on hand, but a lady sitting in the Little Theatre overheard our conversation and said she had a little black puppy to give away. We immediately called the party we had just talked to, and she was, as Joe says, "teakettled" to go after the pup offered. We learned the lady wanted to give it to a small, crippled lad—who had been asking for a dog for Christmas.

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Ambition

Turning over in a racing car on the Roby speedway when a kid of 15 was one of the most thrilling experiences in the memory of Herbie Wyers, WLS engineer. A peace-loving man, Herbie, but he says his ambition is to buy a radio chain and shoot a couple of announcers.

Explanation

When Walter O'Keefe set forth to speak at Columbia's Teachers' College the other day, it was with the expectation that a blonde young lady wearing a red hat and brown coat would meet him at Amsterdam Avenue and 116th Street to conduct him to the Speech Club's luncheon. Walter arrived promptly and within the next ten minutes timidly approached four young women who answered the description given. But none of them was the right one. Pedestrains were beginning to eye Mr. O'Keefe with suspicion when a girl in a green coat appeared and escorted him to the luncheon.

"I changed my coat at the last moment," she confessed, "and I didn't have time to call you up!"

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STICKERS

Listening to Julian Bentley's news reports about Ethiopia suggested the following prize-winning sticker to Mrs. Clara Dixon of Pana, Illinois:

"Selassie's silent sleuths slyly search Abyssinian abysses secretly."

Other prize-winners this week are: "Tricky tinsel trinkets tastefully trimmed thirty thousand toy trees."—Ida M. Myers, Peoria, Illinois.

"Eat Fritz Fizzlefumble's famous frozen fried fish fins for fine fresh, flavorsome film-free feeling."—Magdalen Meise, Sauk City, Wisconsin.

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Virginia Verrill, CBS songstress, got her first job doubling for the voice of Barbara Stanwyck, film actress. Since then she has doubled in voice for scores of cinema stars.

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PALS



LUCILLE LONG whom you hear on the National Barn Dance and Impy, her Eskimo Spitz. Lucille was heart broken when Impy was bitten by a strange dog and died several weeks ago.

Gags from Life

Where do Fred Allen's comedy situations come from? Do they spring full-blown from his pulsing temple—like Minerva from the head of Jove? Or does the hawk-faced comedian fall asleep over Joe Miller's joke book and conceive them in troubled dreams?

As a matter of fact they come from neither source, Allen says. Comedy, he explains, is looking at life through misfitting bi-focals, so that everything looks topsy-turvy and out of proportion. To keep your stuff alive and abreast of the time, he says, you can't crawl into a hole and pull the green in on top of you. You've got to see what's going on.

All newspapers furnish important sources of material for Allen's "Town Hall Tonight" program over an NBC-WEAF network, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m., CST. He reads from banner headlines to want ads and culls comedy for his sprightly Town Hall News sketches. He keeps so much in step with the times in this way that one of his sketches was recently the subject of an editorial in a New York paper.

His other way of getting fresh comedy angles is to walk the streets and let New York feed him ideas. A Central Park policeman handling a drunk gave him the germ for a hilarious sketch. Two cab drivers arguing over parking space gave him another. Subway crowds, shouting street peddlers, elevator boys, fan mail letters, and you can find comedy anywhere you look, says Fred—except possibly at a radio comedians' convention.

Aid for Blind

Aid in making talking books for the blind, the innovation that has opened new worlds to those afflicted with the loss of their eyesight, was offered to the American Foundation

for the Blind this week by Anne Seymour, star radio dramatic actress, who visited the Chicago Public Library department of books for the blind to learn what work is being done. Miss Seymour, last year, gave a blind girl a scholarship to the Chicago Art Institute Drama School.

Miss Seymour has offered the Foundation her services in making readings of books for the new machines which are combination phonographs and radios. They use slow playing records capable of recording a full length novel on a dozen discs.

Latest innovation and one that interested the radio artist tremendously is the introduction of sound effects in the last record released—The Christmas Carol. In the year that the machines have been in use, 100 book titles have been recorded and 27 libraries in the United States have been equipped with machines.

Stork Notes

If the job of a radio production man is to decide how and where broadcasts shall be staged, then Sir Stork can rightfully be called the radio production man for Clara, Lu 'n' Em. Beginning December 2 this popular trio broadcast from the home of Louise (Clara) Starkey, and the switch from NBC Chicago studios to Clara's home is distinctly Sir Stork's doing.

Sometime in January, Clara, who in private life is Mrs. Paul Mead, expects to add motherhood to her achievements as wife and radio star. Meantime, the Monday through Friday broadcasts over an NBC-WEAF network, at 4:45 p. m., CST, will continue via a direct wire installed in Clara's Evanston home. During her hospital stay she will be written out of the script and upon her return the three will again broadcast from her home.

"Mignon" Aired

An American prima donna's Metropolitan debut adds special interest to the third Saturday opera matinee to be broadcast over combined NBC-WEAF-WJZ networks on January 4. The opera to be presented on that date, commencing at 1:00 p. m., CST, is Ambroise Thomas' "Mignon," a work requiring two leading sopranos. Lucrezia Bori will sing the lyric title role, and the difficult coloratura role of Philine brings Josephine Antoinette to the Metropolitan Opera stage for the first time.

DON'T SLIP!



TUMBLE WEED demonstrates his confidence in his rope-swinging ability as he executes a trick on the rim of the Grand Canyon, where he once was a guide.

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HAVING included among our New Year's resolutions one to the effect that we would try to crowd more old songs into our allotted space during 1936, we got off to a flying start by heading this week's column with an old-timer requested by Mary Boyer, of Kansas, Illinois. I'll bet she's forgotten that she asked for it. Her letter is dated September 12. We're a bit slow, but we finally do get around.

THE FADED COAT OF BLUE

My brave lad he sleeps in his faded coat of blue
 In a lonely grave unknown lies the heart that beats so true.
 He sank faint and hungry among the famished brave
 And they laid him sad and lonely within his nameless grave.

Chorus—

No more the bugle calls the weary one.
 Rest, noble spirit, in thy grave unknown.
 I'll find you and know you among the good and true
 When a robe of white is given for the faded coat of blue.

He cried "Give me water and just a little crumb,
 And my mother she will bless you through all the years to come;
 O tell my sweet sister, so gentle, good and true,
 That I'll meet her up in Heaven, in my faded coat of blue."

He cried "My dear comrades, you cannot take me home,
 But you'll mark my grave for mother, she'll find me if she'll come.
 I fear she'll not know me among the good and true,
 When I meet her up in Heaven in my faded coat of blue.

Long years have vanished, and though he comes no more,
 Yet my heart will faltering beat with each footfall at my door;
 I gaze o'er the hill where he waved his last adieu,
 But no gallant lad I see, in his faded coat of blue.

No sweet voice was there, breathing soft a mother's prayer,
 But there's One who takes the brave and the true in tender care—
 No stone marks the sod o'er my lad so brave and true,
 In his lonely grave he sleeps, in his faded coat of blue.

Digging into the past again—both as to the song and the request—we print the following for Miss Edna Epley of Chicago Heights, Illinois, who asked for it in a letter of November 9.

THE FATAL WEDDING

The wedding bells were ringing on a moonlight night,
 The church was decorated, all within was gay and bright;
 A mother with her baby came and saw the lights aglow;
 She thought of how those same bells chimed for her three years ago!
 "I'd like to be admitted, sir," she told the sexton old,
 "Just for the sake of baby, to protect him from the cold."
 He told her that the wedding there was for the rich and grand,
 And with the eager, watching crowd outside she'd have to stand.

Refrain—

While the wedding bells were ringing, while the bride and groom were there,
 Marching up the aisle together, as the organ pealed an air;
 Telling tales of fond affection, vowing never more to part,
 Just another fatal wedding, just another broken heart.

She begged the sexton once again to let her pass inside—

"For baby's sake you may step in," the gray-haired man replied.

"If any one knows reason why this couple should not wed,

Speak now, or hold your peace forever," soon the preacher said.

"I must object," the woman cried, with voice so meek and mild,

"The bridegroom is my husband, sir, and this our little child."

"What proof have you?" the preacher asked.
 "My infant," she replied.

She raised her babe, then knelt to pray, the little one had died.

The parents of the bride then took the outcast by the arm—

"We'll care for you through life," they said;
 "you've saved our child from harm."

The outcast wife, the bride and parents, quickly drove away;

The husband died by his own hand before the break of day.

No wedding feast was spread that night, two graves were made next day—

One for the little baby, and in one the father lay.

The story has been often told, by firesides warm and bright,

Of bride and groom, of outcasts, and the fatal wedding night.

Rimrock Rumpus

DEAR JULIAN: New Year's eve have come and gone and I'm sure every body will be interested to know what all happened around the bunk house where the club hangs out. Well, bout midnight I got a cowbell and started to run and ring it like I was makin' fame for myself on the Barn Dance program when Al Fish our efficient deputy sheriff lammed me over the head with a 2-handed mesquite club cut fer the purpose, and the rest of this news I got by hearsay.

Bill Putt, he taken a shotgun and went down to the corral to shoot it off and it kicked him plumb back inter the water-trough and he liked to have drowned. Citron Spinks got him a wash-boiler and started to beatin' on it when the big boss shot him with an old muzzle-loader full of salt and



meat rinds and he went back and crawled inter his bunk. Modoc Wind and Missouri Gollyhorn set in to given samples of their war-whoops against Bertram Dogsinger and Shadrack Snoots and the racket they was makin' looseded up the old saddle-shed again which they was a-standing and one whole end fell out on top of them leaving them horse de compacted.

Solomon Powder and Ossifide Jones, being older, figgered to set still and calmly watch the old year out and the new 1 come in but went to sleep and the New Year come in without them seein' it do so. I come to about this time and slipped in quiet like and they didn't see me, either.

I am writing a song which I expect to sell to WLS which begins as follows:

My Life is like a open book
 Without no writin' in it.
 I'm doin' fine and then if you look
 I'm down and out the next minute.

—ARIZONA IKE.

• • •

Horace Heidt overcame childhood stammering to become the smooth announcer and conductor of his popular Brigadiers.

Someone Cares!

(Continued from page 5)

Giving Parties at the Eighth Street Theatre. Jolly Joe, Hotan Tonka, Georgie and Jean, Arkie, Tumble Weed, Hoosier Sod Busters, Prairie Ramblers and Patsy, Max Terhune, Henry Hornsbuckle and others joined Joe's Junior Stars to present five different parties at the theatre. These were held on December 14 and 21, with a total attendance of about 6,000. Each boy, girl, mother and father brought a toy or an article of foodstuff or clothing for needy families as their "admission price." These gifts were given to the Salvation Army to enable them to increase the number of Christmas baskets given to the needy this year.

Good Neighbors Helped

So, this project also helped swell the happiness made possible by the "Good Neighbors" who listen to the Prairie Farmer Station.

Grateful acknowledgements are pouring in from all over the Middle West—messages of thankfulness because you neighbors were on the job. We wish we had space to print everyone of them.

Typical of the many messages received is the following telegram:

CAS41 57 DL-GRANDRAPIDS
MICH 26 918A
GOOD NEIGHBORS CLUB
CARE PRAIRIE FARMER
STATION WLS

WE WISH WE COULD TELL YOU HOW DELIGHTED AND SURPRISED THE CHILDREN WERE UPON RECEIVING YOUR WONDERFUL GIFT OF A RADIO IF YOU COULD SEE THE HAPPINESS IN THEIR FACES AS THEY LISTEN TO THE LOVELY PROGRAMS YOU WOULD REALIZE WHAT YOUR GIFT MEANS TO THEM MANY

THANKS FROM CHILDREN AND STAFF

MARY FREE BED CONVALESCENT HOME.

One more "word picture," painted by Anna E. Pickard of the Marion County Detention Home in Indianapolis. She telephoned WLS: "All of our officers and boys and girls wanted me to tell you that we just had our Christmas Neighbors Club radio installed and it's playing. Everyone is so happy and so thankful. I want you to hear all the boys and girls say 'MERRY CHRISTMAS! WLS!'"

And that ensemble "MERRY CHRISTMAS" re-echoed, I am sure, in the hearts of 10,000 Good Neighbors, who have made this all possible. You have truly made thousands of little hearts glad by proving that "Someone Cares!"

TIME OUT FOR CHRISTMAS



A LOT OF WORK is required to see that Stand By copies are properly addressed and sent to the postoffice each week but Roy Naden and the girls who work for him in the mailing department found time for a Christmas party in their offices.

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No man or woman can escape the harmful effects of tobacco. Don't try to banish unaided the hold tobacco has upon you. Join the thousands of inveterate tobacco users that have found it easy to quit with the aid of the Keeley Treatment.

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... LISTENING IN WITH

Saturday, January 4, to Saturday, January 11

870 k.c. — 50,000 Watts

Monday, January 6, to Friday, January 10



RUTH SHIRLEY, who sings songs especially for the children during *Everybody's Hour*, Sundays at 8:30 a. m., shows the new military motif in this fall ensemble.

Sunday, January 5

- 8:00—Romelle Fay plays the organ in 30 friendly minutes, announced by Howard Chamberlain.
- 8:30—"Everybody's Hour" featuring Don C with interesting facts; WLS Concert Orchestra; Hilltoppers; John Brown and Walter Steindel; Ruth Shirley in children's songs; George Harris with news; Everybody's Almanac; brain teasers, and "Hobby Interview" of a prominent personality.
- 9:30—WLS Little Brown Church of the Air with Dr. John W. Holland; Hymns by Little Brown Church singers and Henry Burr, tenor, assisted by WLS Orchestra and Romelle Fay, organist.
- 10:15—WLS Orchestra: Roy Anderson, soloist; Frank Carleton Nelson. "The Indiana Poet."
- 11:00—Henry Burr in "Songs of Home."
- 11:15—"Sycamore and Cypress"—Eureka Jubilee Singers and Bill Vickland.
- 11:45—Weather Report; "Keep Chicago Safe"—Dramatic skit.
- 11:58—Livestock Estimates.
- 12:00—Sign Off.

Sunday Evening, January 5

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

- 6:30—The Bakers Broadcast. (Standard Brands) (NBC)
- 7:00—University Broadcasting Council, Prof. T. V. Smith.
- 7:45—NBC—Hendrik Wm. Van Loon, author.

MORNING PROGRAMS N N

- 5:30—Smile - A - While — Prairie Ramblers, Patsy Montana; Hoosier Sod Busters and Tumble Weed.
- 6:00—Farm Bulletin Board—Howard Black.
- 6:10—Johnny Muskrat Fur Market. (Wed., Sat.)
- 6:30—Mon., Thurs., Fri.—Chuck & Ray with Hoosier Sod Busters.
Wed.—Buddy Gilmore and Sod Busters.
Tues., Thurs.—Tumble Weed & Hoosier Sod Busters.
- 6:45—Pat Buttram; Henry; Prairie Ramblers. (Oshkosh)
- 7:00—WLS News Report — Julian Bentley. (Hamlin's)
- 7:10—Daily Program Summary.

Saturday Eve., Jan. 4

- 7:00—Prairie Ramblers and Patsy Montana; Henry Hornshuckle and Hoosier Sod Busters. (G. E. Conkey Co.)
- 7:15—Hoosier Hot Shots and guest artist. (Morton Salt)
- 7:30—Keystone Barn Dance Party, featuring Skyland Scotty. (Keystone Steel and Wire Co.)
- 8:00—Barn Dance Jamboree, featuring Pat Buttram. (Murphy Products Co.)
- 8:30—National Barn Dance NBC Hour with Uncle Ezra; Maple City Four; Verne, Lee and Mary; Hoosier Hot Shots; Lucille Long; Sally Foster; Skyland Scotty, and other Hayloft favorites, with Joe Kelly as master of ceremonies. (Alka-Seltzer)
- 9:30—Aladdin Hayloft Theatre.
- 10:00—Barn Dance Frolic — Hilltoppers; Patsy Montana; Possum Tuttle. (Gillette Rubber Co.)
- 10:15—Prairie Ramblers & Red Foley. (Jelsert)
- 10:30—Prairie Farmer-WLS National Barn Dance continues until 12:00 p. m., CST, with varied features, including Prairie Ramblers; Otto & His Tune Twisters; Patsy Montana; Hometowners Quartet; "Pa and Ma Smithers"; Christine; Girls of Golden West; Red Foley; Hilltoppers; Bill O'Connor; Grace Wilson; Hoosier Sod Busters Eddie Allan; Arkie, and many others.

- 7:15—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Otto & His Tune Twisters.
Tues., Thurs., Sat.—Red Foley.
- 7:30—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Hotan Tonka, Indian Legends; Ralph Emerson, organist.
Tues., Thurs., Sat.—"Junior Broadcasters Club." (Campbell Cereal)
- 7:45—Skyland Scotty and Girls of the Golden West. (Foley's Honey & Tar)
- 8:00—Jolly Joe and His Pet Pals. (Little Crow Milling Co.)
- 8:15—Morning Devotions conducted by Jack Holden, assisted by Hometowners, and Ralph Emerson.

8:30—WLS News Report — Julian Bentley; Bookings.

8:43—Livestock Receipts; Hog Flash.

8:45—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Morning Minstrels, featuring Hometowners Quartet; Tune Twisters; Chuck & Ray; Henry; Possum Tuttle; Joe Kelly, and Jack Holden. (Olson Rug Co.)
Tues., Thurs.—"Old Music Chest"—Phil Kalar and Ralph Emerson.

9:00—Prairie Ramblers; Patsy Montana Henry. (Peruna & Kolor-Bak)

9:30—NBC—"Today's Children," Dramatic Adventures of a Family.

9:45—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Bill O'Connor, tenor, John Brown, pianist.

Tues., Thurs.—John Lair in WLS Favorite Songs.

10:00—Martha Crane & Helen Joyce in Morning Homemakers' Program; Ralph Emerson; John Brown; Hilltoppers; Tommy Tanner; Dixie Mason; Grace Wilson; Tune Twisters.

10:30—Mon., Wed., Fri.—The Hilltoppers. (ABC Washers and Ironers)

Tues., Thurs.—Organ Concert—Ralph Waldo Emerson.

10:45—Jim Poole's Mid-Morning Chicago Cattle, Hog and Sheep Market direct from Union Stock Yards. (Chicago Livestock Exchange)

10:50—Butter, Egg, Dressed Veal, Live and Dressed Poultry Quotations.

10:55—WLS News Report (M. K.) — Julian Bentley.

11:00—Mon., Wed., Fri.—WLS Round-Up—Otto and Tune Twisters; Tumble Weed; Rodeo Joe. (Willard Tablet Co.)

Tues., Thurs.—Morning Minstrels. (Olson Rug Co.)

11:15—"Old Kitchen Kettle"—Mary Wright; Hilltoppers; Fruit and Vegetable Report. Thurs. only—Sod Busters and Henry.

11:30—Mon., Wed., Fri.—"Little Bits from Life"—Bill Vickland; Ralph Emerson; Chuck & Ray.

Tues., Thurs.—Winnie, Lou & Sally. (Pinex)

11:45—Weather Report; Fruit and Vegetable Market; Bookings.

11:55—WLS News Report — Julian Bentley. (Morton Seasonings)

AFTERNOON PROGRAMS

(Daily ex. Sat. & Sun.)

12:00 Noon to 3:00 p. m., CST

12:00—Prairie Farmer Dinnerbell Program, conducted by John Baker, 45 minutes of varied farm and musical features, Dr. Holland in Devotional Message at 12:40.

12:45—Jim Poole's Livestock Market Summary direct from Union Stock Yards. (Chicago Livestock Exchange)

12:55—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Livestock Feeding Talk—Murphy Products Co.

Tues., Thurs., Sat.—Music, Variety.

WLS DAILY PROGRAMS

1:00—Mon., Wed., Fri.—Cornhuskers & The Choro Boy.

Tues.—Hometowners and Federal Housing Bureau speaker.

Thurs.—Red Foley and Hoosier Sod Busters. (Penn. Salt)

1:15—"Pa and Ma Smithers." humorous and homey rural sketch.

1:30—F. C. Bisson of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture in grain market summary.

1:35—Homemakers' Hour. (See the detailed schedule.)

2:15—NBC—"Ma Perkins"—rural comedy sketch.

2:30—Homemakers' Hour. cont'd. (See the detailed schedule.)

3:00—Sign Off for WENR.

Saturday Morning, January 4

5:30-9:30—See Daily Morning Schedule.

8:15—WLS Sunday School Class. Dr. John W. Holland.

9:30—Jolly Joe's Junior Stars.

10:00—Martha Crane and Helen Joyce—(Feature Foods)

10:30—Rocky, basso, with Ted Gilmore.

10:45—Program News—Harold Safford.

10:50—Butter Egg, Dressed Veal, Live and Dressed Poultry Quotations.

10:55—WLS News Report—Julian Bentley (M. K.)

11:00—Morning Minstrels. (Olson Rug Co.)

11:15—"Old Kitchen Kettle," Mary Wright; Hilltoppers; Fruit & Vegetable Report.

11:30—Winnie, Lou & Sally. (Pinex)

11:45—Weather Report; Fruit and Vegetable Market; Bookings.

11:55—WLS News Report—Julian Bentley (Morton Seasoning)

12:00—Poultry Service Time: Hometowners Quartet; Ralph Emerson.

12:15—WLS Garden Club.

12:30—Closing Grain Market Summary by F. C. Bisson.

12:37—Variety Music.

12:45—Weekly Livestock Market Review by Jim Clark of Chicago Producers' Commission Association.

1:00—Future Farmers of America, conducted by John Baker; Phil Kalar, soloist.

1:15—Prairie Farmer - WLS Home Talent Acts.

1:30—Homemakers' Hour.

2:40—WLS Merry-Go-Round, with variety acts, including Ralph Emerson; Henry; John Brown; Christine; Hilltoppers; Eddie Allan.

3:00—Sign Off for WENR.

HOMEMAKERS' SCHEDULE

(Conducted by Mary Wright)

Monday, January 6

1:35—Orchestra: Jack Eliot; Vibrant Strings; Hometowners; Evelyn, "The Little Maid"; John Brown; Marjorie Gibson in Fanfare; P. T. A. Speaker.

Tuesday, January 7

1:35—Ralph Emerson; Hilltoppers; Don Wilson and His Singing Guitar; Helene Brahm; Bill O'Connor, tenor; Marjorie Gibson in Fanfare; Mrs. Sherman's Book Chat.

Wednesday, January 8

1:35—Orchestra: Jack Eliot; Vibrant Strings; Hometowners; John Brown; Marjorie Gibson in Fanfare; Garden Talk.

Thursday, January 9

1:35—Orchestra; Grace Wilson; John Brown; Wm. O'Connor; WLS Little Home Theatre; Marjorie Gibson in Fanfare.

Friday, January 10

1:35—Orchestra; Marjorie Gibson in Fanfare; Cornhuskers & Choro Boy; Evelyn, "The Little Maid"; Lois Schenck, Prairie Farmer Homemakers' News; Jean Sterling Nelson, "Home Furnishing."

Saturday, January 11

1:30—Ralph Emerson; Hilltoppers; Skyland Scotty; John Brown; Otto and His Tune Twisters; Tommy Tanner; Ken Wright; Christine; Interview of a WLS Personality—Marjorie Gibson.

EVENING PROGRAMS

Monday, January 6

7:00—NBC—Fibber McGee and Mollie. (S. C. Johnson)

7:30—NBC—Evening in Paris. (Bourjois Sales Corporation)

8:00—NBC—Sinclair Minstrels. (Sinclair Oil Refining)

Tuesday, January 7

7:00—NBC—Eno Crime Clues. (Eno Salts)

7:30—NBC—Edgar Guest in Welcome Valley. (Household Finance Co.)

8:00—NBC—Ben Bernie. (American Can Co.)

Wednesday, January 8

7:00—Rendezvous—Musical Varieties. (Life Savers)

7:30—NBC—Armco Iron Master Program.

8:00—NBC—Cinema Theatre.

Thursday, January 9

7:00—The Old Judge (University Broadcasting Council)

7:15—Roosevelt High School Chorus.

7:30—NBC—Orchestra Concert.

8:00—NBC—Death Valley Days. (Pacific Coast Borax)

Friday, January 10

7:00—NBC—Irene Rich. (Welch Grape Juice)

7:15—NBC—Bob Crosby & His Orchestra. (Rogers & Gallet)

7:30—NBC—Kellogg College Prom. (Kellogg Co.)

8:00—NBC—To be announced.

WATCH THIS SPACE

FOR
Appearance of WLS Artists
in YOUR Community

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

Mattoon Theatre, Mattoon, Ill.—
Gene Autry and His Hollywood
Pals: Gene Autry; Smiley Bur-
nette; Frankie Marvin; Hayloft
Dancers; Cousin Chester; Benny
Ford; Polly, Uncle Dan & Buster

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Effingham Theatre, Effingham, Ill.
—Gene Autry and His Hollywood
Pals: (See Above) Sponsored by
V. F. W. Post No. 1152.

Iowa, Theatre, Fort Madison, Iowa
—1936 Edition of the WLS Na-
tional Barn Dance: Hoosier Hot
Shots; Max Terhune; Winnie,
Lou & Sally.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Harris Grand Theatre, Blooming-
ton, Ind.—Gene Autry and His
Hollywood Pals: (See Above)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

High School Auditorium, Kokomo,
Ind.—Gene Autry and His Holly-
Pals: (See Above)

High School Gymnasium, Mason
City, Ill.—WLS National Barn
Dance: Joe Kelly; Prairie Ram-
blers; Patsy Montana; Hoosier
Sod Busters.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Chamber of Commerce, Lafayette,
Ind. (For Three Days) — The
Flannery Sisters.

Live Stock Association, Cham-
paign, Ill.—The Hoosier Hot
Shots.

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