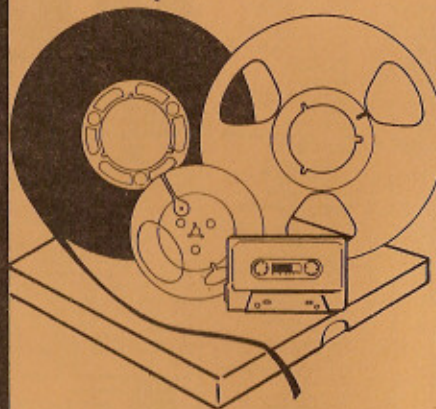


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Advertising: Full page ad—\$10. Half page ad—\$6. All copy must be camera ready. Full page advertising must measure 8 1/2 x 11. Half page advertising can measure 6 x 8 1/2 for horizontal placement, or 4 x 11 for vertical placement. All full page ads must have at least a 1/4 inch border on the long sides. Discounts are available for multiple insertions. AIRWAVES reserves the right to reject advertising submitted.

JULY 1977 Issue number 9

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EDITORIAL

Something in collecting circles is bothering me. And that's the advent of mudslinging and backstabbing. Not that it's bad yet... but I hope that Chuck Sealey's remarks in the ILLUSTRATED PRESS, the monthly publication of the Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo, are not a harbinger of things to come.

His remarks were the following:

"The \$3.00 price tag (of the collector's listing) is unreasonable. Assuming he used the same printing process, mimeograph, for the listing as he used for HELLO AGAIN, he'll make his money back after the first 8 or 10 sales. HELLO AGAIN itself is getting sloppier, revealing lack of care in its preparation. It's certainly not worth \$6.00 per year."

Chuck's subject was HELLO AGAIN, collecting's oldest newsletter, its publisher Jay Hickerson, and Jay's recent collector's listing.

Jay was not notified about Chuck's remarks in advance. It would have been the gentlemanly thing to do. Jay, in his many years of faithful service to the hobby has never denounced a publication and advised people against buying them. Never before has any of the hobby's publications been reviewed like this.

One of the comments raised by the ILLUSTRATED PRESS was that they had no idea that Jay would charge for the listing. To say such a thing is a display of naivete. When Jay last published a collector's listing, he charged for it. To think that that would change is wishful thinking. Three dollars per listing in no way refunds Jay's work and time. If Jay were to make money off this project, hundreds would have to be sold. If Jay were in this hobby to make money he would be living in the poorhouse.

Jay does not deserve to be treated in this manner. HELLO AGAIN was and still is one of the few cornerstones of collecting. Jay's willingness to publicize other newsletters, clubs, conventions, and traders has helped so many of this hobby's people and projects get off the ground. These include AIRWAVES and the Old Time Radio Club of Buffalo.

When you come right down to it, this is a hobby confined to a relative few, and we need not be bickering among ourselves when at this time we need solidarity.

This past May, I spent almost a week in Wilmette, IL, the home of the Chapman family. I want to thank Jerry and his parents for making my stay a delightful one. I never taped so much in my life!

Joe Webb

LETTERS

DAVE HOWE
PSC Box 5893
APO San Francisco, CA 96519

Just received the latest issue of AIRWAVES, great job! You and Jerry have a fine fanzine going. It is very seldom that I write to complain, but I must. You have my address wrong (back in our May issue—JW)! The correct address is above

((AIRWAVES readers take note of Dave's correct address! Dave is now writing his second book on the LONE RANGER and needs information about the writers of the series for radio and TV, and any other unique information anyone might have on LR.)))

RALPH QUINN
Box 20146
Tallahassee, Fla. 32304

I read your editorial in the May issue of AIRWAVES, and sadly agree with your observations on the CBS Mystery Theater. So far I have a slightly higher opinion of the General Mills Adventure Theater, if only that at least their shows have some semblance of a plot. I can't say that I'm overly enthusiastic about that program either.

Perhaps in some future issue of AIRWAVES you could publish an address to which potential scripts for the CBS Mystery Theater could be sent.

Keep up the good work on your magazine, and thank you for your attention.

The next letter, which appears on the next pages is more of an EDITORIAL REPLY.

Syracuse native ALLEN ROCKFORD give his opinion of the CBS shows (sparked by Joe Webb's comments of our May issue). Allen is no stranger to the OTR scene. Allen has worked in radio even before his graduation in 1966 from Syracuse University as a Speech and Dramatic Arts major. With Don Richardson, Allen formed DOUBLE-R-RADIO, a company which produces radio tapes for home enjoyment.

Allen and Don are hosts of the SOUNDS OF YESTERDAY, an old time radio and nostalgia series heard in Central New York. In addition, they are the publishers of NOSTALGIA RADIO NEWS.

AIRWAVES is very pleased to reprint Allen's letter. Except for the opening paragraphs of Allen's original letter (which had nothing to do with Mystery Theater), Allen's letter is uncut, unabridged, no commercials added. We would like to know how the rest of you feel about the CBS shows.

Rockford
Retorts!

Most listeners who listen to the CBS programs (both series) are generally happy to have an alternative to the various forms of music and most do not complain. Most listeners are also completely unaware of our (all connected with OTR) efforts to keep OTR alive. Thus, they are happy with whatever is broadcast. Since we can hear shows of all varieties anytime, we are many more times critical of the stories (production is almost excellent).

You must realize that the CBS programs are really still experimental. Do you see any of the other networks jumping in with programs to compete? Any of their past efforts (over the last 2 to 3 years) have resulted in virtually nothing. Mutual's ZERO HOUR died due to poor station line-up and lack of publicity...the same holds true for the more recently syndicated RADIO PLAYHOUSE (they had 25 to 30 stations throughout the entire country). Elsewhere in the issue, you mention NBC's X MINUS ONE...who can remember to listen to a program once a month? As for ABC, they had their fling with THEATER FIVE about 10 to 12 years ago and have probably given up completely. As for other syndicated shows (be they new revival attempts or the old shows themselves) this is the least successful way to get programs on the air. The ZERO HOUR started out as HOLLYWOOD RADIO THEATER on a syndicated basis until a year or two later when Mutual bought the series (13 weeks) and then ordered 13 more weeks and then nothing. One of the latest attempts is now the KiiS SHERLOCK HOLMES series which "have finally lined up some stations"...how many and where? If they only have a few stations, the project is doomed before it starts. Most stations are programmed with a single format (be it rock, classical, jazz, easy listening, country, news, etc.) and do not want any intrusions into that format which would attract few new listeners for the time that "drama" is being aired. What is needed is what CBS is doing...convincing stations to take the program (at no cost); if there are enough stations, enough publicity (CBS did a good job via magazine ads, ads on General Mills cereals, etc.), there's a chance it would attract enough of an audience to succeed. Cost, by the way, is usually another factor as to why syndicated efforts fail or are not effective...not only does the station have a variation in its format, it has paid for something that requires "extra" work to sell, rather than just the format (via ratings).

Now as to scripts...it may be true about the cost differences between radio and TV scripts (and I'm sure it is), but then again, look at the talent costs, production costs and audience reach. Radio (as far as I know by CBS) is working right now at scale or minimum for actors, scripts, etc. Besides, radio is all in the mind and even if more was paid to actors, writers, I'm sure it would not compare with TV—that is, TV will still cater to a super mass audience, whereas radio drama now never will. On TV you have to have actual sets, many background people, and much expense. In other words, radio is cheap to produce and will most likely always be, and I don't think (as much as I'd like to see) it will ever become the medium it was with all types of programming other than music. Just compare costs for advertising (on a local basis) between a one minute spot on radio vs. TV. The same holds true with production costs.

continued on next page

ALLEN ROCKFORD, continued

As for the scripts being inconsistent...there are very few TV shows that have winning shows week after week (and here on radio we're dealing right now with six new shows per week, four mystery, and two adventure). In fact most TV shows seem to have the same script week after week with just minor variations. Don't get me wrong about TV...I like it up to a point, but I'd rather have more radio. As TV examples that I don't especially care for, and both are highly rated, are CHARLIE'S ANGELS and STARSKY AND HUTCH. One show exudes three females each week (I have no objections to that), but who's paying attention to the story when they're watching the ANGELS? As for STARSKY AND HUTCH, it's a shoot'em up, chase, and fight each week... for that someone gets \$6,000. Tain't worth it.

You were right about the problem of inconsistency being "simple economics." So simple that if more was paid (other than minimum or scale) the show wouldn't exist. The only way that the GENERAL MILLS ADVENTURE THEATER got on the air was by having a sponsor for the entire program and not participating spots as in the MYSTERY THEATER. If I were a script writer and had to choose, I'd go where the money is...don't forget many of the writers do both...if they are doing both, the radio effort is probably a labor of love (as is the same with many of the "star" actors who appear on the shows). Probably the only ones are Robert Dryden, Ian Martin, Marian Seldes, and a few others who are almost a repertory company, making any kind of money by their regular appearances (besides any TV voice-overs or on the air commercial work... did you know that it is Ian Martin, or it certainly sounds like him, who is the "elderly" man telling you about Bristol-Myers BRAN-TABS fiber product on TV, or Robert Dryden who does the voice-over for LifeSaver commercials, plus a few appearances in older commercials for the phone company and Barrelhead root beer). Almost all the people connected with the CBS efforts are pros of radio, and in some cases that is their living and labor of love, just to keep it alive. If I am correct, the unions on one year of MYSTERY THEATER allowed the repeats to go on without residuals...I don't know if that is true today, but if it hadn't occurred, I doubt if the show would have continued past year one.

To sum up, no matter what, on any and all scripts of radio, TV (past and present), you'll never get quality if you are doing a mass program day in (or week in) and out. You'll always have losers, but by the same token, you'll have a bunch of winners. Right now, CBS is devoting much of its time to its new show (that's why I have fewer listings, comparatively) and why I feel the scripts on the ADVENTURE THEATER I find to be better at the moment (the commercials should be thrown out as I feel they are an insult to kids and adults...if I am correct I think they are basically adapted TV soundtracks). Keep the faith...if both series can prove themselves over a period of time, and more are added, radio may return and pay rates will be up and scripts will get better.

Yours,

Allen R.

P.S. About the only stations willing to try radio of any form are usually public radio (mainly FM stations). They usually have such small audiences that OTR usually gives them a small, loyal following for that type of following.

LOGS

This issue, AIRWAVES publishes logs of three popular detective-type series: FBI IN PEACE AND WAR, THE FALCON, and CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER.

FBI IN PEACE AND WAR

Big Time Charley
Book of Matches
Bungler
Carnival Act
Chaplain James
Criminal Proposition
Cross Country
Double Play
Dumb Luck
Eighty Grand Exit
End of the Rope
Executive Type
Federal Case
The Fence
Forty-Eight State Alarm
Golden Caper
Good Boy
Great Northern Bubble
Help Wanted
Knock on Wood
Newspaperman
Nothing But the Best
Overexposure
Paid in Full
Pair of Glasses
Pipe Dream
Realistic Touch
Retirement Plan
Return of St. Nick
Room for Improvement
Royal Treatment
Scandal Sheet
Scientific Touch
The Serious Type
Silver Pearl
Smoke Ring
Specialty Act
State vs. James O'Dell
Suburbanite
Target
Traveling Man
\$25,000 Bond
Typist
Unfinished Business
Upstairs Roomer
Windfall

THE FALCON

Ace of Spades
Big Fix
Disguised Murderer
Faded Rose
Handy Helpmate
Murder is a Family Affair
Murder Knows No Borderline
Murdering Wife
Natural Seven
Rolling Stone

THE FALCON, continued

Substitute Target
Talented Twin
Treacherous Trio
Wandering Wife

CASEY, CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER

Bad Little Babe
Box of Death 4/17/47
Christmas Shopping 12/19/46
Demon Miner 3/20/46
Duke of Skid Row 9/14/46
Disappearance of Adam Gazell
Gentle Strangler 4/13/50
Grey Kitten 4/24/47
Handkerchief
Holiday 11/25/48
King of the Apes 3/1/47
Laughing Killer 5/8/47
Mysterious Lodger 3/7/47
Pick-Up 5/22/47
Pitch in Time
Red Raincoat 8/29/46
Road Angel 1/13/54
Scene of the Crime
Source of Information 1/20/54
Surprising Corpse 1/16/47
Thunderbolt
Truth or Tooth?
Twenty Minus Alibi
Upholsterer 11/17/50
Wanted: A Gun 1/19/50
Wolverine

FLASHGUN CASEY, PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER

Switched Plates

CASEY, PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER

Clue in the Clouds 1945

AIRS MYSTERY PLAYHOUSE: CASEY, CRIME PHOTOGRAPHER

Reunion

round robin

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL ROUND ROBIN MEMBERS: Since postage rates have increased, be sure to put the proper postage—80¢—on each reel.

A surprising number of subscribers have joined our round robin reels. We were only expecting to circulate one reel per category, but it became necessary to have two reels per category, and still it was necessary to turn back some requests for spots.

Some members have expressed concern over the condition of the reel of tape after a large number of passes. Each reel will be replaced after the fourth pass with a fresh reel of tape.

Remember, it is essential for the success of this project that the program quality be high. We would prefer not to have to drop a collector from the reels, but it may become necessary. Please don't be number one.

NEW CATEGORIES OPENING! Limited spots are available on our two WESTERNS reels and SCIENCE FICTION reels. Requests for spots must be in before July 25, 1977. All spots on our SUSPENSE reel have been taken by those turned down for our other reels. No other round robin has as many categories, reels, or collectors involved—let's hope that this initial success will continue!

Next month, we'll talk about some of the programs that appeared on the first time around.



New programs of some very popular series are now being introduced into circulation. In the ESCAPE series, the program "The Game" of 8/30/53 is finally in collector's hands.

In the SUSPENSE series, a program starring Ozzie and Harriet, "Mr. Diogenes," is also in circulation. Other news on the SUSPENSE front is that Charles Michelson, Inc., has obtained broadcast rights to the series for syndication. Mr. Michelson also received the rights to the WHISTLER series.

The first JACK BENNY program ever broadcast is starting to make the rounds.

Two new BIG TOWN programs are about to be released.

New BILL STERN, TAYSTEE BREAD SHOWS (featuring Billy Jones and Ernie Hare) are among recent disc discoveries which also include new YOUR HIT PARADE and EDDIE CANTOR.

SPERDVAC Magazine #1 is still available, and November 1977 is the projected publication date of the second issue.

The second FRIENDS OF RADIO Convention, to be held on October 1, 1977 at the Meriden, CT, Holiday Inn, adds as a guest Tony Marvin. The convention will be the largest radio happening to date, with more personalities and more collectors than ever before. For information, write Jay Hickerson, Box C, Orange, CT, 06477.

HUMAN ADVENTURE, a highly acclaimed series from the University of Chicago from the early forties, is about to be released.

COLLECTORS

Listings in the collectors column are free. If you desire to be mentioned, send details of you collection to AIRWAVES, 900 Elmwood, Wilmette, IL 60091. Include your name, address, and items you have available for trade, what you are looking for, and any other collecting data. Unless otherwise stated, people mentioned collect on $\frac{1}{2}$ track tape, 3.75 ips.

DON KOEHNEMANN, 811 Bristol Av., Westchester, IL 60153. Collects half-track. Interested in comedy, variety, Corwin, OTR specials, Anthologies, Interviews, jazz broadcasts of the 1930s. Needs 3 of the Woody Herman Wildroot series for complete run, any appearances of Mel Torme, Johnny Mercer, Freeberg; Benny program with Ralph Edwards and Giselle McKensie; NPR National Press Club (with Spivak) and NPR Option with Hi Brown and Ann Shepherd. Prefers small custom trades.

KEITH SCOTT, Flat 13, 1-5 Stokes St., Lane Cove, 2066 NSW, Australia. Several hundred shows on reel and cassette. Interested in obtaining Gunsmoke, Benny, Paul Frees' series ("The Player" and the "Green Lama"). Wants shows that include Daws Butler in the cast. Has many movie and cartoon soundtracks, in addition to Escape, Mel Blanc, Stan Freeberg.



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO RE-LIVE THE DAYS OF: "OLD TIME RADIO"

IN YOUR OWN LIVING ROOM, AGAIN HEAR THE VOICE OF THE SHADOW, THE LONE RANGER, AMOS N' ANDY, BERGEN & MCCARTHY, GUNSMOKE, AND MANY OTHERS. HEAR AL JOLSON AS STAR OF THE SHELL CHATEAU AND MUSIC HALL.

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OLD-TIME RADIO

OLD-TIME RADIO

OLD-TIME RADIO

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SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

Saturday, October 1st, 1977

Holiday Inn, Meriden, Connecticut

(right off I-91 - East Main St. Exit)

Among the guests of honor scheduled at this time are: writers Noel Gerson, Blair Walliser and Ernest Kinoy; announcers George Anabro, Fred Foy and Tony Marvin; sound effects artist Ed Blainey; director Warren Somerville; and performers Raymond Edward Johnson (Inner Sanctum), Mandel Kramer (Yours Truly Johnny Dollar, TV - Edge of Night), Vicki Vola (Mr. District Attorney), Peg Lynch (Ethel and Albert), Grace Matthews (The Shadow), Court Benson (Tennessee Jed), and Jackson Beck (Superman).

The Convention begins at 9:00AM with the opening of the display and dealers room (over 30 tables) where radio memorabilia may be purchased, traded or just admired. Visitors may attend a radio quiz show, a question and answer period with the guests, old-time radio related movies and other afternoon events.

In the evening there will be a Cocktail Party and Buffet Dinner. During the evening the special guests will present a live radio program and awards will be given out.

Tickets for the Convention are \$13.00 which includes costs for all the events including the buffet dinner. Cost for children under 16 is \$10.00. Afternoon participation only is \$3.00. Children under 16 is \$1.50.

Please indicate how many are coming and if you need a display or dealer table. There is no extra cost for the tables.

Make checks payable to JAY HICKERSON and mail to:

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REELS: Choose any complete reel below, all reels are 1800'.
On regular tape \$7.50. On Scotch Highlander \$11.00.

CASSETTES: Choose any two programs below from a single reel. All cassettes are C-60s.
On regular tape \$4.50. On Scotch Highlander \$6.00

8-TRACK: Choose any track from a reel below (1-L, 2-L, 1-R, or 2-R)
All 8-tracks are 90 minutes. Last program on cartridge may not be full, depending on length of programs, but will be about 86 to 89 minutes of programming.
Regular tape: \$7.00. On Scotch \$9.50

Old Radio Warehouse will replace any tapes you are dissatisfied with. All programs are in very good to excellent sound quality.

NOTE: Programs are intended for home private use only. No broadcast rights are stated or implied. Old Radio Warehouse assumes no responsibility for illegal use.

REEL #10303 THE SHADOW (starring Orson Welles)

- 1-L Hypnotized Audience 9/26/37; Death From the Deep 10/3/37; Firebug 10/10/37
- 2-L Blind Beggar Dies 10/17/37; Power of the Mind 10/24/37; White God 10/31/37
- 1-R Aboard the Steamship Amazon 11/7/37; Murder in Wax 11/14/37; Message from the Hills 11/21/37
- 2-R The Creeper 11/28/37; Tenor with the Broken Voice 12/5/37; Murder on Approval 12/12/37

REEL #10305 GREEN HORNET

- 1-L 122-Walkout for Profit; 124-Murder Across the Boards; 154-Reservoir for Murder
- 2-L 196-Torpedo on Wheels; 197-Sabotage finds a Name; Mr. Big's Drug Store Racket
- 1-R 63-Sales Tax Racket; 64-Crandall and the Murder Ring; 86-Highway that Graft Built
- 2-R 84-Votes for Sale; 85-Snyder's Political Racket; 129-Bid and Asked

****MORE REELS ON BACK****

OLD RADIO WAREHOUSE, 5 Valley View Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710

WSA #943

REEL #10308 NICK CARTER

- 1-L Careless Employees; Lucrative Wreckers; Luminous Spots
- 2-L Missing Thumb; Wandering Macaroni; Bearded Queen
- 1-R Sunken Dollar; Death After Dark; Crystal Prophecy
- 2-R Chemical Chickens; Two-Sided Firemaster; Hermit Thrush

REEL #10316 BOX 13 with Alan Ladd

- 1-L 1-First Letter; 2-Insurance Fraud; 3- Blackmail is Murder
- 2-L 4-Actor's Alibi; 5- Extra! Extra!; 6- Shanghied
- 1-R 7-Short Assignment; 8-Double Mothers; 9-Book of Poems
- 2-R 10-Dan & Magician's Assistant; 11-Suicide or Murder; 12-Triple Cross

REEL #10320 BOSTON BLACKIE

- 1-L Baseball Player Murdered at Game; Stolen Car Ring; Frances Fielding Murder
- 2-L Winthrop Jewel Robberies; Escaped Prisoner; Old Man Graham's Will
- 1-R Stolen Plane; Hooded Gang; Dead Girl and \$50,000 ring
- 2-R Truck Driver Murdered; Murdering Clock; Mutiny on the Swan

REEL #10342 DAVID HARDING, COUNTERSPY

- 1-L Murdering Messenger 8/25/49; Cold Blooded Professor (Part 1) 1/30/49; Cold Blooded Professor (Part 2) 9/1/49
- 2-L Arrogant Arsonist 9/6/49; Courteous Come-ons 9/8/49; Flatbush Fagin 9/13/49
- 1-R Hot Car Killer 9/15/49; Postal Pirates (Part 1) 9/20/40; Postal Pirates (Part 2) 9/22/49
- 2-R Visiting Vultures 9/27/49; Viscious Visitor 9/29/49; Sweepstakes Murder 10/4/49

REEL #10350 SUSPENSE

- 1-L Three O'Clock; You Can't Die Twice; Zero Hour
- 2-L Black Death; Report on the X-915; Load of Dynamite
- 1-R Murder and Aunt Delia; America's Boyfriend; To None the Deadly Drug
- 2-R Missfire; Piralta Map; Alibi

REEL #10174 BRIGHT STAR (MacMurray and Dunne)

- 1-L Oil Swindle; Susan Runs for Mayor; Hillsdale Becomes Mom and Dad
- 2-L Miss America Visits; George and the Informer; Crooked Carnival
- 1-R Dramatic Lessons; French Designer; Haunted House
- 2-R Rodeo Star; Scientific Living; New Home Page Editor

REEL #00276 DIMENSION X

- 1-L Outer Limit; With Folded Hands; Report on the Barnhouse Effect
- 2-L The Lost Race; To the Future; The Embassy
- 1-R No Contact; Knock; Almost Human
- 2-R Green Hills of Earth; There Will Come Soft Rains; Destination Moon

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