



Chimes

NEWS AND VIEWS OF NBC PERSONNEL IN NEW YORK

APRIL • 1947

VOL. 5 NUMBER 2

RADIO DRAMA CLUB COMPLETES FIRST THREE PRODUCTIONS

The NBC Radio Drama Club got off to an ambitious start last month with an original enrollment of more than 80 wishful Welleses, meditating Mooreheads, courageous Corwins, groundwork Grauers, and a flamboyant character who identified himself as Vitamin Flintheart. The fact that only half the members were employed in the first three productions didn't discourage a full group from turning out for the first general meeting and "critique" on February 28.

The first show, *Surprise Witness*—a whodunnit with a court-room twist—was directed by Jay Seibel, formerly of Production, who put Wayne Howell, Jack Kuney, Pat Lane, Roger Tuttle, and company through some suspenseful paces. *Henry Aldrich*, the next production, was drawn to the life by Jack Beecher and Dick Schneider as the precocious Henry and Homer, with Jack Dillon and Ruth Norris as their harassed parents. Sam Monroe directed the show, which was complete with hilarious musical bridges and "Grapenuts Flakes are good, by Jimminy, etc.," sung with authority by Mary Jane Orth and Don Meissner.

Ray Levine directed an experimental drama, *City of Silence*, which extended the varied talents of Ken Banghart, Ann Taylor, and a frantic Gene Lynch—engineer for the shows—who was charged with a fistful of filters and mike effects.

The general meeting, at which recordings of the three productions were played back, afforded the Radio Drama Club its most interesting stimulus. Presided over by Production's Bob Adams, the session evoked a wealth of listener-and-self-criticism. This proved of great benefit, not only to those who took part in the shows, but to the people who would be engaged in the club's future productions. Directors, actors, and studio associates (music, sound effects, etc.) withstood the fire of the group's judgment, but not before the participants had risen in vociferous defense of their tech-

(Continued on page 6, col. 4)

BIG YEAR FOR SPEAKERS BUREAU

The activities of the NBC Speakers Bureau for 1946 reveals that bookings were made direct by the Bureau or reported to it by speakers who arranged engagements personally for

150 talks by
51 speakers from
22 departments, appearing in
54 cities of
13 states

Of these, 102 were booked directly by the Bureau and the balance were filled by direct contact with the individual speaker who, in each case, reported his engagements to the Speakers Bureau as they were made (and include about 46 filled by Doris Corwith in behalf of the Public Service Department).

A wide variety of organizations such as men's and women's clubs, business associations, religious groups and schools and colleges selected some phase of the radio industry as the theme for their meetings.

The Speakers' Bureau is operated by the Information Department.

TEN YEAR DINNER DATE SET

The induction of the new Ten and Twenty Year Club members will take place on Monday, May 5. The occasion will take place in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria.

By having the celebration in May, the induction returns to the month it has been traditionally held in the past. Last year the affair took place in November to coincide with the Company's twentieth anniversary.

The 20 Year Club members to be inducted are William Bloxham, Gustave Bosler, Alice Brazee, Alfred Christopher, William Clarke, Walter Damrosch, Paul Dumont, Henry Gabrielson, Melville Greene, Charles Grey, Joseph Kent, Steere Mathew, Hugh McGeachie, Philip Merryman, William B. Miller, Marion Murray, Granville Peers, Robert Sharpe, Ella Sheil, Gordon Strang, Andrew Waddell, Helen Walker, Jens Wies, and Roy Witmer. In addition, 51 will receive their 10 Year Club buttons.

Niles Trammell, President, and Frank Mullen, Executive Vice President will preside, with Dr. James R. Angell acting as toastmaster.

SUPERVISORS ATTEND RATING MEETINGS

Under the direction of Ashton Dunn, the Personnel Department is now holding a series of ten meetings with the Company's supervisors to discuss NBC's method of rating those employees whose terms of employment are not governed by contract.

The rating procedure is designed to aid in the Company's established policy of promotion from within. The purpose of the rating system is to provide a periodic, objective evaluation on the part of the supervisor of the job performance and capabilities of those individuals for whom he is held responsible. The study is made on the basis of quality and quantity of work, job attitude, co-operation, initiative, judgment, appearance, attendance and punctuality. The completed forms are referred to when transfers or job openings at a higher level occur, when additional training is contemplated, and when conferences are held with the employee concerning the performance of his duties.

Each supervisor has been given a manual to aid him in making accurate and unbiased job ratings for each person for whom he is held responsible. The supervisors are required to discuss the rating point by point with the employee so that the latter may know exactly where he stands and where improvements can be made.

When an employee is being considered for an annual increase, transfer or promotion, a copy of the rating form is attached to payroll papers and sent to the Vice President in charge of Finance for approval. In this way NBC's top management is kept informed of those employees within the Company who are doing an outstanding job.

WMAQ'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY

A birthday salute to NBC's M & O in Chicago, which celebrates its silver anniversary on April 13, marking 25 years of uninterrupted service. Now located in the Merchandise Mart, WMAQ is headquarters for the company's central division.



A lesson in proper make-up is demonstrated by Dorothy Berry (right) of Helena Rubinstein as part of a series of three lectures on good grooming. Blonde Betty Michaelis of Purchasing gets an expert application at the skilled hands of Miss Nicholson. The series, which dealt with posture, fashion, make-up and other helpful hints for the career girl, aroused much attention among NBC women.



CORINNE PEARSON, *Editor*

LUCILLE SHARP, *Managing Editor*

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

"Those Deductions From Your Paycheck"



Frank E. Mullen

Besides the deductions for the pay-as-you-go income tax which Uncle Sam requires by law, most of us have other pay-check deductions for various types of insurance for our own future welfare or for the benefit of our families. These are a form of saving made possible by the Company's Life Insurance and Retirement Plans, and by Federal Old Age and Survivor's Insurance. We are buying these benefits at considerably below cost, as NBC is matching our contributions better than dollar for dollar. In addition, for employees in New York State, the Company pays the full cost of Unemployment Insurance.

Here is the score at the end of one year for a New York employee earning \$2400 per year, who has a life insurance policy in the amount of \$4,000, and who is a member of the Retirement Plan which provides an annuity for life upon retirement:

	Employee's Share (deducted from salary checks)	NBC Share (paid by the company)
Group Life Insurance	\$ 14.40	\$ 20.74
Retirement Plan Contribution	78.72	78.72
Old Age & Survivor's Insurance (U. S. Social Security)	24.00	24.00
Federal and State Unemployment Insurance	0	72.00
TOTAL	\$117.12	\$195.46

From the above it is apparent that for this \$2400 per-year employee, the Company pays, in addition to his salary, an amount equal to 8.1% of his salary total for insurance protection which is for the sole benefit of the employee or his family.

The yearly total of NBC contributions to these insurance and pension funds is a substantial amount. For the year 1946 it was \$832,871, made up as follows (these figures do not include any payments made by employees):

Group Life Insurance	\$ 62,948
Retirement Plan (includes pension costs for services prior to December 1944)	484,518
Old Age & Survivor's Insurance	94,278
Unemployment Insurance (Federal & State)	191,127
TOTAL	\$832,871

The Company's position in the matter of payroll deductions for insurance and retirement benefits is something like Dad's when he gave his little boy a spanking, and said, "Son, this hurts me worse'n it does you."

AN OPEN DOOR FOR JUNIORS

Twice in recent months we have turned this column over to career stories—stories of employees who came to NBC with an ambition to get to the top, but a willingness to start at the bottom. This formula has worked in an amazing number of cases as you shall read in forthcoming months.

That's why the Personnel Department's placement staff puts such emphasis on careful filling of NBC's junior jobs—jobs as messengers, guides, pages, clerk-typists and junior secretaries. These ground-floor positions represent the company's open door policy. Many an executive, not only in broadcasting, but in other American businesses, can trace his success to the day he toted a load of mail or ran errands for the boss or directed visitors from a reception desk.

NBC wants to fill its junior jobs with young men and women who hope to advance in the radio field. In the past, the friends NBC employees have referred to the Personnel Department have been our greatest source for filling jobs. Personnel hopes that NBC employees will continue to refer their friends to Room 505 for interviews. Appointments may be made on Extension 363.

CHECK UP ON YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT

Four times a year there is entered in your Social Security account the wages reported for you by your employer to the Social Security Administration. It is important for you to check up to see that your account is being properly credited, since any error in your record will mean a loss or reduction in your future benefits. At least once every four years you should use the convenient post card, issued for that purpose, by the Social Security Administration. Some errors cannot be corrected if more than four years have elapsed. These cards can be obtained in Employee Services, Room 508.

STATE TAX DEADLINE

The deadline for filing of resident and non-resident New York State income tax returns is Tuesday, April 15. Anyone, whether resident or non-resident, whose income equals or exceeds \$1000 during the year if single; or \$2400 if married, is required to file.

Both resident and non-resident income tax forms are available in Employee Services, Room 508.

PROMOTIONS

ELAINE BABCOCK has been promoted from Guide in Guest Relations to News Assistant in the News Room.

RICHARD CLOSE, formerly a Draftsman in Engineering, is now Draftsman-Budget Clerk in General Service.

SCHUYLER CHAPIN goes from Writer-Announcer to Sr. Writer-Announcer in International.

KATHRYN COLE has been promoted from Correspondent to Assistant Supervisor in Information. PRISCILLA FARLEY won a promotion from Assistant Auditions Clerk to Talent Booking Clerk in Program.

LEONORA FORONDA goes from Guide to Cashier in Guest Relations. ALAN LUKS has been promoted from Messenger-Receptionist to News Desk Clerk in International. FRANK McPHARLAN has been promoted from Maintenance Man in General Service to Technical Porter in Engineering.

MARION MURRAY is now a Copyright Specialist, a promotion from Copyright Assistant in Program.

HELEN ROLEKE has left Spot Sales where she was a Clerk-Typist, to be a Secretary in Television.

RICHARD SCHNEIDER has been promoted from Page to Cashier in Guest Relations.

RUTHANNE SHERRY goes from Messenger in Guest Relations to Secretary in Advertising and Promotion.

ERNEST WHITE, now a Stock Boy, was formerly as Messenger-Clerk in General Service.

WANT A STAMP CLUB?

With the advent of the Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition at Grand Central Palace during the week of May 17, it occurred to many at NBC that a company stamp club should be established.

Amateur stamp collectors at NBC who are interested in forming such a philatelic club should write or call Employee Services, Room 508. If there is enough interest, an NBC Stamp Club will be inaugurated in the near future.

LAST MINUTE PUBLIC NOTICES

WANTED — Presto recording machine. Garry Simpson, Ext. 8412.

FOR SALE — Ten-tube radio receiver, RCA table model (T10-1) Mahogany finish. Like new, excellent condition. Short wave, police, broadcast bands. \$35 takes it. A. J. Horwath, Room 558, Ext. 450.

FOR SALE — Ladies English riding boots size 8A; boot hooks and bracer; all in fine condition. Florence Marger, Ext. 234.

TALENT'S GOOD SCOUTS



A vast amount of correspondence comes to NBC from radio actors and actresses who hope to go on the air. In the picture, Director Jim Harvey of Production dictates an answer to Helen Jackson.

Among the assorted personalities who find their way to NBC's plush second floor each month, are some 500 would-be actors and actresses. Some have had successful careers in the entertainment field. Some base their ambitions on amateur performances in schools or clubs. All want to air their talents on NBC.

To give these hopeful radio artists every chance to show what they can do, NBC has Audition and Talent Offices. In spite of the fact that the vast majority of our shows are commercial and cast by agencies, there is always the possibility of discovering a great new comedian or character actor or singer who can be introduced on one of our sustaining or package shows.

Auditions for acting parts are handled by Jim Harvey and Ed King, both Production Directors, with Jim Haupt hearing the vocal tryouts. Auditionees are required, however, to have had at least a year of professional experience either in radio or the theater before they can be considered. Those who have not had ground-work in the field are advised to try the smaller stations where most of the veterans in the radio business got their start.

In addition to handling a tremendous volume of audition correspondence, Jim Harvey, Frank Papp and Ed King supervise the NBC Actors Audition Showcase. Inaugurated last fall, the "Lab Theater," according to Jim, is one of the fairest ways of judging whether auditionees really have possibilities. Rather than having a voice test alone, promising actors can volunteer to show their ability by playing an actual part in a test script. The production is recorded under air conditions with the standard minimum rehearsal time comparable to playing in an air show. It is then up to the actor to "play" the mike.

The Lab Theater meets once a week, and the resulting recordings are heard by the Staff Director actively casting shows. The listening sessions acquaint them with the work of newcomers in the radio acting field.

The capable few who are passed by our Directors are put in our active files for future reference. This activity comes under the jurisdiction of Priscilla Farley in the Talent Office, a small room in the south corridor of the second floor. A vast cross-filing system is maintained in the Talent Office which enables a Director to find actors or actresses who can fill specific roles. The categories range from Cockney dialects to comedy types and ingenue parts.

Casting sheets for package (programs NBC builds for commercial sale) and sustaining (such as *Home is What You Make It*, *The Eternal Light*, *Your United Nations*, Frank Merriwell and Archie Andrews) shows are submitted to the Talent Office by the Directors, listing the people they want to fill the required parts. Priscilla then calls the casting agencies who service these specific actors and arranges for their appearance at rehearsals and broadcasts. Since most of our talent appears on a free-lance basis, the Talent Office also handles their pay checks.

An interesting sidelight is the fact that Directors can learn what celebrities are in town by calling the Talent Office. A daily bulletin listing all the New York arrivals and departures of famous people is received, enabling Directors to arrange for personal star appearances on their shows.

This behind-the-scenes activity of the Program Department is still another fascinating angle of a fascinating industry.

SUGGESTION WINNERS

Thirteen was a lucky number this month. The Suggestion Committee met and concurred on thirteen awards for thirteen alert NBCites.

The month's top award went to one of the Telephone Operators. Margaret Moran (see cut) won \$25 for suggesting a blackboard in PBX for posting important service notices.

An award of \$15 went to Paul Anderson, a Television Transmitter Engineer. Paul submitted the original suggestion to make influenza vaccine available to employees in the Health Office.

Four \$10 awards were also voted by the Committee. One went to Kathryn Collins of Traffic for a procedure for issuing the Television Facilities Order form to aid in keeping all orders for the same program together. Another was presented to C. Edwin Read, Television Engineer, for his idea to place waste receptacles by the drinking fountains. Guest Relations Page Edward Steiner won his \$10 for suggesting that the television tickets be printed with a statement that the show is viewed on a television set. Marjorie Loeber of Public Service is the fourth \$10 winner for suggesting that the 10 and 20 Year Club buttons be made in charm form so that women with long company service can hang them on a bracelet or chain.

In addition to the above, there were seven \$5 awards, bringing the total amount of money awarded to \$115. Vincent Barker, WNBC Engi-

neer at the Port Washington transmitter, had an idea which resulted in listing all the transmitters in the office telephone directory. Douglas Butler, Promotion Writer in Radio Recording, had a good idea for installing a hold-back device on doors through which hand trucks must pass. Hugh McDermott, Page in Guest Relations, suggested an improved seating system for Studio 8H. Maintenance Engineer Alfred Christopher proposed guards for the fluorescent lights in the Maintenance Shop to prevent accidents. Mildred Joy of the General Library suggested a fire extinguisher in the Library to protect NBC's priceless book collection. Margaret Hadley of Traffic suggested a sign to the Lost and Found section of Protection. And Murry Harris of WNBC suggested that the fourth floor be kept fully lighted during the night hours for the benefit of the tours visiting the News Room.



A blackboard for posting notices in PBX won Margaret Moran \$25.

"HIZZONER"

NBC NOW BOASTS A MAYOR

by HELEN LEAF

If a long line of adoring flunkies hold up the walls of Room 409 and bar your entrance into its sacred portals, blame it on the fact that from March 18 and on, the said mentioned offices house a new "Hizzoner"—Sterling Fisher, new mayor of Tarrytown.

It all began in February, when Professor Fisher—er, er, we mean Hizzoner—was approached by the Independent Citizens Committee from the locale of Rip Van Winkle's forty winks, and asked to be their candidate. Bashful or reticent may be the proper word, with some very lame excuses, Sterling was finally sold on the idea and he was in for political life.

His platform supports a plan to consolidate the villages of Tarrytown, North Tarrytown and Irvington under a city form of government. This plan received wide public attention recently when two out-

standing authorities on American municipal government, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Harrison Reed, presented a scientific analysis of the problem which they made under Rockefeller's sponsorship.

Sterling Fisher has always been on the side of better government—both at home and abroad—and his work on his own series (*Our Foreign Policy* and *Your United Nations*) bears witness to his deep concern with knowing this world we live in.

As Assistant Public Service Counselor, Hizzoner, the Mayor, has boosted the cause of better radio programs of an educational nature, and the efforts he expended resulted in the NBC University of the Air.

The political tyro of Room 409 is a Texan by birth—calling San Antonio the home town. He has taught in American colleges as well as in the University of Western Japan at

(Continued on Page 6, col. 4)

It happens at NBC

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION—Ethel Gilchrist, while playing upon the Florida Keys last month, reported the same spectacle earlier experienced by Roy Porteous and Dick Blake. Ethel, too, saw an Indian . . . Nary a person looked upon Charles P. Hammond with a jaundiced eye. Charlie's condition: Jaundice . . . Richard Blake's nomination for "The Man Who's Not Long For This World": Dusty Fletcher, composer of *Open the Door, Richard* . . . Coach Art Forrest's bowling team stalwarts, who are first in the league (among the teams with an average below 700, that is), give the secret of their success: "Win more points; knock down fewer pins." . . . George Wallace in one rapid-paced day (1) made a trip to Philly, (2) broke out in a new "presentation" suit, (3) discovered he possesses a unique souvenir of the Nazis (a bit of schrapnel he brought back internally from the Battle of the Bulge) . . . Jack Snow, whose latest book, *Dark Music*, was released in February, has recently received plaudits from press and radio reviewers. Famed literary critic and author, Christopher Morley in the March issue of the Book-of-the-Month Club News wrote of *Dark Music*: "I like to think there are still a few who relish discovering something tremulously different and strange . . . To me there is more health and grace in this weird little book than in many a nation-wide knockout." Further recognition of Jack's current literary work came from Nelson Olmstead, popular NBC star whose program is heard Mondays through Fridays at 10:15 AM and Saturdays at 5 PM. Olmstead termed *Dark Music* "terrific," promptly scheduled it for presentation on his program Saturday, April 26 at 5 PM.

ENGINEERING—Ray Guy, a veteran of radio engineering, has been named treasurer of the Institute of Radio Engineers . . . Sal Salanitro of Maintenance has been working in the Equipment Room these days, bringing the prints up to date, due to the many changes and new construction in our studios . . . Also working hard are Mel Lewis and Al Neu. Their job: Getting the Power Room repaired and painted.

EXECUTIVE—Col. Charlie Wall, recently-named chief of staff of the 77th Division of the Organized Reserve Corps, AUS, has a new citation to add to his vast collection. Both he and Brig. Gen. Ken Dyke have been awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross of the State of New York.

GENERAL SERVICE—A new craze has hit the Mail Room. Leaders are Tom Tart and Bill Kelly, both of whom clutch a briar pipe between their teeth in a fine imitation of the Man of Distinction. Even George Monahan has taken up the cry and is trying to start a movement toward pipes in Protection . . . Not to be outdone by Broadway, the Mail Room has also acquired a Harvey of its own. Any time the phone rings somebody always yells, "It's probably Walter." But far from being invisible, Walter is Evelyn Varian's brother, who is a proud papa and calls excitedly each day to report the progress of his offspring . . . Next door in Stenographic, the Night Staff were glad to see Naomi Chilleen after a convalescence of four months in Arizona. Stephen Kanych, also of the Night Staff, did some welcoming of his own. Mrs. Kanych and daughter Stephanie have finally arrived from England. And Helen Moore, Steno's supervisor, hailed her fourth nephew into the world . . . Nancy Gentile, another Steno-phite, announces her engagement on Easter Sunday and plans to be married next January. These plans all hinge on one thing, however, the availability of an apartment . . . Get the boys in Duplicating to tell you how to have an ice cream party (no cake) for about 50 people on one nickel. Ed Williams strolled down the hall one afternoon for a refresher, deposited a five-cent piece in the slot and stood by in utter amazement while the machine obligingly deposited not one but dozens of cups at his feet . . . The 508 gang welcomes Mary Heller as Ed Lowell's very nice new secretary.

GUEST RELATIONS—The seven male members of the Guide Staff are doing a fine job of showing NBC to our visiting public . . . Some of the most horrible creatures ever seen lurk in the men's locker room. These creatures come from the pen of Ralph Barkey, who has created several comic strip characters in addition to some of his grotesque but quite realistic pencil sketches . . . Rick Krepela is now teaching phonetics at a leading New York dramatics school . . . Eileen Holley is an industrial designer and a graduate of Pratt Institute.

INFORMATION—(Or a day at the NBC zoo). Gil Maxwell is waxing fat on the peanuts the visitors have thrown him . . . Betty Bergen and Pat Denham were fined \$5 apiece for swimming in the seal pool, and Kathryn Cole \$10 for tossing them fish . . . Dick Stahlberger was all excited after having interviewed an orangutang and arranged for an ex-

clusive NBC on-the-spot pick-up . . . Roy Sharp met with disaster in the form of a park attendant's pointed stick. It is doubtful if Roy will nap under a newspaper again.

INTERNATIONAL—Niels Bonne- sen and Adam Lunoe are proudly showing the ultimate in fan mail—a recording sent by a listener in Denmark praising them at length for "magnificent broadcasts" . . . If the Latin-American section looked slightly depopulated for a while here's why: (1) Cal Abraham flew off to Montevideo (on 12 hours notice) to attend the inauguration of President Barreta. (2) Buck Canel made his third trip to Mexico in a few months, this one to cover the Truman visit. (3) Alberto Ganderlo looped down to Lima, whence he joined the party making the inaugural flight of Peruvian International Airways. Watching all this with a justifiable touch of wistfulness was Frank Nesbitt, who saw international complications wipe out a jaunt which would have made them all look like pikers. He'd been booked for Pan American's maiden round-trip flight between San Francisco and Sydney, Australia . . . Wedding bells in mid-March for Schuyler Chapin and Betty Steinway. And the reception—natch—at Steinway Hall . . . Welcome to Gladys Quadt, as secretary to Buck Canel, whom we credit with the eagle-eyed observation that she's the first Q in the phone book since February of '45. Last of the rarities was a Mr. Quizzenberry of Press. Add, too, Willard Hansen, just a few weeks in from the Middle East to take over as receptionist, when Alan Luks moved up to the News Room. And finally, Nancy Fox, who enjoyed an NBC indoctrination that's not exactly in the books. Directed to Room 694 for the customary briefing on company whys and wherefores, she found herself, instead, being initiated into the mysteries of Form 1040.

NEWS & SPECIAL EVENTS—When word of the disastrous Pennsylvania Railroad wreck near Altoona, Pa. arrived in the Washington News Room, Bill McAndrew sent Bjorn Bjornson and engineer Walter Godwin on a remote broadcast hard to beat even during the war. Reaching Altoona at 4 p.m., the State Police led the two men and engineer from station WFBG, NBC affiliate, to the scene of the wreck through an open strip coal mine driving over a mile through 6 inches of snow and ice and finally on the roadbed itself. The crew then left their transportation and lugged broadcasting equipment on their backs for three-quarters of a mile along a roadbed between two moving work trains, arriving at the tangled wreckage at 6:15. AT&T linemen arrived shortly after stringing broadcast lines from the

nearest private telephone which was two miles away. Lines were strung on the ground over two miles of brush and mountain, and under the five tracks of the roadbed to the broadcast vantage point.

Taking cues from a portable radio, Bjorn fed two minutes of description to the network during the "News of the World," 7:15, from copy written on a borrowed typewriter and held in frozen fingers, giving NBC the first and only broadcast from one of the most inaccessible wreck scenes in modern railroad history.

Recently Bill Brooks tore a button off his overcoat. Before lunch he contemplated having the button replaced. During lunch had a change of heart. After lunch displayed a brand-new coat!

PRESS—Jim Miller is the proud possessor of the silver dollar used in the kickoff of the 1947 Rose Bowl game . . . The April issue of *Mechanix Illustrated* magazine contains an article by Sam Kaufman describing the Schwerin research system . . . And the model in the picture illustrating the test is Audrey Weber . . . Recently Peg McNeany was riding a Fifth Avenue bus. All at once, the door became stuck—absolutely refused to open. Finally, in desperation, the passengers, including good-sport Peg, climbed out through a window . . . Jim McLean has begun training for this year's tennis by rolling tennis courts near his home in Norwalk, Conn. . . . Preparatory to being beaten by his co-magazine worker, Al Kastner, or so Al says.

PERSONNEL—Not long ago NBC's statuesque Doris Ann shared star billing with Metro's boyish Tom Drake at Woodmere High School's vocational guidance conclave. Doris was on stage when Tom made his entrance. The bobby-soxers gooned and swooned, but our "Tess," never at a loss merely said, "Go ahead, turn around and look." When they had had their fill they all settled back in their seats and Doris went on about careers in the National Broadcasting Company . . . Out of the deep south this past month, Helen Korday received a request from a new station for an announcer. This was right in line with any day's business except that the sentence ended with an additional request for a wife. Correspondence went back for additional information . . . Having the time of her life with her new leisure is Mable Phelps, who retired from nursing the first of the year. "Mom" hiked off to Canada for a long visit with her family, returned briefly to New York, then packed up again for the Florida Keys. She's back now looking a-glow with health and ready to launch into the gardening season.

PROGRAM—Did you know that (1) Charles F. McCarthy entered radio as an actor and played opposite such Hollywood stars as Madeleine Carroll, Ronald Colman and Paul Muni, (2) Ed Herlihy at one time owned a pet elephant named Yazoo. It weighed 2400 pounds and consumed 150 pounds of hay per day, (3) Jack Costello is the only member from the entertainment world to be appointed a Master Knight of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. The organization, dedicated to charity, is composed of 1000 members, of which 200 are in the United States. Jack has also been appointed an official "Ambassador of Good Will" by Gov. Harold Stassen of Minnesota because of Jack's loyalty to his home state. He was also chosen for the Doctor of Literature degree from St. Bonaventure College, (4) The H. P. Davis Gold Medal Memorial Award for owned and operated stations went to our own Herb Sheldon. In 1944 Ben Grauer was the National Winner and Kenneth Banghart was awarded the medal for owned and operated stations, (5) One of Ben Grauer's most unusual adventures occurred ten years ago when he described the New York Beer Parade from a Goodyear Blimp. A member of the crew had opened a trap door in the blimp's gondola and Ben, unaware of what had been done, proceeded to move to the opposite side for a better description of the Parade. Along the way Ben managed to dangle one foot in space but decided such an end wasn't in the public interest, (6) Arthur Gary's beautifully mirrored apartment was pictured in the March issue of the *Good Housekeeping* . . . In the Music Division, Miriam Clark Martin's new gold wedding band sparkles happily these days, and so does Miriam, since she returned from her honeymoon . . . Dick Kromer is headed back to Pennsylvania to work for his father . . . Joan McQuary is handling sheets of music for Schirmer's . . . *Orchestras of the Nations* bookings, auditions reports, and FM music sheets have shared space on Ernest LaPrade's meticulously neat desk with long-streaming galley proofs of late. His book, *Broadcasting Music*, is now on the Rinehart presses, scheduled for publication in the latter part of April . . . The Radio Drama Club brought all Production's would-be actors out from hiding—Jack Kuney, Walt Ehrgott, Wayne Howell, Gloria Clyne. And they're terrific—they say . . . Erlene Wallace has left us to join Dancer-Fitzgerald-Sample as their casting director . . . Jean Hay, secretary in the Auditions Office, has left to take up housekeeping, and Alan Handley has left to become

director for Jinx Falkenberg and Tex McCrary.

RADIO RECORDING—File this under the wait-a-minute-while-I-catch-my-breath department. Ginny Volkmer, Bob Friedheim's secretary, announced to one and all that she was married, and what's more that she had been Mrs. Robert Dwyer since July 7, 1946!

RESEARCH—Program Analysis (all-gal section of Research) was represented at the Conference of the Association of Women Broadcasters of the NAB by Miriam Hoffmeir and Emmie Hill. Mimi attended every meeting and event of the Conference from March 7 to March 9. And Emmie went to the general session and the luncheon Saturday. Both returned with reports on talks by Governor Dewey; novelist Margaret Culkin Banning; NAB veepee A. D. Willard Jr.; Dean of Vassar Mildred C. Thompson; and numerous other "names." They were likewise loud in their praise of NBC's women broadcasters and of the honors heaped upon Mary Margaret McBride, Jinx Falkenberg and Maggi McNellis of the WNBC roster . . . On St. Patrick's Day 50 student librarians from McGill University in Canada visited the General Library. This has been an annual affair since 1932 (except for the war years), but the visitors found vast improvements in our facilities since the Library was moved to the second floor.

STATION RELATIONS—Adrienne Krucher has done it again. She snared a part in one of the plays to be produced by the Radio Drama Club, and it seems to be a nice juicy one . . . Florence Roman found a roll of bills amounting to \$50 in a taxicab not so long ago and has not spent it yet hoping to find its owners . . . Marion Lucas was seen dashing around the office madly in search of a fur coat—any fur coat. She was on her way to the Waldorf with some papers her boss needed for the SPAC meetings, but she just couldn't go without a fur coat. After all—you never know whom you might run into at the Waldorf. Even Van Johnson.

WNBC—Some folks collect elephant hides; others ride bicycles for six days. Then there's Bob Davis, who lets people write on his wall. Bob, WNBC Publicity Director, inhabits a cubicle to the west of the 416 entrance, and the swaying shielding is about 5 feet high, just tall enough so that almost no visitor to WNBC can resist peering over to see exactly what is in captivity there. One half of the wall is now covered with cartoons and snappy patter by WNBC talent such as Tex McCrary, Maggi

McNellis, Bob Sherry, et al., and the other manicured with beautiful mot-toes from trade publication visitors.

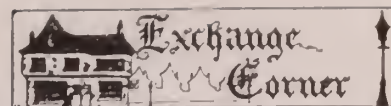
DEPARTMENT REPORTERS

Leonard Allen—Intl.
Anne Bachner—Telev.
Mary Bell—Engrg. Rec.
Barbara Bennett—GR
John Bloch—Program
John Casey—GR
Kay Collins—Traffic
Phebe Crosby—Music
Walt Ehrgott—Production
Jacob Evans—Adv. & Prom.
Don Frost—Information
Vince Genzardi—Engr. Maint.
Bill Haerer—WNBC Trans.
Kay Henderson—Cont. Accept.
Frances Heim—Controllers
Elaine Hollywood—Traffic
Roselle Hubel—Press
Allan Hughes—Spot Sales
Arax Kazanjian—Steno.
Marjorie Loeber—Publ. Serv.
Frank Loughran—Sound
Marion Lucas—Sta. Rel.
Harold McConaghy—Air Cond.
Florence Meyfohrt—RRD
Betty Michaelis—Purch.
Jim Myers—Personnel
Ed Stolzenberger—Engr. M C
Agnes Sullivan—News
Elenor Tarshis—WNBC
Ed Watkins—Engr. Stud. & Fld.
Cal Wheeler—Mail
Alice Wilson—Legal
Bob Wogan—Announcing
Will Zurflied—Research

To Helio Pereira, International Writer-Announcer, his first child and daughter, on March 10. Name: Diane. Weight: 6½ lbs.

To Ary Moll, International Production Manager, his second child, first daughter, on March 18. Name: Mary Ann. Weight: 6 lbs.-12 oz.

To Charles F. McCarthy of Announcing, his second child, first daughter, on March 26. Name: Elza Catherine. Weight: 6 lbs.-10 oz.



WANTED—A dirt-cheap piano, either small upright, baby grand or mini-piano. Mary Schlorek, Ext. 572.

CANOE FOR SALE—with paddles and seats. \$10 below original cost. Adam Reisz, Ext. 8222.

WANTED—To rent—a large (4 passenger) house trailer for a vacation trip of 3 weeks. Call Chimes Ext. 462.

WANTED TO EXCHANGE—4-room (2-bath) apartment on East 52nd St. between 1st and River, for 6-room apartment or house—city or suburbs. Jack Rayel, Ext. 353.



To Dorothy Bird Harris of Controllers, her first child and son, on February 18. Name: Dale George. Weight: 9 lbs.-4 oz.

To Tito Leite, International Writer-Announcer, his first child and son, on February 23. Name: Richard. Weight: 7½ lbs.

To Michael Pirozek, Transmitter Engineer at the Bound Brook transmitter, his second son, on February 25. Name: Thomas. Weight: 7 lbs.-12 oz.

To Patricia McCool Hanlon, formerly of Personnel, her first child and daughter, on March 3. Name: Mary Louise. Weight: 6 lbs.-5 oz.

To Lee Jones, WNBC Producer, his first child and son, on March 3. Name: William Lee. Weight: 7 lbs.-8 oz.



Telephoned and telegraphed messages of congratulations flooded in last month when Sterling Fisher of Public Service was elected mayor of Tarrytown (see story on page 3). He is flanked on either side by secretaries Hilda Watson and Edith Lisle.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

It's AA election time again! Below are the faces of the people chosen by the Nominating Committee to run for each office. It's up to you, the members of the A.A., now—take your pick. Join the A.A. so you can cast a ballot!

Ballots will be distributed early next week and should be returned to Employee Services by Friday, April 11.

FOR PRESIDENT



Nick Kersta



Gerry Martin

FOR FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT



Tom Knode



Ted Zaer

FOR SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT



Helen Davis



Adelaide Orr

FOR SECRETARY



Aneita Cleary



Angela Caramore

FOR TREASURER



Pete Tintle



Ham Robinson

Athletic Association

DANCE PLANNED TO INAUGURATE NEW A.A. OFFICERS

Bill Clarke, out-going President of the NBC Athletic Association, is planning a big shindig to celebrate the election of the new officers. The dance will probably take place on a Friday night either the last of this month or the beginning of next. Bill announces that the affair will have a new twist or two, and advises everyone to watch for bulletin board and desk-side publicity.

When Bill Clarke, Matt Boylan, Rita Alevizon, Helen Moore and Bob Myers hand over their titles to a new team, they will leave behind them a memorable AA year—a fine outing, several gala dances, and an active sports line-up. Al Walker deserves everyone's plaudits for handling the social events with his usual efficiency and charm. The team captains—Walter Law (softball), Pete House (bowling), Dean Kearsh (basketball), Al Saunders (bridge) and Eleanor Freitag (swimming)—all did NBC pretty proud in the sports activities department.

Now on with the AA's eleventh year! Be sure to be on hand to celebrate its inaugural.

THE FIRST SIGN OF SPRING

When boys start gravitating toward the nearest vacant lot with mits, bats and balls in hand it's a sure sign as the circus that Spring is nearly here. Well, NBC's men haven't a vacant lot to go to—nor do they play catch in the halls during lunch hour—but they're already thinking and talking softball.

The AA has joined the Mid-Town Variety Softball League for the 1947 season. The League this year consists of teams representing NBC, CBS, ABC, Mutual, Newsweek, Paramount and Universal Pictures. Playing season starts April 14 and teams will play week-day evenings in lower Central Park.

If you are interested in participating in this active and popular sport, call Walter Law of International on Ext. 120 as soon as possible so that the team may get off to an early start. If you want to be a spectator, watch the bulletin boards for play days.



A warm handshake and congratulations from the AA's President, Bill Clarke was forthcoming when the NBC basketball team gathered in his office to receive tokens of a valiant fighting year. With only two years of experience the team placed second in the Rockefeller Center League. Dean Kearsh, the captain, returns Bill's clasp. Grouped around him are Byrne, McCabe, McKenna, Kerr and Stahlberger. Jim Richards was not able to be present. Each was presented with miniature initialed gold basketballs.

RADIO DRAMA CLUB

(Continued from page 1)

niques and experiments. No blows were exchanged.

Each critical meeting—held the last week of each month—will be conducted by someone from the Program Department. Bob Adams, in this first session, was struck with an enthusiasm that all but lost its voice amid the energetic utterances of the assemblage.

Under the guiding hand of Garnet Garrison, the club's actors and directors are given free rein and judicious instruction in their activities. Even though there is a physical limit to the number of people on each show, would-be directors are groomed for their parts in the role of associate directors. Non-participants are free to observe the rehearsals and performances of the dramas. Eventually, according to Garnet, more scope will be given to the selection and execution—and even the writing and adaptation—of scripts by members of the group.

The club is proceeding with this month's schedule, sure of its continual self-improvement. The group still welcomes anyone at NBC who is interested—professionally or otherwise—in releasing latent (and perhaps unsuspected) talents. Proof of the club's drawing power is the fact that 30 more ambitious people signed up after seeing or hearing the group in action.

The other night during the voice-tests for one of the March productions, a set-up man in the studio said he'd had a hankering to try out for the thing, but hadn't known how to go about it. So Garnet Garrison handed him a script, the fellow dropped his Hammond, and then and there read for several of the parts.

The routine way of signing up for the NBC Radio Drama Group, however, is to stop in at the Employee Services office (Room 508) and fill out a card. Or—if you lack the courage of your convictions—drop in on the general meeting the last Friday of the month and carry on from there.

"HIZZONER"

(Continued from page 3)

Kobe. He knows the pedagogical aspects of living as well as the reportorial—he was with the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican*, the A.P. and the N. Y. *Times*.

So, to the new Mayor—and he was radio's "teacher" first—we might say: "Full Steam Ahead."

It may have taken old Rip 20 years to wake up, but that was because Sterling Fisher wasn't around to keep him from falling asleep in the first place!