CHICK SCHADEN'S
NOTATOLANIS
RAPIO

From the Hall Closet . Box 421 . Morton Grove, IL 60053

BOOK FIVE

CHAPTER SEVEN

JULY-AUGUST, 1979



BING CROSBY'S first radio appearance was in 1930 when he sang on the air with Gus Arnheim's orchestra in a remote broadcast from the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles, in 1931 he landed his own show on CBS, moved to NBC in 1935, then to ABC in 1946 and, finally, back to CBS in 1949. A fantastic radio career for a fantastic radio personality.

# Metro Golden Memories

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BIG BAND AND PERSONALITY RECORDINGS



# BERGEN & McCARTHY



Who'd have thought that dapper, cocky, altogether manof-the-world Charles McCarthy was once a pine cone bumming around the north woods, more or less at loose ends till he ran into a craftsman named Charlie Mack, who put some tin in his chest, hair in his leas, and introduced him to a guy named Bergen—the rest is what you'd expect when ventriloquist meets dummy . . . But first they went to college, Northwestern, where Edgar pulled in the book-learning, and Charlie pulled in the lucres . . . 1927 they happed merrily into vaudeville's waiting arms, touched every state in the Union, and decided a Grand Tour was in order . . . London's swank Grosvernor House, a command performance for the Swedish Crown Prince in his own lingo, Russia, Iceland, South America, the latter memorable for a pathetically eager demonstration outside the locked gates of Laguara leper colony in Venezuela . . . All this took time, and when they reached home port, there was vaudeville, stuck behind the 8-ball, going pfft fast . . . so okay, what was wrong with nite-clubbing? So nothing was, in fact tickling the Rainbow Room's funny bone panned out to be just the thing. Rudy Vallee came, saw, and signed—on the nite of December 16, 1936, they were in. But sensationally . . . Came Hollywood, and Charlie just loves all its levely, levely girls. Never at a loss for words himself, he can't understand why Bergen never speaks up. Retiring fellow, Bergen . . . Charlie says anything he pleases, ance toyed with the idea of becoming a lawyer but he does wish that people wouldn't harp so on this school business-after all, he went to college, didn't he . . . Script-writer Joe Bigelow says it's a toss-up who's head man around the Bergen-McCarthy menage, but it's generally conceded that one without the other wouldn't be as good as with . . . and after having melted most of the ice in Alaska on their recent tour, who cares anyway?

REPRINT from RADIO ALBUM Winter. 1942

# Beethoven for breakfast

Swinc, bop and the rest of the jangling stuff may come and go, but the three "B's" of longhair—Beethoven, Bach and Brahms—will go on forever. And as far as Chicago radio fans are concerned, Uncle Normie Ross, a hearty extrovert who's been waking them up for the past sixteen years to the cultured chords of the classics, will go on forever, too.

However, the twenty-four hour day which the rest of us are content to observe is rapidly running out of hours in which the vigorous Ross can squeeze his more than man-sized radio and TV schedule; and program brass at NBC's station, WMAQ, and its sister TV outlet, WNBQ, are running out of titles.

There's The Norman Ross Hour, Here's Norman Ross, The Early Norman Ross—all on WMAQ—and Norman Ross' Varieties on TV. The one and only 400 Hour, granddaddy of them all, and Music That Sings rounds out Ross' schedule.

Actually, it isn't too much to handle for a man who, when in his early twenties, was the holder of seventy-two world swimming titles; was world Olympic swimming champion; had been decorated by the President of France and King of Belgium, and who later served as an Air Force officer in two world wars. After the First World War, Ross was a civilian pilot, a newspaperman and a publicist. He started in radio as a baseball announcer, and began his first disc show—the forerunner of the 400 Hour—on WMAQ in 1935.

From the start, Ross gave his 400 Hour listeners a diet of classical and semi-classical music, although program executives swore listeners would never swallow the stuff at seven o'clock in the morning. But several years ago when Ross muttered something about changing the 400 Hour format, some 60,000 letters of protest shouted him down.



A LTHOUGH Ross is no professional screwball, he manages to kid around with the weather reports, his music (Tennessee Waltz played backwards is a new selection by a contemporary Japanese composer) and his sponsors. An issue of a popular magazine was sold out in Chicago after Ross dropped the casual remark "I see they've got my picture on page 59." The picture was a cartoon of an ape breaking records.

Ross likes all kinds of music, and the popular stuff has a prominent place on his other record shows. Norman Ross' Varieties, his first regular TV show on WNBQ, consists of short musical comedy films interspersed with Ross' urbane and slightly sardonic comments. As a sideline, he operated a record store in suburban Evanston for some time, and has been manager of the Evanston Civic Orchestra.

THE TWO-HUNDRED pound, six-foot, two-inch Ross is married to the former Beatrice Howlett, a swim champ he met in Hawaii, and the couple have two children, one son and a daughter. Another son was killed in an auto accident several years ago.

CHO

Here's a little quiz to test your memory of some Chicago-originated radio shows that are gone . . . but not forgotten. Give yourself five points for each correct answer and if your score is 80 or better, you're a lot older than you look!

- 1. Name the long-running sponsors for each of these radio shows:
  - a, First Nighter Program
  - b. National Barn Dance
  - c, Quiz Kids
  - d. Little Orphan Annie
  - e. Myrt and Marge
- 2. Two vaudevillians, trying their luck on the air in Chicago, were asked by station WGN to develop some radio characterizations of the popular Chicago Tribune comic strip, The Gumps, Instead, the boys developed some characters of their own and called them Sam 'n' Henry. Later Sam 'n' Henry became Amos 'n' Andy. Name the vaudevillians who created radio's all-time favorites.
- 3. In 1935, the Johnson's Wax Company of Racine, Wisconsin hired a singer and a pianist from Peoria to star in a program from Chicago that was to become one of the great comedy shows of radio's golden age. Name the show and/or its stars.
- 4. Who was known as America's "Mother of the air?"
  - 5. For more than 18 years, Jack

CHUCK SCHADEN'S

# CHICAGOLAND RADIO TRIVIA QUIZ

Armstrong, the all-American boy broadcast his adventures to the nation from studios in Chicago. Can you still sing Jack's school song?

- Who were the announcers on Jack Armstrong and Captain Midnight?
- 7. Who was Victor Gook and where did he live?
- 8. Name the host of the popular Chicagooriginated radio program who ended each broadcast with a prayer:

All over the nation, Each in his own words, Each in his own way; For a world united in peace, Bow your heads and let us pray.

- 9. Name the last of the kids' radio adventure shows.
- 10. Radio's first soap opera originated in Chicago. Can you name it?
- 11. The nurse paged "Or. Brent . . . call surgery . . . Dr. Brent . . . call surgery" on what popular daytime drama from Chicago?
- 12. Who was famous for saying "It's a beautiful day in Chicago!" no matter what the weather?
  - 13. Who were these local radio favorites?
    - a. Eddie and Fanny
    - b. Two Ton Baker
    - c. Malcolm Clare
    - d. Aunt Rita
    - e, Randy Blake
    - f. Happy Hank
    - g, Mac and Bob

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ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON FOLLOWING PAGE

## **ANSWERS TO RADIO TRIVIA QUIZ**

- 1. a. Campana's Italian Balm was the original sponsor of the First Nighter program: The product became simply Campana Balm when Italy became one of the Axis powers during World War II.
- b. The network portion of the National Barn Dance was sponsored by Alka Seltzer (and the show originated from the Eighth Street Theatre in Chicago).
- c, Joe Kelly and the Quiz Kids were smart enough to take Alka Seltzer for their sponsor, too.
- d. Ovaltine presented Little Orphan Annie and also gave us a great collection of secret decoders and shake-up mugs.
- e. Myrt and Marge Myrtle Spears and Marjorie Minter — were sponsored by Wrigley's Spearmint Chewing Gum. (Get it??)
- Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll were Amos 'n' Andy on radio from 1928 until 1960.
- 3. Jim and Marion Jordan agreed to star as Fibber McGee and Molly for 26 weeks and were held over for 22 years!
- 4. Oxydol's own Ma Perkins was America's "mother of the air" from 1933 until 1960. Virginia Payne originated the role in Chicago and played it during the entire 27-year run of the show.
  - 5. Jack Armstrong, the all-American boy

went to Hudson High school and sang this school song:

Wave the flag for Hudson High, boys, Show them how we stand;

Ever shall our team be champions
Known throughout the land!

... and then in a super-burst of commercialism, the boys from Hudson High added,

Have you tried Wheatles?

They're whole wheat with all of the bran. So just try Wheatles,

The best breakfast food in the land!
6. Franklyn MacCormack .told Jack
Armstrong fans about the Breakfast of
Champions while Pierre Andre urged members
of the Secret Squadron how to get the current
edition of Captain Midnight's secret decoder
("send two inner-seal rings from jars of Ovaltine
and one thin dime for postage and handling").

7. Victor Gook was bookkeeper for Plant Number 14 of the Consolidated Kitchenware Company and he lived in "the small house helfway up in the next block" with his wife Sade and son Rush. Paul Rhymer was the writer-creator of "radio's homefolks," Vic and Sade and their daily quarter-hour broadcasts from Chicago brought homespun humor to millions of listeners from coast-to-coast.

8. Don McNeill was host of The Breakfast Club for over 34 years – from June 23, 1933 until December 27, 1968.



JOE KELLY AND THE QUIZ KIDS





## **EDDIE & FANNIË CAVANAUGH**

- 9. Silver Eagle is considered to be the last of the radio adventure shows for kids. It was broadcast from Chicago from 1951-1955. Jim Ameche starred as Jim West, a Northwest Mountie not unlike Sgt. Preston of the Yukon.
- 10. Painted Dreams, created by Irna Phillips, was the first soap opera daytime drama on radio, broadcast on WGN in 1930
- 11. The Road of Life was the story of Dr. Jim Brent and his medical career, following him from his early days as an intern to his specialty in neuropsychiatry.
- 12. Everett Mitchell continually offered an optomistic weather report from the Windy City as he opened each broadcast of the National Farm and Home Hour on NBC from the late 1920s thru the mid-50s.
- 13. a, Eddie and Fanny Cavanaugh were a popular husband and wife radio team who entertained housewives with recipes, riddles, rhymes and chatter. The show often originated from a small studio in the Chicago Theatre. Eddie and Fanny were among the first on radio to refer to the "old clock up on the studio wall."

- b. Dick "Two Ton" Baker was a large, jovial singer-pianist who entertained his listeners with upbeat songs during his daily 15 minutes. "I'm A Lonely Little Petunia in an Onion Patch" was a favorite of fans who also remember him for his TV commercials for Riverview, the now defunct amusement early.
- c. Malcolm Clare was Chicago's "Uncle Mal," telling stories for boys and girls who tuned in to his Chicago Daily News-sponsored show on WCFL every afternoon.
- d. Aunt Rita read the Chicago Times funnies to kids every Sunday morning from 11:30 a.m., to noon on WLS from 1936 to 1952. She was Rita Ascot and she also played Fay, Ma Perkins' daughter on the soap opera.
- e. Randy Blake was program manager for radio station WJJD and hosted the station's popular "Supporting Frolic" show.
- f. Happy Hank was host of a weekday morning kids show, sponsored by Cocoa Wheat. Hank would tell the kids to walk around the house and pick up their clothes. He would see that they were doing as told by watching them thru the little green eye on the face of their radio dial.
- g. Mac and Bob were the blind singers on the National Barn Dance and other programs on WLS, the Prarie-Farmer Station.

# THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WAID- FM 97.0

## SATURDAY AFTERNOONS . 1:00 UNTIL 5:00

## SATURDAY, JULY 7th

JACK BENNY PROGRAM (4-6-52) Jack visits the dentist. Mary Livingstone, Dennis Day, Don Wilson, Phil Harris, the Sportsmen, Frank Nelson, Mel Blanc. AFRS (Armed Forces Radio Service) Rebroadcast. (10:45; 11:10) ROGUE'S GALLERY (12-20-45) "Fortune in Furs" stars Dick Powell as Richard Rogue, Private Eye. MUTUAL, Fitch Shampoo. (5:34; 16:10; 8:30)

JACK KIRKWOOD SHOW (1940s) The zany comic runs a house painting service, AFRS, (14:20)

TERRY AND THE PIRATES (2-9-42) Pat, Flip and Terry arrive at a hidden hospital in China. NBC BLUE, Quaker Puffed Cereals. (14:16)

**EDDIE CANTOR SHOW** (11-6-47) The first in a sequence of five shows dealing with the "kidnapping" of Cantor. Harry Von Zell, Bert Gordon, Frank Nelson, Cookie Fairchild and the Orchestra. Eddie receives a threatening letter, warning him not to run for president. NBC, Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer. (11:30; 10:25; 6:36)

INNER SANCTUM (1940s) "The Lyon Reigns at Hillcrest," Ted Lyon is trapped in a mausoleum as he recalls the events which brought him there, AFRS, (9:55; 13:30)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Bing reminisces about his recording career and sings or presents many of his hit songs. This is an eight-part presentation and we'll bring it to you throughout the afternoon during each TWTD broadcast during July and August. In part one Bing sings Muddy Water, Mississippi Mud, My Kind of Love, I Surrender Dear, Dream Your Troubles Away, Just One More Chance, Stardust, When the Blue of the Night, Please, Just an Echo and others. (6:00; 6:20; 4:10; 5:47; 5:45)

### SATURDAY, JULY 14th

THE DRENE SHOW (2-9-47) Don Ameche, Frances Langford and Danny Thomas star with Gale Gordon, Toby Reed and Carmen Dragon and the orchestra. In a "Bickersons" sketch, Blanche has dreamed that John was chasing another woman. NBC, Drene Shampoo, Dreft. (6:20:9:00:13:55)

THE GREEN HORNET (10-2-40) "Votes For Sale." The Hornet sets out to smash a political racket, Syndicated, (14:55; 13:50)

OUR SPECIAL GUEST is actor MICHAEL

## A SUMMER FESTIVAL OF RADIO

RYE who reminisces about his career in radio which began in Chicago. (15:50)

DICK TRACY (9-13-46) An episode from "The Case of the Broken Window." ABC, Sustaining, (14:20)

EDDIE CANTOR SHOW (11-13-47) Eddie is getting threatening phone calls from Baby Face Moore. Guests include Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom and Max Baer. NBC, Pabst. (11:55; 11:35; 5:10)

X MINUS ONE (2-15-56) "The Skulking Permit" stars Dick Hamilton, Bill Quinn, Mandel Kramer, Wendell Holmes, Joe Di Santis, Ruby Dee. The "lost" colony of Delaware has not been visited by officials from Earth in 200 years.

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 2. Bing sings Learn to Croon, The Old Ox Road, Thanks, After Sundown, Temptation, Love Thy Neighbor, Love In Bloom, June in January, others. (4:48; 4:43; 5:40; 4:50; 4:33)

#### SATURDAY, JULY 21st

NATIONAL BARN DANCE (2-5-45) Joe Kelly introduces Lulu Belle, Arkie the Arkansas Woodchopper, the Dinning Sisters, Pat Buttram, Hoosier Hot Shots and guest Alton Britt, AFRS, (10:38; 7:30; 13:00)

YOURS TRULY, JOHNNY DOLLAR (11-15-59) "Bayou Body Matter" stars Bob Bailey as the free-lance insurance investigator with the "action-packed expense account." CBS, Participating Sponsors. (8:10; 8:08; 6:55) LOUELLA PARSONS (1947) Hollywood news with the most popular columnist in history. Lots of Tinsel Town gossip plus a special three-way remote interview with Louella, Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven. ABC, Woodbury Soap (5:40; 7:55)

HOP HARRIGAN (2-19-42) America's Ace of the Airwaves is being held captive at gunpoint by an enemy spy. NBC-BLUE, Sustaining, (14:19)

**EDDIE CANTOR SHOW** (11-20-47) Baby Face Moore demands ransom for Cantor's return and Eddie hopes guest Jack Benny will come up with the money! NBC, Pabst. (8:55; 11:55: 7:04)

TRUE DETECTIVE MYSTERIES (7-17-37) "Death in Step-Ins." At a picnic, two young

girls go swimming in their "step-ins" and one of the girls disappears. Syndicated. (12:55; 11:42)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 3 — Bing sings Easy to Remember, I'm an Old Cowhand, Pennies from Heaven, Blue Hawaii, Gold Mine in the Sky, Pocketfull of Dreams and, with Johnny Mercer, Small Fry. (6:10; 4:45; 5:00; 6:30; 6:20)

### SATURDAY, JULY 28th

BILL STERN'S SPORTS NEWSREEL (3-22-46) Sports stories — "some legend, some heresay, all fascinating" — by the master sport-caster. Guest is Babe Ruth. NBC, Colgate. (14:25)

BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25TH CENTURY (4-4-39) The first episode in the series after being off the air since 1936. Dr. Heuer experiments with an Electro-Hypnotic Ray. CBS, Popsicle. (14:40)

OUR SPECIAL GUEST is LEON LICHTEN-FELD, an old-timer who recalls the early days at Chicago's WGN and the Drake Hotel. (19:50; 20:30)

AMOS 'N' ANDY MUSIC HALL (1959) Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll in their 30th Anniversary Broadcast recall their early years as they are "interviewed" by Amos, Andy and George "Kingfish" Stevens. CBS. Sustaining. (16:50)

**EDDIE CANTOR SHOW** (11-27-47) Eddie serves Thanksgiving dinner to his kidnappers. NBC, Pabst. (10:20; 11:32; 6:35)

DRAGNET (4-13-50) Jack Webb stars as Joe Friday with Barton Yarborough as Ben Romero, Hitchhiking bandits attack servicemen. NBC, Fatima Cigarettes. (17:50:11:10)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 4. Bing sings Mexicali Rose, Tumbling Tumblingweeds, Did Your Mother Come From Ireland, You Are My Sunshine, The Waiter, the Porter and the Upstairs Maid, Deep in the Heart of Texas, Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie, and others. (4:50:6:07:4:00:5:50:5:52)

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th

THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WIND- FM97.1

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS . 1:00 UNTIL 5:00

CHARLIE MC CARTHY SHOW (11-16-47) Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Mortimer Snerd, Pat Patrick, Anita Gordon, Ray Noble and the orchestra and guest Lana Turner. Lana reads Charlie's palm. NBC, Chase and Sanborn, (9:20; 11:05; 11:15)

THE BIG STORY (12-1-47) "The Case of the Unfinished Love Song" is Howard Boffer's story, written for the Cleveland News. The newspaperman investigates the case of a convicted killer. NBC, Pall Mall cigarettes. (12:50; 16:05)

NELSON OLMSTEAD (7-20-48) The famous storyteiler offers a tribute to a dog as he reads Louis Bromfield's "Farewell to a Friend." NBC. Sustaining. (14:05)

SKY KING (7-14-47) Earl Nightengale plays Sky, "America's favorite flying cowboy" in this episode from the "Land of the Diamond Scarab." Mike Wallace announces. ABC, Sustaining, (14:00)

EDDIE CANTOR SHOW (12-4-47) The end of the Cantor kidnapping sequence finds both Eddie and Harry Von Zell being held against their will, NBC, Pabst. (12:55; 10:40; 5:12)

THE WHISTLER (1944) "The Lady from the Sea." A faded silent star learns of the demise of a favorite meeting place of years ago. Syndicated, (14:10; 11:50)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 5 — Bing sings White Christmas, Moonlight Becomes You, On the Road to Morocco (with Bob Hope), Sunday, Monday or Always (with Andrews Sisters), Pistol Packin' Mama, I'll Be Seeing You and others. (6:50; 6:25; 6:10; 6:40

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 11th

NATIONAL BARN DANCE (1944) Joe Kelly, Lulu Belle, Red Foley, Pat Buttram, Hoosier Hot Shots, Dinning Sisters broadcast from the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis. AFRS. (9:05: 7:50: 9:55)

BIG TOWN (9-21-48) "Final Payment" is the last show in the series for Lifebuoy. Edward Pawley stars as Steve Wilson, crusading editor of the Illustrated Press with Fran Carlon as Lorelei Kilbourne, society editor "With a nose for news." NBC, Lifebuoy. (9:50; 12:24; 7:21)

OUR SPECIAL GUEST is KIRK ALYN, the screen's original "live" Superman who

Continued . . .

# THOSE WERE THE DAYS • WINDS- FM 97.0 SATURDAY AFTERNOONS • 1:00 UNTIL 5:00

discusses his career on stage, screen and radio. (11:30; 14:10; 12:15; 7:45)

ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN (8-14-45) An exciting episode from the radio series finds some escaped convicts holding Lois Lane prisoner at a Hilltop Village. The Man of Steel comes to the rescue. Bud Collyer as Kent/Superman. MUTUAL, Kellogg's Pep Cereals. (14-10)

JACK BENNY PROGRAM (9-10-50) Jack returns from Europe for the first show of the new season. Guest Alan Young joins regulars. Dennis Day sings "Goodnight, Irene." CBS, Lucky Strike Cigarettes. (13:40; 10:45)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1964) Part 6 — Bing sings Swinging On a Star, Don't Fence Me In, The Bells of St. Marys, Put It There Pal (with Bob Hope) MacNamara's Band, and others, (6:20; 6:50; 6:45; 5:50)

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th

RED SKELTON SHOW (12-18-45) The Skelton Scrapbook of Satire deals with the post-war housing shortage. Red plays Willie Lump-Lump and Junior, the Mean Little Kid. Cast includes GeGe Pearson, Verna Felton, Pat McGeehan, Anita Ellis, Rod O'Connor and David Forester and the orchestra. NBC, Raleigh Cigarettes. (7:50; 12:20; 9:10)

TOM MIX RALSTON STRAIGHT-SHOOTERS (4-18-41) An exciting episode in the adventure of the "Hidden Mesa" as Tom and Wrangler douse the lights at the powder plant so Whisper Johnson can't fly his plane to sabotage the plant. NBC, Shredded Ralston. (14:45)

TV DEMONSTRATION (6-28-39) A demonstration of the RCA Television System broadcasting remote from the fourth floor of Marshall Field's State Street store in Chicago. A unique radio broadcast of things to come! NBC, Sustaining, (15:10)

ARCHIE ANDREWS (5-21-49) Bob Hastings stars as Archie with Harian Stone as Jughead Jones with Gloria Mann and Rosemary Rice as Veronica Lodge and Betty Cooper. Mr. Andrews surprises his wife with a new television set! NBC, Sustaining. (15:25; 15:00)

SUSPENSE (2-22-54) "Murder By Jury" stars Herbert Marshall in an exciting court-room drama, CBS, Auto-Lite, (14:15; 15:10)

AL JOLSON SHOW (1-5-43) Joining the "world's greatest entertainer" are Monty Wooley, Carol Brüce, "Parkyakarkus" and Ray Bloch and the orchestra. Jolie sings a medley of Gershwin tunes. CBS, Colgate. (10:10; 10:10; 5:20)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 7 — Bing sings Begin the Beguine, South America, Take it Away (with the Andrews Sisters), Blue Skies, Alexander's Ragtime Band (with Al Jolson), Whiffenpoof Song, Now is the Hour and others. (6:55; 6:50; 6:40: 6:45)

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 25th

BURNS AND ALLEN SHOW (1940s) Gracie has a sample of George's handwriting analyzed and it shows he should have been a doctor. Cast includes Joe Kearns, Bea Benaderet, Bill Goodwin, NBC, Maxwell House Coffee. (8:30; 12:00; 5:20)

ROGER KILGORE, PUBLIC DEFENDER (4-18-48) "The Case of Don Winthrope," who is accused of a hit-and-run murder, Cast features Santos Ortega, Staats Cotsworth and Lawson Zerbe. MUTUAL, Sustaining. (16:30; 13:20)

THE DRENE SHOW (1-12-47) Don Ameche, Frances Langford, Danny Thomas star in variety show featuring a comedy spot by Danny and a "Bickersons" sketch with Blanche urging John to take their new dog for a walk, NBC, Drene, Dreft. (6:38: 8:53: 13:50)

CHALLENGE OF THE YUKON (5-10-55) Sgt. Preston is assigned to bring in a couple of crooks. Commercials include special Klondike Land offer for deed holders who want to send in for a one ounce pouch of soil! Brace Beemer stars as Sgt. Preston. MUTUAL, Quaker Puffed Wheat and Rice. (15:15; 13:15) THE FAT MAN (1940s) "Order for Murder" stars J. Scott Smart as Brad Runyon: Weight: 237 pounds; Fortune: Danger! Runyon, having car trouble, is helped by a man who is "mad enough to kill!" ABC, Sustaining. (17:02; 6:32)

MUSICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BING CROSBY (1954) Part 8. In the conclusion of this look at Bing's recording career, the crooner sings Mule Train, Dear Hearts and Gentle People, Rock of Ages, Sunshine Cake, Play a Simple Melody (with Gary Crosby), Gone Fishin' (with Louis Armstrong), In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening (with Jane Wyman) and Y'all Come. (6:25: 6:15: 6:40; 5:55; 7:30)



If you have a fondness for the good old days, then you're sure to enjoy a MEMORY MOVIE at North West Federal Savings' Community Center Auditorium, 4901 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago. There's plenty of free parking in the large lot at the rear of the NWF office on Dakin street and CTA transportation to the door. Enter the Community Center thru the parking lot. Visitors who arrive by CTA should walk south along the side of the NWF building, then west to the entrance to the Center.

We're taking a summer break in our schedule of MEMORY MOVIES during July and August and you're invited to see a performance of the Chicagoland Theatrical Troupe on the stage at North West Federal. The Troupe will present three Broadway musicals for nine weeks beginning June 29 and continuing thru August 26.

The shows are PAJAMA GAME, THE KING OF NEW LONDON and DAMN YANKEES. The musicals will rotate each weekend and performances are held at 8:15 p.m., on Friday and Saturday and at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets to each show is \$4 per person and you can buy a subscription ticket to all three shows for \$10. Tickets may be purchased in advance at any office of North West Federal Savings.

If you're a movie fan and want to see some good films this summer, then you're invited to see a series of "MOVIES YOU CAN COUNT ON" every Wednesday evening at North West Federal's Community Center. The films are shown at 7 p.m., donation is \$1 per person and tickets are available only at the door the evening of the film. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and here's the line-up of good movies you can count on for "talented stars, wonderful stories, great music and wholesome entertainment" —

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11th — GUYS AND DOLLS — Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Jean Simmons, Vivian Blaine, and Stubby Kaye star in one of Broadway's greatest musical hits. It's based on stories by Damon Runyon with lots of great music by Frank Loesser.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18th — PICNIC—William Holden, Kim Novak, Rosalind Russell give brilliant performances in the film version of William Inge's Pulitzer Prize story of a stranger in town and the havoc he creates in the lives of its people.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1st — HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING — It's the smash Broadway hit on the screen starring Robert Morse and Rudy Vallee in their original stage roles. A lively musical comedy about an ambitious window washer who rises to the top of the business world.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8th - POCKET-FUL OF MIRACLES - Bette Davis, Glenn Ford, Hope Lange, and Peter Falk star in Frank Capra's warm-hearted story of Apple Annie, a favorite Damon Runyon character.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th — THE GREAT RACE — Jack Lemmon, Tony Curtis, and Natalie Wood star in this slapstick comedy spoofing turn-of-the-century cars in this wacky running of the great race from New York to Paris!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22nd — GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER — Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy in their last film together co-stars Sidney Poitier in one of the most popular movies of all time. It was Mr. Tracy's last film and Miss Hepburn won an Academy Award for her performance in it.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29th - OLIVER! - It's the rousing film musical version of the classic story by Charles Dickens. Mark Lester, Ron Moody and Oliver Reed star in this winner of six Academy Awards.

Be sure to mark your calendar and join us every Wednesday this summer for these "Movies You Can Count On."

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# THE AL JOLSON SHOW

NOR nine long grueiling months in Alaska, Trinidad, England and Ireland, Al Jolson song and clowned, watched with a lump in his Throat the way homesick eyes and lonely faces eased into chuckles and grins. He remembered, perhaps, a day when these kids were in diapers, when the triumphant armistice bells of 1918 were cueing him onto Broadway and fame. Or remembered, maybe, the restless 12-year-old who rade shoulder high as mascot of a Spanish American regiment. Papa Yoelson, who had fled St. Petersburg, Russia, to the New World with his baby son, wanted the little Asa to be a cantor—a singer of his people's ancient songs. The bright-eyed baychik had different ideas, ran himself skinny after every passing band. At 14 he was ballyhooing a circus. Six years later an old colored man watched his vaudeville act from the wings, whispered in his ear. A minstrel man was born—a soot-black face and a pink gash of a mouth that crooned and mouned a wailing obbligato to the thumping jazzmania of the 20's. Al's triumphant career laces the pattern of that mad period like a bright ribbon. When talkies greased the skids under vaudeville, he made "The Jozz Singer," planted those first crude sound tracks with "Sonny Boy," "Mammy,"-songs America will always hum . . . It was no trick for the star of "Gus," "Big Boy" and "Wonder Bor" to strut and croon before the cameras. He'd had his own theater on 59th Street when the cinema was creeping out of nickel joints to plush Broadway palaces. And still another new medium-radio





—was a set-up for the St. Petersburg waif who might have made some synagogue famous . . . Today, Al's on an ageless 56, a fixture on the airwaves, and a legend to all of America. The cycle's swung around again to yet another war. The faces of marching soldier boys are stronge and the songs are new—but the same little man in blackface is singing them. ... Parkyakarus, a veteran like Al, was born Harry to the Boston Einsteins in 1904 with a yen to be a fireman—but no trace of a Greek accent. That came later. A dabbler in advertising before he knew better, he broadcost first in 1924, was so thrilled he walked home. 7 miles away in a daze, His present name, now trademarked, was born out of a gag-bred Greek character who "ran" for mayor of Boston. The belly laughs of listeners to Eddie Cantor's program in Feb., '35, first spelled bright lights and big dough to the unnaturalized Greek. He's a burly six-footer, weighs 190 lbs., owns a parrot who speaks real Greek. . . . Carol Bruce is one of those fabulous Cinderella girls—an overnight success on Broadway. featured in her first film. She left her Long Island home at 15 with a high school diploma to be a career girl at \$7 per week. From office chares she shifted to modeling, then pulled strings to tour as a vocalist with Lloyd Huntley's band. Carol clicked in "George White's Scandals of 1939," "Nice Going" and "Louisiana Purchase" and hot-footed to Hallywood for a neat Universal contract. "I should be a bigger star than Garbo," she cracks, "I wear bigger shoes."

REPRINT from RADIO ALBUM, Winter, 1942

## MARY LEE TAYLOR



T's SELDOM that an amateur who turns to the professional ranks succeeds on the first attempt—unless the amateur is as gifted as Mary Lee Taylor.

In 1933 a young St. Louis housewife named Mrs. Susan Cost, noted for her original recipes, started broadcasting her own tempting table treats. Other housewives who followed her recipes acclaimed her an instant success and the Mary Lee Taylor Show has been on the air ever since.

But Mary Lee Taylor's work does not stop with her recipes for better meals. Equally important is her "recipe for happiness." designed to aid young couples in understanding the problems of married life. Based on her own experiences of a happy marriage, which, nevertheless, had its problems, she tries to aid young married people to face the trials which arise in every marriage.

A dramatization each week of the lives of a young, typical American married couple, Jim and Sally Carter, helps to illustrate her philosophy and make her advice more real to the young people who need it.

Off the air, as Mrs. Susan Cost, she is a patron of the St. Louis Symphony and of the Little Theater in that city—a group which offers help to aspiring actors. Her main hobby, aside from her recipes, is collecting tea cups.



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# 100th Colgate Comedy Hour



Martin & Lewis

Abbott & Costello

One of NBC's greatest shows, the "Colgate Comedy Hour," celebrated its 100th telecast on the NBC television network Sunday, March 22, with a "million-dollar-show" starring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, Eddie Cantor, Bob Hope, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis, and Donald O'Connor.

This was the first time that all the stars of the series, who each appear on the average of once every five week, ever were grouped together on television.

Since the program was first presented in September 1950, it has brought a long list of "firsts" to the viewing public. This was the first show to bring the big-name comedians to television on a regular basis and it also evolved the rotating format for the stars. It was the first major show to make the shift to the West Coast, and also was the first commercial program to be beamed across the country on the co-axial cable.

The big Sunday night series gave the public its first television view of such stars as Eddie Cantor, Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, and Bob Hope. Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis were introduced to the country with the first show of their own, and Donald O'Connor was featured in his first starring appearance.

The "Colgate Comedy Hour" has brought before the television cameras many of the greatest names in show business. From motion pictures, the Broadway stage, night clubs, theaters, the recording, opera and concert fields and other television shows the stars have come, in many instances for their television debut.

Sam Fuller is the executive producer of the "Colgate Comedy Hour" series and in that capacity is responsible for all talent bookings. He is assisted by associates Ed Sobol and Robert Masson. Ernie Glucksman staged and directed the anniversary show. Jim Jordan, Jr., was television director, Kate Drain Lawson handled costumes and Furth Ullmas was the production's art director.

REPRINT from NBC CHIMES, April. 1953

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# **CASSETTE TAPE FOR JULY**

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# **DEATH VALLEY DAYS**

The White Burro

The Old Ranger tells of a true story that takes place in 1905. Two old prospectors, Smitty and Ole, meet-up with a white burro that plays an important part in their lives. Sponsored by 20 Mule Team Borax in 1939.

# JAMES STEWART THE SIX SHOOTER

"The Swedish mail-order bride," a U.S. Armed Forces Radio Services Broadcast. An attractive young lady arrives from Sweden to be married, only to discover that her husband-to-be is in jail with a murder charge against him! A good story well acted. 1953.

## THREE MUSKETEERS

**ALEXANDER DUMAS** 

Your Playhouse of Favorites presents the adventures of dashing D'Artagnan, and his three musketeer friends, Aramis, Porthos, and Athos. Adventure rides with these four fun loving, but loyal subjects to King Louis the 12th. Naturally, the lovely Queen and her even more lovely maid are involved in this last-minute-rescue story!

# PRISONER OF ZENDA

RONALD COLMAN

The Screen Director's Guild presents this swashbuckler of the king's double who is called upon to impersonate the king when the royal one has been kidnapped. There is romance for the ladies with Bonita (Colman's real wife) playing the part of the princess. Plenty of action for all. February 20, 1949.

EACH TAPE IS \$5 — SEND \$10 FOR BOTH TAPES TO: THE HALL CLOSET, Box 421, Morton Grove, III. 60053. OR, get your tapes at any office of NORTH WEST FEDERAL SAVINGS... or at the METRO GOLDEN-MEMORIES SHOP, 5941 W. Irving Park Road Chicago.